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Dated Material — Deliver by Wednesday, November 20

**Scholars say
stereotypes of
Thanksgiving's
Puritans wrong**By Mark O'Keefe
Religion News Service

ITHICA, N.Y. (RNS)—For more than 150 years, the Puritans have gotten a bum rap.

The colonizers of New England, credited with the first Thanksgiving, are most often portrayed as drab, glum and pleasure-hating.

You've seen the depictions: religious zealots whose idea of fun was burning a falsely accused witch, or narrow-minded prudes best described by the adjective they spawned: "puritanical."

But that image is a false one, scholars say.

Some see Puritans planting the seeds of such core American values as industriousness, idealism and faith more than a century before the Declaration of Independence. Nearly all agree that their caricature doesn't do the Puritans justice.

"There's now a complete consensus that the popular image of the Puritans is almost totally inaccurate," said Mary Beth Norton, a professor of American history at Cornell University and author of the critically acclaimed "In the Devil's Snare," a new book about the Salem witch trials.

"The Puritans were typical people of their time in that they enjoyed the pleasures of the 17th century. They liked to drink. They liked to sit and talk. They liked to eat well when they had the food to eat. ... They also liked to play games, like an early version of shuffleboard. Let's put it this way, they weren't ascetics, like monks."

Dissatisfied with the Church of England, Puritans aimed to purify it. Some left for America, including a small group later known as the Pilgrims, who arrived on the Mayflower in 1620. Other Puritans followed, settling throughout New England.

Pilgrims and Puritans alike promoted sex as a gift and duty from God, but only within the confines of marriage. To contemporary ears, that may still sound puritanical.

"But it's an important and radical departure from traditional Catholic teaching, which then saw sex, even within marriage, as morally tainted, as almost a necessary evil," said Richard Godbeer, author of "Sexual Revolution in Early America."

If a Puritan man did not frequently or adequately perform his husbandly duties, consequences could be severe. Godbeer, a professor of history at the University of California at Riverside, writes of James Matlock, a cooper accused before the church of denying "conjugal fellowship" to his wife for two years. Matlock was excommunicated.

Godbeer said most of his students get their views about Puritan life from such sources as "The Scarlet Letter"

□ See *Scholars: Stereotypes ...*, page 12**Bluegrass harmony****MOUNTAIN MUSIC** David (from left), Margaret, Xerxes and Virgil Bowlin brought the mountains inside with special music during the closing session of the 2002 KBC annual meeting at Cumberland College in Williamsburg. It was the second time the Bowlins have performed for an annual meeting; the first time was in 1984, when Virgil was just 11 years old.**Messengers avoid controversy during KBC meeting**By Trennis Henderson
Editor

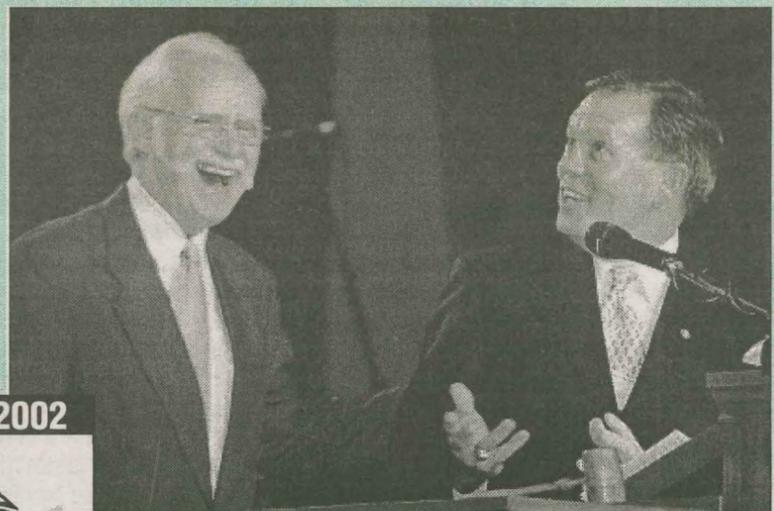
WILLIAMSBURG—Challenged to "Let the Light Shine," more than 1,500 Kentucky Baptists gathered last week for the state convention's 165th annual meeting.

Mountain music, inspirational messages and the election by acclamation of Kentucky Baptist Convention President Paul Badgett highlighted the Nov. 12-13 event at Cumberland College in Williamsburg (see related articles inside).

Among major business items during the two-day meeting, the Executive Board of the Kentucky Baptist Convention got a new name. Messengers approved a recommendation by the KBC committee on constitution and bylaws that the convention's governing body be renamed the Mission Board of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. The proposal was first introduced last year.

In other business, KBC President Harold Greenfield ruled out of order a motion introduced last year. The motion, which sought to deny KBC membership to churches that cut ties to the Southern Baptist Convention, was referred last year to the constitution and bylaws committee for study.

Committee Chairman Jerry

**NEW PRESIDENT** Paul Badgett (right), pastor of First Baptist Church of Pikeville, shares a laugh with KBC President Harold Greenfield during the meeting. Badgett was elected president without opposition.**KBC 2002**

Dooley explained that the motion had problems related to polity, procedure and clarity.

Noting that Baptist associations, state conventions and the SBC are "completely separate and independent" in terms of local church affiliation, he said membership in each entity "is a choice that must be made by the independent, individual, autonomous Southern Baptist church."

Based on their findings, the committee recommended that the motion be ruled out of order. Greenfield, who said last year's motion as presented was unconstitutional, ruled it

out of order.

Discussing the Executive Board's proposed name change, KBC Executive Director Bill Mackey told messengers, "It is my prayer that it will indicate an official shift in our focus. By 'mission' singular we mean the mission of our Lord Jesus Christ. I like to think of our Kentucky Baptist Convention staff as your missionaries."

The board, which includes representatives from every association in the state convention, is responsible for the work of the KBC be- □ See *Messengers avoid ...*, page 3

Missionaries to Brazil fired over BF&M-related conflict

Chris and Karen Harbin believe their termination resulted from trumped-up charges because they refused to sign an affirmation of the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message. IMB officials insist the issue is "the nature and inerrancy of Scripture."

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (ABP)—A Southern Baptist missionary who has taught in a Brazilian Baptist seminary says he was fired by the Southern Baptist International Mission Board for teaching contrary to the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message on the issue of biblical inerrancy.

Chris Harbin and his wife, Karen, who were terminated as a couple by IMB policy, contend the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message does not address the term "biblical inerrancy."

They believe their termination resulted from trumped-up charges brought against them because they refused to sign an affirmation of the revised faith statement as requested by IMB President Jerry Rankin.

The Harbins made their plight public Nov. 9 at a breakfast meeting of Virginia Baptists Committed held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Baptist General Association of Virginia.

The Harbins had served the past six years in Porto Alegre in the Brazilian state of Rio Grande do Sul.

The IMB has not made public any specific charges against the Harbins. Their termination reportedly was affirmed by IMB trustees during their Nov. 1 meeting in Dallas, but it was not discussed in the plenary session open to reporters.

While the Harbins contend their dismissal is related to their unwillingness to affirm the 2000 faith statement, IMB officials insist no missionaries have been terminated for that reason.

IMB regional administrator Rob-in Hadaway, in a Sept. 29 e-mail to the Harbins, accused them of sending out a mass e-mail with a report that they were being terminated for not signing the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message.

"This is not true," Hadaway wrote. "No IMB missionary has been termi-

nated for this. You are being terminated for 'the persistent advocating of doctrinal positions inconsistent with the Baptist Faith and Message.'"

The Harbins contend they did not send the mass e-mail and were unaware of its distribution.

Last April, the Harbins were asked in a telephone call from an IMB administrator if they planned to sign the affirmation of the SBC faith statement as requested by Rankin. When they said no, they were asked to meet with Hadaway, regional leader for eastern South America.

Upon arrival at that meeting, they were told the discussion would concern questions that had been raised by 12 Brazilian Baptists about Harbin's class notes related to biblical authority. Those accusers never have been identified, and administrators at the Brazilian seminary say they have received no complaints.

Harbin was asked to translate his notes into English for further review, and then a subsequent meeting was scheduled with Hadaway Sept. 12.

At the second meeting, Hadaway presented the Harbins with a prepared letter of termination "for the persistent advocating of doctrinal opinions inconsistent with the Baptist Faith and Message."

The letter stated: "You are required to leave the field two weeks from today. ... You may not teach any more seminary classes. You may visit the seminary class once to say goodbye if Field Leader Larry Braswell goes with you; You are not permitted to have meetings or fellowship meetings with Brazilians or missionaries without the presence of Larry Braswell."

When the local pastors' council drafted a letter of commendation for Harbin's service and included a request that they return to Brazil under appointment by some other mission agency, Hadaway chastised the Harbins in an e-mail.

"You must follow Larry Braswell's instructions precisely concerning operating on the field in your relationship with nationals and missionaries, or I will strictly follow the (policy manual) concerning your departure," Hadaway wrote. "If you do not follow Larry's orientation, you will have 600 cu. ft. of freight, your salary will end on 1 November and you will be departing Porto Alegre at the end of this week and not next week."

In another e-mail, Hadaway chastised the Harbins for the tone of a letter they had written asking clarification on the charges against them: "A repeat of this kind of letter, statements to nationals, or other publicity (or not following Larry Braswell's instructions) will make it necessary for me to revert to the original plan of ending your association with the IMB on 1 November 2002 ... (including salary and insurance)."

Mrs. Harbin contends Braswell has threatened to launch public charges of heresy against her husband among Brazilian Baptists if the couple attempts to return to the seminary.

In an e-mail dated Sept. 20, she confronted Braswell on this topic, accusing him of contemplating "acts completely disconnected from a Christian moral ethic. Such an attitude does not proceed from Jesus Christ. It is shocking for its falseness and the desire for rigid theological control expressed."

She also wrote: "It would seem hard to maintain that students and administrators who during six years of teaching in Rio Grande do Sul had in their hands Christopher's written theological material (which follows in accord with the Broadman Bible Commentary), would not be able to recognize theological error and would still ask in writing for our return to Brazil if alleged doctrinal deviation were more than imaginary."

In an e-mail reply from Hadaway,

the Harbins were told that, although the seminary is "an autonomous institution" and "may employ who they wish," that the IMB "reserves the right to advise our Baptist partners concerning the advisability of accepting as professors former IMB missionaries who have been terminated for doctrinal reasons."

IMB spokesman Mark Kelly told Associated Baptist Press the issue had entirely to do with the IMB's view that Harbin's teachings were unorthodox.

"IMB leaders have read Chris Harbin's writings, and numerous positions on the nature of the Bible are clearly outside the parameters acceptable to Southern Baptists," Kelly said. "It is unfortunate that he did not balance positions he said were designed to 'challenge the thinking of his students' with a strong presentation of advocacy for the inerrant word of God."

The Harbins followed IMB procedure in appealing the termination and ultimately appealed to Avery Willis, the IMB's senior vice president for overseas operations. Willis said he would reconsider their appeal one last time if Harbin would affirm the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message in writing and repudiate parts of his syllabus that appear to be in conflict with it. The portions of Harbin's syllabus questioned by IMB officials have not been released.

Mrs. Harbin believes Willis' letter "linked our appeal to the need to affirm the Baptist Faith and Message." She said her husband responded by affirming the 1963 version of the document rather than the 2000 version, and telling Willis that the class syllabus excerpts on which the charges of heresy were based were "either taken out of context, badly worded or stating positions that he was refuting."

Reported by Rob Marus of Associated Baptist Press and Mark Wingfield of the Texas Baptist Standard

BAPTIST DIGEST

■ Texas approves missions network.

The Baptist General Convention of Texas overwhelmingly approved formation of a missions network that leaders hope will change the way the state's Baptists view missions. The new network will match churches, associations, institutions and individuals with short-term and long-term missions opportunities across the United States and abroad. It will be set up as a separate, not-for-profit affiliate of the BGCT. In other business during the Nov. 11-12 meeting in Waco, messengers adopted a 2003 budget that drops restrictions in place the last two years designating funds away from the SBC Executive Committee and Ethics & Religious Commission and capping funding for six SBC seminaries. Messengers overwhelmingly defeated a motion calling on the state convention to adopt the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message as its guiding statement of faith. The BGCT has in the past voted to go on record as affirming the 1963 Baptist Faith and Message but disagreeing with revisions made in 2000.

■ Shorter College conflict escalates.

The Georgia Baptist Convention elected eight new trustees for Shorter College during a Nov. 11-12 annual meeting in northwest Atlanta. None, however, was from the list of 16 candidates submitted by the college's current board of trustees. That means trustees of the college will reject all eight, because a bylaw adopted in May requires that all future members of the board be approved by the college prior to election, said Shorter President Ed Schrader. Rejection of the new GBC-elected trustees would likely signal the end of a 44-year relationship between the college and convention.

■ Virginia revamps organization.

Virginia Baptists voted overwhelmingly to move forward with a major revamping of the Baptist General Association of Virginia. More than 1,500 messengers to the BGAV annual meeting, held Nov. 8-9 in Virginia Beach, authorized the Virginia Baptist Mission Board to begin implementing a sweeping plan labeled "Kingdom Advance." The plan calls for reorganizing

BGAV ministries around priorities of identifying and equipping leaders, aiding churches, evangelism and "glocal" missions, a term coined by leaders to describe new strategies that cross traditional lines between local and global missions.

■ N.C. to study giving options.

The Baptist State Convention of North Carolina will examine whether to continue a giving option favored by moderates. Messengers to the Nov. 11-13 convention in Winston-Salem, N.C., authorized a study of "Plan C," one of four giving tracks available to the state's churches and the only one that includes funding for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Tim Rogers, pastor of Victory Baptist Church in Seagrove, N.C., moved that the convention president appoint a special committee to study whether Plan C is consistent with the state convention's constitution. One of the several purpose statements in the constitution is "to cooperate with the Southern Baptist Convention." Some interpret the phrase as meaning that the

state body must work exclusively with the SBC, and not with other national organizations like the CBF.

■ Tennessee doesn't alter officers' role.

Messengers to the Tennessee Baptist Convention declined to expand the role convention officers have had since 1973. The proposal to expand the role of convention officers, presented by a President's Study Committee, drew considerable attention and debate. Though a majority of messengers voted in favor of the plan (600-433), it missed the two-thirds majority needed to change the state convention constitution. The committee had proposed giving the president and two vice presidents a voice and vote on the convention's committee on boards and committee on committees during their one-year term as officers. The president also would have been granted a three-year term on the TBC Executive Board after his year as president. An attempt to amend the report to give only the president a voice and vote on the committee on boards and committee on committees also failed.

No surprises: Badgett elected president without opposition

By Trennis Henderson
Editor

WILLIAMSBURG—There wasn't much suspense in this year's Kentucky Baptist Convention presidential election.

