

September 3, 2002
Vol. 176, No. 34**FOR THE RECORD****Kentucky**
Disaster relief volunteers tell what it meant to volunteer in New York. *Page 3.***Editorial**
Give state mission efforts a helping hand. *Page 5.***Missions**
Career missionaries increasing, volunteers decreasing after Sept. 11. *Page 7.***Hard-hitting question**
A 5-year-old forces missionary dad to rethink plans. *Page 8.***Issues**
Interfaith services cause tension for many Christians. *Page 10.***Nation**
Clergy-housing tax break still could go to court. *Page 12.***Books**
Reviews include "Is the Father of Jesus the God of Muhammad?" *Page 13.***Pastors praise their worship, want to improve singles ministry**

PHOENIX, Ariz. (RNS)—Protestant pastors give themselves poor grades on ministering to single adults and on racial integration but are mostly satisfied with the quality of their worship and relations with other local churches.

So says a survey of 567 ministers by Ellison Research, a polling firm in Phoenix, Ariz. The pastors were asked to rate their ministries in 15 areas as either "excellent," "good," "fair" or "poor."

While only small numbers of pastors rated their ministries as excellent—defined as "right where we should be"—majorities of pastors gave themselves excellent or good ratings in overseas missions, music quality, worship, physical buildings, ecumenical relationships and children's ministries.

Methodist pastors were the most critical of their overseas missions, with just 11 percent grading it excellent. Pastors of smaller churches were the most critical of their church buildings and youth programs, while Southern pastors were most critical of their worship services.

Among areas of improvement, 55 percent of pastors said they do a fair or poor job in outreach to junior high and high school students. Baptist pastors gave themselves the highest marks in this area—13 percent called them excellent—while Lutheran pastors ranked the lowest, with just 2 percent as excellent.

Pastors also said they could do better in getting laypeople involved in ministry, reaching out to the local community, enlarging the size of their congregation and ministering to single adults. Singles ministries ranked at the bottom of all categories, with just 2 percent of pastors rating themselves as excellent.

Ron Sellers, president of the polling firm, said most surveys typically show full-time ministry as full of high expectations, low pay and lots of stress. "Now throw on top of all of those issues the fact that most pastors are not satisfied with their church's performance in many areas, and it's easy to see some of the difficulties ministers face, particularly when leading small congregations," he said.

The poll of 567 Protestant ministers from a range of denominations has a margin of error of plus or minus 4.1 percentage points.

How to remember?**1-YEAR ANNIVERSARY** Americans will continue to see images in the next couple weeks of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks—such as Lt. Col. Ellen McArthur's display of an American flag pulled from the World Trade Center's ruins. Church leaders are struggling to balance the proper blend of remembrance, comfort and looking toward the future. (BP photos by Jim Veneman)**Liturgist: 'Tragic' if churches ignore Sept. 11**By Kevin Eckstrom
Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—Daniel Benedict, a specialist in Methodist liturgy, looked ahead to the one-year anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and saw a funeral. Sort of.

Gene Mims, a Southern Baptist worship leader, pondered the anniversary and envisioned a service of thanksgiving. But not really.

And Michael Burk, a Lutheran director of worship, looked at Sept. 11 and wasn't quite sure what he saw.

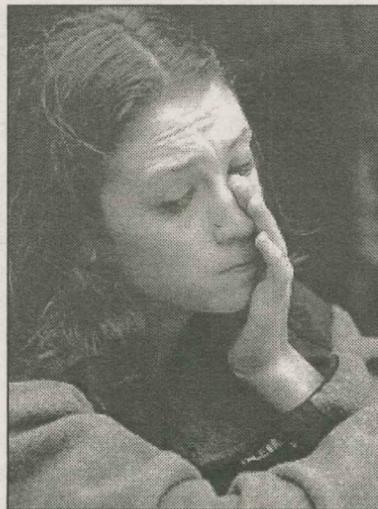
"These are the events that cause local worship leaders to think, 'They didn't teach me how to do this in seminary,'" said Burk, director for worship for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. "Or, 'I don't know how to handle this.'"

One year after pastors and leaders of other faiths struggled for the appropriate words to comfort a shocked and wounded nation, they are grasping again for just the right words to mourn the loss, acknowledge the pain and look to the future.

The trouble is, no one has ever really done this before, and many people don't know exactly where to start.

Benedict, director of worship resources for the United Methodist Church, also started with what he knew already worked well. He recommended that Methodist churches use the outline of either a funeral or a healing service, or perhaps a hybrid of the two.

He pulled together some of the old standby hymns, such as "It Is

**REMEMBERING** Tamrah Edwards was among hundreds of New Yorkers in a moment of silence at Union Square after the Sept. 11 attacks. Such remembrance services are expected to be repeated throughout the nation next week.**Since Sept. 11**

Well With My Soul" and "Amazing Grace." But he wanted to acknowledge the

uniqueness of Sept. 11, so he added a prayer:

"God our hope and refuge, we confess that anger and hatred have held on to us," the prayer begins. "Healing has begun, but loss is still real. ... We still want security, or the illusion of it. We still want our enemies to be annihilated and for our lives to return to safety and Shalom."

Benedict said churches need to find a way for worshippers to "plug in," especially for people who might not have gone to church since those painful hours one year ago.

"It would be tragic if somebody showed up and the church was acting like nothing was going on in the culture around them," he said.

Finding that religious-cultural balance one year later can be precarious, many liturgists said. Many bristle at the notion of using the anniversary to rekindle the patriotic spirit of a nation still at war.

But others don't see that as a problem at all. Mims, president of the church resources division at LifeWay Christian Resources, the Southern Baptist publishing arm, offered churches a patriotic video and anthem called "United Through It All."

"We're united in our victory, united in our cause; We'll stand against all enemies, Liberty has no walls," the song goes.

A sample service produced by Mims' office includes "The Star-Spangled Banner" and recognition of veterans and emergency workers. He said Southern Baptists are "fiercely patriotic" and aren't afraid to admit that in their worship.

"We want it to be more than a memorial service with liturgy and dirges," he said. "We want to come away reinforced."

President Bush apparently agrees. A sample liturgy offered by the White House Commission on Remembrance includes "God Bless America" and the Pledge of Allegiance, as well as a prayer scripted by a Navy chaplain.

"Help us to cherish the freedoms we enjoy and inspire us to stand with courage, united as one nation in the midst of any adversity," the prayer says.

All that makes Rabbi Sue Ann Wasserman, director of religious □ See Liturgist: 'Tragic' ..., page 9

BAPTISTS

Students offered 'eXit' witnessing plan

By James Dotson
SBC North American Mission Board

ALPHARETTA, Ga. (BP)—When college students see "Exit" signs throughout their campuses this fall, collegiate evangelism leaders hope they'll be thinking of more than just their next free time or lunch.

Under a new personal evangelism strategy known as "eXit," hundreds of students will be reminded of the need to pray for, serve and share Christ with a selected group of friends and acquaintances.

The process—being introduced this fall by the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board—provides a relationship-based approach that unfolds over the course of a quarter or semester.

"So many times we tell our college students to go win their campuses for Christ, and then we don't give them any tools to do that," said Afshin Ziafat, a collegiate evangelism associate for NAMB. "The real power behind eXit is the fact that it's a strategy focused on just five students for the entire semester. It's something tangible they can grasp, instead of thinking about the entire campus."

Len Taylor, NAMB's student evangelism director, said the plan also offers a strategy that students can implement themselves.

"Many college ministries have the intention of equipping students to share the gospel with friends, they just never make it a priority," Taylor said. "eXit is a process that students can follow together. Student-led small groups drive the plan and build success into seeing their friends come to know the Lord personally."

The eXit strategy calls for students during the first two- to three-week period to pray for five individuals and their salvation—with the "e" in "eXit" standing for the "essential" of prayer.

During the next two- to three-week time frame, students demonstrate Christ's love with acts of service, with the "X" in the acronym signifying the first letter in the Greek word for Christ.

The "i" time frame is dedicated to one-on-one sharing of students' personal testimonies and the gospel.

Finally, students are given an opportunity to respond to the gospel during a "Truth" week, whether during a special campus event or by inviting them to an individual's local church.

Ziafat said the relationship-based process allows students to be more effective than just using gospel presentations alone.

While individuals can use the plan, it is designed as a component of small accountability groups—groups that already exist in many ongoing college ministries.

"We say that if you have small groups, just use those," Ziafat said. "And if you don't, form what we call eXit groups. They meet regularly to pray for their five, and to hold each other accountable for following through."

The "eXit" name came from the concept of exiting the routine of college life to make a genuine difference in the lives of others, Jennings said.

"That is our door to get out of our comfort zones, to exit our lifestyle of normality to become intentional about sharing Christ," he said. "Every exit sign is a place to either enter another building or to go outside. And it seemed like that's just a perfect fit for what we're trying to do—especially on a college campus."

More information about eXit is available on the Internet at www.studentz.com/exit.

Missouri board names Clippard new executive

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.—The Missouri Baptist Convention Executive Board elected David Clippard as MBC executive director during a special called meeting Aug. 27. The roll call vote was 48-2.

Clippard's election comes after three years of political struggles that led to the resignation last fall of former MBC Executive Director Jim Hill.

Five Missouri Baptist Convention entities—The Baptist Home, Missouri Baptist Foundation, Missouri Baptist College, Windermere Baptist Conference Center and Word & Way—established self-perpetuating boards during that time.

Convention leaders responded by escrowing the entities' Cooperative Program funds and filing suit against the five organizations in an effort to regain control of the trustee boards.

Asked how he felt about the convention's lawsuit against the five organizations, Clippard said he fully supported the decision to go to court to remedy the situation.

Missouri Baptists have, "through 167 years of blood, sweat, tears and sacrificial giving, created these entities to meet strategic ministry needs," he said. "We look forward to their soon return to the family of Missouri Baptist life so together we can fulfill the very purposes for which they have been supported."

Clippard, 53, will assume his new role Sept. 9. He currently is associate executive director for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma.

Search committee chairman Kenny Qualls introduced Clippard to the Executive Board as the unanimous choice of the 11-member committee, saying, "I am convinced in my heart that David Clippard is God's man for Missouri."

Clippard, a native of Missouri, made a 45-minute presentation to the Executive Board. He then responded to questions from board members in a lengthy open session before chairman Bob Curtis gave the board an opportunity to raise additional questions in executive session.

Declaring himself supportive of current directions in both the MBC and Southern Baptist Convention, Clippard said his administration will focus on four priorities: evangelism, church planting, equipping churches and missions. All Missouri Baptists who wish to join in are welcome to do so, he said.

Clippard is a graduate of both the University of Missouri and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

BAPTIST DIGEST

■ **Baptist aid sought for Europe.** Baptist World Aid, the relief and development arm of the Baptist World Alliance, is launching a European flood relief appeal. Approximately 100 people have died in recent floods throughout central Europe, and property damage is estimated at \$20 billion. Floods have damaged churches in the Czech Republic and Germany. Additional damage has been reported in Romania, Hungary, Slovakia and Russia. BWAid officials have forwarded an initial \$5,000 each to Baptists in Russia and Hungary. Donations can be sent to Baptist World Aid at 405 N Washington St., Falls Church, VA 22046.

■ **Longtime SBC officer dies.** Martin Bradley, former recording secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention, died Aug. 26 from cancer. He was 75. Bradley worked 38 years for the former Baptist Sunday School Board. When he retired in 1992, he was manager of research services and long-range planning. Bradley served 13 years as SBC recording secretary, from 1977-1990.

■ **Alaska Baptists seek growth.** Southern Baptists in Alaska are launching a three-year growth effort aimed at reversing membership decline. Meeting Aug. 6-7 in Anchorage, the Alaska Baptist Convention reported a nearly 15 percent drop in church membership in the past five years. Resident membership fell below 10,000 last year to 8,788. "Light Up Alaska," a three-year ministry emphasis, will focus on missions, prayer, church development and evangelistic outreach.

■ **LifeWay names communications leader.** Rob Phillips has been named director of corporate communications for LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention. He succeeds Linda Lawson who retired in December 2001. Phillips, 47, has

served since 2000 as senior manager of U.S. media relations for Wal-Mart. He held a similar position for nearly 20 years with Phillips Petroleum Co. A graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee, he also served 14 years as a volunteer associate pastor at Bartlesville (Okla.) Southern Baptist Church.

■ **Seminary names development vp.** Charles Harvey Jr., director of the doctor of ministry program and associate professor of Christian education at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, has been named vice president of development. He succeeds Jerry Pounds, who was elected president of Truett-McConnell College in Georgia. Harvey, 51, has held a number of positions at the seminary since 1997.

■ **IMB, Mid-America establish link.** The Southern Baptist International Mission Board is partnering with an independent Baptist seminary that is launching a master of missiology degree. The degree at Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary in Germantown, Tenn., will involve two years of on-campus study followed by additional studies that can be completed on campus or on an overseas mission assignment in conjunction with the IMB.

■ **LifeWay, Texas church partner.** LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention and Fellowship Church in Grapevine, Texas, have entered an agreement to co-develop resources for church leaders and laypeople. The partnership is part of LifeWay's New Ventures initiative to develop alliances with influential churches and authors, said Gene Mims, vice president of LifeWay's church resources division. LifeWay will use resources developed by Fellowship Church to develop Bible study curriculum,

children's programs, software, worship service planning elements and other resources. In 12 years, attendance at Fellowship Church has grown from 90 to more than 16,000 people.

■ **Baylor suspends fraternity.** A Baylor University fraternity was suspended from campus activities for one year and more than 50 students were disciplined after they appeared fully clothed in Playboy magazine. About 50 men and four women wearing Sigma Phi Epsilon T-shirts and waving Baylor pennants posed for the magazine's October issue. University spokesman Larry Brumley said disciplinary actions ranged from reprimands to suspensions. A Baylor graduate posed nude in the same issue.

■ **BP to host student journalists.** Registration is under way for the 2002 Baptist Press National Student Journalism Conference. The conference for college journalism students will be Oct. 10-12 in Nashville. It will feature keynote addresses by Peggy Wehmeyer, former ABC News religion reporter, and Don Boykin, deputy managing editor of the Atlanta Journal-Constitution. For information, contact Todd Starnes at (615) 782-8615 or by e-mail at tstarnes@sbcc.net.

■ **Southern to host youth leaders.** Southern Baptist Theological Seminary will host "Vision Conference 2002" Sept. 21 on the school's Louisville campus. The one-day event focusing on youth outreach will feature Phil Newberry, minister of students at Bellevue Baptist Church in Cordova, Tenn., and Tim Parsons, minister of students at Idlewild Baptist Church in Tampa, Fla. The conference is sponsored by the National Center for Youth Ministry, an organization based at Southern's Boyce College. For information, call (502) 897-4207 or e-mail cym@sbts.edu.

'I don't think I will ever be the same'

Kentucky Baptists share what volunteering in New York meant

Every Kentucky Baptist who volunteered in New York City has a story to tell.

Disaster relief workers continue to recall the hard work and emotions they encountered.

Below are the reflections of 10 volunteers, representative of many others, who recently told the Western Recorder what it meant to volunteer in New York after Sept. 11:

Nancy Jones of Danville helped "dust out" apartments near Ground Zero in December:



(Going to New York) affected my life greatly because I saw God's kindness to answer my heartfelt prayer that many Americans had expressed—that was to be able to practically go and help our fellow friends who had suffered such tragedy.

It was amazing to be wearing our yellow disaster relief shirts and have New Yorkers talk to us on the subway and in the streets. We all felt a bond as Americans and as human beings trying to express compassion and love for one another. It was wonderful!

Jesus allowed me the opportunity to clearly share the gospel message and plant eternal seeds of hope in the hearts of two women whose apartments we cleaned. Hopefully, God will use His Word to permanently draw them to real peace and safety in Him. It was heart-wrenching to hear their stories of what happened after Sept. 11. If our week there even eased their sense of aloneness and fear in the least, we would be so thankful!



Rita Kennedy of Owensboro went with the first group of Kentucky volunteers to serve in New York:

I don't think I will ever be the same. I feel older, yet privileged and honored beyond words to have been able to go serve the rescuers. What remains are but memories.

Our pastor announced at prayer meeting on Sept. 12 that we were heading to New York, and that if anyone wanted to help us with gas money they could. I hope I never forget all the little old ladies, elderly gentlemen, our pastor and some members crying and pulling everything they had out of their pockets and stuffing

it in my hands. They wanted to help since they couldn't go.

I will never forget ... the subway guard who saw our bright yellow disaster relief T-shirts and stopped us on the streets, wanting to talk. He told us how ... he had worked down in the subways under the towers, crying and trying to be strong. He told us how he was told he needed grief counseling, but that he didn't need it, not knowing talking to us was in a sense just that.

May we never forget the people of New York who made us feel so wanted and yet couldn't believe people would come all the way from Kentucky just to help them.

Bob Perkins of Louisville was among the first Kentucky volunteers to serve in New York:



God has shown me how to talk to non-believers and witness and advise my family members with problems on how to rely on God and prayer. It has given me encouragement to plan a mission trip to Africa later this year to partner with missionaries who work in Muslim countries where Christian believers are being persecuted for their beliefs. Most of all, this experience has taught me the sovereignty of God's love, power and grace.

