

July 15, 2003
Vol. 177, No. 27

FOR THE RECORD

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Report: Abortion support among women declining

WASHINGTON (BP)—Support for abortion rights among American women is declining, according to a report released recently by a pro-choice organization.

The study by the Center for the Advancement of Women showed 51 percent of women now believe abortion should be legally prohibited in the overwhelming percentage of cases.

The survey, conducted by Princeton Survey Research Associates, found 17 percent believe there should be a total ban on abortion, while 34 percent say it should be outlawed, except in the cases of saving the mother's life and pregnancy as a result of rape or incest. The figures in both categories are three percent increases over the results reported in 2001.

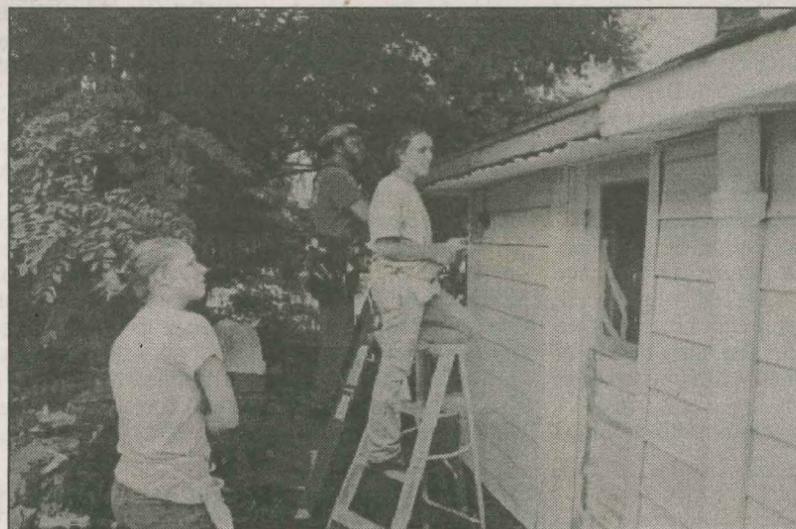
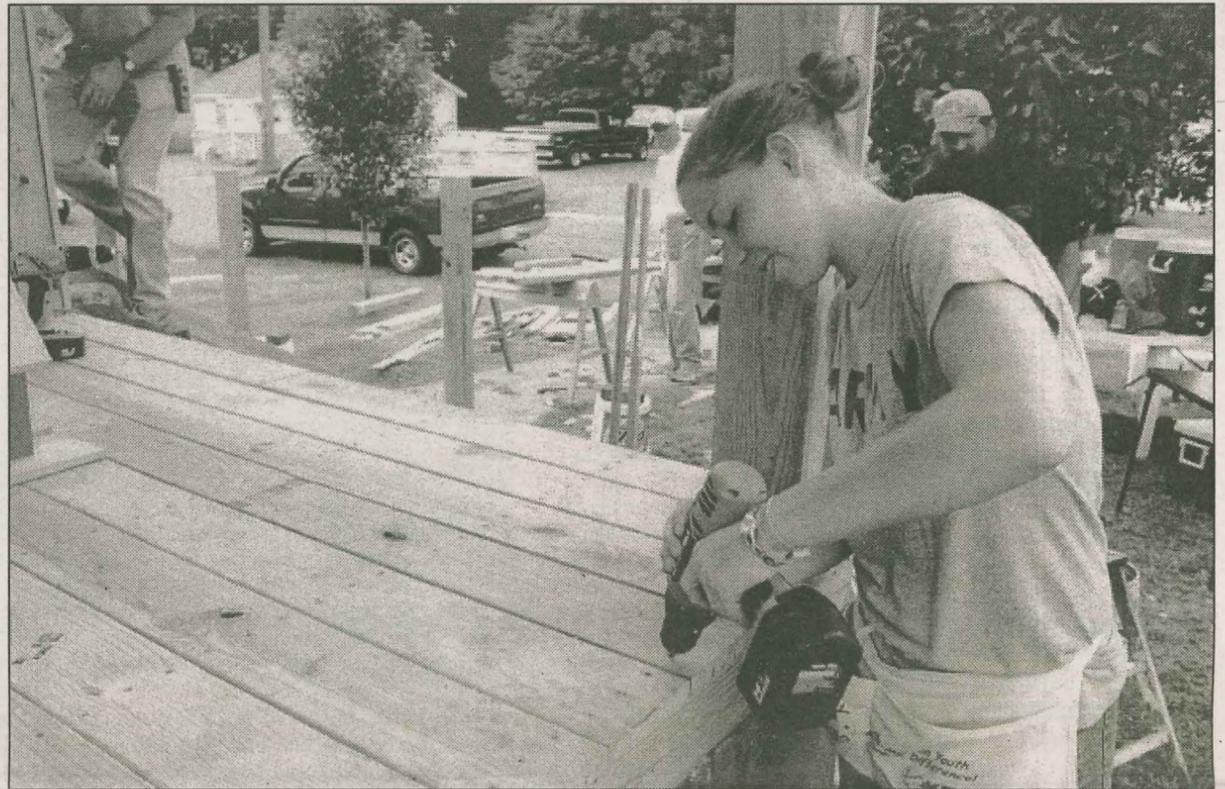
Overall, the survey found 68 percent believe there should be more restrictions on abortion than now exist. Of these, 17 percent said abortion should be available but "under stricter limits." Thirty percent said it "should be generally available to those who want it."

Shannon Royce, consultant to the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, said the results show "we are making progress in winning back the hearts and minds of American women."

The study was the result of two random surveys of more than 3,300 American women conducted over two years.

The report may be accessed at www.advancewomen.org by going to "progress & perils" category.

Kentucky Changers



More than 600 teenagers and young adults took part in three Kentucky Changers weeks this summer in Maysville, Hopkinsville and Murray. The volunteers spent their days renovating homes and their evenings in worship and discipleship activities. **Above:** Jennifer Ann Smith, a member of Briensburg Baptist Church in Benton, puts screws in a new porch installed by a Kentucky Changers work crew in Murray. Smith calls the program a great way to "glorify God and help people." **Left:** Jessica Cremeans, a member of Russell Baptist Church and a senior at Morehead State University, scrapes paint from the side of a house. Cremeans said this is her fourth year with Kentucky Changers and she hopes to put the carpentry skills she's learned to use on mission trips later in life. (Photos by Keith Todd) See story on page 3.

Many Christians say Promise Keepers still making difference

By Ken Walker
State Correspondent

JEFFERSONTOWN—In the mid-1990s, Sanford Hill and his wife traveled to Idaho after failing to interest other members of Jeffersontown Baptist Church in making the mission trip.

But in recent times, four members have been on missions to Ethiopia and Yemen.

Closer to home, the church's men's group has participated in Habitat for Humanity and disaster relief projects, including a trip to New York after Sept. 11, 2001.

Last year, the congregation recruited one male member each day to fill a 40-day emphasis to pray for the pastor.

Hill attributes this turnaround to Promise Keepers, which returns to Louisville July 25-26 for a rally at

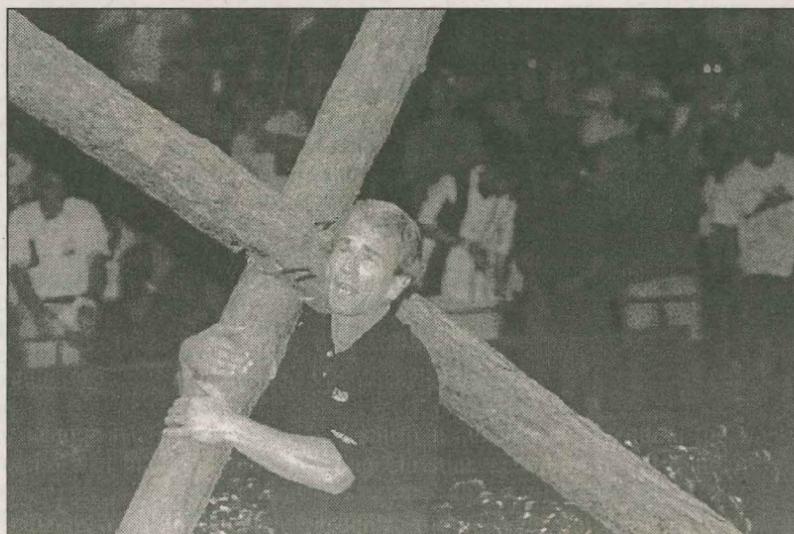
Freedom Hall. He said his men came alive after attending a conference in Atlanta three years ago.

"It's been tremendous," Hill said. "It's like the entire church has been ignited and PK has been a part of that. It added fuel to the fire."

Based in Denver, Promise Keepers is a national men's discipleship and accountability movement founded by former Colorado University football coach Bill McCartney.

In 1990, McCartney and a friend were riding to a Fellowship of Christian Athletes meeting when they first discussed the idea of filling a stadium with Christian men. Later that year, according to the organization's Web site, 72 men began to fast and pray about thousands of men coming together for the purpose of Christian discipleship.

See Many Christians say ..., page 6



RETURNING TO LOUISVILLE Joe White, president of Kanakuk Kamps in Branson, Mo., presents a dramatic representation of a cross builder during the 2000 Promise Keepers rally at Louisville's Freedom Hall. He is among the scheduled speakers when Promise Keepers returns July 25-26. (File photo)

Dated Material — Deliver by Wednesday, July 16

**What Does
Promise
Keepers
Mean Today?**

BAPTIST DIGEST

■ **Crossover Arizona**, the evangelism emphasis before the recent Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting, resulted in more than 1,100 professions of faith and 8,500 prospects for local churches, according to totals recently tallied. A total of 56 events, ranging from block parties to door-to-door evangelism, were held in metropolitan Phoenix.

■ **David Clark**, president of the Southern Baptist-related FamilyNet TV network, has been elected president of Palm Beach Atlantic University in West Palm Beach, Fla. Clark succeeds Paul Corts, who left the university after 11 years for an appointment as U.S. Assistant Attorney General for Administration.

Baptist World Alliance votes to accept CBF as member

By **Trennis Henderson**
Editor

RIO DE JANEIRO—The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship was elected to full membership in the Baptist World Alliance July 11 despite strong opposition from Southern Baptist Convention representatives.

The 75-28 vote by the BWA General Council came two years after the CBF's initial application for membership. The vote also followed a decision last month by SBC messengers to reduce BWA funding by more than 30 percent.

The flap over CBF's membership escalated last year when SBC leaders voiced concerns about how the BWA membership committee handled CBF's application. Rather than declining CBF's application a year ago, committee members publicly outlined the steps necessary for CBF to qualify for membership in the global Baptist fellowship.

Membership committee chairman Ian Hawley told participants at last week's BWA General Council meeting in Rio de Janeiro that CBF leaders had fulfilled the requirements for membership by declaring last fall that "they have separated themselves from the structures and organization of the SBC." Additionally, CBF leaders submitted 20 "indicators" the fellowship is a separate Baptist body, including the organization's own mission statement, funding channels and missions structure.

Hawley, director of international missions for Australian Baptists, expressed regret that the membership process contributed to heightened tensions. "We certainly did not have any intention of hurting or embarrassing the SBC," he emphasized.

Noting that committee members "agonized and prayed for guidance over this decision," Hawley added, "The membership committee is of the opinion that the necessary degree of separation from the SBC by the CBF has been met."

He said the committee determined

SBC leaders question future with global group

RIO DE JANEIRO—The Southern Baptist Convention's future involvement in the Baptist World Alliance appears in doubt after last week's vote to grant BWA membership to the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

The SBC is a founding member of BWA, a global Baptist organization established in 1905.

Paul Pressler and Paige Patterson, the chief strategists in the SBC's conservative shift since 1979, were among SBC representatives at last week's BWA General Council meeting in Rio de Janeiro.

During debate on CBF's membership, Pressler accused CBF leaders of repeated statements critical of the SBC. "That is not the rhetoric that promotes harmony and promotes peace," he declared.

"If you want them and their theology, that's your decision," Pressler told General Council members, "but it is not our decision to accept them."

In an interview moments after the 75-28 vote to accept CBF as BWA's newest member body, Pressler described CBF as "a small, dissident,

liberal group."

Patterson, a former SBC president and newly elected president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, said after the vote, "If I had to make a guess, I would say that what probably happened today is they probably accepted 150 (CBF-affiliated) churches in order to bid goodbye to 42,000 (SBC churches). I would be surprised if that's not the eventual result."

Claiming that "the BWA has been drifting left now for 20 years," Patterson added, "What you have here is a huge affirmation of their intention to continue in that direction."

"The BWA has a right to accept as a member whomever it wishes," he noted. "I affirm their right to do so. But I also say as the leftward drift goes on, Southern Baptists are going to find the compromise involved to be too much."

Those views stand in sharp contrast to perspectives voiced by CBF and BWA leaders.

"My sincere hope is that the SBC

will not leave the BWA," said Daniel Vestal, coordinator of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. "CBF desires very much to work alongside the SBC in BWA as well as other Baptist bodies."

The relationship between the SBC and BWA is "much more complex than just saying CBF being admitted to membership will cause them to leave," Vestal said. "I think that would be too simplistic."

"If the SBC leaves BWA, I don't see it as our fault. ... Baptists have had disagreements about a lot of things in the past and still worked together."

BWA General Secretary Denton Lotz said BWA leaders "regret any separation in the body and pray for unity."

"We continue to want to engage our Southern Baptist brothers and sisters in the world body which they were instrumental in forming," he added. "I believe we will continue to have a good relationship with millions of Southern Baptists in the USA and their mission around the world." *Trennis Henderson*

that recommending CBF as a BWA member body was "the only fair and right decision that could be made."

Prior to the secret-ballot vote, SBC representatives sought to defer the vote until next year. They suggested that the CBF might be better qualified for associate membership, a new category to be considered next year that would include local churches as well as other Baptist groups such as state, regional or associational entities.

The primary issue is whether CBF is "eligible under our present rules of membership," responded Tony Peck, a representative from the Baptist Union of Great Britain. "If so, we ought to vote on it now."

General Council members declined to consider the motion to defer before voting nearly 3-1 to accept the CBF as

BWA's newest member body.

CBF Coordinator Daniel Vestal described the vote as "a kind of validation by other Baptist bodies worldwide of our value, worth and place in the Baptist family. Baptist World Alliance is an important ministry and I'm excited about being a part of it."

Charles Wade, executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, noted that "the world Baptist family considered carefully the recommendation of their membership committee."

Accepting CBF despite the controversy surrounding its application demonstrates that "Baptists around the world clearly will relate to all the Baptist family," Wade added. "They do not want to play favorites."

BWA General Secretary Denton Lotz said he believes the membership process was fair and appropriate.

"We are Baptists," he emphasized. "We believe in democracy. We believe in the will of the people. ... We would just plead that we all love one another."

Four other groups—the Community of Baptist Churches of Eastern Congo, the Association of Baptist Churches in the Central African Republic, the Baptist Church of Bosnia-Herzegovina and the Fraternity of Baptist Churches in Cuba—were approved for membership without debate earlier in the session.