Paul Badgett, whose candidacy was announced in June, was elected KBC president without opposition. It was the first time in more than a decade that a KBC president has been elected by acclamation.

In fact, all three announced candidates for the KBC's top elected offices were elected last week by convention messengers. Judge Eugene Siler of Williamsburg was elected first vice president, also by acclamation.

In the only contested race, Darren Gaddis, pastor of Central Baptist Church in Corbin, was elected second vice president by a vote of 241-230 over Jerry Wilkes, director of missions for Elkhorn Baptist Association. Gaddis' candidacy was announced two weeks before the annual meeting.

In two other elections by acclamation, Wilma Simmons was reelected secretary and Joe Priest Williams was reelected assistant secretary. Both have served in those positions since 1992.

In the presidential election, Badgett, pastor of First Baptist Church of Pikeville, was nominated by former KBC President Jim McKinley, a retired missionary to Bangladesh.

Citing Badgett's work on last year's KBC Baptist Faith and Message Study Committee, McKinley told messengers, "I believe he will continue that same spirit and lead us forward together as we ought to go, as we must go as God's Baptist people in the state of Kentucky."

Badgett, who gained the support of both conservative and moderate Baptist leaders across the state, said he felt



OFFICERS Elected during last week's KBC annual meeting were (from left): Assistant Secretary Joe Priest Williams of Louisville, Secretary Wilma Simmons of Brandenburg, First Vice President Eugene Siler of Williamsburg, President Paul Badgett of Pikeville and Second Vice President Darren Gaddis of Corbin.

"numb" after being elected as the KBC's first consensus president since 1991.

Affirming his commitment to fairly represent all Kentucky Baptists, Badgett said his unanimous election "does add a little pressure."

"People will be watching to see how this goes in order to make future decisions about who will represent Kentucky Baptists," he pointed out. "I want to make a prayerful effort to

follow the leadership of God's Spirit.

"I really do want to be for all Kentucky Baptists," Badgett emphasized. "That really is my heart."

"I pray that Kentucky Baptists will be unified in trying to reach the world for Christ," he added. "That's what I want to be about."

Describing KBC Executive Director Bill Mackey as one of his mentors, Badgett said Mackey "has been a great force for unity in our state. Maybe we're rallying around the direction that's already been set for us by Bill Mackey."

Looking toward his year as president, Badgett said, "I hope we roll up our sleeves and get busy and let the

Badgett appoints KBC committee chairs

LOUISVILLE—Kentucky Baptist Convention President Paul Badgett has appointed chairmen to lead 16 standing committees of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and KBC Mission Board for the coming year.

The list of 16 men includes 11 pastors, two laymen, a director of missions, a church staff member and a retired state convention leader.

Those appointed to chair KBC committees are:

■ **Committee on Arrangements:** Tom Biddle, director of missions for Enterprise Baptist Association.

■ **Committee on Committees:** Dan Ferguson, pastor of Second Baptist Church of Hopkinsville.

■ **Committee on Constitution and Bylaws:** Wendell Romans, retired pastor of Beaver Dam Baptist Church.

■ **Committee on Credentials:** Bill Jagers, retired KBC director of evangelism.

■ **Committee on Nominations:** Kevin Ezell, pastor of Highview Baptist Church in Louisville.

■ **Committee on Order of Business:** Skip Alexander, pastor of Campbellsville Baptist Church.

■ **Committee on Public Affairs:** French Harmon, pastor of First Baptist Church of Fort Mitchell.

■ **Committee on Resolutions:** Tim Harris, pastor of Woodburn Baptist Church of Bowling Green.

Those appointed to chair Mission Board committees are:

■ **Administrative Committee:** Charles Barnes, member of Hurstbourne Baptist Church in Louisville.

■ **Agencies and Institutions Committee:** Ron Murphy, a member of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Shepherdsville.

■ **Business and Finance Committee:** Mark Galloway, pastor of First Baptist Church of Morganfield.

■ **Church Growth Committee:** Glen Cummins, minister of education at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington.

■ **Evangelism Growth Committee:** Buddy Crabtree, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Franklin.

■ **Leadership Development Committee:** Alan Dodson, pastor of First Baptist Church of Hazard.

■ **Missions Growth Committee:** Steve Hussung, pastor of Rich Pond Baptist Church in Bowling Green.

■ **Nominating Committee:** Don Phelps, pastor of First Baptist Church of Sturgis.



light shine. Maybe we can come back next year stronger and better than we've ever been before."

Badgett, pastor of First Church, Pikeville, since 1999, previously was pastor of Oakland Avenue Baptist Church in Catlettsburg. He is a member of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, a former member of the KBC Executive Board and was president of the 2001 Kentucky Baptist Pastors' Conference.

Siler, a member of First Baptist Church of Williamsburg, is a federal judge with the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. He previously was elected KBC first vice president in 1986.

Siler is a trustee for Baptist Healthcare System and Baptist Seminary of Kentucky. He is a former member of the KBC Executive Board and former chairman of Cumberland College's board of trustees.

Gaddis, pastor of Central Church in Corbin since January, previously was pastor of Liberty Point Baptist Church in Cadiz. He is a graduate of the University of West Florida in Pensacola and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

Simmons is a member of Rock Haven Baptist Church in Brandenburg and Williams is a retired pastor from Louisville.

Messengers avoid controversy during KBC meeting at Williamsburg

Continued from page 1

tween annual sessions. It also is responsible for appointing "all officers and agencies that may be required in its work," according to the KBC constitution.

Oakley said the name change is designed to emphasize that Kentucky Baptists "have one mission given to us by one God to do His work in our world."

Jim Leeper, a retired Southern Baptist international missionary, expressed concern that the new name could be confusing since the Southern Baptist Convention's two missionary-sending agencies also are called mission boards. "Maybe ministry would be a better word," he suggested.

Messengers voted with scattered opposition to adopt the committee proposal.

The constitution and bylaws committee also recommended eliminating requirements that a series of reports be presented orally each year. The committee proposed receiving written reports on the Cooperative Program, International Mission Board, North

American Mission Board and obituaries.

John Newland, pastor of First Baptist Church of Grayson, responded, "I think it is of paramount importance to hear of the work of the Cooperative Program at our annual meeting and to do otherwise would undermine what we have done."

Dooley said the primary goal of the proposal is to save time during the annual meeting. "The reports will be written, they will be available," he explained. "It's not undermining the program we have. It's saving some time." He noted that CP-related information also is included in the Executive Board report each year.

Asa Greear, director of missions for Greenup Association, said he believes messengers should hear each year from representatives of the IMB and NAMB "in order to pray and support in a greater way" the work of those entities.

Mark Boes, chairman of the committee on order of business, explained that "the passing of this amendment does not mean we will not hear oral reports. It will give us some freedom.

We will be provided some flexibility in how to do that."

After further discussion, the committee recommendation was adopted by a ballot vote of 464 to 324.

Bob Fox of Faith Baptist Church in Georgetown proposed a constitutional change in the way churches qualify to send messengers to the KBC annual meeting.

The constitution currently allows each cooperating church to have two messengers. Article 3, section 2 allows churches to qualify for additional messengers—up to a total of 10—"for each additional 250 members, or for each \$250 contributed to the Cooperative Program during the fiscal year preceding the annual meeting."

Fox's proposal would expand the guidelines to allow contributions to the Cooperative Program "and/or to its convention work" to be counted toward each church's messenger total.

The recommendation was referred to the committee on constitution and bylaws for consideration next year.

A total of 1,236 messengers—well below last year's registration of 1,732

Messengers OK \$23.2 million CP goal

WILLIAMSBURG—Kentucky Baptist Convention messengers approved a \$23.2 million Cooperative Program budget goal for the 2003-2004 fiscal year.

The CP goal, which follows a 1.4 percent shortfall in last year's budget, is the same as the current goal. The 2001-2002 budget year marked the first time in six years that income fell short of the budget goal.

Messengers also approved budget allocations of 64 percent for Kentucky Baptist-related ministries and 36 percent for Southern Baptist Convention causes. That also is the same allocation percentages as this year, after three years of incremental increases to raise the SBC portion to 36 percent.

A CP challenge budget goal of \$1.3 million, also the same as this year, was approved. The challenge budget, which would take effect only if the basic goal is met, also would include allocations of 64 percent for KBC ministry efforts and 36 percent for SBC causes.

messengers—attended last week's annual meeting. The total of 1,545 registered participants also included 247 church members and 62 visitors.

Next year's meeting will be Nov. 11-12 at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington.

WESTERN RECORDER

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

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War with Iraq: What would Jesus do?

By Joseph Phelps

We desperately need a sustained conversation between Christian people on whether or not going to war against Iraq can be justified from within our faith. Since the majority of U.S. citizens consider themselves Christian, including President Bush, let's think together about what would Jesus do—a phrase popularized by bracelets with the initials "WWJD?"

As such, this conversation transcends questions of strategy, international law, expediency, costs, post-war rebuilding, what Saddam did or built in secret or even important issues like long-term consequences and global implications of war. This is not to ignore the context in which "WWJD?" is always asked, but when the contextual and political questions are asked first, or when they dominate the conversation, "WWJD?" gets lost in the shuffle. Our challenge is to stay focused on the question of what Jesus would do in our present situation.

"WWJD?" also transcends, or at least reinterprets, the Bible passages that recount God's people going to war in the name of God. These passages, while part of what Christians consider "the Word of God," are informed by "the Word become flesh" of Jesus, or else our faith is relegated to a mass of confusion and contradiction. Granted, there are places in the Old Testament that describe God as vindictive, punitive, and yes, violent. But Christians believe that in Jesus there is a "new" testament—a clarifying word about the nature of God.

The essence of Jesus' life and ministry is confronting violent evil with the loving non-violence of God. The cross, Christianity's central symbol, expresses God's unilateral disarmament; that is, God fighting evil through vulnerability instead of ven-

geance or violence. The rest of Christianity's message, that the crucified Jesus was raised from death to life, is a sign of hope.

So, what would Jesus do? No one knows for sure, but here is one man's humble perspective:

■ *Jesus would hold His fire.* When His disciples brandished a sword to defend Him from His assailants, Jesus made His position clear: "Put away the sword; those who live by the sword will die by the sword." This wasn't a one-time instruction; this was precedent for His followers throughout the ages. Violence,

preemptive or in retaliation, is out. It solves nothing and loses everything. Thus, an appeal to violence as a last resort with careful limitations, while considerably better than preemptive war strategy, falls short of what Jesus would do. Augustine, the 4th century author of "just war theory," may be a church father, but with all due respect, he's no Jesus.

■ *Jesus would encourage creative non-violent resistance to evil.* When challenged with how to respond to oppression and hatred, Jesus' Sermon on the Mount taught an active, non-violent resistance to evil, exposing its ugliness, while refusing to employ its tactics. Christian pacifism is not passive. It resists evil passionately, sacrificially, creatively. Its distinction is that it refuses to use the tactics of violence; for it takes its cue from the Prince of Peace. "Be wise as serpents, and innocent as doves," Jesus said.

■ *Jesus would walk into the middle of the battlefield as a human shield for both sides, imploring combatants to see other human beings as brothers and sisters.*

■ *Jesus would say, "Let those among you without sin cast the first stone," as He did to the adulterer's accusers.* No nation in this conflict has clean hands or a pure heart. All are

with sin. So put down the weapons of execution, Jesus would say, and find new ways to deal with the brokenness of our condition.

■ *Jesus would explore questions of justice and equity that spawn generation after generation of wars.* He might quote His brother, James, "The wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you?"

In other words, Jesus would take us behind the competing claims ("Saddam has weapons of mass destruction." "The U.S. is after our oil.") and challenge both sides to self-examination, to inventory our values and to eliminate policies that conflict with God's desire for peace rooted in justice for all God's children.

■ *Jesus would pray for His enemies, as He did from the cross; as He told us to do.* How can you kill someone for whom you are praying?

■ *Jesus would get in the face of religious leaders, as He did 2,000 years ago, and challenge the corruption of God's message for the sake of convenience and control.*

What Jesus would do is hard stuff. It is counter-intuitive and sacrificial.

When Christian faith is limited only to the personal salvation of individuals from the fires of hell, without also a call to stand in love against the hellish evil of our day, we've done a hatchet job on the gospel.

We're not Jesus. And there are important geopolitical issues beyond the WWJD question. But those of us who claim to be His followers must allow our lives, including our views on national policy, to be shaped primarily by what He would do.

Joseph Phelps is pastor of Highland Baptist Church in Louisville

COMMENTARY

PARTNERS IN THE MISSION

New Kentucky Baptist Convention churches

Recently, I had the privilege of speaking in two new Kentucky Baptist Convention churches that were approved for membership at the annual meeting in Williamsburg along with 19 other new churches.

Upper Buffalo Baptist Church in Owsley County is unique in origin, location and ministry. Henry "Hank" Patton started the mission out of his children's evangelism ministry and camping program. The mission was sustained for more than five years before becoming a church. Lerosé Baptist Church near Booneville is the sponsoring church.

Upper Buffalo Church meets on Saturday night for Bible study and worship. The pastor and a deacon use vans to transport a congregation of children and youth. The church is located in a remote area of the county but God is using the ministry to transform lives.

Patton was called to ministry in the early 1970s but he did not respond.

God called again in 1973 and he launched his children's evangelism efforts part-time. In 1976, he became full-time, living on investments from the sale of successful businesses.



Bill Mackey

Patton and his wife, Ros-teen, live at the camp, which is located on 128 acres at the head of a hollow. They moved with two children from a large house to a small Quonset hut at the camp. They now have seven buildings and are opening a new swimming pool this summer.

His passion is to see people, especially children, come to faith in Jesus Christ and grow spiritually by memorizing Scripture verses and passages. All kids who learn the required verses can attend the camp for free. Last summer one boy recited 241 verses. Other skills and Bible stories are learned at camp.

My wife, Kay, and I also were guests recently at Southminster Baptist Church, located on a beautiful 28-acre site in south Louisville. Von Smith has led Southminster to become

a member of the Kentucky Baptist Convention family.

Led by John Turpin, the members of the church built the spacious facilities with volunteer labor. The grounds are attractively landscaped and accompanied by adequate parking.

The worship service is participatory with dramatic movement and signing, inspirational music and testimonies, meaningful prayer and dynamic leadership by Smith. His wife, Brenda, who is the KBC's news and web specialist, assists him.

Smith is a third-generation pastor. His father recently retired as a pastor and his grandfather was director of missions for many years in Aiken, S.C.

Due to a rebellious period in his life, Smith was fortunate to survive an auto accident and medical complications. It is obvious that God has given him a life passion to serve Jesus and God's people.