Elaine Koch, a member of Parkland Hills Baptist Church in Taylorsville, assists her husband, Larry, who coordinates Kentucky Baptist disaster relief:

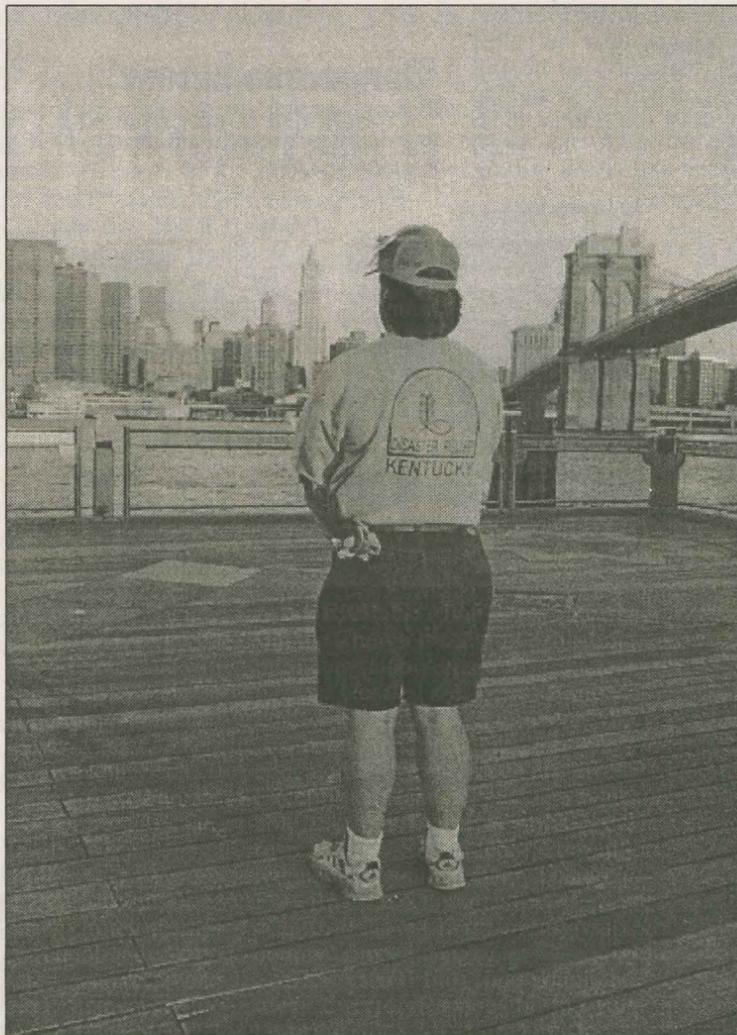
The New York response was one that allowed us to be a witness to people of many nations. Perhaps the most heart-wrenching impact was when a volunteer handed a "Hope in Crisis" tract to a young rescuer as he came out of Ground Zero. He looked at the title of the tract and said, "I have no hope any more." My prayer is that God used that tract to give hope to that rescuer.

Watching the smoke from the tower site was a reminder that something that seemed so important to the world can be destroyed in such a short time. How many lives were destroyed? How many knew the Savior when they perished?

Finally, I was reminded that freedom in Jesus cannot be taken away by terrorists.

David Culp, a member of Briensburg Baptist Church in Benton:

Going to New York made me appreciate first, being a Christian and going in the name of Christ to minister in His name. Second, I have belonged to a Southern Baptist church for over 40 years. I have



read and heard but never really saw the great work that Southern Baptists are doing. New York changed me in a way that made me proud to serve through the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

A group of us went into the Red Cross center one night. As we entered the building, someone there said, "Here come the Baptists." We were very much appreciated. A Red Cross official summed it up best when he spoke to us at Bennett Field. He said many of the Red Cross volunteers really didn't know why they were here "but you (Southern Baptists) know why you're here."



Marie Jackson, a member of Immanuel Baptist Church in Paducah:

God gave me the opportunity to go to New York to work as a volunteer to serve meals to the rescue workers. As I looked into the faces of those workers, I saw pain and suffering because of the inability to find life.

It was at that moment I realized that there are times that our hearts will break to be vessels of God's love toward another, but its ultimate

end is meant for salvation, the salvation of a soul. I found that only a smile or a touch meant so much to those who were struggling to be brave. My life will never be the same because I answered God's call to go and serve in His name.

Carolyn Malloy, a volunteer from First Baptist Church of Kuttawa, worked with the first team to arrive and another volunteer feeding team in February:

The stress and sorrow on each rescue worker's face told us how painful it was to do their jobs. We had the opportunity to talk to many people. They welcomed our hugs, prayers, love and concern for them. One man said he had Bibles given to him before but never one that was underlined. I told him it must be a sign that he should read it.

A few hours later he came back with his coat on and handed me his sweatshirt he had been wearing. He wanted me to have it. It said, "Bronx Undercover." I was speechless, but gave him a big hug and said, "God loves you!" He whispered back, "I hope so." I never saw him again but choose to believe he is reading the Bible. I know he will remember God loves him.

My husband is 71 and I am 66. God gave us the strength to be able to work so hard for so many long hours every day. We are so thankful for the small part we played and we pray we never have to go to another disaster like this again. But if we have to, we will go gladly ... with God.

Roger Taylor, pastor of Aberdeen Baptist Church, worked on Pier 94, serving as a chaplain to 50 family members of victims:



My life will never be the same. Everything in my life and ministry has taken on new meaning for me. There are no bad days for me anymore, just days not as good as others. I attempt to see things from God's perspective as I listen to other people's problems and pray and bring counsel to them. Life is a blessing and living for the Lord gives it meaning for me like never before.

I have worked harder to receive more training ... to know how to help more people in the future. Dealing with death and dying not only brings help to others; there is a sense it helps me deal with each new day to know how to live it and who to live it for.

Cathy Slider, a disaster relief volunteer from Louisville who attends an Episcopal church:

It seems Sept. 11 has changed everyone's life. Because I was so drawn to Ground Zero and the disaster relief effort, the trip to New York to work with the Kentucky Baptist Convention at Kitchen #4 was a life-changing event as well.

Naturally, experiencing a war zone had a large impact on us. However, it was the 12-hour shifts at the kitchen that affected me most positively. I have never been involved in this level of volunteerism, and I was amazed that it was so organized. It felt so good to be helping in the relief.

My husband, Mike, and I really took to the hard work of that volunteer effort, and we plan to do more sometime in the future. I'm sure it was God's wake-up call for us.

Ken Adkisson, a volunteer from Third Baptist Church in Owensboro:

Upon arrival in Edison, N.J., the sight of smoke, the almost breathtaking odor, no planes in the air and an almost hushed silence seemed mindful of the Mt. Sinai experience. In Manhattan and Brooklyn the feeling persisted, but in a much different way. The horror of it all seemed beyond acceptance.

I was astounded to see the change in people. They would speak to you on the street, stop and talk, and smile as we rode the subway. Many wanted to know what they could do to help, and several brought their food specialties to our food kitchen.

It was refreshing to be reminded again that *people do change*. That serves as a powerful motivator to introduce people to the author of change, our Lord.

Compiled by Ken Walker

WESTERN RECORDER

P.O. Box 43969
Louisville, KY 40253
(ISSN 0043-4132)

TRENNIS HENDERSON
Editor

DAVID WINFREY
News Director

MAURI SMITH
Marketing & Business
Manager

JOYCE MARTIN
Partnership Editions
Editor

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

Western Recorder is published weekly by Western Recorder Inc., an agency of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253, except for one week in July and December. For general information, call (502) 244-6470. Fax: (502) 244-6474. Periodicals postage paid at Louisville, Ky.

To subscribe: Send \$11.66 for a one-year, individual subscription. Group subscriptions on the church budget plan are \$9.25 per year. An additional church newsletter service is available for churches of all sizes. All subscriptions are payable in advance, except church accounts, which require a tax exemption number.

POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to: Western Recorder, Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253.

To register change of address: Send the mailing label from page 1, along with your new address, to the subscription department at the Western Recorder address.

To give news tips: Call (502) 244-6471, fax to (502) 244-6474 or write the editor or news director.

To submit a letter: Letters on any subject will be considered for publication, provided they do not make a personal attack on anyone. Letters are limited to 300 words and may be edited for length. Submit by mail or fax or by e-mail to: wesrec@ntr.net

To place an advertisement: Rates are available upon request by calling (502) 244-6470. Institutional columns are paid space. Claims made by advertisers are not necessarily those of the Western Recorder's staff and directors.

Directors: Barry Howard, Corbin, chairman; Laura Beville, Bowling Green, vice chairman; Mike Harmon, Princeton, secretary; David Harmon-Vaught, Louisville; Ken James, London; Don Mantooh, Morehead; Bill Marshall, Louisville; Charles Midkiff, Lexington; Linda Polley, Elizabethtown; Bill Thurman, Lexington; Rodney Travis, Hopkinsville.

'Ludicrous' comparison

In the Aug. 20 issue of the Western Recorder, Southern Baptist International Mission Board President Jerry Rankin made what he called an "extreme analogy," yet he still made it. The comparison of signing an affirmation of the Baptist Faith and Message to that of the tragic events of 9-11 and being able to head it off goes beyond strange to ludicrous.

In a post 9-11 world where that event has been used as leverage from selling cars to phone cards, it has now come to saving our battle-weary denomination. It is sad that we have come to this.

The way Rankin, as well as others, may see it is that if you don't sign or follow the letter of the statement, you are a terrorist. His terminology was also catchy in the fact that he stated he was proud that the IMB had not forced anyone to sign or that it was a litmus test implies that it is for other entities—something that has been denied by folks because that would imply a creed. Surely the Baptist Faith and Message is not a creed. Is it?

The problem I have with this arrogance and ego-driven agenda is what has been at stake has not fully been considered. If a person were to research the growth of the Muslim religion in the world with that of the Southern Baptist Convention from the time the controversies started, it truly would be an eye-opener.

In this year's SBC meeting it was stated that we have lost our evangelistic zeal. I agree. I wonder with alienating people groups with hateful talk and the disjointed arms of men, like Rankin, patting themselves on the back, will we ever recover our focus on the Great Com-

mission or will our history be lost in a sea of power struggles and personal agendas?

Michael Parks
Georgetown

'Dangerous heresy'

I would like to take issue with Ken Massey's Aug. 13 letter about "open theism."

First Samuel 15:29 states, "The Glory of Israel will not lie or change His mind; for He is not a man that He should change His mind."

Numbers 23:19 says, "God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man, that He should repent; has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?"

Do these verses contradict others verses like Jeremiah 26:3 and 26:13 that refer to God repenting and changing His mind? Absolutely not!

God's essence and character are unchanging and infinite. From Genesis to Revelation, a myriad of verses affirm His infinite power, knowledge and presence.

So how do we explain this seeming contradiction? We must understand that many of God's promises and warnings turn on an expressed or implied condition. Look at Jeremiah 18:7-10. In "Hard Sayings of the Bible," it says of this passage, "Whenever God does not fulfill a promise or execute a threat that He has made, the explanation is obvious: In all of these cases, the change has not come in God, but in the individual or nation." God is responsive to mankind, but He also is steadfast and faithful to His own character and designs, demonstrating both His justice and His mercy.

Thus, God is not like man in the sense that He changes His mind or

actions in response to some "new" information or some unanticipated action of men. He is relational and even emotive, yet He always acts according to His sovereign purpose with full, complete and infinite knowledge.

We must beware of "open theism." It is a dangerous heresy that disregards Scripture and diminishes the nature of God.

Shawn Merithew
Louisville

Accolades for Ellison

I want to thank my God for sending Rusty Ellison to Kentucky Baptists as president of our Kentucky Baptist Assemblies.

It was perfect timing by our Lord to guide us to this enthusiastic gentleman when many of us had almost given up on the viability of continuing to utilize our camps as a unique ministry tool.

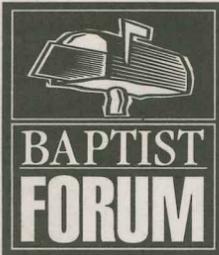
His excitement, vision, compassion, zeal, willingness to innovate and burden for the souls of our youth is most inspiring!

Thank you, God, for Rusty—and thank you, Rusty, for serving God and Kentucky Baptists with all your heart and mind and spirit.

Jesse Baldrige
Lexington

What are you thinking?

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



FAMILY

Review financial priorities at age 60 and beyond

By Jeremy White

Although the financial fundamentals—such as saving, reasonable lifestyle, giving—apply to all ages, the financial priorities for people in their 60s and older differ from earlier ages.

One of the primary concerns of older adults is outliving their money. This is a realistic concern, according to recent statistical studies. Many people nearing or beginning retirement underestimate their life expectancy and overestimate how long their savings will last.

Given these findings and the trend toward earlier retirements, continuing to work, whether part-time or by a career change, often is helpful. Your ability to earn an income is likely one of the most valuable assets you have.

If you have a part-time job or a business that earns \$8,000 per year, this is equivalent to an account of \$200,000 earning 4 percent interest. Working and activity also can improve physical and mental health and self-esteem, particularly among men.

Financial priorities for people age 60 and older include:

- Choose retirement dates wisely.

- Plan for long-term care. Consider long-term care insurance to provide for home health care or nursing home; this insurance may be more important than other insurance you now have.

- Increase your fixed income by part-time employment or a side business.

- Have a portion of your income (annuities or pension payouts) to last your entire life and your spouse's life.

- Plan your IRA distributions.

- Make (or update) your will and estate plans. Remember to review the beneficiaries of insurance policies, annuities and IRAs for consistency with your desires.

- Communicate your financial information and estate plans to others. Even though you have a will, does a relative or executor know where it is? Do others know where bank information, deeds, insurance policies, safe deposit box keys or IRAs are kept if you suddenly become ill or die?

- Keep emergency savings available.

- Avoid scams and schemes.

- Continue the lifelong habit of tithing.

Jeremy White is a certified public accountant in Paducah. He presents financial seminars and workshops at churches and conferences.

PARTNERS IN THE MISSION

Ministry across Kentucky

On a recent weekend, Kay and I participated in an exciting associational meeting, attended a missionary fellowship with retired missionaries and spoke about state missions in a growing church. We returned from this 700-mile trip a little travel weary but renewed and encouraged by good reports. Let me tell you about it.

On Saturday morning we represented Kentucky Baptist Convention Executive Board ministries to the churches of Breckinridge Baptist Association. The Kids for Christ Band from Corinth Baptist Church in McQuady, where Jake Huffman is pastor, opened the session with incredible music. The association has planned a PowerTeam Crusade next spring. Every presenter was excited about what God continues to do in the churches and grateful for Director of Missions Bob White.

The association meeting was held at New Clover Creek Baptist Church, which has experienced significant growth. This church has begun hold-

ing two worship services on Sunday morning and has tried to buy property. Pastor James Preston is more excited about what God is doing than you would think anyone could be!

Early Saturday afternoon we met with the Kentucky fellowship of retired missionaries. John White III, who is the new executive vice president for the Southern Baptist International Mission Board, spoke to the group and responded openly to their questions. John has an MBA, a law degree and experience as a missionary in Brazil. He also is the son-in-law of Truett Cathy, owner and founder of Chick-Fil-A.

John encouraged the missionaries to let their pastors know that they will pray for them and that they will enlist others to pray for them. Jim McKinley, former KBC president, coordinates this fellowship.

On Sunday, I spoke on behalf of the state missions ministries and offering at Elkhorn City Baptist Church

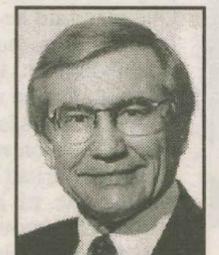
where David Peters is pastor. It was exciting to see a new three-story educational and fellowship building (8,800 square feet) under roof. Baptist Builders from Sulphur Fork Association where Rick Lucas is director of missions, had raised the building in a few weeks.

Pastor Peters shared that the lay leaders had been the driving force in the building project. When the Wednesday night children's ministry grew to 80 participants, a layman said, "We must build!" The church is looking for volunteers who can hang and finish dry wall, install ductwork, paint, complete finish work, lay brick, etc. If you're interested in helping, call David Peters at (606) 754-4781 or KBC Mountain Missions Director David Aker at (606) 676-9119.

The worship service was inspiring and it was obvious that the people were committed to Christ from the prayer time with the deacons until the final goodbye.

I praise God for the faithfulness of Kentucky Baptists who are serving in thousands of ministries across Kentucky!

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention



Bill Mackey

Abductions? Parents should promote awareness, not fear

Q: How concerned should I be that someone is going to snatch my child?

Recent high-profile cases that have received national media attention make it seem like kidnapping and abduction is on the increase, but the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children estimates that the total number of cases actually is down. According to David Finkelhour, who heads New Hampshire's Crimes Against Children Center, "The risk of abduction by a stranger is relatively low for preschoolers, and increases through elementary school to peak at age 15." Experts say children typically are abducted by relatives as part of a family dispute, or by other acquaintances.

Still, dangers do exist. Parents must teach children to be aware and alert without filling them with fear and making them distrustful of everybody.

Through his Child Lures program, parent, educator and national news reporter Ken Wooden emphasizes the importance of teaching children to think critically in order to deal with dangerous situations posed by someone who wants to hurt them. Wooden says that because we often warn children so much about the dangers presented by "strangers," children often are caught unaware by normal looking and normal acting folks. He outlines basic ruses used to lure children, including emergency situations or the offer of fun and games and rewards. He then offers simple, practical advice for helping children see through the deception. Additional information about Child Lures is available by calling (802) 985-8458.

If your child asks, explain that missing and/or murdered children are the exception, not the rule. Remind them that most adults can be trusted. Stress safety in numbers. Use Wooden's ideas and other resources to teach your child to think survival and escape if something does happen.—*David Garrard*

Q: My daughter's mother-in-law is very jealous of the time I spend with our grandchildren because she works outside the home and I don't. What can my daughter or I say or do to help resolve the situation?

I have found little information on this topic in books or on the Internet. Even in those grandparenting books that have an index, there was no mention of jealousy.

Jealousy typically involves being suspicious or fearful of being displaced by a rival, which does not seem completely accurate in this circumstance.

Your counterpart might feel guilt at not being able to be around so much and is taking it out on you and your daughter in subtle ways. We do know that jealousy is corrosive. It eats into the soul and can poison relationships.

This concern brings up a wider issue. Our society is experiencing rapid change. New technologies mean that we can speak to each other day and night from anywhere in the world. But with it has come new pressures. We live in a want-it-all society where we think we can have it all, but we cannot.