The five additions expand BWA's global membership to 211 member bodies representing more than 46 million baptized believers worldwide.

Campolo apologizes to SBC for tone of remarks

NASHVILLE (BP)—Speaker and author Tony Campolo apologized "for the intemperate manner in which I spoke of those who differ with me" on the issues of women in ministry and homosexuality in a letter to Baptist Press.

Delivering the keynote address for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship general assembly June 26 in Charlotte, N.C., Campolo blasted groups such as the SBC who would assert that women cannot be pastors.

"It's one thing to be wrong, but that isn't wrong, that's sinful," he said. "The Bible says, 'neglect not the gift that is in you,' and when women are gifted with the gift of preaching, anybody who frustrates that gift is an instrument of the devil."

While apologizing, Campolo reiterated his objections in his July 3 letter to Baptist Press:

"I do believe that organizations and social structures that deny wom-

en the right to exercise spiritual gifts and actualize their spiritual potentialities are sinful, evil and even instruments of the devil," he wrote. "I do not, however, believe that the individual people who make up those organizations and who participate in those social structures necessarily have either impure motivations or insincere convictions."

Campolo also sought to clarify his statements on homosexuality at the address, when he encouraged Christian groups to advocate justice for gays regardless of where they stand theologically on the subject.

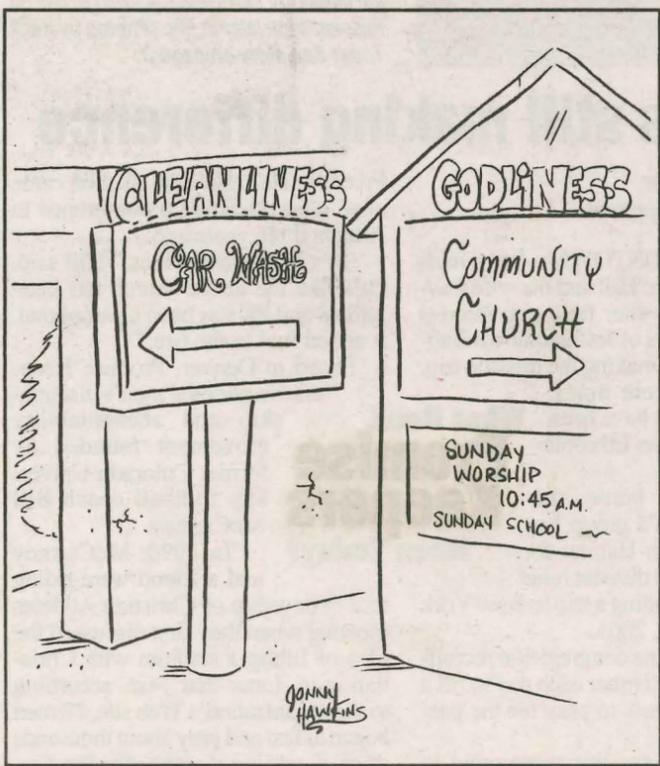
Campolo wrote: "While I believe that Christians should stand against those who would denigrate homosexuals or deny their legal rights, my understanding of the first chapter of Romans does not allow me to support same-gender eroticism, as some of my critics have suggested. On June 26, as always, I was simply calling on the church of Jesus Christ to show love

and understanding to our homosexual brothers and sisters."

"Nevertheless, I very much want to apologize for the intemperate manner in which I spoke of those who differ with me on these issues," Campolo concluded. "I should have chosen my words more carefully on June 26, and I sincerely ask the forgiveness of those who may have been hurt by my failure to do so."

Campolo's comments prompted Morris Chapman, president of the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee, to lament Campolo's "characterization as 'evil' and 'sinful' those who take what they believe to be a biblical position on the issue of female pastors."

On homosexuality, Chapman stated that Scripture describes homosexual activity as an abomination to the Lord. He added: "We also deeply believe that we are responsible to treat all others with kindness, and that hatred of anyone is forbidden."



Kentucky Changers

Youth bring hammers & hearts to help Hopkinsville, Mayfield, Murray families

By David Winfrey & Keith Todd
News Director & State Correspondent

MURRAY—Monte Hodges drove through the neighborhood looking for the house where Kentucky Changer teenagers had been working.

"I know it's right around here somewhere," he thought to himself.

That's when Hodges, pastor of Briensburg Baptist Church in Benton, realized he was about to drive past it.

The workers had done such a good job, he said, that he no longer recognized it. "It made such a difference in how it looked in the community."

More than 680 students and adults made a difference this summer during Kentucky Changers weeks in Maysville, Hopkinsville and Murray.

All told, the workers painted, repaired or did new construction projects at 52 sites, according to Peggy Murphy, an administrative assistant for Kentucky Brotherhood, which organizes the annual work weeks.

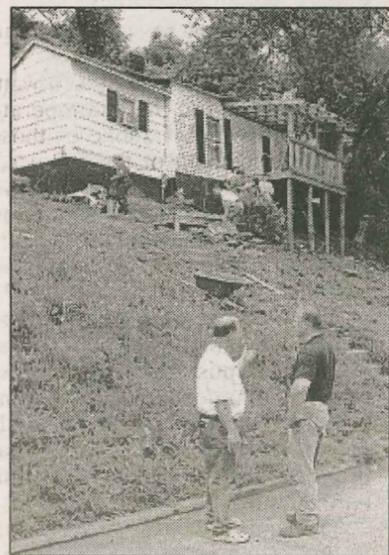
This year's theme, "Live It Out," characterizes the goal of Kentucky Changers. Organizers hope youth will learn through worship and work how to make missions a part of their everyday life, not just a one-time experience.

Patterned after the World Changers program by the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board, Kentucky Brotherhood works with city officials to select work sites and provide the supplies.

Murphy said the event continues to grow in participation.

"We're getting more and more new churches lately," she said. "It's coming from word of mouth, it's not coming from our promotion. People hear about it from the enthusiasm of someone else."

The 10-year-old program is attracting former participants to come back and become crew chiefs, she added. "They've gone on to make missions a lifestyle, and that's what we're trying to promote."



OVERVIEW Lewis Cook (left) talks with Tony Leiss, pastor of First Baptist Church of Maysville and a crew chief on one of the Maysville homes. (Photo by Laura Rains)



THANKS Robin Newman, 16, a member of Poole Missionary Baptist Church in Poole, talks with homeowner Dorothy Applegate in Maysville. Nearly 240 youth and their adult supervisors worked on 16 projects in Maysville, June 14-21 (Maysville Ledger Independent photo by Laura Rains)

In addition to the work and training, at least 22 youth made professions of faith during the three weeks, Murphy said.

Teens like hands-on work

Hodges said Kentucky Changers attracts teens because it encourages them to apply their faith in a tangible way. "It's one of the best mission programs for hands-on and encouraging the average layperson," he said. "Anyone can paint."

For Laura Hawes, a member of Greensburg Baptist Church, Kentucky Changers runs in the family. "My Dad and my brother are involved in it. I love it," she said.

"I've been to some other youth group conventions and activities, but they don't match up to this," she said.

Hawes was working on a birdhouse that all of her crew would sign where they were working before giving it to the homeowner.

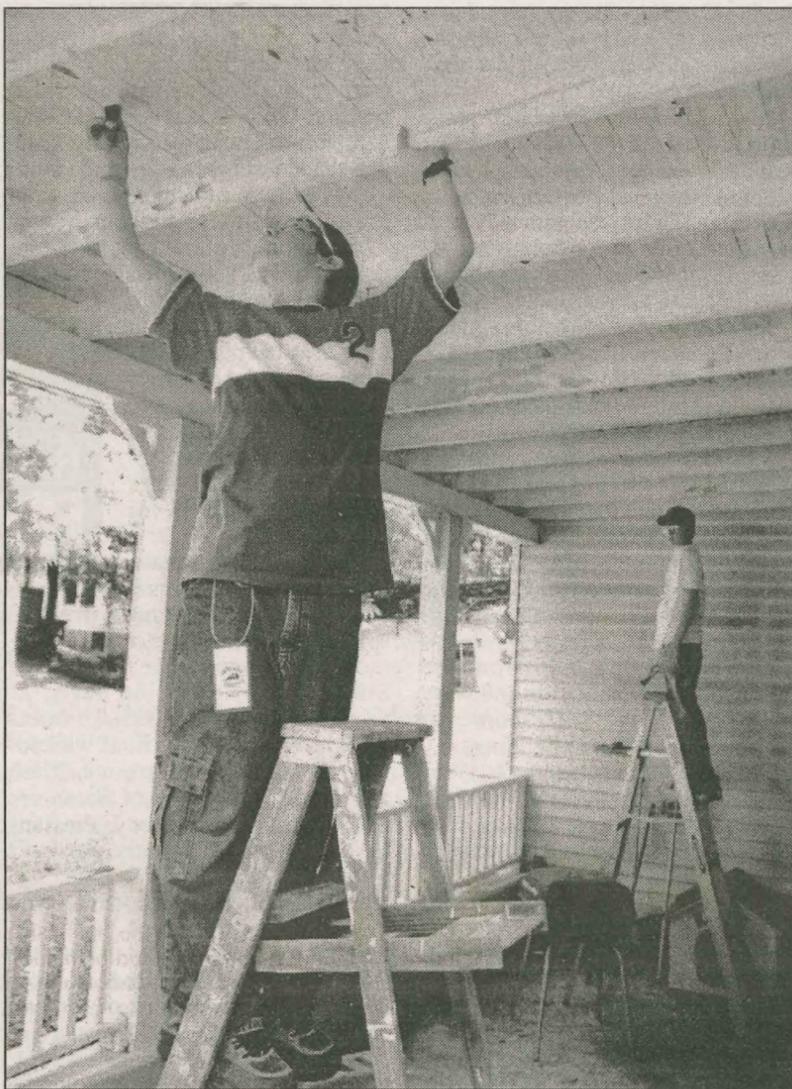
"The thing that keeps me coming back is that you actually get to do something more than just going to a worship conference," she said. "Here you worship and you do something that makes a difference for someone."

Michael Asche, 13, a member of Russell Springs Baptist Church, said if he wasn't working to help people he'd be hanging around the house and mostly sleeping.

"I've been painting, building wheelchair ramps, scraping old paint off a carport and some porches," he said. "It's a lot of fun getting to work with new people and make new friends. It's great to do something for people and do something for the Lord at the same time."

Logan Holland, a member of Briensburg Baptist Church in Benton, agreed.

"The most satisfying part of this is seeing the reaction of the homeowners when they come out and see what we've done to their house," said Holland, 13, who took part in his second Kentucky Changers experience. "They can see that the Lord is good and that He can do a lot and accomplish a lot even with a bunch of kids."



SCRAPING Michael Asche of Russell Baptist Church (left) and Logan Holland of Briensburg Baptist Church scrape loose paint to prepare a carport in Murray for painting. About 260 workers completed 24 jobs there July 5-12. (Photo by Keith Todd)



DOING WINDOWS Bob Donovan, pastor of Central Baptist Church in Maysville, hands a storm window to Elwood Howe. Their all-female crew painted this house and replaced some windows. (Photo by Laura Rains)

Zach Dunn's father is a carpenter, but this is the first time he's gotten an opportunity put to use some of the things he's learned.

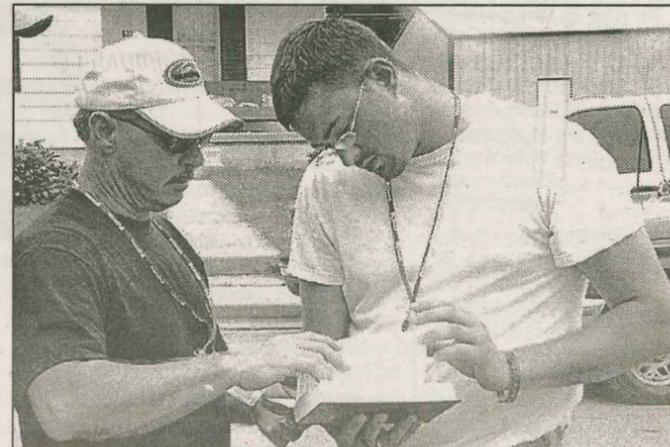
"Is a lot of hard work, but it's really fun and really rewarding."

"The most satisfying part of this is seeing the reaction of the homeowners when they come out and see what we've done to their house."

Logan Holland, 13, a member of Briensburg Baptist church in Benton



HARD WORK Youth cut lumber for a project in Hopkinsville. More than 200 workers completed 12 projects there June 21-28. (Photo by John Richards)



BIBLE SIGNING Crew Chief Kenny Flack (left) holds a Bible for Paul Gray, 19, of Harrodsburg to sign. A Bible was presented to each homeowner who benefited from Kentucky Changers work. (Photo by Laura Rains)

WESTERN RECORDER

P.O. Box 43969
Louisville, KY 40253
(USPS 679-380)

TRENNIS HENDERSON
Editor

DAVID WINFREY
News Director

MAURI SMITH
Marketing & Business
Manager

JOYCE MARTIN
Partnership Editions
Editor

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

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

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Can war be 'just'?

I came to Louisville from Japan eight years ago to study at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. I was surprised to learn that American Christians support wars if "just war" criteria are satisfied.

My surprise has increased since America started the war in Iraq this year. Almost all Christians I have met say they supported the war. American Christians seem to confuse their faith with patriotism.

Most Japanese Christians oppose wars because of the deep memory of the Pacific war which completely destroyed the life of the Japanese people. In the United States, however, this kind of information seems to be totally hidden.

I have a letter written March 20 by pastors from Hiroshima and Nagasaki to the president of the Southern Baptist Convention and all Southern Baptists. It protested the war in Iraq. The pastors reflected the history of the Pacific war, saying, "Right after the war, both of our churches received help from the Atomic Bomb Foundation and were also helped by the SBC in order to reconstruct our church buildings. ... Nevertheless, it gave us a great shock to learn that former President Harry Truman, who decided to drop the atomic bombs, was a Baptist. To be frank, we are struggling and hesitating even now to tell this fact to the people of our cities who have not been saved by the grace of our Lord. The fact that President George W. Bush, who claims to be a faithful Christian, gave the order to attack Iraq and the news that the SBC is supporting his decision has brought an irremovable stumbling block into the evangelistic work in Japan and worldwide mission work."

The letter has not yet received a reply. It is on the Web site: www.geocities.com/lexingtonjchurch/iraq.htm. Please read all of the letter and hear the words from outside the U.S.

Akira Watanabe
Lexington

Whole armor of God

Sixty years ago the American (Northern) Baptist foreign mission board was asked by 500 pastors to verify that its missionaries regarded the "Matthew-Luke account of the birth of our Lord as true and trustworthy." The essence of that one-sentence request was ignored and classified as "creedal."

My fellow members voted withdrawal from the American Baptist Convention. We could not send support, knowing some missionaries rejected the virgin birth. Do we not have a right to know that our gifts support a ministry akin to the one at home? Are there no Bible truths that admit of no varying interpretations, as Luther McIntyre implies in his recent letter?

