

July 27, 2004
Vol. 178, No. 29

FOR THE RECORD

Baptists
IMB trustees expand budget, set policies for non-SBC volunteers. *Page 2.*

Kentucky
Coalition backs state marriage amendment. *Page 3.*

Family Forum
How much should a parent tell about past mistakes? *Page 5.*

Editorial
SBC resolutions tackle a variety of issues. *Page 5.*

Ministry
Boys learn spiritual lessons feeding homeless. *Page 6.*

IRS
Red flags rise when political campaigns seek church rolls. *Page 8.*

Nation
Democrats try to show they're religious, too. *Page 9.*

Protestants losing majority status in U.S.

Chicago (RNS)—Protestants could be the majority religious group in the United States within the next year and their numbers already might have dipped below 50 percent, a new study by the National Opinion Research Center says.

From 1972, when the NORC began its General Social Survey, until 1993, the Protestant share of the population remained constant, averaging 62.8 percent. It then began to show a decline, reaching 52.4 percent in 2002.

The study attributed the decline to, among other things, the fact that fewer children were raised in Protestant homes over the past four decades. The share of people who said they were raised as Protestants dropped from 64.7 percent in 1972 to 55.7 percent in 2002.

Among people born after 1980, less than half said they were raised Protestant, suggesting the downward trend would continue.

The study found that the retention rate for Protestants also fell through the years. In the 20 years leading up to 1993, a steady 90 percent raised in Protestant households remained Protestant as adults. That had dropped below 83 percent by the turn of the century.

Immigration is another factor that has lowered the proportion of Protestants in the United States. The study found that only 24.5 percent of immigrants are Protestant.

Literacy missions



PERSONAL LESSONS In addition to coordinating the work of literacy missions throughout Kentucky, Rebecca Carnell (left) also gets personally involved in teaching adult reading and writing. (Photo by Dannah Prather)

Missionary found calling stronger than career

By Dannah Prather
Partnerships Editor

Eubank—For Rebecca Carnell, obedience to God meant trading in the world of dollars and cents for the world of ABCs.

"I had arrived," she said. "I had my own office and a title." But Carnell left a stable job in banking, dispossessed of her belongings and embraced the life of a home missionary.

She said her desire to help oth-

ers learn to read the Bible was greater than the security of a steady paycheck.

Her journey began in 1985 when she became a volunteer tutor. But it was a 1992 meeting of the national Woman's Missionary Union in Indianapolis that Carnell said really changed her life.

At the meeting, she heard testimonies from adults who had learned to read because of the Baptist Literacy Missions Ministry. Car-

nell said she tried to imagine what her life and Christian walk would be like without the ability to read.

"I had always read well and taken it for granted," Carnell said. "If you can't read God's Word, your relationship with Jesus can't be the same. At times, I don't know how to pray, but I can read the Psalms and that's my prayer."

As moved as she was by the WMU literacy workshop, Carnell said See *Missionary finds ... Page 3*

Hardships a privilege, attack victim tells other missionaries

By Mark Kelly
SBC International Mission Board

Tyler, Texas (BP)—The hardships of missionary service can be discouraging, but worshipping God in a spiritually dark place is a privilege beyond compare, Iraq shooting survivor Carrie McDonall told 58 new missionaries July 12 in Tyler, Texas.

McDonall, the lone survivor of a March 15 shooting that claimed the lives of her husband, David, and three other Southern Baptist workers, spoke during an International Mission Board appointment service.

She noted that many of the missionaries were headed to places where there are no Christians.

"Consider it a privilege that you may worship the one true living God in a place where there is only darkness," she said.

McDonall warned the new mis-

sionaries not to be surprised when everything goes wrong and life gets hard.

"There are times when you will need to focus on the Lord's faithfulness," she said. "He is the one who is called 'Faithful and True.'"

"In those times when nothing seems to go right and all you can cling to is the call you have obeyed, remember this: God is faithful. That is His name. He will do what He put you there for.

"He will be exalted among the nations. The earth will be filled with His glory. Your work is not in vain, nor does it go unnoticed," she said.

Overseas service can be difficult, and many people don't understand why missionaries go, said Gordon Fort, the board's new vice president for overseas operations.

The truth, he said, is that the love of Christ compels missionaries to go—and compels them to stay when things get difficult.

"People will ask you why you are doing what you are doing," Fort said. "The reason is that, deep in your heart, you are compelled by the love of Christ. There is something inside of us that says if we don't go, those who have not heard will spend eternity separated from God.

"One of the things that keeps us on the mission field is that when God calls, we cannot help but obey," Fort said. "We lay our lives on the line, in obedience to the call of God.

"Never forget to walk in that obedience every day you are on the field. It's an unending quest. You might have a victory today, but the victories of today will not guarantee tomorrow's battles. You have to fight them each day. Obey your master."

Every Christian knows he or she isn't a spiritual giant, Fort said. The only hope anyone has of being used by God is to "live a sacrificed life."

"You know you're not a spiritual giant. In fact, some of you are wondering, 'How did I make it through this process?'" Fort said. "You know you are human beings like everyone else in this room.

"But if you will remember to live a crucified life every day, you will experience the power of God flowing through you. That is what will make the difference wherever you go.

"Do you want God to do something great with your life?" Fort asked. "Then just spiritually see yourself climb up on an altar, there to be consumed by the fire of God's Holy Spirit until He burns you to ashes. Then let Him take what is left and let Him mold you with His hands into an instrument He can use."

Dated material. Please deliver by Wednesday, July 28.



McDonall

Record gifts allow IMB to expand budget

With the appointment of 58 new missionaries July 12, the Southern Baptist International Mission Board now has 5,346 overseas workers, including 3,859 long-term career and associate workers.

By Mark Kelly
SBC International Mission Board

Tyler, Texas (BP)—With a final tally of \$136.2 million for the 2003 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, trustees of the Southern Baptist International Mission Board approved a plan to expand the IMB budget for specific overseas needs during a July 12-14 meeting in Tyler, Texas.

The board also elected a new leader for work in West Africa, clarified their policy on non-Southern Baptists participating in IMB projects and appointed 58 new missionaries.

David Steverson, the IMB's vice president for finance, expressed gratitude for the millions of Southern Baptists who pooled their gifts and raised the largest-ever international missions offering.

"Let me remind you that the total was \$136,204,648.17," Steverson said. "Some of my colleagues give me a hard time when I attempt to be so precise. However, we believe that the 17 cents is just as important as the \$136 million. Scripture teaches us that the widow gave her mites—probably about two cents—and that gift was honored. We appreciate all those who contributed, regardless of the amount."

A call to urgency

Affirming the 18.4 percent increase in the Lottie Moon offering, trustee chairman Tom Hatley of Rogers, Ark., added that the total "is not a laurel upon which we can rest. We still have many hundreds of people in the pipeline, awaiting their turn for appointment.

"If they will go, we must find a way to send them. In all that we must do, let us do it with urgency."

Steverson acknowledged the presence of Janet Hoffman, national president of Woman's Missionary Union, and expressed appreciation for WMU's contribution to promoting the offering in churches across the country.

Finance committee chairman

Ken Whitten of Tampa, Fla., brought a proposal to expand the IMB budget by \$3.2 million to include:

- \$1.7 million for overseas operating expenses primarily related to sending additional new missionaries and assisting missionaries adversely affected by the declining value of the dollar in some places.

- \$1.5 million to bolster efforts to take the gospel to more than 1.3 billion unevangelized people in South Asia. Southern Baptists have only one missionary or couple in South Asia for every 8 million unsaved people.

Randy Arnett, a Missouri native who has served 17 years in West Africa, was elected to lead 292 IMB workers in that region. He succeeds Bill Bullington, who is retiring Sept. 1 after 38 years of service.

Arnett, 48, and his wife, Kathy, were appointed by the IMB in 1986. He has served as director of research and human needs response coordinator for the region and taught at the Baptist School of Theology in Lome, Togo. Prior to missionary appointment, he was pastor of churches in Missouri.

As research coordinator, Arnett gathered and compiled information on 1,100 people groups in West Africa—half of them with 15,000 or fewer members.

"As I typed in numbers on those people groups, there was one key on my computer that I used far too much," Arnett said. "It was a key that brought tears to my eyes. It was the zero. Number of Christians—zero. Number of churches—zero." After pushing that key a few hundred times, it became painful.

While West Africa is a region of massive lostness, God is drawing people to Himself, Arnett said.

He told the story of a village in a remote part of the Sahara Desert, where a seed project had helped dramatically improve the residents' quality of life. When Southern Baptist workers returned for a follow-up visit, the local religious leader

came to them, expressing a desire to accept Christ—even though he knew it would mean the loss of family, lands, herds, perhaps even his life.

"That day, a zero became a one, and we all played a part in it," Arnett said. "I assure you that I am going to do my level best to change the zeroes into ones and tens and hundreds and thousands and five thousands."

Policy limits non-SBC volunteers

Trustees clarified their policy on enlisting non-Southern Baptists to serve in volunteer projects, following concern expressed by their overseas committee in May about an increase in those numbers.

The policy now states that only members of Southern Baptist Convention churches can fill positions on projects that involve church planting, preaching, teaching and similar functions. Exceptions may be made for members of other evangelical churches for projects that include activities such as human needs ministry, prayer and Scripture distribution. Only members of SBC churches may serve as leaders for volunteer teams.

The policy also states that all groups working with IMB missionaries are expected to work within the parameters of the Baptist Faith and Message, just as the missionaries do.

During a July 12 appointment service at Green Acres Baptist Church in Tyler, 58 new missionaries shared how they came to understand and obey God's call to missions.

Gordon Fort, the board's new vice president for overseas operations, challenged the new workers to commit themselves to "the unending task of obedience" and to experience God's power by "living crucified lives every day."

The service brought the number of missionaries serving through the IMB to 5,346, including 3,859 long-term career and associate workers.

IMB worker calls 'right to comfort' American delusion

Birmingham, Ala. (BP)—Americans are squeamish when it comes to the notion of suffering as the call of God because most of them believe comfort is an inalienable right, a Southern Baptist International Mission Board worker said during the 22nd annual Southern Baptist Founders Conference.

The American culture is one of entitlement that views safety, health and security as fundamental rights, but that is not how Christians should think, he said.

The worker urged conference participants to view life through the lens of eternity in the vein of the Apostle Paul who, in 1 Corinthians 4, called suffering "momentary light affliction" compared to the glory of his eternal heritage.

The IMB worker, who works in a restricted access area and cannot be identified for security reasons, was a keynote speaker during the July 13-16 conference at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala., with the theme of "The Fellowship of His Sufferings."

Founders is an organization established in 1982 to promote Calvinistic doctrines within the Southern Baptist Convention.

The worker, himself a U.S. citizen, said America's self-indulgent assumptions never were demonstrated more clearly than the period immediately following Sept. 11, 2001.

While America prides itself on being something of a safe haven, the worker said he feels a greater degree of safety for his children in countries other than the United States because his home country has become something of a hostile environment toward children.

The worker said people often ask him if particular overseas missions fields are safe. Invariably, the answer is "no," he said, but gospel missions is not a place for a person who views safety and comfort as a God-given right.

"We live in a culture that has trouble grasping delayed gratification, much less denied gratification," he said. "This is cultural orthodoxy and it is powerful. It is also delusional."

He warned ministers against falling into the trap of preaching a pseudo-gospel that is nothing more than a baptized version of the so-called American dream.

