

March 8, 2005  
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WMU Kentucky Notes



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## Church computer helped police catch 'BTK' killer

Wichita, Kan. (RNS)—The pastor of a Lutheran church in Wichita, Kan., said the church's computer helped lead police to arrest the suspected "BTK" killer, who was the president of the parish council.

Michael Clark, pastor of Christ Lutheran Church, told reporters that police traced a computer disk that was sent by the killer to a church computer that was used by Dennis Rader, who has been charged with 10 counts of murder.

Rader, 59, was president of the church council and had used the computer a few weeks ago to print out the agenda for a council meeting.

"What the investigators found, from what I understand, running that disk through scanning and processing, was that that disk had to have been in our computer," Clark told *The New York Times*.

Rader is accused of being the BTK—for bind, torture, kill—killer who terrorized Wichita with a spree of murders between 1974 and 1979. The killer was famous for sending letters and packages to local television stations; after a 25-year hiatus, the letters reappeared a year ago.

Investigators searched the church office, and Clark provided a list of about a dozen names of people, including Rader, who had access to the computer.

The charges have devastated the church, where Rader, a father and Scout leader, was held in high regard. Rader has asked to see his pastor in jail. Clark said the family is in a "state of shock and bewilderment."

## Annie in Kentucky



**SUNDAY SERMON** Southern Baptist missionary Carlos De La Barra preaches at Gethsemane Baptist Church in Bloomfield. De La Barra and his wife, Cristina, are among the eight missionary families profiled during the Week of Prayer for North American Missions, March 6-13. (NAMB photo by Morris Abernathy)

## Offering highlights Kentucky church starter

By Lee Weeks  
SBC North American Mission Board

Louisville—Unlike most Hispanic immigrants, when Carlos and Cristina De La Barra arrived in the United States with their three daughters 14 years ago, it wasn't a prosperous life they were searching for—but a more fulfilling one.

Actually, life was quite comfortable for the De La Barra family in their native Santiago, Chile, where Carlos owned a successful computer

company.

"For years, we made really good money," De La Barra recalled. "We traveled all around the world. But after a while, again and again, I had the same feeling of emptiness. I tried to kill this emptiness by working 20 hours a day seven days a week."

But it wasn't until he met a Southern Baptist missionary who was starting a church in his neighborhood that De La Barra began to

realize he was empty spiritually.

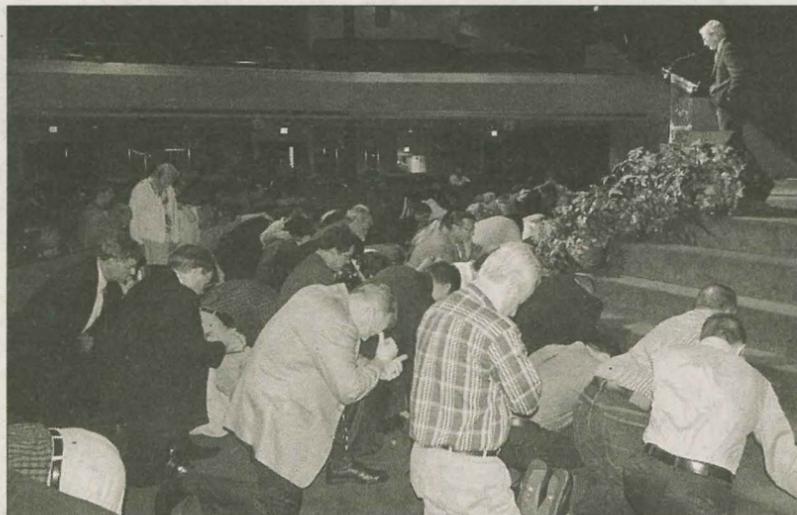
During the next year, the two families became friends, sharing meals together regularly. Then during a Saturday morning breakfast at a hotel restaurant in Santiago, De La Barra prayed with the missionary pastor to receive Christ as his Lord and Savior.

De La Barra's prayerful commitment to Christ was the first step on a journey that has since taken him and his family from South America to help start Baptist churches in

□ See Kentucky missionaries ... Page 8



## Event speakers urge Kentuckians to connect people with God



**ALTAR CALL** Bill Mackey, executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, leads pastors and church leaders in a time of prayer during the KBC Evangelism Conference at Valley View Church in Louisville.

By Trennis Henderson and Ken Walker  
Editor and State Correspondent

Louisville—Challenging Christians to "get connected" to God and to people in spiritual need, speakers at last week's Kentucky Baptist Evangelism Conference urged participants to make a positive impact in their churches, communities and world.

Bruce Williams, pastor of Bates Memorial Baptist Church in Louisville, reminded listeners of the urgency of being the light of the world.

"Jesus didn't say you are the light of the church," he noted. "He said you are the light of the world."

"What is Jesus trying to say when He says, 'I am the light' and then says, 'You are the light?'" Williams asked. "Jesus is trying to tell

us that we are to be like Him in the world. We are to reflect His character, His standards, His principles and His values."

Noting that "we are not better than the lost; we are just better off than the lost," Williams added, "God intends for the world to see us behaving like believers. ... He intends for our holy living not only to be in this house, but in your house; not only in this place, but in the marketplace."

Detailing the importance of connecting to the community, Pastor Kevin Hamm of Valley View Church used the story of the Good Samaritan to discuss why 80 percent of churches are plateaued or declining.

"Our world is hurting and we

□ See Conference urges ... Page 6

Dated material. Please deliver by Wednesday, March 9

BAPTIST  
DIGEST

**Betty Drummond**, the widow of longtime Southern Baptist leader Lewis Drummond, was honored at Midwest Baptist Theological Seminary during the inaugural Drummond Lecture Series on Evangelism on the school's Kansas City, Mo., campus. Drummond endowed the series in honor of her late husband, who was president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., from 1988-92. He previously was the Billy Graham Professor of Evangelism at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and pastor of Ninth and O Baptist Church, both in Louisville.

**More than 300 ministers** participated in Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary's first-ever Expository Preaching Workshop Feb. 28-March 1 on the school's Fort Worth, Texas, campus. The conference's goal was to provide "practical training and help to pastors in the genuine exposition of Scripture," said David Allen, dean of Southwestern's theology school and director of the Southwestern Center for Expository Preaching. Speakers included Allen; Jerry Vines, pastor of First Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Fla.; Mac Brunson, pastor of First Baptist Church in Dallas; and Southwestern President Paige Patterson.

**First Amendment freedoms** will be the focus of an April 14-15 event in Washington, D.C., sponsored by the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty, Associated Baptist Press and Baptists Today news journal. Freedom Forum executive Charles Overby, historian Walter Shurden and U.S. Reps. David Price and Chet Edwards will address the theme, "Free to Worship, Free to Know." A panel of pastors will discuss the impact of founding freedoms on local churches. Registration costs \$150 per person. Details are available at [www.firstfreedom.com](http://www.firstfreedom.com).

## Young leaders' dialogue affirms mentoring

By Tobin Perry  
Baptist Press

**Riverside, Calif. (BP)**—James Draper's second dialogue session with young Southern Baptist leaders attracted about 40 participants to the campus of California Baptist University Feb. 28.

Draper, president of LifeWay Christian Resources, said he hopes the information gathered at these dialogues can help draw attention to key issues in Southern Baptist life.

"I do believe that Southern Baptists need to deal with issues important to you," Draper told participants.

It might take older SBC leaders some time to work through some of the issues brought up at the dialogue, Draper added, expressing optimism in the final result.

## Raising issues is "success"

"I think just raising the issues and talking about them is a success," he said. "I don't know that we will have all of the answers, but at least communicating together will

help us come through this."

In Riverside, participants spent most of the morning brainstorming solutions to issues organized around five areas: missions and evangelism, creative and innovative approaches, convention renewal, biblical diversity and inclusiveness and healthy relationships. After lunch, participants discussed some of the solutions they had brainstormed.

Many of the proposed solutions revolved around a perceived need for older leaders to mentor younger leaders. Some LifeWay staff at the event suggested the possibility of "reverse mentoring" as well, where younger ministers would help older ones reach out more effectively to young people in their community.

Many voiced concern that the growing gap between those ministering in a postmodern context and those ministering in more traditional environments might be difficult to close.

Heath Pressley, a Seattle-area student minister and church planter, said he believes Western culture

has moved into a new era and if the church doesn't look to minister within that culture, it will lose much of its evangelistic effectiveness. Some Southern Baptist churches won't exist in five or 10 years, he said, unless they learn to effectively reach out to people who come from a postmodern perspective.

## Leadership opportunities

Another discussion centered around opportunities for young leaders to be incorporated more into the decision-making process of state, local and national Baptist entities. One group suggested the possibility of holding the convention on college campuses or sending live video feeds of the SBC to local colleges.

"I think Dr. Draper has done a great thing by opening the door of dialogue on these matters," said John Montgomery, 39, an associate pastor at Immanuel Baptist Church in Highland, Calif.

For information about future dialogues, visit [www.lifeway.com/youngleaders](http://www.lifeway.com/youngleaders).

## Moderate Baptist leaders call for 'new day'

By Greg Warner  
Associated Baptist Press

**Atlanta (ABP)**—Southern Baptists account for roughly half of all U.S. Baptists—about 16 million people—and thus get most of the attention. The other half also represents a significant presence in America, but they lack a unifying identity, according to several of their leaders.

While Southern Baptist leaders have cultivated their conservative, counter-cultural leadership role in America, there is still no consensus about what the "other" Baptists—including those who have left the Southern Baptist Convention—will be or do.

"We need to dream about something that will re-energize all of us," advised David Currie, one of five Baptist executives who participated on a panel in Atlanta to discuss "A New Day for Baptists." The panel was part of the Feb. 25-26 annual convocation of the moderate Mainstream Baptist Network.

"You are not the minority in North America," said Alan Stanford, general secretary of the North

American Baptist Fellowship, one of six regional groups related to the Baptist World Alliance.

Moderate Baptists and other non-SBC groups related to BWA account for 17.9 million Baptists in the U.S. and Canada, Stanford said. "You are the majority in North America."

Stanford praised those Baptist groups who are seeking to expand their international Baptist connections. "The future is to go global."

## "Part of a bigger family"

"We are part of a bigger family than we realized we were," echoed Charles Wade, executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, which recently was admitted into the NABF and is seeking its own membership in BWA since the withdrawal of the SBC.

The Baptist General Association of Virginia is on an identical course. John Upton, BGAV executive director, told the Mainstream Baptist audience that moderate Baptists should act their size.

Stanford noted that the Southern Baptist Convention's 2004 with-

drawal of membership and financial support from the Baptist World Alliance has sparked renewed commitment to BWA from many of the 211 other member unions.

Daniel Vestal, coordinator of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, told the Mainstream gathering the NABF "provides a very, very hopeful sign for Baptists in North America" and "a great opportunity for collaboration." CBF leaders recently adopted a commitment to help revitalize the NABF as a way to link moderate Baptists together.

Vestal also encouraged Baptists to look beyond their own ranks and realize "the body of Christ is much richer and much fuller than anyone realizes."

He affirmed the creation of Christian Churches Together—an interdenominational fellowship that includes evangelicals and Baptists, including CBF—which Vestal said represents "the first time Baptists have participated at a significant ecumenical table." SBC leaders have declined to participate in the interdenominational group.

## Angelov urges U.S. Baptists not to export conflict

**Atlanta (ABP)**—A prominent European Baptist leader cautioned U.S. Baptists not to export their disputes or manipulate Baptists worldwide into their way of thinking.

"We should be very careful how we are pulling the ropes in our mission work, in our evangelism and missions work everywhere," said Theo Angelov, outgoing general secretary of the European Baptist Federation and a respected Bulgarian pastor.

"Do we pull the ropes in another direction toward ourselves, our thinking, our vision, our strategy?" Angelov asked members of the Mainstream Baptist Network in Atlanta Feb. 25. "Do not pull the ropes toward yourself. There is only one direction we should pull the ropes ... and that's to pull the sinners before Christ."

Angelov, also a leader in the Baptist World Alliance, apparently referred in part to the dispute between the Southern Baptist Convention and BWA. The SBC withdrew its membership and funding from the Baptist World Alliance last year, accusing BWA of harboring liberalism.

Some international Baptist leaders have complained privately that Southern Baptist leaders are pressuring them to take sides in the dispute or adopt the SBC's conservative theological statement.

"There is no more (serious) weakness to the world around us than our lack of unity ... our fighting," Angelov said. "It will be a catastrophe for our world if we pull the ropes in the direction (of disunity)."

"How do you dare to call the Baptists in Europe liberal?" asked Angelov, referring to charges made

by SBC officials. "Have you ever been in prison for your faith?"

Angelov, who was imprisoned by Bulgaria's former communist government, said many Baptists died in prison without denying their faith. "There are many heroes you never will know their name."

Morris Chapman, president of the SBC Executive Committee, declined to criticize Angelov's comments. "Theo Angelov is an extraordinary Christian," Chapman said in an e-mail response. "Like the Apostle Paul, Brother Theo has been imprisoned for his faith in Jesus Christ in his own country. I came to know him through my involvement in the BWA and have great admiration for him. I hope someday to have opportunity to talk with him personally about the SBC's withdrawal of its membership from the BWA."

## Author challenges women to be wise, not 'weak-willed'

**Louisville (BP)**—Urging Christian women to be wise rather than "weak-willed," author Mary Kassian addressed participants at the recent Women's Leadership Consultation at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

More than 200 women from nine states and Canada attended this year's event aimed at training female leaders for local church ministry.

An annual event that alternates each year among the Southern Baptist Convention's six seminaries, this year's featured speakers included Kassian and Dorothy Patterson.

Patterson taught from Esther, encouraging women to develop leadership styles that glorify God.

Among the books Kassian has authored are "The Feminist Gospel: The Movement to Unite Feminism with the Church" and "Women, Creation and the Fall." Patterson is the author of such books as "Where's Mom? The High Calling of Wives and Mothers" and "The Family: Unchanging Principles for Changing Times."

Mary Mohler, director of the Seminary Wives Institute at Southern Seminary, said the conference is crucial in equipping equippers.

"That factor alone makes it very unusual as far as women's conferences go," Mohler said. "We purposefully planned a full program of speakers who confronted today's issues of leadership head-on and in a most effective way."

Drawing on 2 Timothy 3:6-7, Kassian noted that the antidote to being weak-willed is being a woman who is wise according to Scripture.

Kassian said weaknesses that often entrap women include worldly thoughts and vulnerability to ungodly emotional, relational and spiritual influences.

"A wise woman doesn't allow ungodliness into her home," she declared. "Evil wants to worm its way in. A wise woman must keep it out."