I ask Gene Iglehart: What "authority" pontificated that the Scriptures are "inspired, not dictated"? Or that no demons possessed that Gadarene? Since "the wiles of the devil, ... principalities, ... powers, ... rulers of darkness (and) spiritual wickedness in high places" are not "flesh and blood," if agents of Satan are nonexistent, what does Ephesians 6:11-12 mean? Evidently we don't need "the whole armor of God." Iglehart should visit missionaries who have been confronted with demonism.

When Jesus referred to "demons," was He devoid of today's "knowledge"? Or did He just accommodate Himself to the less fully "evolved understanding of the day" of His hearers?

I have deserved "attacks" by the Bible in the form of "reproof" from caring Christians, including my parents. The inspired Bible is "profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction and instruction in righteousness" (two negatives and two positives), enabling "good works" (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

Iglehart disallows any inspired writer's "advanced preview of things beyond his present intellect." That rules out any foretelling of the "last days," despite the fact that every predicted characteristic of our "perilous times" in both testaments confronts us today.

Donald MacDonald
Louisville

Supplemental offering

As a former missionary, I have been very concerned about the Southern Baptist International Mission Board's budget. Due to declining income from investments, the IMB is experiencing a budget crisis, a shortfall of millions of dollars. The crisis is so severe that the IMB has limited the number of new missionaries who will be appointed this year. The IMB has been forced to limit new missionary appointments for the first time since the Great Depression of the 1930s.

I suggested to the deacons at Bloomfield Baptist Church that we celebrate Christmas in August and collect a supplemental offering for international missions. The deacons endorsed this idea enthusiastically. Beyond that, they asked me to challenge all the Southern Baptist churches in Kentucky to do the same thing.

It troubles me greatly to think of qualified missionaries whose appointment and departure for the field is postponed due to lack of funds. I've met one such missionary already, a young man who plans to go to Afghanistan, but his departure will be delayed for one year.

I hope and pray that all our Kentucky Baptist churches will gather a supplemental offering this summer and send these missionaries to the mission fields around the world.

Mark Terry
Bloomfield

FAMILY

Larry Burkett modeled 'good, faithful servant'

By Jeremy White

Last week, our nation and Christian community lost a financial pioneer in Larry Burkett.



Becoming a Christian as an adult in 1971, Larry began noticing the Bible

had much to say about how to live life—even in the practical area of finances. Larry conducted a year-long study, noting all the biblical references to money.

Seeing that Christians were not connecting biblical principles for handling money with their daily lives, he founded Christian Financial Concepts in 1976. That ministry has impacted millions of people through its daily radio programs, books and seminars.

For me personally, God used Larry Burkett and his materials to help combine my professional financial background with biblical principles. Dave Ramsey, Ron Blue, Randy Alcorn and many other financial authors and teachers say the same thing.

What's more, I had the privilege not only to meet one of my heroes, but also to work with him. Think of it like an aspiring basketball player getting to play on the same team as Michael Jordan.

As Larry's health deteriorated from cancer and heart problems over the last 10 years, I was privileged to help him by contributing columns for his newsletter, revising an outdated budgeting workbook and helping him write his last book.

Already completed but yet to be published, I wrote "Wealth to Last" with Burkett and Ron Blue. During the last few months of writing, Larry underwent heart surgery and an operation to remove tumors from his brain. Despite his own health concerns, he still was deeply concerned about finishing a book to help people over age 50, his peer group, manage God's money wisely.

I can imagine hearing his clear, calm voice on my car radio. Like Larry has done so many times, he's reminding me that God owns it all and I am a steward. He's holding me accountable to be a servant of Christ, not a slave to the lender. He's warning church members to give more to God than what they pay in interest on their credit cards.

Now I can imagine God's voice saying to Larry, "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Jeremy White is a certified public accountant in Paducah. See his free weekly financial tip on his Internet Web site at www.consultcpa.com.

PARTNERS IN THE MISSION

Value of a positive attitude

Do you know people who can find something positive in a very genuine way in the midst of very challenging and discouraging situations? Some of us are fortunate to work with people whose strength is a positive attitude. I have observed that there are wonderful benefits for individuals who can live with a positive attitude.

One of those is physical health and peace of mind, which reduce stress and worry. Individuals with a positive attitude are able to rest at night without waking up with the weight of the world pressing in upon them.

Stress and worry rob many people of happiness and productivity. If you are preoccupied with problems, you cannot focus on present reality and produce the desired results.

Jesus spoke the truth when He said that worry would not add one cubit to your height. But it can rob you of joy

and shorten your life! Recently, I managed to worry about a concern all weekend only to discover that when I got to the big chasm on Monday, God had provided a wonderful bridge.

The Kentucky Baptist Mission Board staff has utilized various personality and cognitive profiles to better understand our preferred styles of thinking, relating and working. One of these profiles, used by the Gallup organization, is called StrengthsFinder. The purpose of this tool is to help you build on your strengths and use your strengths to help manage your weaknesses. The goal is to develop your innate talents into strengths and soar with them in the right career match.

One KBC staff member of 19 years has five strengths that enable him to be positive. He can acknowledge reality and ask thoughtful questions but he inevitably will find something good

to build on or learn in every situation. He calls it finding hope, help and healing. Because he has developed this God-given talent into a strength through knowledge and skills in the right career path, Kentucky Baptists have been the beneficiaries.

There are other staff members who do not have this person's same personality, temperament, cognitive style or strengths but they have been redeemed by Jesus Christ and also have positive attitudes. Because they believe that God is at work both "to will and do His good pleasure" (Philippians 2:13), they can live with confidence that God has a plan and will bring it to fulfillment (Romans 8:28).

As Kentucky Baptists, we can choose to live each day with a positive attitude because God has a plan for each one of us.

"For I know the plans that I have for you, plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope" (Jeremiah 29:11, NASB).

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention



Bill Mackey

Counseling, self-care can help ease stress-related headaches

Q: I have been dealing with headaches lately that might be triggered by some difficult relationships in my life. I know going to a counselor can help. Is there a technique I can use on my own to get at the root of my stress?

One helpful technique to get at the source of your pain is called "branching." Described by Henriette Ann Klauser in the books "Writing on Both Sides of the Brain" and "With Pen in Hand," branching is a tool you can use to visualize the connections in your life.

Here's how it works: You begin with a main idea in an oval or circle, then jut out lines to indicate categories. Add limbs to capture whatever comes to mind around the key concept. This helps organize your thoughts as they progress. It gathers the ideas in a natural sorting system and helps keep your categories open until you find your answer.

The reason counseling works is the same reason this technique works; it gives you insight that comes from "connecting the dots" in your own mind. Even if you choose to try this on your own, you would do well to corroborate this with a Christian psychologist or pastoral counselor.

The bottom line is that there always is something you can do on your own. But we also need accountability and affirmation from others. When you're really stuck and need a professionally trained listening ear, remember Proverbs 24:6, "In the multitude of counselors there is safety."

With headaches, there also might be physical causes that counseling does not address. There likely will need to be an interdisciplinary approach with a physician as well. In all of your self-care, practice the "Sabbath principle" of taking time away from work and other stresses to present your concerns to God.—James Stillwell

Q: My husband and I met in college and have been married for eight years. He always was easy-going and fun to be with. I was the serious one who made good grades and typed his term papers. As the years pass, I'm still doing work for him. I carry the burden of our family responsibilities as well as checking to see if he's completing his work. He's been fired from jobs several times. I'm not sure how much longer I can do all this work. What should I do?

Individuals often are attracted to people who complete some quality they lack. In your case, it sounds like your husband's easy manner was a corrective to your serious, "no foolishness" lifestyle. He likely saw you as someone who could take care of him. In reality, nothing has changed since college. The stakes are just higher.

You are the under-functioner and your husband the over-functioner. These types of relationships work fine until the over-functioner gets too tired of the arrangement. The under-functioner, on the other hand, has no motivation to change as long as everything is being done for him or her. The only way this kind of pattern changes is if one of the partners makes a change.

Begin by evaluating what makes you an active participant in this kind of relationship. Do you need to take care of people? Being indispensable can be a big ego boost.

Having an open conversation with your husband is another approach. It might be that by expressing your frustration, the two of you will be able to strike a healthier balance. Encourage your husband when he shows initiative.

Another option is to cut down on the non-essential jobs you usually complete for your husband. Ask him to complete more tasks himself.—Suzanne Coyle

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 Campbellsville University; 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@earthlink.net.



Burnham book recounts year of captivity

I seldom use this column to review or promote specific books. "In the Presence of My Enemies" by Gracia Burnham is a worthy exception.

Many of our readers will recall news articles detailing the 2001 kidnapping and yearlong captivity of Burnham and her husband, Martin, who had served 15 years in the Philippines as missionaries with New Tribes Mission. The Burnhams, who were celebrating their wedding anniversary at a resort on Palawan Island, were captured by members of Abu Sayyaf, a Filipino terrorist group with ties to Osama bin Laden.

As the hostage ordeal played out on national and international media outlets, the Burnhams experienced a roller coaster of emotions. They sometimes were hopeful that a ransom would win their release; other times they were fearful they both would die in the jungle.

While New Tribes Mission officials maintained their policy against paying ransom, a \$300,000 ransom paid by other sources several months into the Burnhams' captivity failed to gain them freedom. The Abu Sayyaf, according to Burnham's book, believed they could get up to \$1 million for the American couple so they refused to release them.

Another complicating factor was that Philippine government policy would not permit U.S. military personnel to mount a rescue attempt on Philippine soil. As a result, Filipino soldiers frequently engaged in gun battles with the Abu Sayyaf but repeatedly failed to free the hostages.

Against that backdrop, Burnham weaves a compelling account of day-to-day life in the jungle where the hostages often were short of food, forced to endure lengthy marches and never knew if they would live through the day.

The book jacket poses the challenging question: "Can faith, hope and love survive a year of terror?" Despite the harsh conditions and emotional struggles, the eventual answer for Gracia Burnham was a resounding "yes."

A recent review in USA Today noted, "The issue ... is not why an all-powerful God might choose to subject a man to evil, but how a man, with God's help, responds to evil. ... The Burnhams, under torturous conditions, befriended their guards, comforted their fellow hostages and kept their faith in a God who seemed to have abandoned them."

Yet the Burnhams concluded that God had not abandoned them in their time of desperate need. "What happened to Martin and me was no one's fault except that of sinful human beings, the kind we came to the Philippines to help. This ordeal went with the territory," Burnham wrote. "I refuse to let this dampen my joy or detract from the love that God means to flourish in my heart."

It's not revealing too much of the story to remind readers that Martin Burnham and another hostage were killed during a rescue attempt June 7, 2002. Gracia Burnham, who was wounded during the gun battle, was rescued and reunited a few days later with her three children in Kansas.

"Gracia was rescued from the jungle by a helicopter," the minister said during her husband's funeral service. "Martin was rescued from the jungle on angels' wings."

If you read only one missionary autobiography this summer, this is the one to pick up. The Burnhams' perseverance amid adversity is a shining example for those of us who face far smaller challenges in life.

"In the Presence of My Enemies," by Gracia Burnham with Dean Merrill; Tyndale House Publishers, 2003

STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR



Trennis Henderson

Can others be proud of your legacy?

By James Draper

NASHVILLE (BP)—Your spiritual legacy is the greatest possession you can leave to your kids—or to anyone who knows you.

I was reminded of that recently when I received a letter from a woman living in California. She wrote: "I was a young girl living in Forester, Ark., and a young seminary student by the name of James Draper was the part-time minister that rode the bus from Dallas every other Saturday to preach at the local church. ... He'd usually stay at the Shuffield home and had to sleep with their young teenaged boy. Well, this young teen later became my husband and we have celebrated our 65th wedding anniversary."

"The summer I was 12 years old, James Draper held a revival in Forester and I went forward and received Christ as my Savior. After the revival he baptized the converts in our local swimming hole. I am sure I was one of his early converts."

She asked if I'm "related to a James Draper that led me to the Lord almost 70 years ago." I proudly responded that I am his son.

The letter really doesn't surprise me. All my life I've heard stories from people about the way my dad impacted their lives. And although my dad died at age 52, his example to me of what makes a godly man shapes who

I am today. My 52 years of ministry have been influenced by the legacy of his 36-year ministry.

That's the way it is supposed to be. When God told the nation of Israel to pass His precepts—His teachings—from one generation to the next, He established the definition of legacy. In Deuteronomy 6:6-25, God tells the parents of children to "teach them (the words of God) diligently to your sons and talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up." God uses His people to build His Kingdom, and He wants each succeeding generation to know what He did and how they can be included.

I learned faithfulness from my dad. I learned how to be a gentleman. My dad took divided churches and brought them together. He was a consensus builder. He was kind and sensitive and he taught me how to deal with people out of kindness. He taught me how to outline a sermon. He was a man of integrity and character and I wanted to be like him. He always taught me to stand for what's right even if no one else does. My dad showed me I could, without compromise, stand against anything that was wrong, but still be nice in my opposition. I've not always succeeded in that, but I've tried.

I knew God led my dad and mother in the moves we made. They built

into me the confidence to always trust the Lord's guidance.

One of the Apostle Paul's greatest concerns was the character and conduct of the older men and women in the church. Paul recognized the great influence and the abiding example of the older members in the congregation. But it is not simply the senior citizens in a church who have the opportunity to influence with their legacy. I love the way Mrs. Shuffield concludes her letter:

"We raised one son. He has two children and six grandchildren. Our grandson is a missions pastor in York, Pa. All have accepted Christ and are busy in their church. ... It all started by a young seminary student who I believe was your father."

You never know how you will affect the life of someone else. Of course God had a plan for Mrs. Shuffield and her family, but He allowed my dad, who was just a young man at the time, to have a part in changing the spiritual legacy of that family. Only God knows the number of other families who have been touched as a result of the faithfulness of her family. This is how God empowers us to participate in His Kingdom's growth.

Whether your life is the first step in the spiritual legacy of your family or the next, God will honor that heritage and build on it.

And maybe one day your son or daughter will be as proud of your spiritual pilgrimage as I am of my dad's. James Draper is president of LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention

Kentucky Baptist men point to Promise Keepers' impact

"We all need mentors and discipleship in our lives."

Terry Stevens, a member of Gethsemane Baptist Church in Danville

By Ken Walker
State Correspondent

ELIZABETHTOWN—Promise Keepers has played such a key role in Tom Novak's spiritual life that he wouldn't dream of missing this year's meeting in Louisville.