Please pray for all of our new churches as they join the KBC family of churches on mission for Jesus.

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention

FAMILY

Weighed down by down markets? Remember basics

By Jeremy White

Slower economy. Stock market down for two years in a row and possibly a third. Whew!



FINANCIAL FORUM

The current state of the stock market and the economy might seem new and different to you. The truth, however, is that it looks like, smells like and walks like sluggish markets and economies of the past.

Here are a few basic reminders when you are feeling down about down markets and economies:

■ *Economies and stock markets go up and down.*

This might seem obvious, but in the late 1990s many Wall Street analysts and politicians were fond of saying that we have entered a new era of uninterrupted growth.

After every recession in the past, our economy has returned to a growth phase. There have been many down stock markets before this one. After each one, it has risen.

■ *The only certainty is uncertainty.*

We might know and accept that economies and markets go up and down. We do not know when and how much they will go up and down. Prepare for change.

■ *The conventional wisdom usually is wrong.*

Economists once said inflation will continue to be a problem. Inflation was 3 percent or less throughout the 1990s. In the 1970s, the consensus said we were almost out of oil and would wait in line for gas forever.

■ *No single investment works all the time.*

Gold doesn't always do well. Land can go down in value. Stocks have negative returns in a given year. Interest on CDs can be eaten up by inflation and taxes.

■ *Biblically correct principles work correctly all the time.*

Minimize debt, save for future unknowns, give generously, pay taxes, work as unto the Lord, spend less than you earn, invest for the future, diversify, live modestly, be content. Do these and you will do well—no matter what the direction of the economy or the market.

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

Is there a proper age for teens to begin one-on-one dating?

Q: My middle school daughter has really developed physically this year. What is the proper age for a teenager to begin dating?

Parents typically are stricter with their teenage daughters than they are with their sons. Double standards that have long existed in our society around greater sexual permissiveness for males would seem to account for much of this. The truth is that there should be no double standard around sexual activity before marriage; the Bible sets one standard and that is abstinence.

Concerning the dating question, Christian parents differ on their responses. Those on one end of the spectrum would advocate an approach that prohibits one-on-one dating entirely (see Joshua Harris' book, "I Kissed Dating Goodbye"). Those on the other end of the spectrum would allow teens to begin one-on-one dating as early as middle school.

Recent research by professor Archibald Hart regarding the sexual behavior of conservative evangelical females indicates that women in their 60s reported that it was, on average, six to seven years between their first date and having sexual intercourse for the first time. Among women in their 20s the average length of time had dropped to only three years.

The logical conclusion as parents responding to such findings? Delay one-on-one dating as long as possible and encourage teenagers to sublimate their sexual energies into other pursuits such as academics, athletics or work.

Encourage your teen to spend time with her friends in positive group activities that don't emphasize early involvement in one-on-one dating.—*Scott Wigginton*

Q: When is it appropriate for me to correct someone else's child?

Most of us who are parents have our hands full taking care of and being responsible for our own children. Most parents also understand that there are different approaches to raising children, that different families have different rules and that some parents are more permissive than others. Most of us don't want the added responsibility of having to correct someone else's child, and as a rule, we shouldn't have to.

At the same time, there can be specific situations and circumstances when as leaders, friends or caring adults it is not only appropriate, but necessary to correct someone else's child.

Christian educator Ann Smith tells children, "I'm not going to let you hurt yourself, I'm not going to let you hurt someone else and I'm not going to let you hurt me." These three principles, which focus on physical safety, provide reasonably good guidelines for knowing when to act. We never should stand by while children hurt themselves or someone else, and most of us are not going to allow someone to hurt us either.

Beyond physical safety lies the issue of respect. Children often can be disrespectful of property, people or places. Unless you know the child or his or her parents fairly well, personal restraint might be in order. It might be enough simply to inform an appropriate person in authority of what happened.

When you sense it is necessary to express your opinion, "You need to know ..." or "You would probably want to know ..." are good ways to approach parents, many of whom will appreciate you caring enough to act on their behalf.—*David Garrard*

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



Unity was evident at KBC annual meeting

The theme of Kentucky Baptists' 165th annual meeting was "Let the Light Shine," but the spirit of last week's gathering can be summed up in one word: unity.

From the opening pre-session music by Gary Vidito to the closing sermon by evangelist Ken Smith, virtually every aspect of the Nov. 12-13 meeting reflected Kentucky Baptists' commitment to set aside minor differences and focus instead on crucial Kingdom priorities.

The most obvious example of cooperation was the decision by conservative and moderate leaders across the commonwealth to support the same candidate for Kentucky Baptist Convention president. Paul Badgett, pastor of First Baptist Church of Pikeville, was elected president by acclamation, marking the first time in more than a decade that a KBC presidential candidate was elected in an uncontested race.

But the march toward unity didn't end there. In fact, four of the KBC's five statewide officers were elected by acclamation. Even in the race for second vice president, a case can be made that it also reflected an absence of political maneuvering. When Darren Gaddis was elected over Jerry Wilkes by a narrow 11-vote margin, that indicated there likely wasn't one group working behind the scenes to boost the vote total for a favored candidate. Instead, messengers had the privilege of choosing between two worthy candidates and expressed strong support for both.

Unity also was evident during the meeting's business sessions. A potentially divisive motion introduced last year sought to deny state convention membership to Kentucky Baptist churches that cut ties to the Southern Baptist Convention. The proposal was referred to the KBC constitution and bylaws committee which presented its report last week. Committee chairman Jerry Dooley explained that the motion had numerous problems in the areas of polity, procedure and clarity. In response to the committee's recommendation, KBC President Harold Greenfield ruled the measure out of order. No one challenged the chair's ruling and the issue was resolved without needless rancor or rhetoric.

The KBC resolutions committee also contributed to a sense of unity. Committee members declined

to recommend a resolution against partial-birth abortion that had been submitted to the committee, citing concern over the proposal's partisan tone. During discussion of the issue, Roger O'Bryan asked that messengers adopt the resolution as submitted to the committee.

Affirming opposition to abortion, the committee endorsed a substitute motion to reaffirm a 1996 resolution on the issue that expressed Kentucky Baptists' "opposition to abortion on demand in general and partial-birth abortion in particular." The substitute measure, adopted by messengers, helped produce a win-win situation amid another potentially volatile debate.

In a more direct nod toward unity, messengers adopted a resolution specifically addressing unity and cooperation in Kentucky Baptist life. Pledging to "dedicate ourselves to loving each other and working together to further the Kingdom of God," messengers also encouraged KBC staff members "to continue their good work in the spirit of the report on the Baptist Faith and Message adopted by our convention in 2001."

Amid the many positive accomplishments, there always is room for improvement. One area that deserves the careful attention of Kentucky Baptist leaders is promoting greater lay involvement in key leadership positions. Among the 16 committee chairs appointed last week by Badgett, 14 are ministers, two are laymen and none are women. This isn't a new problem in Kentucky Baptist life. In the previous three years, a total of four lay members, including only two women, were appointed to committee leadership roles.

In a statewide convention with more than a half a million resident members, it's hard to imagine there aren't ample lay leaders available to help bring a healthy balance to convention work. As important as it is to provide philosophical and geographical balance in pivotal presidential appointments, it also seems appropriate to send a positive message to laymen—and women—about their vital role in Kentucky Baptist ministry.

Even with room for improvement, Kentucky Baptists appear poised to move forward with a growing commitment to unity as we seek to "let the light shine" in Kentucky and beyond.

STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR



Trennis Henderson

Be available to God

ATLANTA (BP)—To be greatly used of God in any area of one's life, a person must make himself available. He must be especially available to God in the place where God called and placed him.

This is true when living out the Christian life in the marketplace. In the Scriptures it is significant that God's activity and call is most often in the workplace. His call to Peter, his brother Andrew and their companions James and John was at their fishnets and in the midst of the workday (Mark 1:18-20). When Jesus came to Matthew, He went to his workplace to issue the invitation to follow Him (Mark 2:14-15).

The amazing sequence to both of these encounters was the effect their

response to Jesus had on other people they knew. Other fishermen followed Jesus when Peter responded immediately to Jesus' invitation. And with Matthew it is recorded: "Now it happened, as He was dining in Levi's house, that many tax collectors and sinners also sat together with Jesus and His disciples for there were many, and they followed Him" (Mark 2:15).

FIRST PERSON



Henry Blackaby

ways, the rest is history! Their lives began to make an incredible difference not only during their lifetimes but also to this very hour. Many have followed their example of being available.

Today, this is still God's pattern.

Men and women in politics, sports, business, science and education are being greatly used of God. This primarily is due to their immediate availability.

Many have left their vocations, often at the height of their success in the eyes of the world. Others have surrendered their vocations to the Master for His eternal purposes. Many in the military are responding. Many lawyers and judges are being obedient. Also, truck drivers, railway employees and teachers are becoming available. Many have retired early from their professional careers in order to be immediately available to their Lord.

All of them have greatly affected those around them who saw what they have done.

Has God come to your life? Is He standing there now? Has there been an immediate response to be available?

Henry Blackaby, president of Henry Blackaby Ministries, is the author of "Experiencing God"

Smith: Jesus' wedding visit shows Christians where to be

WILLIAMSBURG—It's one thing to talk about being the light of the world; it's quite another thing to take action.

That was part of the challenge Ken Smith shared during the final session of last week's Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting.

Citing the convention theme, "Let the Light Shine," Smith said, "We've been talking all morning about being the light of the world. Can we come alive enough to impact the billions of people of the world we've been talking about all morning?"

Smith, an evangelist and motivational speaker from Leesburg, Fla., is a former football chaplain for the University of South Carolina Gamecocks and the Florida State University Seminoles. He is a frequent speaker at Fellowship of Christian Athletes events.

Describing Jesus' actions at a wedding in Cana as one of "the strangest events in the life of Christ,"

Smith said his sermon title was, "What in the World Was Jesus Doing at a Wedding Turning Water into Wine?"

Smith said the account in John 2:1-11 "is there because God wanted us to learn something in that place."

Citing truths that Jesus wanted His followers to learn, Smith noted, "The first truth is an eschatological one. He wanted us to know a wedding was coming. ... We are to be preparing for the great wedding feast of the bride of Christ."

Smith said Jesus also "was distinguishing between the old wine and the new wine." Countering the legalism of the Pharisees, Jesus "demonstrated the truth of the old law being overrun by the new grace," he added. "In word and in deed, Jesus was proclaiming a radical new gospel of grace. ... He was saying, 'My grace is sufficient.'"

Jesus also "was teaching saving the best for the last," Smith said. "God has sent prophets, priests and kings, all trying to say the same thing—God wants a relationship with you. He saved the best for last and He sent His Son, ultimately saying, 'I love you.'"

If Christians today "are to be a light to the world, we must present a Jesus that is alive and real," Smith insisted. "So much of what we do doesn't matter. We've got churches doing all kinds of things that don't matter—they're just traditions and laws."

In addition to presenting truth, Smith said Jesus was demonstrating His ministry. Affirming "the ultimate joy of Jesus," he added, "I've been in some churches that if they've got it, I don't want it. I'm taking about miserable people."

"Every time I read Revelation, I get excited because He's coming," Smith declared. "We are sons and daughters of the resurrected, soon-coming King Jesus. We ought to be excited about it."

Jesus also was demonstrating His concern and care for people, Smith noted. Citing Jesus' miracle which showed concern for the bridegroom, he added, "Baptists, you can believe the Bible all you want to, but if you don't love the folk in your town, it won't make any difference."

Jesus also attended the wedding, Smith said, because He was invited. "He brings so much life to the party when He comes. He was One who people wanted to be around."

Noting that Jesus' opponents described Him as "a friend of sinners," Smith said, "Church, there ought to be something about the grace and the love we communicate that folks want to be around us."

"Jesus was saying if you want to make a difference in the world, you've got to go to the world," Smith concluded. "How do we get outside those wonderful walls (of the church) and invade the world where the lost are? My answer is simple: Follow Jesus."



KEN SMITH The Florida evangelist said Jesus taught several lessons at the wedding in Cana. "Jesus was saying if you want to make a difference in the world, you've got to go to the world."

Greenfield lists 3 'simple rules for renewal'

By Trennis Henderson
Editor

WILLIAMSBURG—Offering three "simple rules for renewal," Kentucky Baptist Convention President Harold Greenfield said Kentucky Baptists need to love the Shepherd, feed the sheep and follow the Lord.

Greenfield, retired director of missions for Caldwell-Lyon Baptist Association, presented the annual president's address in the opening session of last week's KBC annual meeting in Williamsburg.

Preaching from John 21, he described the scene as "a very transitional time in the early church."

"This is after the Crucifixion, after the Resurrection, but before the Ascension and before Pentecost," Greenfield said. Noting that the disciples "had been with Jesus in a wonderful adventure," he added, "They did not know exactly where they were to go from here. They were somewhat in a quandary."

In the midst of the disciples' uncertainty, Greenfield said Simon Peter responded, "I know what I'm going to do; I'm going to go fishing."

"That's a pretty good solution to a lot of problems," Greenfield suggested. "But for Simon I think there was more to it than that. ... There is the idea here that he was returning to his old life."

Greenfield recounted the group's failure to catch any fish all night long and their early-morning encounter with Jesus on the shore of the Sea of Galilee. He added, however, that "they didn't know it was Jesus in that early

morning mist." When the disciples followed Jesus' instructions to cast their nets on the right side of the boat, Greenfield said, "They caught 153 fish and they were all keepers."

After that miracle, "John saw that it was Jesus in the early morning mist and said, 'It's the Lord,'" Greenfield noted. "Simon jumps out of the boat in order to get to Jesus there on the shore."

As the other disciples came to shore, "this a beautiful picture of Jesus and the disciples," he said. "They were enjoying that time of fellowship together."

After breakfast, Jesus asked Simon three times if he loved Him. Each time as Simon answered yes, Jesus asked him to feed His sheep.

Christians today "have at times been in darkness and we need the light to shine," Greenfield pointed out. "There are times when Jesus is there on the shore close by but we haven't seen Him through the mist" of doubt, grief and selfishness.



HAROLD GREENFIELD The KBC president said renewal begins with a love for Jesus. "Jesus didn't say do you love the sheep, but do you love the Shepherd."

"It's time that we warm ourselves at the feet of Jesus," he said. "It's time that we have fellowship with our fellow followers. It's time that we participate and partake in the food that Jesus has prepared."

Greenfield said rules for renewal include:

■ *We are to love the Shepherd.*

"When we get down to the bottom line, that has to be the core of our being: How much do we love the Lord?" Greenfield emphasized. "Not how much do we agree on every point of doctrine. Not how much we enjoy a certain type of music over another type of music."