"Weak-willed women have lots of baggage," she added, "and a wise woman takes it before the Lord and starts dealing with it."

The wise woman finds true beauty, power and fulfillment by looking away from the world and locking her gaze upon the supreme perfections found in Christ alone, Kassian said.

"Most of our problem with sin is the problem with desire, the problem with the heart," she said.

"The way that you are going to be able to deal with sin in your life is by replacing what you see as the beauty of sin ... with a greater beauty and that is the beauty of Christ."

## BWA president urges students to pursue lives of prayer

By Trennis Henderson  
Editor

**Williamsburg**—Declaring that “prayer is the key to solving all of life’s problems,” Baptist World Alliance President Billy Kim was the featured speaker at a convocation service last week at Cumberland College.

Kim, who retired in December after 45 years as pastor of Central Baptist Church in Suwon, Korea, also is president of Far East Broadcasting Company and director of Youth for Christ in Korea.

Kim will conclude his five-year presidency of BWA this summer at the Baptist World Congress in England. He came to Cumberland three months after Kentucky Baptist Convention messengers voted against conducting a study to consider how the KBC could relate to the BWA in light of the Southern Baptist Convention’s vote last summer to cut ties with BWA.

Despite the division between the SBC and BWA, Southern Baptist leaders consistently expressed appreciation for Kim’s leadership and ministry.

Campbellsville President James Taylor said Kim’s campus visit was not directly connected to his role as BWA president. Rather, he said one goal of the visit was to discuss future educational exchanges between Campbellsville and Christian students in Korea.

“We’re highly honored and we hold him with great esteem,” Taylor said. “My concern is that we serve all Baptists.”

In an interview after his convocation address, Kim said he and other Baptist leaders hope to develop both educational and economic partnerships between Kentucky and Korea.

Concerning SBC leaders’ plan to meet with “like-minded Baptists” in Poland this summer, Kim said there are ample needs around the world for all Baptists to address.

“Let’s pray for them,” he urged. “We hope they can help other struggling Baptists around the world. We don’t want to alienate any Baptists for any personal reason.”

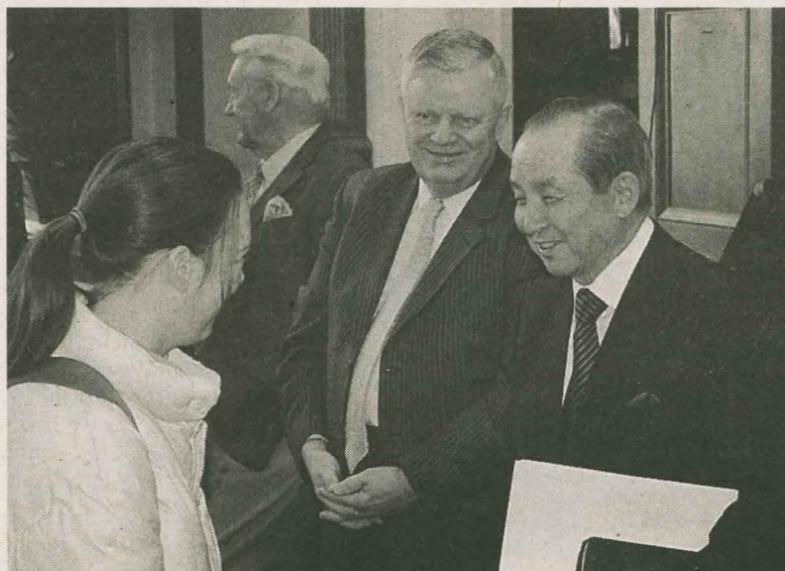
Emphasizing that Baptists around the globe “ought to be working together to help out struggling Baptists who are in the minority,” he added, “The places I’ve been, they’re very, very positive about BWA and they also are still working with the Southern Baptist Convention.”

Responding to KBC messengers’ vote against exploring a possible connection to BWA, Kim affirmed that “Baptists have their own autonomy. I’m more concerned about the Third World countries.”

“We hope they have crystal clear what our objective is: winning people to Jesus Christ and bringing unity to the Baptist family,” Kim emphasized. “Kentucky needs to be world Christians because there’s a world out there who needs Kentucky Baptists.”

### “Life is made up of choices”

During his March 2 convocation address, Kim told Cumberland stu-



**FELLOWSHIP** Baptist World Alliance President Billy Kim (right) and Cumberland College President James Taylor (center) greet students after Kim’s March 2 convocation address on the Cumberland campus in Williamsburg.

dents, “Life is made up of choices. ... The choices we make determine the quality of life we have.”

Citing Joshua 24:15, “As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord,” Kim noted, “That’s a choice.”

“This world does not welcome us with open arms,” he added, because the world is competitive, busy, merciless, unfriendly, selfish and indifferent.

In the midst of such struggles, “God put a premium on man’s soul over anything else in this world,” Kim said. “He has given us the freedom to make choices. I think we need to choose whom we will serve.”

Christians also “need to choose a life of prayer,” he noted. “In this world, we encounter many difficulties and obstacles. I believe that if we have a life of prayer, we will overcome whatever trouble we face.”

“Prayer brings perpetual power,” Kim told the convocation crowd. “Prayer does not need proof; it needs practice. Today we spend time organizing rather than agonizing on our knees before God.”

“What America needs today is a generation of God-fearing young men and women,” he concluded. “May God send a great revival to this great nation and this great institution.”

**“Prayer brings perpetual power. Prayer does not need proof; it needs practice.”**

Baptist World Alliance  
President Billy Kim

## NAMB’s Hammond tells Kentuckians to plan witnessing efforts

By Dannah Prather  
Partnerships Editor

**Louisville**—If Thomas Hammond’s message at last week’s Kentucky Baptist Evangelism Conference, “Connected Through Personal Evangelism,” needed a subtitle, it probably would have been: “This isn’t rocket science.”

With enthusiasm and humor, Hammond presented a new evangelism tool from the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board, and then reminded Kentucky Baptists of truths as old as Pentecost, such as: “Every preacher used to be lost,” and “The more I witness, the more I see people saved.”

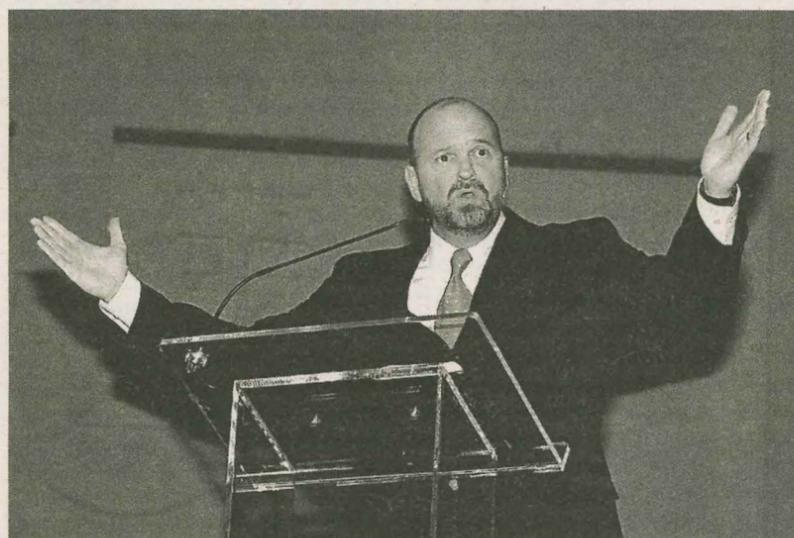
Hammond, NAMB’s director of direct evangelism, encouraged pastors and other participants to be both practical and passionate about evangelism, never forgetting that sharing the gospel requires hard work.

“We’ve been fishing in the shallow end for too long,” he said. “We need to be in the deep end, casting out nets instead of using a fishing pole.”

Citing Revelation 3:20, Hammond noted that when Jesus said: “I stand at the door and knock,” He was talking to a church, not the unsaved.

“This was a church that never attempted anything greater than themselves,” Hammond said. “The power source had left and they didn’t even know it.”

He speculated that the church “had just got through with Phase



**GET BUSY** Thomas Hammond told participants at last week’s KBC Evangelism Conference to quit fishing in the shallow end of the lake. “The more I witness, the more I see people saved.” (Photo by Dannah Prather)

Three, got the gym built and had a note burning.” He said they probably asked, “What do you need with God when you got it all together?”

### Remaining committed

In contrast, Hammond said the believers described in Mark 2 were energetic, cooperative and single-minded as they pursued a simple goal: to take a paralyzed man to Jesus. They remained committed even when it meant cutting through the roof of a house and lowering the man into the crowded room below.

“This was work,” Hammond said. “What if all four of them had had a better plan?” he asked, speculating

that the crippled man never would have made it to Jesus.

Hammond said Southern Baptists lack unity because of “preferences. ... It’s nothing unbiblical. ... It’s flavors and colors. The enemy’s got us arguing while everybody’s going to hell.”

NAMB has released a CD-ROM evangelism planner that Hammond highlighted during his session. The free resource provides an interactive planning calendar for evangelistic events, strategy recommendations, how-to manuals and other features.

“Did you know we could have a strategy?” Hammond asked the crowd. “(But) if I don’t have a plan,

### Look for more

In addition to stories on pages 3 and 6, look for more articles from the KBC Evangelism Conference in upcoming issues of the Western Recorder.

I won’t work the plan.”

The planner’s resources are guidelines that churches and associations can adapt locally. “Make it Kentucky style,” he encouraged. “Put some bluegrass in it.”

NAMB and the Kentucky Baptist Convention are hosting regional workshops on using the evangelism planner later this year.

Hammond noted that NAMB has many other resources available to help local churches, such as pre-produced radio and television announcements.

The broadcast spots are free but there is a fee to place local contact information at the end of the messages. NAMB also can help churches and associations purchase airtime on local radio and TV stations. Similar resources and assistance are available for print media.

The evangelism planner CD-ROM can be duplicated without copyright infringement. “This is a tool,” Hammond said. “It won’t grow your church. Neither does my tiller till my garden by itself.”

To request a copy of the evangelism planner, or to get additional information about NAMB’s resources, visit [www.namb.net](http://www.namb.net) or call (770) 410-6000.

**“The enemy’s got us arguing while everybody’s going to hell.”**

Thomas Hammond,  
NAMB’s director of  
direct evangelism

## WESTERN RECORDER

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

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## 'Arrogance' at Southern

Arrogance continues to reign at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary!

Clinical Pastoral Education, long a mainstay curriculum piece for chaplains and pastors, is no longer acceptable for credit there. Now, labeling the pastoral counseling coursework of the past 60 years a "failed" model, Russell Moore and Albert Mohler will offer their rendition of "biblical counseling." In the process, they disparage the education of thousands who have been schooled in the appropriate blending of sound biblical theology and the study of human personality.

The great strength of Southern's historical pastoral care model (under stellar teachers such as Oates, Southard, Haworth, Lester and Rowatt) was that it balanced truth learned from "the living human documents" (Anton Boisen) with a thorough and informed understanding of holy Scripture. Using this collaborative and integrative approach, students were taught the very best rudiments of pastoral ministry.

What is now denigrated as "the behaviorist understandings of human nature" was then neither feared nor uncritically accepted. As a result, future pastors could leave Southern equipped to minister to persons in truly holistic and redemptive ways.

Such a broad-based, relevant model apparently will give way to a myopic, narrow-gauged program designed to appeal to those whose anti-intellectual credo boasts, "Our view of Scripture, and that alone, contains the whole wisdom of God."

What naivete! What arrogance! There was a time at Southern Seminary when generations of Baptist pastors were trained in one of the nation's finest pastoral care programs. Multitudes of souls were the recipients of the competency and compassion gleaned from such an educational experience.

A "failed" model? I don't think so. I think rather that the provin-

cial, simplistic program about to be launched in Louisville will prove far more deserving of such a label.

Bill Turner  
Lancaster

## Don't close doors

I am wondering as I address the radical change at Southern Seminary in its counseling department, what programs President Al Mohler and others study as a model for success in counseling?

Does Mohler believe that God does not continue to inspire and create new ideas, new ways to deal with our psychological suffering? Does Mohler not see wholesale abuse if only scriptural ways are followed, such as corporal punishment and submission without question, among other things? Whose interpretation of Scripture will a counselor use?

I was a therapist several years and I did not see wholesale use of drugs to heal. In most cases, drugs were the last resort. I believe in the power of prayer to heal and in the power of God's Word to strengthen the family and the individual. But I also know the Holy Spirit led me to many ways of counseling that were effective as well.

I grieve for young counselors beginning with doors closed to learning, evaluating and using new ideas and milieus for counseling. How far back will the seminary be willing to go to make their point? If the leadership at Southern is so secure in their beliefs, why are they not open to look at ways God may be leading and speaking even today?

Where has Russell Moore been if he thinks there are not thousands of Christian counselors showing "the love of Christ for hurting people in the church and in the world"? Southern Seminary's new changes will not introduce that kind of love; it is here already. I worship at Highland Baptist Church with many counselors, chaplains, pastors, therapists, social workers and those who work in many fields of counseling in

our area. They are the face of that kind of love to a hurting world.

Patricia Ramsey  
Louisville

## Teach youth apologetics

Recently I was listening to a Ravi Zacharias speech when he made the following statement: "We have abandoned the battle intellectually out there till people do not really believe that a Christian can come onto a university campus and hold his ground with a professor of the day."

I was profoundly moved by this statement because it is so true. Before my conversion four years ago, I looked at Christianity as a blind leap in the dark partly due to Christians' inability to offer up answers to most basic questions of their faith.

Questions like: "If God is loving, why does such hardship occur?" "How do you know the Bible is accurate?" "Why Christianity and not Islam?" "What about all the scientific evidence?"

With a humble heart, I would like to add to Zacharias' comment: The problem has gotten to where a Christian student can't hold his ground with anyone (not just professors) of an alternative belief.

Too many Christian teenagers are going to public universities ill-equipped to defend their faith. With the surge of pluralism, growth of naturalism and presence of fine-tuned philosophical arguments, young Christians are being cornered and asked to defend, prove and explain the tenets of our faith.

Unfortunately, this is where many of our churches are failing. The lack of good apologetics classes for our youth has left them like fish in barrels on campus.

How many times have you heard a parent say, "My child's walk with the Lord was fine before they went to college"? My prayer is for church leaders to start equipping our youth not just with the ABCs of Christianity but with the tools to "give the reason for the hope that they have" (1 Peter 3:15).