"We have got to be careful that we present the biblical picture of the Christian life in all of its culturally heretical dimensions ... so don't be surprised at the fiery trial that comes upon you. Don't be surprised at suffering. Don't let it catch you off-guard. Learn to expect it. Learn to think it is normal. Learn to think of it as a friend."



BAPTIST DIGEST

Peace Fellowship names director.

The Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America has named Gary Percesepe, a longtime peace activist, as coordinating director effective July 16. Percesepe, an American Baptist minister, has served as a pastor, professor and director of nonprofit organizations. He founded the Springfield Call to Renewal and Justice-Action-Mercy, a congregation-based interfaith organization in Springfield, Ohio. He also has taught philosophy at several schools, including the University of Dayton, Wittenburg University in Springfield and St. Louis University.

LifeWay, InQuest form alliance.

LifeWay Christian Resources and InQuest Ministries have reached an agreement to form a publishing alliance for student ministry resources. InQuest Ministries, a company focused on youth ministries, is based in Raleigh, N.C. The two organizations plan to

release several co-branded studies beginning this fall, with a goal of releasing three studies each year. Jeff Pratt, InQuest's chief operating officer, noted that InQuest and LifeWay realize that no single group "has all the answers, so we have the opportunity to begin learning from each other. This is an alliance of two organizations coming together for a Kingdom project.

Truett's Chip Conyers dies.

Chip Conyers, one of Truett Theological Seminary's first faculty members, died July 18 at age 60 after a lengthy battle with cancer. Conyers was a graduate of the University of Georgia, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He was chair of the department of religion and philosophy at Charleston Southern University in South Carolina before joining Truett as a professor of theology in 1994.

Coalition urges support for state marriage amendment

By Trennis Henderson
Editor

Frankfort—As the debate over the definition of marriage shifts from the federal level to various states, a coalition of traditional marriage advocates is gearing up in Kentucky.

The "Vote Yes for Marriage" committee, a loose-knit group of evangelical leaders and organizations, is seeking to urge Kentucky voters to support a proposed marriage amendment to the state constitution this fall.

Among the group's goals is for churches throughout the commonwealth to highlight a traditional view of marriage during Aug. 29 worship services.

Floyd Paris, chairman of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Committee on Public Affairs, sent a letter last week to Kentucky Baptist pastors, declaring that "the institution of marriage is under attack in today's society."

Noting that "many are seeking to redefine this holy and God-blessed union of a man and a woman," Paris encouraged pastors

"to consider an emphasis on marriage for your Aug. 29 services."

"The scope and extent of this emphasis," he added, "is, of course, up to you and your worship planning team."

Groups throughout state involved

The Kentucky Baptist emphasis is being promoted in cooperation with other efforts under way across the state.

Kent Ostrander, executive director of the Family Foundation, is serving as chairman of the Vote Yes for Marriage committee. Other groups and individuals involved include the Kentucky League on Alcohol and Gambling Problems, Southeast Christian Church in Louisville and John Chowning, director of Campbellsville University's Kentucky Heartland Institute on Public Policy.

"The two tasks we have are to elevate marriage back to its special set-apart status and make sure the marriage amendment passes on Nov. 2" in Kentucky, Ostrander said.

He noted that Kentucky's pro-

posed amendment is "one the clearest and cleanest state constitutional amendments proposed."

The measure, approved in April by the Kentucky legislature, states that "only a marriage between one man and one woman shall be valid or recognized as a marriage in Kentucky. A legal status identical or substantially similar to that of marriage for unmarried individuals shall not be valid or recognized."

"Clearly," Ostrander said, "marriage is the foundation of family and family is the foundation of any society, molding and shaping the next generation of leaders."

Insisting that coalition members "are not out to bash gays," Ostrander added, "We're voting to protect marriage."

Chowning agreed. "The goal of this group is not a campaign to bash any other group of individuals," he said. "It's to hold up the sanctity of marriage and the traditional definition of marriage that is in keeping with the Judeo-Christian tradition of marriage of one man and one woman."

Citing the recent action in the U.S. Senate that put a proposed federal marriage amendment on hold, Chowning added, "It's unlikely there's going to be any action on the federal level in the near future."

He said the proposed Kentucky amendment "is important particularly in view of what other states are doing and what the federal courts might do."

Howard Beauman, executive director of the Kentucky League, said his organization is making bulletin inserts available for churches to use on Aug. 29 or at other times between now and the Nov. 2 vote.

"We're going to be contacting pastors and encouraging them to be involved," Beauman said. "Our people are going to have to get out there and recognize the significance of this amendment. It's not just a Baptist effort; it's across all lines."

Bulletin inserts are available at www.kentuckyleague.org. Additional resources are available at www.voteyesformarriage.org and www.kybaptist.org/publicaffairs.

KBC offers new DVD on ministries

Louisville—A new DVD collection of six videos on the missions and ministries of the Kentucky Baptist Convention is now available at no charge to Kentucky Baptist churches.

The DVD includes videos that focus on the work of the Cooperative Program in Kentucky, the KBC partnership with Brazil, and other aspects of KBC work.

The videos are all 11 minutes or less and can be used in worship services, small group meetings or with new member orientation.

The DVD can be ordered by calling (502) 254-4731 or (888) 254-5713 or by visiting www.kybaptist.org/av.

Missionary finds literacy missions calling stronger than career

Continued from page 1

she did not think her role would change much when she returned to Kentucky. "I thought I'd (still) be teaching people to read," she said. Then she realized that her moment of "surrender" to God's will in Indianapolis meant something more.

Avenues of service

When Carnell ran across a brochure on Mission Service Corps, a program of the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board, she knew she had her answer.

Mission Service Corps helps volunteer missionaries who serve approximately 20 hours each week. Volunteers from across the country go through an application process and a weekend orientation. After completing orientation, MSC volunteers are assisted in finding compatible ministries. Some funds are available for travel or other expenses.

Carnell already had her ministry. She was looking for support. MSC provided funds for some of her office equipment, but more than that, she has found a network of encouragers. "Prayers work," she said. "Mission Service Corps has been that avenue for prayer support."

In 1994, Carnell began training tutors in adult reading and writing. She then plunged into English as a second language and became a trainer of tutors for that program. Since 1994 she has trained more than 400 tutors across Kentucky. In 1998, she accepted the KBC literacy consultant job, officially a part-time position.

"My job is to convince churches they are needed in this area," she said.

Because the curriculum uses the Bible among other materials, Carnell said the impact of tutoring goes far beyond equipping someone for the workplace.

"This is more than just social work," she said. Twenty-nine profes-

sions of faith, eight on-going Bible studies and one church start are directly linked to Kentucky Baptist literacy ministries.

Another aspect of Carnell's job is as chief encourager to the army of volunteer tutors working through church and associational literacy ministries across Kentucky.

"Not everyone is called to this work," she said. "A lot of these volunteers are just plodding along, doing what they do and no one notices them."

"She lives it"

"She lives it and breathes it," said Tony Hough, Carnell's supervisor and director of extension-ministries with the Kentucky Baptist Convention. "I don't know where her commitment comes from other than just a call she's responded to. Her response is as deep as the call. She is a genuinely humble person who just trusts the Lord to make it possible to do what she could not do otherwise. She's very authentic in that way."

"She's someone with not a lot of formal education, just a lot of heart," said Joy Bolton, executive director of Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union.

Bolton nominated Carnell for the 2004 Dellana West O'Brien Award for Women's Leadership Development. At the WMU annual meeting in June, Carnell accepted the award in front of the national audience. That meeting was in Indianapolis, the place where Carnell said she surrendered to God's will and allowed Him to change her life.

"She's exactly the kind of person we want to recognize," Bolton said. "She's a woman out there following a sense of calling from God."

Southern Baptist literacy ministries might vary from church to church depending on the curriculum used, but most programs consist of three areas: adult reading

and writing, English as a second language and the newest area of emphasis, tutoring children and youth.

Many students in the adult reading and writing program were children "who got behind and stayed behind," in school, Carnell said. "Teachers don't have the time to take that child who is falling behind and work with him one-on-one. That's where the church could step in."

"She helped me a lot"

Cassandra Collins of Science Hill is one of Carnell's students. As a child, Collins was ridiculed because of an undiagnosed congenital problem known as Feingold Syndrome. "They told me I was retarded," said Collins, now 36 and the mother of two.

Among other problems, Feingold Syndrome affects the development of a child's esophagus, fingers and toes. Deafness or partial deafness is often present, and approximately one-third of infants with the condition experience learning disabilities.

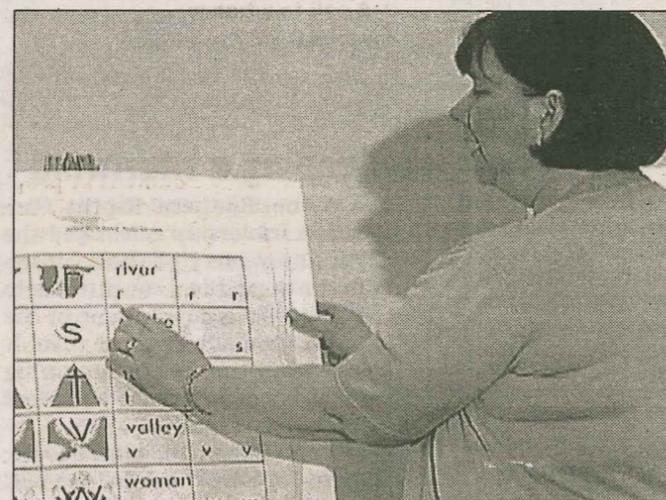
Specialized help was unavailable for Collins as a child. She was ostracized from the rest of her class "My older brother found me one day (alone) in the hall with my desk turned toward the wall," she said.

Despite her profound problems at school, Collins was promoted and eventually graduated. Currently, her adolescent daughters read at a higher level than she.

The materials Carnell uses with Collins include the New International Readers Version of the Bible, a study booklet using the Gospel of Mark, and a book that puts a new reader on the "fast track" to get a driver's license.

"She's helped me a lot," Collins said about Carnell. "I know words now."

Collins said her daughters and husband are proud of her. "Espe-



cially my oldest daughter," she said. "She wants me to get a job and take her shopping." That shopping trip might occur in the near future. The local vocational rehabilitation department is helping Collins find a job.

Of all her accomplishments since beginning tutoring, Collins said reading the Bible and learning to pray are perhaps the most precious. "It makes me feel better," she said. "I'm not ashamed. I know God is with me."

With a shy smile, Collins tells Carnell, "I'm really happy I found you."

On paper, Carnell's goal is to recruit literacy consultants in every region of Kentucky, but underneath that measurable outcome is one simple desire: "I want my students to be able to read the Bible and know Jesus," she said. "That's my goal."

For more information about Kentucky Baptist literacy missions, contact Carnell at (606) 379-0838 or toll-free at (888) 254-5725. Carnell can also be reached by e-mail at rebecca.carnell@kybaptist.org.

Next week: Learn more about the status of adult literacy in Kentucky and how Kentucky Baptists can make a positive impact.

TRAINING VOLUNTEERS

Becky Carnell has equipped more than 400 literacy tutors since she began training them in 1994. (KBC photo by Larry Brannin)

WESTERN RECORDER

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

TRENNIS HENDERSON
Editor

DAVID WINFREY
News Director

JANET McINTOSH
Marketing & Business
Manager

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

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

To subscribe: Send \$12.19 for a one-year, individual subscription. Group subscriptions on the church budget plan are \$9.75 per year. An additional church newsletter service is available for churches of all sizes. All subscriptions are payable in advance, except church accounts, which require a tax exemption number.

