


PRACTICAL RESOURCES FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING
WESTERN RECORDER

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FOR THE RECORD

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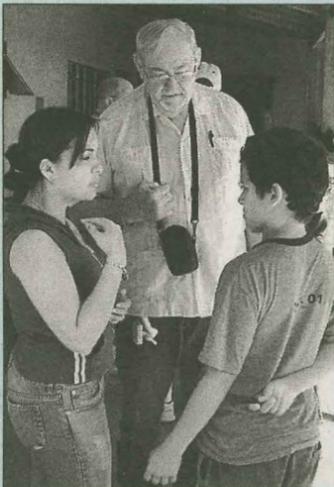
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PARTNERSHIP MISSIONS *Charlie Simmons of Mayfield talks through an interpreter to a Brazilian youth in Structural City. At least 11 more partnership trips are planned in Brazil this summer.*

KBC partnership in Brazil reaping spiritual benefits

By **Trennis Henderson**
Editor

Louisville—Kentucky Baptists' three-year missions partnership with Baptists in Brazil—which officially got under way in January—is off to a strong start.

During seven preliminary mission trips last year, Kentucky Baptist volunteers reported nearly 400 professions of faith in Christ. With four projects completed so far this year, the number of converts has increased by more than 150.

"The exciting thing about the people going out right now is that almost every group is leading 50 to 100 people to the Lord," noted Ross Bauscher, director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's partnership missions department.

"There's no doubt in my mind that God opened up the door for us in Brazil," he added. "The sense of openness is evident with the number of Brazilians who are coming to know the Lord."

The partnership, proposed in 2003, includes projects in cooperation with the Baptist convention in the Brazilian state of Piaui as well as the Federal District which includes the capital city of Brasilia.

One of the first projects conducted this year was a prayerwalk and Woman's Missionary Union training conference led by a team of WMU workers from across Kentucky. Joy Bolton, executive director of Kentucky WMU, led the six-member team.

□ See *KBC-Brazil ... Page 3*

What are men thinking?



Christian author surprised by responses

By **Dannah Prather**
Partnerships Editor

Lexington—When Christian author Shaunti Feldhahn created a male character for one of her novels, she felt pretty confident about the things she had him doing and the words she put in his mouth.

But when it came to what he was thinking, his creator didn't have a clue.

"I had no idea," Feldhahn, a Harvard grad and syndicated columnist for the Atlanta Journal-Constitution recently told women at a Kentucky Baptist Convention conference.

Fast forward to today and Feldhahn is actually telling women what might be going on behind their husbands' blank stare, goofy grin or that vein that pops out on his forehead from time to time.

Feldhahn, author of "For Women Only: Understanding the Inner Lives of Men," told those at the Lexington "Women of Worth" Conference last month that she was as surprised as anyone to find herself with an inside track on the male psyche.

"How on earth can a woman write a book on this subject?" she asked, echoing a common question for her book.

Her answer: She simply asked men what they were thinking and listened to what they said.

The author of such novels as "The Veritas Conflict" and "The Lights of 10th Street," Feldhahn said she began with casual interviews of friends and family and then cast her net wider to include cab drivers, waiters and nearly any man she

met who had the time and willingness to answer her questions.

The results surprised her so much that she commissioned a survey to ask men around the country similar questions.

Feldhahn emphasizes that she's no psychologist or marriage counselor, but she describes herself as "an analyst who happened to stumble on some interesting stuff."

A "foundational, fundamental difference" between men and women has to do with love and respect, she said. "If our men had to choose, they would rather feel unloved than disrespected."

Most Christians, and many non-Christians, accept that love should be unconditional, Feldhahn said. But many of those same people believe respect must be earned.

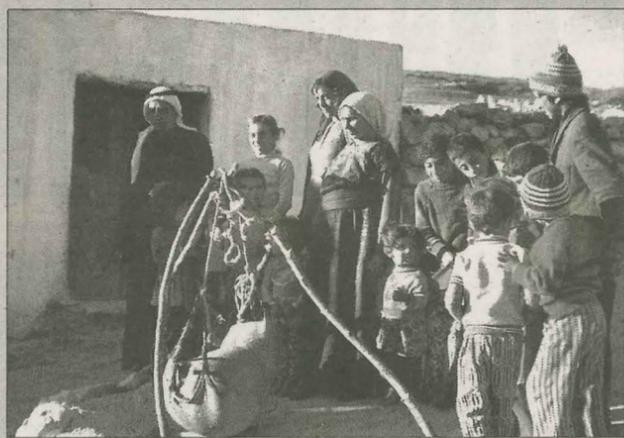
"That is completely unbiblical," she added.

□ See *Christian author ... Page 6*

Dated material. Please deliver by Wednesday, June 8



Shaunti Feldhahn



BEDOUIN FAMILY This 15-member Bedouin family, which lives much like their ancestors have for generations, makes cheese in a goat skin. This is among thousands of photos from the Middle East that Louise Kohl Smith recently donated to LifeWay's Biblical Illustrator magazine.

Photos donated to LifeWay detail rare Holy Land sites

By Polly House
SBC LifeWay Christian Resources

Miami (BP)—Middle Eastern scenes and landscapes of historical significance—many which no longer exist—will be seen anew thanks to a bequest of thousands of photos and slides to Biblical Illustrator.

Octogenarian Louise Kohl Smith has made 20 visits to the Middle East since the 1960s, taking cameras with her each time as she visited sites in Israel, Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Egypt and Palestine—including places that have been destroyed by war, vandalism or time and places now closed to tourists.

Biblical Illustrator is a quarterly biblical background of the Southern Baptist Convention. Though designed as a Sunday School supplement, the magazine can stand alone, offering photographs and articles on biblical archaeology.

Smith, who lives in the Miami area, grew up as the adopted daughter of a wealthy businessman and his wife. She lived on a lavish New Jersey estate, with a Palm Beach, Fla. But she didn't travel outside the country until the 1960s when her mother offered to pay for a trip anywhere her daughter wanted to go.

"I immediately ran to the travel office and found the longest and most expensive trip to the Holy Land I could get," Smith recalled with a laugh. "I thought I might never get another chance like that."

Smith said when she arrived in Israel, "I sat out on my little three-by-five-foot balcony and just took it all in—the sights, the sounds and the smells. Even though I'd never been there before, I just knew this was my favorite place in the world."

Smith used her photography skills to capture images across the region. "I always tried to photograph sites that had meaning to me, places I knew from the Bible. I wanted to get more than just what postcards showed."

Each of Smith's 20 trips added to the collection.

As Smith began thinking about the distribution of her assets, she was especially concerned about what to do with her images.

She determined Biblical Illustrator would be the recipient. "I had enjoyed the magazine for years," she said. "I appreciated the quality and the scholarly nature of it. I decided to leave my collection to LifeWay and the magazine in my will."

G.B. Howell, editor of Biblical Illustrator, said when Smith contacted him about the bequest to the magazine, he was not sure what to expect.

When he began looking at the images Smith was offering, however, Howell was impressed. "The photographic quality jumped out first," he said. "It was excellent."

Then, the locations she had photographed came into focus.

"When I started looking at the specific photographs, I was amazed," Howell said. "Some of the places she had been and had photographed no longer exist. Not only has the violence that area of the world experienced had an impact on some of the ancient biblical sites, but the ravages of time and nature have taken a toll on the land."

"Iraq and Iran aren't open to us any longer. We can't go in and take pictures of the still-existing ancient sites there. This makes many of her images priceless to us."

Ruling deals setback to Baptist agencies

Kansas City, Mo. (ABP)—A state appeals court ruling will allow the Missouri Baptist Convention to continue pursuing its lawsuit against five agencies that removed themselves from MBC control.

In a preliminary opinion issued May 31, the Missouri Appeals Court for the Western District reversed Cole County Circuit Court Judge Thomas Brown's March 2004 decision to dismiss the MBC's legal action against The Baptist Home, Missouri Baptist University, Missouri Baptist Foundation, Windermere Baptist Conference Center and the Word & Way newspaper.

Brown had ruled that the convention's Executive Board and a group of affiliated churches did not have the legal right to file the lawsuit because the MBC documents define the group's "members" as individual messengers to convention meetings rather than churches.

When attorneys for the convention asked permission to amend their lawsuit with individual mes-

sengers as plaintiffs, Brown denied their request.

In its May 31 opinion, the appellate court said the MBC's Executive Board has the legal right to sue as a representative of the convention because it is composed of members.

However, Brown was correct in dismissing the board from the suit as a freestanding corporate entity, the appeals judges noted. The appeals panel also upheld Brown's determination that the six churches do not have standing to sue.

Agencies consider options

The five agencies can request a rehearing before the appellate court or ask the court to transfer the case to the Missouri Supreme Court. If the appellate court turns down the request, the entities can ask the Supreme Court directly to consider the case.

If the entities choose not to pursue the option or the courts turn them down, the case will return to Brown's courtroom.