Bruce Horsley  
Alexandria

## Evangelism Conference reflections

It is my privilege to express gratitude to those who helped make this year's Kentucky Baptist Evangelism Conference held at Valley View Church in Louisville inspirational and meaningful. God's anointing was upon every speaker, and from my perspective, each one seemed to be on target in meeting the needs of participants.

If you were unable to attend, you still can benefit from these dynamic speakers by ordering a CD or cassette tape or by listening to the presentations online at our Web site. To order an audiocassette or CD from Jim Cottrell & Associates, call (270) 862-9586. To listen to a streaming version online or to download a copy of the sermon for your MP3 player, visit [www.kybaptist.org/evanconf](http://www.kybaptist.org/evanconf).

My thanks go to Dan Garland, leader of the church development and evangelism team, and to that entire team for its excellent work in handling the arrangements

for the conference. I also want to express gratitude to the staff and members of Valley View Church for their incredible hospitality and worship music. Kevin Hamm, pastor of Valley View, provided an outstanding message and workshop as well.

The Singing Churchmen and Jim Cordell, director of the KBC music and worship department, also are due many thanks for providing special worship music.

There were many highlights to note from the speakers. Herb Reavis, pastor of North Jacksonville (Fla.) Baptist Church, especially impressed me. He shared how that church made a commitment to give 10 percent of its undesignated receipts to missions through the Cooperative Program at a time when the church was facing a \$4 million debt and struggling to pay the bills. Currently, the church gives more than \$400,000 to missions through CP.



## STEWARDSHIP

HSA, HRA & FSA:  
What are plans'  
key differences?

By Don Spencer

Most people have heard of HSAs (Health Savings Accounts), HRAs (Health Reimbursement Accounts) and FSAs (Flexible Spending Accounts). Yet many folks use the terms interchangeably or incorrectly

use one of the terms to refer to one of the other plans.

How these plans work and their differences can be confusing and intimidating. Details about each would fill many pages, but here's a brief overview to help you understand the difference:

**Health Savings Accounts.** These are tax-sheltered accounts similar to IRAs but earmarked for medical expenses. Larger medical expenses are covered by a qualified lower-cost/higher-deductible health insurance policy. Unused funds grow in the tax-favored account to supplement retirement just like an IRA. Those eligible include individuals not covered by any other health insurance, not enrolled in Medicare or not covered under someone else's medical plan.

**Health Reimbursement Accounts.** These are funds set up by an employer to reimburse employees for qualified medical expenses, like an insurance plan reimburses covered individuals for medical expenses. An HRA provides first dollar coverage until funds are exhausted. The employer, not the employee, provides the funds and all unused funds can be rolled over at the end of the year. Unused funds remain with the employer.

**Flexible Spending Accounts.** These are employer-established, but employee-funded. The employee contributes to the fund through salary reduction and can withdraw funds set aside to pay medical expenses. These frequently are referred to as a cafeteria plan or Section 125 plan. The employer also may contribute. There are no limits on the amounts that can be contributed, however employers generally set a limit. Once the open enrollment period ends, employees cannot change the amount until the next year. Employees forfeit any unspent funds in the account at year end.

Remember, each type of plan is a separate entity. Do not confuse the terms. Each of these is a way for employers to pass more of the cost of medical care directly to employees and to give the employees more choice.

Don Spencer is a certified financial planner and directs the Kentucky Baptist Convention's annuity department

## Consider these spring tips for cultivating a marriage garden

**Q: Between our jobs, church activities and shuttling of the children to various activities, my spouse and I get very little time together. What can we do to find more time for our marriage?**

Each day you have 86,400 seconds that you must spend by the stroke of midnight. You have the same amount of time as President Bush, your local trash collector and the children in the local elementary school. You do not have a time problem, but a priority predicament. Which priorities will win out?

### PARENTING

Scripture reminds us not to be conformed to this world. One translation puts it this way, "Do not let the world squeeze you into its mold." In "Celebration of Discipline," Richard Foster wrote, "In contemporary society our Adversary (Satan) majors in three things: noise, hurry and crowds. If he can engage us in 'muchness' and 'manyness,' he will rest satisfied."

Remember that your marriage comes second—but only to your relationship with Christ. Imagine that your schedule is a garden and think about what needs to be weeded, pruned, rotated and fertilized.

**What personal and family activities need to be weeded out?** Do you really need, for example, to play in that evening basketball league?

**Which things need to be pruned or cut back?** Perhaps the children do not need to be involved in more than one extracurricular activity per semester.

**What activities need to be rotated to another spot on the calendar?** Maybe the activity is fine, but the timing is off.

**Finally, which marital activities need to be fertilized?** A weekly date night, a nightly 15-minute coffee cup conversation on the porch after the family dinner or a daily walk might be options.—*Scott Wigginton*

**Q: From my mid-teens to my late 20s I was involved with lots of sexual partners. I now realize I desire a normal, healthy dating and marital relationship. At what point do I need to share about my dormant sexually transmitted diseases? I know that my past is forgiven by Christ, but how much is a potential husband entitled to know?**

I am glad you have stopped the dangerous behavior of your youth, and that you have come to God through Christ for forgiveness.

To have a successful, healthy relationship, this time keep appropriate boundaries. The boundaries you need are not only about keeping within biblical physical limits while you are unmarried. Boundaries also have to do with communicating at the appropriate level of the relationship.

Many people make the mistake of talking so much about their past in the beginning of the relationship that they scare away the potential mate. Take your time. You have the right, especially in the beginning stages of the relationship, to speak only in generalities. It is possible to speak in generalities and still be truthful.

Obviously, before you wed, you will need to "come clean" about sexually transmitted diseases. But do not make the mistake of going into so much detail about past relationships that you paint pictures in your new husband's mind that he will never be able to erase. Some generalities about the past are best kept that way.

Lean on the promise of Christ to make all things new. With Christ as the center of your relationship, you will have a "hope and a future," enabling you to live a lifestyle of interpersonal discipline, forgiveness and grace.—*James Stillwell*

### SINGLES

Family Forum writers are:

**David Garrard**, minister to children at St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville. E-mail: dgarrard@smbclouisville.org.

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



## Conference calls Christians to 'connect'

Challenging Kentucky Baptists to "get connected," last week's Kentucky Baptist Evangelism Conference featured an array of speakers encouraging participants to pursue evangelism on a practical, personal level.

Among memorable sound bites during the two-day conference were:

**Thomas Hammond**, Southern Baptist North American Mission Board's director of direct evangelism: "The more I witness, the more I see people saved. ... The enemy's got us arguing while everybody's going to hell."

**Herb Reavis**, pastor of North Jacksonville (Fla.) Baptist Church: "We've got to repair the altar of unity in our churches. ... A lot of what divides us is tradition. Most of what we get mad at doesn't matter. What it's all about is the presence of God and touching a lost world that needs to know Jesus."

**Jerry Pipes**, vocational evangelist from Lawrenceburg, Ga.: "You don't have to earn the right to share Jesus; Jesus earned that right on the cross. ... Successful witnessing is sharing Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit and leaving the results to God."

**Robert Smith**, professor of Christian preaching at Beeson Divinity School in Birmingham, Ala.: "God has chosen to take our defect and turn it into something that will give Him glory." Smith's words came amid a dramatic retelling of the life of Mephibosheth, Jonathan's crippled son who King David graciously invited to his table as one of his own sons.

**Kevin Hamm**, pastor of Valley View Church in Louisville: "When are we really going to begin to care for people the way God cares for people? ... It's our job to get hurting people in touch with a healing God."

**Ken Hemphill**, national strategist for the Southern Baptist Convention's Empowering Kingdom Growth initiative: "If you want to change a plateaued church, give it a vision for the world."

**Bruce Williams**, pastor of Bates Memorial Baptist Church in Louisville: "We are not better than the lost; we are just better off than the lost. ... God intends for the world to see us behaving like believers."

**Joe Brown**, pastor of Hickory Grove (N.C.) Baptist Church: "Get on the altar and let God touch you. ... God doesn't need a better idea; He just needs somebody that will obey."

Conference coordinator Dan Garland, the Kentucky Baptist Convention's evangelism leader, affirmed that "it was so of God that we ended on the altar." He told conference participants, "We send you back out in the presence of the Lord to share the love of Christ with a world that so needs to be loved."

### McLaren's views spark diverse responses

Mixed in with the conference's moments of inspiration and challenge, however, was hallway talk about KBC leaders' decision several days before the conference to withdraw an invitation for "Emergent Church" leader and author Brian McLaren to speak.

Citing excerpts from McLaren's latest book, "A Generous Orthodoxy," Garland and KBC Executive Director Bill Mackey determined that McLaren's views were not compatible with the goals of the conference.

"I respect Dr. McLaren greatly and have appreciated his insights on reaching people in today's culture," Mackey said. "I felt in this instance, however, Dr. McLaren's position diverges too greatly to be appropriate for this conference."

In the primary passage in question, McLaren suggested there could be circumstances in which Christians should "help people become followers of Jesus and remain within their Buddhist, Hindu or Jewish contexts."

Some observers have expressed concern that McLaren's views border on universalism or downplay the exclusivity of faith in Christ for salvation.

Interestingly, however, McLaren's statement specifically calls for helping people "become followers of Jesus." In some contexts, Southern Baptist leaders ap-

plaud such views, including endorsing the Southern Baptist Messianic Fellowship that celebrates Jewish believers in Christ known as Messianic or "completed" Jews rather than using the term "Christian."

According to the SBMF Web site, Messianic congregations include members "who believe that Yeshua (Jesus) is the true Jewish Messiah promised by God ... and who worship within the framework of traditional Jewish patterns." That sounds a lot like McLaren's call to help people "become followers of Jesus and remain within their ... Jewish context."

Additionally, missionaries often share testimonies about converts from Islam or other religious backgrounds who covertly practice their newfound faith while maintaining the outward trappings of their previous religious culture.

Such accounts are reminiscent of Nicodemus, a Jewish Pharisee, who came to Jesus at night, asking how a person could be born again. While it would be ideal for every spiritual seeker or new believer to be in a position where he or she could openly and immediately declare faith in Christ, Jesus was undeterred by Nicodemus' clandestine visit. He took time to witness to Nicodemus, including sharing the beautiful and powerful words of John 3:16.

### Salvation requires faith, not labels

The key was not whether Nicodemus or anyone else called himself a Christian, a Messianic Jew or some other label, but whether he accepted Jesus Christ as Savior.

In fact, it's important to remember that early believers were not initially known as Christians. Their movement was known simply as "The Way" (Acts 9:2), echoing Jesus' declaration of His exclusivity in John 14:6, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

Acts 11:26 tells us that "the disciples were first called Christians at Antioch." As incredibly significant as the term "Christian" is to believers today, we must never forget that it's not the label that leads to salvation, but sincere faith in Christ.

All that said, it's still true that anyone who espouses universalism or rejects the exclusivity of Christ for salvation shouldn't be a speaker for a Baptist evangelism conference or any other denominational event. But someone who calls for helping people "become followers of Jesus" in the midst of their cultural or religious backgrounds deserves a hearing from fellow Christians.

I don't know McLaren's heart or intent, though I do know he describes himself as an evangelical Christian. I am confident Dan Garland had the best intentions when he invited McLaren to speak and also had the best intentions when he withdrew the invitation in light of diverse interpretations of McLaren's views. Garland's decision obviously was a no-win situation since some Kentucky Baptists opposed McLaren's presence on the program and others opposed canceling his involvement.

For his part, Garland sought to avoid having McLaren's presence distract from the conference's primary focus on evangelism. In response, McLaren graciously honored Garland's decision.

"We need to keep our focus on what's most important," McLaren said. "It would have been a shame if my presence distracted people from Christ and the Great Commission." Since McLaren is scheduled to speak at Georgetown College's April 4-6 Pastors' Conference, there is little doubt that debate about his views will continue.

Regardless of who speaks at future evangelism conferences or other denominational events, Bruce Williams' words still ring true, "God intends for the world to see us behaving like believers."

Thankfully, Garland and McLaren both set that example for us. Hopefully, people throughout Kentucky with diverse perspectives about this sensitive issue will do the same.

### STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR



Trennis Henderson

## Chorale singer injured in fall during conference

Louisville—A former director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's church music department was injured last week when he fell from the stage at the KBC Evangelism Conference.

Gene Quinn, who was with the KBC from 1958-87, sustained a brain injury from the fall, according to his pastor, Jim Holladay of Lyndon Baptist Church in metro-Louisville.

"It's not a life threatening, but potentially life-altering injury," Holladay said last week. "The degree to which we really don't know."

Quinn was in stable condition in the intensive care unit of Louisville Hospital, where he was undergoing aggressive physical, speech and occupational therapy, Holladay said.

Quinn had been singing with the Kentucky Baptist Men's Chorale as part of the evangelism conference at Valley View Church.

He was leaving the stage with the rest of the singers when he fell approximately five feet and struck his head on the floor.

# Hemphill urges pastors to take part in EKG initiative

By Ken Walker  
State Correspondent

Louisville—Empowering Kingdom Growth, the latest initiative from the Southern Baptist Convention, is not a new program but a passion for connecting people to Christ, according to EKG's national strategist.

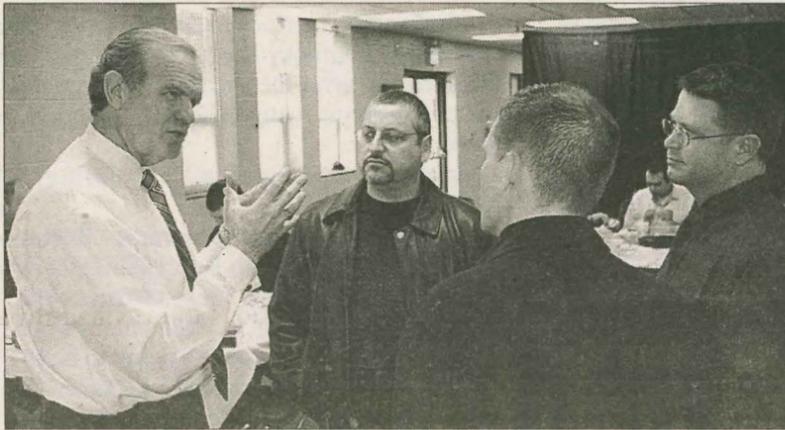
"At its heart is a desire for revival," Ken Hemphill told participants at last week's Kentucky Baptist Evangelism Conference.

"Thus it is based on prayer and dependent on God's power. If God doesn't do something, we're in dire straits. We've lost a passion for praying for lost people."

Hemphill, former president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, is the author of "EKG: The Heartbeat of God," a 40-day study that was released last August. He estimated 150 churches have completed the study so far.