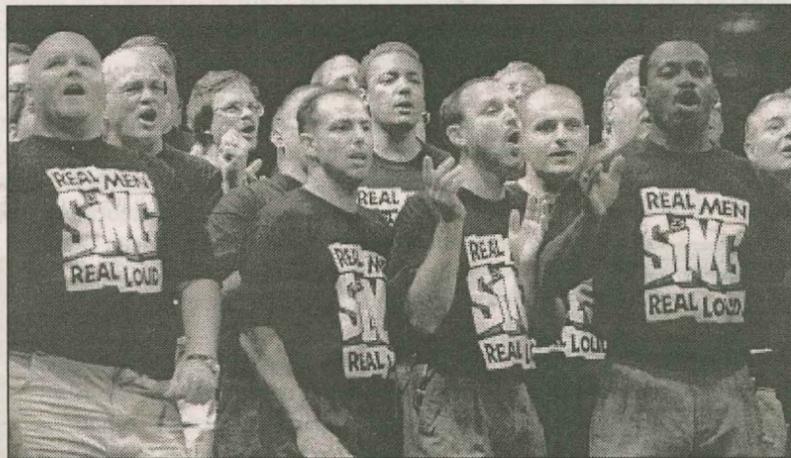
A deacon at New Hope Community Church, a Kentucky Baptist congregation near Elizabethtown, Novak accepted Jesus as his personal Savior soon after a 1998 PK conference.

He expects to volunteer for the prayer booth, which he did the last time the event came to Freedom Hall. There, he discovered that many men are struggling with sexual immorality.

"That is the No. 1 issue that operates in those prayer booths," Novak said. "Things like affairs, lust of the eyes, addiction to pornography or homosexual tendencies. We're getting men who are under conviction and know they can be transparent without being judged."

In addition to ministry at conferences, Novak has seen results at home. For several years he oversaw "Men of the Word." The monthly men's meeting started in his church and grew to include up to 50 men from eight congregations.

While those meetings are no longer held, he said there is no doubt Promise Keepers has made an impact



JOYFUL SOUND A men's choir sings during the 2000 Promise Keepers rally in Louisville. Up to 15,000 men are expected to attend when the organization returns July 25-26. (File photos)

What Does Promise Keepers Mean Today?

in Kentucky.

The tendency is to look at numbers, such as

attendance or response to altar calls, but such measures don't reflect changes in men's hearts, Novak said.

"I see it having a very relevant, dramatic impact in raising up men," he said. "PK made me look in a mirror and ask, 'Am I being the kind of man the Word says to be?' I think anyone involved in it will see the fruits of those efforts."

Terry Stevens agrees. A member of Gethsemane Baptist Church in Danville, he admits some of the activity there has waned in recent times.

But, he said, that is a reflection of what's going on in men's spiritual lives.

He credits Promise Keepers with stimulating a men's Christian unity rally back in 2000. Members from 15 churches planned the event, which attracted 500 men and boys from various races and ethnic backgrounds.

It also led to the formation of "Brothers in Christ." The multi-cultural group meets monthly and is planning to sponsor a Christian worldview conference next spring.

Stevens hopes to see 30 men from Gethsemane make the trip to Louisville this summer.

"You ask the average wife of the average Promise Keeper of the impact on his life and I'll bet almost every one will say it's made him a better husband, father and spiritual leader," Stevens said. "We all need mentors and discipleship in our lives."

Men also need reminders about their obligations, whether in their home or with others they influence, Brent Halcomb said.

A member of Main Street Baptist Church in Williamsburg, he first attended a conference in 1996 in Charlotte, N.C.

As the speaker talked about the responsibilities of parenting, Halcomb said he started to relax because at the time he and his wife didn't have any children.

"But the Holy Spirit said, 'You have a niece,'" said Halcomb, who now has a five-year-old son. "I realized I had a responsibility to her, and to be an example to the kids in our church."

Bob Perkins, the Brotherhood director at Jeffersontown Baptist Church, said Promise Keepers has reinforced the idea that men need to be more accountable to each other and for their families' well-being.

"I've heard some people refer to PK as a pep rally, but to us it's a service like any other we would attend," Perkins said. "We go for the spiritual guidance we get from it. We try to live by the principles we learn, and we see evidence of that taking place."

Many Christians say Promise Keepers still making difference

Continued from page 1

In July 1991, 4,200 men gathered for the first Promise Keepers conference at the University of Colorado basketball arena. The group grew, organizing a series of conferences that packed stadiums with up to 65,000 men. The peak was a mass 1997 rally in Washington, D.C.

By its 10th year, Promise Keepers had reached more than 3.5 million men through 98 stadium and arena conferences.

Since then, the meetings have downsized, moving into arenas like Freedom Hall. The last PK meeting there in 2000 drew a capacity crowd of 18,000.

A different stage set-up has reduced this year's capacity to 15,200. About 9,400 men had preregistered as of June 30, according to a Promise Keepers official.

Moving men's ministry forward

Even though today's conferences are much smaller, they still make an impact, according to True Nguyen, director of U.S. ministries.

"From our perspective, we have moved men's ministry forward," he said. "Countless numbers of ministries have been created as a result of Promise Keepers. A lot of local ministers admire our principles."

Among them is Michael Rice, pastor of Fairview Baptist Church in Ashland. Forty men went to their first meeting as a group last year in Knoxville. Rice hopes to see a similar number visit Louisville in July.

Among those affected were asso-



ciate music leader Ted Browning, a high school math teacher who has preached several times since then.

Bobby Ekers, who works in a family business, went to Uganda for two weeks in January and got involved in jail ministry with another couple from the church.

"It had a great impact," Rice said. "This freed some people to be more expressive in worship. It helps to have a tie with a national ministry, too. With people and speakers coming together, you do things you can't do individually."

But assessing the organization's impact on Kentucky Baptist churches is difficult. Promise Keepers lists contacts with more than 200 Baptist churches in the state, less than 10 percent of KBC member churches.

And, of a sampling contacted by the Western Recorder, not all are ac-

tive or planning to attend this year's meeting.

Jake Huffman, pastor of Corinth Baptist Church in McQuady, compares Promise Keepers meetings to other popular conferences that help stir interest in church ministry.

"It's another step, but I'm not gung ho about it," Huffman said. "I've been there and done that. It's good, but there are a lot of other good things out there. It's been around a while, and I think interest is dwindling."

Others less impressed

Others aren't impressed since they have seen little follow-up at the local level.

Mike Melloan, director of Brotherhood at Yellow Creek Baptist Church in Owensboro, said those who attend Promise Keepers rallies often fail to get involved in missions.

"I talked to one 30-year-old guy and said we needed to get him involved in hands-on missions, but he said, 'Oh, I don't want to do that, I just like going to these rallies.'"

"Some started accountability groups, but I'm not aware of any that lasted," said Melloan, a former president of Kentucky Baptist Brotherhood, the men's organization that leads disaster relief ministries and other programs.

Melloan said Brotherhood has a far better retention rate with men who have been involved with hands-on mission work "than with guys who have gone to rallies and read all the books."

But those who admire Promise

Keepers insist it has made its mark.

Chris Platt, associate pastor at Crestwood Baptist Church in Crestwood, sees it as one link in a chain of events that revitalized that church's men's ministry last year.

A Saturday morning men's Bible study that started with 20 men is now up to 50. Ten men are going through the book, "The Man God Uses," on Sunday nights, and monthly "Iron Man" luncheons attract up to 35 men, Platt said.

"I think PK was an influence," Platt said. "A lot of men had gone to conferences in the past. But it's just one piece of what's gone on. A passion was lit in the lives of five to 10 men who got excited about discipling other men."

At Shively Heights Baptist Church in Shively, Mark Payton hopes to interest a group in going to Freedom Hall. Payton saw the impact it made as pastor of Gethsemane Baptist Church in Danville.

There, after conferences, men repaired several homes of elderly members. One man supervised a summer youth project that installed roofs and painted houses for single mothers.

"In Danville, I didn't go the first two times," said Payton, who moved to Shively 20 months ago. "The third year, I went as a spectator."

"I thought I would listen to a lot of denominational bombing, but that didn't happen," he recalled. "They tried to get men to understand they had a responsibility in their home and to their wives. They told men that Jesus is the Head of every home."

Clinic bridges church with neighbors, other congregations

By Ken Walker
State Correspondent

LOUISVILLE—The numbers at Temple of Faith Baptist Church's free medical clinic in late June were significant: 450 people served, a 12.5 percent increase over last year's clinic, and 15 professions of faith.

But Pastor Joel Bowman is just as excited about how the church crossed racial and cultural boundaries, and he said he hopes that will lead to more cooperation between Kentucky Baptists in urban and rural areas.

The church is a mostly African-American congregation, but many Anglos took part in the clinic, both in ministry and receiving help.

One participant was a member of a suburban Louisville church that has explored forging closer ties.

Three police officers from the city's third district also were on hand to distribute information, especially to seniors, on how to avoid scam artists.

"The excitement of Christians from different ethnic backgrounds working cross-culturally to do ministry and to see walls and barriers coming down was a highlight for me," Bowman said.

A native of Detroit, the pastor said he envisions more Baptists working



BLOOD PRESSURE CHECK Shy Rice (left), a volunteer with Touched Twice Ministries, checks the blood pressure of a woman who visited the free medical clinic last month at Temple of Faith Baptist Church in Louisville. Rice was one of many "advocates" who interviewed clients, helped them through the clinic and talked to clients about the Christian faith.

together to address the problems like those faced in South Louisville.

Located within two blocks of the state's largest public housing project, Bowman said the church's neighborhood suffers from poverty, crime, drugs and child abuse.

Looking for partners

Bowman said white congregations that want to help their urban counterparts should first pray that God would

give them a heart for the city.

He called Nehemiah an excellent biblical model, noting that the Old Testament figure wept for Jerusalem, then went there to help rebuild the walls.

Bowman also said his congregation needs help from churches willing to invest time and talents, not just send a check.

"I'm looking for partnerships," the pastor said. "I'm not looking to be a charity case. A partnership means we can be a benefit and a blessing to suburban churches. Where they have financial resources, we have people resources, gifts, talents, skills and knowledge."

"We've got to go beyond joint worship services and holding hands," Bowman said. "That's just scratching the surface."

The clinic was one example of such a partnership. It was conducted by Touched Twice Ministries, a non-profit organization based in Louisville.

Many of the 100 volunteers from Touched Twice, including doctors, nurses, optometrists and dentists, came from suburban areas.

Since it was formed in 1995, the ministry has conducted about two dozen free clinics in the Jefferson County region, according to president Denny Dillman.

The one at Temple of Faith offered medical, dental and vision checks; job, debt and personal counseling; and free food and clothing.

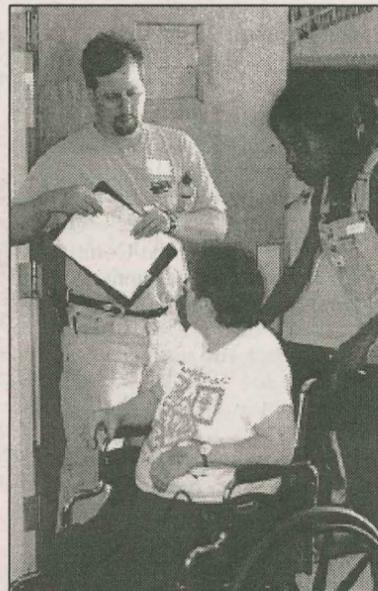
"This was another successful clinic with a church that's just on fire," Dillman said. "What stood out for people outside the church was that these people's faith was for real."

Helping those in need

Fran Marshall, who directs Temple of Faith's health ministry, coordinated its involvement in the clinic, with 40 members participating.

A nurse with Hospice of Louisville, Marshall conducted blood pressure and other health screenings. Although she was tired at the end of the day, she called the clinic a way of boosting God's name in the community.

"Overall it's been a tremendous experience," Marshall said. "I get so much out of it. Being able to see others' needs and assist them, whether that is spiritual, physical or emotion-



WELCOME Mike Ware (left), vice president of Touched Twice Ministries, welcomes two visitors to the clinic. More than 450 visitors and workers took part in the clinic.

al, is just uplifting."

Dillman said he was touched by a comment from the head of family that joined the church as a result of the clinic.

"They realized this is a church that cared and that they could be a part of," Dillman said. "That jumped out at me because we are never more segregated than on Sunday morning."

Although officially non-denominational, Touched Twice has close ties with Kentucky Baptists.

Founding director Perry Polnaszek attended two Kentucky Baptist churches while attending Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. Mike Ware, vice president of the board of directors, and his wife, Cindy, attend Springdale Church near Louisville.

As big as the clinic was, Bowman said it is only one element of Temple of Faith's social ministry. The church also serves a free meal three nights a week and is running a six-week summer day camp for 50 children, ages 6 to 16.

"We don't want to have a social event and have enthusiasm fizzle out over time," the pastor said. "We believe in holistic evangelism. We're sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ, but we must minister to the whole person."

"We don't want to have a social event and have enthusiasm fizzle out over time."

Joel Bowman, pastor of Temple of Faith Baptist Church in Louisville



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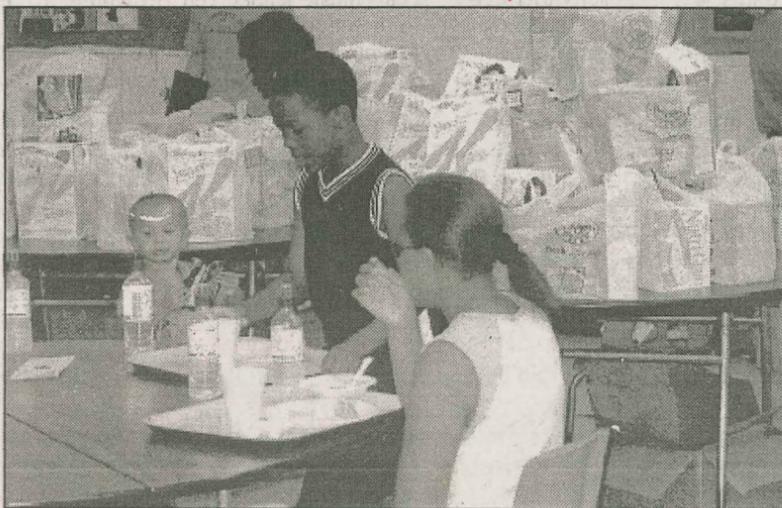
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FOOD Local children enjoy lunch donated by the Louisville Police Department. Food bags donated by Dare To Care sit in the background.

Fallout unknown after Supreme Court sodomy ruling

"The court has taken sides in the culture war."

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia

By Robert Marus
Associated Baptist Press

WASHINGTON (ABP)—It's difficult to overstate how upset most conservatives are at the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision to overturn state bans on sodomy.

"It is clear from this that the court has taken sides in the culture war," said Justice Antonin Scalia, summarizing from the bench his dissent in the Lawrence and Garner vs. Texas case June 26. "This effectively decrees the end of all morals legislation."

Ken Connor, former president of the Family Research Council, said, "Once again judicial activists have used their fertile imagination to create rights that simply don't exist in the Constitution."

Connor, who resigned just last week from the council, warned that the "radical homosexual lobby" will use the decision to extend "a blanket privacy protection over one's choice of sexual partner to one's choice of marital partner as well—regardless of sex."

Gay-rights activists and civil libertarians have denounced such blanket statements as hyperbole, but some of the conservatives' nightmares already might be coming true.