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

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

To give news tips: Call (888) 254-5729, fax to (502) 244-6474 or write the editor or news director.

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

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

Directors:
Chairman **Bill Thurman**, Lexington;
Vice Chairman **Linda Polley**, Elizabethtown;
Secretary **Mike Harmon**, Princeton;
Skip Alexander, Campbellsville;
Dan Francis, Erlanger;
David Harmon-Vaugh, Louisville;
Ken James, London;
Don Mantooh, Morehead;
Bill Marshall, Louisville;
Floyd Price, Prestonsburg;
Rodney Travis, Hopkinsville;
Marc Whitt, Richmond.

Courageous view

James Draper, president of LifeWay Christian Resources, is a very courageous person. I hope he is either near retirement, independently wealthy or has another job lined up. His guest commentary—"Is the SBC a frog in the kettle?"—in the June 29 issue of the Western Recorder correctly pointing out some of the major problems with the Southern Baptist Convention leadership will definitely not advance his career.

Without a diverse leadership, especially young people, our denomination will not grow—and any organization that does not grow will eventually die. I reached this conclusion several years ago after seeing a group picture of the SBC leadership in the Western Recorder. This picture was of seven old, fat white guys like myself.

I like to think that we old, fat white guys have a lot to offer, but the SBC desperately needs the energy and vision of young people, women and people of color. Without the opportunity to assume leadership positions, these folks will look elsewhere to use their energy and talents.

Let's hope Draper's letter will stir the pot and help rescue the frog before it is too late.

Larry Cobb
Prospect

Reaping a whirlwind

As the Southern Baptist Convention leadership celebrated the 25th anniversary of their conservative resurgence, I could not help but hear the irony in some of the comments made by these men. It seems they are finally beginning to reap the whirlwind they sowed in this convention.

Morris Chapman, of all people, saying, "We must not let the SBC

be driven by politics." What else could you call what he himself embraced along with the other leaders as a tactic for taking over the SBC? Jerry Falwell said it best when he remarked, "I wasn't a Southern Baptist until you guys hijacked it"—meaning, of course, the Southern Baptist Convention.

Chapman is now singing a different tune. If I read him correctly, he is now saying politics is no longer appropriate—even suggesting it should die out as a leadership tool. "We can be conservative and cooperative," he said. Too bad he didn't realize that when the Baptist World Alliance issue came up.

As I read the reports from the heads of other Baptist entities, I was struck by the pessimism that came through in their remarks. The need for revenue is obvious. The leaders of these entities finally are beginning to admit that all is not rosy in the SBC.

I suspect the recent decision to withdraw from BWA had nothing to do with the trumped-up liberalism charges. More likely, the \$425,000 they were expected to give toward BWA's budget is badly needed somewhere else. When Baptists can't adequately fund their missionaries, something is wrong! It is obvious that the SBC no longer has the deep pockets it once had and this fact is dawning on the current leadership.

This could be a positive thing if SBC leaders wake up and realize that driving good Christian people away is not the answer to the convention's problems.

Doris Willson
Middletown

Stand up, speak out

At the start of the 20th century, the Taliban in Afghanistan destroyed statues of Buddha because it was an affront to the control

of public discourse and this approved religion. They destroyed the statues to erase the history of faith in Afghanistan they opposed.

The ACLU and its followers practice the same intolerant persecution of people of faith by the prosecution and litigation to remove the Ten Commandments from public buildings and prayer from the schools.

The ACLU claims that the use of the term "God" in government communication is a violation of the Establishment Clause. Hence, the Ten Commandments need to be removed. If this is true, when we follow this line of thought to its final conclusion, the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution become "unconstitutional" because they include the term "God" as the source and justification for human rights we enjoy as citizens of this nation.

Our nation has been a nation of religious freedom for over 200 years. Unless we Christians stand up, speak out and be heard by our leaders and get the Ten Commandments and prayer back where they have been, we are not doing our job as Christians.

We have no room for compromise. Those who do not like the Ten Commandments should just ignore them as they have before, and those who do not want to participate in prayer should just be quiet in respect for the others who do participate.

We must speak up now, before it's too late. Write, call and let's fight for our rights as Christians. If 9-11-01 was not a wake-up call, then we have missed the boat.

Pray, write and call the President of the U.S., your senator, congressman, Supreme Court, governor, state senator and state representative. Churches, get signatures and mail in to all the above. Let us be heard!

Stan Morris
Louisville

Plan to attend Super Saturday

One of the best things a pastor can do to enhance Kingdom advance is to enlist workers for training. Every church can improve the effectiveness of the teaching ministry by providing training.

Some people learn through reading, watching videos, and meditation and prayer. But most people learn best through interactive learning experiences with other people involved in the same ministry.

Super Saturdays, which are offered by our Kentucky Baptist Convention church development/evangelism team, provide a wonderful opportunity for providing this kind of interactive learning. You still have two Sundays to enlist workers for the first Super Saturday training on Aug. 14 at Erlanger Baptist Church in Erlanger or Bellevue Baptist Church in Owensboro.

Super Saturdays also will be held at Severns Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown on Aug. 21 and Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington on Aug. 28. Both First Baptist Church of Somerset and Lone Oak First Bap-

tist Church in Paducah will host Super Saturday on Sept. 11.

Your workers never will forget that you saw their potential and enlisted them for training. More than 25 years ago I invited the Sunday school workers at Jeremiah Missionary Baptist Church in Letcher County to go to Sunday School Week at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Conference Center with workers from First Baptist Church of Whitesburg where I was pastor. Participating in training became a 25-year tradition of the Jeremiah church.

This year's Super Saturday theme of "Connecting People to God ... Connecting People to People" is woven throughout the leadership tracks and conferences. The words "connect" or "connecting" appear in the titles of 20 conferences.

Another word you will see a lot in the conference descriptions is "coaching." "Coaching Teachers Toward Excellence in Connecting" and "The Coaching Leader" are just two workshops focused on leadership.

One strong focus in conferences

will be on connecting people to God through teaching God's Word, and experiencing a quiet time. Connecting people to one another through fellowship and connecting class members to the unchurched are additional emphases.

A focus on connecting with new members will be provided in the pastor and leader tracks as well as age group conferences.

You can bring 60 people and not duplicate sessions because there are about 60 conferences and more at selected locations.

Please join with me in prayer that 100 additional churches will participate this year in Super Saturday training conferences. That would be a great tribute to the vision of Vernon Cole who created this conference and a tribute to the team that has worked hard to continuing this outstanding learning experience for both current and new church leaders.

Please contact Mary Livingston or Jenny Byrd at (888) 254-5710 or (502) 254-4780 for more information or to register. You also can find a registration form online by visiting www.kybaptist.org/supersaturday. Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention

CHURCH

Does your church need a Budget Catch-Up Sunday?

By Doug Strader

Churches that have their budget year the same as the calendar year are a little over halfway through the budget year. Some churches have the luxury of having met or even exceeded their budget needs at the mid-year point.

However, many churches find that their giving is falling behind their budget.

What can you do to make sure your church finishes the year meeting its budget? Unfortunately, there is no fail-proof way that works in every church, but there are some things you can try to help your church reach its budget goal:

- Have a positive attitude about financial stewardship. People do not give to a "sinking ship" mentality.

- Have testimonies from a cross section of your members about the joys of tithing.

- Have a "Prove the Tithe Day" and encourage everyone to give a tithe on that day.

- Have testimonies from someone whose direct ministry is benefited by the church budget.

- Talk about how increasing financial resources will benefit the mission and ministries of the church.

- Invite someone from your associational missions office to share how the church's gifts to associational missions are used.

- Invite a guest minister to bring a financial stewardship message.

- Find some ways to say "thank you" to the people who give.

- Let the people know that the church is being a good steward of all the money entrusted to it.

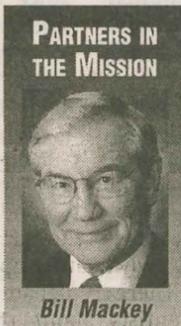
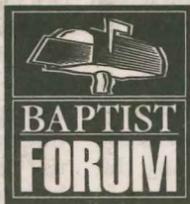
- Make the offering time more worshipful. Draw attention to the fact that the members are offering their best to God.

- Encourage members to leave their tithes and offerings at church before they go on vacation.

You probably can think of many other ways to have a "Budget Catch-Up Sunday." This is not a time for gimmicks; it is a time for God's people to grow in their financial stewardship.

Spend time with your stewardship committee praying and planning for your Budget Catch-Up Sunday. The more people you can get involved, the more successful it will be.

Doug Strader, retired director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's stewardship department, is pastor of Farmdale Baptist Church in Louisville



Bill Mackey

How much should parents tell children about past mistakes?

Q: I've got substance abuse in my past. How much should I tell my child?

How much should parents tell their kids about a variety of choices and actions from their past? The question becomes particularly thorny for parents who used drugs or alcohol, but who now find themselves trying to set a different standard for their own children or are dealing with their children's problem behavior.

"Do as I say, not as I do" (or in this case "did") never works very well. At the same time, confessions can be confusing to children who might demand more details than parents are willing to give.

Problems in the past can put parents in a position where they are torn between a desire to be honest with their child and the need to protect their own respect and position of authority in the child's life.

In the musical rendition of Victor Hugo's "Les Misérables," Cosette probes Jean Valjean for details of his and her somewhat sad and sordid past. Lyricist Herbert Kretzmer gives these words to Valjean: "It's a time that is dead; there are words better unheard, better unsaid."

Drug counselors are divided on how much you should tell your kids about your own experiences, but in general, parents should be cautious. Some things might be better left unsaid. Parents pondering the dilemma of what to tell their children should ask themselves what purpose will be served and whether the reward will be worth the risk. The age of the child also is a factor.

Isaiah 43:25 reminds us that God blots out our transgressions and remembers our sins no more. We can trust God with the secrets of our past. However, we should be very careful about sharing details of our past with others, including our own children.—David Garrard

Q: How important is the youth ministry of a church and what should we look for as we seek to help put our teenagers in a good position to respond to God's love for them?

Youth ministry is perhaps the most important, under-budgeted and overlooked ministry in many churches. According to statistics, nine of 10 people who respond to Christ do so before their 19th birthday. Looking at the bottom line of most churches, one would assume just the opposite.

Look for a church that is strongly committed to proclaiming the unchanging message of the gospel of Jesus Christ through creative and culturally appropriate programs designed to reach young people. Be aware that the youth program should reflect some core commitments of the church. You might rate these core commitments in the following areas that Rick Warren underscores in "The Purpose Driven Church." Is this youth group growing?

- Warmer through fellowship.
- Deeper through discipleship.
- Stronger through worship.
- Broader through ministry.
- Larger through evangelism.

Whether the leader of the youth ministry is a paid professional or a lay volunteer, the real question is whether or not this person possesses a sense of calling and giftedness to youth ministry. Beyond their words, what do you observe in their life?

Let me encourage you to attend church and inquire among the members about what is going on in the youth area. Ask to talk with some of the more mature students in the group as a way of forming impressions about the group as a whole.—Scott Wigginton

Family Forum writers are:

David Garrard, minister to children at St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville. E-mail: dgarrard@smbclouisville.org.
James Stillwell, minister to singles at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington. E-mail: james@ibs-lex.org.
Valerie Vincent, Christian counselor with Hardy Associates in Louisville. E-mail: vvhvdmn@msn.com.
Scott Wigginton, associate professor of pastoral ministries and counseling at Campbellsville University. E-mail: sewigginton@campbellsville.edu.