During a workshop on EKG, Hemphill urged the vision for spreading the gospel can be seen through various statistics.

Among Southern Baptist churches, more than half baptize five or



**EMPOWERING KINGDOM GROWTH** Ken Hemphill (left), strategist for Southern Baptists' Empowering Kingdom Growth initiative, talks to (from left) Shane Nickell, pastor of First Baptist Church of Barbourville; Eddie Mosley of LifeWay Christian Resources; and Dallas Kratzer, a minister with Lighthouse Fellowship in Louisville.

fewer people a year, while 10,000 churches report no baptisms. Up to 80 percent of churches are plateaued or declining, he added.

Worldwide, Hemphill noted, 5 billion people don't know Christ.

Here in the United States, he said, a recent study showed that for the first time in history the largest unreached people group in the nation is teenagers.

"We've got a generation now we're making almost no impact on," Hemphill said, adding that if the church is going to reach the world, its members must get serious.

Among the biblical cures he cited are a covenant of obedience to God's direction that will make Christ's followers more effective.

Hemphill said it also involves a threefold task:

**Being a moveable possession.** This involves Christians being ready to go anywhere and recognizing their value to God wherever they are, including at work.

"I get pretty excited about what I do every day," he said. "It's making an impact for eternity. Most people aren't going to a vocation, they're going to a job. God has placed you there as a Kingdom agent."

**Becoming a Kingdom of priests.** God has chosen to represent His Kingdom through people, which means those who follow Christ are sacred vessels, Hemphill said.

**Being a holy nation.** Hemphill cited a conference he attended that noted the members of church youth groups tend to dress and act the same as young people outside the church.

Saying he suspects the same is true for adults, Hemphill said one reason fewer than 6 percent of Southern Baptists tell other people about Christ is they don't have a close relationship with God.

"I'm convinced we need to preach holiness again," Hemphill said. "We don't hear much preaching about it. If we're going to represent God, we need to look like Him."

## Conference urges Kentucky Baptists to connect Christ to others

Continued from page 1

don't even realize it," he said. "We must see people the way Jesus saw people. We see people as problems, but God sees them as possibilities."

"If we don't love people, our teaching means nothing," he said. "If we don't really care about people, our programs, our singing, our worship means nothing. We must love people the way God loves people."

Churches also must learn to be loving places, Hamm said. "We're the most condemning, judgmental place on earth."

Urging churches to love people to Jesus, he added, "Keep the main thing the main thing."

**Robert Smith**, professor of Christian preaching at Beeson Divinity School in Birmingham, Ala., cited King David's graciousness to Jonathan's crippled son, Mephibosheth, as a picture of God's response to repentant sinners.

Noting that Mephibosheth "ate at David's table like one of the king's sons," Smith said, "God has chosen to take our defect and turn it into something that will give Him glory."

Acknowledging that many pastors are "waiting for God to fulfill His word in your life and it hasn't come yet," he added, "When God gets ready, He will step into your situation."

Lyrical chanting his closing point, Smith repeatedly declared, "I'm on my way to the King's table."

"When I get there," he added, "I don't have time to complain or blame. I don't have time to criticize. I have time to praise my Savior all the day long."

**Herb Reavis**, pastor of North Jacksonville (Fla.) Baptist Church, recounted the story of a monkey that froze to death because it curled up in front of what it thought was a fireplace. However, it turned out to be only a picture of a fireplace.

"Across this country are church

buildings with steeples pointed toward heaven; they picture what God is supposed to be like," he said. "But inside the church there's no fire in the pulpit, no fire in the pew."

"What we need is an old-fashioned, sin-killing, devil-defeating, Christ-exalting, Holy Ghost revival."

Citing 1 Kings 18 that describes Elijah confronting the prophets of Baal, Reavis said it takes three elements for revival to touch a church: revival preaching, preparation and power.

Noting that the keys to revival power are prayer and the kind of relationship with God that will burn sin out of our lives, Reavis said,

"What we need more than anything else in our churches is for God to come down and light our fire."

Preaching the conference's closing message, **Joe Brown** told pastors, "If you're going to build an evangelistic church, it's going to have to start with you."

Brown, pastor of Hickory Grove (N.C.) Baptist Church, recounted the change in the prophet Isaiah's life after King Uzziah died.

Noting that the king's death disrupted normal life, Brown asked, "What is normal?" For most people, he added, "before the year's over, your normal will change."

"When Uzziah dies, God shows

up," he added. "You're going to find out that God is holy."

Noting that "some of you think God has quit on you," Brown declared, "God is not through with you. Get on the altar and let God touch you. ... God doesn't need a better idea; He just needs somebody that will obey."

Reflecting on the two-day conference, coordinator Dan Garland said, "It was so of God that we ended on the altar."

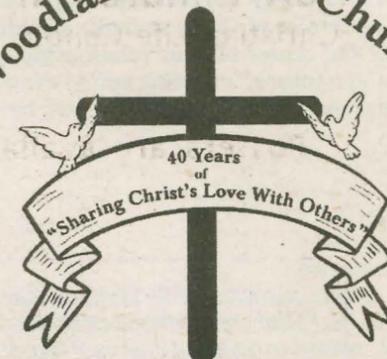
Participants "were fed, they were challenged, they recommitted themselves to the tasks of evangelism and discipleship," he added. "I think they left uplifted."

# 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary March 12-13, 2005

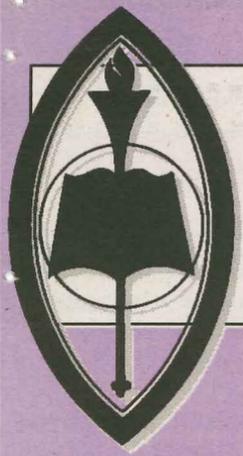
**Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup>**  
6:00 p.m. Anniversary Banquet  
Christian ACADEMY of Louisville  
Please RSVP at (502) 245-5416

**Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>**  
8:30 a.m. Celebration Service  
9:45 a.m. Anniversary Brunch  
11:00 a.m. Celebration Service

Woodland Baptist Church



Friends, members and former members are invited to join us in celebrating.  
809 N. Pope Lick Road ♦ Louisville, KY 40243 ♦ (502) 245-5416 ♦ Mike Sharp, Pastor



# KENTUCKY NOTES

A quarterly publication of Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union  
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Supplement to Western Recorder

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## 2005 Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions

Theme: Answer His Call  
Offering Goal: \$55 million

Kentucky Baptist churches gave  
\$1,762,924 to the 2004  
Offering for North American  
Missions, more than 10.1%  
over the previous year.

**Will we do it again?**

Spring 2005



## Kentucky WMU Annual Meeting First Baptist Church, London **Christ Followers** April 8-9, 2005

### SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

You are invited to bring a handmade quilt for display during the Annual Meeting.

**Friday Morning: 10:00 a.m. – Eastern Time**  
**Christ Followers Going Into All the World**  
Theme Interpretation: In Jerusalem  
Program Guests: Kim Thomas, music; Bill & Linda Egbert, Costa Rica; Barbara Joiner, keynote

**Friday Noon: Lunch & Displays**  
Box Lunch by Pre-Reservation  
Visit Eastern Kentucky Missions Displays  
Missionary Displays and Mini-Conferences

**Friday Afternoon: 1:30 p.m.**  
**Christ Followers through Kentucky WMU**  
Theme Interpretation: In All Judea  
Program Guest: Bill Barker, Appalachian Regional Ministry  
KY WMU Business Session & Election of Officers

**Friday Afternoon: 3:30 p.m.**  
Reception Honoring Anna Mary Byrdwell

**Friday 5:00 p.m.: Executive Board Reunion Dinner**  
All former Executive Board members are invited to attend. Advance ticket purchase required.

**Friday Evening: 6:45 p.m.**  
**Christ Followers in Kentucky**  
You are invited to bring a pair of new shoes to donate to an Eastern Kentucky Ministry

Theme Interpretation: In Samaria  
Greetings: Hershael York, KBC President  
Keynote: Barbara Joiner  
A Patchwork of Ministry: Cathy Chinn & Panel  
MissionsFEST – Tom Biddle, Bonnie Tackett  
MSC – Bessie McPeck, Linda Otterback  
Domestic Violence –  
Shirley Cox, Barbara Adams  
Offering of Shoes

**Saturday Morning: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**  
**Christ Followers Going Into All the World**

Theme Interpretation: To the Ends of the Earth  
Program Guests: Acteens Panelists; Bill Underwood, Oneida Baptist Institute; Bruce & Gloria Carlton, Rapid Advance of South Asia  
Keynote: Barbara Joiner  
Closing Ceremony of Lights

**Saturday Noon: Luncheons**  
– Acteens / Youth on Mission Pizza Party  
– Baptist Nursing Fellowship Luncheon

**GA/Children in Action Missions Event**  
Christian Life Center, Saturday, 9 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Posters are available from Kentucky WMU.**

**Directions to First Baptist Church, London**  
Take I-75 to Exit 38. Go to the light at Frisch's and turn left.  
Go about 1 mile. Church will be on the right.

### A Personal Word

An organization that provides special trips for children who are terminally ill uses the motto "we make memories." This simple phrase captures the essence of what this organization does.



**Joy Bolton**  
Executive  
Director-  
Treasurer

I've been thinking about WMU. What do we make? I tried to think of a word that started with a "U" that would be catchy, since We Make starts with WM. I couldn't find a good "U" word. I simply kept thinking "we make missionaries." Our vision statement states: "WMU challenges Christian believers to understand and be radically involved in the mission of God." Wanda Lee has said that in response to the question "What is WMU and what

does it do?" her immediate answer is "WMU is a missions organization that seeks to equip preschoolers, children, youth, and adults with an understanding of the mission of God in our world, and then enable them to find ways to be radically involved in God's mission."

We make missionaries. We make missionaries out of ordinary people when we teach the Great Commission and someone understands "that means me." We make missionaries when we teach our children about a lost world and nurture them to the point of responding to God's call. We make missionaries when we involve people in praying for the lost. Not all missionaries leave home. Some stay and provide the support for those who go.

At the January 2005 national WMU Board meeting, we heard a report from the Vision 2010 Task Force. One recommendation is that we put renewed emphasis on the Missions in WMU. You will soon see WMU written as wMu. wMu is not just a women's organization. We are missions advocates, teachers, and leaders. We make missionaries.

In wMu we make missionaries through the leadership of influence. We make missionaries every time we teach missions to preschoolers, children, youth or adults. We make missionaries when we challenge our churches to pray and give. We make missionaries on our knees as we pray for lost people by name and for those who serve around the world. We make missionaries when we plan and carry out ministries that help hurting people and bear a gospel witness. We make missionaries when we ourselves give the resources God has entrusted to us so that all may hear the good news of Jesus.

Come be a missionary during the Kentucky wMu Annual Meeting. You are invited to bring a pair of new shoes to donate to an Eastern Kentucky ministry. Come learn about the opportunities for you to get involved with a ministry in Eastern Kentucky. Come and laugh with Barbara Joiner as she tells the stories of ordinary people who became extraordinary missionaries when they said yes to God and missions involvement. Come and join us in honoring Anna Mary Byrdwell for her 37 years of missions encouragement and mentoring. Experience the personal challenge of the closing ceremony of lights as we recommit ourselves as Christ Followers.

In wMu we make missionaries. What about you?



## Information for WMU Directors



As we are approaching spring, there are some things you need to put on your "to do" list along with spring cleaning...

• Annual Training April 8-9 at First Baptist Church in London. Bring the whole group down for a wonderful weekend with Barbara Joiner, missionaries, music, fellowship, personal commitment and service for our Lord.

• State Associational Leader Training (SALT). You will find the details of that information in these Kentucky Notes. This training is essential for planning and preparing your association for 2005-06.

• Pray for the Baptist Nursing Fellowship Ministry Project May 13-15 at the Wendell Belew Center. There are many needs for this project. Be in prayer as to what you and your group may do to help.

• Celebrate Adults on Mission June 11 at First Baptist Church in Sonora.

• Missions Celebration in Nashville June 19-20.

It is a pleasure to be working with another audience of Woman's Missionary Union. I will be depending on you as we grow Woman's Missionary Union and work to share the gospel of Christ through our passion for missions and missions education.

God is doing a good thing. I thank Him for our past with its hopes, dreams and lessons learned. I thank Him for our present and how we see God's power and goodness each day as we share our desire to be an Acts 1:8 people. And I thank Him for the future and the promise of His goodness, mercy and growing of His kingdom through missions and missions education.

—Wanda Walker

## Adults

### Pass on the Passion!

You are the key to the growth of Women and Adults on Mission. So what is keeping you from passing on that passion that you live, say, encourage and want others to have? Pass on the Passion... Follow Christ and pray that God will show you someone who is ready to become involved in missions in your church. Pray for her for 30 days. Develop a relationship with her. Introduce her to the joy you have for missions by involving her. Here are some suggestions to help you pass on the passion to a new friend...

• DO NOT begin by inviting her to a meet-

ing! The passion for missions is not at a meeting. It is a lifestyle.

• DO develop a relationship with her... get to know her and what she is passionate about.

• Share your dreams. Tell her your passion for sharing Christ and His love through missions.

• Get to know her and understand her needs. Discover the connections you have.

• Pray together. Use the Prayer Partners from Missions Mosaic (get her one as a gift!)

• Suggest interesting Missions Mosaic articles you can discuss as you talk and share prayer concerns.



## Youth

Start packing your bags. Get some gas. Load up the car. We are going on a *Road Trip*. All girls in grades 7-12 are invited to Georgetown College for Exalt, April 15-16.

Exalt 2005 will be exciting. Ashlee Wheeler will be our speaker. Ashlee was a journeyman in Kenya and now works with international students at UK.

Everlife will be in concert Friday night. They will also lead us in worship music throughout the weekend. Everlife just released their first album. You can hear their music on [www.everlifeonline.com](http://www.everlifeonline.com).

For more information on Exalt, contact

KY WMU.

Acteens and Youth on Mission groups are invited to a pizza party April 9 at First Baptist, London. See page 4 of this insert to make your reservations!

There will be a special week at Cedar Crest for girls in grades 6-10 this year.

Girls will participate in off-site missions projects and enjoy activities tailored to their interests. Put June 27- July 1 on your calendar and for more information, read the camp article on page

3 of this insert.

And don't forget Acteens Splash. Splash is an overnight event at Jonathan Creek for girls in grades 7-12. We will enjoy a great time of fellowship and worship as well as the lake. See you June 26-27!

Drum roll please... the 2007 National Acteens Convention will be June 10-13 in Kansas City, Missouri.