In the decision, the U.S. Supreme Court voted 6-3 to overturn a Texas law that banned sodomy for homosexuals but not for heterosexuals. Five of the six justices in the majority claimed the law violated the 14th Amendment's guarantees of due process and privacy and implied that the law also violated that amendment's equal-protection clause.

The court's ruling was unexpectedly broad, explicitly embracing the right-to-privacy argument and implicitly embracing the equal-protection argument.

The decision means all bans on consensual, adult sodomy—for gays and heterosexuals alike—violate the



DIFFERING OPINIONS Curtis Sparrer of Houston (right) holds a rainbow flag to have a picture taken with protestor Don Buzee of Baytown, Texas, on Houston's City Hall Plaza during a celebration of the landmark U.S. Supreme Court decision in Lawrence vs. Texas. The court struck down sodomy laws as an unconstitutional violation of privacy. (RNS/Reuters photo by Richard Carson)

right to privacy that the majority of the court believes exists in the 14th Amendment.

In the case, two Houston men were arrested, convicted and fined in 1998. The men appealed, claiming the statute under which they were convicted violated their rights to privacy and equal protection.

Some results already

The recent decision already has had legal ramifications:

■ On June 27, the day after the Lawrence decision was announced, the Supreme Court invalidated a sodomy conviction that a Kansas teenager received for having sex with a younger boy. Kansas law imposed a harsher penalty on same-sex violators

Poll: Age groups differ on gay marriage

WASHINGTON (RNS)—A recent new USA Today/CNN/Gallup poll shows that a majority of Americans oppose same-sex marriage, but large numbers of younger people favor the idea.

The poll found that opposition to gay marriage, while significant, is eroding. Fifty-five percent of Americans oppose gay marriage—down from 68 percent in 1996. Thirty-nine percent of respondents said they favored the right of gay men and lesbians to marry.

In May, another Gallup poll found that Americans were evenly split at 49 percent in supporting or opposing "civil union" laws that give gay couples some of the same legal rights as married couples.

Younger people seem to be more accepting of gay marriage—61 percent of people between ages 18 and 29 support gay marriage, while only 37 percent of those ages 30-49 support it.

After the U.S. Supreme Court struck down sodomy laws on June 26, more than six in 10 Americans polled said consensual gay sex

should be legal, while 37 percent said sodomy should be criminalized. In 1977, when Gallup first asked about legalized sodomy, only 43 percent of Americans said it should be legal.

Fewer Americans, however, said homosexuality is morally acceptable. A slight majority—54 percent—said that "homosexuality should be considered an acceptable alternative lifestyle." Forty-three percent said it was not acceptable.

A Gallup poll conducted in May asked Americans to rate whether certain activities were "morally acceptable." Forty-four percent said homosexual acts were morally acceptable, ahead of abortion (37 percent) and human cloning (8 percent) but behind divorce (66 percent) and having a child out of wedlock (51 percent).

Americans were evenly split on whether gay couples should be able to adopt children—49 percent said they should have adoption rights, while 48 percent were opposed.

The surveys of more than 1,000 adults have a margin of error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

of the state's age-of-consent law than it did on opposite-sex violators.

■ On the same day, a New Jersey judge asked for additional written arguments, in light of the new court decision, on a case in which seven gay couples are suing the state for the right to marry.

■ And a Massachusetts court is hearing arguments in a case many experts believe will expand that state's marriage laws to include homosexual marriage, given the Supreme Court's new ruling.

"Our victory... was just the beginning," said Kevin Cathcart, executive director of the Lambda Legal Defense

and Education Fund. "We're on stronger ground than ever before to fight for gay couples, parents, employees and students—to win fairness in every area of life."

But conservatives already are fighting back on the issue of gay marriage. Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist (R-Tenn.) announced June 29 he will support a constitutional amendment to ban recognition of same-sex marriage at the federal level. The proposed amendment, already pending in Congress, also would invalidate any state or municipal law that confers either marriage or its corresponding benefits on gay couples.

NATIONAL NOTES

■ Immigrant churches better helpers.

A new study of immigrant churches, mosques and temples shows that they are more active in meeting the social needs of their populations than most typical American congregations. The study, conducted by Catholic University's Life Cycle Institute, surveyed 200 Christian, Muslim, Hindu and Sikh worship communities in the Washington area. Researchers found that both poor and wealthy immigrant groups work with social service agencies to help their own members and needy people outside their communities.

■ Falwell regains Web namesake sites.

Jerry Falwell says he has gained the rights to two Internet domains that use his name after he threatened to continue legal challenges against the man who set up the parody Web sites. Falwell's lawsuit on the subject in Virginia federal court was dismissed in March. But after the dismissal, Falwell and his lawyers

discovered that the name Jerry Falwell had been trademarked with Falwell's talk show "Listen America" several years ago.

■ Jewish group concerned about movie.

The Anti-Defamation League has expressed concerns that an upcoming movie on the death of Jesus by Mel Gibson will portray Jews as "blood-thirsty, sadistic and money-hungry enemies of Jesus." In a statement issued last month, the ADL raised five concerns about "The Passion," including that it threatens to "oversimplify" history and resurrect old prejudices that blame Jews for the death of Jesus. Gibson, in a statement, said "neither I nor my film are anti-Semitic."

■ Roe v. Wade won't be reconsidered.

A federal district court has dismissed a request by former "Jane Roe" plaintiff Norma McCorvey to reconsider the landmark U.S. Supreme Court ruling that legalized abortion three decades ago. McCorvey, who became an anti-abortion

activist 10 years ago, made the request June 17, seeking an inquiry into evidence she says shows abortion hurts women, Associated Press reported. On June 19, Judge David Godbey of Dallas dismissed her request saying it was not made within a "reasonable time" of the original judgment.

■ **Christian music sales slump.** Sales of Christian and gospel music dropped 10 percent in the first half of 2003, with industry leaders blaming music piracy and the economy for the drop. At the end of the first six months of 2003, Nielsen SoundScan sales of Christian and gospel music stood at 21,046,000 units. That's a 10.23 percent drop from the same period in 2002. Still, the genre kept its market share in the overall music industry. Christian recording sales represented 7.14 percent of all music sales.

■ American Bible Society lays off staff.

The American Bible Society, long known

for its distribution of Scripture resources, is redirecting its focus specifically to the nation's youth and cutting back on its publishing efforts. A spokesman said the changes have resulted in the elimination of about 80 staffers, leaving the society with a staff of about 200 people. The 188-year-old society recently sponsored a Christian hip-hop concert in Indianapolis and is considering such products as Scripture-based CDs and virtual-reality games.

■ Cumberland Presbyterians reject flag.

A small Presbyterian denomination rejected a move to require the church to display the American flag at its meetings in the United States. Delegates to the Cumberland Presbyterian Church's recent General Assembly meeting in Knoxville, turned down the flag resolution. The defeat came after delegates heard a letter from Masaharu Asayama, the church's former moderator, who lives in Japan. Asayama said displaying the U.S. flag was inappropriate for a multinational church.

Money matters

Burkett reminded Christians that dollars show where heart is focused

GAINESVILLE, Ga.—Larry Burkett, a stalwart for faithful Christian living through financial stewardship and co-founder of Crown Financial Ministries, died July 4. He was 64.

Burkett died of heart failure, following an extended battle with cancer and other health problems, according to Howard Dayton, chief executive officer of Crown Financial Ministries.

"We will miss Larry terribly—his friendship, his wisdom, his stories, his passion for Crown, his humor and most of all his heart for Christ and people," Dayton said in a statement.

Burkett founded Christian Financial Concepts in his suburban Atlanta basement in 1976 and focused on teaching people how to handle money following biblical principles.

He often stressed the theme that debt robs Christians of their financial freedom, limiting their ability to adequately support churches and ministries or to serve in missions activities.

"I would present to God's people today that, in large part, the army of God have deserted the ranks," Burkett told the 1999 Southern Baptist Convention Pastors' Conference, meeting in Atlanta. "They are no longer available to the One Who has enlisted them."

A giant leap for personal finance

A 2000 Christianity Today magazine article credited him with being "largely responsible for creating 'money' and 'finance' sections in Christian bookstores.

An adult convert to Christianity, Burkett earned degrees in marketing and finance while he was working at Cape Canaveral, Fla., with several NASA space programs.

In the early 1970s, he became vice president of a small electronics firm, had a conversion experience and began taking part in a businessmen's Bible study.



Burkett

Money and the biblical way to handle it were ongoing topics of discussion, according to the Christianity Today article.

At one meeting, Burkett said he had found more than 100 Bible verses on money. Another member disagreed, saying God was not interested in money.

Armed with a Bible and a yellow highlighter, Burkett began an intensive study on the subject and found more than 700 verses related to money, wealth and possessions.

Soon he found himself giving advice at church and elsewhere.

A few years later he worked for Campus Crusade for Christ, asking for money in the ministry's deferred-giving and estate-planning division. His reputation as a personal finance authority spread, and he was invited to speak to graduating seniors on the basics of personal budgeting and church finances.

Afterward, he said he realized the need for this information during lunch with faculty members. Surrounded by professors with doctorates, he was inundated with questions about Bible verses on money and basic financial management.

Burkett said he thought to himself: "It is really true that in the land of the blind a one-eyed man can become king."

In 1976, he left Campus Crusade and with his wife, Judy, started Christian Financial Concepts, operating it from his basement in suburban Atlanta.

By 1999, the ministry had grown to have an annual budget of more than \$12 million and to employ 134 staff. In 2000, it merged with the like-minded Crown Ministries founded by Howard Dayton.

Prolific author, speaker

Burkett authored more than 70 books, selling more than 11 million copies. His four radio programs were carried on more than 2,000 radio outlets worldwide.

While his books and programs served both Christians and non-Christians, Burkett continually encouraged Christians to rethink their use of debt to fulfill their desires.

In 1998, speaking to a group of state Baptist stewardship directors, he noted that the average evangelical Christian gives 2.4 percent of his or her income to religious causes while paying 11.5 percent interest on their personal debt.

"They don't have a material problem," he said. "They have a spiritual problem related to finances."

Burkett was a member of Blackshear Place Baptist Church in Flowery Branch, Ga. His survivors include his wife, Judy, and four children.

Compiled from reporting by Baptist Press, News Director David Winfrey and Christianity Today Magazine

Stewards of God's blessings

By Larry Burkett

There is no greater interference with a Christian's ability to serve God than the need to earn, in order to pay and buy.

In America today, we live an average of 18 years longer than we did 100 years ago and have at least one-third more disposable income per family. An observer from 100 years ago would be amazed by the improvement in living standards and the amount of leisure time technology now provides us.

According to Barna Research, about 40 percent of Americans are born-again Christians. So it seems clear that Christians ought to be spreading the message of the gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the world much better than they are presently doing.

The simple truth is that most American Christians are too busy to be involved in fulfilling Jesus' Great Commission, as recorded in Mark 16:15. Many have grown complacent and comfortable with God's blessings and have forgotten Jesus' mandate.

Because God asks for obedience rather than demanding it, many Christians have simply ignored the very reason for God's blessings: to glorify Him and to honor His commandments.

The reason for the blessings

God calls every Christian to spread His gospel to all parts of the world. But, like Esther, every believer must decide either to be used of God or to be bypassed and allow another to be chosen instead. Most Christians would never refuse to do God's will; it's just that the timing is not right. So they allow the urgent things of their lives to overshadow the important things of God.

We sing, "America, America, God shed His grace on thee." Well, He has! God has blessed us so richly. There is enough money in North America to fund all the Christian work in the world if the people of God would just give. The desire to give may be there, but most American Christians are so caught up in making money, buying bigger and better things, and paying for the things that they already have, that they have lost their focus on the unsaved world.

In a real sense, the gospel has become shackled because money needed for worldwide ministry is tied up in personal debt and large monthly payments.

The very best investment a person can make is an investment in the Kingdom of God. The Lord admonishes us not to worry about material possessions, and instead, "Seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you" (Matthew 6:33).

While American Christians today have a greater abundance available to them than any previous generation, there has never been a generation of Christians so caught up in worrying about their possessions as ours.

However, it's not the material things that cause the difficulties; it is materialism, which is a matter of heart attitude. Materialism simply means that a person is more dedicated to accumulating material things than in serving God. The evidence of the lives of most American Christians reveals that this generation is dedicated to materialism. "For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (Matthew 6:21).

The admonition to "seek first the Kingdom of God" is given by the Lord as a contrast to worrying about material possessions. God's people need to understand His principles of finance so that they can be free of debt and the worry that accompanies debt in order to help fund the spread of the gospel worldwide.

Once Christians become financially free of personal debt, they will have a greater abundance for which to fund the gospel's outreach to the "remotest part of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

IDEAS FOR:

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- Church Music
- Church Secretaries
- Discipleship Training
- Family Ministry
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Report: Chaplains' misconduct rate higher than rest of Navy

WASHINGTON (RNS)—The Navy has disciplined dozens of chaplains in the last decade for misconduct offenses ranging from sexual abuse to fraud, Associated Press recently reported.

More than 40 chaplains were punished at a rate much higher than that for other officers, according to documents obtained by AP.

"Navy chaplains, in fact, create a disproportionate number of problem cases," Navy Chaplain Corps official Bradford Ableson, wrote in a 1999 memo.

Ableson, the deputy executive assistant to the chief of Navy chaplains, wrote the document to give his supervisor details on the extent of the trouble.

This and other previously undisclosed documents reveal offenses including adultery, spousal abuse and child molestation that occurred at a rate in 1999 that prompted then-Navy Secretary Richard Danzig to order a new training and oversight program to make sure the Navy's nearly 870 chaplains complied with high moral standards.

Lt. Jon Spiers, a chaplain corps spokesman, said the corps has instituted the retraining program but hasn't tracked how many chaplains have been punished since that time.

Court records and news stories indicate that since 1999 a recently retired chaplain was charged with murder and at least one chaplain has been convicted of indecent acts.

According to the documents, 28 of the 42 punished chaplains were accused of sexual misconduct or harassment. For example, a Seventh-day Adventist chaplain was court-martialed for an indecent assault during a counseling session. A Roman Catholic chaplain was imprisoned for molesting the young sons of Marines and sailors.

Court: Alabama monument unconstitutional

By Robert Marus
Associated Baptist Press

ATLANTA (ABP)—The "Ten Commandments Judge" had better follow the commandment of the Constitution and remove his monument from the Alabama state judicial building, a federal appeals court said July 1.

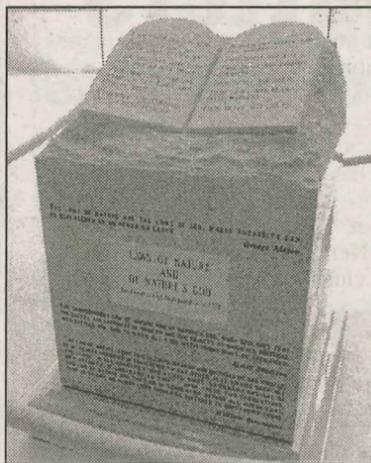
A three-judge panel of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled unanimously that Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore's installation of a 5,280-pound Ten Commandments monument in the rotunda of the state judicial building violates the First Amendment's prohibition of state support for religion.