Send questions for Family Forum to Western Recorder, Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253 or e-mail wesrec@earthlink.net.



SBC resolutions tackle variety of issues

During last month's Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in Indianapolis, the one proposed resolution that got the most pre-convention attention never made it out of the Resolutions Committee.

A portion of the anti-public school resolution was offered by one of its authors as an amendment to another measure, but messengers quickly rejected that option as well. It was clear that most convention messengers had no interest in adopting a proposal that labeled public school education "anti-Christian" and "officially godless."

Thankfully, both the Resolutions Committee and messengers in general had the good sense to avoid such negative language and views.

One of the consequences of the extensive focus on that issue, however, is that the eight resolutions adopted by SBC messengers tended to get lost in the shuffle. While convention resolutions are not binding on any of the SBC's 43,000 autonomous congregations, they do offer a glimpse of the prevailing perspectives of Southern Baptist messengers gathered at a specific place and time.

Before the 2004 SBC annual meeting fades from memory, what do this year's resolutions tell us about the views of the 8,600 Baptists who attended? Adopted resolutions include:

Supporting a federal marriage amendment. Emphasizing that "the union of one man and one woman is the only form of marriage prescribed in the Bible as God's perfect design for the family," the resolution warns that "the institution of marriage is now in crisis." It also urged "pastors and leaders within the Body of Christ to support and faithfully promote a Federal Marriage Amendment." While that proposal recently was sidetracked in the U.S. Senate, traditional marriage advocates in Kentucky and elsewhere are rallying support for state constitutional amendments aimed at preserving the definition of marriage as one

man and one woman.

Secularization of our culture. Warning that "the cultural drift in our nation toward secularism obscures moral absolutes under the guise of tolerance," the resolution declares that "America's only hope is a spiritual awakening by the power of God through the gospel of Jesus Christ." It calls on "Christians everywhere to aggressively advance the Kingdom of God ... in light of the imminent return of Christ."

Christian citizenship. The measure points out that "approximately 75 percent of Christians who are eligible to vote do not vote regularly." Encouraging churches to hold voter education and registration drives, the resolution urges all Christians "to vote in accordance with biblical values rather than according to party lines, personalities or candidate rhetoric."

Appreciation of our American military. Expressing "pride and support for our American military," the resolution notes that military service "entails a comprehensive sacrifice from service personnel and from their families, friends and communities." It calls on Southern Baptists to "pray for the safety and well-being of our military personnel at all times, with particular attention to those who are in harm's way" and urges churches "to find tangible ways to support our service personnel and their families."

Other resolutions included affirmation of the SBC's 25-year "conservative resurgence," appreciation for former President Ronald Reagan, commendation for LifeWay Christian Resources' Holman Christian Standard Bible and the traditional resolution of appreciation for the convention officers and hosts.

Whether or not you agree with specific resolutions adopted by SBC messengers, it's good to be aware of the perspectives being expressed on the national level in the name of Southern Baptists. And remember that you can be personally involved in the process during next year's SBC June 21-22 in Nashville.

STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR



Tretnis Henderson

Caring for God's creation

By David Gushee

Sandy Cove, Md. (RNS)—It is becoming increasingly clear that human beings are doing significant damage to God's good creation and to the creatures who inhabit it, including ourselves. We know what to do about the problems if we can only find the will. Christians

must join the fight to steward God's world, in obedience to Scripture. That was my take-away from a recent major conference of evangelical leaders in Sandy Cove, Md., during which we prayed, talked and listened to some of the world's leading Christian naturalists and scientists.

No one sets out with a plan to pollute the land, water and air; poison and kill various species of plants and animals; make human beings gradually sicker; and even change the overall climate around the world. These problems have emerged over time, primarily as the unintended consequence of the modern industrialized Western lifestyle. Now it is increasingly clear that the damage we are doing is real, and that it is affecting us and will affect our children and grandchildren and the world they will inhabit.

While there are a number of problems affecting God's creation, the heart of the problem is twofold. First, some of the industrial chemicals and other substances we have developed are damaging to our own

health, to the health of many species of animals as well as plant life, and to the natural environment. This is not just save the whales stuff; it's save ourselves stuff.

Second, our marvelous discovery and use of fossil fuels (coal, oil, natural gas) has begun to result in an effect on the very atmosphere that envelops us, keeping us both warm and safe from the sun's rays. The great majority of the world's most respected scientists (not alarmists or quacks) are now confirming what many people who live close to the land have been saying for a while—the climate is slowly changing. Essentially, heat that fossil fuels produce is getting trapped in our atmosphere rather than being released out of it, and this is the main reason why the surface of our planet is slowly heating up.

There is debate among serious scientists about the severity and pace of the problem, but with few exceptions little debate about the existence of the problem itself.

Even a couple of degrees' increase in global temperature is likely to do such things as heat (and thus expand) ocean water, flooding islands and coastal areas in which tens of millions of people live. At least 150 million people likely will become "environmental refugees" within 50 years because of this problem.

So here's the deal: Human beings are a powerful enough species now

to affect the very planet on which we all live. We didn't know that we had this kind of power. But we are at risk of poisoning ourselves and overheating our world.

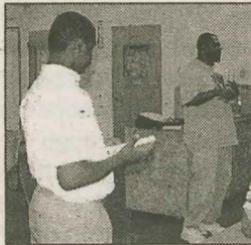
This growing threat has caused some Christians to find their way back to the Bible with fresh eyes to see what is actually there. Genesis 2:15 says, "The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it." Genesis 1:28 says, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves along the ground."

Today, we see what these mandates have always really meant: We are a unique species and play a unique role on the planet. We are in charge of this planetary Garden, with an authority delegated to us from God, and like everyone who has such delegated authority we are responsible to God for exercising it wisely.

The good news is that we know what the problems are and most of what to do to adapt to them and fix them. Some of the damage is irreversible, but concerted action by individuals, businesses and governments can slow down this runaway train, and at a reasonable cost that guards both liberty and the free market. This we must do while there is still time.

David Gushee is a professor of moral philosophy at Union University in Jackson, Tenn.

Boys learn spiritual lessons feeding homeless adults



PRE-MEAL MESSAGE
Barry Washington (right), a counselor at Spring Meadows Children's Home in Louisville begins the breakfast ministry at Jefferson Street Baptist Center with a short sermon. David (left), a 15-year-old Spring Meadows resident, opened the service with a prayer.

By Julie Roberts
Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children

Louisville—Barry Washington knows about hunger. He spent plenty of days homeless, searching the streets for scraps of food when the drugs no longer would curb his appetite.

But Washington said it was a different type of hunger that finally helped him get off the streets.

"Spiritually, I was hungry, too," he said.

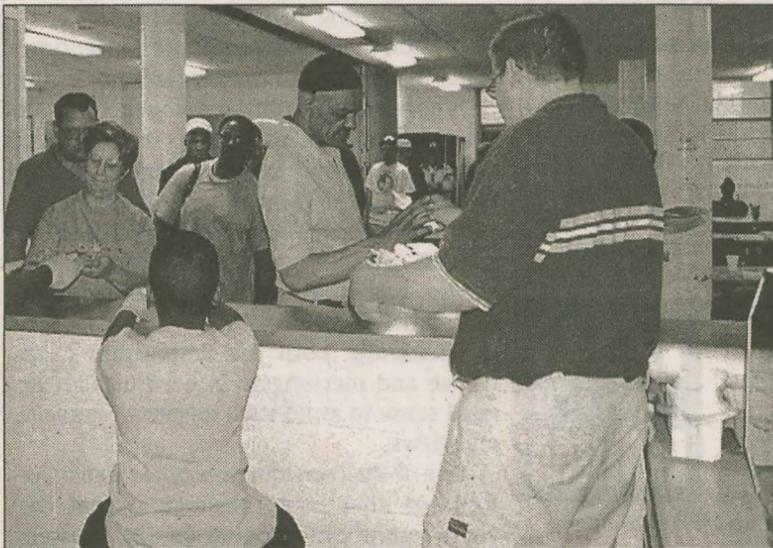
He said he soon learned that only Jesus could satisfy his spiritual appetite. Since becoming a Christian in 1995 and pursuing a degree in pastoral ministries, Washington has been on a mission to help others in trouble.

"I've lived the lost life, and now it's time to give back," he said. "That's why I spend my time working with children and adults who need help. It's my ministry, my calling."

For 40 hours a week, he ministers to teen-age boys in his job as a direct care counselor at Spring Meadows Children's Home in Louisville.

Spring Meadows is one of seven homes for abused and neglected children across the state that is operated by Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children.

At least one Sunday each month, Washington loads the boys from Spring Meadows into a van and



SERVING Homeless individuals line up for breakfast at the Jefferson Street Baptist Center in downtown Louisville. Boys from Spring Meadows Children's Home help prepare and serve breakfast there once a month.

heads to a downtown homeless shelter. There, at the Jefferson Street Baptist Center, he teaches the youth to give back to their community by feeding the homeless—physically and spiritually.

"I don't know how excited they are to be up and working before 6 a.m., but they're learning there are other people out there hurting, too," Washington said as he helped prepare a hearty breakfast of eggs, sausages, potatoes and pancakes for the homeless adults who would visit the shelter that morning.

The boys know the routine. These early Sunday mornings at the shelter are quiet as the boys bring in the food, break dozens of eggs and pour enough orange juice to satisfy 100 or more thirsty men.

"It takes us a while to wake up sometimes, but we like helping out," said Bradley, 13.

Hungry for more

Before the breakfast line opens, Washington turns the dining room into a church, preaching on this particular day about helping oth-

ers in need. The preaching is what David, 15, enjoys most.

"It's a lot different here than what I expected," said David, who has lived at Spring Meadows Children's Home for more than six months, making several trips to the shelter. "The people are a lot sadder than I expected. I think the preaching will make some of them feel better."

David said he hoped the men will learn to put their faith in Jesus, as he has.

He's learning to forgive those who hurt him, and learning that he doesn't have to follow the same destructive path his parents and siblings have chosen.

"I feel a lot better now that I know God loves me," he said. "I know God has a plan for me."

Though the boys visit the Jefferson Street Baptist Center just once a month, their presence makes a difference, said Dale McHenry, a residential manager at the shelter.

"It makes the men feel special to know that someone cares enough to come in and serve them, pray for them and treat them with respect," he said.

Washington said he's proud that the boys are able to make a difference, but he believes the biggest impact is actually on the boys.

"If you watch them closely, you can see them opening up," he said. "God is at work."

Coming
In August!

Understanding Other Beliefs

Kentucky Baptists will be learning about a variety of other belief systems at an upcoming conference offered by the Kentucky Baptist Convention

Monday, August 16

7:00 - 9:00 p.m. CDT

Warren Associational Office
Bowling Green, Kentucky

Tuesday, August 17

7:00 - 9:00 p.m. EDT

Northside Baptist Church
Elizabethtown, Kentucky

The conference will focus on the belief systems of Islam, Mormons, occultists and those involved in the New Age movement. All sessions are led by certified North American Mission Board trainers.

Session Leaders Are:

Islam - Tal Davis

Mormonism - Arthur Sido

New Age Movement - Don Metcalf

Occult - Danny Zickefoose

"We are focusing awareness on the beliefs of major religious groups in America so that Kentucky Baptists will be informed witnesses (of their own faith)."