Currently, a second suit filed in October with MBC messengers as plaintiffs is pending before Cole County Circuit Judge Richard Callahan. If the first case is returned to Cole County, the two lawsuits likely would be combined.

Michael Whitehead, the MBC's lead attorney in the case said the appeals panel's decision "provides good cause for Missouri Baptists to be encouraged. This opinion is a giant step toward restoring these ministries to the Missouri Baptist Convention family, sooner rather than later."

Amid a struggle between moderates and conservatives over control of the MBC in 2000 and 2001, the five institutions changed their charters to allow each entity to elect its own trustees. In the past, the convention had elected board members.

The MBC then voted to defund the agencies. Later, a majority of MBC messengers voted to file a lawsuit, asking the courts to overturn the agencies' revised charters.

Baylor's interim president replaces provost

By Marv Knox
Texas Baptist Standard

Waco, Texas (ABP)—Bill Underwood, Baylor University's interim president, announced three high-level administrative appointments during his first day in office.

In his most pointed move, Underwood replaced the university's top academic officer, David Lyle Jeffrey, with whom he previously debated academic freedom.

Randall O'Brien, professor and chair of Baylor's religion department, takes Jeffrey's place, becoming interim provost and vice president for academic affairs. Michael Morrison, a professor in the Baylor School of Law, succeeds Tommie Lou Davis as Underwood's chief of staff. And Paul Powell, dean of Baylor's Truett Theological Seminary, is special assistant to the president for denominational relations, a position that has been vacant.

Underwood became interim president at Baylor June 1, after Robert Sloan left the post he held 10 years.

Baylor officials and supporters

squabbled publicly the last two years of Sloan's administration. Tension swirled around the university's long-range vision, called Baylor 2012, and Sloan's implementation of it.

Finally, this winter, Sloan and regents Chairman Will Davis announced the president would step down at the end of the spring semester. The regents named him chancellor, and he is to focus on fund raising, student recruitment and promoting the university.

In late April, regents elected Underwood, a Baylor law professor and former general counsel for the university, as interim president.

At the time, a reporter asked if Underwood would be a "caretaker president." Chairman Davis immediately debunked that notion. Underwood will be "president of Baylor University until we elect a new one," he said. "He is not 'caretaker' of anything."

Davis said Underwood told him in advance about the provost and chief-of-staff appointments. "I was consulted, but I did not concur,"

Davis noted.

"I have great respect for the provost, David Lyle Jeffrey. I thought he did a good job," he added. "But I don't question the authority of Dr. Underwood to make the decisions he made."

Underwood said he made the changes on his first day in office in order to strengthen Baylor.

"These changes signify one of the central themes of this period—my desire to bring about healing in the Baylor community," he said. "This change is not a reflection of Dr. Jeffrey as much as it reflects my respect for Dr. O'Brien's skills as a healer and reconciler."

Acknowledging his administrative shakeup, particularly Jeffrey's removal, has been viewed by some in the Baylor community as divisive, Underwood said: "Sometimes, in the course of rebuilding relationships and unity, there are tough decisions that have to be made. ... This gave us the best opportunity to pull things together in the long run, and that's what I'm looking for."

Proposal urges churches to investigate schools

Columbia, S.C. (ABP)—Exodus Mandate, which promotes home schooling and Christian schools, is backing a proposed Southern Baptist Convention resolution urging churches to investigate whether their local school systems support homosexuality.

The South Carolina-based group tried last year to get the SBC to encourage parents to pull their children out of public schools.

This year's resolution is being proposed by Voddie Baucham Jr., a Southern Baptist preacher and author; and Bruce Shortt, a lawyer and author, according to a statement on Exodus Mandate's Web site.

The 2004 proposal asked Southern Baptists to remove their children from "godless" and "anti-Christian" public schools. The SBC Resolutions Committee did not endorse the resolution, which was proposed by

Shortt and T.C. Pinckney of Virginia.

Instead, the committee brought to the SBC annual meeting a resolution calling on Baptists to "aggressively engage the culture by speaking the truth in love concerning every aspect of life, public and private."

Pinckney made a motion to add the anti-public school language, but it failed.

This year, Shortt and Baucham have submitted a resolution that encourages every SBC church to investigate whether its local school district has a homosexual club or any curriculum or program that attempts to influence children to accept homosexual behavior as a legitimate lifestyle. If so, the resolution urges churches to inform parents and encourage them to remove their children from the schools immediately.

The SBC Resolutions Committee will decide whether or not to present the resolution to messengers for a vote at the SBC annual meeting June 21-22 in Nashville.

SBC first VP nomination

In another SBC-related development, former Tennessee Baptist Convention President Mike Boyd will be nominated as SBC first vice president.

Boyd, senior pastor of Wallace Memorial Baptist Church in Knoxville, will be nominated by current TBC President Roger Freeman, pastor of First Baptist Church of Clarksville, Tenn.

Boyd also is being nominated by the SBC Committee on Nominations to serve as a trustee of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

With additional reporting by Baptist Press

Judge upholds state amendment defining marriage

Frankfort—Kentucky's 2004 constitutional amendment upholding traditional marriage withstood its first legal challenge May 26.

The amendment, approved by Kentucky voters last November by a 3-to-1 margin, defines marriage as "between one man and one woman." It also specifies that "a legal status identical to or similar to marriage for unmarried individuals shall not be valid or recognized."

Franklin Circuit Court Judge Roger Crittenden ruled that the amendment was properly constructed and the ballot language informed voters of the substance of the amendment.

Opponents argued the ballot language was unconstitutional because it failed to tell voters the amendment banned more than same-sex marriage. They also asserted that the amendment addressed two separate issues, which is prohibited by the state constitution.

Crittenden ruled that "it cannot be said that the second clause of the amendment pertaining to legal status 'identical to or similar to marriage for unmarried individuals' is so foreign that it has no bearing upon a constitutional definition of marriage. Nor can this court conclude that the two clauses of the amendment at issue are essentially unrelated to one another."

While ruling on the case's technical aspects, Crittenden acknowledged that "it would be overstepping judicial bounds to pass judgment on the value and worthiness of the legislative purpose" of the amendment.

Bryan Beaman, the attorney representing the Secretary of State's office, said he "felt confident that the judge would rule to uphold the amendment" because both clauses "relate to the single subject of preserving the traditional definition of marriage."

In addition to Secretary of State Trey Grayson and Attorney General Gregory Stumbo, defendants included state Sen. Vernie McGaha and Kent Ostrander, executive director of the Family Foundation of Kentucky.

Albert Pennybaker, one of three plaintiffs in the case, told Associated Press he thinks the amendment "is rooted in a kind of religiosity that's often judgmental and mean-spirited."

Ostrander said he was confident the amendment was procedurally correct.

"The Kentucky electorate overwhelmingly wanted to protect marriage from any kind of redefinition," Ostrander noted, "and so they amended the Kentucky Constitution."

With additional reporting by Baptist Press

KBC-Brazil partnership reaping benefits

Continued from page 1

"Part of our dream is to have an ongoing relationship with WMU in Piaui," Bolton explained. "When our women got with their women, there was an immediate bond whether we were in the training conference or out prayerwalking. They appreciated the fact that we wanted to come and work with them."

Team members met with leaders from several Brazilian Baptist mission congregations and prayerwalked in their communities, Bolton noted. She said the team also held a "virtual" prayerwalk for sites of future mission projects they were unable to visit in person.

"I believe we have laid a foundation through prayer for all of the other work that will come," she added. "We see ourselves as a partner with the Kentucky Baptist Convention in doing missions here in our state and around the world."

Bauscher also affirmed the impact of prayerwalking on future mission projects. "I think we are going to see tremendous results because we are preparing the ground through prayerwalking" as well as Scripture distribution, door-to-door witnessing and other outreach activities.

Other recent trips have included medical missions, church construction work and evangelism.

"Powerful witness"

Doug Wesley, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Danville, helped coordinate an 18-member team that focused on medical and dental work as well as evangelism. The team included a physician, two dentists and several registered nurses.

"Basically, we set up a medical, dental and eyeglass clinic in an ex-



WMU TRAINING Pat Key (center), a member of First Baptist Church of Central City, talks to women of the Piaui Baptist Convention during Woman's Missionary Union training, which took place in February.



CHAPEL CONSTRUCTION A team primarily from Edmonton Worship Center helped build the chapel this spring in Parque Firmino Filho, outside Teresina, Brazil. The Edmonton church members raised \$12,000 toward construction of the building.

tremely impoverished area just outside of Brasilia," Wesley said. "I'm talking about dirt roads, shacks of houses—a community of multiple thousands of people in this small, tiny area."

While the medical workers aided more than 1,000 people, other volunteers used the EvangeCube witnessing tool to share the gospel with hundreds of people standing in line for the medical clinic. Team members also did street witnessing and led nightly revival services.

The various ministry efforts "gave a personal and powerful witness to the gospel," Wesley said. "We explained to them that we came because God's love is within us and this is a way we want to express that."