■ *We are to feed the sheep.*

Warning that Christians who gripe and grumble tend to be "those who are not doing anything," he explained, "We ought to be serving the Lord through ministry to one another. Let us be doing something for the Lord."

■ *We are to follow the Lord.* "That means obey Him," he explained. "Don't follow other things."

The whole world might say it's all right to play the lottery or cohabit or have abortions, "but you obey the Lord; follow Him," Greenfield said.

"I'm for our era of unity in Kentucky Baptist life if it keeps us from being so mean to one another and keeps us from questioning one another's orthodoxy," the outgoing president told Kentucky Baptist messengers. "We are to follow Jesus. We are not to follow an organization. We're not even to follow a denomination."

"When you follow the Lord, the mist will begin to clear," he said. "Follow the Lord. Follow Him to the cross. At the cross we see Jesus clearly. Come to the cross and see Jesus."



Author: Be prepared to defend truth about Jesus

By David Winfrey
News Director

WILLIAMSBURG—Christians must make Jesus preeminent in their lives and proclaim Him to a world that doesn't know Him, Frank Harber told messengers to the Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting.

"We live in a world in which there are many false gods, false religions and cults," Harber said Nov. 12. "And if we stand up and say that we have the truth, we had better be prepared to back it up."

Harber, pastor of First Baptist Church of Colleyville, Texas, is a former atheist who says he became a Christian while seeking to disprove the claims of Christianity.

"I discovered that there's powerful information, ... which demonstrate(s) beyond a shadow of a doubt that Christianity is true," said Harber, author of "Reasons for Believing: a Seeker's Guide to Christianity."

The world has had many people who claimed to be God, he noted. "The problem is they sure didn't act like it."

Preaching from Colossians 1:15-18, Harber cited four reasons why Jesus Christ is God:

■ *Jesus is the image of God.* Harber noted that Colossians' word for image is actually "icon," the same



FRANK HARBER The former atheist is now a Texas pastor. "If we stand up and say that we have the truth, we had better be prepared to back it up."

word we use for images on our computer representing something more.

"Jesus Christ is the icon of God, ... When (people) click on Jesus Christ they click on God," Harber said. "The invisible God became visible in Jesus."

■ *Jesus lit the fuse of creation.* Colossians 1:16 states that "by Him (Jesus) all things were created that are on heaven and in earth," Harber noted.

"If our world did come from a big bang, I know who lit the fuse," he said, jokingly. "Things cannot create themselves."

Many people think that if they can deny heaven then they can avoid hell, he said, adding that it take "incredible faith" to deny God's work in creation.

"What you believe about your origin will determine your destination."

■ *Jesus supplies the power.* "Have you ever thought about an atom and what keeps an atom together?" Harber asked, giving a brief lesson in subatomic physics.

"The sub-atomic world does not behave as the visible world of physics," he noted. "What is holding the universe together? The Bible says that, 'in Jesus all things consist.' He has the power."

"Jesus Christ has power over creation because He is the Creator," he added. "Jesus Christ, the Bible says, supplies the power."

■ *Jesus is King of creation.* "Do you realize that in the Bible, Jesus is not prominent, He is preeminent?" Harber asked. "He is not one way, He is the way, ... He is the one true God."

Christians should be asking people who is No. 1 in their life, Harber said, adding that Jesus is worthy of being made preeminent.

"Jesus demonstrated power no one had before," he said.

"He is the one. We live in a world in which God expects us to stand up and defend the truth, with education, with apologetics and with the Bible," Harber added. "I urge you, Kentucky Baptists, to continue to stand for the truth, to continue to stand for Jesus Christ and to let your light shine."

Loscalzo: Fight spiritual darkness, not 'mundane' battles

By David Winfrey
News Director

WILLIAMSBURG—Too many churches are distracted by petty issues and darkness, Lexington pastor Craig Loscalzo said during his convention sermon for the Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting.

"My call to you Kentucky Baptists is that if the Lord returns today, may He not find you playing games at the foot of the cross," said Loscalzo, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington.

Preaching from Ephesians 6:10-13, Loscalzo said the two-day annual meeting's theme, "Let the Light Shine," practically speaks for itself.

"Jesus said, 'You are the light of the world.' Now that will preach," he said. "You do not have to become light, work for light or do anything to earn light. You are the light of the world."

But too many Christians have sentimentalized the idea of taking the light into the world, Loscalzo added. "Jesus would remind us that you don't

need light where there already is light. ... You need light where there is darkness."

The events of Sept. 11, 2001, and other tragedies should remind Christians that spiritual darkness abounds, he said. "We have forgotten that we live in this present darkness instead of living merely in the light."

While the Ephesians passage states that the battle is not against "flesh and blood," Loscalzo said many Christians focus on battles that are "something on the level of the mundane."

"We miss the reality of what Paul is saying here," he said. "When I think of

what goes on in our churches, I think, 'What struggles range from trying to beat the Methodists to lunch on Sunday to jealousy of other successful congregations, Loscalzo said.

"We have gotten the idea that we are in competition with the other congregations in our cities," he said. "Paul would say, 'That is absolutely ridiculous.' We are all part of the same Kingdom; we should rejoice in that."

Many churches also battle over the style of worship they practice on Sunday morning, he added.

"Just calling it 'worship wars' should raise the hairs on the back of our necks," he said. "The apostle Paul would stick his finger in our face and say, 'We are not wrestling against flesh and blood.'"

Loscalzo listed a variety of complaints he's heard at various churches, including the warm temperature of the sanctuary ("Well, you ain't seen nothing yet.") to the length of the worship service ("How are they going to survive eternity?").

"This is the stuff that we Southern Baptists and Kentucky Baptists are battling a lot of time on," he said, adding that such controversies distract pastors from more important matters.

Loscalzo urged pastors to go back to jealousy, petty arguments or trivial pursuits.

"We have been called to rightly divide the Word of Truth, and we spend more time dividing deacons to keep them from killing each other," he said.

Kentucky Baptist pastors also must recognize that the battle against spiritual darkness must be fought through prayer, relying on the strength of God.



CRAIG LOSCALZO The pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington called pastors to pray to prepare for battle against spiritual darkness. "We fight our battles on our knees."

"Too often we end up trying to do it, we will fail every time," he said. "We fight out battles on our knees. It is time, Kentucky Baptists, to sell ourselves out in prayer."

"My final challenge to you would be to rise up, oh people of God and be done with lesser things, give heart and soul and mind and strength to serve the King of Kings," Loscalzo said in closing. "He deserves no less, and He expects no more."

Pastors' Conference speakers share ways to 'Let Your Light Shine'

By Trennis Henderson
& David Winfrey
Editor & News Director

WILLIAMSBURG—Al Meredith, a Texas Baptist pastor whose congregation has experienced dark days, was among speakers who encouraged Kentucky Baptist pastors to "Let Your Light Shine" in a dark world.

Meredith is pastor of Wedgwood Baptist Church in Fort Worth, the site of a 1999 shooting spree that left eight people dead, including the gunman. He was one of six speakers at last week's Kentucky Baptist Pastors' Conference at Cumberland College.

"I'm here because of Sept. 15, 1999," Meredith told the crowd. "Seven of our very best young people were taken into the presence of God."

Meredith interspersed his remarks with familiar hymns and choruses. Emphasizing that God is faithful in the midst of tragedy, he led the group in singing "Great Is Thy Faithfulness."

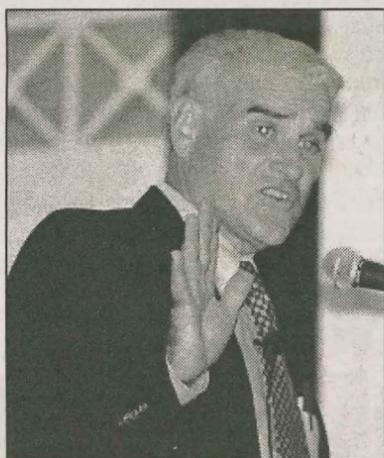
Health, wealth, even family and friends are not the answer to life's problems, he noted. "The one critical thing I must have is God's loving presence in my life," he said, singing "God Is So Good."

"We still hurt," Meredith acknowledged. But even amid heartache, "God's in control," he affirmed.

Singing "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands," Meredith added, "He loves me and nothing can separate me from the love of Christ."

Steve Ayers, pastor of Hillvue Heights Church in Bowling Green, challenged pastors to "Let Our Light Shine from Within."

"I've seen churches get excited about everything but the gospel," he declared. "I want to encourage you to get back to the power of Jesus Christ."



AL MEREDITH The pastor of Wedgwood Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas, was among the speakers at this year's Pastors' Conference. "We still hurt," he said, but "God's in control."

Preaching from Matthew 25 about Jesus' parable of the talents, Ayers said, "When you believe that God can take a little and make a whole lot, great things will happen."

"What are you going to do with the truth that you've heard?" Ayers asked conference participants. "Obviously these conferences don't work. We just keep coming back shining the light on the light. ... Instead of running away from the world, why don't we run the light into the world?"

"If we really get stirred up, the world will be formed," he added. "The gospel's dangerous; it's risky. ... We are light unto the world. What are we going to do with it?"

Danny Akin asked pastors to consider whether they were putting their ministries ahead of their families.

"I know that most of us who are pastors love our children, but that is not the issue. The issue is, do your

children feel loved?" asked Akin, vice president of academic administration at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

Akin encouraged pastors by educating them, loving their mate, disciplining them, spending time with them, blessing them with encouraging words and by introducing them to the perfect Parent, God.

Akin also lamented the high number of pastors who have sexual affairs.

"I am fatigued with ministers who can't keep their pants up. ... It happens every single day in the SBC," he said. He urged pastors to not spend time alone with a member of the opposite sex. "If you're at the wrong place at the wrong time with the wrong person, the wrong thing will happen."

Kentucky pastor Troy Dobbs encouraged pastors to let their light shine in their churches. Speaking from 2 Kings 6, Dobbs urged pastors to seek a spiritual vision for their church.

"Without a clear direction or focus, it's easy for the church of Jesus Christ to veer off course," said Dobbs, pastor of Crestwood Baptist Church near Louisville.

Vision should focus on God's glory, not impressing others, Dobbs said. "Whatever your church is doing, if the underlying need is not to advance the invisible Kingdom, then you don't have a vision."

God's vision often has an emotional, financial and sacrificial price, he added, noting that God's ideas "are always good, but they are rarely safe."

The vision must originate from and be orchestrated by God alone, Dobbs said. "When you work, you work. When you pray, God works. Which one do you want?"

Evangelist Don Mathis encour-

aged pastors to "let the light shine" by teaching and preaching God's Word.

"In this land, where we treasure liberty and freedom so much, most people are actually in captivity" to sin, said Mathis, a former Kentucky pastor who now lives in Nashville. "You and I have the message of deliverance."

Preaching from Psalm 126, he encouraged pastors to consider God's intent for their ministries by visualizing God's goal for their church; agonizing in prayer seeking God's power; organizing for the effective work of the ministry; personalizing the ministry by modeling it in their own lives; and evangelizing.

"God promises if you do the first four, He'll do the fifth," he said. "I don't know that I've ever seen an evangelistic church that is not a happy church."

Joe Brown announced he was departing from his assigned topic. "I don't want to talk about 'A Light in the Pulpit,'" he declared. "I want to talk about a fire in the pulpit."

Brown, pastor of Hickory Grove Baptist Church in Charlotte, N.C., asked the crowd, "Do you believe Jesus Christ is the Son of God? Do you believe if a person dies without Christ he will go to hell?" As participants enthusiastically responded "Yes," he added, "How many people in the last year have you rescued from hell? If we're not spreading the gospel, if we're not winning souls, we're out of business," Brown said.

Emphasizing pastors' responsibilities to witness, he added, "I don't send my people soul winning. I take my people soul winning. If the pulpit isn't winning souls, the deacons won't be winning souls and if the deacons aren't winning souls, the church won't be winning souls."

Officers elected

WILLIAMSBURG—Officers elected for the 2003 Pastors' Conference are:

■ President Bill Henard, pastor of Porter Memorial Baptist Church in Lexington.

■ Vice President Mark Payton, pastor of Shively Heights Baptist Church in Louisville.

■ Secretary-Treasurer Robert Tarrance, pastor of Green Ridge Baptist Church in Lewisburg.

CONVENTION NOTES

■ 'CP 500' marks giving milestone.

Taking a victory lap across the convention stage, KBC business services team leader Lowell Ashby said Kentucky Baptists scored a "big victory in the CP 500" this year. Ashby, dressed in car racing gear, joined KBC First Vice President Garry Baldwin to announce that Kentucky Baptists exceeded the \$500 million mark in cumulative Cooperative Program giving since the plan's inception in 1925. Baldwin described CP as "the high-octane fuel that drives the winning car for Kentucky Baptists."

■ **IMB report: 'Part of the team.'** The Southern Baptist International Mission Board has "5,480 missionaries as of this week," Wendell Smith told convention messengers. Smith, a retired missionary to Indonesia and the Philippines, noted that more than 33,000 mission volunteers, including hundreds from Kentucky, took part last year in overseas mission projects. Citing prayer and mission offerings as other ways to support international missions, he added, "You're a part of the team. ... Let's go follow our Coach."

■ **Volunteers impact NAMB work.** Cathy Chinn, a Mission Service Corps volunteer and president of Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union, highlighted the work of North American missions. "On behalf of the North American Mission Board, let me say thank you, Kentucky Baptists, for being in partnership with us," she said. With more than 120 MSC volunteers in Kentucky, she encouraged "more and more volunteers to answer God's call to let Him shine His light through them."

■ Polish Baptists express thanks.

Andrzej Seweryn and Leszek Wakula, representatives of the Polish Baptist Union, expressed appreciation to Kentucky Baptists for the ongoing mission partnership between the two groups. "It's a great joy and privilege to be among you, to see the thousands who are praying for Polish Baptists," said Seweryn, president of the Polish Baptist Union. "It's not only a partnership, but it's something more. It's about (being) a family."

■ **Frankfort to host 2005 KBC.** Kentucky Baptist messengers approved the Civic Center in Frankfort as the site of the 2005 KBC annual meeting. Sites and dates previously approved include Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington, Nov. 11-12, 2003, and St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville, Nov. 16-17, 2004. Messengers also approved Skip Alexander, pastor of First Baptist Church of Campbellsville, to preach the 2003 convention sermon. Greg Giltner, pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church in Hopkinsville, was chosen as the alternate.

■ **Thanks from New York.** David Dean, executive director for New York City's Baptist association, was in Williamsburg to thank Kentucky Baptists for their disaster relief work, financial contributions and prayers. "The dust has settled, but the new churches that have started there need your prayers," he added. "People are back at their business, and people are not quiet as open as they were before." Dean urged Baptists to visit www.praynewyork.com to learn how better to pray for the city.