- Dan Garland,
KBC Church Development and Evangelism Team leader



For directions and further information, call the Warren Association of Baptists at 270-842-4160 or Northside Baptist Church 270-765-6424

KENTUCKY BAPTISTS
Connect

For further information on this conference go online to:
www.kybaptist.org
(Church Development and Evangelism Team)



KBC
KENTUCKY BAPTIST CONVENTION
Church Development and Evangelism Team

P.O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433
502-254-4737 or
Toll Free 888-254-5722

Campbellsville University's School of Theology

Proudly presents the Guest Speaker for its annual

January Bible Study Preview:

"Hope When Believers Struggle: Studies in the Gospel of Mark."



Dr. Argile Smith

Chair of the Pastoral Ministries Division &
J.D. Grey Professor of Preaching,
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

August 5, 2004

The Gheens Recital Hall

Campbellsville University

12:30 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.

For more information:

Mrs. Betty Hatfield
School of Theology
Campbellsville University
1 University Drive
Campbellsville, KY 42718
800.264.6014
270.789.5029
theology@campbellsville.edu

Campbellsville
UNIVERSITY

Study free of charge • cost for evening meal \$10.00 (payable that day).

Giving thanks for a good summer

Safety, decisions, good staff are reasons to be thankful

By the time you read this, camp will be coming to a close. Each year it seems as though the summer moves faster and faster.

At this point of the year, I start to reflect on the numerous ways God has blessed us throughout the current camp season. I know God teaches me more of Himself, especially during the summer.

First, I am thankful for the salvation decisions this year. This summer between Cedarmore, Jonathan Creek and our Moldovan camp partners, we will see close to 2,000 kids accept Christ as Savior. I never would have imagined seeing numbers like these, but that is what God does, something far beyond what we can do, then only He can receive the glory.

Second, I am thankful for the safety of our staff and campers. I must confess, each year I feel as though we run a "gauntlet" as thousands of energetic kids cover our properties. While we have had some minor injuries, we have a great deal to be thankful for with the safety our campers have

enjoyed. Third, I am thankful for a great staff. During the summer we have up to 140 staff and volunteers helping make camp work. Without these people, we do not exist.

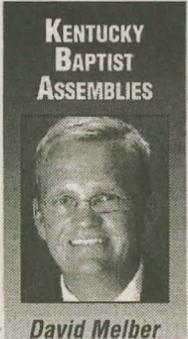
I usually don't like to single people out because our ministry depends on so many, but I am especially grateful that God brought Brad Lauer to Jonathan Creek and Bert Lace to Cedarmore. These two guys literally save my sanity, and better yet I flat out love to serve with them.

I encourage each of you reading to think back now about what you have to be thankful for over this past summer.

Worship does not just happen on Sunday. It is to happen each day, and you can begin now by thanking God for who He is and how He has changed your life.

We all have much to be thankful for, and if we live in an attitude of thanksgiving, God certainly will give us an opportunity to share Him with someone we see today.

David Melber is president of Kentucky Baptist Assemblies. Contact him at 3043 Beal Road, Hardin, KY 42048; phone (270) 354-8355.



David Melber

Kudzu



Doug Marlette

For Heaven's Sake



Mike Morgan

Bible Crosswords

- Across**
- 1 Stop! (arch.)
 - 3 Son of Tahath (1 Chronicles 6:24)
 - 8 Father of Simon Peter
 - 10 Assyrian god, which had a house in Nineveh (2 Kings 19)
 - 13 Jealous gems?
 - 15 Nephew of Abraham
 - 17 Pronoun
 - 18 Linking verb
 - 19 Home of the brave (abbr.)
 - 21 Postember state
 - 22 Reproved
 - 25 "In the night ____ of Moab is laid waste" (Isaiah 15:1)
 - 27 Dir.
 - 28 Where Miami University is (abbr.)
 - 29 Hectare (abbr.)
 - 31 Of starch (comb. form)
 - 33 Pilfers (colloq.)
 - 35 Musical abbr.
 - 36 Where "The Music Man" was set (abbr.)
 - 38 Figure on many TV crime shows (abbr.)
 - 39 Hardwood
 - 40 Son of Joktan (Genesis 10:26)
 - 42 Son of Salah (Genesis 10:24)
 - 44 Exclamation
 - 46 Metric abbr.
 - 47 Part of middle-school curriculum (abbr.)
 - 48 Word in a command
 - 50 Big ____, CA
 - 51 Age of Jehoiachin when he began his reign
 - 55 Deception

1	2		3	4	5	6	7		
8			9		10				11 12
13			14						15 16
17			18			19	20		21
		22			23			24	
25	26			27			28		29 30
31			32			33			34
35			36 37		38				39
		40		41			42 43		
44 45			46				47		48 49
50				51 52 53					54
55			56 57					58	
			59						60

- 58 Too
 - 59 Commanded
 - 60 Strike
- DOWN**
- 1 Domicile
 - 2 Chemical suffix
 - 3 Except that
 - 4 To free, with "of"
 - 5 Assign
 - 6 Hesitation sound
 - 7 Biblical exclamation
 - 8 "He is a ____, which is one inwardly" (Romans 2:29)
 - 9 Son of Ulla (1 Chronicles 7:39)
 - 11 Attired
 - 12 O.T. minor prophet (abbr.)
 - 14 First name of famed football coach
 - 16 Symbol of thorium
 - 20 "As ____ in summer ... so honour is not seemly" (Proverbs 26:1)
 - 22 ____, the Beloved Country (Paton book)
 - 23 Preposition
 - 24 Son of Benjamin (Genesis 46:21)
 - 25 Eleventh letter of the Hebrew alphabet
 - 26 Mischievous child
 - 29 Was told, KJV style
 - 30 Question
 - 32 Untruth
 - 33 Where Durban is (abbr.)
 - 34 Nineteenth-century American writer
 - 37 Prepare for battle
 - 38 AL lineup abbr.
 - 40 Assyrian king mentioned in Hosea
 - 41 Alter
 - 42 N.T. epistle (abbr.)
 - 43 City where David took "exceeding much brass" (2 Samuel 8)
 - 44 Snake
 - 45 With Aaron, he held up Moses' arms
 - 49 City built by descendants of Benjamin (1 Chronicles 8:12)
 - 52 To cause to be (suffix, Brit.)
 - 53 Bk. of the Torah
 - 54 Father of Hophni
 - 56 Note of the diatonic scale
 - 57 Singer Ames

Go Krogering for the kids!



Shop with a rechargeable Kroger gift card and 5% of all your purchases will benefit the children and teens at Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children!

HOW IT WORKS

Call KBHC to request your own rechargeable Kroger gift card with a beginning balance of \$5. Once you have your card, you can add to the balance in any amount you like at your local Kroger and then use the card to pay for your groceries. Each time you add money to your KBHC Kroger card, 5% of the total comes directly to KBHC to care for the abused and neglected children and teens in our care.

CONTACT US TO LEARN MORE!

To learn more about the Kroger gift card program, contact Kristie Noel at 1-800-456-1386 or e-mail donate@kbhc.org.

Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children
Life-Changing Ministries for Children & Families **KBHC**

www.kbhc.org

Last week's solution

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
K	O	H	A	T	H	N	E	R	I
E	D	M	A	A	S	I	A	I	P
N	O	M	A	H	O	L	H	E	
A	M	I	P	E	N	O	I	L	
N	A	M	E	T	H	S	T	A	I
S	E	A	R	E	D	S	P	E	E
A	S	H							
T	H								
T	D	A	L	A	I	A	H	L	O
N	O	T	I	C	E	F	L	O	E
N	I	G	E	R	E	A	R	E	D

WESTERNRECORDER + Your church newsletter

Two great publications, one less post office headache

NATIONAL NOTES

PETA recruits Campolo against KFC. Baptist speaker and author Tony Campolo recently wrote to David Novak, CEO of KFC's parent company Yum! Brands. Campolo asked Novak to adopt the animal welfare improvements that People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals recommends and "eliminate such abusive practices as scalding chickens to death in defeathering tanks," according to a release on the PETA Web site. "I know that you are a God-fearing man, and I hope that you will heed God's word in this matter," Campolo wrote, according to PETA.

Court asked to reconsider Oregon suicide law. The Department of Justice has asked an appeals court to reconsider its May decision blocking a federal ban on the use of drugs to aid patients in committing suicide in Oregon. The department urged the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals July 12 to rehear the case as an 11-member panel. If the appeals court rejects the request, an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court will be the federal government's final legal recourse. Oregon is the lone state to legalize physician-assisted suicide.

American Baptists might recall missionaries. The American Baptist Churches USA might lose up to a fifth of its missionary force unless its mission agency can raise enough money to overcome its current financial crisis. The head of International Ministries, the ABC's mission-sending agency, said in a July 13 memo to missionaries the agency may eliminate up to 36 of its 150 missionary positions unless it can raise \$1.5 million quickly to erase a projected 2004 shortfall. Recalling missionaries from the field is a last resort, Jones said. "It's a difficult time for us all."

Religious leaders urge court to bar death penalty for minors. A broad coalition of concerned parties—including Nobel laureates, scientific leaders, foreign countries and American religious denominations—is urging the Supreme Court to ban the death penalty for offenders who were under 18 at the time they commit their crimes. Groups and individuals as diverse as former President Jimmy Carter, the Dalai Lama, the American Medical Association and the American Baptist Churches USA filed simultaneous friend-of-the-court briefs July 19 in the case of Roper vs. Simmons. The case, which deals with the 1993 murder of a Missouri woman.

IRS: Church rolls for campaigns raises 'red flags'

By Daniel Burke
Religion News Service

Washington (RNS)—On the same day the Bush-Cheney campaign had designated for churches to host a "coffee/pot luck dinner," Internal Revenue Service officials said handing over a congregation's membership list could violate federal regulations.

In July 15 interviews, IRS officials said if church lists are repeatedly given to only one campaign free of charge, the congregation risks losing its tax-exempt status. What's more, churches or individuals who give away lists worth more than \$1,000 could be required to register with the Federal Election Commission.

IRS regulations forbid nonprofit organizations—such as churches—from giving a mailing list to a partisan political campaign unless the campaign pays for it. A church directory falls within the category of a "mailing list," said Joseph Urban, a manager in the exempt organizations division of the IRS.

Urban said potential violations are handled on a case-by-case basis, but "it would certainly raise some red flags" if a church directory made its way into the hands of a political campaign.

"On the surface, it certainly raises some questions," he said.

Churches or other houses of worship may sell their membership rolls to campaigns as long as they are priced at "fair market value" and made available to all candidates.

It "must be shown that all candidates had an equal opportunity to get the list," said Jack Reilly, an-

Group wants investigation of Falwell e-mail

Washington (RNS)—A church-state watchdog group has filed a complaint with the Internal Revenue Service after Jerry Falwell told supporters to "get serious about re-electing President Bush."

Falwell, in a July 1 "Falwell Confidential" e-mail, wrote: "For conservative people of faith, voting for principle this year means voting for the re-election of George W. Bush. The alternative, in my mind, is simply unthinkable."

"To the pro-life, pro-family, pro-traditional marriage, pro-America voters in this nation, we must determine that President Bush is the man with our interests at heart. It is that simple."

The Washington-based Americans United for Separation of Church and State told the IRS that Falwell's letter violated rules prohibiting churches or nonprofit groups from endorsing candidates. It also asked for an investigation.

Falwell's e-mail was posted on his Web site, www.falwell.com. It also encouraged supporters to donate to the Campaign for Working Families, a political action committee founded by Gary Bauer.