Emphasizing that "missions breeds missions," Wesley said he believes partnership missions "is the greatest thing the Kentucky Baptist Convention does by far. ... It's one thing to talk about missions, preach about it and give to it; it's another thing to actually do it."

Russ Hibbs, a retired emergency room physician and a member of First Baptist Church of Henderson, said his recent trip to Brazil was his 13th overseas partnership missions trip. He previously has been involved in other medical mission projects in Brazil, Russia, Tanzania and India.

Treating approximately 400 patients during his time in Brazil, Hibbs said the Brazilians "honestly

appreciate that we're doing this because God has told us to go and to share His love with them."

Involvement in partnership missions "really brings out more trust in God," he added. "You learn that no matter what the problem is, He can solve it. You just feel like you're doing what God wants you to do, that's the bottom line."

Return trip planned

Larry Noe, pastor of Edmonton Worship Center, recently led a 10-member construction and evangelism team. Church members raised \$12,000 to fund construction of a mission building prior to the team's arrival in Brazil.

Team members painted the building, held a dedication service and led a five-night revival effort at the new church. Noe said many of the volunteers plan to return to Brazil in 2007 to continue to assist the church start.

Several participants "gave up their two weeks of vacation to go on a mission project to Brazil and are looking forward to doing it again in two years," Noe said. "It's touched them. They received a blessing and want to go back."

Affirming the significance of partnership missions, Noe added, "I think it gives a local pastor and church the opportunity to be a part of something that is a lot bigger than they are. To send your own people over there is an added blessing to the church. It brings unity and strength to the local church."

Echoing the perspectives of other mission volunteers, Noe said, "It's one thing to read about foreign missions; it's another thing to participate in foreign missions. It gives a different perspective."

In addition to mission projects in Piaui and the Federal District, the KBC Mission Board voted last month to extend the state convention's partnership with the International Baptist Convention through 2006. The KBC partnership missions department also continues to coordinate mission trips to Malta and Poland.

For information about volunteer mission opportunities, contact the partnership missions department at (502) 244-6462 or toll-free in Kentucky at (888) 254-5724.

Member added to CP study group

Louisville—Gail Louis, a member of First Baptist Church of Danville, has been named to the Kentucky Baptist Convention Mission Board's Cooperative Program Study Committee. She replaces Louann Mathis who was not available to serve.

Additionally, the Western Recorder's May 24 article announcing the names of the 20-member committee incorrectly identified Tom Shelton. He is a member of First Baptist Church of Owensboro, not director of missions for Ohio County Baptist Association.

The committee is responsible for proposing "ways to increase CP giving in the future that would result in increased financial support" for KBC and Southern Baptist Convention causes.

KBC officials and staff members working with the committee are KBC President Hershael York, Executive Director Bill Mackey, Assistant Executive Director Steve Thompson, Business Manager Lowell Ashby and Administrative Assistant Pat Beverly.

Brazil partnership mission trips

Date	Project	Location	Team
June 6-17	Evangelism/church planting	Teresina	Three Forks Association
June 6-16	Evangelism/church planting	Teresina	Blood River Association
June 20 - July 1	Evangelism/church planting	Teresina	Central Church, Winchester
July 1-13	Evangelism/carnival ministry	Teresina	Son Team
July 18-29	Evangelism/church planting	Teresina	Crestwood Church, Crestwood
July 18-31	Construction & evangelism	Teresina	First Baptist, Monticello
July 19-30	Evangelism	Cidade Osfaya	First Baptist, Munfordville
Aug. 1-12	Evangelism/pastors training	Teresina	Pulaski Association
Aug. 1-12	Evangelism/church planting	Teresina	Westport Road Church, Louisville
Aug. 15-26	Medical missions/evangelism	Teresina	Statewide Team
Aug. 22 - Sept. 1	Evangelism/church planting	Teresina	Little River Association

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

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'Matter of life or death'

I want to respectfully respond to Bob Fox's letter in the May 24 Western Recorder.

He states that the most important questions that should be posed to the religious faculty of a Baptist institution are, "Do they love Jesus?" and "Do they follow Jesus?" It should be noted that a good Mormon or Jehovah's Witness could say yes to both of these questions.

Surely Fox would not approve of a person who is part of a group who preach and teach a different Jesus to teach in one of our institutions. Since Mormons teach that Jesus is not the unique Son of God and Jehovah's Witnesses teach that Jesus is not God but a created being and since both teach a works-based salvation, it is obvious that they are proclaiming another message. 1 Corinthians 4:11 warns us of a different Jesus, Spirit and gospel.

I am not suggesting that the faculty members Fox is referring to are proclaiming a different Jesus or gospel. I am saying that the criteria of whether one loves and follows Jesus is too simplistic.

We must ask questions such as, "Who is Jesus?" "Is He 100 percent God and 100 percent man?" "Did He die on the cross as our substitute?" "Is salvation in Him physically, literally and bodily raised from the dead?" A person can love and follow Jesus and still not answer these questions correctly.

As Christians and Baptists we can disagree on secondary issues such as what we believe about church government and end times but we can't divide over issues related to salvation. All of the above questions are related to salvation, and if we get salvation wrong it doesn't matter what we get right. It's a matter of life or death and heaven or hell.

Jammie Vance
Somerset

How much longer?

The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which has been called the "soul" of the Bill of Rights, provides for freedom of religion, speech, press and right of assembly. This amendment, together with the Fifth Amendment, constitutes the most used and abused guarantees of the Bill of Rights.

The Founding Fathers of the United States state only to the degree that the government could not dictate any one religion that the people had to adhere to. In fact, the Bible was required reading in public schools. Only when atheists took their case to the Supreme Court in 1947 did it rule in a limited way to affirm a wall of separation between church and public classroom.

Then in 1963, the Supreme Court ruled Bible reading in public schools unconstitutional, even though 94 percent of those who wrote the Constitution and shaped our nation and its system of education and justice, quoted the Bible. In 1980, Stone vs. Graham outlawed the Ten Commandments in schools.

Many quotes of our Founding Fathers have been erased from our textbooks. Revisionists have rewritten history to remove the truth about our Christian roots. Fifty-two of the 55 signers of the Declaration of Independence were deeply committed Christians. Patrick Henry said, "This great nation was founded not by religionists, ... but on the gospel of Jesus Christ."

How, then, have we gotten to the point that everything we have done for 220 years in this country is now wrong and unconstitutional?

We can now legally kill babies by the thousands. Schools are no longer safe.

How much longer will God tolerate our actions—or lack of action? God is a God of love, but He also is a God of judgment!

Gwen Hutchinson
Owensboro



Celebrations reflect God's work

I often use this column to talk about how God is at work in Kentucky today. This certainly is significant, but I think it also is important to realize this is not new, as God has used many generations of Kentuckians to share His gospel.

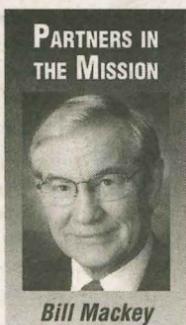
This hit home to me in a special way recently when I had the privilege of participating in the 200th anniversary celebration for Monticello Baptist Church of Provo in Grayson Association. For longer than our state convention has even been in existence, God has used this church to minister to its community, located along the beautiful Green River Valley.

The preparation committee and pastor Randy Burns had made excellent preparations. There was special music, a video, church history, preaching, testimonies and outstanding food and fellowship.

I will always remember a statement by L.P. Whitaker who left

his team of plow horses to graze, walked four miles to church for vival service and shared that he had been called to preach.

"My soul is on fire to do the work of God," he said that day. The preacher called on him to preach at that service.



Bill Mackey

My wife, Kay, and I also recently had the privilege of celebrating the history of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in South Union/Mount Zion Association by participating in homecoming services there.

Pastor Sam Smith and church leaders have developed an excellent park and picnic shelter across the road from the church for such occasions and the church's, monthly fellowship meals.

While there, it was our privilege to stay in the home of Jack and Sue Clark and celebrate how God has blessed them since they came to Christ during our days together when I served at First Baptist Church of Whitesburg. Jack is a

Gardner's legacy

Thanks for the recent reflection on my lifelong friend Ferrill Gardner (pastor of Middle Creek Baptist Church in Hodgenville, who died March 27 at age 70). Ferrill and I met in the third grade and graduated from Magnolia High School.

Ferrill and I developed a close friendship where laughter was a continuous recognized trait. He was the only person I ever knew who would laugh himself into tears. Ferrill's love of people and likeable personality made for easy friendships with people wherever he went.

With 52 years of ordained ministry, it seemed only right that he should preach twice on his final day of life. Again, thanks for recognizing a faithful servant of the Lord.

Paul C. Lawson
Virginia Beach, Va.

Help stop deception

I don't think the Kudzu cartoon that appeared in the May 17 issue should have been published in the Western Recorder.

In making light of new age witches covens, you are making it more acceptable. We should not do anything to make something like this acceptable.

We should be reaching out to those people and help them realize they are not worshiping nature as they think they are. They are worshiping the devil. We need to help them come to worship Jesus Christ and have Him become Lord and Savior of their lives. We need to stop this deception and the spread of new age witches covens.