With little time to spend with our families and friends due to competing time priorities, the pressures are becoming intolerable for many people. The result is that everything is part-time: part-time parent, part-time grandparent and part-time friend.

What your daughter and son-in-law need to do is discuss the issue and then reassure his mother that she is wanted and needed in her role. Hopefully you can offer understanding and encouragement that can benefit your grandchildren's other grandmother.—*Jon Rainbow*

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



Give state mission efforts a helping hand

The long shadow of Sept. 11 will once again fall across Kentucky Baptists' week of prayer for state missions.

One year ago, the horrific events of 9-11 overshadowed everything else in the nation—including state missions. This year, the first anniversary of the terrorist attacks will come in the midst of Kentucky Baptists' Sept. 8-15 week of prayer emphasis.

On the positive side, the events of the past year have heightened many Christians' sensitivity to the urgency of prayer and ministry on behalf of people in spiritual need.

Additionally, the 2002 week of prayer will launch 100 days of prayer for spiritual awakening across the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

The KBC's 2001-2002 Eliza Broadus Offering for state missions is expected to fall short of the offering's \$850,000 goal when final figures are tallied this week. The offering also likely will fail to reach the previous year's record total of \$834,649.

"I think we were hurt by the events of 9-11," said Joy Bolton, executive director of Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union. She added, however, that Kentucky Baptists still provided "very strong giving overall considering the economy, 9-11 and everything that has happened this year."

Bolton said another factor is that WMU leaders increased last year's mission offering goal to \$850,000 with a challenge goal of \$150,000, pushing the total offering goal to \$1 million. "We began two years ago trying to intentionally stretch toward the \$1 million mark," she explained. "We felt it was time to raise the bar."

That bar remains at the same level for the coming year, with a base goal of \$850,000 and a \$150,000

challenge goal. "We decided not to retreat," Bolton said, "but we didn't add to the challenge."

The challenge goal, which is funded only after the base goal is met, is earmarked for church starts and special ministry projects.

When the goal goes unmet, "it limits our ability as a state convention to assist church planting endeavors," said Alan Witham, the KBC's church planter strategist.

Noting that the KBC hopes to help start 15 churches across the state in the next year, he added, "I would challenge people to use the words of Jesus to 'look unto the fields'—to look at their communities and realize the unreached people groups who are present and ask: 'How can I help reach them?' I would challenge them to experience the joy of partnering with God to reach people."

Even as the 2002-03 state missions offering helps fund such ministries as language missions, student work, church and community ministries and missions education, Bol-

ton emphasized financial gifts are not the primary concern.

"We focus on the offering but the week of prayer is the more significant matter," she said. "Those ministries need our prayers."

As Kentucky Baptists highlight the 2002 state missions theme, "Big Hands ... Little Hands Across Kentucky," Bolton asked, "What is in your hand? How has the Lord blessed you? ... God doesn't bless us just to bless us. He blesses us to be a blessing and a witness to a watching world."

It's a matter of offering a helping hand to those in need through prayer, financial gifts and personal involvement. Will your hands reach out and make a spiritual impact?

STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR



Trennis Henderson

It's time for adults to shape up

By Marian Wright Edelman

WASHINGTON (RNS)—It is time for adults of every race and income group to break our silence about the pervasive breakdown of moral, family and community values; to place our children first in our lives; and to struggle to model the behavior we want our children to learn.

We don't have a child and youth problem in America; we have an adult problem, as our children do what they see us adults doing in our personal, professional and public lives.

What must our children think as they see the craven greed reflected in recent examples of corporate leaders arrested and being investigated for pillaging their corporations and the lifeblood of workers, seniors and stockholders?

What must they think as they see our political leaders repeatedly say one thing and do another? And what dare they believe when they see some religious leaders, trusted by faith to protect them, abuse them instead?

It's time to close the adult hypocrisy gap.

I urge every parent and adult to conduct a personal audit to determine whether we are contributing to the crisis our children face or to the solutions they urgently need. If we are not a part of the solution, we need to do better.

Our children don't need or expect

to be perfect. They do need and expect us to be honest; to admit and correct our mistakes; and to share our struggles about the meanings and responsibilities of faith, parenthood, citizenship and life. Before we can pull

COMMENTARY

up the moral weeds of violence, materialism and greed in our society that are strangling our children, we must pull up the moral weeds in our own backyards.

So many children are confused about what is right and wrong because so many adults talk right and do wrong in our personal, professional and public lives. Thus:

■ If we are not supporting a child we brought into the world as a father or mother with attention, time, love, discipline, money and the teaching of values, then we are a part of the problem rather than the solution to the family breakdown today.

■ If we are abusing tobacco, alcohol, cocaine or other drugs while telling our children not to, then we are a part of the problem rather than the solution in our overly addicted society.

■ If we have guns in our home and rely on them to feel safe and powerful, and don't stand up to those who market guns to our children and to those who kill our children, or glamorize violence as fun, entertaining or normal, then we are a part of the problem rather than the solution to the escalating war of American against American that is tearing us apart.

If we tell our daughters not to engage in premature and irresponsible sex, and not to have children before they are prepared to parent and support them, and do not tell our sons the same thing, we are a part of the problem rather than the solution to teen pregnancy and out-of-wedlock births.

■ If we profess to be people of faith and send rather than take our children to worship and religious education services, and believe that whatever religious beliefs we hold pertain only to one-day worship but not to Monday through Sunday home, professional and political life, then we are a part of the problem rather than the solution to the spiritual famine plaguing America today.

■ If we think being American is about how much we can get rather than about how much we can give and share to help our children get a healthy, fair and safe start in life, then we are a part of the problem rather than the solution.

■ And, finally, if we think we have ours and don't owe any time or money or effort to help those left behind, then we are a part of the problem rather than the solution to the fraying social fabric that threatens all Americans.

It is time for adults to take an honest inventory of our beliefs and actions—and then to shape up to build the kind of world for our children where we are part of the solution, not the problem.

Marian Wright Edelman is president of the Children's Defense Fund

KENTUCKY

Partnerships see growth in 2002

How did the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks impact the number of Kentucky Baptist volunteers involved in overseas mission partnerships?

Two hundred volunteers on 27 teams went to Poland this year, compared to 167 on 15 teams in 2001, according to Ross Bauscher, director of partnership missions for the Kentucky Baptist Convention. The number going to Europe more than doubled, from 68 volunteers and seven teams last year to 160 volunteers and 11 teams this year, he added.

Bauscher said he is planning additional mission trips next year to Brazil, Malta, Nicaragua and Greece.

Sept. 11 impacts mission, ministry efforts in Kentucky

By Ken Walker
State Correspondent

LOUISVILLE—After seeing healthy increases in the number of Kentucky Baptist volunteers and mission teams going overseas this year, Ross Bauscher believes Sept. 11 has helped Baptists in the commonwealth re-order their priorities.

"I think it created an awareness of our sense of need to be more involved in our world," said Bauscher, director of partnership missions for the Kentucky Baptist Convention. "And it's caused a deepening of a sense of our priorities. People are asking: 'What are the purposes of God? What is really important?'"

In Eastern Kentucky, Mountain Missions Director David Aker also has an optimistic view of Sept. 11's impact on missions.

He estimates that 5,500 volunteers on 110 teams will visit the region this year, up more than 50 percent over each of the previous two years.

Meanwhile, 34 people from Eastern Kentucky will visit Russia this year to follow up on earlier partnership projects, compared to 16 volunteers in 2001.

Aker believes the terrorist attacks provoked a determination in his re-

gion, noting volunteers rejected an offer to cancel a trip to Russia the week after the attacks.

"They said, 'The Lord has opened this door and we want to go through it,'" Aker said. "There could be a sense of urgency the church had lost previously."

Despite such reports, the question of whether last year's tragedy had a positive or negative long-term impact on the KBC yields mixed answers.

On the positive side, multiple disaster relief mission trips to New York stimulated 22 training sessions in Kentucky compared to an average of eight in recent years.

More than 700 new volunteers have taken training, increasing the Kentucky Brotherhood's volunteer force to about 2,900 people.

"Some of the top leaders in our convention were affected by (New York); I was deeply affected by it," said Larry Koch, director of disaster relief. "There was a lot of stress up there. It was a logistical nightmare. But it's been a real positive thing. As a result, new churches are starting up there."

But while the number of adult volunteers rose, the number of college

students going overseas dipped from 40 to 35. This year's total fell 30 percent short of the convention's goal.

Sept. 11 had an immediate chilling impact on the program, collegiate ministry leaders said. After healthy surpluses of applicants the past two years, by Nov. 1 only 29 people had applied for 2002 trips. Six more students were added in February.

Meanwhile, the overall number of volunteers participating in Baptist Student Union summer missions dropped to 113, down eight from last year.

Ralph Hopkins, KBC's director of student missions, said many people's fears are misplaced. He went to Cambodia, and neither that team nor any others were concerned for their safety, he said.

The KBC will put on a major push for college students to take part in overseas missions next summer. Leaders hope to take 100 college students to Hong Kong for the Baptist World Alliance's student conference and accompanying mission trips.

Next week's anniversary observances could help boost that effort, Hopkins said.

"If we don't have another major terrorist experience, it could have a

positive impact," he said. "It could remind students our world is tenuous and we need to reach people with the gospel while we can."

Alan Witham, who works with church starters around the commonwealth, has seen a slight increase in new congregations this year. Ten were started the first seven months of 2002, compared to seven a year ago.

But Witham thinks the impact of Sept. 11 will be subtle.

"I think rather than mass things we can compare by numbers and churches, individual lives were changed," Witham said. "I think it's caused all of us to think how frail life is. If the uncertainty of that doesn't cause us to turn to a certain God, what will?"

No matter how uncertain the future, Bauscher believes those who respond to God's call will see results. He experienced that in Poland, where a partnership team was serving last fall when the terrorists struck.

After the news of the attacks broke, Kentuckians shared their faith and saw more than 100 people pray to receive Christ as their Savior, he said.

"Instead of downsizing like you see companies doing, I think it's time to move forward," Bauscher said. "God didn't give us a spirit of fear; He gave us a spirit of power."

Since
Sept.
11

WILLIAMSBURG/CORBIN AREA ACCOMMODATIONS

Rates do not include tax. Taxes vary between 9.2%-10.25%. Messengers are responsible for making their own reservations. Kentucky Baptist Convention must be mentioned and reservation deadlines met to receive blocked room rates. Most blocked rooms are non-smoking.

Williamsburg

A few vacancies remain at each of the following facilities.

The Cumberland Inn is full.

Days Inn

1-75 and Highway 99
606.542.8000
\$115 (doubles & kings/1-4 persons)
Continental breakfast
Reservation deadline: 10/25

Super 8 Motel (nearly full)

(formerly Holiday Inn Express)
30 Highway 92 West
606.549.3450
\$57.50 (1-4 persons)
Children under 18 stay free
Breakfast bar
Reservation deadline: 10/25

Williamsburg Motel

50 Balltown Road
606.542.2000
\$115 (1-4 persons)
Coffee and donuts
Reservation deadline: 11/1

Williamsburg Restaurants

Wendy's Burger King Krystal's
Sonic Pizza Hut McDonald's
Arby's Hardee's Subway
KFC Long John Silver's
B&I Restaurant

Corbin - Exit 25

(16 miles from Williamsburg)
Best Western Corbin Inn
2360 Cumberland Falls Highway
606.528.2100
\$36 (1-4 persons)
Continental breakfast
Reservation deadline: 10/25

Country Inn & Suites

1888 Cumberland Falls Highway
606.526.1400
\$59 (2 queen beds/1-4 persons)
Breakfast bar
Reservation deadline: 10/20

Corbin - Exit 25, continued

Days Inn

1-75 and U.S. Highway 25W
606.528.8150
\$35.98 (singles & doubles/1-4 persons)
Continental breakfast
Reservation deadline: 10/11

Holiday Inn Express

1973 Cumberland Falls Highway
606.523.4000
\$64 (queens & kings/1-4 people)
Continental breakfast
Reservation deadline: 10/31

Regency Inn & Suites

2615 Cumberland Falls Highway
606.528.6301
\$29 (doubles)
Continental breakfast
Reservation deadline: 11/1

Corbin Exit 25 Restaurants

Arby's Reno's
McDonald's Jerry's
Burger King

Corbin - Exit 29

(19 miles from Williamsburg)

Baymont Inn & Suites

174 Adams Road
606.523.9040
\$55 (1-2 beds)
Continental breakfast
Reservation deadline: 10/18

Hampton Inn

125 Adams Road
606.523.5696
\$55 (1-4 people)
Deluxe breakfast
Reservation deadline: 10/11

Corbin Exit 29 Restaurants

Cracker Barrel Sonny's Barbecue
Western Sizzler Western Steer

Cumberland Falls State Resort Park

(26 miles from campus)
7351 Highway 90
606.528.4121
\$63 (1-4 persons/Cabins available)
On-site restaurant
Reservation deadline: 10/11



2002 KBC Annual Meeting
November 12-13, 2002
Cumberland College
Williamsburg, Kentucky



For more information, contact Denise Withers by phone: 502.254.4731 or 888.254.5713 or e-mail: Denise.Withers@kybaptist.org



A year of ups and downs

Agencies: Career appointments up, but fear forces volunteerism decline

LOUISVILLE—Baptists continue to set records for international career missions appointments, but two agencies say Sept. 11 definitely dampened short-term volunteers' enthusiasm for heading overseas.

If present trends continue, 30 percent fewer volunteers will serve in projects this year through the Southern Baptist International Mission Board, according to Bill Cashion, director of the IMB's volunteers in missions program. The largest drop will be among high school students.

"Immediately following Sept. 11, we didn't see a big drop off in numbers," Cashion said. "But January through March, things really fell off."

Officials with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship report similar trends.

In the first six months of 2002, 13,180 Southern Baptists worked on IMB volunteer projects—a 25 percent decrease compared to the 17,687 volunteers who served during the same six months of 2001.

The No. 1 reason for declining numbers appears to be the concern of parents and church leaders for the safety of teenage volunteers, said Bron Holcomb, who leads the IMB's youth mobilization team.

Students still are eager to participate in overseas volunteer projects, but "often trips are cancelled because of the influence of one or two people in the church who may or may not be involved in the trip," Holcomb said.

Holcomb's team is seeing as much as a 50 percent decrease in the number of teen-agers participating in volunteer trips this year. The IMB had been recruiting volunteers for 24 International World Changers projects; 11 of those were cancelled for lack of participation.

"I think this puts us three years behind, if nothing else happens," Holcomb said. "It's the hardest thing to tell a missionary, 'I'm sorry. We can't come this year because no one signed up.'"

Meanwhile the number of SBC missionaries serving two years or more is at an all-time high, with 5,364

people currently in the field, according to the IMB. That includes a record number of 387 missionaries appointed last year. Between 400 and 405 people are projected to be appointed this year, a 3 to 4 percent increase.

"The real issue is that it's a non-issue," said Jim Riddell, who leads the team that consults with Southern Baptists interested in career missions.

The number of Southern Baptists seeking appointment as career missionaries nearly mirrors the number that was appointed last year, Riddell

said. In fact, only one couple has backed out of the appointment process as a result of Sept. 11.

A few couples, who will be appointed this year, have indicated that Sept. 11 helped confirm their calling.

A couple serving as International Service Corps missionaries in Pakistan's mountains were temporarily relocated after the Sept. 11 attacks. Since then, they have been appointed as career missionaries and returned to Pakistan.

And a single woman who had served in Pakistan for two years was struggling with the idea of returning to Pakistan as a single career missionary. She told Riddell that Sept. 11 gave her the resolve she needed to return.

The events of Sept. 11 had a minimal effect on young Southern Baptists committing to two years of service, said Glenn Prescott, who works with the International Service Corps and Journeyman programs.

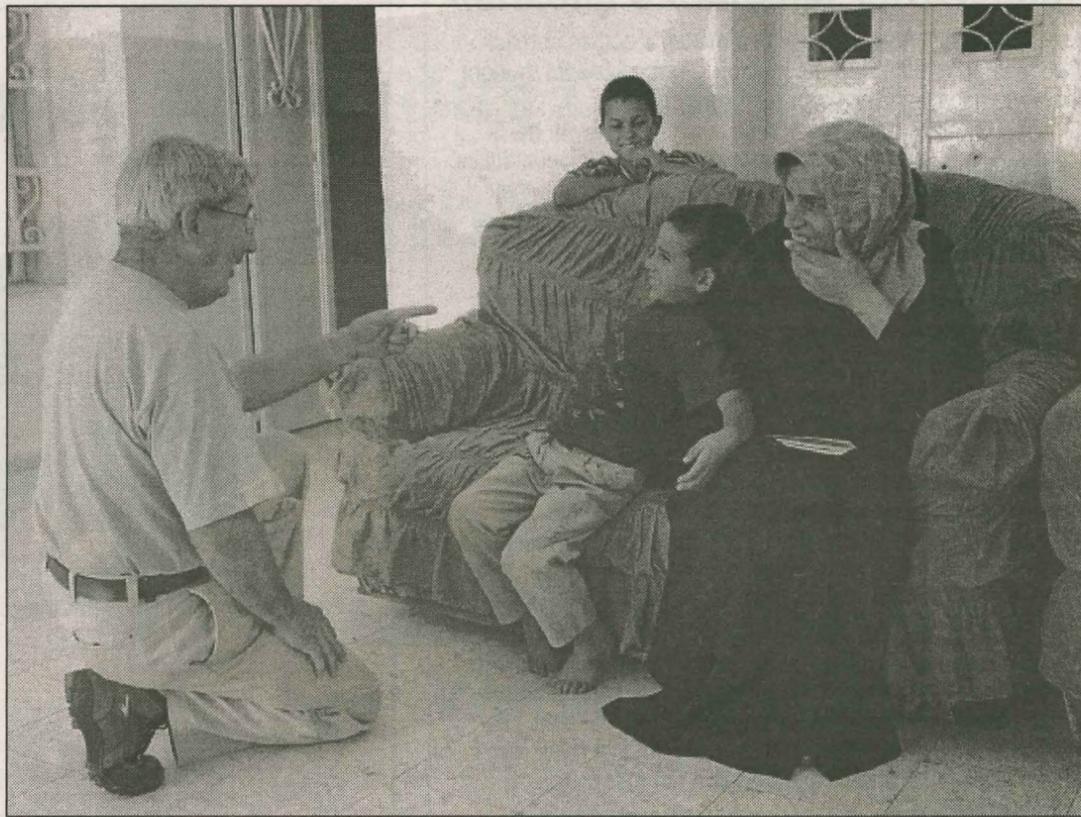
"I think it had an effect on us early in the year, but it's difficult to know to what extent," he said.