Their decision upheld a lower federal court's ruling that the monument must be removed, but the appeals court did not impose a timetable for its removal.

The court vehemently rejected Moore's argument that the federal courts have no authority in the matter because he is sworn to uphold both the Alabama and federal constitutions. Moore argued that both documents acknowledge God.

The court likened Moore's argument to similar arguments by segregationist Southern governors in the 1950s and 1960s in their attempts to defy federal court orders integrating schools and other public facilities.

Former Alabama Gov. George Wallace and former Mississippi Gov. Ross Barnett ultimately were forced to obey federal decrees, Judge Ed



UNCONSTITUTIONAL An appeals court has ruled that Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore's installation of a Ten Commandments monument in the state judicial building violates the First Amendment's prohibition of state support for religion.

Carnes noted in the court's opinion.

"Any notion of high government officials being above the law did not save those governors from having to obey federal court orders," Carnes wrote, "and it will not save this chief justice from having to comply with the court order in this case."

Late-night installation

Moore had the monument placed in the building without the knowledge or consent of his fellow justices in the middle of the night on July 31, 2001. It stands by itself at the center of the building's main public space.

Inscribed across the top of the monument is the King James translation of the commandments. The court's opinion took special note that different religious traditions—including different traditions within Christianity itself—have different ways of translating and arranging the Exodus passages from which the commandments are drawn. Therefore, the court said, it was difficult to view the sculpture as anything but an endorsement of Protestant Christianity.

Privately raised funds paid for the sculpture, but Moore allowed a film crew from Coral Ridge Ministries in Florida to tape footage of the monument's construction and installation. Coral Ridge later sold the videotape as a fundraiser and has paid for Moore's legal defense.

Moore has said he acted secretly to protect his fellow justices from being named in the lawsuit he was certain would result from his actions.

Moore's attorney, Herbert Titus, said his client will appeal the case to the Supreme Court. But Titus declined to say whether Moore would defy that court and keep the monument in place if he was once again defeated. "We're not making predictions or forecasts," Titus told the New York Times.

Carnes took care to point out the opinion does not invalidate all displays of the Ten Commandments on public buildings but said Moore's monument was such a clear endorsement of religion that it was easily distinguished from other historic religious displays.

An amazing summer

Camp continues on, and as you read this we are past the summer midpoint and pressing on!

Your prayers have been greatly appreciated, and more importantly they have been answered. Decisions are being made daily at both properties, and vast numbers of students are being added to God's Kingdom. God also has blessed us in the area of safety. Each week we are having more than 1,000 people on Kentucky Baptist Assemblies' properties, and it is utterly amazing how God has protected the students and adults. To God be the glory for what He is doing.

The end of June marked another chapter in our master planning process. Architects visited both properties to observe camp in action.

Our camps are unique in the camping community across the country because we are church-group based as opposed to individually based. The visit was productive, and we will begin receiving options on how to make best use of each location.

As presented by our master planners, the most significant obstacle in our near future is how to continue to grow our facilities to accommodate the increasing numbers. Both camps are operating at or beyond capacity. The next phase of additions at each location will be

substantial, and we can not do it apart from God's provision. As we ponder the possibilities of what the future holds, it can almost seem impossible and no doubt many will say the future is impossible. How can we expand to keep up with our camp and conference center needs? The only answer is God. God salvaged the camps from what seemed

like certain doom in the mid-1990s. God has brought a staggering number of campers. God continues to bring world class staff in year-round employees and summer program staff. God continues to bring forth an amazing harvest each week. In short, God simply amazes us each day by what He does.

The constant in what has taken place at Cedarmore and Jonathan Creek has been God. For it is by His design that we exist, and as we expand, only He can accomplish it. God proves throughout history that He does amazing feats to bring glory to Himself. The best way for God to receive the glory is for the events to be beyond human ability. We believe KBA exists today because of such events, and our prayer is that God will continue to be glorified by the miracles to come in our camping future.

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

KENTUCKY BAPTIST ASSEMBLIES

A busy summer at Campbellsville

Camps, such as Crosspoint, and a variety of discipleship and evangelism opportunities with churches and other groups, as well as a full summer school schedule, make for an exciting summer at Campbellsville University.

More than 100 Campbellsville students are committing their summer to perform missions both here and abroad through a host of organizations, including Kentucky Heartland Outreach, Campbellsville University Crew, Son Teams, churches and trips to Hungary, Romania, Jamaica, Costa Rica, Pennsylvania and Ohio.

Kentucky Heartland Outreach, with more than 500 volunteers, is doing home repair and new construction in Liberty, Campbellsville, Lexington, Somerset, Paducah and Harrodsburg-Burgin-Mercer County.

Our Church Relations Council will meet Aug. 7 at 10 a.m. Joseph Owens, council chairman and pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church, will preside. Campbellsville University President Michael Carter will bring an update on the school and will have just begun his fifth year as our president.

The Church Relations Council will celebrate having met its chal-

lenge goal for Kentucky Heartland Outreach and our partnership with Northern Baptist Theological Seminary in Recife, Brazil. The council now will raise funds for a bivocational ministers' scholarship fund. After lunch, we will meet at 1 p.m. for the 2004 January Bible study preview, led by John Hurtgen, associate professor of New Testament at Campbellsville. Cost for the study is \$10, which includes the evening meal.

Stuart Briscoe, minister-at-large of Elmbrook Church in Brookfield, Wis., head of Telling the Truth Ministries, and author of 40 books, will be the featured preacher at the second annual Pastors and Church Leaders Conference, Sept. 25-26. Our theme is "The Gratitude Attitude and Other Motivation Factors."

Early-bird registration costs \$30 per person (\$20 additional for spouses) and includes two meals. You can register by contacting my office. What an exciting time in the Lord this will be!

John Chowning serves as vice president for church and external relations and executive assistant to the president at Campbellsville University. He can be contacted at (270) 789-5520, or via e-mail at jchowning@campbellsville.edu.

CAMPBELLSVILLE UNIVERSITY



John Chowning

Christian investment clubs

Have you ever thought about forming an investment club and tithing the profits? I read where members of an Alabama church formed an investment club, and the club gives 10 percent of its profits through the church. The name of the club is Tithers Investment Partnership.

I am a charter member of the Fellowship Investment Club, which began about 12 years ago. Most of the original partners were members of the same Sunday school class. As we have grown, we now have partners, who are members of other Christian churches. The purpose of our partnership as stated in the partnership agreement is "to invest the assets of the partnership solely in stocks, bonds and securities solely for the education and benefit of the partners." Although our club does not give 10 percent of its profit to any specific Christian or charitable cause, I certainly include my portion of the profits in giving my tithe.

Some of you might be interested in starting an investment club of Christian friends whether or not it is directly related to your church or church-related organization. The name and Web site address of the national organization that can provide you information on how to

start and to structure a club is the National Association of Investors Corporation (NAIC) at www.better-investing.org.

The Kentucky Baptist Foundation has arranged through its investment manager, Invesco-National Asset Management Corporation, for Kentucky Baptist individuals and clubs to participate in the National Asset Management Core Equity Mutual Fund. The investment guidelines are the same used in managing the large cap portion of the foundation's equity fund, including the Christian ethical restrictions. For every account opened, the manager will pay 20 percent of its fee to the foundation. The foundation will send 100 percent of this to the Reaching Kentucky for Christ Fund administered by the Kentucky Baptist Convention. The funds will be used to reach for Christ the people groups of the world that have come to Kentucky. The foundation will perform no services with respect to the investments of this mutual fund and has no role in advising the mutual fund. To receive a prospectus, call I-NAM toll-free at (877) 626-3863.

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

Kudzu

Doug Marlette



For Heaven's Sake

Mike Morgan



Bible Crossword

Teri Grottke

Across

- 1 Jacob's other name
- 5 Mr., Sp. abbr.
- 7 Selenium, chem. symbol
- 9 Middle Latin, abbr.
- 10 "The gift ... perverteth the words of the ____" (Exodus 23:8)
- 13 "Tola, son of ____" (Judges 10:1)
- 16 Concise
- 17 Each, abbr.
- 18 "For the statutes of ____" (Micah 6:16)
- 19 Neon, chem. symbol
- 20 Wisconsin, abbr.
- 21 Antimony, chem. symbol
- 22 "Why dost thou ... cause me to behold ____?" (Hab. 1:3)
- 26 "Great well that is in ____" (1 Samuel 19:22)
- 28 "Melech, and ____, and Ahaz" (1 Chronicles 8:35)
- 30 "Rekem, and ____, and Taralah" (Joshua 18:27)
- 32 Boy
- 34 "... to have imparted unto you ... also ____ own souls" (1 Thessalonians 2:8)
- 36 Conjunction
- 37 "One that is proud and ____" (Isaiah 2:12)
- 41 "Will he ____ thy riches?" (Job 36:19)
- 44 Adam's wife
- 45 Where Joseph, Mary, and Jesus went to escape Herod
- 47 Not him
- 48 "Barley was in the ____" (Exodus 9:31)
- 51 Smallest state, abbr.
- 52 Impossible to deny
- 57 "____ thy cause with thy neighbor" (Proverbs 25:9)
- 58 "... may without the word be ____ by the conversation of the wives" (1 Peter 3:1)

1	2			3	4		5	6		7	8
9				10		11	12				
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	48		49					50		51	
52				53		54		55		56	
				57						58	

- 7 "If any man will ____ thee at the law" (Matthew 5:40)
- 8 "Out of the mount of ____?" (Obadiah 8)
- 11 "____ them that love us" (Titus 3:15)
- 12 A greeting
- 14 Argon, chem. symbol
- 15 "Hosanna in the ____" (Mark 11:10)
- 23 "Ye tithe mint and ____" (Luke 11:42)
- 24 Organization to assist those who served in the armed forces, abbr.
- 25 "Pass ye unto ____, and see" (Amos 6:2)
- 27 Condition that affects motor coordination, abbr.
- 29 Part of the Freudian psyche
- 31 "For, ____, the winter is past" (Song of Solomon 2:11)
- 33 "Doe, ____, a female deer, Re ..." (2 words)
- 35 Say again
- 36 Preposition
- 38 Above
- 39 "I ____ the Lord" (Jonah 1:9)
- 40 You, King James Eng.
- 42 Address abbreviation

- 43 Magnetic resonance imaging, abbr.
- 46 Food, slang
- 49 Moses parted the ____ Sea
- 50 Peninsula state, abbr.
- 52 "____ thou count me therefore" (Philemon 17)
- 53 Iron, chem. symbol
- 54 Tantalum, chem. symbol
- 55 "I myself should ____ a castaway ..." (1 Corinthians 9:27)
- 56 Enlisted woman, abbr.

Last week's solution

1	B	R	I	C	K	M	A	K	I	N	G	7	B	
2														
3	R	T	O		15	16		A	T	R	E	A		
4	A	S		13	N	E	D	L	E	W	O	R	K	
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6	I	G												
7	E	A		23	C	A	R	P	E	N	T	E	R	S
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9	S	D		31	I	N	S	T		E		33	O	
10	E	D	O		36	T	A	N	N	E	R	S		
11	A	N	O		40	R	E	D		A	A			
12	C	E		43	E	M	B	R	O	I	D	E	R	Y
13	46	49						50		L	A	K	E	R
14	S	T	S		52	C	A	U	L	K	E	R	S	

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THIRD ANNUAL

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James bone box owner insists artifact is no fraud

Professor Yuval Goren said he believes the patina covering the inscription was applied recently by someone who ground limestone into powder, and then mixed it with water to form a paste.

By Elaine Ruth Fletcher
Religion News Service

JERUSALEM (RNS)—When the so-called “James Ossuary,” first was unveiled last October, a number of prominent archaeologists, geologists and paleographers already had authenticated the artifact’s remarkable inscription of “James, son of Joseph, brother of Jesus,” to the first century A.D.

Scholars said the ossuary—a ritual burial box in which the bones of deceased first century Jews were typically stored—was likely the first physical link to the figure of Jesus.

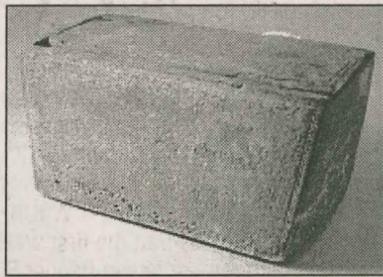
But last month, sensation turned to scandal when a seven-member panel of experts appointed by the Israel Antiquities Authority ruled the inscription on the ossuary a probable forgery.

The panel concluded that the patina, or crust of chalk, covering most of the inscription was a recent addition, not a natural result of aging over time. Handwriting experts also contended that most of the inscription is probably a new addition, not from the first century period.

But the previously anonymous owner, Oded Golan, vigorously contests the authority’s findings.

Golan argues that the scientific and archaeological conclusions reached by the panel of Israeli geologists and paleographers were not as conclusive as the final report indicated.

He said that he now is in touch with a number of prominent international



BONE BOX The James ossuary, a burial box for bones, has the inscription, “James, son of Joseph, brother of Jesus.” But last month a panel appointed by the Israel Antiquities Authority ruled the inscription a probable forgery.

experts who will proceed to re-examine the panel’s findings, in order to assess their validity.

“I have almost no doubt that we are talking about an authentic inscription,” Golan said. “But I am not the expert, this is something that requires scientific review. In the aftermath of the Antiquities Authority’s announcement, I have received a number of inquiries from geologists and other experts who dispute the conclusions drawn by the panel, or see different interpretations to their scientific findings.”

Golan says he acquired the ossuary for a nominal price from a Jerusalem antiquities dealer sometime in the early 1970s. He thought little about the inscription that contains names common to Jews in the first century.

For years the item languished in his basement, before being examined by

a prominent paleographer, Andre Lemaire of the Sorbonne, in March of 2002. Following publication of a wide-ranging report on the artifact in *Biblical Archaeology Review*, the ossuary gained worldwide attention, and was displayed abroad at the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto.

Testing the patina

The Antiquities Authority’s decision that the inscription is a fake is based in large part on tests that were conducted by Tel Aviv University professor Yuval Goren, and Avner Ayalon of the Israel Geological Survey Institute.

Goren and Ayalon’s tests would seem to contradict those of another team of scientists from the Israel Geological Survey, led by Amnon Rosenfeld and Shimon Ilani, which validated Golan’s claims.

Goren found the patina covering the inscription to be of a different geological nature than the patina on the rest of the ossuary. Most notably, he says, the patina covering the inscription contained micro-fossils of plankton and marine micro-organisms.

But such fossils wouldn’t be part of the geological footprint of a chalk patina, Golan contends, since that natural patina is made of calcium carbonate that re-crystallizes after exposure to ground water.