Rick Phillips
Erlanger

What are you thinking?

The Western Recorder considers letters on any subject for publication, provided they don't make a personal attack. The maximum length for a letter is 300 words. Submit by mail, Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253; fax, (502) 244-6474; or e-mail, wesrec@earthlink.net.

successful farmer and Sue operates the couple's farm supply business. Jack's greatest joy is seeing someone come to faith in Jesus Christ.

Please pray for me that my soul will be on fire to do the work of God. May it be so for every Kentucky Baptist!

Remember it's not too late for individuals from your church to sign up for the TechConnect technical ministries conference to be held at Crestwood Baptist Church in Crestwood on June 11.

This conference, sponsored by the KBC's communications department, is a great opportunity for the people in your church who manage the sound system or handle video projection in your church to receive high quality training. These individuals play key roles in facilitating an atmosphere of worship.

Two all-day tracks are being lined up for each.

Registration details are available online at kybaptist.org/techconnect or by phone at (502) 254-4731 or (888) 254-5713.

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention

STEWARDSHIP

When is it a good choice to cancel life insurance?

By Don Spencer

Does everyone need to keep paying for old life insurance policies? The quick answer is no. But a decision to drop a policy often is complicated by

tax consequences and the difficulty of analyzing a policy's real cost and value.

The first questions to ask are: Why do you have the policy? Why did you purchase it? What purpose does it serve today?

Some policies that might be considered for dropping include:

■ Policies that were not a good deal in the first place, such as non-dividend paying whole-life policies that credit cash values at only 3 or 4 percent.

■ Some universal life policies sold in the 1980s.

■ Mortgage and credit-life policies sold by lenders.

■ Term insurance purchases to cover debts that have long since been paid.

Worksheets can help determine adequate life insurance needs. If the numbers tell you to drop or reduce coverage and you have a term policy, it's easy. Just cancel the policy and stop paying the premiums. For whole life, and other cash-value policies, the decision is more complicated. These policies are part death protection, part investment and part tax shelter. Some things to consider:

What are the tax consequences? If you surrender a cash-value policy, you might have added taxable income. Sometimes, it's better to keep these policies until death and benefits could be income-tax free to heirs.

What is your policy earning? Get assistance in analyzing the policy's earnings value compared to other potential investments.

Have you paid in more than you can take out? If so, transferring the cash value into an annuity might be an advantageous option for tax purposes and investment purposes.

Are there good reasons to keep a policy? After a policy has outlived its original purpose, one of the best reasons to keep the policy is to secure an estate. It also can be an effective means of funding a donation to charity. Some policies also can be a safety net against depletion of your assets by medical costs if the policy allows someone terminally ill to take a portion of death benefits tax-free while living.

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

Teens' input can help make family vacations successful

Q: Last summer our family vacation to Florida was filled with arguments with our teenagers. We never had this problem when they were younger, but now we find ourselves dreading vacation. What can we do to make vacation more enjoyable and peaceful?

Generally speaking, the older children get the more input they deserve to have in family decisions. This is true when it comes to scheduling, school, jobs, church and even family vacations. While parents ultimately make decisions for the family, families can greatly benefit from teens' input.

PARENTING

The most successful and enjoyable family vacations seem to be marked by:

- Family conversation about possible dates and locations for vacation.
- Discussions about what each person is looking for in a vacation and how each one can contribute to the enjoyment of others in the family.
- Commitments about what each person will do to help the family get ready for vacation such as vacuuming the car, packing one's own backpack, gathering the beach gear, etc.
- Daily communication about options and planning for the next day's activities while on vacation.
- Clear understandings about what each person's responsibilities are while on vacation.

Not only do vacations hold unique opportunities for the whole family to enjoy time together, they are excellent for sub-grouping within the family. For example, one day Dad and Caleb might try their hand at sea kayaking while Mom and Hope go shopping.

Remember that even as you enjoy the beach, the mountain or other destinations, the God Who created it all desires to use each moment to remind you of your need to be more like Jesus.—*Scott Wigginton*

Q: Much media attention centered on the recent "runaway bride." How can I guard against such worries as my wedding approaches?

According to Dr. David Olson, creator of the PREPARE-ENRICH premarital and marital inventory program, most premarital counseling mistakenly takes place during the final three months before the wedding, when the bride and groom are focused almost exclusively on the wedding itself. He recommends that premarital counseling take place a year ahead of the wedding. Olson's other suggestions include:

- Create a church policy requiring premarital counseling of all couples getting married.
- The premarital program should focus on communication skills, including assertiveness.
- Besides taking a premarital inventory such as PREPARE, there should be at least four feedback sessions of one to two hours each.

Olson points out that the "runaway bride" was planning to have 600 guests, 14 bridesmaids and 14 groomsmen. Such an undertaking creates enormous stress for an event that lasts one day. Better to invest a few months of intentional study on marriage, which is designed to last a lifetime.

Good premarital counseling likely would have provided the runaway bride the opportunity to discuss her fears and anxieties. She would have been well served to have focused attention on communication and relationship skills, rather than a big event.

Marriage Saver initiatives have been held in both Louisville and Lexington where dozens of pastors have signed covenants to require the kind of counseling provided by PREPARE. The one-day training workshop is worth the time of any pastor who wants to make a difference in preventing divorce before a marriage even starts. For more information about how to find a qualified PREPARE counselor in your area, go to www.Prepare-Enrich.com or call (800) 331-1661.—*James Stillwell*

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Should SBC give Mickey Mouse a break?

Eight years ago, Southern Baptist Convention messengers overwhelmingly adopted a resolution urging fellow Baptists to boycott The Disney Co.

The 1997 resolution accused the entertainment giant of "increasingly promoting immoral ideologies such as homosexuality, infidelity and adultery, which are biblically reprehensible and abhorrent to God and His plan for the world that He loves."

The SBC action came in the wake of a resolution the previous year that encouraged Baptists "to give serious and prayerful consideration to their purchase and support of Disney products and to boycott Disney Co. stores and theme parks if they continue this anti-Christian and anti-family trend." It also followed a 1996 Disney boycott launched by the American Family Association.

Wiley Drake, a California minister who has been an outspoken proponent of the boycott, said after the 1997 vote, "The world we live in today is not looking for a mamby-pamby bunch of Christians who don't take a stand."

Other conservative groups joined the boycott along the way, including Focus on the Family, Concerned Women for America and the Assemblies of God.

Not everyone bought into the boycott, however. Former SBC President Jim Henry, pastor of First Baptist Church of Orlando, Fla., warned at the time, "The world will hear 'boycott' and (think) that we are against homosexuals. We are against the practice of homosexuality, not against people."

"We should not be removing ourselves from people. We should go to people," Henry declared. "The greatest force in the world is the love of Jesus Christ."

A survey commissioned several months later by Associated Baptist Press found that fewer than one-third of Baptists backed the boycott. Among Southern Baptists surveyed, 14.3 percent said they agreed with the boycott and 15.8 percent strongly agreed. But 26.7 percent said they disagreed with the boycott and 28.2 percent said they strongly disagreed.

Engaging youth in worship

I have seen the video clips several times and a couple of adjectives that young people keep using in reference to church are "boring" and "irrelevant." Those two words keep haunting me.

How did we get here? How did worship of the Almighty God get to be defined in these terms? And if these are the terms the unchurched generation under age 30 use to describe what we hold dear, what steps do we take to turn that around?

John Deere tractor, Purple People Eater and Teletubbies are three answers Nick Sanderfur, pastor of Edgewood Baptist Church in Hopkinsville, has gotten from youth in the past. He occasionally asks students for three words or phrases just before the Sunday morning worship service starts and he will then incorporate those words into his sermon that night. It is one of the ways he is trying to intentionally engage the students during the worship hour. You could here the chuckles from the youth section as one by one he used each word in his sermon.

Churches are incorporating students into worship in a variety of ways. One is by having a couple of students serve in the rotation of ushers. They also can hand out

Richard Land, president of the SBC Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, dismissed the findings as "a joke." He noted that "my mail's running 20 to 1" in favor of the boycott.

Amid the differing perspectives, the SBC's Disney boycott has experienced decreased attention in recent years.

Mark Pinsky, religion writer for the Orlando Sentinel, wrote a book last year titled, "The Gospel According to Disney: Faith, Trust and Pixie Dust." In it, he wrote that the SBC boycott had little impact on Disney although the company's financial fortunes "did decline dramatically" in the late 1990s and early 2000s. While Southern Baptists justifiably took some credit, he added, financial analysts blamed recession, terrorism and sluggish retail sales.

Dwayne Hastings, a spokesman for the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, took issue with Pinsky's conclusions. "Too many

people in my circle made decisions (to avoid Disney products) that it had to have an impact, because my family isn't that unique," Hastings suggested.

Regardless of the boycott's impact, the American Family Association recently announced that it is ending its involvement in the effort. "We feel after nine years of boycotting Disney we have made our point," said AFA President Tim Wildmon.