Falwell told The New York Times that the e-mail was paid for by his tax-exempt lobbying group, Liberty Alliance, which falls under the larger Jerry Falwell Ministries.

other IRS official.

IRS guidelines say that "to ensure the list is equally available to all candidates, a (nonprofit) organization should inform the candidates of the availability of the list."

An effort by the Bush-Cheney campaign to acquire the membership directories has come under fire from Democrats and church-state watchdog groups as an improper and partisan commingling of politics and religion.

The Bush-Cheney campaign had sent an instruction sheet to volunteers titled "Coalition Coordinator Duties" with a list of 22 tasks to be carried out by specific dates. The first is to "Send your Church Directory to your State Bush-Cheney '04 Headquarters."

If an individual turns in a church directory, and church officials "find out and they don't do anything about it," it would be a violation of IRS rules, Reilly said.

The religious body would not lose its tax-exempt status unless it provided the registries "repeatedly," Reilly said, but would probably be fined by the IRS after the first instance.

Federal Election Commission guidelines forbid "membership organizations" from donating anything "of value" to a political campaign unless they register as a political action committee, said FEC spokesman Ian Stirton.

A mailing list "could certainly be considered something of value," he said.

Summer provides excellent opportunity for education

Believe it or not, students have lots of reasons to attend summer school

By Dan Stockton
Principal

Summer? Summer! For many teenagers, summer time means sleeping in and taking it easy. Other young people see it as an opportunity to get a job. Some use it to travel or as a means for spending time with family and friends. At Oneida, we have students who spend a large part of their summer in school. You might ask, "Why would anyone want to go to summer school?" There are lots of reasons why, and they are all beneficial.

This year we had an average of 125 students enrolled in our six-week summer program, which ran for three weeks in June and an additional three weeks in July. The middle school students focus on the four core content classes of math, science, English and history, while the high school students take only one class. Because the summer is divided into four quarters just like the school year, high school students can take only the quarters needed to earn or complete a desired credit.

Two of the most common reasons for coming to summer school are to make up a failed class or for academic enrichment. When credits are missing, scheduling becomes increasingly difficult because the student often cannot move on to other needed requirements. If a student gets behind on his credits by failing a class, summer school is an excellent way to get the credits he needs to start the next school year on schedule.

We also have several students each summer who take a class to get ahead on their credits. These students are the ones who might plan

to take the higher-level class during the school year. For example, a junior might choose to take U.S. history during the summer so she will be prepared for the advanced placement U.S. history class the coming year.

Many students are in summer school because they are new to Oneida Baptist Institute. If a student enrolls late in the school year, he hasn't had time to fully adjust to life at OBI. Coming back for summer school will help him complete that process. We also have many students who come to Oneida for the first time during the summer session. Because there are fewer students on campus and the students don't have a full academic load, acclimating to our school is a lot easier. When they return in the fall, they can focus on all the opportunities OBI has to offer without being bogged down with homesickness and other obstacles typically faced by new students.

Even students who usually struggle academically can make higher-than-average grades during the summer session. This happens because the teachers and students form a bond that makes the subject more interesting, and teachers have more time to give specific help to those who need it. Another influence on summer school grades is the fact that the high school students have only one class. During the year, they must balance the workload of seven classes. In the summer, they can focus all of their energy and attention on their one class, which results in better understanding and improved grades. Summer? Opportunity? Absolutely.

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



THIS IS ONEIDA

W.F. Underwood

Student team on mission

Mason Baptist Church hosts Clear Creek revival team

A commitment to missions and evangelism is a core value at Clear Creek. Twelve students and a staff member deepened that commitment during a spring break mission trip to Mason in Crittenden County.

The campus Baptist collegiate ministry group included preachers, a drama team and a praise band. The invitation came from 2002 graduate Tim Scott, pastor of Mason Baptist Church, a rural community near Williamstown. Tim is also a student at Southern Seminary.

The team's primary assignment was revival services Sunday morning through Friday night, using students to preach, sing and testify. "It was a blessing to see the commitment of our students," Director of Admissions Billy Howell said. "They were sold out and bathed it all in prayer. After each service they wanted to review it and see how to improve."

The team also did community surveys during the day, meeting many receptive people. On Thursday the team hosted a community block party. At Grant County Detention Center they helped lead

a young woman to Christ. Team members did some painting and refurbishing work at a church member's home.

"The church was encouraged," Howell said. "They had gone through some tough times and this really strengthened them. They loved us and fed us too much." Five female students

stayed in two members' homes; six men camped out in the pastor's home.

"We knew the congregation had mostly older people," Doug Smith said. "So the team learned some hymns to identify with them." Students cited several positive outcomes of the week: deepened friendships, encouragement to the church, awareness of the need to prepare through prayer and planning, a demonstration of God using diverse people united for His glory.

Students included Jamey Bolding, Steve Byasee, Jimmy Hazlett, Mitch Huff, Lyndee Joe, Jason King, Suzanne Robinson, Cindy Scott, Doug Smith, Kyle Sullivan, Jennifer York and Kevin Zell.

Bill Whittaker is president of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, Pineville, KY 40977; (606) 337-3196



CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE

Bill Whittaker

Democrats trying to reclaim religion

Evangelicals back Republicans by 2-1 ratio

By Kevin Eckstrom
Religion News Service

Washington (RNS)—The Bible is full of stories of squabbling sons fighting to be declared their father's rightful heirs: Jacob and Esau, Isaac and Ishmael, the prodigal son and his jealous brother.

The same might be said for Republicans and Democrats this election season as they compete for God's blessing—or at least the votes of His followers.

"I think the Democrats are going to have to affirm that we all need to talk to God and ask, 'Are we Your children too, or are You only claiming the right wing?'" said James Forbes, pastor of New York's Riverside Church.

As Democrats gather in Boston this week for their convention, progressives are planning a serious effort to reclaim religion. They also want to narrow the "God gap" that puts frequent church-goers in the GOP column and paints Democrats as snidely secular.

"We who would see the triumph of Democratic ideals will have to become more explicit about the values that are at the heart of our platform," said Forbes, who was scheduled to address Democrats July 27.

Homosexuality & abortion

By most accounts, the Democrats' presumptive nominee, Sen. John Kerry, a Catholic, takes his faith seriously. So does his running mate, Sen. John Edwards, a Methodist. But unlike President Bush's evangelical zeal, Kerry's faith is re-

served, New England-style private.

Kerry's religious convictions have been overshadowed by his own church's criticisms of his support of abortion rights and gay rights, which highlights a perennial problem for Democrats—that the only religious issues that matter are hot-button social ones.

"Too often the debate has been organized that if you're religious, you're conservative, and if you're progressive, you're not religious," said Melody Barnes, a senior fellow at the Center for American Progress, a liberal thinktank in Washington.

Democrats readily concede that religious conservatives have done a better job of using religious language to rally support behind social issues like abortion and school prayer. In the process, they have warned the Republican leadership that their support is contingent on the party embracing those same issues. In most areas, they have been wildly successful.

In the process, Republicans have gained a reputation as "GOP: God's Official Party," as one bumper sticker put it.

Last year, a survey by the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life found that evangelicals viewed Republicans as more friendly to religion by a nearly 2-1 ratio, with smaller majorities also found among Catholics and mainline Protestants.

Republicans, on average, are more likely to belong to a church (75 percent compared to 67 percent of Democrats, according to one

Gallup poll). They also have higher-than-average church attendance rates, are more likely to say that religion is "very important in life" and place more confidence in organized religion than Democrats.

Combine that with Democrats' sometimes awkward attempts to talk about religion (former candidate Howard Dean said his favorite New Testament book is Job, which is in the Old Testament) and the popular perception has been that if you care about religion, you must be a Republican.

Ignoring faith "political suicide"

"To ignore it entirely is political suicide," said Amy Sullivan, an editor at Washington Monthly who has written on the need for Democrats to talk openly about religion.

"Democrats have believed that because they don't want religion in politics, leaving it alone is sufficient. It's not."

Some of that, however, might be changing, with Democrats increasingly finding the moral component of political issues.

Increasingly, Democrats are casting non-abortion issues—the war in Iraq, healthcare, education and the minimum wage—as moral issues with religious overtones.

But on a political level, Kerry still faces some challenges.

Earlier this year, Kerry recruited Dean's former religious outreach director, Mara Vanderslice, to do the same job on his campaign. The "People of Faith" section on Kerry's Web site is one of her projects.

But when a conservative Catholic group criticized Vanderslice's credentials, the campaign went into lockdown and pulled Vanderslice's access to the media. Observers say it demonstrates that many Democrats still view religion as radioactive.

"Some senior leaders within the Kerry campaign think of religion as being landmines," said Bob Edgar, general secretary of the National Council of Churches and a former Democratic congressman. "Rather than think of a way of getting through the landmine field, they walk around it."

New bishop Willimon expected to shake up United Methodists

By Yonat Shimron
Religion News Service

Raleigh, N.C. (RNS)—The outspoken dean of the Duke Chapel once was elbowed by the university president to explain what she considered an inappropriate remark.

"Why do you say some of the things you say?" former Duke President Nan Keohane asked William Willimon. Willimon paused, and answered straight-faced: "Jesus was crucified for what he said. The greatest sin Christians can commit is boredom."



William Willimon

Now, Willimon—the often puckish champion of Christian faith—has been elected a bishop in the United Methodist Church. Many expect him to shake things up, or at the very least inject some humor into a denominational structure sometimes perceived as stiff and bureaucratic.

"It's a sign we're not dead yet," said Stanley Hauerwas, a professor of Christian ethics at Duke Divinity School, referring to his friend's election.

In 1996, Baylor University named Willimon one of the 12 most effective preachers in the English-speaking world. Later, when a Massachusetts pastor was kicked out of his church for plagiarizing Willimon's sermons, Willimon quipped, "I hope he does it with a Southern accent."

Humor aside, many pastors rely on Willimon for guidance and inspiration. He has written more than 50 books, mostly for pulpit pastors searching for a way to speak genuinely about Christian faith.

Four years ago, he ran into criticism when he and Keohane agreed to allow the blessing of same-sex unions in Duke Chapel. The United Methodist Church does not permit same-sex unions, but they said the chapel was a university facility not tied to a particular denomination.

Willimon said recently that as bishop he will defend the doctrine and faith of the United Methodist Church, which sees gays as persons of "sacred worth," but denies them ordination or same-sex blessings.

If the past is any indication, he will continue his mischievous streak too. In one article lamenting the shrinking membership, Willimon once proposed baptizing pet dogs. In another he declared gossip an ethical activity. "Let's face it," he wrote. "Most of us enjoy talking about other people."

Willimon's colleagues at Duke, where he has taught for 20 years, expect him to continue challenging the assumption that churches must kowtow to popular culture.

"He's very critical of the church always reaching out in a reflexive way toward relevance," said Richard Lischer, a professor of preaching. "He'll say, 'Forget relevance. Let's work on truth. The truth will make us relevant.'"

Willimon's most famous book, co-written with Hauerwas, is called "Resident Aliens." In it, Willimon argues that American Protestants have been too busy trying to accommodate Christianity to modern life. They should instead become more countercultural, set apart from society and capable of critiquing it when necessary.

A silver-haired man with a modest and folksy manner, Willimon said he expects his main role as bishop to be that of teacher and theologian.

"One of our institutional demands is to be interesting," he said, "because we've got an interesting God."