He compared the effect of Sept. 11 to the Y2K millennium scare.

"When the Y2K scare came, we had a conference scheduled for Jan. 5; only 50 came," he said. "That was just a little blip on the screen, and then we were back to normal."

"I don't think Sept. 11 will have any long-term effect on us. Numbers will be back to normal and continue to climb."

College students have responded to the events of Sept. 11 with a fervency to minister in Muslim nations, according to Mike Lopez.



Lopez, who works with the IMB's collegiate volunteers, said more college students already have participated in volunteer trips this year compared to all of last year.

"State conventions are saying their numbers are down, but we haven't seen it," he said. "If anything, we've seen volunteers express more commitment that now is the time. We still have a lot of people asking to go to Muslims."

Cashion said Southern Baptists should not allow fear to influence their decisions regarding overseas service.

He recalled a recent story that the seniors organization, AARP, had seen a 30 percent increase in business the first quarter of 2002.

If elderly travelers aren't afraid to visit places like India, Egypt and Morocco, Christians shouldn't be afraid to go there on mission trips, he said.

"This is something Southern Baptists ought to prayerfully look at," Cashion said. "Terrorism ought not to be something that stops the Great Commission. Terrorism is nothing new. But we see fear stopping people from going and sharing the gospel."

The Cooperative Baptist Fellow-

ship reports similar results in its global missions program, which currently has 128 career missionaries stationed in 30 countries.

Thirty missionaries were appointed this year, double the number in 2001, according to Grace Powell-Freeman, coordinator of missions education for the Atlanta-based fellowship.

"We haven't really seen anything," Powell-Freeman said of Sept. 11's long-term impact. "People who are on the field are as committed, if not more. I think it opened some eyes of how many needs there are in the world."

But the numbers did drop for participation in the agency's major overseas short-term missions projects.

John Derrick, an associate coordinator for volunteer work, said only 60 people traveled to China this year for ministry, compared to 90 a year ago.

But Derrick said the agency is seeing a "rebound" as people overcome their fears. Already the agency is planning to send a 12-person team this fall to a Muslim-dominated country in Africa.

Compiled from reporting by State Correspondent Ken Walker and IMB Correspondent Britany Conner

A LITTLE LAUGHTER
North Carolina volunteer Wes Kinnamon entertains a Palestinian family during a mission trip to Abu Dis, a Palestinian village near East Jerusalem. The trip was sponsored by the Southern Baptist International Mission Board, which is projecting a 30 percent decrease in volunteer mission work this year. Leaders cite concerns in the wake of the Sept. 11 attacks as a major cause for the decline. (BP photo by Roy Burroughs)

Post-Sept. 11 missionary wrestles with God's call, parents' fears

IN THE MIDDLE EAST (BP)—Honor your father and mother, the Bible commands, and heed their counsel.

So what do you do when your earthly father adamantly opposes something your Heavenly Father wants you to do?

"Brian," a Southern Baptist missionary in the Middle East who asked not to be identified for security reasons, is far from the first missionary to wrestle with that dilemma.

He and his wife left for the turbulent Middle East last year, with his father's beloved grandchildren in tow. It didn't go over very well with Dad

—especially after Sept. 11.

"He's not a believer, so he doesn't understand my passion" for reaching non-Christians, Brian said. "He has a fatherly concern for us. He also has a military background, so he knows tense situations and how volatile they can become. He doesn't understand how I could go into such a situation, or take my children into it."

Brian's mother is a Christian, but she wasn't too thrilled either. Why, she asked, would he give up a fruitful, long-time ministry at home to go to a faraway place where he couldn't even speak the language?

Now, Brian is planning to move

the family from the relatively stable country where they've been living to another, far more violent part of the Arab world where people are beginning to respond to the gospel. When his father heard about it, he called the Southern Baptist International Mission Board to express his objections.

It isn't just concern about physical safety that divides Brian and his father; it's a fundamental difference in world view:

"Dad says, 'There are many paths to the sea. Let Allah save them. Who are you to tell them you know the only way to God or salvation?'" Brian explained. "We've had more religious

discussions since I got out here than we ever did at home. We've agreed to disagree."

Brian's non-Christian father holding such views is understandable. But what about parents in the church who watch their adult children—and grandchildren—going into a dark, dangerous world to obey God's call?

Nobody said it's easy, especially in a post-Sept. 11 world. But missionaries note that God is still calling.

"I don't want my children to grow up afraid of the world," Brian said. "They are as much a part of our ministry as we are, and we want it to be that way."

MISSIONS

Missionary changes career plans after daughter's question

CULLMAN, Ala. (BP)—With a master's degree in reach and job possibilities on the horizon, Jimmy Mauldin thought everything was falling together for his family.

But the Sept. 11 attacks and a conversation with his 5-year-old daughter changed his perspective.

**Since
Sept.
11**

Mauldin; his wife, Jennifer; and their four children recently returned to Ghana, West Africa, where they served as missionaries from 1996 to 2000.

He had been back in Cullman, Ala., working on a master's degree in business administration and thinking that God could use a Christian businessman in the Deep South.

Mauldin said the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks only confirmed his plans until his 5-year-old daughter, Katie, challenged his reservations about traveling overseas the next day as he drove her to kindergarten.

She asked why all the flags were at half-staff. When he said it was because of the actions of some "bad men," Katie asked: "Daddy, why didn't someone tell them about Jesus?"

That question, Mauldin said, hit him "right in the gut."

After prayer, Mauldin and his wife decided it was time to return with their family to Africa and continue the work they had started. "Yes, God can bless me here in Alabama," he said shortly before returning to Africa. "But just think about the blessings I will miss out on if I do not follow God's direction to Ghana."



Got the tools to do the job?

If you're tackling a big project – like teaching a Sunday School class, leading a committee, or building a new ministry from the ground up – you're going to need a few tools. We've got 'em at www.kybaptist.org, and best of all, we deliver!

Special Delivery, our free weekly e-newsletter, is jam-packed with great helps. You'll find:

- advance announcements for great training events
- the latest Kentucky Baptist news
- links to helpful resources
- quick, creative ministry ideas for every member of your crew!

Sign-up is easy and FREE. Send an e-mail to news@kybaptist.org with the word "subscribe" in the subject line. Need more details? Go to:

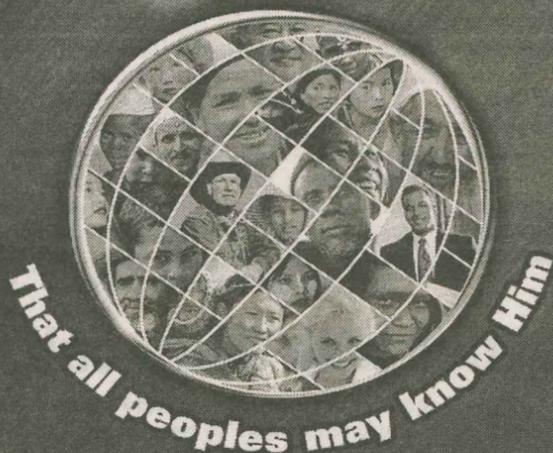
www.kybaptist.org/specialdelivery




Thank You Kentucky Baptists for
your gifts to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering®

We prayerfully ask you to support the
Season of Prayer for State Missions/
Elizabeth Broadus Offering for State Missions

Sharing the Passion



"All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations will worship before You." (Ps. 22:27, NASB)



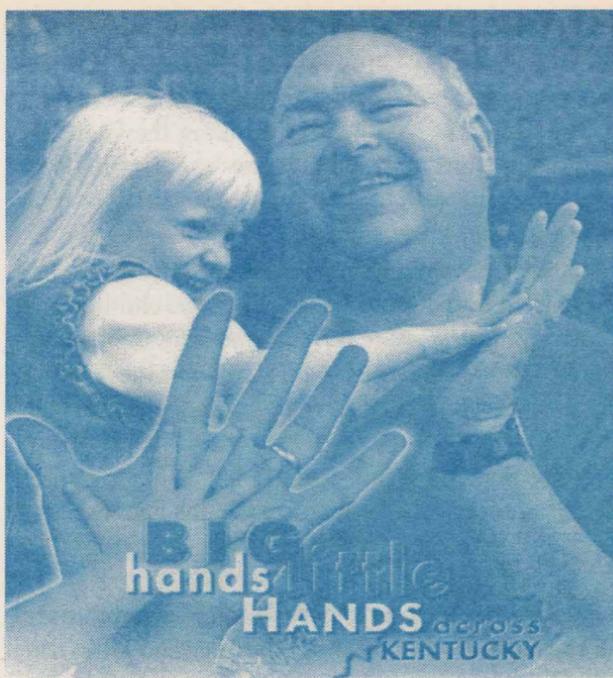
A Southern Baptist Convention entity supported by the Cooperative Program and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

®Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is a registered trademark of Woman's Missionary Union.

2002 Week of Prayer for State Missions

and

Eliza Broadus Offering September 8-15



By Kristen White

Little noses pressed to the windows in the run-down apartment complex as the children waited and watched. Today, Backyard Bible Clubs were beginning again. When the children saw the summer missionaries, they ran down the sidewalk as fast as they could go. Their arms clung around the summer missionaries' waists as they squealed, "We thought you wouldn't come. We thought you were mad at us. But you're back!"

All that many children in Kentucky have known is rejection, perhaps abuse. Their natural reactions are distrust and self-doubt. But Kentucky Baptists are seeking ways to erase the fears of these children and teach them to trust in the love of their unfailing heavenly Father.

It is Wednesday night. Clean-scrubbed, smiling faces surround a woman who has served God and her church for years. She is a grandma. She could use the excuse that she's "been there, done that," but she doesn't. She finds joy in teaching Mission Friends about missionaries and people in places all around the world who need to hear about Jesus.

So young, yet these children will quickly grow. Who will they become? Youth who work in fast-food restaurants and discount stores? Adults who will run Kentucky's businesses and churches? Kentucky Baptists strive to impart to these young lives a passion for living for God.

Kentucky Baptists are investing in children of every age, race, socioeconomic background, and area of need. We do so through missions funding, promotion, and training. We touch lives through ministries such as summer missions, camp programs, Baptist centers and agencies, associational outreach activities, and missions education in local churches. When our big hands reach out to little hands, we make an immediate *and* enduring difference in the lives of these little ones Christ loves.

Little Hands in Need

The churches of the Booneville and Irvine Associations in eastern Kentucky have decided to go outside the walls of the church and minister to little hands in need. Bill Nichols, Director of Missions, and faithful lay leaders have given countless hours, prayers, and dollars to make their multihousing missions points successful.

At Rocky Hill Heights Complex, Ron and Deanna Taylor and their ministry team reach out to children and their parents in 72 apartment units and 60 low-income houses. On Tuesday afternoons, children can count on Bible stories, games, refreshments, treats, and music. Not just any refreshments either. One church member, burdened with the children's need for physical nourishment lovingly makes chicken and dumplings nearly every week. The children flock to Bible study.

Leaders Lee and Dottie Dunsil and others from McKee Baptist Church, have seen similar success at Jackson Valley Apartments. The church converted a storage complex to meet their ministry needs. Every week, the ministry team conducts Bible study for children.

One of their students saw his father shoot himself when he was 8 years old. By the time he was a young teenager, he was troubled and it showed. When the ministry at the apartments began, he was reserved and wouldn't participate in Bible study. Other children said he was mean. While serving a sentence at a Detention Center, however, the Lord began to break through. "Every time he was home, he called someone on the ministry team," Nichols explains. "He couldn't count on his mom being around. But he could count on us."

Eventually, this young man became a Christian. What turned his life around was memorizing Scripture, Nichols says. Now he is one of the first ones to comfort and defend younger children. Throughout the summer, groups come in to do ministry such as block parties, puppet shows, and Backyard Bible Clubs at these and four other multihousing points.



**Offering Goal:
\$850,000**

**Challenge Goal for New
Work & Special
Ministries:**

\$150,000

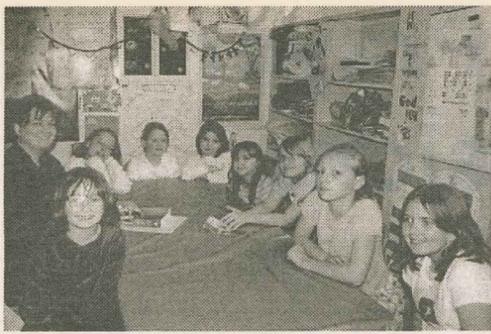
**TOTAL GOAL:
\$1,000,000**



A packet of materials has been sent to the WMU director or contact person in every KBC church. It includes State Missions teaching plans for all ages and suggestions for churchwide promotion of the Week of Prayer for State Missions and the Eliza Broadus Offering. Each church will also receive a free copy of the 2002 State Missions Video with their order of additional posters, prayer guides, and offering envelopes. You may request this packet by calling Kentucky WMU at 502-244-6485 or toll free, 1-888-254-5726, or by email: kywmu@kybaptist.org. These materials are provided by the gifts of your church to the Eliza Broadus Offering and the Cooperative Program.

Contributions to the Eliza Broadus Offering should be mailed to: Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions, Kentucky Baptist Convention, PO Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433. Checks should be made payable to Kentucky Baptist Convention and designated "EBO." Church Treasurers may also include EBO contributions with other contributions through the Kentucky Baptist Convention using the KBC church contribution form and designating the amount for the Eliza Broadus Offering as "EBO."

Contributions for the 2002-03 Eliza Broadus Offering will be received from September 1, 2002 through August 31, 2003.



Many of the children who attend these multihousing mission classes come from homes where parents may be alcoholics or drug addicts, where they may not receive decent meals, where they may receive or observe abuse that we don't even

want to think about. They don't come to class with manners. They come with attitudes. They come with pain. They come trying the patience of those who love and serve them. But these children come with value and potential, because God chose to create them.

Reaching them comes with a cost. The Eliza Broadus Offering provided funds this past year for ministry supplies for the Rocky Hill Heights and Jackson Valley multihousing ministry sites, in addition to allocations for similar ministries across the state. The church, association, and workers have also invested in these ministries. Perhaps greater than the financial investment is the commitment and devotion that ministry workers give.

Why do they do it? Nichols says, "These ministries to children show every child that they are important. We have seen 27 young people come to know Christ through our work. A teacher in Clay County even said the church had impacted the children so much that she could tell a difference."

Another ministry in eastern Kentucky is making such a difference that schools and communities are talking. The Freeda Harris Baptist Center in Lookout provides relief and discipleship ministries to the people in and around parts of Pike County.

Greg and Alice Whitetree, center directors for the past 18 years, say they start at ground level with the children. Many of the children often don't know anything about the Bible, church, how to act in church, or how to live.

The Whitetrees believe part of their mission is to teach recreation and socialization skills along with alleviating suffering and witnessing to the saving grace of Jesus. The Center reaches this goal through "the coolest thing happening in town," after-school Bible clubs. "Without the Freeda Harris Center and Bible clubs, many of these children would not have the opportunity for recreation and Bible training. Their families' only concern is survival, not helping their children develop in all areas—intellectual, spiritual, mental, physical, emotional," says Whitetree.

Children in grades 1-6 come to the Center in the afternoons for a wonderful time of stories, games, handcrafts, snacks, sports, and love and attention. Volunteers from the church and community provide leadership for the Bible club program. Children come at the time assigned according to their grade and gender.

In addition to an effective ministry with children, the Freeda Harris Center provides many other ministries. These include: gym time with a devotional for teenage boys, Christmas parties to distribute toys to 1200 children annually, day camps, and Vacation Bible School in the summer. There is also construction and repair work on community homes, a food pantry, clothes closet, and more. Through these ministries, the Center has built credibility with the community.

One of the strongest witnesses to the community is Kentucky Baptists' support. "Folks here don't understand why people all over the state give enough money to buy us a new van every three years so we can transport their kids to Bible clubs and back up and down the 50 miles of hollers and creekbeds. The support we receive communicates loud and clear that we Baptists love them and are committed to them," Mr. Whitetree says.

For many years, Kentucky Baptists have been known for our innovative, consistent, and committed ministry to hurting children. Through the Freeda Harris Baptist Center, other Baptist Centers in inner-city and rural areas, Oneida Baptist Institute, and Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, we are reaching boys and girls from troubled backgrounds. Kentucky Baptists touch lives with three life-changing contributions. First, we share God's offer of salvation from personal sin through Jesus Christ. We extend hope and help to overcome the difficulties in the lives of children and their families caused by the sins of others. And Kentucky Baptists teach children skills and give encouragement to become all God created them to be in the future. Only God knows what can happen when we trust Him to use our hands to touch children who are in need.

Big Hands Join Little Hands in Service

The Elkhorn Association (Lexington area), like the Booneville and Irvine associations, ministers to low-income multihousing communities. They have a building they call The Chapel which houses Bible studies, youth nights, craft days, and a very successful "Read to Succeed" program.

WMU groups participate in the reading program by reading to children, letting the children read to them, and giving them books. Churches sponsor book drives for new and gently used books to share with the children. "It touches our hearts when the children say, 'Thank you. This is only my second book.' We know we're doing something important," says Sandra Williams, Director of Church and Community Ministries for the Elkhorn Association. With twenty-three people accepting Christ last year through the Chapel's activities, they know that for certain.