Citing the departure of Disney chief Michael Eisner; the split between Disney and Miramax films; and Disney's role in the film production of "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" by C.S. Lewis, Wildmon said it is time for the AFA to turn its attention to other issues.

Southern Baptist messengers have the opportunity to take similar action June 21-22 in Nashville. As convention participants focus on the SBC's Empowering Kingdom Growth initiative and President Bobby Welch's "Everyone Can' Kingdom Challenge for Evangelism," this is an ideal time to remind the world—and ourselves—what we're for rather than what we're against.

STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR



Trennis Henderson

YOUTH MINISTRY CORNER



Joe Ball

bulletins and greet visitors. Other options include:

Praise band members. I know not every church is ready for teens on the drum set or playing their guitars in worship, but it has worked for several churches. It is good to see these students feel like they are part of worship instead of spectators.

Prayer and Scripture reading. Not every student will pray out loud or read in public, but these are two simple ways to involve students in the worship experience.

Use current illustrations. George Washington, Martin Luther, Ronald Reagan, disco, VHS tapes, the first space shuttle explosion and the original "Star Wars" are all historic references to students today. There always has been MTV, cable television, personal computers and digital phones in teens' lives. If we are going to engage this generation in worship, we must use at least some illustrations to which they can relate. This is not to say that we cannot use great illustrations from the past, but that should not be all that we use.

Technology is the language of today. From iPods to picture phones and text messaging, today's students are more technology-literate

than any generation before them. They build their own Web sites, post their own blogs and instant message for hours. They are doing PowerPoint presentations for school projects. With all this knowledge, they can be a tremendous asset in running sound systems, helping with technology for the worship service and building and maintaining a church's Web site.

Children's church and nursery workers. Years ago when I was a child, some teens were teaching Sunday school at age 15. It wasn't because they asked to do it or because it was "youth Sunday." It was because they were needed as teachers. Today our students are as capable but seldom are afforded the opportunity.

Soloist, choir members and creative ministries are all opportunities for students to be engaged in worship. Is your sanctuary choir open to students, or is it an "adult choir"? What about your praise team? Are students trained in interpretive movement, puppets, drama and other creative worship expressions? Do they get an opportunity to lead in worship through these creative expressions?

It is not as important how we engage students in worship as it is that we do so. We are about to lose an entire generation.

Joe Ball, a former youth minister at Edgewood Baptist Church in Hopkinsville, is youth strategist for the Kentucky Baptist Convention

Christian author surprised by survey on men's thoughts

Continued from page 1

Referencing Ephesians 5:33, Feldhahn said God knew what He was doing when He told Paul to instruct men to "love their wives" and wives to "respect their husbands."

Obviously, God intends for women to love their husbands, too, Feldhahn said, but demonstrating love comes more naturally to women.

"We're good at that (but) we need to be commanded to unconditionally demonstrate respect to our husband, even if he hasn't earned it that day."

"Taken down a peg" or built up?

Summarizing several of the survey's findings, Feldhahn said, "Most men look so confident, but inside, all day long, they are thinking, 'I'm really not sure I know what I'm doing and I hope no one finds out.'"

Women often assume that men have an inflated view of themselves and should be "taken down a peg."

"But really he's starting below ground level, not from an elevated place." In short, Feldhahn said, men never can hear, "I'm proud of you" too often.

With that perspective, Feldhahn said, it's easier to understand the age-old question of why, when obviously lost, men are loath to ask for directions.

Women view the suggestion: "Why don't you stop and ask directions?" as logical and innocent, she



said. But men hear the same words as: "I don't trust you."

Instead of stressing out about being a few minutes late to a party, Feldhahn suggested women take a deep breath and consider the situation an opportunity to demonstrate trust and support.

Being aware that men have feelings and insecurities "no less legitimate than our own" is key to better communication and understanding between the sexes, she said.

Most of the men surveyed indicated they felt more confident at work than at home. "The only measuring stick he has (at home) is the happiness of his wife," Feldhahn said. "Women need to make sure we aren't poking and pressing on that vulnerability."

The survey also indicated that most men are overwhelmingly preoccupied with the role as provider. A demotion, lapse in employment or other professional disruption is

devastating and a primary reason for depression in men.

"Nearly 100 percent" of the men surveyed say they think of providing for their wives and children "almost all of the time," Feldhahn said. "A husband needs the woman in his life to absolutely affirm him."

Upon reviewing the survey results, "it was no surprise that men want more sex," Feldhahn said. What was a surprise was why. Like many women, she considered it a physical need similar to the need for sleep.

"It really has nothing to do with the physical," she said. "Feeling desired and wanted gives a man a sense of confidence and well-being in other areas."

A man unable to spark sexual desire in his wife tells himself: "I must not be much of a man," Feldhahn said. "It is a very deep form of rejection."

Rethinking romance

Based on interviews, the survey and other research, Feldhahn said there is an "epidemic" of misunderstanding among women about "(this) need that cannot be met any other way. ... Men compare the lack of understanding the importance of this as devastating to them as it would be to us if our husbands stopped talking to us," she told the women.

She encouraged them to "step

out in maturity" to affirm their husbands through sex.

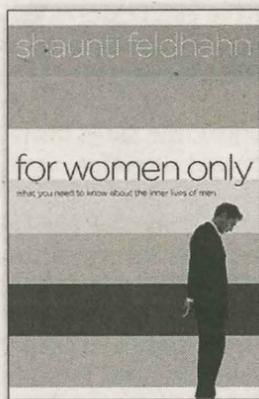
Rethinking romance is helpful too, she said. Candlelight dinners may work for wives, but "guys want to go play. Any kind of togetherness to him is romantic." Begging off a trip to the hardware store to do laundry is akin to him refusing dinner and a movie.

The men surveyed appreciate girlfriends and wives who take care of themselves physically. "It's not about being a size three," Feldhahn emphasized. "It's about our man seeing us make the effort. I was astounded by how passionate men are about this."

Feldhahn said she was brought to tears by men's answers to the question, "What is the one thing you wish the woman in your life knew about you but you feel you can't tell her?"

The overwhelming response: "I wish she knew how much I loved her."

"Guys really do feel handicapped in this way," Feldhahn said. "They want us to believe how much they care for us."



Feldhahn said she was brought to tears by men's answers to the question, "What is the one thing you wish the woman in your life knew about you but you feel you can't tell her?"



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Oneida and parents

Father's Day offering a great time to support this ministry

When I think about Oneida Baptist Institute and its vital Christ-centered ministry to young people and their families, I think about my parents and particularly my father. Father's Day is the occasion around which the Barkley Moore Offering for Oneida is collected in Kentucky Baptist churches throughout the commonwealth. I trust your church will give you the opportunity to participate. If not, feel free to mail your gift directly to OBI, Box 67, Oneida, KY, 40972-0067.

I also think about those who are providing the OBI students Christ-honored leadership on our behalf. President Bud Underwood, his wife, Kay, and those who serve on the faculty and staff truly are our missionaries and live self-sacrificing lives in the cause of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Because OBI is a boarding school, these missionaries assume some parental responsibilities while these students are entrusted to them. They deserve our prayerful and financial support.

I think of the students, many of whom are not Christians when they enroll and many of whom

need to make a fresh start academically, emotionally, socially and spiritually.

Finally, I think of the churches and individuals who constitute the larger family of Kentucky Baptists who embrace this ministry and provide ongoing financial support through the Cooperative Program and Kentucky only gifts to the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

How grateful I am to our Lord for my Christian parents, both of whom are now with the Lord. What a legacy they bequeathed to me as Christian parents. How grateful I am to our Lord also for OBI. What a legacy it continues to bequeath to the students it serves!

I encourage you to remember OBI by giving through this year's Barkley Moore Father's Day Offering. Give thankfully, thoughtfully, generously and cheerfully. Also, let me encourage you prayerfully to consider making OBI an object of a legacy gift from you as another way to perpetuate your Christian legacy through this special ministry. Call Laurie Valentine or me toll-free.