Clear Creek Baptist Bible College

Announces Evening Classes

CLASSES BEGIN AUGUST 17, 2004

Registration dates: January 17, 19, 24, 26, 2004

CLASSES OFFERED:

TUESDAY NIGHT CLASSES

5:00 PM - 6:50 PM Small Church Ministry
Evangelism in Acts
5:00 PM - 7:50 PM English Composition
7:00 PM - 8:50 PM Old Testament 5

THURSDAY NIGHT CLASSES

5:00 PM - 6:50 PM Computers in Research
Jeremiah and Lamentations
5:00 PM - 7:50 PM Systematic Theology 3
English Composition
7:00 PM - 7:50 PM Computer Lab
7:00 PM - 8:50 PM New Testament 5
Marriage Enrichment

*** Day Classes are available as well ***

Cost: \$186.00 per semester hour

\$30.00 Registration fee
(Financial Aid available)



CONTACT INFORMATION:

Clear Creek Baptist Bible College
300 Clear Creek Rd
Pineville, KY 40977
(606) 337-3196

Billy Howell-Admissions Director

E-mail: bhowell@ccbcb.edu

BOWLING UNITED INDUSTRIES
Manufacturers of Lights and Steeples
Baptistries
www.BUchurch.com
1-800-446-7400
P.O. Box 2250 • Danville, Virginia 24541

15-Passenger Van Safety is Big News these Days!

LifeWay has the solution—a 15-passenger mini-bus that meets Federal safety standards.



- Mini-Bus
- 15 Passengers (No CDL)
- 2/1 Seating
- Center Aisle
- Low First Step
- Raised Roof
- Longer Wheelbase
- Dual Rear Wheels
- Steel Construction

SERIOUS CONCERNS

- How much financial liability can your church bear?
- Insurance rates are going up!
- Legal Advisors are saying, "Remove the last row of seats!"
- Some states have already put mandatory replacement deadlines in action!
- Charitable Organizations and Child Transportation Businesses are at Risk!

• Call us: 1-800-370-6180
• Visit us: carpenterbus.com

LifeWay
CHURCH BUSES
Carpenter Bus Sales, Inc.
Nation's #1 Church Bus Dealer

PRAYER PARTNERS

Please pray for the following people and projects involving Kentucky Baptists' partnership with Baptists in Europe, Poland and Brazil:

Dewey Dick, KBC coordinator for partnership projects with the International Baptist Convention in Europe, who had tonsil surgery in Germany July 13.

Many of the partnership coordinators who are in the middle of a hectic summer filled with projects and volunteer teams.

Three volunteer teams from Kentucky in Teresina, Brazil, this week working on evangelism and preschool ministry projects.

Volunteer teams from Kentucky in Kawkow and Olsztyn, Poland, for children and youth camps; and another Kentucky team in Gdansk, Poland, to help lead an English camp.

A volunteer team from Kentucky in England helping with "holiday club," a program similar to vacation Bible school.

A construction team from Kentucky working this week in Paris and a summer college missionary from Kentucky serving this month in Austria.

Three teams from Kentucky working this week in and near Floriana, Malta, doing prayer walking and outreach to children.

MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

■ **ASHLAND**—Liberty Church recently honored **Norma Weidenheller** for 36 years of service as church musician. She was presented a plaque and a painting. **Phil Haney** is pastor.

■ **BARDSTOWN**—Bardstown Church recently honored **Rudolph and Mary Leathers** on their 50th wedding anniversary.

■ **BENTON**—Hamlet Missionary Church recently called **Omar Jenkins** as pastor.

■ **CENTRAL CITY**—Mercer Church recently called **Curtis McGehee** as pastor. He previously was pastor of Calvary Church.

New Hope Church called **Barry Davis** as pastor.

■ **COVINGTON**—Oak Ridge Church will host "Preeminence," a 12-member worship ensemble from Huntington College Aug. 4, 7 p.m.

■ **DIXON**—**Bud Baird** recently resigned as pastor of Lakeview Missionary Church.

■ **EDDYVILLE**—Eddyville Second Church recently called **Harrell Riley** as interim pastor.

■ **ELIZABETHTOWN**—**Jamie Lockett** recently resigned as ministry assistant at Severns Valley Church to resume her career as a teacher at West Hardin Middle School.

■ **GREENVILLE**—Carter Creek Church will host homecoming activities Aug. 1.

■ **LaGRANGE**—Buckner Church recently called **Paul Collett** as part-time youth minister.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Hillview Church recently called **Jim Carpenter** as interim pastor and **Steven Fitts** as minister of music.

Thixton Lane Church recently called **Harold Birdwell** as minister of music. **Preston Siler** is pastor.

Walnut Street Church recently honored **Harold and Rachel Robinson** on their 50th wedding anniversary.

■ **MANCHESTER**—Horse Creek Church recently called **Billy Howell** as interim pastor. He also serves as director of admissions at Clear Creek Baptist Bible College.

■ **MAYFIELD**—New Liberty Church recently ordained **Presley Lamm** to the gospel ministry. **Aubert Rose** is pastor.

■ **MONTICELLO**—Spann Hill Church recently called **Roy Gregory** as pastor.

■ **PADUCAH**—Highview Church recently called **Danny Cox** as pastor.

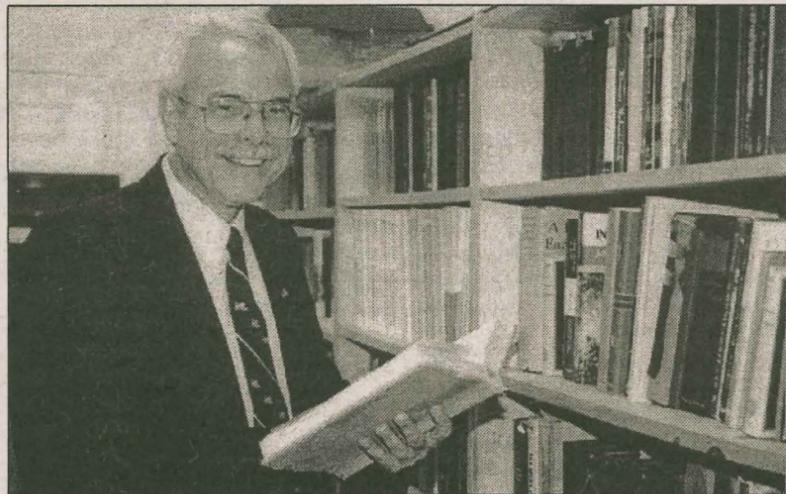
■ **PENDLETON**—Sligo Church recently called **Vance Viscusi** as associate pastor of students.

■ **REYNOLDS STATION**—Deanefield Church recently called **Carl Esque** as pastor.

■ **ROCKPORT**—Rockport Church recently called **Troy Richards** as pastor.

■ **SANDERS**—Jordan Church will hold homecoming activities Aug. 1. Music will be provided by **David Stahl**. **John Collett** is pastor.

■ **SOMERSET**—First Church recently called **William Haynes Jr.** as senior pastor.



OWENS LIBRARY **Bob Dunston**, chair of the religion and philosophy department at Cumberland College, looks over the newly opened **Dr. John Joseph and Mary Frances Owens Memorial Library**.

Cumberland receives John Owens library

Williamsburg—The library of John Owens recently was donated to Cumberland College's religion and philosophy department by his widow, Mary Frances Owens.

The library contains more than 2,700 volumes of studies on the Bible and biblical languages and is appraised at nearly \$25,000.

The collection contains an extensive Hebrew section, including several one-of-a-kind volumes sought by Hebrew scholars worldwide.

"It is an honor and a thrill to provide a place for this important library," said Bob Dunston, chair of Cumberland's religion and philosophy department and a former student of Owens at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

Owens, a teacher and preacher, taught Hebrew and Old Testament for 42 years at Southern Baptist

Theological Seminary before his retirement in 1984. He spoke across the United States and taught in colleges and seminaries as far away as Brazil, Lebanon, and the Philippines. Owens authored many books, including the extensive multi-volume set, "Analytical Key to the Old Testament," which is included in his library.

The Dr. John Joseph and Mary Frances Owens Memorial Library is currently being cataloged by Jan Wren, head librarian at Cumberland College. This task should be completed before the fall semester, when the collection will be housed in the Bennett Building on Cumberland's campus. The library will be available to students and scholars interested in research in the area of biblical study, particularly biblical languages and Old Testament study.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July

30-31 World Missions Unlimited, First Baptist Church, Madisonville.

August

2-6 Discover Kids Week, Cedarmore.

14 Super Saturday, Erlanger Baptist Church.

14 Super Saturday, Bellevue Baptist Church, Owensboro.

16 Understanding Other Beliefs Conference, Warren Association Office, Bowling Green.

17 Understanding Other Beliefs Conference, Northside Baptist Church, Elizabethtown.

21 Super Saturday, Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown.

28 Super Saturday, Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington.

September

3-6 Baptist Men on Mission wrangler trail ride, Land Between the Lakes.

4-6 Soak A City Youth Evangelism Conference, Ashland.

11 Super Saturday, Lone Oak First Baptist Church, Paducah.

11 Super Saturday, First Baptist Church, Somerset.

13-14 Daycare Orientation, KBC building, Middletown.

17-18 Collegiate Creative Ministries Workshop, Calvary Baptist Church, Lexington.

18 Children in Action Missions Day Camp, Cedar Crest.

18 Keyboard Clinic-East, First Baptist Church, Richmond.

18 Keyboard Clinic-West, Beaver Dam Baptist Church, Beaver Dam.

18 Ministers' Wives Retreat, Northside Baptist Church, Elizabethtown.

20-21 State Ministers' Golf Tournament, Cherry Blossom Golf Course, Georgetown.

23-24 Men's Chorale Retreat, Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown.

For more information, call (888) 266-6477 or visit www.kybaptist.org

CLASSIFIED ADS

SEEKING: Part-time minister of youth. Send resumé to: Personnel Committee, First Baptist Church, 230 S Fifth St., Williamsburg, KY 40769.

SEEKING: Full-time minister of music and youth for Calvary Baptist, located at 111 N McWhorter St., London, KY 40741. Calvary is a conservative SBC church with blended worship services. Interested applicants may visit our Web site at www.calvarybaptistlondonky.com. Resumés should be addressed to: Search Committee, Attn: Pastor Harlan Avera, at the address above. No phone calls, please.

SEEKING: Full-time minister of youth. Seeking a dynamic, spiritually mature individual to lead active 80-member youth program, assisting Calhoun Baptist Church in fulfilling its mission of leading people to faith in Christ and on to spiritual maturity. Ministering to the heart of McLean County. Generous compensation package includes benefits and housing. For more information, contact: Youth Search Committee, Calhoun Baptist Church, PO Box 283, Calhoun, KY 42327.

SEEKING: Full-time associate/worship pastor. Highland Hills Church is in Fort Thomas, Ky., three miles from downtown Cincinnati, Ohio, and ministers to a broad and diverse metropolitan area. We are a growing church of 550 in attendance on the weekends and continue to strive to be relevant in our community and world. We are a Spirit-driven church that focuses on leading people to a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and are willing to do "whatever it takes" to accomplish this mission. Candidate must have a college degree and prior experience. This position offers a competitive salary and benefits package. E-mail resumé to: rob@highlandhills.org; or mail to Rob Roy, Highland Hills Church, 132 South Grand Ave., Fort Thomas, KY 41075. If possible, please include a video or DVD of yourself leading worship.

SEEKING: Full-time youth minister to lead middle and high school ministry. Send resumé to: Search Committee, First Baptist, 300 W Main, Princeton, KY 42445. (270) 365-5591.