■ **River ministry keeps rolling.** Sandy Wisdom-Martin, director of the multi-state Mississippi River Ministry, said Kentucky Baptists were among several groups 10 years ago that "stepped out in faith to make a special effort to meet needs along the Mississippi River." Noting that the effort has involved more than 10,000 volunteers and more than 3,000 people making professions of faith in Christ, she added, "Kentucky Baptists, thank you for what you are doing to share the good news of Jesus Christ along the Mississippi River."

■ **Public Affairs Committee: Letters help.** KBC Public Affairs Committee Chairman Floyd Paris asked Kentucky Baptists to stay involved in matters of concern, from expanded gambling to alcohol issues. "Over and over again, politicians tell us they want to hear from people," Paris said. "When we send you something in the mail, it is because there is an urgent need and there is something you can do."

■ **Directors of missions honor Cooper.** In an emotional event, Kentucky directors of missions recognized Roy Cooper posthumously as the director of missions of the year. Cooper's wife, Nancy, accepted the award, in recognition of the couple's work for Three Forks Baptist Association in Eastern Kentucky. Also at their meeting, directors of missions elected President Royce Pile, of Ohio Valley Association; President-Elect Bruce Walzer, of Bell Association; Secretary-Treasurer Rick Lucas, of Sulphur Fork Association; and Newsletter Editor Rick Robbins of Northern Kentucky Association.

■ Seminary supporters celebrate.

Supporters of Baptist Seminary of Kentucky gathered Nov. 12 to celebrate the school's first year of classes. Leaders named John Richardson, a member of Faith Baptist Church in Georgetown, as the school's first "Volunteer of the Year." President Greg Earwood said the seminary has 14 students ranging in age from 24 to 66. He said the seminary, based at Calvary Baptist Church in Lexington, still needs \$21,000 to cover its first-year operating expenses of \$310,000. The dinner at First Baptist Church of Williamsburg attracted approximately 120 participants.

■ Youth ministers connect.

Approximately 40 people attended the Kentucky Baptist Youth Ministers Association, held just before the KBC annual meeting in Williamsburg. Speakers included Scott Grissom, co-author of the "FISH" campus evangelism strategy, and Jon Bridges, vice president of technology at Chick-fil-A, who discussed ways to use technology to reach teenagers.

■ Religious educators officers named.

Glen Cummins, minister of education at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington, was named president of the Kentucky Baptist Religious Educators Association. Other officers are President-Elect Ken Lupton, of Little Flock Baptist Church in Louisville; and Secretary-Treasurer P.K. Spratt, Sunday school director at First Baptist Church of Danville. Southern Seminary professor John Dever addressed the group's workshop in Williamsburg Nov. 11, talking about "Educating the 21st Century Church."

21 new churches added to KBC role

WILLIAMSBURG—Kentucky Baptists admitted 21 new churches to affiliate with the state convention during the annual meeting in Williamsburg.

Sixteen of the new congregations are predominantly Anglo; four are predominantly African-American; and one is Korean.

Those added to the convention were:

- Calvary Baptist Church in Bonnieville.
- Christ Cathedral of Praise Missionary Baptist Church in Louisville.
- Colson Baptist Church in Whitesburg.
- Community Baptist Church in Greensburg.
- Community Fellowship in Mayfield.
- Cumberland Gap Parkway Baptist Church.
- Emmanuel Fellowship in Jackson.
- Faith Missionary Baptist Church in Morton's Gap.
- Freedom Baptist Church in Campbellsville.
- Harvestland Community Church in Hodgenville.
- Korean Baptist Mission Church of Kentucky in Louisville.
- New Hope Baptist Church in

Hardinsburg.

- New Horizons Baptist Fellowship in Elizabethtown.
- People's Church of Central Kentucky in Bardstown.
- Second Baptist Church in Fairfield.
- Shiloh Baptist Church in Lexington.
- Solid Rock Baptist Church in Hopkinsville.
- Southminster Baptist Church.
- The Potter's House Baptist Worship Center in Smithland.
- Upper Buffalo Baptist Church in Ricetown.
- Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Park City.

Two African-American congregations and four Anglo churches also were placed under "watchcare" status for the coming year.

- Those are:
- Evangelical Church Winning All in Louisville.
 - Heritage Baptist Church in Lexington.
 - Maranatha Baptist Mission in Lexington.
 - New Harvest Church in Henderson.
 - New Hope Baptist Church in Crestwood.
 - Vision Baptist Church in Pine Ridge.

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KENTUCKY

Resolutions address abortion, prayer and volunteerism

WILLIAMSBURG—Messengers to the Kentucky Baptist Convention's 165th annual meeting passed resolutions on prayer, volunteerism and unity while affirming a 6-year-old resolution against "partial-birth" abortions.

Roger O'Bryan, pastor of Eddy Creek Baptist Church in Princeton, had submitted a resolution against abortion, but the resolutions committee did not recommend it to the convention.

When O'Bryan asked that it be voted on by the convention, resolutions committee members said they had not recommended it because messengers already had spoken on the matter twice in the past six years and because of the partisan tone of the resolution, as submitted.

O'Bryan noted that the issue was due for a vote by the U.S. Senate and

Kentucky Baptists would be "striking while the iron is hot."

"I don't believe it would be taking sides with anyone but the unborn children," he added.

Bill Shoulta, pastor of Melbourne Heights Baptist Church in Louisville, proposed a substitute motion that the resolutions committee reaffirm a previous resolution against partial-birth abortion. That amendment easily passed.

The 1996 resolution affirms the sanctity of life

while expressing opposition to abortion on demand and partial-birth abortions in particular.

First Vice President Garry Baldwin thanked O'Bryan for his dedication to the issue, adding that the 1996 motion would be sent to Senate leaders. "We want to let you know that this convention is absolutely against abortion."



REQUEST Roger O'Bryan, pastor of Eddy Creek Baptist Church in Princeton, asks for a vote on his resolution against abortion. The resolutions committee later affirmed a previous year's resolution against abortion.

Resolutions passed at the convention were on:

■ **Unity and cooperation.** The resolution not only celebrates harmony in the convention, but also encourages KBC staff to continue working in the spirit of last year's report on the Baptist Faith and Message statements.

■ **Kentucky Baptist colleges and universities.** The resolution praises

Campbellsville University, Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, Cumberland College and Georgetown College while calling on messengers to pray for the institutions.

■ **Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union.** Next year marks the group's 125th anniversary.

■ **Eastern Kentucky volunteerism.** The resolution commends "the hundreds of volunteers" meeting physical and spiritual needs in the region.

■ **Houses of prayer.** In addition to seeking people to join in the 100 days of prayer for KBC ministries and churches, the resolution encourages KBC churches to be houses of prayer.

■ **Appreciation.** The resolution thanks Cumberland College, South Union-Mount Zion Baptist Association and the mayor of Williamsburg as well as the KBC officers and the KBC committees that planned the meeting.



AGENCY REPORTS

Baptist Healthcare System. Baptist Healthcare System cared for 77,000 inpatients in the past year, more than any other system in Kentucky, according to Dennis Johnson, administrator of Baptist Hospital Northeast in LaGrange. The system delivered more than 11,000 babies, he added. "Baptist provided just under \$18 million in charity care this past year," he said. In addition to quality health care, the system also remains committed to caring for the spiritual and emotional health of its patients, Johnson said.

Campbellsville University. With residence halls nearly full, the school is studying building a new dormitory. Renovations to the library are nearly complete, and a new wellness center will open this fall. A school record \$1 million gift recently was received toward the construction of a chapel and worship center. The Kentucky Heartland Outreach ministry continues to grow, as volunteers are building the new group's third house. Sophomore Kenny Rager said Baptist Student Revival teams are sent to churches each week. "God is moving through Campbellsville," Rager said. "We're sharing the light through fellowship. We're sharing the light through service and ministry."

Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union. Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union seeks get Christians "radically involved" in God's mission, Executive Director Joy Bolton told messengers. The 2002 Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions raised \$823,787. Kentucky WMU has sponsored a variety of camps, conferences and missions opportunities, including ministries at the Salt Lake City Olympics. The organization is nearing the end of a two-year emphasis on literacy missions. "Many Kentuckians have become involved in English as a Second Language and other tutoring as a result of this ministry," Bolton stated. "I want WMU to grow because of the outcomes of WMU work."

Clear Creek Baptist Bible College. Thirty-six students received degrees this past May. The school recorded 548 professions of faith through students involved in Christian service assignments. Clear Creek continues its partnership with the pastor/church planter school in Novgorod, Russia. Clear Creek's Heritage of Faith development campaign has raised more than \$1.5 million toward the goal of \$1.75 million to renovate Kelly Hall. Professor Ray Lucas told messengers: "God's Word is our textbook."

Cumberland College. The Mountain Outreach ministry served 370 families with its Christmas gift day. Mountain Outreach also built seven new homes. This past summer, 52 students served in short-term or full-time ministries. The Baptist Student Union offers 37 ministries, and a BSU team has ministered in 31 churches in the past year. Also this past year, Cumberland opened Hutton Women's Residence Hall and upgraded the food services areas in the dining hall and student center. The school also is improving the interior of one classroom building per year.

Georgetown College. Enrollment this fall is 1,290 students, and a record 306 students graduated this past spring. The first phase of a renovation to John Hill Chapel recently was completed. The school recently met with an accreditation team from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The team made few recommendations, and notification of accreditation is expected soon. Georgetown received \$2 million from the Lily Endowment to support programs for the "theological exploration of vocation." Georgetown senior Christy Craddock said the school's faculty and staff encourage students to be "thinking, doing Christians."

Kentucky Baptist Assemblies. The organization has seen growth in the five years since Kentucky Baptist Assemblies

assumed responsibility for Cedarmore and Jonathan Creek assemblies, according to President Rusty Ellison. Camper days have grown from fewer than 28,000 when KBA was formed to 39,695 this past year. "We have been able in the first five years to make more than \$3.5 million worth of changes at Jonathan Creek and Cedarmore," Ellison said, adding that a master plan is being developed for both sites. The summer youth camp Crossings at the Creek already has 2,600 reservations for next year. Five years ago, both facilities ministered to a total of approximately 3,000 students during the summer. "This year for the first time, we will go past 6,000," he said.

Kentucky Baptist Foundation. This past year, the foundation distributed \$10.7 million to various causes, more than the previous year despite market downturns. The foundation contributed \$367,000 to the Cooperative Program, making it the second largest CP contributor in the commonwealth. The foundation also awarded \$200,000 in scholarships to 204 Kentucky Baptist students attending Campbellsville, Cumberland, Clear Creek, Mid-Continent College and Southern Seminary. The foundation is developing a one-year stewardship lesson series which will be available in January through its Web site.

Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children. President Bill Smithwick told messengers he wanted to address "a rumor that we were closing." Officials are relocating the Spring Meadows and Glendale campuses because the current locations involve too much building, land and expense to properly care for the children the organization now serves. Smithwick compared it to the change made when Louisville Baptist Orphans Home moved from downtown Louisville to Spring Meadows in eastern Jefferson County. "Why? Because the way children needed

to be served changed," he said. "Those times are continuing to change." Relocating will provide a more efficient location to continue serving the children in the agency's care, he said. "We need your support just as much today as we ever have."

Oneida Baptist Institute. The Christian boarding school for students in grades six-12 is entering its 103rd year. For the past seven years, more than \$1 million has been invested in renovations to faculty and staff housing. More than 200,000 has been spent on renovating Baker Hall, a boy's dormitory. Four students were selected to the Kentucky Governor's Scholars Program. Oneida continues to add student education programs. This past year was the first full year the Future Farmers of America team took part in livestock showing. A sports injury training program was added, and several vocational programs continue to expand, according to President Bud Underwood.

Western Recorder. "The Western Recorder has been shining the light of information among Kentucky Baptists for more than 175 years," Editor Trennis Henderson said. In addition to coverage of news important to Kentucky Baptists, the paper also partners with churches to help them publish their newsletters, saving time, money and postal concerns. Troy Dobbs, pastor of Crestwood Baptist Church near Louisville, said his church prints its newsletter on the pages of the Western Recorder to help members stay informed on matters in the church as well as news from across the commonwealth and around the nation. "It enhances communication within our church." The Western Recorder also helps publish the monthly papers for five smaller state conventions: Hawaii-Pacific, Iowa, Minnesota-Wisconsin, Pennsylvania-South Jersey and Utah-Idaho.

Compiled from written and oral reports.

Bush distances himself from comments critical of Islam

WASHINGTON (RNS)—Without naming names, President Bush has distanced himself from some critical comments about Islam and has reiterated that it is a "peaceful religion."

"Some of the comments that have been uttered about Islam do not reflect the sentiments of my government or the sentiments of most Americans," the president said in an appearance at the Oval Office on Nov. 13 with United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan.

"Islam, as practiced by the vast majority of people, is a peaceful religion, a religion that respects others. Ours is a country based upon tolerance, Mr. Secretary General, and we respect the faith and we welcome people of all faiths in America."

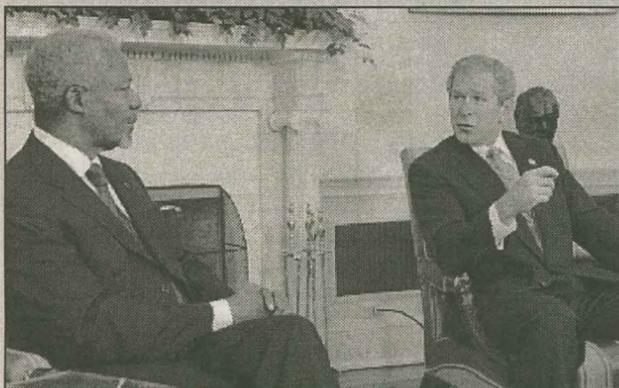
Bush did not mention the names of those who have made the "comments," but his remarks came two days after religious broadcaster Pat Robertson said Muslims "are worse than the Nazis."

On his "700 Club" Nov. 14, Robertson responded to the president by saying he has a "minor disagreement" with him over semantics.

"There is no doubt that the religion of Muhammad and those who adhere to it firmly ... is extreme and violent," Robertson said on the show aired on the Christian Broadcasting Network. "However, we must distinguish between the origin of the religion and the adherents to it in the United States who indeed are peaceful people. So to say 'the religion is peaceful' I don't think is accurate. To say that most of the adherents in America to the Islamic faith are peaceful is absolutely correct."

Other remarks by conservative Christian leaders include those of evangelist Franklin Graham, who has said Islam is a "very evil and wicked religion," and former Southern Baptist Convention president Jerry Vines, who called Islam's Prophet Muhammad "a demon-possessed pedophile." Jerry Falwell called Muhammad a "terrorist" but later apologized for his remarks.