Barry Allen is president of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation, PO Box 436389, Louisville, KY 40253; (888) 254-5701; www.kybaptistfoundation.org

KENTUCKY BAPTIST FOUNDATION



Barry Allen

Kudzu



Doug Marlette

For Heaven's Sake



Mike Morgan

Bible Crosswords

Evelyn Boyington

Across

- 1 "___ no man any thing, but to love one another" (Romans 13:8)
- 4 "His enemy came and sowed tares among the ___" (Matthew 13:25)
- 9 Greek letter
- 12 Benign skin tumor
- 13 "Let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to ___" (James 4:9)
- 15 United ___
- 17 "Woe to them that are at ___ in Zion" (Amos 6:1)
- 18 Actor Buttons
- 19 "Ye shall no more give the people ___ to make brick" (Exodus 5:7)
- 22 Lets go
- 24 Article
- 25 Explorer Johnson
- 28 Preposition
- 29 Warns, ominously
- 31 Exclamations of disappointment
- 32 "Another angel came ... having a golden ___" (Revelation 8:3)
- 34 Rouses, sometimes repeatedly
- 36 Entertaining troops is org.'s forte
- 37 One or the other
- 39 Half an em
- 40 Compass pt.
- 41 By means of
- 42 Acclaimed TV miniseries
- 44 Religion that has a claim in Jerusalem
- 46 Tribe of Israel
- 47 My Name Is ___ (W. Saroyan novel)

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40					41				42		43	
					44				45		46	
47	48	49					50		51			52
53					54	55						56
57					58							59

- 50 "He shall give thee the ___ of thine heart" (Psalm 37:4)
- 53 Those who trust in the Lord find this (Proverbs 16:20)
- 56 Continent (abbr.)
- 57 One that builds hills
- 58 "Shall I go and call to thee a ___ of the Hebrew women?" (Exodus 2:7)
- 59 Within (prefix)
- 14 "What thing is this? what ___ doctrine is this?" (Mark 1:27)
- 16 Creative impulses
- 20 Where Saul abode: in Gibeah under a tree in ___ (1 Samuel 22:6)
- 21 Solution
- 22 Zero in on
- 23 Gets some shut-eye
- 25 "An angel of the Lord ... sat under an ___" (Judges 6:11)
- 26 "This roll ... was in my mouth as honey for ___" (Ezekiel 3:3)
- 27 Organizations (abbr.)
- 30 Israeli politician Sharon
- 33 Not "in a little while"
- 35 Son of Gad (Genesis 46:16)
- 38 ___ Vic's (former restaurant chain)
- 43 Rower
- 44 Mischievous one
- 45 Army repast
- 47 Exclamation of discovery
- 48 Bled, as madras might
- 49 Likely to
- 51 Compass pt.
- 52 ___ Paulo
- 54 Preposition
- 55 Greek letter

Last week's solution

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
H	A	I	R	S		R	A	G	E	S		
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S	W	E	E	T			E	L	D	E	R	

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NATIONAL NOTES

Supreme Court supports prisoners' religious rights. A five-year-old federal statute focusing on the religious freedom of prisoners is constitutional, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled last week. The court unanimously held that the section of the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act (RLUIPA) dealing with prisoners does not violate the First Amendment's Establishment Clause. The statute bars government from limiting the religious liberty of prisoners in federally funded institutions without a compelling reason. "RLUIPA ... protects institutionalized persons who are unable freely to attend to their religious needs and are therefore dependent on the government's permission and accommodation for exercise of their religion," wrote Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg for the court.

Supreme Court to rule on parental notice for abortion. The U.S. Supreme Court has agreed to rule on a state law requiring parental notification when an underage girl seeks an abortion. The high court announced it would review a lower court decision striking down New Hampshire's parental notification law. A three-judge panel of the First Circuit Court of Appeals, in Boston, ruled in November that the law is unconstitutional because it does not contain an exception to protect the health of the mother and its exception for a threat to her life is too narrow.

Fifth state sending marriage amendment to voters. The Texas Senate passed a constitutional marriage amendment May 21, making it the fifth state this year to send such an amendment to voters. The amendment, which would ban both "gay marriage" and civil unions, will go to voters Nov. 8. Four other states—Alabama, South Carolina, South Dakota and Tennessee—will vote on marriage amendments next year. Eighteen states have passed marriage amendments, although Nebraska's was struck down in federal court.

Holman CSB, in first year, ranks No. 5 in sales. The Holman Christian Standard Bible, at the first anniversary of its release, has reached fifth in sales, according to CBA, which tracks Christian book sales. The translation sold approximately 1.5 million full versions in its first year. It ranks in sales behind (in order) the New King James Version, the New International Version, the King James Version and the New Living Translation.

Faithful changing minds on stem cells

By Jeffrey MacDonald
Religion News Service

Johnson City, Tenn. (RNS)—Peggy Willocks describes herself as a conservative, pro-life Christian in "the heart of the Bible Belt," Johnson City, Tenn.

So when she considered embryonic stem cell research two years ago, she found it morally repulsive.

But that view changed, as it has for some other religious Americans.

"I was equating it with killing a child," said Willocks, 54, who now gives talks in support of such research. "I thought of it as grinding up fetuses and all of that, so I didn't want any part of it."

This religious support, or lack of it, could be instrumental as Congress and President Bush grapple with a bill that would expand federal funding of embryonic stem cell research. Bush has pledged to veto such a measure.

A Gallup poll taken in early May found that 60 percent of Americans say medical research involving stem cells from human embryos is "morally acceptable." That's up significantly from May 2002, when 52 percent held that opinion, according to Gallup research.

December 2004 polling data from the Washington-based Pew Research Center for the People and the Press points to a similar trend toward growing support over the past three years.

Although the moral concerns echo those of firmly entrenched factions in the abortion debate, conclusions reached in the stem cell debate are proving far more tenuous, even for people of faith.

In explaining the discrepancy, observers point to American pragmatism. Americans tingle at the prospect of curing previously deadly diseases, they say, and that potential to save lives has a way of making the protection of embryos a concern of lesser importance.

"The hope for medical breakthroughs is outweighing the destruction of embryos," said Carroll Doherty, editor at the Pew Research Center for the People and the Press. "Is there less concern for the embryo? I don't think so. People are just feeling it's worth it" to attain a greater good.

Evangelicals tend to feel stronger about a fetus in a womb than an embryo for several reasons, said David Fletcher, a philosophy professor and chair of the oversight committee for the Center for Applied Christian

Ethics at Wheaton College.

In the abortion debate, he said, personal responsibility is at stake in their concern that "people shouldn't be able to get away with having extramarital sex." But feelings are different, he said, on "the question of what to do with these 400,000 or so embryos sitting in an ice box" and bound to be discarded one day.

Richard Land, president of the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, countered that stored embryos "can be adopted or donated to other couples, and many are."

He warned that legislation expanding funding of embryonic stem cell research "would be taking a step down a very steep and slippery slope that devalues human life."

With additional reporting by Baptist Press

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The perfect fit

Father's Day offering a great time to support Oneida's ministry to students

It is sometimes difficult to find the perfect fit, but when you find it, you know it. When one is trying on a pair of shoes for example, it does not take long to know if they fit really well and are comfortable or if they are too tight or too large. I don't know much about trying on dresses, but I know when a suit, jacket, pants or shirt fits and when it doesn't.

Working with young people is not as simple as trying on a pair of shoes. Often when a student visits our school it is no simple task to tell if we are going to be "a perfect fit." Over the years I have interviewed thousands of students who seemed to be the "perfect fit" for the opportunities Oneida Baptist Institute provides.

"A perfect fit" at Oneida is a wonderful thing to experience. Often after years of frustration, failure or discord, a student finds OBI to be the opportunity needed to turn his life around. Many things contribute to Oneida being the perfect fit. Certainly a caring and understanding faculty and staff is the key to unlocking the doors to a more successful and brighter future. It does not take new students long to realize how much our staff cares about them, though some students have told me they thought the faculty and staff must have some scheme for being so concerned. Staff were just being nice, students say, because they had a secret plan to manipulate them. New students cannot believe our staff love and care for them just as they are and for who they are. There is no grand scheme except to see them succeed and find the happiness that seemingly has eluded them.

THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

It is not uncommon for new students to decide that our faculty and staff only appear to really care about them because they are paid "big bucks" to be here. I have been in the presence of some of those students when they discovered just how little our faculty and staff are paid—an average of less than \$7,000 per year. It is interesting to see the expressions on their faces when they realize that if faculty and staff are not paid a lot to be here, then their motive must be something else.

Often it takes months or even years for some of those students to realize that our reward comes when we see our efforts and the ministry of this school come together to make a perfect fit. That is what makes it all worthwhile. Our students allow us to pour ourselves into them and we get to see the results of lives transformed.

It often takes a little more time for some of our students finally to come to understand that it is because of our desire to serve God and show the love of Jesus that we care for them. It is not an easy concept for a teenager to understand. To be in an environment where things seem to fit together so perfectly when most of life so far has not been a perfect fit can be a bit confusing.

This Father's Day is your opportunity to help Oneida continue to be the perfect fit for thousands of young people who desperately need to know success and happiness.

All of our students receive substantial financial assistance. The Father's Day Offering is your opportunity to help a drifting and frustrated young person experience "a perfect fit."

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

'Affirming our Values—Leaving a Legacy'

Fox leads institutional advancement emphasis

Friday, May 13, was a day of celebration for 1994 alumnus Donnie Fox, dean of institutional advancement. He received the doctor of education degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, concluding three years of study and dissertation writing.

Claude Fox, Donnie's father, a 1948 graduate, was Clear Creek's first fulltime public relations worker and retired in 1964 as assistant to President Aldridge. He represented the school until his death in 1987.

"I came to Clear Creek in 1962 as a three-year-old," Donnie said. "Each time I walk across campus I remember growing up here, playing in the creek or playing football with the 'preacher boys.'"