The Elkhorn Association has an active summer missions program, including sports, creative arts, and music camps, as well as traditional Backyard Bible Clubs and Vacation Bible Schools. They also sponsor a Christmas toy project, where the parents can purchase toys at one-tenth the price.

"We let the parents pay so we can empower them to take care of their own families," Williams says. The money goes into a special fund to assist families in need with rent, utilities, and medicines.

One of the ministries of which Williams is most proud is Feed the Hungry. "This is where we get to involve children *in* ministry, as well as doing ministry *to* children," Williams says enthusiastically. Girls in Action (GA), Royal Ambassadors (RA), and Children in Action groups regularly help decorate brown paper bags, make sandwiches, and assemble eight to twelve hundred sack lunches at three sites. Adults, youth, and children who work with Feed the Hungry distribute food to low-income children and adults. Some of the low-income children also help distribute the sacks. Workers and recipients pray together. "And they see answers!" says Williams.

It's amazing that God gives us the honor of sometimes *being* the answer. One 15-year-old young man named Daniel showed workers and recipients the power of God's love during one distribution. It was a cold night, and workers were distributing gloves in addition to food. A homeless veteran stood in line for his gloves, but when it was his turn, the gloves had all been given. The man took his sack of food and started to walk away, but Daniel called to him, "Sir, I have some gloves for you." Daniel removed his gloves and handed them to the man. Then he removed his shoes and socks and gave his socks to the man as well.

Just as Daniel was used by God to answer the prayers of a homeless veteran, young people and children in your church can make a difference. God has given us all gifts and experiences which can become an open door to tell someone about Jesus.

Baptists in Muhlenberg County found an unexpected door swung wide open when a local businessman offered the free use of a skating rink he owned. "We just sort of blundered into the 'Skates Alive' ministry," says Muhlenberg Baptist Association Director of Missions Roger Skipworth. "But it has turned into a revival."



Children skate with free admission to contemporary Christian music one night a week during the school year. In the middle of the each skating session, Skipworth or another counselor or visiting pastor will give a devotion. Skipworth explains that they make it clear that counselors are available, but they don't give an "altar call" after the devotion. They've been amazed at the number of children who search out counselors. They pray about everything, from salvation to family problems.

The Skates Alive ministry began as an outlet for children and youth belonging to churches in the county. But since the county is in a rural setting and recreational options don't abound, it quickly became a witnessing tool. "Kids invite their friends who don't go to church. It's a great, non-threatening way to help our kids learn to reach out," Skipworth says. "Everybody wants to be there, especially since it's free."

Have they seen lasting results? They saw thirty professions of faith in the first year, many of which have made those decisions public in local Baptist churches. Two children who were reached through Skates Alive were the first baptisms in one church in seven years. Recently, a family of seven came to Christ all at once in a local church as a result of Skates Alive.

"The greatest task is training and encouraging workers both at the rink and in the churches. We need more counselors. There's been such a tremendous response of kids inviting kids, then taking those new kids on to church with them. The kids are starting the revival. We pray it continues," Skipworth says.

Isaiah 11:6 says, "A little child shall lead them." How do we instill in our children the servant heart that Daniel has? How do we develop their courage to witness? By working alongside them. By giving them an example to follow. By providing opportunities to serve. And by teaching them about missions and missionaries from an early age, because that will give them a life-long missions mindset.



Big Hands Teach Little Hands to Grow and Go

For more than 100 years, Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) has led our denomination in missions education. WMU has taught and inspired thousands of preschoolers, elementary children, youth, and women of all ages to be personally involved in fulfilling Christ's Great Commission. Without the missions education programs sponsored by WMU and Brotherhood, many would be without the knowledge of physical and spiritual needs around the world. The inspiration and information we give children through Mission Friends, GAs, RAs, Children in Action, Acteens, Challengers, and Youth on Mission often results in a life call for missionary work, or a passion for serving in a local church.

Bethann Ayers was once a GA. Her leader, Brenda Price, now Associate Executive Director of Kentucky WMU and Preschool/Children's Missions Education Consultant, says Bethann did every GA project eagerly, as hundreds of girls across our state do each week.

But Bethann didn't stay a GA. She grew up. She became an attorney, but the call of missions tugged at her heart. She serves as GA coordinator and leader of 1st grade GAs at her church, Calvary Baptist in Lexington. She is also attending seminary to serve God's kingdom through her career.

Price says, "We know that missions education has a lifelong impact on the lives of children. When we give our dollars to the Eliza Broadus Offering, those funds train missions leaders. Only God knows whom these missions leaders teach, who these children will become, where they will go in life and who they will win for Christ."

Does every Southern Baptist church in Kentucky teach its children about mission needs around the world? Are all children in our churches regularly praying for and giving to missions? Are we teaching



our children to serve by giving them opportunities to do missions or raise funds for missions? Not all, not yet. But Price is hopeful.

"Many churches customize the curriculum to plug missions into what they're already doing, especially if they don't have leaders or time in their schedule to begin a whole new program. If you don't have a missions element in your children's program, we can help you find ways to include missions in an exciting, impacting way," Price says.

Kentucky WMU has missions education consultants on staff for preschool, children, youth, college, and adults. These consultants offer training and help for churches and associations who want to improve their missions education program or find ways to fit missions into their existing programs. A well-qualified Resource Team is also available to consult with churches who desire to strengthen the missions element of their programs.

"Missions is such a vital part of Christian growth," says LaRaine Dail, youth/college consultant for Kentucky WMU. "Missions gives kids an outlet for their idealism. If youth don't get involved in hands-

Acteens Activators experienced hands on missions during a Kentucky WMU sponsored summer missions trip to Lynch, Kentucky this past July.

on missions, they are more likely to drop out of church. If they are involved in missions, it teaches them the reality of Christianity—that we are all about sharing the Father's love."

Kentucky WMU provides hands-on experiences for youth and college students through Acteens (youth girls) and Youth on Mission (youth co-ed). Kentucky WMU offers training and consultation for more than 650 churches and 70 associations who have active youth missions programs. Kentucky WMU also offers support and helps promote statewide missions conferences and festivals, as well as encouraging other missions programs, such as Kentucky Changers and Summer Missions.

"According to statistics, only 12% of youth who are active in church during high school remain in church during college. If we can do anything to help their faith become relevant or to help these youth see that Christ works, we want to do it. Missions is where we see people's lives change," says Dail.

First, we see the lives of the brokenhearted and downtrodden around us change. Then, we change. Missions education and experiences give us more faith in God's power. More love for His Word. More humility in realizing God allows us to be vessels to pour out His care. The big hands in your church can teach the little hands in your church and community about missions and the world of people for which Christ died. If you need help in getting started, call Kentucky WMU toll free at 1-888-254-5726.

Big Hands Meet Even Bigger Hands

By the time the youth of Kentucky turn 13 or 14 years old, they think they're pretty big stuff. And they are. They are the hope of tomorrow. But without God's even bigger hands, they won't get far in changing their world. That's why WMU and Brotherhood have teamed together to create a life-changing camp experience to teach boys and girls about God's plan for them to live on-mission lives.

Mission Adventure Camp, located at Cedarmore Camp and Conference Center, is today's continuation of the rich heritage of yesterday's GA and RA camps. Camp gives kids the opportunity to learn life skills and teamwork through high adventure elements, such as ropes courses (boys), mountain biking (boys), and horseback riding (boys and girls). Camp also introduces or reinforces missions concepts through on-site missionaries and studies about cultures. Girls even get



to experience a simulated environment of another place through food, clothing, decorations, and traditional dances.

Every day, campers are challenged to grow in their faith through age-appropriate small-group Bible studies, personal quiet times, and large-group worship services. Some campers meet Christ for the first time. Some, for the first time, decide to have a daily personal quiet time. Some decide, "Hey, I want to be like that" when they see a camp staff person or missionary loving them and living out their faith in Christ.

"We see students come back looking for staffers who were significant in their lives. We see students coming back as staff members. We see kids take home what they've learned and show their church, community, and families what it means to be an on-mission Christian," says Dwayne Doyle, Missions Education Associate for Kentucky Brotherhood.

Doyle works with Tonya Williams, Adult Consultant/ Camp Director for Kentucky WMU. Doyle and Williams have put much thought, prayer, and effort into making this new effort a success.

As in the past, boys and girls use separate sites (both on the Cedarmore campus) for their camp experience. But now churches can bring boys and girls on the same day and pick them up on the same day through coordinated scheduling. New recreation and study elements have been added to make this a premier camp experience.

In addition to week-long age-graded camps in the summer, the Mission Adventure Camp program also offers overnights for mothers/daughters, overnights for fathers/sons, three-day Express Camps. The WMU camping program also includes three overnight events in western Kentucky at Jonathan Creek: Mother/Daughter Overnight, GA Overnight, and Acteens Splash.

Without Eliza Broadus Offering funds, these missions camping programs could not exist. Funds pay for training, camp staff salaries, scholarships for at-risk children and children of inmates, and some camp supplies. Most of the fees campers pay are applied to food and lodging and do not help offset administration and programming.

"Without the gracious support of the Eliza Broadus Offering and Baptists across Kentucky, we couldn't

provide an affordable camp experience," Williams says with emotion in her voice. "Thank you for giving. It makes a difference in these kids. Camp changed my life and gave me a passion for missions that has formed my whole life."

"The Southern Baptist heritage is built on missions. It's what we're about. We want to see that continue, and camps are a great way to pass on that heritage. We want to make camp the best it can be," Doyle says.

You can have a part in helping the youth of Kentucky experience God and missions through camp by praying, giving to the Eliza Broadus Offering, volunteering at Cedarmore or a Baptist camp in your area, or sending a child to camp.

What About Your Hands?

Where are your hands? Are they in your pockets, or reaching up to God and out to others? What are your hands doing? Are they sitting still, or holding someone else's hand? God provides all our hands and hearts need to make a lasting, positive difference in the little hands around us. Will you spend some time now praying for the needs you've read about? Will you give to the Eliza Broadus Offering? Will you lend a hand in service to our Lord?



Partners in the Mission The Significance of Hands

Bill Mackey, Executive Director
Kentucky Baptist Convention

This year's state missions theme of "Big Hands, Little Hands Across Kentucky" makes me think of the many ways in which the Bible speaks of hands. Our hands become wonderful tools of service when we put ourselves in God's powerful and loving hands.

Using our hands for work is described often in the Bible. Ecclesiastes 9:10 reminds us to do our work with passion and urgency: "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might, for in the grace, where you are going, there is neither working nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom" (NIV). This is especially true of missions and sharing Jesus Christ with others.

I think about the ways the skilled hands of a surgeon, a musician, a craftsman, a painter, and an athlete are used in work. All of these skilled hands can be used to serve Christ and others.

The Bible also refers to helping hands in describing a Godly woman who "...extends her hand to the needy" (Proverbs 31:20). There are many people, like my mother, who are drawn to those in need. When my mother returned from a full day of work she frequently baked a cake to take to someone. She often took young girls to mission groups or activities at her home — especially those whose parents were not in church. I thank God for women in Kentucky Baptist churches who are committed to extending a helping hand through missions and missions education.

There are also frequent references in the Bible to the strong hand of God to hold us and to lift us when we fall. "Though he stumble, he will not fall, for the Lord upholds him with his hand," says Psalms 37:24. In Psalms 16:8, the writer praises God by saying "I have set the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken." John 10:28 says "...no one can snatch them out of my hand."

The ultimate description of strong hands is that of the all-powerful hands of God. These are the strong hands that enable us to serve and extend a helping hand. God is sovereign over our service and extends His strength and resources through His people.

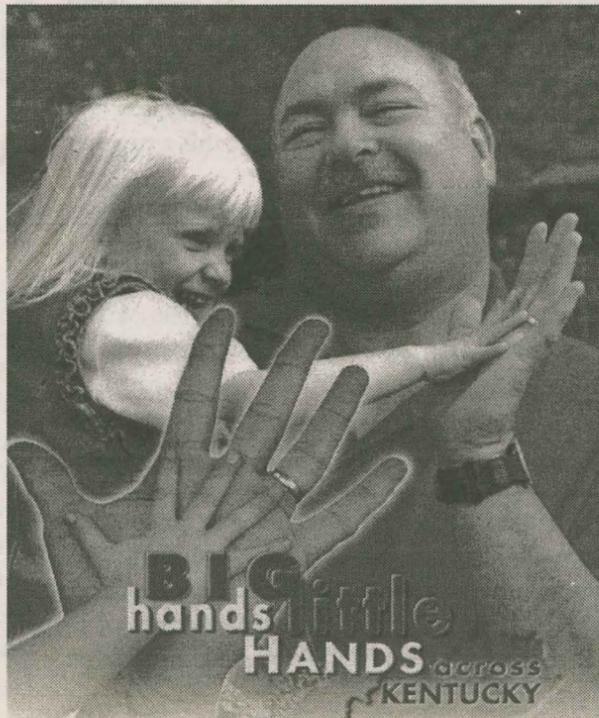
Hands are also associated with communication and praise. "I want men everywhere to lift up holy hands in prayer, without anger or disputing," Paul says in I Timothy 2:8. In Isaiah 55:12, the prophet refers to trees clapping their hands in praise. We communicate greetings and connection by a handshake, affirmation and encouragement by a pat on the back, and direction by pointing, or entreating by the extended hand. Tim Bender, consultant for Hearing-Impaired Ministries for KBC, utilizes skilled hands to proclaim the Gospel and equip believers.

Discipleship is also associated with hands. The one who can experience God is described as "He who has clean hands and a pure heart ..." (Psalm 24:4).

An extended hand is used in Psalm 65:2 to describe the appeal of God to an obstinate people. To the extent that we are becoming like God, we extend an appeal to unreached people with perseverance and passion.

ELIZA BROADUS OFFERING for Kentucky State Missions, Special Ministries, and Missions Education 2002-03 OFFERING ALLOCATIONS

Kentucky Baptist Convention State Missions & Evangelism	\$595,000
State Missions	301,000
Includes funds to assist 32 Kentucky Baptist associations in providing salary and insurance benefits for their associational missionary, funding for a mountain missionary, assistance to three key churches in eastern Kentucky to employ a full-time pastor, funding assistance for the Freeda Harris Baptist Center van	
Language Missions	67,000
Eastern Kentucky Regional Deaf Ministry; Hispanic ministry; ministries to other language/ethnic groups in Kentucky.	
Church & Community Missions	112,000
Includes funds for appointed missionary personnel in the mountains and cities of Kentucky; new Church and Community ministry initiatives; Baptist Fellowship Center personnel and office expense	
Evangelism	5,000
Understanding Other Beliefs Conferences, Creative Ministries Festival/Youth Missions Workshop	
Student Work	84,000
Includes International Student Ministry, Reach Out Campus Revivals, Student Mission Action Projects, Kentucky Student Summer Missions	
Brotherhood Special Projects	26,000
Includes Disaster Relief, Kentucky Changers, and Mission Adventure Camp for Boys (equipment and program needs, scholarships for children of incarcerated persons, and scholarships for other needy children)	
Kentucky Special Ministries	\$50,000
Requests for Special Ministries Funds are made through an application process. The deadline for submitting an EBO allocation request for the 2002-03 offering is December 31, 2002. Contact the state WMU office for an allocation request form.	
Kentucky WMU: Missions Education & Ministries to Missionaries	\$205,000
Missions Education Leadership Development	25,000
Includes training events for church & associational missions leaders, Resource Team training, leadership materials for new missions organizations, associational leadership materials	
Missions Education Events and Materials	43,045
Includes State Acteens Conference, Youth on Mission Night, Women on Mission Retreats, Baptist Nursing Fellowship, Kentucky WMU Annual Meeting and Children's missions event, Collegiate missions education; Associational, age-level, language and general missions education development	
Missions Education Camping	68,359
Includes Staff and materials for Mission Adventure Camp for Girls at Cedar Crest (weeklong camps and overnights); camp scholarships for needy children; Mother/Daughter Overnight, GA Overnight, and Acteens Splash at Jonathan Creek	
Missions Education Promotion	51,396
Includes State Missions Week of Prayer Materials and Video, <i>Kentucky Notes</i> , <i>Associational Newsletter</i> , Yearbook Supplement, Joint promotion with other KBC agencies	
Missions Education Scholarships	2,000
Seminary Field Education, Simmons Bible College, Campus Women on Mission Facilitator Scholarships	
Ministries to Kentucky Missionaries	15,200
Includes MK Re-entry retreat, Missionary Dinner during the KBC, subscriptions to the <i>Western Recorder</i> for international missionaries, Missionary Parents Fellowship	
ELIZA BROADUS OFFERING GOAL	\$850,000
CHALLENGE GOAL: To be divided between New Work/Special Ministries	\$150,000
TOTAL ELIZA BROADUS OFFERING GOAL	\$1,000,000



Church contributions to this offering should be made payable to the Kentucky Baptist Convention and designated "Eliza Broadus Offering."

Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union
PO Box 436569, Louisville, KY 40253-6569 - Phone: (502) 244-6485 or
Toll Free: 1-888-254-5726
Email: kywmu@kybaptist.org

Liturgist: 'Tragic' for churches to ignore Sept. 11

Continued from page 1
living for the Reform Jewish movement, a little uneasy.

There is room in Jewish tradition to pray for the larger community and the world, she said, but she grows nervous when patriotism morphs into nationalism.

"One of the things that was hard through this past year was to be patriotic but not to take it to the extreme where everyone else was the enemy," she said. "Making that balance, and feeling proud and good about America, doesn't mean we have to denigrate others or be suspicious of those who are different."

Like Benedict, Catholic liturgists are turning to traditions that have moved generations of believers. The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has scripted a nine-day prayer cycle—known as a novena—that focuses on a different theme for each day, starting with prayer and fasting and moving toward hope and looking forward.