“True patina is like the stone crust that accumulates on the bottom of a tea kettle,” Goren said. “The calcium carbonate, a common mineral in an area rich in limestone, dissolves in the

ground water, and with the loss of carbon dioxide, it re-crystallizes. The process may be accelerated by heat. But in land conditions, like a burial cave, you can’t expect a patina to contain any fossils in it.”

Goren said he believes the patina covering the inscription was applied recently by someone who ground limestone into powder, and then mixed it with water to form a paste.

“This type of patina does not appear on any other part of the ossuary, it only covers the inscription,” he added, which is, by and of itself, very bizarre.

Handwriting analysis

The paleographers, or ancient handwriting experts, in the Antiquities Authority panel were more divided on whether the entire inscription was a modern fake, or whether the first part, which makes reference to James and Joseph, was a forgery, while the inscription of the name Jesus might indeed be ancient.

But the name “Jesus” was such a common one in the first century era that it loses its significance if it is found outside of the rest of the biblical family’s genealogy.

Golan, the ossuary’s owner, contends that many members of the committee had already made up their minds about the authenticity of the ossuary inscription.

“What is surprising is the fact that the conclusions of the committee are much more definitive than the findings themselves,” Golan said.

Homecoming 2003

Several important events take place on our campus each year. The two events that are the most challenging for me are graduation and homecoming. Preparation for graduation requires a great deal of my time. However, homecoming is by far the most stressful.

The weather is always a concern. Our homecoming date has been changed several times over the past 30 years. For a while, it was in the fall. This was normally a good time for favorable weather, but it conflicted with the University of Kentucky football games—and you know who wins out in that contest. So homecoming was moved to April when there was little conflict with anything, except we nearly always had cool, rainy days.

About 10 years ago, homecoming was moved to the last Saturday in June. There are not many conflicts with other activities except for reunions on or near the Fourth of July. The weather is usually good, though it can get a little warm. With all the rain the past two months, you can understand that I was concerned about the possibility of rain. This year there was no rain, and a cloudy day kept the temperature in the upper 70’s.

Another unpredictable element is the attendance. With all the effort that goes into the preparation for homecoming, we want a good turnout.

Each year we recognize the anniversary classes, with a special emphasis on the 50-year anniversary class. This class is invited to come to the platform and share some of their experiences while students at Oneida Baptist Institute and what they have done in the past 50 years. It was a special treat to hear of the number of 1953 graduates who became educators and coaches. Some said

they decided to become teachers while at OBI. There was also a retired banker in the class and some who were fortunate enough to be full-time mothers and homemakers. Others enjoyed many years of clerical work, factory work, health care and many other services.

It was very special to hear of the number who said that they realized their need of the Savior while at Oneida. They expressed fond memories of a caring faculty and staff who shared the gospel with them. There were also kind words of appreciation for the values they learned as students. One ’53 graduate retired after 46 years as a health care provider. She shared that she never had missed a single day of work. She attributed that record to the lessons she learned at Oneida, to always do your best and never shirk from your responsibilities. She said that the teachers she had at Oneida were an example of dedication and commitment.

I believe our guests had a good day, not only because of the fun, food and fellowship, but also because of the memories they have of a school that provided them with a solid education and also surrounded them with godly people. One person remarked about the greatest homecoming of all, that day when we all will sit at the feet of Jesus. It will be a special homecoming and time of rejoicing with all of those who met Jesus on the campus of Oneida Baptist Institute. If they had not met Him here, many wonder if they ever would have met Him at all!

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

THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

Professor served on study committee

A Clear Creek worker usually has more than one responsibility, and Randy Pressnell typifies that multi-task role. The Tennessee native is associate professor of pastoral ministries.

Pressnell recently completed service on the special Kentucky Baptist Convention Mission Study Committee. “It was a unique experience and a great opportunity to know some folks across the convention,” he said. “We examined the entire spectrum of state convention work and believe the results will have a healthy impact on the future.”

The committee recommended that KBC college trustee boards be allowed to have up to one-fourth of its members be non-Baptists. “This is really greater assurance for the colleges because all trustees will now be asked to affirm that they want the college to remain affiliated with the Kentucky Baptist Convention,” Pressnell stated. “The committee also asked the colleges to draft goals and action plans for each four-year class. This affects Clear Creek because the majority of our graduates go to Kentucky churches.”

The classroom and students are Pressnell’s “lifeline.” He especial-

ly enjoys teaching the introduction to ministry course. “It gives me the opportunity to impact lives the first year they are here, and I can help alleviate some of their fears and introduce them to ministry issues. I love it,” he said. “Everything we talk about is related to how it affects ministry in a local church and the need to pray and plan with that in view. This fall, the class will be even more practical as we practice how to baptize.”

As director of institutional effectiveness, Pressnell works with a campus committee to evaluate college assessment processes and the results of institutional self-improvement. “This is the No. 1 issue that accreditation bodies examine,” he said.

His third hat is accreditation liaison, the link between the college and the two associations that accredit our program. In 2004, Clear Creek will have a team visit from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. “During the summer I will learn more about this area. The entire campus is gearing up for the visit, it is an exciting time for Clear Creek,” Pressnell said.

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

Iraq's religious freedom in danger, policy expert warns

By David Anderson
Religion News Service

WASHINGTON (RNS)—A leading religious freedom advocate has warned that the Bush administration may throw away the possibility of creating a genuinely free Iraq because it is ceding authority to fundamentalist Shiite clergy in its effort to restore order to the chaotic country.

"It's a form of Shariah law, Islamic law, that's being imposed on a de facto basis," said Nina Shea of Freedom House's Center for Religious Freedom and a member of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom.

"Even more worrisome are Islamic courts that are being set up to settle disputes," she added. "They have been set up on an ad hoc basis, but with the acquiescence of the U.S. military, who's in charge. ... It's a dangerous trend."

Shea, who has been one of the most forceful proponents of making religious freedom a component of U.S. foreign policy, made her comments in an interview with Kim Lawton of the PBS television program "Religion and Ethics News-weekly."

After its swift military victory in Iraq, the U.S. military has been plagued with a breakdown in law and order that has hindered the establishment of the religious liberty and democratic values the Bush administration said would result from the ouster of Saddam Hussein.

The chaos in the country is underscored each week by attacks on American troops.

Threats, forced veils

Militant Shiite clerics, many of them fundamentalists and some of

them trained in Iran, have begun entering the power vacuum, much to the concern of religious freedom advocates such as Shea. They believe the trend could result in establishment, with U.S. military backing, of local and other governments that mimic the theocratic Iranian regime—Shea called it "Taliban lite"—and the potential repression of the Christian minority and dissident Muslims.

There already have been reports of Christian liquor store owners and distilleries attacked by conservative Muslims. Islam forbids alcohol, but under Saddam's nominally secular state, Christians were allowed to make and sell alcohol. There have also been reports of women being forced to wear veils in public.

"The U.S. reconstruction team at times has turned over neighborhoods, hospitals, schools, even towns to the Shiite clergy to rule, to run," Shea said. "This is unacceptable."

Shea acknowledged the need for law and order and the restoration of the supply of basic necessities such as electricity and water.

"But meanwhile, there is a growing organization among extremist elements in the Islamic community there that threatens the very survival of a free democratic state," Shea told Lawton.

Reluctance on religious issues

She said that among the U.S. occupiers—and the policy-makers in Washington—there is "a great deal of reluctance and uncertainty about how to deal with religion, uncertainty about whether (the United States) should even assert that there is a fundamental right to religious freedom."

Shea said the reconstruction ef-

Baptist volunteers already making difference

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Southern Baptist volunteers are beginning to make some headway in helping Iraqis rebuild their country.

A team of students from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, arrived in northern Iraq the first week of June to partner with the Jordanian Baptist Society on three projects: remodeling a school auditorium, laying groundwork for a women's literacy training project and installing computers in an Internet café.

Both school children and local government leaders will benefit from the school auditorium remodeling project. Not only will the pupils' educational opportunities be advanced, but the auditorium also serves as the meeting place for local leaders, who are working to bring stability and order to the country following the war.

One of Iraq's pressing needs is illiteracy among Iraqi women. An estimated 76.7 percent of the country's 12.4 million women cannot read or write. The volunteers will lay the groundwork for a women's literacy training project.

The Americans and Jordanians also have joined forces to install computers in a new Internet café that is being opened. Internet access will provide information-hungry Iraqis with a portal to the outside world.



OPENING INFORMATION DOORS A group of students from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, are helping install computers with Internet access in Iraq so that people in that country can have access to worldwide information. (BP photo)

All the rebuilding projects were made possible by Southern Baptists who have given to the Southern Baptist International Mission Board's Iraq relief fund.

"It's going to take time, and it's going to take a lot of effort," said one observer. "It's also going to take Southern Baptists like these students who are willing to come here and stand in the gap and share the love of Jesus Christ."

"But the results will have an eternal impact."

fort headed by Paul Bremer needs a good team of advisers on religious freedom.

"They (the administration) talk about a free Iraq, a liberated Iraq. Certainly Bush has stated his vision, but the policy on the ground has been reticent," Shea said.

The United States, she said, "has principles; it's just not articulating them in a persuasive way."

She said the United States must "identify those Shiites and Islamic

leaders who do embrace individual freedoms and human rights—and they are out there—and we have to be straightforward in insisting on religious freedom for everyone."

There should be, she said, "a raging debate" in both the United States and the United Nations about "the great challenge to religious freedom and individual rights posed by Islamic extremism that's rising and spreading throughout the world right now. Human rights are being eroded."

Canadian Salvation Army hurting from sinking income, membership

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (RNS)—After 120 years in Canada, the Salvation Army is determined to keep serving the needy despite government cuts, stretched donors and a sharply declining membership, says the church's top national leader.

"Child poverty in Canada has risen to 23 percent. To me that's a frightening number of people living below the poverty line," said Commissioner Bill Luttrell, who visited Vancouver for a 1,700-person Salvation Army convention last month.

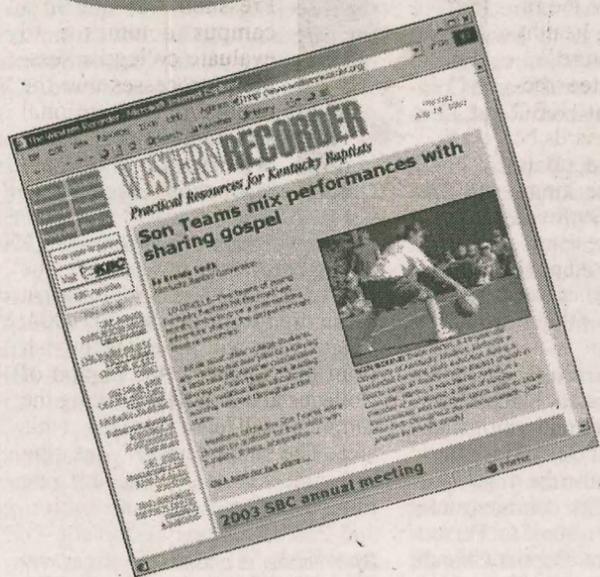
The Canadian Salvation Army has to struggle to offer its wide range of services at the same time governments are cutting back on welfare, seniors' facilities and other programs for the disadvantaged, Luttrell said. The government cutbacks have forced the Salvation Army to cut more than a dozen administrative staff.

"The government doesn't have the money available to do what needs to be done in all cases," said Luttrell, noting the Salvation Army is the largest nongovernmental provider of social services in North America. The Salvation Army receives 40 percent of its social services budget from the government.

Donations for many Canadian Salvation Army charity programs have been down in the past couple of years, he said, because of sagging investments, a drop in donations and because traditional donors either were financially stretched or dying off. Luttrell said some long-time donors to the Salvation Army in Canada diverted their giving to victims of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in New York.

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

■ Give thanks for a recent ProChrist week in Gardelegen, Germany, which drew more than 200 high school youth. As a result, 10 students signed up to attend an English camp sponsored by Baptist workers this month. Also, missionaries ask prayer that others who expressed interest in the gospel will become the first church in the city.

■ Baptist representatives in the Netherlands who are seeking ways to reach Muslims there with the gospel.

■ Strength and wisdom for "F," a Christian man from Togo who is leading a Bible study and worship time for Africans in Belgium.

■ Baptist representatives Earl and Robin Pinkston on Malta, as they finalize plans for the Aug. 8 International Day of Prayer for the Maltese Islands. (See story on this page.)

Missionaries organizing day of prayer for Maltese Islands

By Mark Kelly
SBC International Mission Board

VALLETTA, Malta—Southern Baptist missionaries on the tiny island nation of Malta are coordinating the second annual "International Day of Prayer for the Maltese Islands."

Earl Pinkston and his family have been serving in Malta since September 1998.

"Before we came to Malta I knew praying for missions was important, but now I know firsthand and have seen the results," Pinkston said.

Malta is made up of three small islands, the largest of which is only

9 miles by 17 miles, in the Mediterranean Sea.

Despite being such a small nation with a population of only 400,000 people, the Maltese are fiercely independent after years of foreign rule.

They have their own language (similar to Arabic) as well as their own currency. The Maltese Islands also are widely known for the significant role religion plays in their culture and daily living.

Pinkston noted: "Although many are committed to their religious upbringing, the Maltese need to hear the truth of the gospel. It is important that they read God's Word and understand that salvation only comes through a

personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ."

During their time on the field, the Pinkstons became increasingly aware of the need for more strategic prayer for Malta.

They coordinated the first "International Day of Prayer for the Maltese Islands" in 2002. They selected Aug. 8 because Malta is listed on that day in the popular missions prayer book by Patrick Johnstone titled, "Operation World." Several nations and many Americans from different states participated in last year's event.

"It was exciting to see people from various evangelical churches here in Malta come together to pray for our

nation," said Edwin Caruana, pastor of Evangelical Baptist Church. "Our prayer is that this year we will see even more believers participate in fasting and prayer, both in Malta and overseas."

After last year's Day of Prayer, the Pinkstons began receiving contacts as a result of Christian programming aired on local television stations. Through follow up, a small group was formed that continues to involve people in Bible study.

This year's Day of Prayer will take place on Friday, Aug. 8.

For more information, visit www.praymalta.org or contact Greg Bennett at (405) 691-6646.

California judge rules portion of church land-use law unconstitutional

LOS ANGELES (RNS)—A California district judge has declared unconstitutional a portion of the law aimed at helping houses of worship overcome land-use disputes.

In a little-noticed ruling filed June 24 in the U.S. District Court of the Central District of California, Judge Stephen Wilson said Congress "redefined First Amendment rights" by passing the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000.

The Washington-based Becket Fund for Religious Liberty filed a motion last week asking Wilson to reconsider and withdraw his decision.

The ruling—in which Wilson called the act "a blunderbuss of a remedy"—came when the Elsinore Christian Center sued the City of Lake Elsinore, Calif., after it was denied a conditional use permit to move into a former grocery store building.

"The result is likely to be, as in this case, that many land use decisions will

be invalidated despite being legitimately motivated and generic in effect, simply because the aggrieved landowner is a religious actor," Wilson wrote.