—LaRaine Dail

## PRESCHOOL

Has your Mission Friends class survived the winter? Let your church know it is alive and growing into spring by involving more preschoolers in missions education. Your Mission Friends class cannot grow without a continuous, intentional effort. Use a variety of methods to show your continuing interest in a prospect:

• Send the child a colorful card addressed just to him or her.

• Visit the child and parents in the home. Explain the Mission Friends organization and give them a copy of *Share*.

• Host a preschoolers-in-the-park picnic for Mission Friends members, parents, and prospects and their parents.



## CHILDREN

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS OF GIRLS IN ACTION AND CHILDREN IN ACTION! The **GA and Children in Action Missions Event** is scheduled on Saturday, April 9, 2005 at First Baptist Church, London. Because both Girls in Action (girls, grades 1-6) and Children in Action (boys and girls, grades 1-6) are a part of WMU, this special event is planned during the WMU Annual Meeting.

The event begins at 9:00 a.m. and concludes around 12:00 noon (EDT). While the general meeting is in session for everyone else, the children and leaders will be having their own event with opportunities for meeting missionaries, singing and all kinds of fun! The event will be held in the gymnasium of the

church. Watch for signs to direct you to the entrance. See directions to the church on page 1 of this insert.

No pre-registration for the event is required. However, the cost is \$2 per person attending to be paid on arrival.

Children and leaders attending the event can be involved in a ministry project by bringing pairs of new socks for children or adults. The socks collected will be distributed to programs for the needy in eastern Kentucky. For further information, contact Kentucky WMU.

**Don't forget camp!** Two state camps, Cedar Crest (at Cedarmore) and Jonathan Creek, offer opportunities for all girls. There is more information on page 4 of this insert.

—Brenda Price





## President's Perspective

Are you coming to London? It is not too late to make plans to attend our WMU Annual Meeting there April 8-9. You do not want to miss the celebration for Anna Mary, our missionaries, or all you will learn about ministries in Eastern Kentucky. I hope to see you there.

Let me also encourage you to attend the National WMU meeting in Nashville in June just before the Southern Baptist Convention begins. We will be electing a new National President, and it will be an historic meeting.



**Cathy Chinn**  
Kentucky WMU  
president

Pass on the Passion is a phrase you will be hearing a lot of in WMU circles. Are you doing your part in passing on the passion for serving God through missions and ministry to others? As "Christ Followers,"

we must strive to mentor those around us and demonstrate the passion we have for missions.

One good way to do this is by getting involved with Project Help: Poverty. I hope many of your churches participated in "a bag, a buck, and a Bible" in February. It is not too late to do that if you missed the target date. What matters is that you become aware of the needs of the less fortunate in your community and do something about it.

Don't just put band-aids on circumstances, really get to know those families you are helping and make a difference in their lives. After we help feed, clothe, and meet other needs, we must share the love of Jesus Christ. It may be up to you to pick them up for church if they have no way. You may have the wonderful opportunity of seeing that their children are able to attend Mission Friends or GA. Remember Matthew 25:40, "Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me." Cathy Butler says in *Breaking the Cycle—Issues Affecting Poverty* that the poor were central to Jesus' ministry, not an afterthought. We should pray to see others through the eyes of Jesus.

Since December I have been helping with a women's jail ministry in my town. After much prayer, our jailer gave me permission to conduct a Bible study for the women using Rick Warren's book, *The Purpose Driven Life*. Recently, a young lady named Carol was saved. Please pray for her. She gave permission to use her name because she says that she needs prayer from anyone who will pray for her. Another young woman is on the edge of accepting Christ. I am praying that by the time you read this, she will also be our sister in Christ.

Please pray for this ministry and others like it. Consider beginning one yourself if your local jail does not have one. It is a rewarding ministry. You have a chance, with God's guidance, to touch lives that are open to hearing the Good News.

Thank you for the opportunity of being in your churches and associations this winter. I enjoy so much meeting all of you and being reminded how wonderful it is to be a member of the WMU family. Please call me at (270) 298-7570 if you need to speak with me, or if there is anything I can do to help you in your church or association.

## Heritage Fund

Thank you for your support of the Heritage Fund. This year's earnings from the fund will be used for Associational WMU Leadership Training in May, to send members of the Resource Team to national WMU Training, and help with expenses of the Kentucky Hispanic WMU event in March. The use of the Heritage Fund to provide financial support for leadership development by Kentucky WMU will have an impact that we cannot measure.

### In Honor Of

Louise Biddle  
Jean Steward  
Margaret Kerr  
Betty Westmoreland  
Jane Lykins  
Lorena Johnson  
Macie Lawson  
Geneva Muntz  
Patricia Carroll  
Jane West  
Beth Morford  
Judy Jones  
Johanna Fullmer  
Shanna Jones  
Emma Tackett  
Anna White  
Anna Mary Byrdwell  
Boone's Creek Assoc. WMU  
Freedom Assoc. WMU  
Adele Ransdell  
Adele Ransdell  
Adele Ransdell  
Adele Ransdell  
Adele Ransdell  
Anna Mary Byrdwell  
Anna Mary Byrdwell  
Anna Mary Byrdwell  
Anna Mary Byrdwell  
Anna Mary Byrdwell

### In Memory Of

Jean Robinson Pike  
Elizabeth Buckler  
Margaret "Mom" Bell  
Katherine Bowling  
Adda Hilke  
Marguerite McCracken  
Frances Parker  
Clarene Henson  
Velma Lyons  
Ruby Samples Bohannon  
Mary Ward  
Jimmy Flint  
Gloria Staples  
Ralph L. Simpson

### Donor

Paris Central Baptist WMU  
Anna White  
Anna White's Children  
Frankie Johnson  
Irma Woodrow  
Irma Woodrow  
Irma Woodrow  
Family of Adele Ransdell  
Shirley Jo Whitehouse  
Family of Adele Ransdell  
Mercer Baptist Assoc. WMU  
June Rice  
Dorothy Grace  
Tony & Susan Stinnett  
Garnett Hutchinson  
Dianna Rowe

### Donor

Georgetown Baptist WMU  
Paris Central Baptist WMU  
Anna White  
Maribeth Hambrick  
William & Marilyn Lamkin  
Don & Delois Nunley  
Don & Delois Nunley  
Loretta Simpson

## Attention ALL Associational WMU Leaders!

Be prepared for the 2005-06 associational WMU year. Attend one of the WMU State Associational Leadership Training (SALT) conferences.

### May 14, 2005

Beaver Dam Baptist Church, Beaver Dam  
Lowell Avenue Baptist Church, Campbellsville  
First Baptist Church, Morehead

### May 21, 2005

First Baptist Church, Princeton  
Graefenburg Baptist Church, Graefenburg  
First Baptist Church, Hazard

For more information contact the Kentucky WMU Office.

## BABY BOOT CAMP

Baptist Nursing Fellowship, in response to Project HELP: Poverty, is supporting a weekend retreat for eight pregnant teens and their mothers or female guardians. Many have volunteered already to provide Bibles, meals, and make-up (for the hair and make-up sessions). But, we still need:

- **Prayer.** This project will not mean anything without prayer for God's leadership and will.

- **Scholarships** to support girls who want to participate.

- **Baby Boot Camp**, a devotional book for the first 6 weeks of motherhood.

- **Baby shower items.** Anything that would be an appropriate baby shower gift.

- **A baby book** for each mother-to-be.

Thank you in advance for your prayerful consideration of what you can do. Items will be received at the annual meeting BNF booth April 8-9 or they may be sent to Kentucky WMU, attention: Wanda Walker

## Calendar

### March

- 4-5 Creative Ministries Festival and Youth Mission Workshop, St. Matthews BC, Louisville
- 6-13 Season of Prayer for North American Missions & The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
- 11-12 Creative Ministries Festival and Youth Mission Workshop, Hillvue Heights BC, Bowling Green
- 18-19 KY WMU Resource Team Training, KBC East Bldg., Louisville
- 27 Easter

### April

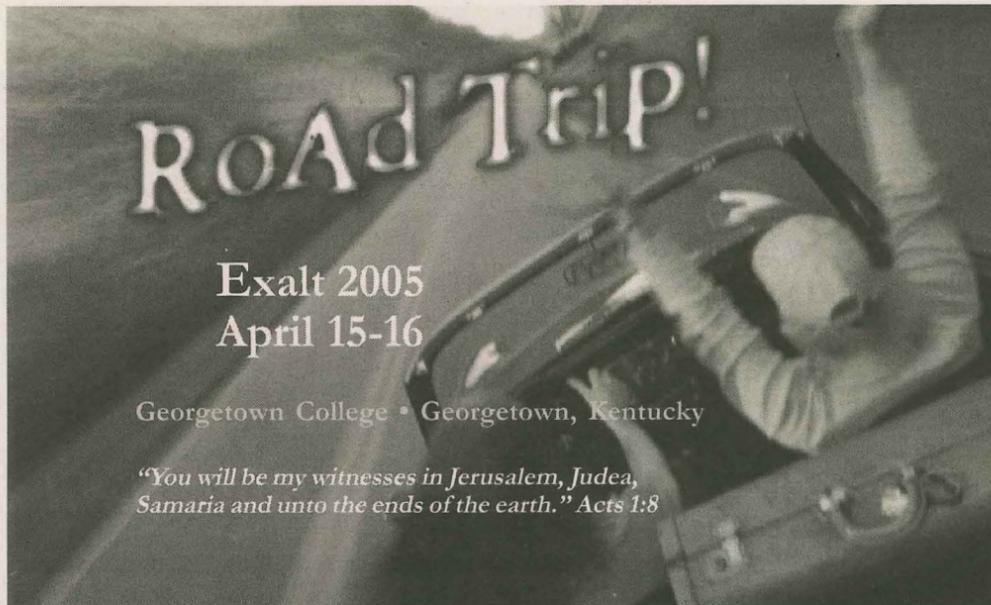
- 7 KY WMU Executive Board Meeting, London
- 8-9 KY WMU Annual Meeting, First BC, London
- 9 GA/Children in Action Missions Event, First BC, London
- 15-16 Exalt, Georgetown College, Georgetown

### May

- 14 WMU State Associational Leadership Training: Beaver Dam BC, Beaver Dam  
Lowell Avenue BC, Campbellsville  
First BC, Morehead
- 21 WMU State Associational Leadership Training: First BC, Princeton  
First BC, Hazard  
Graefenburg BC, Waddy

### June

- 11 Adults on Mission Rally, First BC, Sonora
- 13-17 Mission Adventure Camp for Girls, grades 3-6, Cedar Crest
- 17-18 Mother/Daughter Overnight, Grades 1-3, Cedar Crest
- 19-20 National WMU Annual Meeting, Nashville, TN
- 20-24 Mission Adventure Camp for Girls, grades 3-6, Cedar Crest
- 21-22 Southern Baptist Convention, Nashville, TN
- 24-25 Acteens Splash, Jonathan Creek  
GA Overnight, Jonathan Creek  
Mother/Daughter Overnight, Jonathan Creek  
Mother/Daughter Overnight, Cedar Crest
- 27/7-1 Mission Adventure Camp for Girls, grades 6-10, Cedar Crest



## Baptist Nursing Fellowship Summer Luncheon and Continuing Education Meeting (2 CEU credits)

Health Ministry—Parish Nursing  
Diane Kiser, presenter

June 25, 2005 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Lake Cumberland Regional Hospital  
Somerset, KY

\$10.00 for current BNF members  
\$15.00 for non-members  
Lunch included

For more information, contact Wanda Walker



## Christ Followers Pass On the Passion National WMU Missions Celebration and Annual Meeting 2005

June 19-20, 2005  
First Baptist Church • Nashville, Tenn.

Join other passionate Christ followers for two  
incredible days featuring:

- hands-on mission projects
- dynamic worship
- inspiring testimonies from the missions field
- leadership development opportunities
- and much more

## Camp News

Encourage your girls to break out of their routines and live "Life on the Edge" this summer at camp! This year's campers will learn about the risks and adventure that Last Frontier missionaries experience as they seek to spread the Gospel. Girls will also learn how God can use them to share His love.

Mission Adventure Camp takes place at Cedar Crest in Bagdad. Girls who have completed grades 3-6 may participate in a weeklong or express camp. Girls who have completed grades 6-10 have the opportunity to do "hands on" mission projects at a weeklong camp. Girls who have completed grades 1-3 and their mothers can enjoy an overnight. Chaperones may attend the weeklong and express camps this year, although they are not required.

<u>Weeklong</u>	<u>Mother/Daughter Overnights</u>
June 13-17 Grades 3-6	June 17-18 Grades 1-3
June 20-24 Grades 3-6	June 24-25 Grades 1-3
June 27-July 1 Grades 6-10	July 8-9 Grades 1-3
July 11-15 Grades 3-6	

Express Week  
July 6-8/Grades 3-6

Kentucky WMU also offers three overnight camping opportunities at Jonathan Creek in Hardin. All three events take place June 27-28, 2005.

- Mother/Daughter Overnight—for girls who have completed grades 1-3 and their mothers
- GA Overnight—for girls who have completed grades 4-6 and their chaperones
- Acteens Splash—for girls who have completed grades 7-10

## WORLD MISSIONS UNLIMITED 2005

- Training
- Motivation
- Inspiration
- Fellowship

Severns Valley Baptist  
Church, Elizabethtown  
July 15-16

Friday, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.  
Saturday, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

How can YOU become a better missions leader? Attend conferences for basic training or advanced leadership skills at World Missions Unlimited. Conferences for church leaders of all WMU organizations and Baptist Men on Mission (formerly Brotherhood) organizations will be provided. Special interest conferences will also be offered.

Cost: \$15 if registered by June 24;  
\$20 after June 24 (includes Saturday  
lunch and resources\*)

Registration materials will be mailed to all church/associational WMU leaders in early April. For more information, contact Kentucky WMU.

\*Those attending WMU conferences will receive a WMU Year Book. Participants in Baptist Men, RA, Challengers conferences will receive appropriate resources.