As dean of institutional advancement, Donnie has responsibility for college relations, admissions and securing financial resources. "More people need to realize it takes \$187,000 a month, or \$6,500 a day for Clear Creek to operate," he stated.

The trustees recently approved a campaign called "Affirming our Values—Leaving a Legacy."

The emphasis seeks to make college constituents aware of Clear Creek's four core values and challenge them to leave a legacy to continue what Drs. Kelly and Aldridge started.

Half of the \$2.07 million campaign goal goes into a student "workshop" endowment with the interest funding campus student employment. "I'm excited about this campaign because of the student work program," Donnie said. "About \$500,000 of our annual budget funds these jobs; without these jobs many students could not continue in school."

The campaign stresses estate gifts. "In God's timing we have received estate gifts that get us over the hump," Donnie stressed. "Last year, it was an unrestricted estate gift that enabled us to close the year in the black. It is estimated that nearly 40 percent of people die without a will. The state has a plan, but each individual needs to have a say in the disposal of his or her property. We hope many more people will use their estate to be sure the Clear Creek legacy continues."

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

CLEAR CREEK
CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

Religious pressure or 'witch hunt'?

Air Force Academy investigating complaints of aggressive evangelism

By Steve Rabey
Religion News Service

Colorado Springs, Colo. (RNS)—There's "a heck of a battle" going on at the Air Force Academy, says legendary football coach Bobby Bowden. The problem is deciding who started it.

Bowden and other evangelicals rallying around the Colorado-based Academy contend opponents are trying to limit their freedom to talk about God. "If you knew the cure for cancer, would you tell somebody or would you keep it a secret?" asked the Florida State coach at a May banquet in Colorado Springs sponsored by the nonprofit group, Fellowship of Christian Athletes. "The problem with us Christians is we won't speak out."

But others say evangelicals in and out of uniform speak out too aggressively at the Academy, creating an environment that Americans United for Separation of Church and State described as "systematic and pervasive religious bias and intolerance at the highest levels of the Academy command structure."

It's a classic battle between evangelical Christians, who say they are commanded to share their beliefs, and people of other faiths or no faith, who say they shouldn't have to tolerate constant proselytizing or harassment.

For now, both sides are waiting for an Air Force task force report later this summer that will address issues of religion at the Academy, which has been the subject of complaints for decades.

"A million examples"

Casey Weinstein is a Jewish graduate of the Academy who says he frequently was subjected to evangelical overkill. He is the son of Mikey Weinstein, an attorney and Academy graduate who has been complaining about the institution's religious practices for years.

It was the spring of 2004 when Cadet First Class Casey Weinstein says he and fellow Academy cadets were exposed to an aggressive promotional campaign for Mel Gibson's movie "The Passion of the Christ."

Promotional flyers were placed on the breakfast plates of all the nearly 4,000 cadets one morning, followed by more flyers on each place setting at lunch and at other meals during the following days. As the cadets ate, images from the film were flashed on cafeteria screens used for official Academy messages. In addition, "Passion" posters hung from walls in offices and dormitories. And mass e-mail messages urged cadets to attend special screenings of the film.

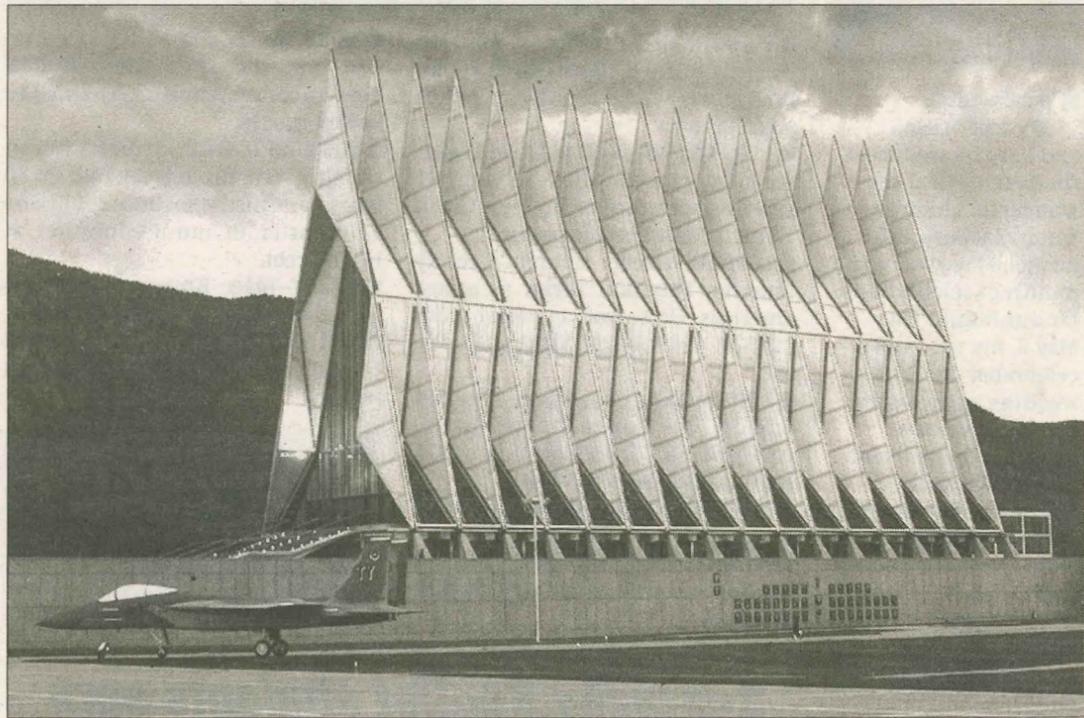
"I could give you a million examples," says Weinstein, now a second lieutenant at the Los Angeles Air Force Base. "There was a large and vocal minority of evangelical Christians who regularly blurred the line between church and state, but there was no system at the Academy to keep that in check."

14 pages of complaints

The Washington-based Americans United for Separation of Church and State, which opposes most government funding of military chaplains and other faith-based activities, recently compiled numerous other complaints in a 14-page report.

It claims evangelical commanders, chaplains and even the football coach aggressively promote their own born-again beliefs, routinely dismiss complaints about religious harassment from cadets, and also make it difficult for those of other faiths or no faith to enjoy the constitutional freedoms the military should be fighting to preserve.

In an interview, AU director Barry Lynn said, "Officials at the Air Force Academy do exercise a



certain amount of control over the academic lives of the cadets, but they should have no control over their spiritual lives."

An executive with Focus in the Family, a conservative Christian organization based in Colorado Springs, described the campaign against evangelicals at the Academy as "a witch hunt." Focus on the Family isn't registered to conduct religious activities on Academy grounds, but other evangelical groups are, including the Navigators, one of many international evangelical organizations with active military ministries.

"Inappropriate" zeal?

"I don't think there's a pervasive or major problem at the Academy," says Jerry White, president emeritus of the Navigators and a former Academy instructor. "If anything, it's a bit of intolerance among the cadets, who are young kids and sometimes say stupid things."

The Navigators got its start working with military members more than 70 years ago. The mission of its U.S. Military Ministry is "to help

reach the nations of the world by multiplying disciples of Jesus Christ in the military."

White, who retired as a major general in the Air Force Reserve, says the Christian tone of many Academy events reflects the beliefs of the majority of its population. And while acknowledging possible episodes of "inappropriate" zeal by some, he says it's evangelicals who have been on the receiving end of most of the religious abuse. "In my 40 years experience with the Academy, it's been people calling evangelicals 'Bible thumpers.'"

Academy critics say they aren't asking evangelicals to give up their beliefs. They're only asking them to express them in ways that acknowledge increasing pluralism of American life.

"Sharing your faith with another is not a problem," says Lynn of Americans United for Separation of Church and State. "But in a hierarchy, when highly placed individuals manipulate a chain-of-command structure to pressure others to adopt their faith, that is a problem."

ACADEMY CHAPEL The Air Force is investigating complaints that chaplains and others at the Academy aggressively promote their born-again beliefs, routinely dismiss complaints about religious harassment from cadets, and make life difficult for those of other faiths or no faith. (Photo courtesy of U.S. Air Force Academy)

Slain missionaries' son envisions redemption for attackers

By Kyle Smith
Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary

Wake Forest, N.C. (BP)—The son of slain Southern Baptist workers Larry and Jean Elliott said he does not hate the people who killed his parents in Iraq last year.

Instead, Scott Elliott desires to see them come to know Christ.

In a recent student commissioning service at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Elliott encouraged a host of missionary families preparing to deploy around the world to love those who don't know Jesus with that same kind of unconditional love.

"Somehow I feel no anger toward those who took my parents' lives," Elliott said.

"Instead, I long for their salvation. They sent my parents home to their homecoming, and yet they face something so horrific. That (love) is the kind of love that God gives ... and that is the love you're

taking to a lost world."

Larry and Jean Elliott were former Southeastern students, with Larry earning a master of divinity degree from the seminary in 1978.

After more than 25 years of service to Honduras, the Elliotts followed God's call to a turbulent and unstable Iraq in 2003.