The Council on American-Islamic Relations, a Muslim advocacy group that has called on Bush to repudiate such remarks, welcomed the president's comments.



OVAL OFFICE President George Bush and UN Secretary General Kofi Annan sit together in the Oval Office of the White House before a private meeting, Nov. 13. Without naming names, Bush used the meeting to say some recent comments about Islam "do not reflect the sentiments of my government." (RNS/Reuters photo by Larry Downing)

Faith-based measure dies in Senate

By Kevin Eckstrom
Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—The White House has pronounced President Bush's cherished faith-based initiative dead in the Senate and blamed Democrats for killing the plan because of misplaced civil rights concerns.

The plan's chief Republican sponsor, Sen. Rick Santorum of Pennsylvania, tried to bring the measure to the Senate floor Nov. 14 for unanimous approval but was blocked by Sen. Jack Reed, D-R.I., who is concerned that federal money could be used for proselytizing and discrimination.

With senators scheduled to leave town soon for the rest of the year, the faith-based bill was one of many that died for lack of time. The new 108th Congress that convenes in January will have to start again from scratch.

The Senate bill would have created \$10.4 billion in incentives for

charitable giving, and would have let religious groups compete for funds even if they had religious names or displayed religious symbols. A much stronger version passed the House last year, but was roundly criticized for provisions that allowed religious groups to directly receive government money and skirt local anti-discrimination laws.

"The legislation had billions of dollars in new money for charities and the people they serve and now that money has just single-handedly been thrown in the trash," said Jim Towe, the White House director for faith-based and community initiatives, on Thursday.

Majority Leader Sen. Tom Daschle of South Dakota said he would not schedule a floor vote unless Reed's concerns could be addressed first.

The Senate simply did not have time for a long floor debate, he said.

The faith-based bill might face a brighter future in the new Republican-controlled Senate, but its chief Democratic sponsor, Sen. Joseph Lieber-

man of Connecticut, said he will not support anything that resembles the Bush-backed House bill.

"We're optimistic that we can pick up where we left off and pass a bill early next year," said Lieberman spokesman Dan Gerstein, who called the bill's death a "lost opportunity."

Towe said the Lieberman-Santorum compromise was designed to sidestep the controversial church-state issues raised in the House bill.

He worked the phones as late as Nov. 14 trying to find a breakthrough.

Greg McCarthy, a spokesman for Reed, denied that Reed ever "wanted to see the bill dead," but only wanted a chance to make changes.

Church-state watchdog groups, meanwhile, celebrated the bill's defeat. Critics, led by Americans United for Separation of Church and State, said any plan that funnels government money to religious organizations is patently unconstitutional.

With additional reporting by RNS staff writer Adelle Banks

Alban's one-stop site has variety of resources for pastors

BETHESDA, Md. (RNS)—Pastors now have a one-stop-shopping site on the World Wide Web to find information on everything from making buildings handicapped accessible to finding a truce to the "worship wars."

The Bethesda, Md.-based Alban Institute recently unveiled its Congregational Resource Guide, available at www.congregationalresources.org.

The site, developed by Alban and funded by the Lilly Endowment, offers ministers and lay leaders tips on every aspect of a congregation's life, from finances to buildings to worship to leadership.

The guide "is designed to allow clergy and lay leaders easy access to the solutions they need to get back to the business of their faith communities," said Alban president James Wind.

The site contains links to books, periodicals, Web sites and other resources.

Each item contains a short description to allow easier researching.

The site contains approximately 530 resources, including 300 links to publishers where books and materials can be purchased.

The 10 major categories range from administration and building issues to specialized ministry. They

include books on liturgy and urban ministry, articles on acoustics, how to deal with mental health issues, finances and disabilities.

Wind said the site was designed to allow clergy and leaders from all faiths to find something useful. The site also contains sub-categories specific to certain faiths, complete with contact information.

A future filled with hope

Thanksgiving means different things to different people, but to us Kentucky Baptists it means expressing our gratitude to God and to Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children.

This year KBHC President Bill Smithwick is challenging our Kentucky Baptist family to give \$1.2 million through the Thanksgiving Offering. My wife, Larie, and I will be giving, and I encourage you to do the same and experience the joy of giving to this ministry, which provides a future filled with hope to hurting families and children.

Last year, 2,814 people were served, and on any given day 260 children are in KBHC's care. What a difference you and I are making in the

lives of these children through this specialized ministry. Thankfully, each and every day children who are in the care of KBHC are introduced to Jesus, the one and only hope for their futures. Jesus is the one who makes all the difference in the world in their lives. If you desire more information about the variety of services being provided by KBHC and how you can become involved, please call them at (800) 456-1386 or (502) 245-2101, or e-mail them at info@kbhc.org.

Through the Kentucky Baptist Foundation you have the opportunity to ensure the future of this vital ministry of hope. With the establishment of a permanent endowment or trust fund you can provide financial resources, until Jesus comes, as a lasting legacy of your own commitment to Jesus Christ and His ministry to children.

Perhaps you would be interested in establishing this legacy during your lifetime with a gift of cash, appreciated securities or real estate. If you need to receive income during your life from the asset you give, a charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust is worth considering. Perhaps you are more inclined to establish this legacy at your death. If so, a bequest in

your will or revocable living trust, or a life insurance or retirement plan beneficiary designation is worth considering.

Give Laurie Valentine and me the privilege of assisting you in bringing to these children God's promise in Jeremiah 29:11, "I will bless you with a future filled with hope."

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

KENTUCKY BAPTIST FOUNDATION



Barry Allen

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SERIOUS CONCERNS

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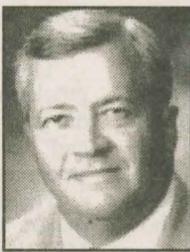
KBHC is home missions

Fourteen years ago, a tradition began at Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children known as the President's Dinner. It is a tangible way for KBHC to thank special members of our family of supporters. I also look at the event as an opportunity to refocus, as a group, on why we do what we do.

This year, a theme emerged during the after-dinner program. It was completely unplanned, but the theme is one that I've known was here at KBHC all along: KBHC is home missions.

Foster care specialist Tammy Burns told us she considers her work with children and foster parents a calling from God. She and her husband, Doug, are youth ministers at their Somerset church.

HOMES FOR CHILDREN



Bill Smithwick

We recognized Scott Humphrys, a teacher with the Graves County school district, who has taught in our on-campus school at Genesis Home in Mayfield for nine years. Scott asked for an assignment that many teachers never would consider. Then, when he was told he needed special education certification to continue the job, he went back to school rather than quit the work he believed God had called him to do.

In his role as a public school

teacher, Scott can't share the gospel or lead Bible study, but he demonstrates Christ to his students. And because of his presence on our campus, he helped foster a relationship for many Genesis Home girls with his home church.

Cornerstone Counselor Arlene Nickell told us the most important event in her life was accepting Jesus as her Savior and how that decision made her want to incorporate her faith into her work. Cornerstone has given her the freedom to do just that.

Tommy and Cyndi Morreau of Paducah were uncomfortable under the spotlight we placed on them as long-time Bible study leaders at Genesis Home. They would rather we not make a fuss. But we believe it is important for others to see people like the Morreaus extending themselves in such a way.

Tommy and Cyndi are business owners, parents and active in their home church, yet they make the almost-weekly trips from Paducah to Mayfield to teach the Genesis girls. If they can do it, others can too. KBHC is home missions. Join us.

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

Ministry through camping

By Robert Dunston

Cumberland College senior Elizabeth Bailey, daughter of Louis and Esther Bailey from Stanford, spent 11 weeks of her summer ministering through Crossings at the Creek at Jonathan Creek, one of Kentucky Baptists' excellent camps.

Bailey served as an adventure/recreation facilitator. During the summer, she worked as a life-guard, helped belay climbers on the tower wall, taught water skiing and helped with other water sports. She, along with everyone else, tried new things and learned new skills as the summer progressed.

The summer of 2002 marked the third year of the Crossings at the Creek program, and each year the program grows. Most weeks, the program draws 100 young people from grades 7 through 12, but one week more than 300 young people attended. Campers came from Kentucky, Arkansas, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee.

Each morning began with staff members meeting for prayer and preparation for the day. At 8 a.m. campers assembled for a time of worship. For the remainder of the day, campers alternated between

TFMs (training, fun and ministry) and Bible study. Each evening concluded with a worship service.

Bailey said, "God's anointing was on that place. The Holy Spirit was moving in that place." Each week she noticed how God worked in the lives of those who attended.

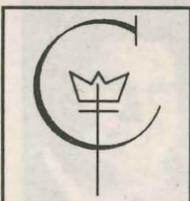
"The spiritual aspects were really deep and really challenged the campers to understand their role in active ministry," Bailey said.

God worked in Bailey's life as well during the summer. She plans to return for the summer of 2003 and hopes to be a Bible leader so she can develop deeper relationships with the young people.

Bailey, a psychology major at Cumberland College, is a wonderful representative of Christ wherever she is. She plans to attend seminary and invest her life in missions. Our prayers are with her as she continues to minister for Christ.

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

CUMBERLAND COLLEGE



Kudzu

Doug Marlette



For Heaven's Sake

Mike Morgan



Bible Crossword

Across

- 1 ___ haw
- 4 "the children of ___, 655" (Nehemiah 7:20)
- 8 "the spirit of God descending like a ___" (Matthew 3:16)
- 12 "of his government shall be no ___" (Isaiah 9:7)
- 13 But (Sp.)
- 14 Collar
- 15 WWII arena
- 16 ___ tea
- 17 "I will pay my ___ before them that fear him" (Psalm 22:25)
- 18 Saddle part
- 20 Australian native
- 22 Fiddler crab genus
- 23 "He leadeth me ___ still waters" (Psalm 23:2)
- 27 Supplications
- 31 Outcast
- 32 To feel ill
- 33 Shoe width
- 34 Droop
- 36 ___ potato
- 39 Tumors (KJV)
- 42 "Enter in at the ___ gate" (Matthew 7:13)
- 44 Chemical suffix
- 45 Education org.
- 46 Amateur
- 50 "If any of you ___ wisdom" (James 1:5)
- 53 Cheese
- 55 Actor Aldo
- 56 Hurt
- 57 "I ___ to see you" (Romans 1:11)
- 58 "These three are ___" (1 John 5:7)
- 59 Anjou is one
- 60 O.T. book
- 61 Masculine name

Down

- 1 Uriah ___
- 2 Inner (comb. form)
- 3 Land of Esau
- 4 Each
- 5 "I will ___ thy name" (Psalm 22:22)
- 6 Anger
- 7 "And they made war with the Hagarites, ... and ___" (1 Chronicles 5:19)

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				47	48	49
50	51	52			53	54			55		
56					57				58		
59					60				61		

- 8 "Woe to them that ___ iniquity" (Micah 2:1)
- 9 Ear (comb. form)
- 10 Say "I do"
- 11 Printer's measures
- 19 Very (Sp.)
- 21 ___ Aviv
- 24 Itself (Lat.)
- 25 "And I saw the ___, small and great stand before God" (Revelation 20:12)

26. Unit of work (pl.)
- 27 High moccasins
- 28 Vivid display
- 29 Lake Albert tribe
- 30 "But we ___ Jesus" (Hebrews 2:9)
- 34 Distinguished
- 37 "And their word will eat as doth a ___" (2 Timothy 2:17)
- 38 Hurry
- 40 "It is ___; Joseph ... is alive" (Genesis 45:28)
- 41 N.T. book

Last week's solution

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
S	A	R	D	I	S	U	P	S	I	D	E
T	H	I	R	S	T	N	A	T	I	O	N
R	A	A	H	A	C	I	A	C	G		
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A	U	G	U	S	T	E	L	A	I	C	
F	R	I	A	A	L	S	Y	E	T	A	
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Scholars: Stereotypes wrong about Thanksgiving's Puritans

"The Puritans were typical people of their time in that they enjoyed the pleasures of the 17th century."

Cornell University history professor Mary Beth Norton

Continued from page 1

Nathaniel Hawthorne's 1850 classic of American literature is set in Puritan New England, where a main character must wear a scarlet "A" for "adulteress." It was fiction, but the public accepted its portrayals as fact.

Prior to that, the Puritans were mostly romanticized as an American ideal. According to research by Brooks Holifield, professor of American church history at Emory University in Atlanta, the late 1800s saw increasing but sporadically negative portrayals of the Puritans, followed by full-blown disdain during the cultural upheaval of "the roaring '20s."

It was journalist H.L. Mencken who in 1928 famously defined "puritanism" as "the haunting fear that someone, somewhere, may be happy." Norton said, "That gave Puritans a bad name from which they never recovered."

Despite academics' efforts to set the record straight, Puritans continue to be cast wearing drab clothing, when in fact they often wore colorful outfits for their era. They're portrayed as teetotalers, when records show they consumed large quantities of beer, rum, ale and alcoholic cider. They're blamed for burning witches in Salem, even though convicted witches were usually hanged, not burned, and with less frequency and more due process of law than in Europe.

"There wasn't anything particularly Puritan about the witchcraft trials," Norton said.

But there is something Puritan



PURITANS One of several historic scenes on the frieze of the U.S. Capitol rotunda shows the first colonizers of New England in a prayerful pose at their landing. In addition to giving us Thanksgiving, some scholars say the Pilgrims also embodied the American work ethic. That ethic is interpreted by some to be seen in the swelled chest of this scene's central figure, Pilgrim elder William Brewster. (RNS photo by Mark Abraham)

about America as we've always known it, argues Charles Haynes, senior scholar of the First Amendment Center, a research group in Arlington, Va. He cites politics, and the influence of John Winthrop, as one example.

Winthrop, Puritan governor of the Massachusetts Bay Company, gave a 1630 sermon called "A Model of Christian Charity." Winthrop used a phrase from Matthew 5:14, referring to America as a "city on a hill" that would inspire and lead the world.

It has become customary for American presidential candidates to give at least one "city on a hill" speech, Haynes said, noting that Ronald Reagan repeatedly used the phrase as his vision for the country. Similarly, Bill Clinton used the Puritan language of "new covenant" to describe his political agenda.

"We are all Puritans today in how we see the world and how we see America's place in the world," Haynes said.

Moreover, those who truly study the Puritans can discover they were "ahead of the curve" in establishing women's rights, argues Mark Noll, author of the new book "America's God: From Jonathan Edwards to Abraham Lincoln."

"Women could inherit," said Noll, a historian at Wheaton College in Wheaton, Ill. "Women could run their husbands' businesses. Women could vote regarding their minister. And as early as the 1630s, women could vote for their political representatives."