'Give us courage to overcome our fears'

WASHINGTON (RNS)—Below are excerpts from sample prayers and litanies composed by various religious groups for the recognition of the one-year anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks:

"Remember, O God, those who suffer the loss of loved ones. ... Remember all who have died in the conflict with terrorism. ... Remember those who are still filled with fear or anger. ... Remember this nation and those we call enemies."

"9/11 Service of Remembrance," United Methodist Church

"In times of fear, grant us courage. When called upon to stand for the rights of others, grant us courage. When others call for our destruction, grant us courage. When the enemies of freedom lash out, bless us with Your peace. When the darkness of hatred descends, bless us with Your peace."

"Readings for Commemorating 9/11," Union of American Hebrew Congregations, by Rabbi Matt Friedman

"A year ago this week, our country was in crisis. We all have imag-

es of that day. Men and women that perished, fire and rescue trying to help victims and a plane that crashed in Pennsylvania. We also saw our country come together. People began searching for truth, for love, for family. Today, as family let us lift high the name of the Lord. Let us look to Him today as our strength."

Since
Sept.
11

Suggested introduction for "Call on Me," a proposed Sept. 11 remembrance worship service, Southern Baptist North American Mission Board

"God the compassionate One, Whose loving care extends to all the world, we re-

member this day Your children of many nations and many faiths whose lives were cut short by the fierce flames of anger and hatred."

Frank Griswold, presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church

"For our enemies, the ones for whom we would rather not pray, and for ourselves: lead us from prejudice to truth; deliver us from hatred and revenge; give us courage to overcome our fears and build bridges, that we may stand before you reconciled through Christ our Lord. O God of mercy, hear our prayer."

"Remembering Sept. 11," Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

"Almighty God, the past year will be indelibly inscribed in our memories. We looked with horror on the terrorist attacks of last Sept.

11. But we looked with honor on acts of courage by ordinary people who sacrificed themselves to prevent further death and destruction."

Remember 9/11 Prayer, The White House Commission on the National Moment of Remembrance

"In our sadness, horror and shock we acknowledge that our own fears turned murderous and we have sought revenge, sometimes even against the innocent. We confess and regret our own anger and recognize its dangers to our spirits, our health, our community and others."

"A Litany of Remembrance, Penitence and Hope," National Council of Churches

"For the families and friends of those who perished in the terrorist attacks one year ago, that they may receive true consolation purchased for us by the blood of Christ; let us pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy."

From Sept. 11 anniversary observance resources, Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

"This country, our country, shelter of peace to the downtrodden ... a year ago today was dimmed with horror and tragedy. New York and Washington, shining cities, diminished like Jerusalem after the destruction of the holy Temple, need your comfort, and our aid; help us to maintain our courage and our efforts to support our people."

A Prayer for Sept. 11 by Jeffrey Spitzer, United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

Sept. 11 a time for group and personal reflection

WASHINGTON (RNS)—Bells will toll, prayers will be uttered and the names of some of the more than 3,000 killed will be recited at houses of worship and interfaith community gatherings across the country.

It will be a time for those across and beyond the religious realm to remember, each in his or her own way.

"Sept. 11's events tapped deeply into people's emotions and the anniversary of it is going back and connecting to those emotions and experiences and then trying to integrate them into the fabric of current life," said Leith Anderson, interim president of the National Association of Evangelicals. "The first anniversary of any trauma is by far the most difficult and memorable. And there's a collective sorrow that is here."

As Americans gather en masse to mark the anniversary, some religious leaders also hope it will be a time for individual introspection.

"I hope people will take a personal check of their own life and just evaluate: 'Where have I gone in one year? Am I closer to God or am I just as distant as I was that morning of Sept. 11?'" said evangelist Franklin Graham, president and CEO of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.

"It's easy for life to go on and us to forget and I would hope this Sept. 11 people would do a spiritual checklist to see where they stand before God," he said.

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

First step toward new chapel

Slightly more than three years ago while making our first visit to the campus of Campbellsville University, my wife, Debbie, and I drove through the campus and walked its tree-lined sidewalks, greeted along the way by warm, smiling faculty and students. After we had toured nearly every facility, it immediately struck me that Campbellsville University had no formal facility to hold its corporate worship services.

All of us pray for many things—peace in troubled times, the hungry and homeless, healthy and prosperous lives, successful careers and safety of our children. These, too, are part of my daily prayers. I must admit, though, I began praying earnestly that God would bring to Campbellsville an individual or family whose heart burned with the same desire as others and mine on our campus to fund the construction of a new chapel facility where our university community could praise and worship God.

For the past several years, Campbellsville's continuous enrollment growth has forced us to conduct chapel services in the gymnasium. Although we can worship God no matter the condition or

location of our surroundings, we placed as the top priority the construction of a chapel.

After much prayer, God answered us by sending Louisville trustee George Ransdell and his wife, Marie. This godly couple recently announced their intention to provide a \$1 million lead gift toward the construction of what will be known as The George W. and Marie T. Ransdell Chapel.

The heart of a Christian university is its chapel. The heart of George and Marie Ransdell is and always has been to serve God through faithfulness and obedience.

As we are called to provide an exceptional Christian-focused education to our 1,700-plus students, the Ransdells were called to fund a facility where the university community can reflect, praise and worship God on this campus until His return.

"God gave us this money a dollar at a time," George Ransdell told the board. "We now wish to give a portion back for the cause of Christian higher education and to this institution we so dearly love."

CAMPBELLVILLE UNIVERSITY



Michael Carter

Michael Carter is president of Campbellsville University. He may be reached at president@campbellsville.edu or at (270) 789-5001.

Interfaith services prompt tension for many Christians

By Jeffrey MacDonald
Religion News Service

WESTON, Fla. (RNS)—When hundreds of Catholics, Protestants and Jews gather in Weston, Fla., on Sept. 11 to pray for peace and healing, the senior pastor of a local, 1,000-member church will be noticeably absent from the interfaith clergy lineup.

Timothy Hartner instead will be trying to blend into the crowd, where he can feel the unity without being seen. But, he admits, his anonymous approach has hardly resolved the tension that he and other pastors feel in a setting of interfaith worship.

"I feel like I've got two feet planted firmly in midair," said Hartner, pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, a

congregation within the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. "If you're going to honor and respect other faiths, you need to be conversant with the local rabbi and priest. Where it gets hard is in events involving prayer and the invocation of God. You end up with such a plain vanilla service. I'm never quite sure who we're worshipping."

As diverse communities across America prepare to solemnly remember the day last year when thousands died and millions cried out to God, yearnings abound to see believers of all types mark the occasion by praying together.

Yet while some faith communities adapt easily to interfaith worship, the more theologically conservative ones are feeling torn by an intense dilemma. As Americans, they aspire to demonstrate their country's tolerance of differences. But as believers, they feel compelled to be clear that all paths do not in fact lead to the same God. When that subtle, dual message feels obscured by a public event that mixes prayer and politics, interfaith worship can cause a crisis of integrity.

Nowhere has that strain played out more painfully in the past year than for the 2.6 million-member Missouri Synod. After taking part in a highly acclaimed interfaith service at Yankee Stadium on Sept. 23 last year, David Benke was suspended indefinitely from his job as president of the church's 45,000-member Atlantic

District. A church investigation had found him guilty of "syncretism" and "unionism" because "The signal (sent by his presence there) was: While there may be differences as to how people worship or pray, in the end, all religions pray to the same God."

Missouri Synod Lutherans aren't the only ones struggling or deciding to forego interfaith services this year. Michael John, pastor of Market Street Baptist Church in Amesbury, Mass., intends to skip an interfaith event at the local football stadium and instead hold regular Wednesday services at his church.

"The God of the Christians is not the God of the Jews or the God of the Muslims," John said. "It's really impossible for us to worship together because we're not worshipping the same God."

Interfaith worship poses a problem for every tradition that claims to prescribe a right path for connection with God. Christians, quoting John 14:6 in which Jesus says "no one comes to the Father except through Me," sometimes regret giving any impression that paths apart from faith in Jesus can also lead to God.

Conservative and Orthodox Jews believe righteousness with God comes through the keeping of God's law, or Torah, and therefore bristle at the suggestion of other, equally viable paths. Muslims, who accept only the "straight path" of Mohammed, often insist that certain prayers and forms of worship be done only in the presence of other faithful Muslims.

Since
Sept.
11

Koran assignment results in threats

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (RNS)—"May you find a pack of anthrax and a pipe bomb in your mailbox."

E-mailed remarks like this have threatened or denounced University of North Carolina Chancellor James Moeser since the school asked all freshman students to read parts of the Koran for a faculty-led discussion.

But Moeser, who described the e-mails in detail last week before a swarm of reporters at the National Press Club, scoffed at such hate-filled messages.

"All of this because we asked students to read a book," he said.

"Approaching the Quran: The Early Revelations" by Haverford College professor Michael Sells was read by entering UNC students for discussion with faculty on Aug. 19, though not without a fight.

Family Policy Network, a conservative Christian group, sued to stop what it called "UNC's Islamic indoctrination program," citing the constitutional separation of church and state. A federal appeals court allowed the discussions to go ahead.

"We succeeded," Moeser said, heralding the university's victory over public pressure to drop the discussions. "We did not and would not ever take a public opinion poll before assigning a book."

Joe Glover, founder and president of the Virginia-based Family Policy Network, said in a telephone interview with Religion News Service that his group won.

"If nothing else, the university had to legally acknowledge that it couldn't require kids to study the text of a major world religion." While the university did mandate discussion participation, it said students could choose not to read the book and write a paper explaining why.

Moeser said he accepted criticism that the assigned reading was incomplete, presenting a more favorable view of Islam because Sells' book omitted violent sections of the Muslim holy text.

Still, Moeser said, it would have been impossible to discuss the entire Koran in the two hours allotted for conversation. He likened the discussion results to having moved "one grain of sand."

Desensitized to giving

On a recent trip to Spain, I experienced on a daily basis solicitations unlike anything I had experienced in the USA.

On the steps to the entrances and exits of the magnificent cathedrals were poor elderly women with their hands out seeking financial assistance. On the sidewalks of every main street were men and women of all ages with a sack or a hat turned up and opened, hoping for the pity and financial assistance of a few of the thousands who passed by them each day. Some were in the same spot day after day. Others moved from one spot to another. Oftentimes, the person was sleeping on the sidewalk, rain or shine. Some had a pet dog beside them. Still others walked around with a sign and their hands out seeking donations for themselves.

Rarely did I see anyone give one of these "beggars" any money. I found myself vacillating between skepticism and wanting to help someone in need. I began to ask myself the questions, "Which ones do I help and which ones do I not help?" "Which ones are really needy and which ones are just lazy?" The more I experienced those forms of solicitation, the more

confused and the less sensitive I became, which easily could have resulted in my helping no one. Of course, that would have been the worst possible result (Matthew 6:1-4).

It occurred to me this was how many Kentucky Baptists feel because of the growing competition for your charitable donations from

the many worthy causes that solicit you by telephone, through the postal service, on the radio and television, via the Internet and face-to-face. In a much more sophisticated manner than on the streets of Spain, you are being bombarded with appeals from so many worthy organizations, Baptist and others, that you may be feeling confused and desensitized to giving, and therefore, less inclined to give to any of them.

If you have been feeling like this lately, let us help you sort through the confusion and competition. As Christians, our first loyalty is to Christ and through His church and church-related organizations. Give us a toll-free call.

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

KENTUCKY BAPTIST FOUNDATION



Barry Allen

Needed: A pastor's friend

It has been my privilege to know several individuals who were known by their pastors and others as "a pastor's friend."

A pastor's friend is one who stands with, stands for and stands by his or her pastor through thick or thin. A pastor's friend will not "nitpick" the pastor but will remain positive and supportive.

It is a theological truth, I believe, that when God's pastor at a church is supported, the church will prosper. The opposite also is true. When the pastor is criticized in the community and in the congregation, the church is hurt.

A pastor's friend realizes that the pastor and the pastor's family are people too and they make mistakes. A pastor's friend is understanding and forgiving.

A pastor's friend will not keep a list of shortcomings but will stand with the church's spiritual leader.

There are hundreds of former pastors in Kentucky who have left the pastoral ministry because of the mistreatment of them and/or their families. There are many "preacher's kids" who hold resentment toward the church. There are even churches that have earned the reputation as "pastor killers."

A pastor's friend will stand with the pastor even when a great many members are out to get the pastor.

A pastor's friend seeks to lead the church to pay the pastor as much—not as little—as possible.

The pastor is not infallible nor is the pastor's authority beyond being questioned at times. It doesn't mean church members are never to disagree with their pastor. However, there is a right way and a wrong way to do it.

There are thousands of pastors in Kentucky and not a one of them is perfect. Every one of them has warts, frailties and weaknesses. There have even been a few who have been guilty of moral impurity or doctrinal unsoundness. However, one should not be quick to kick someone

who is down or to jump to judgment when the rumor mill begins.

Satan is out to destroy the moral leaders of our society and the churches. What better way to do it than have the churches destroy their own pastors? Oh, the need for those who will stand in the gap!

Harold Greenfield is president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention which sponsors this column. Contact the KBC at Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433; (800) 266-6477; www.kybaptist.org

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



Harold Greenfield

SMILE

Welcoming new students

By Robert Dunston

Cumberland College has spent the past two weeks welcoming our new students to campus. Upperclassmen, faculty and staff all have invested time in making our new students feel part of our Cumberland College family.

On Friday afternoon, Aug. 23, new students arrived on campus. Admissions staff, upperclassmen and others provided cold, refreshing drinks and a helping hand in moving possessions from cars, vans and trucks into dormitory rooms.

Friday night, our freshmen orientation program began with get-acquainted activities followed by pizza. Faculty and upperclassmen served the snack and got to know many of our new students.

On Saturday afternoon, our freshmen orientation program continued with a two-hour session in various classrooms. Twenty-five faculty members, each working with two upperclassmen (one male and one female), began working with groups of no more than 18 new students. Through activities and discussions, new students began to develop friendships and find their place in our Cumberland College family.

Sunday afternoon, all new students and the faculty and upperclassmen working in our freshmen orientation program came together for a time of worship and dedication to the task and joy of learning. We dedicated ourselves to learning and service for God's Kingdom.

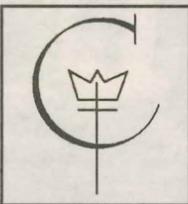
Before classes began on Wednesday, Aug. 28, we met with our freshmen three more times in our small groups. We helped them complete registration, tour facilities, find their classes and prepare to succeed at Cumberland College.

During the first half of the semester we will continue to meet weekly in our small groups, helping our freshmen get the most of their Christian higher education at Cumberland College.

We at Cumberland College believe God calls us to make a difference for Christ in the lives of young people. We are honored to have that calling.

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

CUMBERLAND COLLEGE



Kudzu



Doug Marlette

For Heaven's Sake



Mike Morgan

Bible Crossword

Cheryl Keiser

Across

- 1 Religious leaders of Jesus' day (Matthew 23:2)
- 7 Jesus is called the ____ of man
- 10 Philadelphia's state, abbr.
- 11 Barnabas was this (Acts 4:36)
- 13 Heavy work shoe
- 15 Abigail, for short, alt. spelling
- 16 Girl, Scot.
- 17 Eclipse, abbr.
- 19 Interior, abbr.
- 20 Nahor's concubine (Genesis 22:24)
- 22 Belonging to America's spy agency, abbr.
- 24 National Guard, abbr.
- 26 Do, ____, mi
- 27 Doctor who delivers babies, abbr.
- 28 "The ____ are a people not strong" (Proverbs 30:25)
- 29 "They ... are choked with ____" (Luke 8:14)
- 30 French word used to identify a woman by her maiden name
- 31 Kid's candy
- 32 Ostrich like bird
- 35 Organ remover
- 38 "A ____ prepared for the Lord" (Luke 1:17)
- 42 Written composition

1		2	3		4		5	6		7	8	9
			10					11		12		
13	14									15		
16								17	18			
19								20				21
22			23		24	25		26				27
28					29							
30				31							32	33
				34			35	36		37		
38	39	40		41								
42								43	44		45	46
47						48		49				
50										51		

- 43 Put in writing, var. spelling
- 47 Jiptah and ____ (Joshua 15:43)
- 49 Great arteries
- 50 "Which stilleth the noise of the ____" (Psalm 65:7)
- 51 Long, narrow fish

- 12 Regards as precious
- 14 Like a frog
- 18 Breakfast food
- 21 Account of, abbr.
- 23 Religious education, abbr.
- 25 Area of Israel that adjoins the Sinai Peninsula
- 32 And, Lat.
- 33 Pertaining to the mind
- 34 Extends across
- 36 Jesus is called the ____ of life (John 6:48)
- 37 French spelling of Andrew
- 38 Pod dwellers
- 39 To be, Lat.
- 40 Occupational Safety and Health Agency, abbr.
- 41 Linear Yard Area, abbr.
- 44 Negative
- 45 Resident or follower, suffix
- 46 Curved shape
- 48 Laughter sound

Down

- 1 Matthew the ____ (Matthew 10:3)
- 2 One who renounces his faith
- 3 "All our righteousnesses are as filthy ____" (Isaiah 64:6)
- 4 "We had the ____ of death in ourselves" (2 Corinthians 1:9)
- 5 "Rebuke not an ____" (1 Timothy 5:1)
- 6 Compass point
- 7 A brother or sister, for short
- 8 Off Track Betting, abbr.
- 9 "Love his ____ as himself" (Mark 12:33)

Last week's solution

1	M	I	N	T		4	F	I	S	7	H	E	S		
9	U	M		E	V	E	R		13	D	E	A			
14	S	P	I	K	E	N	A	16	R	O		R	A	F	
20	T		V		R		18	N	Y	A	L	A	F		
24	A	L	O	E	S		22	K	E	Y	S		23	U	R
28	R	O	R		25	E	V		27	O	N	O			
34	D	R	Y		34	A	N	I	S	E		33	E	N	
37	O		38	H	I		35	C	U	M	I	N	S		
41	M		39	A	Y		39	M	E		40	E	N	D	S
45	A	M	S		43	I	N	C	E	N	S	E			
49	R	E	N	O		50	S	E	R		51	D		47	48
	53	S	P	A	M		54	S	P	I	C	E			

© 2000 Barbour Publishing

Come sit a spell with us this fall

Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children invites you to our three open houses this season!