SEEKING: Immediate opening for full-time minister of music/young people for Anchor Baptist Church, a traditional worship fellowship in Lexington, Ky. (Paul Sisk, pastor). Four-year-old growing congregation, constructing new facility to open soon. Opportunity to direct an established choir and launch ministry to young people. Starting salary: \$30,000. Send resumé: Charlie Cook, 3212 Buckhorn Dr., Lexington, KY 40515; or Cookstuff@aol.com.

SEEKING: Full-time youth pastor/children's educational coordinator for an independent Baptist church. Prefer some experience and/or formal training. Submit resumé to: Elliottville Baptist Church, PO Box 160, Elliottville, KY 40317. E-mail: pastortim@adelphia.com.

SEEKING: Full-time pastor for New Hope Baptist Church, a conservative, rural Southern Baptist congregation. Send resumé to: New Hope Baptist Church, PO Box 62, West Liberty, KY 41472. Contact: Tim Clark, (606) 743-9055.

SEEKING: Part-time (1/2 to 3/4 time) youth minister for Immanuel Baptist, Henderson, Ky. Send resumé to: Personnel Committee, 540 2nd St., Henderson, KY 42420.

SERVICE: We service, install and maintain the following equipment: computers and networks; surveillance cameras (digital recording); phone trees (autodialing equipment). Computer classes, onsite training also available. (502) 664-7599.

SERVICE: America's fastest-growing Christian long distance company. 3.9 cents/minute; no monthly fees; no codes or restrictions; 6 second billing; 250,000 happy customers. Toll-free: (866) 587-8346 or www.covenantphoneservice.com. Home agents needed.



CONTROVERSIAL MONUMENT Advocates are taking the Ten Commandments on a tour. (RNS file photo)

Advocates hit road with Ten Commandments

By Mary Orndorff
Religion News Service

Montgomery, Ala. (RNS)—A controversial Ten Commandments monument was moved out of Alabama's judicial building recently by a veterans group that plans to tour the country with it on a flatbed truck.

Roy Moore, the owner of the 5,280-pound block of inscribed granite, agreed to let the American Veterans Standing for God and Country carry it through several states over the next few months for what is being billed as a series of God Bless America rallies.

A federal judge in 2002 ruled the monument was an affront to separation of church and state and ordered it removed from display in the judicial building in Montgomery. Moore, then Alabama's chief justice, refused and was removed from office.

The monument has been stored in a closet since August.

Moore and the president of the veterans group, Jim Cabaniss of Houston, signed the agreement last week to put the monument on tour.

"At a time when our sacred institution of marriage is being assaulted by those who would deny the law of God, Americans need to be reminded of our moral foundation," Moore said through a spokeswoman.

The veterans group is part of the umbrella organization American Veterans in Domestic Defense, which has supported Moore's Ten Commandments causes over the years.

Wiley Drake, a Buena Park, Calif., pastor and member of the veterans group, said the tour could wind up at an October rally in Washington. Moore's supporters have said they want it to be displayed prominently on Capitol Hill, which would require an act of Congress.

The agreement between Cabaniss and Moore does not transfer ownership, and no money changed hands.

"It might be (on tour) six months, a year or even longer," Cabaniss said.

Bringing hope to hard time

Warden, seminary, 'divine intervention' make Louisiana prison more livable

By Chuck Hustmyre
Religion News Service

Baton Rouge, La. (RNS)—Most people call it Angola. Some simply refer to it as "the farm."

In 1954, Collier's magazine called it "America's worst prison." And to those who've been there long enough to remember the way Louisiana State Prison used to be, it was hell on earth.

In 1995, a new warden took over at Angola, pointing the notorious prison in a different direction. He forbade cussing, pumped in religious radio day and night and persuaded a Baptist seminary to open a campus for the prisoners.

Morale rose and prison violence plummeted, but Burl Cain's critics say he has crossed the line separating church and state.

Cain shrugs off the accusations, giving credit to God.

"It was divine intervention," he said. "All we did was make the prison more moral."

The Louisiana State Penitentiary sits on 18,000 acres of some of the most fertile farmland in the world. It is surrounded on three sides by the swirling, vicious waters of the Mississippi River and on the fourth side by a jagged band of hills.

Angola is the largest maximum-security prison in the United States and home to more than 5,000 inmates. It is where Louisiana sends its most violent criminals.

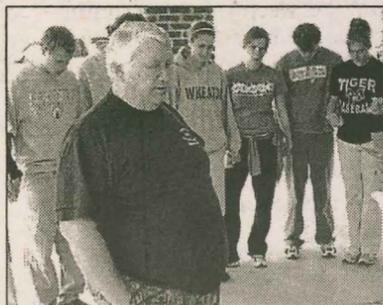
Most of them will never leave. Nearly 70 percent of the inmates at Angola are serving life sentences without parole and most of the rest have sentences so long they won't live to see their release dates.

Although some reforms already had been put into effect before Cain, the misery of prison life continued to spawn a savage kind of violence. The year before Cain arrived, there were nearly 300 attacks on the staff and 766 inmate-on-inmate assaults, half of which involved weapons.

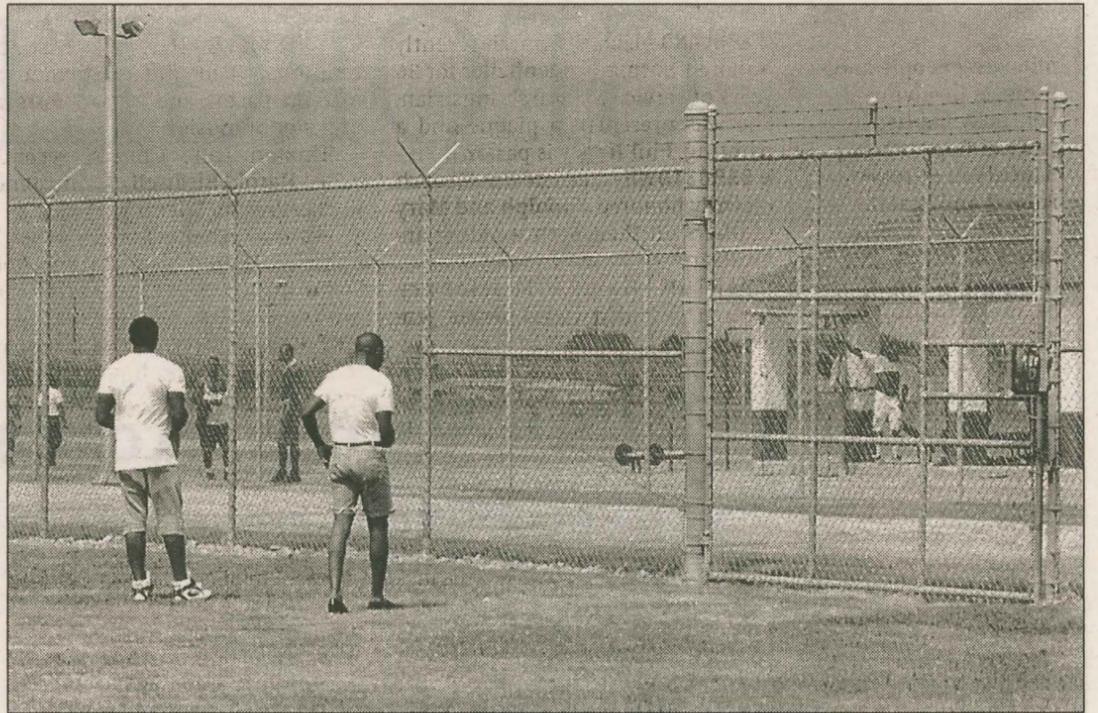
Sleeping with one eye open

Sidney Deloch is serving a life sentence. He's been at Angola for 25 years. "When I came here it was a fast-moving, bloody prison," he said. "There was plenty of stabbing."

Clarence Everette arrived at Angola in 1969 to begin serving a



WARDEN Burl Cain prays with a group of visiting students from Wheaton College at the Louisiana State Prison, better known as Angola. (RNS photo by Chuck Hustmyre)



FORMERLY AMERICA'S WORST PRISON The year before Burl Cain arrived as warden, Louisiana State Prison had nearly 300 attacks on the staff and 766 inmate-on-inmate assaults, half of which involved weapons. (NAMB photo)

life sentence for murder. During his first night in one of the dorms, another inmate had his throat slit. "You had to sleep with one eye open," he said. "Most everybody had knives back then."

For those doing time there, Angola can be a lonely place. Less than 20 percent of the inmates receive visitors.

"Our greatest challenge was to give hope where there was no hope," Cain said in an interview, "and the only way to do that was through moral rehabilitation."

At 61, Cain is a stocky man with a shock of white hair. He looks more like a kindly grandfather than caretaker to 5,000 murderers, robbers and rapists. Soon after his arrival, Cain set out to change the culture of Angola.

"You gotta think outside the box, and quit thinking like prison people," he said. His own education was in agriculture, not corrections.

Bringing in a Baptist seminary

To effect that cultural change, Cain banned cursing by guards and inmates. He insisted on cleanliness and invited outsiders to visit the prison. His message to the outside world was simple: Angola no longer has anything to hide.

A promise Cain made to an inmate just before his execution prompted the warden to establish a literacy program for the 80-plus prisoners on death row. He also founded an inmate hospice staffed mostly by prisoners and upgraded the prison radio station, which began airing religious programming 24 hours a day.

Using his homespun charm, Cain managed to persuade New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary to open a campus at Angola. The school allows qualified inmates to earn bachelor's degrees in theology, sociology and general studies.

Like most reformers, Cain is not without his critics.

Nearly all of his initiatives have come under fire. When he started teaching death row inmates to read, some charged that it was a



waste of time. But Cain disagrees. "For one human being to keep another in the dark is just morally wrong," he said.

The American Civil Liberties Union is concerned that Cain is overstepping the line separating church and state.

Joe Cook, ACLU executive director in New Orleans, said: "I think he goes over the line. He clearly endorses religion and encourages it." Cook said he is particularly troubled by the heavy emphasis on Christianity at Angola.

"Prison officials are obligated to treat religions in an even-handed manner," Cook said.

Although a devout Baptist, Cain said he doesn't play favorites. Inmates representing 19 Christian and non-Christian denominations attend the Bible College. "We don't care what religion they are," Cain said, "as long as they're morally sound."

Despite the critics, the transformation of Angola is, for some, just short of miraculous.

Since Cain took over as warden, inmate attacks on the staff have plunged nearly 70 percent and inmate-on-inmate violence has dropped 44 percent.

Suicides and escape attempts, once common, are now rare.

"The violence in Angola is almost gone," said longtime inmate Everette. "It ain't about violence; it's about religion."

LIFETIME PASTOR Sidney Deloch, an inmate pastor serving a life sentence at the Louisiana State Prison, leads a worship service there. Deloch said the prison, once a "fast-moving, bloody" place, has improved since Burl Cain took over as warden in 1995 and introduced a series of faith-based reforms. (RNS photo by Chuck Hustmyre)

See why Georgetown College is like no other.

GEORGETOWN

C O L L E G E

Christian Values. Academic Excellence.

A continued commitment to the Liberal Arts.

Life Changing Experiences

*Fall 2004 is a perfect time
to Visit in Person!*

Contact the Office of Admissions to register for one of these VIP Saturdays:

September 24, October 9, November 13.

800.788.9985 • 502.863.8009

www.georgetowncollege.edu

Georgetown College • 400 East College Street • Georgetown, Ky 40324