"The difficulty for people is trying to make a complicated judgment of the Puritans. In some ways, the stereotypes are true. They're not made of whole cloth. But in other ways, the stereotypes are very false because they're comparing the Puritans with modern values instead of with the values of their contemporaries."

Credit is given to the Puritans, and more specifically the Pilgrims, for establishing the first Thanksgiving, in 1621, in gratitude for having survived a harsh winter that claimed many lives. But even here, scholars challenge the popular picture.

They point out that the Puritans proclaimed days of thanks throughout the year when good things happened and declared days of fasting and atonement when bad things happened.

There is little doubt that a feast was shared with Wampanoag Indians in 1621, but some argue it was more a traditional English celebration of the harvest.

Virtually all scholars agree there was no original intent for an annual holiday. That didn't occur until 1863, when Lincoln officially set aside the last Thursday of November as a national Day of Thanksgiving.

Whatever really happened in 1621, Norton gives the Puritans some credit for our modern day of turkey, pumpkin pie and pro football.

"The purpose was to thank God for something good that happened," she said. "So in a sense, we do owe our Thanksgiving to them."

What if ...?

The week before the annual meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Kay and I always attend the Ohio Baptist Convention. Many readers know I was born and raised in Ohio. Going back "home" is a treat, especially seeing friends from my years in Ohio. I have a special appreciation for both Ohio and Kentucky Baptists.

Every time I attend the Ohio convention, I am reminded of my spiritual roots. My parents divorced when I was very young and we struggled financially. The truth is, we were poor—just plain poor! I cannot remember ever attending church with my parents as a youth. The friend who first encouraged me to go to church with him was not very successful. It was too enticing to sleep in on Sunday morning. When I was nearly 16, I finally began to attend church with my friend, but I had no intention of allowing any of that religious stuff to rub off on me. I agreed to go to a revival service at Westwood Baptist Church. It was the only time I can remember ever being in a church service with my mother. During one of the invitations I was deeply convicted to invite Christ into my life. I asked my mother to invite Christ into her life as well, but she refused. Sadly, to my knowledge my mother never accepted Christ.

Being poor, we moved a lot. We often were evicted. When my Sunday school teacher and the deacons who had been assigned to me visited my home, they could see that the environment was not good for a teenage boy who had just begun his walk with Christ. They could see the negative effects of the alcohol and pornography I was exposed to every day, to say nothing of the physical abuse my mother frequently encountered.

My friends at church began to tell me about a school in Kentucky deep in the Cumberland Mountains and far from my negative home environment. Because my mother was not a Christian and because she did not understand why I would want to leave home to attend school in Kentucky, I sent for the enrollment application myself. When I asked my mother to sign it, she was reluctant but finally she agreed.

THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

The room, board and tuition was only \$1 a day when I enrolled, but we could not afford to pay. Like many Oneida students today, I was accepted on a full scholarship. Gas was only about 25 cents a gallon, but my mother had to borrow gas money from a friend. And there was no I-75, though it was under construction. When we arrived on the Oneida campus that Thanksgiving weekend in 1961, I was the happiest kid in the world. Unlike many of our students today, I never got homesick. There was nothing about home I missed. Before enrolling at Oneida as a junior in high school, I had attended 13 schools.

As I drove to Ohio last week, my thoughts drifted back to my childhood and the events leading up to my salvation. I have often wondered "What if ...?" What if my friend had not been persistent? What if that Sunday school teacher and those deacons had not told me about Oneida? What if Oneida had not existed? What if Oneida had not accepted students who could not afford to attend? What if ...?

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

Students involved in Cross Over Kentucky

Messengers to the Kentucky Baptist Convention heard a testimony from Clear Creek New Testament professor Roy Lucas. He is co-pastor with senior student Shannon Benefiel of Loyal Baptist Church in Harlan County. Thanks to the motivating encouragement of Lucas, several students are involved in servanthood evangelism. They are available to help churches reach out in local communities.

Twenty-three students and Lucas participated in Cross Over Kentucky, the evangelism outreach prior to the annual meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. On Nov. 9, the group distributed "Jesus" videos, conducted surveys and did prayer walking with five churches: Brodhead, Maretburg, Scaffold Cane, Livingston and Pilgrim's Rest.

Student body president David Askins and three other students worked at Pilgrim's Rest Baptist Church. "Each of us joined a church couple and distributed 'Jesus' videos. Church members 'caught the fever' of personal evangelism. Some of the youth distributed materials at gas stations and stores. They loved it and wanted to do more. At the closing prayer and

sharing time, we heard church members tell about the need for them to do more outreach. It was so encouraging," Askins said.

Steven and Dora Byasee took their 12-year-old son, Michael. "This was the first time we've done door-to-door outreach. It was a good experience for all of us. Two of the people we talked with rededicated their lives," Byasee said. Randy Campbell visited a home and was told, "The Baptists used to be out visiting, but now all we see are the cult groups." Jason King indicated it was a great experience and needed to be done more often. "Many people gave a 'good works' response on what is required to get to heaven," King stated. He attended the Saturday night Cross Over youth

rally and witnessed the salvation of two youth from Swiss Colony Baptist Church, his home church. During a home visit in Maretburg, David Osborn met a man in need of a job. The church member with the team operated a business and scheduled a job interview with the man. "It was very good to see cooperative work among Baptists," Osborn said.

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

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

KBC MUSIC



KBC MUSIC A variety of music was heard during the Kentucky Baptist Convention's annual meeting. Above, the combined choirs of Campbellsville University, Cumberland College and Georgetown College sing.



PASTORS' CONFERENCE MUSIC The choir of First Baptist Church of Hazard sings during the pre-convention pastors' conference at Cumberland College's Gatliff Chapel.

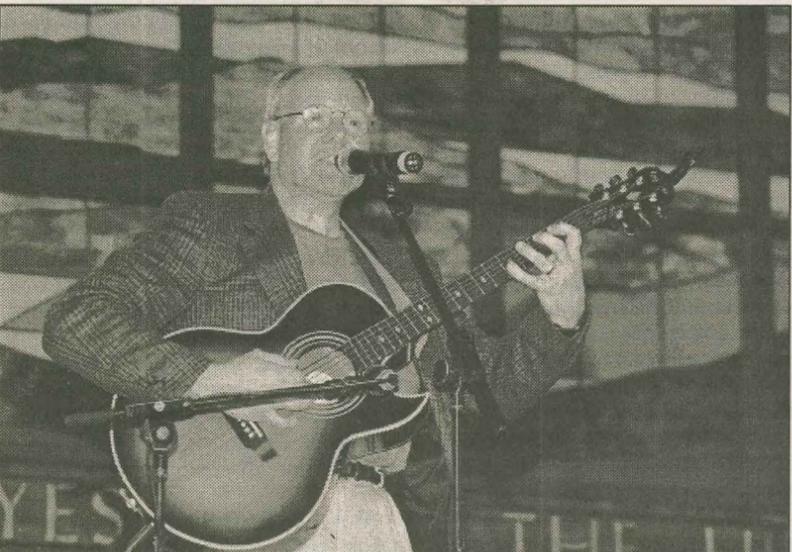


MUSICIAN Local artist Homer Ledford plays the autoharp for messengers



SINGING Martha Swift, a member of Plum Creek Baptist Church in Taylorsville, sings during a break in business.

MEN'S CHORALE Kentucky Baptist men from throughout the commonwealth joined to sing at the KBC meeting Nov. 12. (Photos by David Winfrey)



MUSICAL HUMOR Gary Vidito, minister of music at First Baptist Church of Taylorsville, was among the first musicians to take the convention stage, offering his interpretations of how pop musicians might perform praise and worship songs.



PRAYER PARTNERS

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

■ Missionaries in Bulgaria as they begin prayerwalking this month in the country's provinces. They hope to have prayerwalked in each of the capitals of the 27 provinces by the end of 2003.

■ People to fill the requests of Polish Baptists for help with starting or re-starting churches in southeastern Poland.

■ Missionary Kathryn Pinkston in Malta as she seeks to witness to friends in her aerobics class.

■ An evangelistic event in Malta on Nov. 22-24.

■ Missionary Lonnie Robbins in Khabarovsk, Russia, as he shares the gospel with Andrei, a student dabbling in many religions.

■ Home Bible studies among the Basques of Spain and France.

Mountains to the Mississippi

Compiled by staff

■ BREMEN—New Harmony Church called **Mark Thompson** as director of music and youth.

■ CADIZ—Buffalo Lick Church called **Ronnie Grace** as interim pastor.

■ CECILIA—Cecilia Church called **Michael Coogle** as minister to students effective Nov. 24. **Mark Boes** is pastor.

■ CENTERTOWN—Centertown Church recently called **Wesley Hanson** as pastor.

■ ELIZABETHTOWN—Severns Valley Church honored **Bessie Duff** on her 100th birthday Nov. 11. **Billy Compton** is pastor.

■ GUTHRIE—Mount Zion Church recently called **Billy Bateman** as pastor.

■ HENDERSON—Immanuel Temple called **Sam Newman** as minister of music.

Zion Church called **Vic Harrison** as interim minister of music. **James Jones** is interim pastor.

■ HOPKINSVILLE—First Church

called **Andy Buckingham** as minister of education. He previously was associate pastor of Cadiz Church.

■ IRVINE—Calvary Church ordained **Keith Sands** to the gospel ministry Nov. 3.

■ LOUISVILLE—Maple Grove Church ordained **Virgil "Buddy" Bass** to the gospel ministry Oct. 20. **Ray Hayes** is pastor.

Brina Stephens has resigned as children's minister at Melbourne Heights Church effective Dec. 31.

■ MOUNT STERLING—Macedonia Church recently called **Kevin Strausbaugh** as pastor.

■ MURRAY—Scotts Grove Church recently called **John Denham** as pastor.

■ PADUCAH—Lone Oak Church recently honored Associate Pastor **Mike Williams** and his wife, **Margie**, for 15 years of ministry.

■ WHITESBURG—First Church called **Daryl Varble** as pastor effective Dec. 15.

Louisville pastor & wife appointed by IMB as missionaries to France

RICHMOND, Va.—Keith and Deborah Grimaud of Louisville were appointed Nov. 3 as Southern Baptist international missionaries.

The Grimauds, who will serve in France, were among 95 people appointed by the Southern Baptist International Mission Board during a service at Prestonwood Baptist Church in Plano, Texas.

The Grimauds will minister among business executives and managers in France. He will serve as a church planter, while she conducts outreach through church and home.

Grimaud has served since 1999 as pastor of Vine Street Baptist Church in Louisville. Mrs. Grimaud previously was minister of music for Vine Street Church.

Grimaud, a native of Georgia, is a graduate of Georgia State University in Atlanta and Southern



Keith Grimaud



Deborah Grimaud

Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. He currently is completing requirements for a doctorate at Southern Seminary.

Mrs. Grimaud, also a native of Georgia, is a graduate of the University of Louisville and Southern Seminary.

The Grimauds have two adult children: Kirsten Adell Moody and Joshua Milton Grimaud.

The couple will go to the IMB's Missionary Learning Center for orientation in January before going to France.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR RENT: Gatlinburg getaway: 2-BR/2-bath, full kitchen; walking distance to parkway. \$65/night. Call for information: (251) 666-2175.

FOR SALE: Golden oak padded pews—317 feet in a variety of lengths. Excellent condition. \$15 per foot. Also, 1986 Ford B600 bus with 370 engine, automatic transmission, roof heat and air. Asking \$3,500. Contact Mark Dowdy at (270) 856-3850 or e-mail madowdy@apex.net.

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

SEEKING: Full-time minister to youth. Youth group averages 25-30. Please send resumé to: Search Committee, FBC Clinton, 320 Mayfield Drive, Clinton, KY 42031.

SEEKING: Part-time director of senior adult ministries (beginning 2003). Position is responsible for developing, managing and evaluating a comprehensive program for senior adults. Work week consists of 20 hours (Sunday through Wednesday). Individual must be experienced with adult ministries and be a current member of a Southern Baptist church. Send cover letter and resumé to: Richard Landers, First Baptist Church, PO Box 697, Richmond, KY 40476-0697, or via e-mail to rlanders@firstbaptistnet.com.

SEEKING: Highly motivated individual to serve as part-time children's/youth minister for Tunnel Hill Baptist Church in Elizabethtown. Come grow with us! Send resumé to: Tunnel Hill Baptist Church, 734 Tunnel Hill Church Road, Elizabethtown, KY 42701, Attn: Terry Chaudoin.

SEEKING: Full-time pastor for Boones Creek Baptist Church. Send resumé and video or audio tape to: Pastor Search Committee, Boones Creek Baptist Church, 185 N Cleveland Road, Lexington, KY 40509-9485.

SEEKING: Part-time youth minister for Friendship Baptist Church. Send resumé to: Youth Search Committee, Friendship Baptist Church, 5411 Bengal Road, Campbellsville, KY 42718.

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: Energetic, growth-minded pastor for Henderson Memorial Baptist Church, a congregation with 385 resident members and a SS enrollment of 249. The church is located in an area with good growth potential. At least some seminary a plus. Please send resumé to: Henderson Memorial Baptist Church, 501 Noel Ave., Hopkinsville, KY 42240, Attn: Pastor Search Committee.

SEEKING: Serve the Lord in the largest city in the Western hemisphere. English-speaking, self-supporting, evangelical Baptist church in Mexico City, Mexico, is seeking a pastor. The church serves expatriates and Mexicans from various denominations. Interested? Please contact Jim Wesberry: jimwes@prodigy.com.mx. Telephone: 011-5255-5550-2382. Fax: 011-5255-5616-7075.

SEEKING: Full-time pastor for First Twelve Mile Baptist Church. Send resumé to: Troy Richardson, 167-K Washington Trace, California, KY 41007.

SEEKING: Full-time pastor/minister for Grant's Lick Baptist Church, Campbell County, Ky. Send resumé to: Robert Miller (search committee chairman), 6098 Hissem Ave., Alexandria, KY 41001. Phone: (606) 635-7420.

SEEKING: A CBF church family of 500 which reflects Florida's typical retiree-to-youth ratio needs a pastor who would enjoy being involved full-time in love and devotion to his people. We are scattered over a widespread geographical region, but meet in a downtown ministry area. You will be challenged with meeting the needs of both age and area groups. If you feel God calling you to settle into a long-term commitment with this kind of challenge, we'd like to hear from you. We feel strongly that experience is needed for this job, but you may feel free to convince us otherwise. Respond by Jan. 31, 2003, to the Pastor Search Committee, Central Baptist Church, 142 Fairview Ave., Daytona Beach, FL 32114. (www.centralbc.org)

SEEKING: Fern Creek Baptist Child Development Center is looking for a teacher for the four-year-old preschool program. Hours are 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The Kentucky Cabinet of Health Services certifies our center. Requirements: College degree preferred—high school diploma required; experience working with preschool children a plus; love for children; ability to plan curriculum and activities; and ability to be flexible. Must be at least 18 years of age. Benefits: Competitive hourly wage; paid holidays; state-certified training provided; pleasant and positive work environment; possibility of extra hours, if desired. Interested individuals should contact Fern Creek Baptist Church, (502) 239-0316, or send resumé to PO Box 91146, Louisville, KY 40291, Attn: Fern Creek Baptist Child Development Center.