- meet the kids
- tour our campuses
- games, entertainment
- complimentary lunch

Sept. 14 KBHC Dixon Center
Sept. 21 Glen Dale Children's Home
Oct. 12 Spring Meadows Children's Home
all events 10:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m., local time

Please call 1-800-456-1386 one week prior to the event you wish to attend to tell us the number in your party in order to help us plan accordingly. You can also e-mail information to info@kbhc.org. Please call individual campuses for detailed directions. KBHC Dixon Center is located at 86 Burnt Mill Road in Dixon, (270) 639-5457. Glen Dale Children's Home is located at 2125 Gilead Church Road in Glendale, (270) 369-7380. Spring Meadows Children's Home is located at 10901 Shelbyville Road in Louisville, (502) 245-2161.



Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children
Since 1869 'We'll Be There'

Clergy housing allowance case dismissed, but threat remains

SAN FRANCISCO (ABP)—A federal court has thrown out one challenge to a long-standing benefit that exempts American clergy from paying taxes on the money they spend on housing.

But a law professor challenging the practice vows to file another lawsuit claiming it is unconstitutional.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco dismissed a high-profile case Aug. 26 pitting Southern Baptist pastor Rick Warren against the Internal Revenue Service.

Warren sued the IRS after it turned down his \$80,000 claim as a housing allowance. The IRS said the tax code allows deduction of only the fair-market rental value of a minister's home. Warren argued that it exempts all costs related to clergy housing.

The case took on added importance when a three-judge panel hearing the case took upon itself to decide whether the entire notion of the housing allowance violates the Constitution by subsidizing religion and creating entanglement between church and state.

They asked a University of Southern California Law School professor, Erwin Chemerinsky, to prepare a brief on the legality of the practice. An outspoken critic of the clergy tax break, Chemerinsky argued the exemption is unconstitutional.

Anticipating a ruling against the exemption, Congress rushed to pass legislation to protect ministers, and President Bush signed the bill into law in May. Both sides in the lawsuit asked that the case be dismissed.

But Chemerinsky asked the court to allow him, as a federal taxpayer, to intervene in the case and keep the constitutional question alive.

In their Aug. 26 ruling, the three-judge panel said Chemerinsky had not established grounds to continue in the lawsuit, but noted that he may now want to file his own separate lawsuit as a taxpayer.

Chemerinsky said last week he would do just that.

Missions & Evangelism

With A **Touch of Gray**

Senior Adult Ministry Leadership Summit

November 7, 2002 - Alton Baptist Church in Lawrenceburg, Kentucky

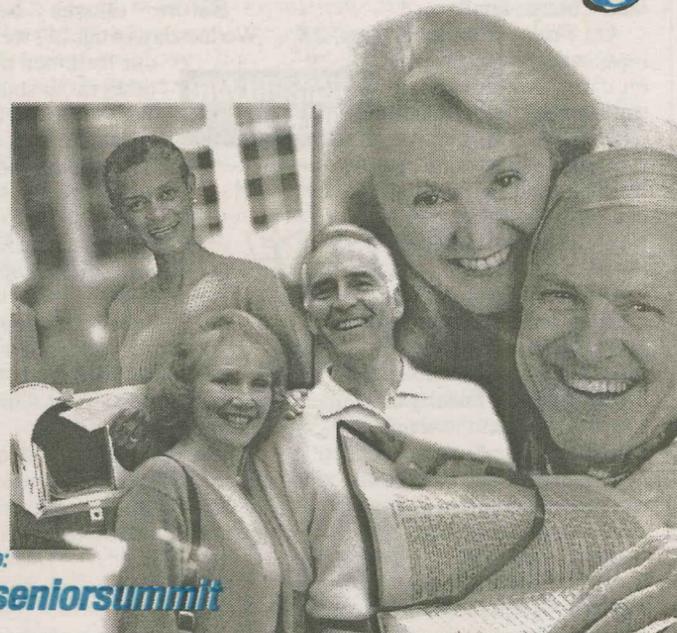


Family Ministry Department
502-254-4719 or 1-888-254-5704

For more information or to register online:



www.kybaptist.org/seniorsummit



WESTERN RECORDER + Your Church Newsletter

Two great publications, one less post office headache; (888) 254-5728

'I haven't eaten since I came here'

With the first days and weeks of school, there are some things we know are going to happen, no matter what we do to try to prevent them.

Every year we are going to have new teachers. Some will be in the classroom for the first time. We try to prepare the teachers for the realities of those first days, but it seems that something new comes up every year that we did not prepare for.

We know that many new students will have a difficult time finding their classrooms. "Let's see, where's S5, LG3 or CMC2?" It doesn't take long to discover who has not yet figured out our coding system. They are standing at various outdoor locations with their schedules in hand, hoping someone will notice their confusion and offer help. Unlike most schools where the students are in one building all day, our students must navigate among 11 buildings.

Another challenge is trying to get four teenagers to share one dormitory room peaceably. The key word is "peaceably." Most of our students have not been sharing their rooms with anyone, let alone three strangers, before coming to Oneida Baptist Institute. We spend hours assigning rooms, trying to create the best possible scenario for placing four differing personalities together. In spite of our efforts, about 25 percent of the new students won't be happy and will request a room change the first chance they get. It takes about four weeks to get everyone settled in.

Then there is the really big problem: homesickness! No matter what we tell students about homesickness before they enroll, it is going to happen. Most kids handle it pretty well. We can tell from their expressions that they are having a

difficult time. Others are upset, frightened and on the verge of tears, so they just don't want to talk about it. Frankly, the best thing with those students is to just leave them alone until they adjust to being away from home for the first time.

We can tell others are homesick because they appear to be mad. Mad at me, mad at their teachers, mad at the house parents, especially mad at their parents—and if they knew you, they would be mad at you, too! The best thing to do in those cases is to just give them room, and whatever you do, don't offer any advice. They are sure they have been given every possible piece of advice there is and they don't want any more.

Finally, some are homesick and don't care if the whole world knows it. They cry, sulk, encourage pity parties and don't want any friends. All they want is to go home. One such boy came to me while I was monitoring breakfast. He assured me that he was not homesick (a common line) but he just wanted to go home. Then the tears began to flow! He assured me that OBI would never be the right place for him. He stated that he needed to get back to his friends and family. He told me he had not eaten since he came to Oneida four days earlier, and that he would not eat until he went home.

Let's face it, this is a more difficult child to deal with than all the others. Are you wondering what I said? I promised him that no one in the history of our school had ever died from homesickness and I was sure he would not be the first. By the way, two meals later his appetite returned.

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

THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

Clear Creek team 'On mission' in Brazil

A 22-member mission team journeyed to Manaus, Brazil, in July. Half came from Clear Creek and joined a youth team from Coral Hill Baptist Church in Glasgow. The Glasgow team did vacation Bible schools involving 300 children. The Clear Creekers did evangelism and discipleship in villages along the Amazon River and saw 116 professions of faith. Six screenings of the "Jesus" film resulted in more than 200 professions of faith. Team members followed up these decisions with individual instruction on Bible reading, prayer, baptism, church membership and personal witness.

This was third-year student Terry King's fifth mission trip, the first time without any construction projects. "This put me out of my comfort zone. I prefer one-to-one work but found myself witnessing to entire families. My most memorable moment was hearing members of two families pray to receive Christ," he said.

Student body president David Askins treasures a Sunday afternoon experience. "The team gathered with Brazilian Christians and the missionaries to sing and pray. I didn't understand the Portuguese but it was beautiful music. Then we

sang in English. At the close all of us sang together; the two languages blended in an awesome moment of authentic worship," he said.

Jim and Dorothy Ditty worked 10 years as missionaries in South Africa before coming to Clear Creek. "This trip was really our first time to do just evangelism," Mrs. Ditty stated. "I talked with a wom-

an named Luella and she accepted Christ. Her landlord told her she had to move and few empty houses are available along the river. We encouraged her and prayed about a new house. The family wanted us to see her sister's new baby. What a day that was! We rejoiced in a new baby and the new birth into God's family of faith."

First-year student Stevan Harris observed, "We did what Jesus commands in the Great Commission. Before we left I was scared about taking all the shots, and in Brazil I was scared about witnessing. Through prayer, God gave me peace. Satan was using my fears against me, but God overcame. I encourage every believer to make yourself available to do what God desires."

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

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

Book explores how attacks altered Christian attitudes

By Douglas Todd
Religion News Service

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (RNS)—A Canadian publishing company has compiled a book of essays taking a concerted look at how the Sept. 11 slaughter of more than 3,000 people may have altered what it means to be spiritual.

"In the Aftermath" serves up the troubled and tender reflections of 10 prominent Christian thinkers in the United States and Canada on that oft-repeated sentiment: "The world was changed forever on Sept. 11."

Many contributors said they hope the tragedy will shake North Americans out of their complacency and awaken them to a new way of being spiritual, one that's more demanding and sacrificial.

Duke University ethics professor Stanley Hauerwas, for example, writes that he's been trying since Sept. 11 to deal with his desire to retaliate violently for the suicide attacks.

"Being a pacifist does nothing to free me from the desire to set things right by punishing those who perpetrated such an outrage," Hauerwas writes.

Yet, from Hauerwas' point of view, "the world changed forever" in 33 A.D., on the days in which Jesus died and was resurrected, not on Sept. 11. Hauerwas was put off by President Bush's post-Sept. 11 plea to go out and shop.

Hauerwas worries "a people who cannot think of anything better to do than shop" have not seriously thought about what it takes to be part of a life-and-death global conflict.

"It's hard to remember that Jesus did not come to make us safe, but rather to make us disciples, citizens of God's new age, a kingdom of surprise," he writes. "God invites us to respond to Sept. 11 with 'small acts of beauty and kindness,' which (Canada's) Jean Vanier tells us, if done with humility and confidence, 'will bring unity to the world and break the chain of violence.'"

Derek Evans, former deputy secretary general of Amnesty International in London, writes in the book about being an eyewitness to war and terrorism in Sri Lanka, Cambodia, South Africa, Pakistan, the Sudan and elsewhere. Sept. 11 marked the first time large-scale terrorism "came home" to North America, writes Evans, now director of a British Columbia retreat center. It gave North Americans a glimpse of the

hatred and fear millions of the world's people experience daily.

Has Sept. 11, he asked, brought a nightmare from which North Americans can't escape? "Or is it more as if we have just awakened, startled and disoriented, from a long sleep?"

In Sri Lanka, Evans lived with parents whose children had been murdered by terrorists. Yet the parents shunned vengeance and focused on honoring their children's memory and pursuing a healthy future for their country. The basis for hope after Sept. 11, Evans says, is that people do not have to return to slumber. Rage and retribution don't serve the call of peace.

"Compassion means 'suffering with.' So the discipline of the open heart means that we will inevitably experience hurt, and even a certain scarring in our work." Yet from suffering, Evans writes, can come healing and grace.

"In the Aftermath" also features an offering from Canadian Lois Wilson, a former president of the World Council of Churches, who states that her pessimistic side worries the world became more polarized on Sept. 11, while her optimistic side sees efforts to cooperate on global security.

Noted theologian Walter Wink, of New York's Auburn Seminary, writes that he's "glad the bad guys lost" in Afghanistan, but he's still looking for a better solution to terrorism, as well as the much larger "apocalypse" of environmental destruction.

Also contributing are former United Church of Canada moderator Bill Phipps and Pulpit Resource editor William Willimon.

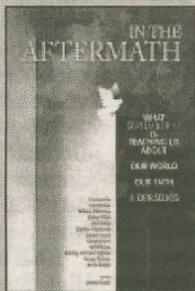
The book concludes with an essay in which Jim Wallis, co-founder of the Sojourners community in Washington, D.C., begins by emphasizing North American lives need to be protected.

Wallis rejects the terrorists' vision that "would destroy democracy, deny human rights, repress women and persecute people of other faiths." Sometimes violence is necessary to stop violence, he writes.

Yet Wallis hopes for more than an unending cycle of aggression. What spiritual lesson is there in Sept. 11? Terrorism comes out of dark places, he says. North Americans, in the darkness of their fear, grief and anger, must avoid lashing out blindly.

"Courage is not the absence of fear, but the resistance to it," Wallis states. "In these days, we need to light candles and make commitments so that the darkness will not overcome the light."

Since
Sept.
11



Is the Father of Jesus the God of Muhammad? Understanding the Difference Between Christianity and Islam. Timothy George. Zondervan Publishing, 2002. 159 pages. \$12.99
◆◆◆◆ (out of five)

Since the tragic events of last Sept. 11, Islam has never been far from the conversation of most Americans. Most Muslims in America have worked hard to distance themselves from the extreme vision of Islam advocated by the Taliban and Osama bin Laden by emphasizing Islam as a religion of peace.

The Christian community seems split down the middle between those who buy into the Islamic apologetic, and those who see Islam as a demonic force. The voices of tolerance and acceptance argue that, despite differences over Jesus, Islam and Christianity worship the same God. Historically, Judaism, Christianity and Islam are connected by a radical, ethical monotheism, common sacred texts and common lineages. Consequently, these folks argue, all three are branches of a common stream.

Not so, counter those who hold firmly to the uniqueness of Jesus Christ as God's supreme self-revelation and the only way to salvation. The god worshipped by the Muslim is not the same revealed in and through Jesus. The more strident of these voices are not content to witness to the truth, but feel it necessary to attack and tear down the religious belief of 1.2 billion people.

While agreeing that the God of Jesus is not the god of Muhammed, Timothy George sees no value in strident attacks on Islam. In fact, he contends such an approach only builds walls. He believes the best approach is to deal honestly and firmly with the differences between Christianity and Islam, respectfully point to the places in the Koran and other writings where Islam misconstrues Christian teaching, and knowledgeably and faithfully bear witness to the revelation of God in Jesus Christ. This book presents an excellent model on how to do all three. *Jim Holladay*

Zondervan Dictionary of Bible and Theology Words. Matthew DeMoss and Edward Miller. Zondervan Publishing, 2002. 304 pages. \$16.99
◆◆◆

The idea of this dictionary is a simple one: Sooner or later in the use of commentaries and other Bible study texts most everyone is bound to stumble across a word that needs clarification or definition and you then need a handy reference tool to help.

Zondervan's dictionary is compiled to meet that need. With more than 1,700 entries it is surprisingly complete.

As the title indicates, the entries are not words in the Bible. You would not go to this dictionary to

look up "St. Paul" and expect a description of Paul the apostle. But you would use the dictionary to look up "pauline." The words and phrases come from Old and New Testament studies, biblical languages and systematic theology.

My test for the usefulness of this book was to think of different terms used in my own study which might not be in common use. I was surprised at the number of terms I found listed. Some of the entries such as "evolution" could have taken on particular theological perspective, but the authors largely have succeeded at being objective in their definitions.

The book is handy but overpriced for a paperback reference book. Once you pay this amount for a paperback, there are hardback and more thorough dictionaries that might be the better option for investment. *Wayne Hager*

Your First Two Years in Youth Ministry: A Personal and Practical Guide to Starting Right. Doug Fields. Zondervan Publishing, 2002. 290 pages. \$14.99
◆◆◆◆

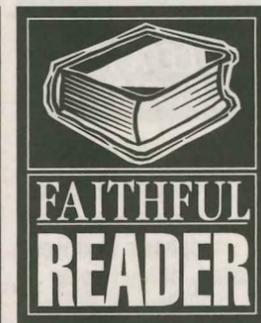


If you are a church staff member, rush out and buy this book. If your local Christian bookstore does not have it, shame on them. No, it doesn't matter that you are not a youth minister. Doug Fields has put together a guide for ministry that can be translated into the work of every member of a church staff—even the pastor.

Fields, youth minister at Saddleback Community Church, has produced a guide for doing ministry that addresses both the character of the person in ministry, as well as the practical dimensions of planning, evaluating, conflict resolution, etc. "Your First Two Years" begins with a look at the spiritual and personal commitments of the youth minister. In chapter one, he suggests 10 commitments any new youth minister needs to make, which include: moving slowly, avoiding the numbers game, resisting the comparison trap and focusing on the essentials.

The bulk of the book deals with practical aspects of the youth minister's daily work, from team building to accepting supervision, from becoming family friendly to dealing with difficult people. His confessional style, interspersed with sidebar feedback from other youth ministers makes for stimulating reading. Throughout the book, Fields emphasizes that people, not programs, should be the focus of any effective youth ministry.

While written for youth ministers (full-time, part-time and volunteer), Field's observations about the nature of ministry would benefit almost every church staff member, especially those whose work focuses on age groups. With the publication of this book, Youth Specialties continues its tradition of providing sound, useful resources for youth ministry. *Jim Holladay*



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

HOW TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN

By Eric Allen

Kentucky Baptists are beginning a prayer emphasis next week called, "If My People ... 100 Days of Prayer." Every day, for the next 100 days, believers all across the state will spend time praying for the spiritual condition of our nation, the lost people of our world and the complacency of our churches. We will be praying for spiritual renewal and revival.

But the most important prayer an individual can pray is worded something like this: "Dear God, I know that I am a sinner and that I need Your forgiveness. I believe that Jesus Christ died in my place to pay the penalty for my sin and that He rose from the dead. I now invite Jesus Christ to come into my life as my Lord and Savior. Thank You for making me Your child. Help me learn to please You in every part of my life. Amen."

If you've never prayed a prayer similar to this, I hope you will understand the following truths and sincerely pray that prayer for the first time.

■ See yourself as a sinner and acknowledge that you have sinned (Romans 3:23).