The case marks the first time that this law—the basis for dozens of land-use suits currently in the courts across the nation—has been struck down by a federal judge, legal experts say.

Under RLUIPA, governments must apply the least restrictive measures against religious groups, or show

that zoning laws or other regulations serve a compelling government interest. It was supported by an unusually wide range of religious groups, from evangelical Christians to Jews and Muslims.

At present, only churches in the court's Los Angeles area-jurisdiction are affected by the decision. If a Los Angeles-area church is refused a permit by a city council or planning commission, it would not be able to use the federal statute for further recourse.

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SEEKING: Full-time pastor. Send resumé to: Pastor Search Committee, Zion's Cause Baptist Church, 1532 Highway 68 West, Benton, KY 42025.

SEEKING: First Baptist, Sonora, is searching for a part-time youth minister to work with grades 7-12. Some musical ability would be helpful. Send resumé to: First Baptist Church, PO Box 187, Sonora, KY 42776. Fax: (270) 369-8867.

SEEKING: Bilingual minister for Hispanic migrant ministry in Western Kentucky (Paducah area). Primary responsibility is to lead Sunday morning Bible study and worship service for 20-30 Spanish-speaking men. Ministry is seasonal (August to November). Pay based on experience and number of Sundays available. Weekend lodging available. Send resumé to: West Union Baptist Association, 2541 Olivet Church Road, Paducah, KY 42001. For more information, call Marty Brown at (270) 224-2465.

SEEKING: Pastor for Willow Grove Baptist Church, Danville, Ky. Send resumé to 857 Godbey Lane, Danville, KY 40422.

SEEKING: Full-time children and youth minister. Send resumé to: Buena Vista Baptist Church, 119 West 24th St., Owensboro, KY 42303.

SEEKING: Fairlane Baptist church is seeking a full-time minister. Please send resumé to: Pastor Search Committee, Fairlane Baptist Church, 5913 South Herringer Road, Alexandria, KY 41001.

SEEKING: Full-time youth minister for established and growing youth program. Please send resumé with references to: Search Committee, Zion Baptist Church, 8158 Highway 351, Henderson, KY 42420.

SEEKING: First Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, Tenn., is seeking a minister of music to lead a comprehensive program of music and worship that includes traditional and contemporary worship services, age-graded choirs, instrumental and vocal groups and a fine arts academy. The successful candidate will join a team of ministers plus support staff. He or she will have a sense of calling to the role, a history of working well with staff colleagues and lay leadership, a willingness to participate in the total ministry of the church, and excellent professional credentials. Compensation, benefits and professional expenses will be commensurate with experience. First Baptist Church is self-identified as a moderate Baptist church. Murfreesboro is home to Middle Tennessee State University; the city and county are among the fastest growing areas in the United States. Send inquiries and resúmes by July 31 to: David Bragg, First Baptist Church, 200 E Main St., Murfreesboro, TN 37130. (www.fbcmboro.org)

SEEKING: Part-time minister to children for Chevy Chase Baptist Church. Duties include managing and implementing children's ministries. Experience working with children preferred. Send resumé to: Minister to Children, Chevy Chase Baptist Church, 200 Colony Blvd., Lexington, KY 40502. ccbc_cmssc@yahoo.com.

SEEKING: Part-time youth minister (paid position; grades 6-12) for Mexico Baptist Church in rural western Kentucky. Average Sunday school attendance: 135. Send resumé to MBC Youth Council, 175 Mexico Road, Marion, KY 42064, Attn: Brent Highfil, or call (270) 965-2149. turnerchandler@hotmail.com.

SEEKING: Broadway Baptist Church, a CBF affiliate in Louisville, Ky., is seeking an experienced minister of adult education and discipleship with an emphasis in developing small-group ministries and outreach. For more information, go to www.broadwaybaptist.org/search.htm, or write to the church c/o Education Search Committee, 4000 Brownsboro Road, Louisville, KY 40207.

SEEKING: Cadiz Baptist Church in Cadiz, Ky., is seeking a full-time associate pastor to provide spiritual leadership for our youth and assist with children and education. Please send resúmes to: Cadiz Baptist Church, PO Box 606, Cadiz, KY 42211.

SEEKING: Part-time nanny for infant in our Louisville home. Experience and references required. Begins mid-July. Laurel, (502) 896-8321.

SEEKING: Full-time youth pastor. Pay and benefits commensurate with position. Send resumé to: Personnel Committee, First Baptist Church, 302 North Magnolia St., Tompkinsville, KY 42167.

SEEKING: Part-time minister of music for Green River Memorial Baptist Church. Send resumé to: GRM-BC, 3441 Old Columbia Road, Campbellsville, KY 42718.

SEEKING: Pastor. Union Baptist Church, located 25 minutes south of Cincinnati, Ohio, in Northern Kentucky, offers the best of a rural and suburban setting. The city with its culture and professional sports is surrounded by rolling hills and pastures. UBC is looking for a pastor to take care of its flock of 265 average in Sunday school attendance (high Sundays—more than 400). This 100-plus-year-old Southern Baptist church has a new (2-year) 500-seat sanctuary ready for its next pastor. Please submit all resúmes along with tapes to: Union Baptist Church, U.S. 42 and Mt. Zion Road, PO Box 194, Union, KY 41091, Attn: Mike Webster.

SEEKING: Jamestown First Baptist is seeking a full-time student pastor. Undergraduate education required. Forward to: Youth Search, JFB, PO Box 308, Jamestown, KY 42629; jfb@duo-county.com.

SEEKING: Part-time minister of children for Tunnel Hill Baptist Church. Please send resumé to: Tunnel Hill Baptist Church, 734 Tunnel Hill Church Road, Elizabethtown, KY 42701, Attn: Terry Caudoin.

SEEKING: Part-time minister of youth for Tunnel Hill Baptist Church. Please send resumé to: Tunnel Hill Baptist Church, 734 Tunnel Hill Church Road, Elizabethtown, KY 42701, Attn: Terry Caudoin.

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Alzheimer's & the soul

Ministering to patients doesn't have to be intimidating, say specialists, family

By Kristen Campbell
Religion News Service

MOBILE, Ala. (RNS)—Time and again, James Ellor has asked the question: Does an Alzheimer's patient have a soul?

No one, he said, has ever said, "no."

Still, clergy members and lay people sometimes seem stumped when called upon to offer spiritual sustenance to one of the 4 million Americans living with Alzheimer's disease.

Ellor, editor of the *Journal of Religious Gerontology*, said it doesn't have to be that way.

While Alzheimer's patients—particularly those who are in the late stages of the disease—may not be able to articulate their religious beliefs, many still may find meaning in singing favorite hymns, repeating Scripture verses or participating in a sacred ritual.

"Alzheimer's patients want to use all five senses," Ellor said. "The ritual liturgical communities have more, in effect, to offer."

Understanding Alzheimer's

First described in 1906 by Dr. Alois Alzheimer, the disease is the leading cause of dementia, a condition that includes memory loss, disorientation, loss of language skills, impaired judgment and personality changes. The loss of brain cells leads to a progressive failure of other systems in the body.

That means that in time, traditional pastoral care, where a cleric might have a conversation with a patient about his or her faith and any particular concerns, isn't possible.

That's the challenging part, said Taylor Morgan, chaplain and director of pastoral care at Mobile Infirmiry Medical Center. "You do have to look at other avenues," Morgan said.

Walt Howard, chaplain at Mercy Medical in Daphne, Ala., said he's found that some people with Alzheimer's may not be able to communicate much, but are quite capable of singing hymns with a group.

"A lot of them through music can connect or reconnect with their faith," Howard said.

Cordell Simpson, chaplain at the University of Tennessee Medical Center in Knoxville, recalled a case in which a pastor who had been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease was brought to his church each Sunday.

Once in the pulpit, the pastor would preach a sermon; later in the service, members would direct him to give the benediction, and he would offer that blessing.

But while the pastor could preach a coherent message, Simpson said, the man was unable to recognize his wife of more than 60 years.

Simpson acknowledged that it can



WORSHIP Tim Deasy holds a worship service for residents at Mercy Medical Center in Daphne, Ala. Liturgical worship can be meaningful for Alzheimer's patients, according to both caregivers and family members. (RNS photo by Bill Starling)

be frustrating to work with patients who, for the most part, are unable to participate in a meaningful conversation and relate their needs.

In turn, he said, "you've got to be able to hear, see and understand what they're not saying."

In addition to recognizing things that brought the patient meaning in the past, Simpson said it's also important for caregivers to treat individuals as they would want to be treated.

"You want to be treated with dignity and respect even if you're lying in the bed, sick and afflicted," said Simpson, who discussed new ways to work with Alzheimer's patients at a Tennessee conference last month.

Regardless of a patient's illness, Mobile Infirmiry's Morgan said, "the needs are the same. When we're ill, we can rely on our faith to sustain us. ... I think that's true of whomever the person may be."

Bunnie Sutton, administrator and program director of the Alzheimer's Foundation of the South in Mobile, readily attests to the spiritual needs of those who suffer from the degenerative disease.

But too often, Sutton said, those needs are ignored.

"People seem to be afraid of dementia patients," Sutton said. "They don't exactly know how to respond to them or to relate to them or what to say to them. Therefore, they shy away from them."

Sutton said she witnessed a dramatic difference between how clergy approached her brother, who had can-

cer, and her mother, who suffered from Alzheimer's disease for 17 years.

Many came to visit and pray with her brother, she said, but few tended to her mother's spiritual needs.

Losing memory, not soul

"One of the things we say (is), 'They're losing their memory, but they're not losing their soul.' They still need to be ministered to," Sutton said. "They still need people to read the Bible to them. They love for someone to sing with them and to them. ... We never know all that they're relating to."

Alzheimer's patients aren't the ones to benefit from such care, Sutton and Ellor said.

When family members see someone with Alzheimer's connecting to a familiar religious tradition their perceptions change, Ellor said.

It "makes a real difference to families," he said, when they can see a loved one responding in a meaningful way.

Seeing someone take time to minister to a family member with Alzheimer's can help caregivers in other ways as well, Sutton said. Many people find it hurtful, she said, when religious communities don't offer spiritual care to those who offered much to their congregations when they were well, but appear to have been forgotten when Alzheimer's disease takes its toll.

"To just ignore them as a spiritual being on our part in society is just wrong," Sutton said.

Baptist student accused of smuggling for Russian church

By Frank Brown
Religion News Service

MOSCOW (RNS)—Andrew Okhotin, a Baptist youth pastor, took the 10-hour flight from New York to Moscow in late March on a quick and joyful mission.

He was going to deliver a \$48,000 cash gift from American believers to Russian Baptists, visit for a few days with relatives and then return to the United States and his studies at Harvard Divinity School.

Nearly three months later, the 28-year-old Okhotin is still in Moscow, has yet to hand over the money, and, if Moscow prosecutors get their way, could spend the next five years in a Russian prison.

Russian customs inspectors claim Okhotin is a currency smuggler, who on March 29 deliberately chose the green, "nothing-to-declare" corridor at Moscow's main international airport, all the while carrying \$48,000 in \$100 and \$50 bills in his beige backpack.

In fact, Okhotin says, he made an innocent mistake by stepping into the wrong corridor and, when asked, immediately reached into his jacket pocket and handed over a duly completed customs form he had filled out on the plane.

Learning just how much money Okhotin had, customs inspectors detained him for 12 hours as they interrogated him, offering twice to release him for bribes of \$5,000 and \$10,000, he says.

"Free Okhotin" campaign

Today, Okhotin's case has taken on a life of its own by slowly, organically provoking the prayerful indignation of evangelical Christians worldwide. Without any apparent unified effort or formal organization by Okhotin's supporters, the quiet Baptist with an earnest demeanor and a slight stoop has become a cause celebre. Supporters are following his journey through the Russian legal system, his hunger strike and the prayer appeals on the K-Love Christian radio network, through e-mail and on Christian-oriented Web sites from Denmark to the United States to Russia.

Aside from the perceived venality of Russian officials, the issue also seems to resonate deeply and poignantly in evangelical Christian circles worldwide because Okhotin's predicament brings back memories of Soviet-era religious repression, especially of Christians who were not members of state-approved denominations.

Indeed, Okhotin's father was a Soviet-era pastor in an underground Baptist church who was arrested for his religious work, convicted of anti-Soviet agitation and sent for 2-1/2 years to a prison near the Sea of Azov where he says his health was permanently damaged. The family—Andrew Okhotin, his parents and his eight siblings—emigrated to the United States in 1989.

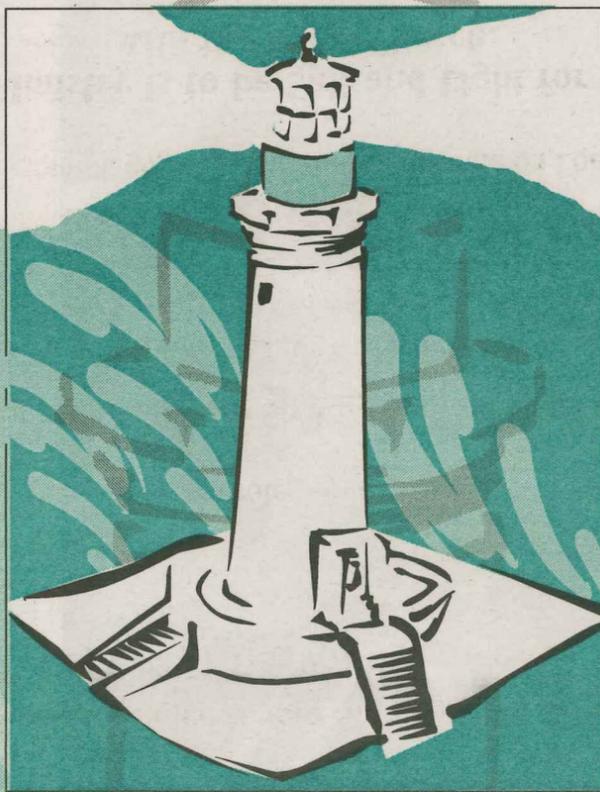
Nearly 20 years ago, Rep. Joseph Pitts, R-Pa., was one of the hundreds of Americans involved in a letter-writing campaign to win the elder Okhotin's release from prison. Back then, Pitts was a state legislator in Pennsylvania, but now he sits on the House of Representatives' international relations committee. He enlisted five other congressmen in sending an appeal to Russian President Vladimir Putin.

"Congressman Pitts likes to say that he is a toothache that just won't go away regarding this issue," said Pitts' spokesman, Derek Karchner, from Washington, adding that, so far, there is little progress. "We have had varying degrees of evasion and obstinence from Russian officials. (Pitts) had a rather brief and pointed conversation with the Russian ambassador two weeks ago. Nothing was really accomplished and there didn't appear to be any flexibility."

Ultimately, Karchner said, the strongest political weapon Pitts has is to introduce Okhotin's case during the upcoming discussion in the House on the repeal of the last significant Cold War-era trade restrictions on Russia.

"That's especially true since six of the biggest players on the (trade) issue in the House are involved in Andrew's case," Karchner said.

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