SEEKING: Drivers needed immediately. OTR/DED/REG work. Class A CDL. Call Eric: (800) 235-0212.

SEEKING: Bivocational associate pastor/music. Forward resumé: Maple Grove Baptist Church, 5911 East Manslick Road, Louisville, KY 40219.

SEEKING: First Baptist Church in downtown Ashland, Ky., is seeking two experienced associates to fill the positions of minister of music and spiritual formations and minister of youth and children. Each position requires a candidate who possesses organizational and people skills and is energetic and self-motivated. The minister of music and spiritual formations will be responsible for the overall music ministry of the church, and the development, promotion and direction of church education programs for all ages. The minister of youth and children will be responsible for the development, promotion and direction of programs for youth and children. Salaries based on education and experience. Please forward resumé to the appropriate search committee, First Baptist Church, PO Box 787, Ashland, KY 41105-0787; e-mail to fbcashla@fbcashlandky.com; or fax to (606) 324-4344.

SEEKING: Buena Vista Baptist Church in Somerset, Ky., is seeking a youth pastor/minister of education for an active, growing youth group of 20-25 students, and a growing Sunday school. If interested, please send your resumé to: Youth Minister Search Committee, Buena Vista Baptist Church, 324 Clifty St., Somerset, KY 42501.

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

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.

WANTED: Old grand piano that needs work—6-foot or longer. Will trade Baldwin studio piano in excellent condition. Contact Ed Norman at (270) 842-0012.

What would Jesus drive?

Religious leaders gathering to seek answers friendly to environment

By Adelle Banks
Religion News Service

DETROIT (RNS)—In recent weeks, evangelicals, taking a leaf from a popular youth slogan, have been posing a provocative environmental question: "What Would Jesus Drive?"

Meanwhile, mainline Protestant and Jewish congregations have been showing off energy-efficient Toyota Priuses and Honda Insights in their parking lots, in hopes more worshippers will consider purchasing them.

And this week, religious leaders from these separate but similar campaigns are gathering at a Detroit hotel near the headquarters of General Motors to declare that people of faith should reconsider how they get from place to place.

"What we're trying to do is to get people to think about transportation as a moral issue," said Jim Ball, executive director of the Evangelical Environmental Network. "We think Jesus wants folks to drive the most fuel-efficient, least-polluting vehicle that truly meets their needs."

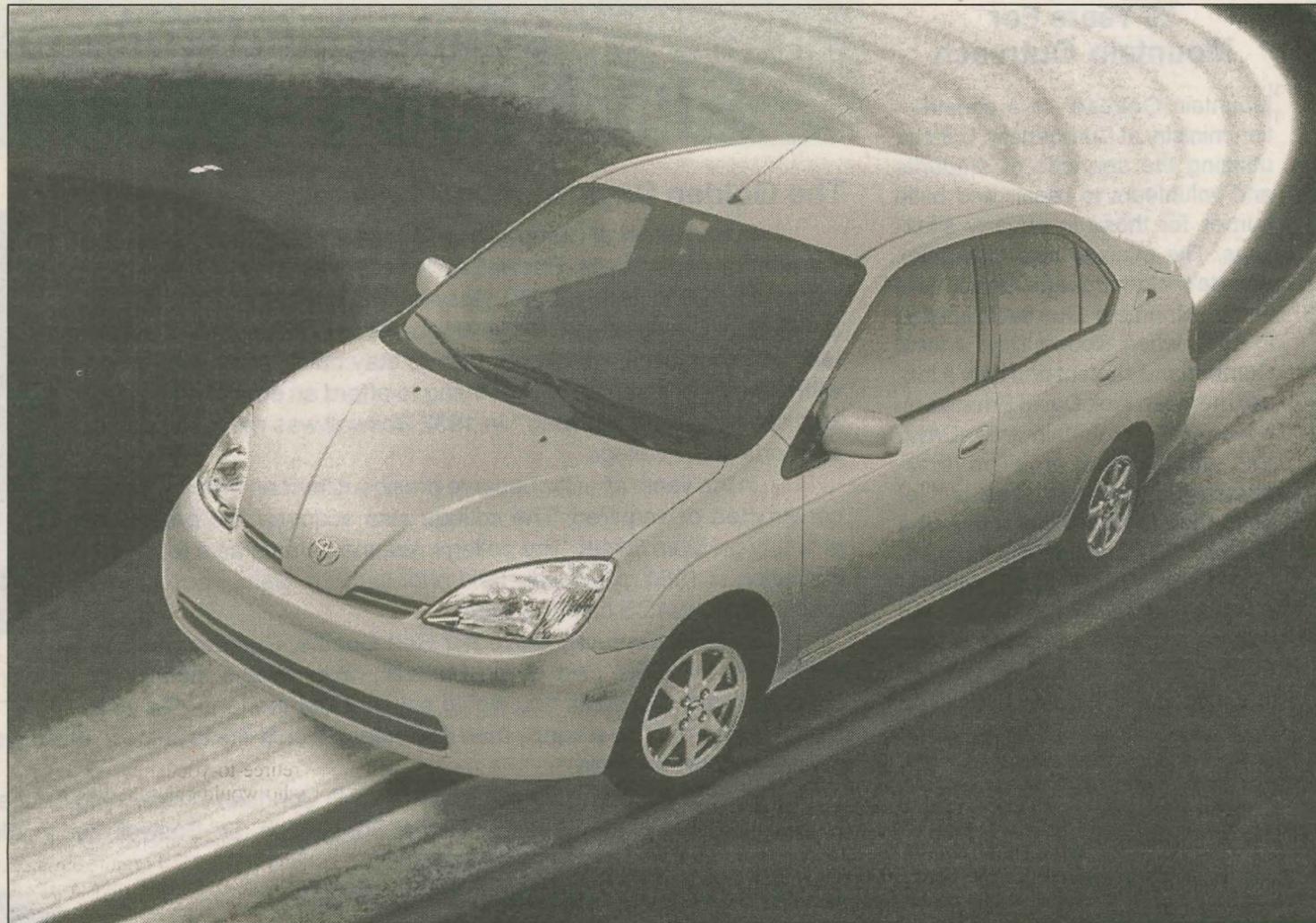
Signing a pledge

He said 50 evangelical leaders already have signed a call to action, in which they pledge to walk, bike, car pool or use public transportation more often and encourage others, including auto manufacturers, to be concerned about fuel efficiency.

Ball also has coauthored a paper—mixing biblical references with global warming statistics—that urges Christians to purchase vehicles that reduce pollution and promote the safety of others. Also titled, "What Would Jesus Drive?" the paper plays off of the pervasive phrase "What Would Jesus Do?" that decorated bracelets and other accessories of many evangelical teens in recent years.

"I think most evangelicals have thought about the difference between wants and needs," he said. "Do we need the biggest SUV on the planet to drive to the grocery store?"

At his Web site, www.whatwouldjesusdrive.org, Ball offers pledges for Christian adults and students as well as bumper stickers to spread the word about the campaign, which also will feature television and print advertisements.



The primary moral motivation is that it's impacting people so, for us, it's not loving our neighbor," he said.

Light bulbs & energy audits

Douglas Grace, director of the Interfaith Climate and Energy Campaign, said some congregations already have started addressing the environment by performing energy audits of their worship spaces and changing light bulbs to more energy-efficient fluorescent tubes.

But he said campaign partners—the National Council of Churches and the Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life—wanted to take matters to the country's powerbrokers.

"We wanted to speak to lawmakers and to industry that has responsibility to God's creation as well," he said.

On the weekend of Nov. 9-10, campaign supporters held events in 15 states that included special sermons and the display of hybrid vehicles that use both gasoline and an electric motor for power. The Environmental Protection Agency has cited the Honda Insight and Toyota Prius hybrids as the 2003 models with the highest fuel economy.

Grace said he hopes U.S. automakers will follow the example of foreign carmakers. He and other religious leaders are arranging meetings with some of the top car manufacturers to discuss their concerns in person.

God at the car dealership?

His campaign's Web site, www.protectingcreation.org, offers a letter of concern that can be sent to U.S. carmakers and a question as catchy as the evangelicals': "If God is with me all the time, does that include the auto dealership?"

But despite the rising voice of religious leaders on the matter, consumers—and the companies who sell to them—seem more interested in aspects of their vehicles unrelated to fuel efficiency.

The Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers reported in September that purchases of light trucks—including sport-utility vehicles, pickups and minivans—exceeded passenger car sales for the third year in a row.

"We already offer three dozen different models that get 30 miles to the gallon or better," said Eron Shostek, a spokesman for the Washington-

based alliance. "Very few people buy them. Any person of faith who wishes to drive a car that gets high gas mileage can drive one off of the lot today, probably at a pretty steep discount."

Low demand

Shostek said consumer demand will drive what the companies build, and people seem to like vehicles that carry many passengers, lots of cargo and have towing capability.

"They want cars they can multi-task in," he said.

But the initiatives by the religious groups are welcomed by the Center for a New American Dream, a Takoma Park, Md.-based organization that encourages Americans to be responsible consumers to protect the environment.

One of that group's "Turn the Tide" action steps is to encourage people to take one less car trip per week, a commitment that has been taken by some congregation members.

"We definitely support changing how people drive, how they make their transportation choices so that they are ... more environmentally and socially responsible," said Cassandra Carmichael, director of the center's faith-based program.

Ball and Grace, who are both based in Washington, travel to work via public transportation. Ball, who recently bought a Prius with his wife, said he thinks he has an answer to his network's question about Jesus' travel habits.

"I don't know if He'd drive a Prius, but I think He'd say, 'Jim, at least you're on the right road here, pal.'"

TOYOTA PRIUS Energy-efficient cars were recently promoted at a meeting of religious environmentalists that included evangelicals and other Christian groups.



HONDA INSIGHT The hybrid car gets an estimated 61 miles per gallon in the city.

Kentucky Baptist Heritage

Newsletter of the Kentucky Baptist Archives Advisory Board

Bill D. Whittaker, Editor

November 19, 2002

20 Years For Mountain Outreach

Mountain Outreach is a construction ministry of Cumberland College utilizing the services of students and volunteers to repair and build homes for those in poverty situations. The ministry also distributes donated clothing and household items. Mountain Outreach started in 1982 when Robert Day, a local Cumberland student and now a faculty member, took David Emmert on a tour of the mountain area. David had never seen true poverty-stricken households. The two of them tried to repair the house of a Mr. LeForce and his mentally retarded son but realized it was really beyond repair. They secured materials to build a new house and twenty student volunteers labored throughout the fall semester. The work stopped during Christmas vacation and soon afterward Mr. LeForce died of complications resulting from severe frostbite and hypothermia. Affected by his death, the students promised to build more houses and by their graduation in 1984, they had helped build nine homes.

Mountain Outreach celebrated 20 years of ministry with the construction of their 100th home. Each year nearly 25 families are assisted with plumbing, wiring, insulation, and window/porch repairs. The ministry also drills wells for those without access to public water lines. In 2000 David Honeycutt took an early retirement from South Central Bell and started his own construction business. He also became involved in volunteer missions. In 2002 he became director of Mountain Outreach. "We have families within two miles of the college campus who still do not have basic necessities. I am trying to carry on the vision started twenty years ago by two students," Honeycutt stated. Darlus and Deborah Vanover and their six children moved into the 100th home constructed by Mountain Outreach. "It's like a dream," Carlus said. The residence was constructed on Devil's Creek Road near Williamsburg. The Vanovers were selected from among 37 applicants.

Correction: The October 1, 2002 issue of KY Baptist Archives Newsletter carried a story about the indexing of the *Western Recorder*. Mrs. Ronald F. (Edith) Deering does this work that is greatly appreciated by historians.

Cumberland College: Bright Shining City Set on a Hill

The Golden Days 1945-1980

In his history of Cumberland College, Dr. Taylor describes the presidency of James M. Boswell as "The Golden Days." Enrollment went from 200 to nearly 2,000. Boswell was graduated Magna Cum Laude from Georgetown College and came to Cumberland in 1931 to teach mathematics. He did not plan to stay but became impressed with the school's philosophy "of trying to afford an education regardless of financial background." In 1932 Boswell was named coach of all sports at the college.

In the years after he became president thirteen buildings were constructed or acquired. The college also acquired two parcels of property on Main Street. The college resumed status as a four-year institution in 1961, previously held prior to 1918. Senior college accreditation by SACS came in 1964.

In 1979 Kentucky Governor Bert Combs, Cumberland College Class of 1953, said of Dr. Boswell, "You always make your speeches very personal. You would say that Cumberland was your life and you would be a happy man if someone would like to share in making more of your dream for the school become possible."

In 1987 Boswell received the Charles D. Johnson Outstanding Educator Award from the Education Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention. Dr. Boswell died in 1988.



James H. Taylor President Since 1980

Dr. James H. Taylor was named president-elect of Cumberland College in 1978 and assumed leadership of the school on August 1, 1980. "I followed a remarkable man, the late, great J.M. Boswell. He had great confidence in me, and through the years, I've tried to live up to that confidence," Taylor said. "William James said, 'the greatest use of life is to spend it for something which will outlast it,' and that's exactly what we are trying to do." Taylor worked his way through Cumberland and went on to secure a doctorate at Vanderbilt University. Colleagues know his gift for development work, demonstrated by the growth in college endowment from \$800,000 to over \$42 million. Since 1978 the college has constructed fourteen major buildings, renovated eleven structures, constructed two athletic complexes, and completed two phases of the Campus Boulevard. Cumberland's historic mission has provided leadership education in a Christian context for the mountain region. "That's still our mission primarily, but not exclusively," Taylor said. "We get students from virtually every state in the nation and every continent on the face of the earth." Current enrollment is 1,743.

Taylor has the longest tenure of any college president currently serving in either the public or private sector in Kentucky.



Historical Resources Available at Cumberland

The Hagan Memorial Library maintains a Kentucky Collection featuring works set in Kentucky and written by Kentucky authors. The collection will soon be part of the larger Steele-Reese Appalachian Collection that will highlight works by such Appalachian authors as Jesse Stuart, Loyal Jones and Deborah McCauley. The Hagan Library also contains a rare book collection with volumes by Stuart, James Still, and histories of Kentucky, Cumberland College, and Williamsburg, KY.