## Registration Form 2005 Kentucky WMU Annual Meeting

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Church: \_\_\_\_\_  
Association: \_\_\_\_\_

Box Lunch (Friday noon)  
# of meals requested @ \$7.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_

Executive Board Reunion Dinner (Friday, 5:00 p.m.)  
(Former KY WMU Executive Board members only)  
# meals requested @ \$10.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of former board member(s) / Date(s) served on the board  
\_\_\_\_\_

Acteens / Youth on Mission Pizza Party (Sat. noon)  
# persons (members/leaders) @ \$2.00 ea. = \_\_\_\_\_

Baptist Nursing Fellowship Luncheon (Sat. noon)  
# meals requested @ \$7.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Preschool Childcare needed for:  
\_\_\_\_ Fri. morning                      \_\_\_\_ Fri. evening  
\_\_\_\_ Fri. afternoon                      \_\_\_\_ Sat. morning  
Names and ages of children to be cared for:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Interpretation for Deaf needed for:  
\_\_\_\_ Fri. morning                      \_\_\_\_ Fri. evening  
\_\_\_\_ Fri. afternoon                      \_\_\_\_ Sat. morning

Please make checks payable to Kentucky WMU

Please mail reservation form with payment to:  
Denise Gardner, Kentucky WMU,  
PO Box 436569, Louisville, KY 40253-6569  
502-244-6485 or 1-888-254-5726

### A 98 percent outreach strategy

#### Churches can reach most of community through one spot

This past week I attended the National Youth Workers Convention. This conference took place in Atlanta and attracted youth leaders from the entire eastern United States. While our ministry was there for promotional reasons, I took time to sit in on one of the break-out sessions. The session leader discussed how we as believers can begin working to see effective community change.

While we as believers are commanded to be prepared at all times to tell of the hope that is within us, we also should develop focused strategies that reach the most people possible with the gospel. The most logical area to start would be the place where most people are connected. The presenter of this seminar claimed that 98 percent of our population is connected in one unique way. Can you imagine a common location or setting that is connected to 98 percent of the entire U.S. population at any given time? According to the presenter, schools are this place. Schools could be the place to begin that has the

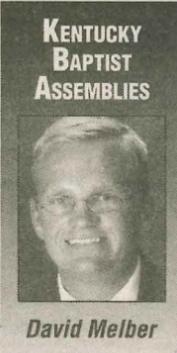
most potential in affecting our society as a whole.

I thought to myself, should we not focus our effort at targeting this common place? Our ministry would be much more effective if we were connected to 98 percent of the population, and our churches would be the fabric of the community if connected to 98 percent of the population.

Maybe the last place you want to be is back in school. But if you think about it, we all are connected in some way as a student, teacher, worker, parent, grandparent or friend of one of these people.

So ask yourself this: How can I become involved today? Begin right where you are by praying for students and teachers. See where God is calling you to be an effective witness in order to see your community changed for Christ. Our youth should be saturated with the gospel in every aspect. Let me encourage you to invest in our youth year round.

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



David Melber

### Kudzu



Dear \_\_\_\_\_,  
I was sorry to hear about the loss of your \_\_\_\_\_.



Doug Marlette

### Church of the Covered Dish



Thom Tapp

### Bible Crosswords

#### Across

- 1 Father, by another name
- 5 Possesses
- 9 "Why make ye this \_\_\_\_\_, and weep?" (Mark 5:39)
- 12 Idol worshiped
- 13 "How beautiful are the \_\_\_\_\_ of them that preach the gospel" (Romans 10:15)
- 14 Receptacle
- 15 Summers on the Seine
- 16 "Lest he \_\_\_\_\_ my soul like a lion, rending it in pieces" (Psalm 7:2)
- 17 Shakespearean sonnet, perhaps
- 18 "Let us therefore come boldly unto the \_\_\_\_\_ of grace" (Hebrews 4:16)
- 20 "The spirit truly is \_\_\_\_\_, but the flesh is weak" (Mark 14:38)
- 22 School subj.
- 24 "Therefore if thine \_\_\_\_\_ hunger, feed him" (Romans 12:20)
- 26 Stern, nautically speaking
- 28 Tennis call
- 30 \_\_\_\_\_ of the Chaldees
- 31 Simon \_\_\_\_\_-Jona
- 32 Preposition
- 33 Sibling, for short
- 35 "\_\_\_\_\_ will not forsake thee" (Deuteronomy 4:31)
- 36 "Unto Shem also, the father of all the children of \_\_\_\_\_" (Genesis 10:21)
- 38 Big \_\_\_\_\_
- 39 "For his \_\_\_\_\_ endureth but a moment" (Psalm 30:5)
- 41 Biblical exclamation
- 43 The witch of \_\_\_\_\_ (visited by Saul)

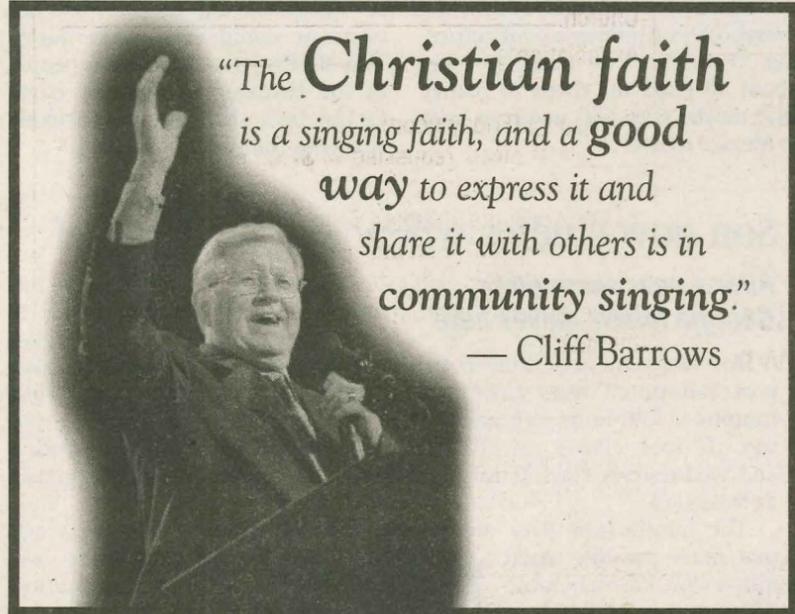
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12				13				14			
15				16				17			
18			19		20		21				
			22		23		24			25	
		26	27		28	29				30	
	31			32				33	34		
35			36	37			38				
39		40			41	42					
	43			44		45		46	47	48	49
50				51		52		53			
54				55				56			
57				58				59			

- 45 Prophet of God who convicted David of his sin
- 50 Organization similar to 4-H (abbr.)
- 51 Hardy cabbage
- 53 Vigorous
- 54 Brand name to "dye" for
- 55 "Feed me ... for I am faint: there was his name called \_\_\_\_\_" (Genesis 25:30)
- 56 Feminine name
- 57 \_\_\_\_\_ a girl!
- 58 Like most gossips
- 59 Sea mammal
- 19 Take-home pay
- 21 Article
- 23 "The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord shone round about them" (Luke 2:9)
- 25 Part of a century (abbr.)
- 26 Twelve-step group (abbr.)
- 27 "For he that is dead is \_\_\_\_\_ from sin" (Romans 6:7)
- 29 Sound of hesitation
- 31 "They are faithful and beloved, partakers of the \_\_\_\_\_" (1 Timothy 6:2)
- 32 Iron (abbr.)
- 33 "\_\_\_\_\_ habla Espanol"
- 34 Preposition
- 35 Laughing syllable
- 37 "The sacrifices of God are a \_\_\_\_\_ spirit" (Psalm 51:17)
- 38 Sheep's comment
- 40 Irritating insects
- 42 "Thou hast been ... a strong tower from the \_\_\_\_\_" (Psalm 61:3)
- 44 Famed watchmaker
- 46 "\_\_\_\_\_ same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven" (Acts 1:11)
- 47 Tortoise's tormentor
- 48 Egyptian dancing girl
- 49 Actress Patricia
- 50 Day of the wk.
- 52 \_\_\_\_\_ Alamos

Janet W. Adkins

### Last week's solution

1	C	A	D	2	D	O	R	3	I	R	A	D		
4	A	R	I	B	5	E	V	E	6	M	O	L	E	
7	P	E	A	U	8	M	U	M	9	R	U	I	N	
10	T	A	L	L	11	A	M	O	R	12	I	T	E	S
13	W	A	S	14	V	E								
15	W	O	M	A	N	16	H	A	V	17	I	L	A	H
18	E	D	A	R	19	O	I	L	20	M	E	D	E	R
21	S	A	C	K	22	B	U	T	23	L	A	V	E	R
24	E	T	25	S	A	G								
26	C	A	S	T	27	A	W	A	Y	28	I	V	A	N
29	O	M	E	R	30	A	I	R	31	N	E	B	O	
32	M	E	N	U	33	R	O	I	34	E	R	L	E	
35	A	N	T	E	36	D	E	A	37	Y	E	S		



"The **Christian faith** is a singing faith, and a good way to express it and share it with others is in **community singing.**"  
— Cliff Barrows

## Community Hymn Sing led by Cliff Barrows

Tuesday, March 22, 7:30 p.m.  
Alumni Chapel · Southern Seminary

The ninth annual Community Hymn Sing at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary will be Tuesday, March 22 at 7:30 p.m. in Alumni Chapel. This promises to be a very special time of worship, as we reunite three of the major musicians from the Billy Graham Crusade Team. Cliff Barrows will be leading the congregational singing, with Donald Hustad on the organ and John Innes playing piano.

Join Cliff Barrows and the Southern Seminary community as we celebrate God's goodness and proclaim His greatness. For more information call (502) 897-4115.



**The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary**  
2825 Lexington Rd. · Louisville, Ky 40280  
For information: 502-897-4115 · www.sbsts.edu

## Kentucky missionaries spotlighted in Week of Prayer



Carlos & Cristina  
De La Barra

### The big picture:

■ The Southern Baptist Convention includes about 3,000 Hispanic congregations representing nearly 130,000 members.

■ According to the 2000 U.S. Census, Hispanics now number more than 35 million people and represent 14 percent of the U.S. population.

■ Hispanics are the largest and fastest growing minority people group in the U.S.

■ Nearly 1 million Hispanics live in Canada.

■ The Hispanic population in the U.S. is projected at 60 million by 2020 and 160 million by 2080.

■ The term "Hispanic" refers in general to all Spanish-speaking people.

*Continued from page 1*  
Hispanic communities in Kentucky, South Carolina and Indiana.

The De La Barras, who currently live in Louisville, are among nearly 5,200 missionaries in the United States and Canada supported by the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions. They are featured during the March 6-13 Week of Prayer, which focuses on the theme "Answer His Call."

"I am a Christian because a Christian family from South Carolina went to Chile as Southern Baptist missionaries to bring the gospel to our people," De La Barra said. "As a Catholic, I always felt guilty of something and never felt sure of my salvation."

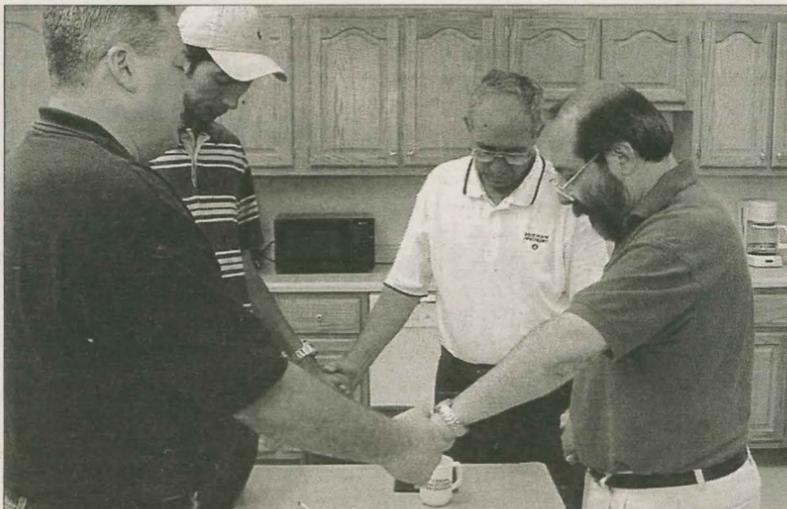
### Feeling the call to missions

Shortly after his commitment to follow Christ, De La Barra began accompanying the missionary pastor on ministry visits as well as helping him start another church.

"He started teaching me without telling me that he was teaching me," he said.

As their friendship grew, the De La Barra family vacationed with the missionary family in the United States by helping them minister to the Hispanic community in Greenville, S.C.

"Here in the United States, we realized the great needs of the Hispanic community," De La Barra recalled. "They had spiritual, social, financial needs, and a lack of help and hope. We felt the call to serve them and help them where they live and in their own language."



**MISSIONS BEGETS MISSIONS** Missionary Carlos De La Barra (right) prays with members of Shawnee Run Baptist Church, Harrodsburg. De La Barra became a Christian in Chile through the work of a Southern Baptist missionary. Now he helps start Hispanic churches in central Kentucky. (NAMB photo by Morris Abernathy)

After graduating from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville in 1996, De La Barra joined the North American Mission Board as a Hispanic church planter. While a seminary student, he helped start Hispanic churches in Indiana.

### Church starting challenges

Starting Hispanic churches can be a slow process, De La Barra said, because most migrant Mexicans and are largely illiterate and highly transient.

"Most of the people I'm serving here are not well educated," said De La Barra, who also has an MBA de-

gree. "We have a lot of farms in Kentucky and a lot of farms in Kentucky don't like to do these jobs, and Mexicans come to do these jobs. ... They live in places that no one else will."

But Hispanics increasingly are pursuing full-time or permanent jobs in the construction, landscaping, retail or restaurant industry instead of seasonal farm labor.

While more Hispanic families are migrating to the United States and planting roots, De La Barra said they're largely reluctant to make long-term commitments.

"It's hard to start a church when everybody is thinking about returning to Mexico," he said. "It takes about 10 years for them to realize that maybe they will never go back to Mexico to live."

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that approximately 62,000 Hispanics currently live in Kentucky.

De La Barra said he believes the Hispanic population is more than 200,000, but he adds that his estimate could be too low because most Hispanics come to the States illegally.

He serves Hispanic communities in central Kentucky between Louisville and Lexington. During the past six years, the number of Hispanic congregations has more than tripled.

### Leading by example

De La Barra mentors and trains local Hispanic pastors much the same way he was trained in Chile, by having men in the local churches regularly assist him with worship services and baptisms.

"Most of our training here in Kentucky is one-on-one," he said. "We show them how to do it and then let them try, and then we move out. ... We are trying to create a Bible institute in Kentucky in Spanish for our people."

And everywhere he ministers, De La Barra emphasizes the importance of supporting his prayerfully, financially and actively.

"I became a Christian because of missions in Chile," he said. "Without it my life would be empty and never fulfilled."

"And without the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, we cannot continue doing what we're doing. This offering is helping many people in the Hispanic community come to the Lord through the Hispanic churches that we are planting."