■ Repent of your sin. Repentance is a change of heart and mind that results in a change of action (Acts 3:19).

■ Believe that Jesus Christ died as a substitute for your sins and that He was resurrected from death (John 3:16).

■ Make a decision to receive Christ personally into your life by faith and to begin a daily relationship with Him as your Lord (Romans 10:9).

Eric Allen is director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Mission Service Corps volunteerism program

Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by staff

■ **BEECH CREEK**—Beech Creek Church will celebrate its 90th anniversary Sept. 27.

■ **BENTON**—Walnut Street Church called **Andrew Sexton** as associate pastor and youth director.

■ **CADIZ**—Liberty Point Church called **Andy Shelton** as minister of music effective Aug. 11.

New Hope Church called **Billy Hart** as interim pastor.

■ **FRANKFORT**—Calvary Church called **Scott Criscillis** as youth minister. **Dwayne Southwood** is pastor.

■ **FRANKLIN**—Cedar Grove Church called **Bob Kubasch** as pastor. He previously was pastor of Macedonia Church in Greenville.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Bethany Church

ordained **Michael Hardy** and **Kenan Plunk** as deacons.

Brookview Church called **Jim Carpenter** as interim pastor.

Hopewell Church called **Wesley Pitts** as interim pastor. He is director of missions for Long Run Baptist Association.

Morningside Church called **Garnett Morris** as pastor.

■ **MOUNT WASHINGTON**—Mount Washington Church ordained **Will Browning** to the gospel ministry Aug. 25.

■ **MURRAY**—First Church ordained **Ken Asher** as a deacon Aug. 18.

■ **POWDERLY**—New Prospect Church called **Danny Epley** as interim pastor.

Campbellsville University dedicates technology center to benefit region

CAMPBELLSVILLE—Campbellsville University officials dedicated a \$2.5 million technology training center Aug. 27.

U.S. Sen. Mitch McConnell, who was instrumental in securing funding for the facility, commended the collective efforts of local, state and federal government agencies working with Campbellsville University to make the facility possible.

"The best way to keep jobs is to be proactive in the training of the workforce through facilities and programs such as now available through Campbellsville University's Technology Training Center," McConnell said. "This facility will also offer businesses—new and old—a savvy workforce

trained with excellent technology skills."

"The mission of this center is for Campbellsville University to assist business and industry in bringing an enhanced quality of life to this region through technological education," said Campbellsville President Mike Carter. He said the facility is designed to provide an opportunity for the area workforce to receive technical training and education.

Noting that the center also will benefit students, Carter said, "We are going to offer to both degree- and certificate-seeking students of all ages an exposure to cutting-edge technology that will enhance virtually any field of study they are pursuing."

CLASSIFIED ADS

CONSTRUCTION: Building? Consultant with 20+ years design and project management experience will assist your church in reaching its goals for facilities growth. Brian Harris: (859) 749-3561; 745-4800.

FOR RENT: Sanibel Island, Fla. Two-bedroom, 2-bath condo for vacation rental. Large pool, tennis courts, canoe, kayak, screened porch, lovely beach. www.sanibelcondo.net. Call Pat, (502) 895-8752.

FOR SALE: 1991 Dodge LE Grand Caravan. Seven passengers; A/C; new tires, brakes, transmission, battery. Excellent condition. \$4,500. Call (502) 426-7878. Louisville, Ky.

FOR SALE: Buses and easy-access shuttle vans with center aisles. No CDL required. Call American Bus & Accessories, Inc., (800) 582-7118.

FOR SALE: 1992 Dodge SE Caravan. Five passengers; A/C. Excellent condition. \$4,800. Call (502) 425-0268. Louisville, Ky.

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: Baldwin organ with bench. Beautiful for church or home. Includes following organ ensembles: theatre, classical church, pop, jazz, Latin music, country strings, gospel music, chimes. \$6,900. Call (502) 425-0315. Louisville, Ky.

HEALTHCARE: Pre-existing conditions accepted. Non-insurance solution for hospitals, doctors, medications, vision, dental, hearing and more. Representatives needed. \$54.95/month per family. (888) 645-4559. www.healthplanprovider.net; www.braxtonenterprises.net ceo6660.

SEEKING: God's man for the position of director of missions/missions strategist for Audrain/Callaway Baptist associations. Send resumé to: Rev. Don Anders, 12110 County Road 4040, Holts Summit, MO 65043.

SEEKING: Part-time children's minister to lead preschool through 5th grade for Mt. Carmel Baptist Church. Please send resumé to: Personnel Committee, Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, 8645 Kenwood Road, Cincinnati, OH 45242.

SEEKING: Loving, growing mid-sized mission/ministry-church seeks full-time pastor to lead the ministerial staff and church in reaching the lost, serving others and encouraging Christian growth. Seminary degree preferred. Send resumé to: Pastor Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 170 Madison Ave., Whitesburg, KY 41858.

SEEKING: Edgewood Baptist Church is accepting applications for a part-time children's ministry director. Applications may be mailed to: Personnel Committee, Edgewood Baptist Church, 717 South Main St., Nicholasville, KY 40356.

SEEKING: First Baptist Church, Russell, Ky. is accepting resúmes 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: Teachers for Bluegrass Baptist School in Lexington: Middle school (7th and 8th) English and math teacher; high school English teacher; keyboarding and computer literacy teacher. Call: (859) 272-1217.

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

SEEKING: 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. Resúmes accepted until Sept. 30 and should be directed to the Personnel Committee, 2698 Evergreen Road, Frankfort, KY 40601.

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

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@duocounty.com.

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

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

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

SEEKING: 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.

SERVICE: America's Christian long distance. Free toll-free number; 4.9 cents/minute; 6-second increment billing; no contracts; online sign-up. www.talklongdistance.net, (888) 645-4559.

Safe harbor?

Chaplains seek to calm nerves amid security concerns

By Jeffrey MacDonald
Religion News Service

BOSTON (RNS)—Driving his van over Boston's Mystic River Bridge on a rainy Friday in June, Chaplain Peter Barclay looked down at the bright orange tanker leaving the harbor and knew the men on board were scared.

"It's the highest state of security for the whole port until that boat gets out," Barclay said, pointing at the parked state police cruiser on the bridge onramp. "If it were to explode, the theory is that it would take out most of these neighborhoods."

Barclay, 37, could have guessed that the 25 Filipino crewmen onboard would be nervous moving a flammable shipload of liquefied natural gas past the same U.S. city where terrorists boarded planes on Sept. 11, but he didn't have to guess.

He had heard their fear firsthand when he hand-delivered cellular phones the night before for them to call their families overseas.

Soothing nerves in the explosively tense Port of Boston has become routine in the past nine months for Barclay and the other two chaplains with Seafarer's Friend, a locally funded Congregational ministry to visiting seamen since 1827.

What began as a mission to evangelize sailors from across the globe has, since Sept. 11, turned into an essential peacekeeping ministry on the frontline of homeland security.

Barclay's congregation of impoverished sailors arrives in what he calls "floating prisons." Delivering fuel, cars and rock salt to the Northeast, they generally get fewer than 12 hours in port before returning to sea for weeks or months at a stretch.

New security measures mean restricted shore access—the Filipino crew couldn't leave their ship because their visas had expired at sea—and tempers can flare in this heavily



Since
Sept.
11

SEAFARER'S FRIEND Chaplain Peter Barclay of Boston's Seafarer's Friend, a ministry to visiting seamen. Barclay says that what began in 1827 as a mission to evangelize sailors has turned into a peacekeeping ministry on the frontlines of the war against terrorism. (RNS photo by Jeffrey MacDonald)

guarded seaport.

"It's actually a vital ministry for (seafarers) to have some contact with the outside world," said Virginia Cronin, Pier Supervisor for the Port of Boston. "It's one of those things that you never know how much good (chaplains) do because they alleviate problems before they happen."

On a typical day, Barclay reports to his Chelsea, Mass., office, where window blinds hang crumpled and paperback Bibles share shelf space with broken televisions and stacks of old National Geographic magazines. From there he calls to see which ships are in port and scrambles to visit all of them—as many as six in a day.

Tension mounts quickly on tankers even when the government is not waging a war on terrorism. This particular week, the visitation log told of one "very tense situation" between an Indonesian crew and their Croatian officers. Another entry recorded a "problem ship" where Korean officers refused to let a chaplain talk with Filipino crewmen.

"If they try to move us off the ship too quickly, it's usually because the captain has something to hide," Barclay said.

To get the truth about ship conditions, he piles into the van those who get shore passes and takes them to stock up on clothes and other basics.

"You speak to a person after hours, when they're away from the captain, and you have a more authentic conversation. It's more of a pastoral time."

Since Sept. 11, unpredictable security measures have considerably heightened stress in port. The state agency responsible for port security is the same one shamed for laxity at Boston's Logan Airport on that fateful day.

Chaplains can't do much to increase seafarers' port access, Barclay said, but they can bring a bit of civilization and spirituality onboard.

At Christmas, they distributed more than 1,000 "ditty bags" chock full of combs, toiletries and sewing kits. For Christians, they offer Bibles, prayer and communion. For everyone, they offer an ear for a lonely heart.

For Barclay, the task of helping poor, homesick, frightened men cope with the post-Sept. 11 stress of their jobs at sea is just the latest expression of what it means for him to be Christ's ambassador.

"Jesus reached out to people who responded to the gospel because they had bottomed out," Barclay said. "Because many of these men have hit the bottom, they do respond to acts of kindness. We're respecting the dignity of all people as created in the image of God."

Travel warnings aren't keeping pastor out of Afghanistan

KELLER, Texas (ABP)—The U.S. State Department advises against travel to Afghanistan, but that isn't stopping one Baptist minister.

Bob Roberts, pastor of the 2,200-member NorthWood Church in Keller, Texas, takes seriously the gospel command to "go" into even dangerous parts of the world. He is looking for seven other churches to join him and members of his congregation in traveling to southern Afghanistan to build schools and share Christ's love.

Roberts already has made one trip to the war-torn region, working with CURE International to start construction of a hospital. In December, his church plans to begin sending teams

to work at the hospital and train Afghan doctors there.

More than 40 members of NorthWood have signed up for the teams, and other Texas Baptists are being invited to participate as well.

Roberts acknowledged that isn't a decision to be made lightly. Travel in all areas of Afghanistan is considered unsafe due to military operations, land mines, bandits, armed rivalry among political and tribal groups and the possibility of terrorist attacks.

"It's not safe, but why is that an option for us?" Roberts asked. "The church should be actively making peace, not just being peaceful or peaceable."

Roberts said he believes "the

church should be on the front lines" when a crisis occurs. Is he afraid? "Yes, I'm afraid," he said. "I had long talks with my wife and children before I left. But we really don't have a choice—not if what we believe is real."

Roberts said frankly that "some things are worth dying for ... and the gospel is one of those things."

He said he makes no bones with government authorities about the faith of the volunteers coming to help. "I told them that we are Christians," he said. "We won't preach or pass out tracts about Christianity, but we do want to be able to talk one-on-one to people about our faith, and to not do so would be to deny our faith."

Ground Zero chaplain staying in New York City as pastor for now

By Todd Starnes
Baptist Press

NEW YORK (BP)—FBI chaplain Joe Williams arrived in lower Manhattan three days after the terrorist attacks to provide spiritual encouragement to the hundreds of rescue and recovery workers at Ground Zero.

A year later, Williams is still on the job but he has an additional responsibility. He is interim pastor of a local Baptist congregation.

"My wife decided after eight months that I wasn't coming home, so she quit her job and moved out here with me," said Williams, a 66-year-old resident of Oklahoma City. Williams originally had a six-month assignment for the Southern Baptist Convention's North American Mission Board.

"Ground Zero didn't close down until (July), and there are a lot of things we couldn't do until they closed the site," Williams said. "We've been leading training workshops for mental health personnel, pastors, first responders and chaplains. We wanted to show them how to lead crisis intervention workshops for people who were affected by Sept. 11 in the rescue community."



GROUND ZERO MINISTRY FBI chaplain Joe Williams, shown here being interviewed by a reporter near Ground Zero in New York City a few days after the Sept. 11 attack, is now the interim pastor of Madison Baptist Church in nearby New Jersey. (BP file photo)

Today Williams is a resident chaplain in New York as part of "Enduring Hope," the unified plan for disbursing funds contributed through NAMB, New York Metropolitan Baptist Association, New York Baptist Convention and other groups.

"These workshops prepare the leaders to relate to coworkers with peer support," he said, noting that the

workshops have been conducted in Oklahoma for seven years.

Williams' own experience with tragedy dates back to the April 19, 1995, bombing of the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City. He spent 19 days at the site during rescue operations.

Williams has served as an FBI chaplain since 1991 when each state sent one chaplain representative to the FBI Academy for orientation. Williams' assignment was to serve the Oklahoma City division of the FBI. But on Sept. 12, Williams was deployed to New York City.

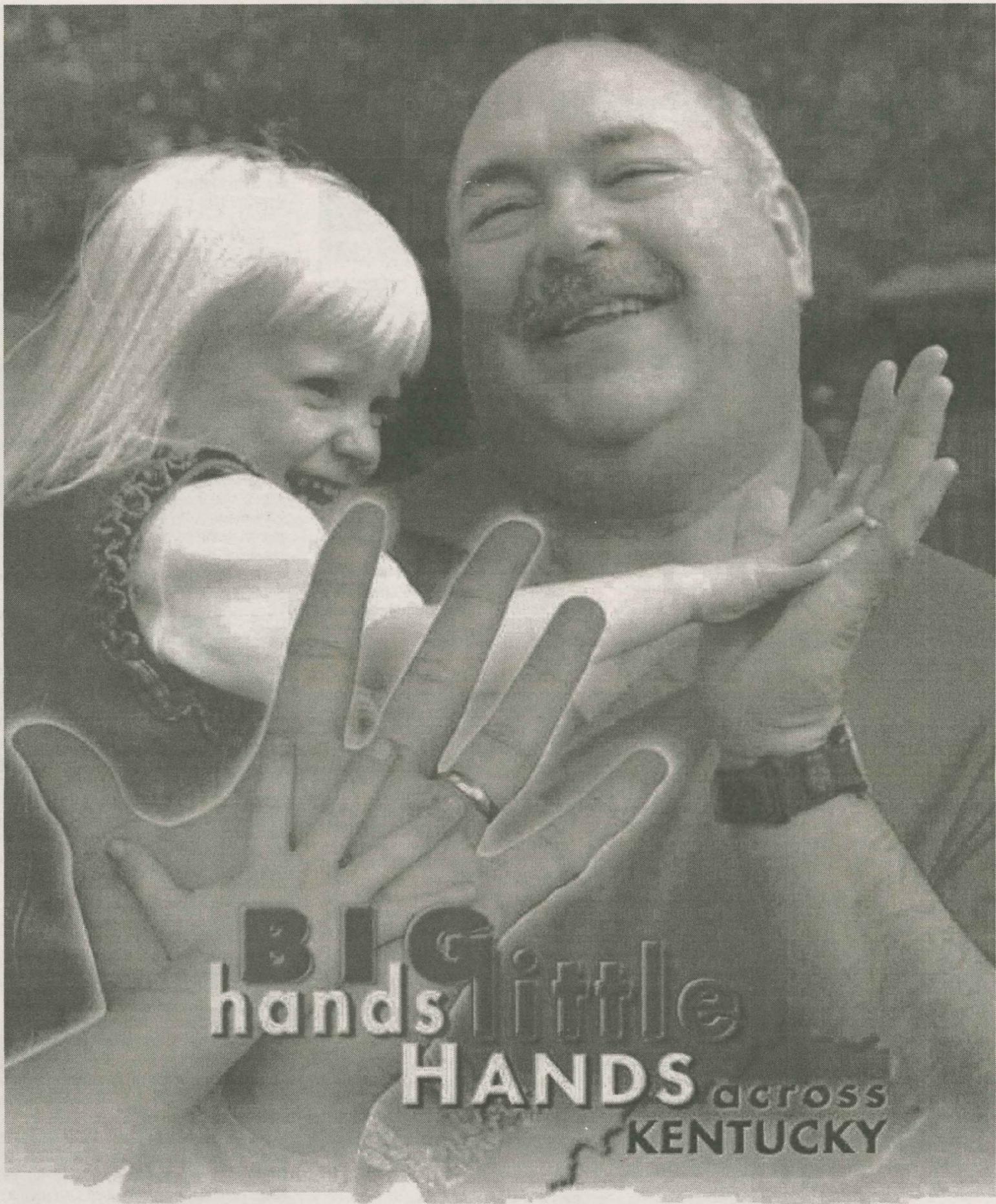
On the day of the attacks, Williams received a message from the FBI to pack and be on standby. He was heading to New York. "We worked Ground Zero for the first week," he said. "And then I was assigned to work the morgue at Bellevue Hospital. My primary responsibility was to FBI personnel but we related to anybody who was inside that perimeter."

In addition to his duties as a chaplain, Williams recently agreed to serve as an intentional interim pastor of Madison Baptist Church in nearby New Jersey.

"I was in Madison back in October and fell in love with the town," Williams said. "I was visiting the church secretary one day and jokingly told her that if she found me an apartment I would move to Madison."

Not long after that encounter, Williams said the church secretary called to say she had an apartment and that the church needed a pastor. "I started the interim on Jan. 1 and my wife came out about a month ago."

Williams said he's not quite sure how long he will be in the Northeast but he knows it's where God wants him. "We have a job to do here," he said. "There are many people who need to hear the gospel message and that's what we are doing."



BIG
hands little
HANDS across
KENTUCKY

September 8-15, 2002

Offering Goal: \$850,000

**Challenge Goal
for New Work and
Special Ministries: \$150,000**

Total Goal: \$1,000,000

**Week of Prayer for State Missions
and Eliza Broadus Offering**

**For State Missions, Special Ministries
and Missions Education**



**Kentucky
Woman's
Missionary
Union**