## Included and transformed

### Oneida stands ready to be a friend to those who need a new beginning

By Michael Spencer  
Assistant to the President

A remarkable aspect of the ministry of Jesus was His passion to include those who had been excluded. In Luke 15:1-2, the Pharisees disapproved of Jesus eating with and befriending those who were considered "outsiders" to God's family. Instead of treating tax collectors, Gentiles and non-practicing Jews as "unclean," Jesus ate with them, touched them and proclaimed they were welcome in God's Kingdom.

The story of the Prodigal Son emotionally affects us as the father embraces and celebrates the return of his "unclean" and unworthy son. But the story itself is most interested in the conversation between the offended older brother and the gracious father. How could the father be so forgiving? Why would he do more, seemingly, for the son who wasted so much than for the "good" boy?

Of course, Jesus is speaking to us through this older brother. How do we feel about God's delight in grace? Do we worship a God who prefers the clean and the worthy, and quickly condemns the unclean and the unworthy? Or do we find our joy in the joy of the Great Shepherd, and the forgiving, party-throwing Father?

Oneida was founded on the belief that the forgiveness of God could bring an end to violence and hatred. Today, our ministry continues as an ongoing witness that those who have been "excluded" can be found, included and

transformed by God's gracious kindness.

We take seriously the task of enrolling students whose needs or problems match our gifts, staff and program. This means we cannot admit every applicant, but we are always a school that embodies Jesus' ministry of inclusion. I am sure that sometimes Jesus saw those whom He had reached out to in love walk away and refuse the grace of God, but that did not stop Him from proclaiming a God who lifts up the fallen and restores the oppressed.

In the same way, we may fail with some students, but it will be after we have gone as many second miles as possible. One good sign of God's work at Oneida is the many students who write to us and say, "Thank you for putting up with me when I was so difficult." (Yes, we knew that, but it's good to hear it!)

Every day we look out upon a unique gathering of students from all across the world. What do they have in common? As former president Barkley Moore often said, "God made them. Jesus died for them. We have a bed for them."

Being a responsible and legally prudent ministry means we might say "no" from time to time, but we say "yes" to the vast majority of those who seek our help. I believe that is because Oneida's values are shaped by Jesus' Kingdom values. As He was the "friend of sinners," so we seek to be the friend of those who need a new beginning, special help and a place to belong.

W.F. Underwood is president of Oneida Baptist Institute, Box 67, Oneida, KY 40972; [www.oneidaschool.org](http://www.oneidaschool.org); e-mail: [president@oneidaschool.org](mailto:president@oneidaschool.org)

### THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

## Son now studies where dad hauled coal

### After a year commuting, Georgia family moves here

For two semesters, Billy Davenport commuted from Georgia to campus—a four-hour, 187-mile journey. He took classes on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, staying overnight in Kelly Hall.

The family now lives on campus, made possible when Billy's wife, Kathy, became accounts payable clerk in the business office. Kathy has a bachelor's degree and 10 years' experience in a medical claims office.

The transition, Billy said, "when the Lord stirred my heart to seek another church. We started attending and all the pastor's sermons were about leaving, stepping out on faith. We faced decisions of leaving our jobs and selling the home. I needed more education and to move ahead with His calling."

They wanted a family-oriented school, with a Bible emphasis. Billy's dad knew where Clear Creek was; he once drove coal trucks in the area. "Dad cried when he knew we were coming here; I didn't know he had prayed for years for me to do the Lord's will," Billy said. His parents divorced when he was young. "I'm so thankful the Lord placed a man in my life that I do call Dad."

The move to campus life has been smooth. "Our son, Noah, 5, attends kindergarten at Frakes Elementary," Kathy said. "He likes riding to school on the yellow bus. Lindsey, 2, stays some at the campus child development center, and talks about going to see grandparents."

Billy walked the aisle at age 10, but said there was no evidence of salvation until he committed his life to Christ at age 17. "I became active in the youth program, and in church drama," he said. "This zeal for the Lord fed over into our marriage. I became youth leader at South Rossville Baptist Church, taught couples and served on the church

sound committee. After working with two Southern gospel groups I answered the call to full-time ministry."

The Davenports believe God is preparing them to serve a local church, but they are open to be used any way He desires. A certified surgical technician, Billy works part-time at Appalachian Regional Hospital in Middlesboro. "The Lord may use this training for mission trips," he said.

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

### CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

# Supreme Court hears Ky. Ten Commandments case

By Adelle Banks & Lauren Etter  
Religion News Service

Washington (RNS)—The Ten Commandments took center stage March 2 at the U.S. Supreme Court, with legal supporters urging they not be torn from the public square and opponents saying their presence there evokes an improper blessing by government.

Justices questioned how displays of the Ten Commandments on government property compare to Thanksgiving proclamations, legislative prayers and a marble carving above the justices that features Moses among other lawgivers. All those religious displays are considered constitutional.

Back-to-back oral arguments focused on courthouse displays in Kentucky and a monument at the Texas Capitol. They figure into a much wider debate over the appropriateness of hundreds, if not thousands, of Commandments displays across the country and dozens of court cases challenging whether these religious symbols represent a government endorsement of religion.

## Kentucky case

Attorney Mathew Staver argued that the display of the commandments in Kentucky courthouses affirmed their role in shaping national history.

"There's clearly no evidence that

the display solely intended to be a religious display," said Staver, adding that those who were offended by them could "avert your eyes."

In the Kentucky case, the justices were asked to determine whether displays of a framed version of the commandments—surrounded by other law-related documents—belong on courthouse walls. Staver discussed how government officials struggled to make the display constitutional by adding other historical documents such as the Declaration of Independence.

Justice David Souter questioned whether the other documents were added in good faith. Justice John Paul Stevens wondered if they were merely "litigation dressing."

But Staver said local government officials should not be penalized for trying to comply with the law.

"They were trying to do the best that they could," he said, saying they didn't have much guidance. "They're not jurists schooled in the law."

The arguments marked the first time the Supreme Court had considered a Ten Commandments case since it ruled in 1980 that they were improperly posted on schoolhouse walls.

Two and half decades later, Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott argued for letting stand his state's 6-foot monument outside the state

## Will outcry occur if Commandments come down?

Washington (RNS)—If the U.S. Supreme Court prohibits public displays of the Ten Commandments nationwide, a widespread outcry is anticipated.

Religious conservatives predict the resulting furor would be greater than the reaction when a California court ruled "under God" did not belong in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A decision on last week's hearing isn't expected for months. But some people already are anticipating defiance if the court rules that Ten Commandments displays must come down nationwide.

Rep. John Hostettler, R-Ind., has sent President Bush a letter urging him to defy the court by not sending U.S. marshals to remove a Ten Commandments display in his home district.

"As you know, the federal judiciary has no constitutional or statutory means by which to enforce its own opinion," the congressman's letter said.

Robert Boston, spokesman for the Washington-based Americans United for Separation of Church and State, called the letter "astounding."

"It reminds me of the segregationist movement in the 1960s. And you see how that turned out. It's not a good idea to encourage people to do these things," Boston said.

The United States is in the middle of a "culture war," said Kelly Shackelford, chief counsel of the Liberty Legal Institute, and coach for the lawyers arguing on behalf of the monuments in the Texas and Kentucky cases.

"It comes to a deeper problem. This country was founded by religious people and there's a lot of religious culture and there's monuments everywhere in the country that reflect that," Shackelford said. If the displays are struck down, "it would start a process of religious cleansing around the country of our monuments and I think it's going to open a Pandora's box."

But Boston says public outcry over the removal won't be as immense as some predict.

"There will be some grumbling. Jerry Falwell will mail out fund-raising letters. People will go on Fox News and huff and puff," Boston said. "But the country will survive." *Andrea James*

Capitol.

"This court should agree that the Texas monument should not be torn down," he said, saying the commandments have been historically recognized as a symbol of law and the monument has stood for decades "without controversy."

## Original intent of displays

Souter attempted to distinguish the Supreme Court frieze from the Texas monument, saying that Moses in the Supreme Court fit into a common theme about lawgivers while he saw no specific theme to the monuments on the Texas campus, which honor veterans and pioneer women.

Abbott said the Ten Commandments monument fits into a general theme of the entire display on the Capitol grounds, which recognizes historical influences on the nation.

David Friedman, who represented the American Civil Liberties Union in the Kentucky case, also made comparisons to the Supreme

Court frieze. He said the Kentucky display more explicitly ties government to religion.

"It is not a neutral display of lawgivers like the frieze in this court," he said.

More than one justice turned the discussion to the religiosity of the nation.

Justice Antonin Scalia pointed out how many people nationwide affirm the essence of the commandments.

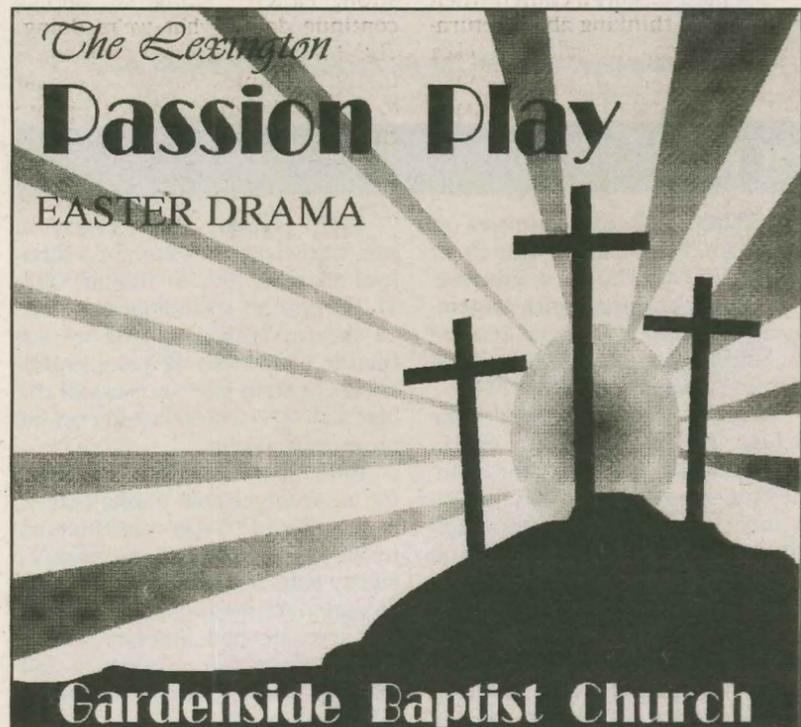
"I think probably 90 percent of American people believe in the Ten Commandments," he said, even though "85 percent couldn't tell you what the 10 are."

Justice Anthony Kennedy wondered if taking down the monuments to please the few would "be a hostility toward religion."

Scalia seemed to agree.

"We're a tolerant society," he said. "It seems to me the minority has to be tolerant of the majority's belief."

The court is expected to rule in June.



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## Movieguide honors films & TV shows modeling faith and morals

Beverly Hills, Calif. (RNS)—"The Passion of the Christ" was a multiple winner at the annual Movieguide Faith & Values Awards last month.

Mel Gibson's movie was named Best 2004 Movie for Mature Audiences and won the \$50,000 John Templeton Foundation Epiphany Prize for the Most Inspirational Movie.

Actor Jim Caviezel, who portrayed Jesus in the film, was honored with the Grace Prize for acting in a movie.

"Every year there is one movie that stands out from the others, that powerfully impresses audiences with a clearer perspective of God," said Ted Baehr, founder of the awards ceremony. "This year, that movie is 'The Passion of the Christ.'"

"The Incredibles" won in the category of

Best 2004 Movie for Families.

Jamie Foxx was honored with the Grace Prize for acting in television for his portrayal of a former gang leader in "Redemption: The Stan 'Tookie' Williams Story."

"Doc: Happy Trails," an episode of PAX TV's weekly drama, was awarded the John Templeton Foundation Epiphany Prize for the Most Inspirational Television Program, which also was worth \$50,000.

"The Question of God" was awarded special honors for best television documentary and "America's Heart and Soul" was named best movie documentary.

The annual awards honor movies and TV programs that are considered to be morally uplifting with family-friendly content that favors Judeo-Christian values.



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## PRAYER PARTNERS

Please pray for the following Kentucky Baptist churches and ministries:

### High Point Baptist Church in Mayfield.

Youth pastor Seth Hawkins is excited that the Graves County Youth Ministers Network is beginning to sponsor quarterly youth rallies that will feature a county-wide choir, interpretive movement, special music, activities and challenging messages for teens. Their first rally will be April 16 and he requests prayer for the youth ministers as they make final preparation for this event. Pray also that the students will be empowered to evangelize their friends and that many young people will come to know Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

### Mission Service Corps missionaries Gus and Gloria Reyes in Warren Baptist Association.

The Reyes minister to the Hispanic population in greater Bowling Green and have planted a church that is growing. Pastors and local leaders will meet in late March to strategize about how to meet needs and minister to more than 10,000 Hispanics in Bowling Green. Pray that God will provide the resources and additional personnel needed as they seek to strengthen the existing ministry and begin more churches.

If you would like Kentucky Baptists to join in praying for a ministry of your church or association, please send the information to Eric Allen at [Eric.Allen@kybaptist.org](mailto:Eric.Allen@kybaptist.org) or call (888) 263-5080.

## MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

■ **BENTON**—Briensburg Church will help lead a crusade in Trinidad July 7-19 in cooperation with the Southern Baptist International Mission Board. For information, call Pastor **C.C. Brasher** at (270) 527-6866.

New Harmony Church recently called **Tommy Woodruff** as senior pastor.

■ **BURNSIDE**—Neeley's Creek Church ordained **Larry Decker** as a deacon March 6.

■ **COXS CREEK**—**Franklin Wright**, 83, music director of Coxs Creek Church for 53 years, died Feb. 13. Wright also was a trombonist for the Kentucky Baptist Convention's wind orchestra.

■ **FALMOUTH**—**Ronald Lee** recently resigned as pastor of Turner Ridge Church.

■ **HARRODSBURG**—Bruner's Chapel Church recently ordained **James Moeller** as a deacon. **Greg Humpert** is pastor.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Beechmont Church's sanctuary choir will present the Easter musical, "You Thought of Us," March 20, 6:30 p.m.

Cloverleaf Church will host the **Triumphant Quartet** from Sevierville, Tenn., in concert March 13, 7 p.m. For more information call (502) 367-0218. **Geoffrey Lacefield** is pastor.

**Robert Hill** recently resigned as pastor of Ralph Avenue Church.

■ **LOYALL**—First Church ordained Pastor **Danny Reed** to the gospel ministry Feb. 6.

■ **MADISONVILLE**—Park Avenue Church will present "Christos" March 24-26, 7 p.m.

■ **PADUCAH**—Lone Oak First Church will host **Bobby Welch**, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, in a one-night revival service April 2, 6 p.m. **Dan Summerlin** is pastor.

■ **VERSAILLES**—Versailles Church honored Pastor **John Brandon** Feb. 27 for 15 years of ministry.

### What's going on?

Mail your happenings to Mountains to the Mississippi at Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253. Fax: (502) 244-6474. E-mail: [wesrec@earthlink.net](mailto:wesrec@earthlink.net).

## MSC training set for March 11-12

**Louisville**—The Kentucky Baptist Convention will offer Missions Service Corps Basic Training March 11-12 at the Kentucky Baptist Building in Louisville.

Mission Service Corps is a task force of self-supporting missionaries who give full- or part-time service for four months or more in positions

assigned by the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board.

The event is designed to equip MSC missionaries, candidates and other interested individuals to serve with greater impact.

The cost is \$12 per person. For more information contact Eric Allen at (888) 254-5721.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### March

- 11-12 Creative Ministries Festival 2005, Hillvue Heights Baptist Church, Bowling Green.
- 11-12 Mission Service Corps Basic Training, Baptist Building, Louisville.
- 12 All-State Youth Choir/Orchestra Auditions, First Baptist Church, Hopkinsville.
- 12 RA Congress Region 1, Lone Oak First Baptist Church, Paducah.
- 12 RA Congress Region 3, Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Shepherdsville.
- 12 RA Congress Region 7, Stanford Baptist Church.
- 12 Ring & Share—West, First Baptist Church, Hopkinsville.
- 12 VBS Clinic, First Baptist Church, Owensboro.
- 18-19 Youth Bible Drill & Speakers Tournament, Cedarmore.
- 19 RA Congress Region 2, First Baptist Church, Hopkinsville.
- 19 RA Congress Region 6, Red House Baptist Church, Richmond.
- 19 Youth Bible Drill & Speakers Tournament, Jonathan Creek.
- 26 RA Congress Region 4, Parkland Baptist Church, Louisville.
- 26 RA Congress Region 8B, Camp Howard, Wallins.

### April

- 5 Adults 50+ Living Celebration, Southside Baptist Church, Princeton.
- 7 Adults 50+ Living Celebration, Burlington Baptist Church.

- 8-9 WMU Annual Meeting, First Baptist Church, London.
- 9 GA/Children in Action News Event, First Baptist Church, London.
- 12 Adults 50+ Living Celebration, First Baptist Church, Brandenburg.
- 14 Adults 50+ Living Celebration, Sand Spring Baptist Church, Lawrenceburg.
- 14 Preparing the Church for Future Trends, Crestwood Baptist Church.
- 15-16 EXALT (State Exegetical Conference), Georgetown College.
- 15-16 State Youth Choir Festival, Eastwood Baptist Church, Bowling Green.
- 16 Regional Keyboard Festival, St. Matthews Baptist Church, Louisville.
- 21-22 Quarterly Prayer Meeting for Spiritual Awakening, West Union Assoc. Office, Paducah.
- 22-24 All-State Children's Choir, East Cedarmore.
- 23 CM:21 (Children's Ministry in the 21st Century), Westport Road Baptist Church, Louisville.
- 25-26 "Coaching Leader" Training, Cedarmore.
- 29 Children's Bible Drill, St. Matthews Baptist Church, Louisville.
- 30 Children's Bible Drill, Unity Baptist Church, Ashland.
- 30 Children's Bible Drill, Central Baptist Church, Winchester.
- 30-May 1 Equestrian Trail Ride, Mammoth Cave.

For more information, call (800) 266-6477 or visit [www.kybaptist.org](http://www.kybaptist.org)

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**SEEKING:** Bivocational pastor for church located eight miles from Cynthiana, Ky. Send resumé to: 207 Cladorborn Drive, Cynthiana, KY 41031.

**SEEKING:** Full-time minister of music/outreach. Responsible for comprehensive music program as well as leadership and involvement in the church's outreach program. Send resumé to: Search Committee, Grant's Lick Baptist Church, 941 Clay Ridge Road, Alexandria, KY 41001.

**SEEKING:** Enthusiastic full-time youth minister to lead all aspects of middle and high school youth programs. Preferred candidates will have college/seminary degree plus two years experience. Benefits include retirement, health insurance, etc. Send resumé to: Debbie Hicks, First Baptist Church, PO Box 324, Mt. Sterling, KY 40353.

**SEEKING:** The Cabbage Patch, a non-profit Christian organization, seeks to fill three positions: Social worker, MSSW, five years experience preferred; Educator, bachelor's degree preferred; teaching experience preferred; Behavioral intervention specialist, part-time, counseling or similar degree/experience required. Resumé/salary requirements: Lisa Griffin, Cabbage Patch, 1413 S 6th St., Louisville, KY 40208. [lgriffin@cabbagepatch.org](mailto:lgriffin@cabbagepatch.org). Fax: (502) 637-9943.

**SEEKING:** Full-time youth pastor for dynamic youth group in central Kentucky. Must be committed to loving and growing young men and women in their faith in a contemporary, non-traditional church with a youth group of 80-100. If interested, please send resumé to: Personnel Team, Elk Horn Baptist Church, 3145 Elkhorn Road, Campbellsville, KY 42718, or e-mail in Word format to: [office@elkhornbc.org](mailto:office@elkhornbc.org). For a job description, go to [www.elkhornbc.org](http://www.elkhornbc.org).

**SEEKING:** Full-time youth minister to serve youth of all ages. Minister must be called and led of the Lord to work in this capacity; he must be qualified, trained and a full-time member of the community. Salary and benefit package will be commensurate with experience and education. Please send resumé to: Waco Baptist Church, PO Box 560, Waco, KY 40385, Attn: Youth Dept.

**SEEKING:** Full-time youth minister to serve youth of all ages. Minister must be called and led of the Lord to work in this capacity; he must be qualified, trained and a full-time member of the community. Salary and benefit package will be commensurate with experience and education. Please send resumé to: Waco Baptist Church, PO Box 560, Waco, KY 40385, Attn: Youth Dept.

**SEEKING:** Full-time youth minister to serve youth of all ages. Minister must be called and led of the Lord to work in this capacity; he must be qualified, trained and a full-time member of the community. Salary and benefit package will be commensurate with experience and education. Please send resumé to: Waco Baptist Church, PO Box 560, Waco, KY 40385, Attn: Youth Dept.

**SEEKING:** Full-time minister of music for First Baptist Church of Leitchfield, Ky. FBC is a growing, purpose-driven church with contemporary worship style. Send resumé to: Music Search Team, FBC, 106 E Walnut St., Leitchfield, KY 42754.

**SEEKING:** Full-time pastor for Hebron Baptist Church in Northern Kentucky Baptist Association. Medium-sized church in brand-new facility located 15 minutes from Cincinnati in a rapidly growing community with tremendous outreach opportunities. Worship style is currently traditional. Resumé accepted through May 15, 2005; please submit to: Pastoral Search Committee, Hebron Baptist Church, PO Box 92, Hebron, KY 41048, or e-mail to [tonywood@fuse.net](mailto:tonywood@fuse.net).

**SEEKING:** Full-time pastor for New Hope Community Baptist Church of Jackson, Ky. Please submit resumé to: New Hope, 1621 Highway 30 W, Jackson, KY 41339.

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

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## Witt honored for opposition to alcohol industry

Louisville—Claude Witt, former head of the Kentucky League on Alcohol and Gambling Problems, recently was honored by the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission as recipient of the 2003 Richard D. Land Distinguished Service Award.

Richard Land, president of the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, traveled to Louisville to present the award to Witt at his home. Witt previously was unable to accept the award because of health problems.

"Throughout his career Rev. Witt has relentlessly opposed the use of beverage alcohol," Land said. "He is a tireless advocate for personal holiness and purity, and a godly man. It is indeed my privilege to present him this award."

The award is given to honor "leadership in Christian ethics and in recognition of unique and outstanding contributions" in such areas as biblical morality and family values.

"I think it is well-deserved," said Howard Beaman, current director of the Kentucky League. "He faithfully served the people of Kentucky through the Temperance League for many years. He was well-known and well-received in the halls of Frankfort."

Witt's career includes more than 28 years of temperance ministry and advocacy in both Kentucky and Wisconsin. He served 19 years as executive director of the Temperance League, which was renamed the Kentucky League on Alcohol and Gambling Problems before his retirement in 2002, and also served as president of the American Council on Alcohol Problems.

Witt said he dedicated his life to opposing alcohol out of his love for people and his concern about the impact of alcohol use on people's lives.

"I can see what it can do to an individual," Witt said. "It can just tear you apart."

Witt and his wife, Marcella, are members of Farndale Baptist Church in Louisville.



**RECOGNITION** Richard Land, president of the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, stands with Claude Witt, former director of the Kentucky Temperance League.

## CP banquet recognizes Kentuckians

By Jonathan Johnston  
Kentucky Baptist Convention

Louisville—Kentucky Baptists recognized two strong advocates for missions at a banquet Feb. 28 honoring the top supporters of the Cooperative Program.

Peggy Hicks and Ted Sisk were each presented the Distinguished Leadership Award for a lifetime of supporting the Cooperative Program. A number of churches and associations also were honored for milestones in CP giving. The banquet at Valley View Church in Louisville was held in conjunction with last week's Kentucky Baptist Evangelism Conference.

Dan Ferguson, pastor of Second Baptist Church of Hopkinsville, was the featured speaker at the banquet.

"God blesses churches that give to missions," he declared. "Missions is all about evangelism. It's all about leading people to Jesus."

Noting that many churches "spend more money babysitting the saints than trying to reach people for Jesus Christ," Ferguson added, "As churches give to the Cooperative Program, we can help the greater cause of missions around the world."

Hershael York, president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, said Hicks and Sisk were honored because of their "years and years of distinguished service to Kentucky Baptists." York described Hicks as a "paradigm of Christian service" and noted that Sisk "embodies what Kentucky Baptist pastors ought to be."

Hicks and her husband, Bryant, served as Southern Baptist missionaries to the Philippines in 1955-65. She served as Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union president from 1985-1989 and again from 1995-2000. She also has served two terms



**AWARDS** Bill Mackey, executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, presented Distinguished Leadership Awards to Peggy Hicks (left) and Ted Sisk during a recent banquet recognizing supporters of the Cooperative Program, the giving plan through which Kentucky Baptists support ministries and missions.



as a member of the Kentucky Baptist Convention Mission Board.

Hicks currently is associational WMU leader for Long Run Baptist Association as well as the WMU leader for Lyndon Baptist Church in Louisville.

Hicks said she supports the Cooperative Program because "it has enabled missions to continue around the world. Churches together can do what we alone could not do."

Sisk, a former KBC president, served 50 years as a pastor. He retired in 1995 after 25 years as pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington.

While serving at Immanuel, Sisk led the church to increase Cooperative Program giving from \$32,000 to more than \$250,000 per year. Per capita CP giving increased more than 440 percent.

### "We give to the Lord"

"We don't give to the Cooperative Program," Sisk noted. "We give to the Lord through the Cooperative Program to support a world missions program."

Immanuel Church was among the congregations recognized this year as it passed the \$6 million milestone in total CP giving. Immanuel also was recognized as third in total

CP giving for the 2003-2004 fiscal year.

Porter Memorial Baptist Church in Lexington was recognized as the top church in total CP gifts while Gap Fellowship Church in Middlesboro was recognized as the top church in per capita CP giving.

Churches recognized for passing million dollar milestones included First Baptist, Owensboro, and First Baptist, Somerset, \$6 million; Campbellsville Baptist, \$4 million; Beacon Hill Baptist, Somerset, Highview Baptist, Louisville, First Baptist, Richmond, Shively Baptist, Louisville, Unity Baptist, Ashland and Versailles Baptist, \$2 million.

Cecilia Baptist, First Baptist, Hodgenville, First Baptist, Morganfield and Springfield Baptist were each recognized for reaching the \$1 million milestone.

Six associations also were honored for outstanding giving in the past year, based on the giving of member churches. Elkhorn, Long Run and Daviess-McLean associations were recognized for total gifts to the Cooperative Program. Anderson, Christian County and Taylor County associations were recognized for per capita giving.

With additional reporting by Editor Trennis Henderson

## 'Let them see your heart,' speaker tells women

By Dannah Prather  
Partnerships Editor

Louisville—When Jaye Martin and her family sensed a lack of Christian influence in their Houston community, they determined to be that influence themselves.

Speaking at the Kentucky Baptist Evangelism Conference women's luncheon, she urged Kentucky Baptist women to do the same.

"We are living in a world that really doesn't like us or want us," said Martin, women's evangelism strategist for the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board.

Still, she added, Christians can make a powerful impact by living a conspicuously godly life.

"Let them see your heart," she said. "Let them see that you pray for strength every day."

Recalling God's words to the children of Israel through Moses in Exodus 19, Martin said believers should review their lives and "see the times that we didn't think we would make it."

Through the Bible, God still says, "Remind them how I carried them through the wilderness," she said.

The author of HeartCall, a specialized evangelism approach for women, Martin travels the country

speaking to church leaders and members. She said that when she asks women what struggles are being faced by individual women and their families, "they all say pornography."

That sin is no longer a problem limited to men.

"The romance novel has been replaced with Internet chatrooms," Martin said. Like many men involved in pornography, women rationalize the behavior "and think that it's OK," she said. "It is not OK. We must keep the barriers up and purify ourselves on a daily basis."

An active prayer life that includes confessing sin is the only way for believers to remain pure, Martin said. "When our lives are clean, God can flow through us," she said. "Help your kids to understand how that happens."

Prior to Martin's remarks, participants heard music and a monologue by Amanda Walter of Southeast Christian Church in Louisville.

Women also received information about this year's Women of Worth Lifestyle Evangelism Conferences in Somerset and Lexington.

The first event is May 16 at Beacon Hill Baptist Church in Somerset and will feature actress Jenni-



fer O'Neill as the keynote speaker.

The second event is May 17 at Consolidated Baptist Church in Lexington. Jennifer Keitt, author, speaker and founder and host of "Today's Woman" radio show is the keynote speaker.

For registration information and other details about the Women of Worth conferences, visit [www.kybaptist.org](http://www.kybaptist.org) or call (888) 254-5702.

To find out more about NAMB's HeartCall evangelism strategy for women, visit [www.namb.net/heartcall](http://www.namb.net/heartcall).

"God blesses churches that give to missions."

Dan Ferguson, pastor of Second Baptist Church of Hopkinsville

### WOMEN'S LUNCHEON

Jaye Martin, a women's evangelism strategist for the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board, called women to purity and active prayer lives. "When our lives are clean, God can flow through us."



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