The Elliotts were killed March 15, 2004, with two other Southern Baptist workers when automatic weapons fire and rocket-propelled grenades struck their vehicle.

Finding a foundation in Matthew 6

"Something that formed a foundation in their lives was Matthew 6:33," Scott Elliott said, quoting the verse, "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

Elliott said his parents "took this as their life verse, and God in His grace enabled them to live that out to His glory."

Despite his parents' murders, Elliott said he remains convinced God's master plan was still in effect that day.

"God completed His mission in my parents' lives," he said. "Only through God's grace and His power were their lives able to be such a testament to Him."

"If we are rooted in the confidence of an eternal, sovereign God, we don't have to understand, but we can trust that all things are working together for good."

Commissioned in the service were 26 international church planters, 21 North American church planters and numerous students and faculty going on short-term mission trips this summer.

Both the International Church Planting and North American Church Planting programs at Southeastern are designed to send students into the mission field for either two or three years to com-

plete the remainder of their degree after two years of training at the seminary's main campus in Wake Forest.

The brainchild of outgoing Great Commission Center director Keith Eitel, Southeastern's International Church Planting program format has been implemented by other seminaries as well.

Elliott said he was encouraged by the sight of students ready to give their lives in the service of the gospel to take it to the ends of the earth. They are part of the same effort for which his parents died, he said.

"It thrills my heart that God's work continues even as Satan tries his hardest to defeat Him. That work never ends," Elliott said. "We know some things don't change, like God's worthiness to be praised in the life of each and every one of us. ... That's what we're here about today, isn't it?"

**HOW TO
BECOME A
CHRISTIAN**

By Dan Ferguson

My wife, Kathi, and I are blessed to be the parents of three wonderful children—Sarah, Zachary and Rachel. May 2005 was a month of celebrations for our family. On May 8, my wife and I celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary. On the same day, Sarah graduated from Eastern Kentucky University. On May 23, Zachary graduated from Christian County High School.

As a father, I am proud of the accomplishments my children have made for living their lives here on earth. Above all, I am proud of the arrangements my children have made for living their lives in eternity.

You see, a good education is important for life here and now, but a personal relationship with God is essential for life hereafter. To have a personal relationship with God, you must do three things:

Admit you are a sinner. According to the Word of God, every good person and every bad person is a sinner (Romans 3:23). As sinners, we are incapable of saving ourselves from our sin and we are totally dependent on God's grace to receive forgiveness of our sin (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Believe that Jesus is God's Son and your Savior (John 1:12-13). You must believe that Jesus paid the penalty for your sin (1 Peter 2:24). You must believe that Jesus is the only way to an eternity with God and an eternity in heaven (John 14:6).

Confess your sin to God and confess Jesus as your Savior and Lord before the world (Romans 10:9-10, Matthew 10:32).

According to the truth of God's Word, if you will follow the ABCs of salvation, you will be a brand new person today, tomorrow and forever (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Dan Ferguson is pastor of Second Baptist Church of Hopkinsville

MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI
COMPILED BY STAFF

■ **CLOVERPORT**—Cloverport Church recently called **Wallace Gooch** as pastor. He has served as interim pastor since January.
■ **LEXINGTON**—**Betty Jo Morgan** recently retired after serving 41 years as secretary of Boone's Creek Church. **Matt Perry** is pastor.
■ **LONDON**—Liberty Church recently honored **Thermon Taylor** as pastor emeritus. He served as pastor from 1975 to 1989. **David Sargent** is pastor.
■ **LOUISVILLE**—Cloverleaf Church will host the **Manna Quartet** in concert June 12, 7 p.m. For more information, call (502) 367-0218.
■ **MARTIN**—**Greydon Howard** recently resigned as pastor of First Church.
■ **MOUNT STERLING**—Reid Village Church recently called **Eric Snyder** as pastor.

■ **SHELBYVILLE**—Clayvillage Church will host the **Lynn Camp Hollow Boys** in concert June 12, 11 a.m. **Lee Bolton** is pastor.
■ **SOMERSET**—High Street Church recently recognized **Steve Hall** for 40 years in ministry, including 13 years as minister of music/education at High Street.
■ **WADDY**—**Marc Knapp** recently resigned as pastor of Waddy Church.
■ **WILLIAMSBURG**—Piney Grove Church recently called **Carl Lee** as pastor.

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.

Kentucky Baptist students earn degrees from Southern Seminary

Louisville—Several students with Kentucky Baptist ties recently earned degrees from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

Graduates, their hometowns and degrees are:

- **Jefferson Calico**, Stanford, master of divinity.
- **Jamie Coomer**, Bowling Green, master of arts in Christian education.
- **Carlos De la Berra**, Louisville, doctor of ministry.
- **Danny Donato**, Paducah, master of divinity.
- **Christopher Downing**, Calvert City, master of arts in Christian education.
- **Tim Elliott**, Lexington, master of divinity.
- **Matthew Ellis**, Princeton, master of divinity.
- **Donnie Fox**, Pineville, doctor of education.
- **Randall Fryar**, Louisville, master of arts in theological studies.
- **Luckner Jean-Marie**, Louisville,

master of divinity in Christian education.

■ **Kenneth Jewell**, Louisville, master of divinity in pastoral counseling.

■ **Travis Kaiser**, Louisville, master of divinity.

■ **Brian Martin**, Central City, master of divinity.

■ **Kevin Milburn**, Danville, master of divinity.

■ **Laurice Rogers**, Louisville, doctor of philosophy.

■ **Allen Rucker**, Pleasureville, master of divinity.

■ **Dustin Schadt**, Louisville, master of divinity.

■ **Josh Sherwood**, Louisville, master of divinity.

■ **Jeremy Thomas**, Elizabethtown, master of divinity.

■ **Maria Trascritti**, Simpsonville, master of arts in Christian counseling.

■ **Suzanne Watson**, Lexington, master of divinity.

■ **Thomas Weakley**, Utica, doctor of education.

KBC KENTUCKY BAPTIST CONVENTION **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

June

- 11 Adults on Mission Rally, First Baptist Church, Sonora.
- 11 Church Library Ministry Workshop, Baptist Building, Louisville.
- 11 Church Weekday Education Workshop, Porter Memorial Baptist Church, Lexington.
- 11 Technical Ministries Conference, Crestwood Baptist Church, Crestwood.
- 11-18 Kentucky Changers, Benton.
- 13-17 Discovery Youth Camps, Cedarmore Baptist Conference Center.
- 13-17 Mission Adventure Camp for Boys, Campbellsville University.
- 13-17 Mission Adventure Camp for Girls, Cedar Crest.
- 17-18 Mission Adventure Camp for Boys, Father/Son Overnight, Campbellsville University.
- 17-18 Mother/Daughter Overnight, Cedar Crest.

- 18 Church Weekday Early Education Workshop, First Baptist Church, Bowling Green.
- 19-26 All-State Youth Choir & Orchestra Tour, Georgetown College.
- 20-24 Discovery Youth Camps, Cedarmore Baptist Conference Center.
- 20-24 Mission Adventure Camp for Boys, Campbellsville University.
- 20-24 Mission Adventure Camp for Girls, Cedar Crest.
- 24-25 Acteens Splash, Jonathan Creek.
- 24-25 English as a Second Language Workshop, Bashford Manor Baptist Church, Louisville.
- 24-25 GA Overnight, Jonathan Creek.
- 24-25 Mission Adventure Camp for Boys, Father/Son Overnight, Campbellsville University.
- 24-25 Mother/Daughter Overnight, Cedar Crest.
- 25-July 2 Kentucky Changers, Lawrenceburg.

For more information, call (800) 266-6477 or visit www.kybaptist.org

Kentuckians appointed by IMB

Midland, Texas—Three people with Kentucky ties were among 116 people appointed as missionaries May 20 by the Southern Baptist International Mission Board.

Tim and Cathy Matheny will serve in Europe in the areas of community outreach, development and ministry. Jimmy Shaw will serve in Africa as an evangelist/church planter.

Matheny is a graduate of William Carey College in Hattiesburg, Miss., and the University of Louisville. A former minister of youth at Gano Avenue Baptist Church in Georgetown, he also has served as minister to students at a church in Florida and is chairman of the theatre department at Wil-



Tim Matheny



Cathy Matheny



Jimmy Shaw

liam Carey College. Mrs. Matheny is a graduate of Lexington Community College and also attended William Carey College. The Mathenys have two children, Hudson Grant and Caroline Grace.

Shaw, a native of Glasgow, is a graduate of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College in Pineville. He also attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. He has worked as an accountant and in other positions in Glasgow, Scottsville and Pineville.

CLASSIFIED ADS

AVAILABLE: Magnify Quartet—men's 4-part harmony gospel music, live musicians—seeks to magnify the precious name of Jesus everywhere! Appearing June 9-10 at Fan Fair, Nashville. Call toll-free: (877) 409-3764. www.magnifyquartet.com.

AVAILABLE: Ordained SBC minister for pulpit supply and/or interim pastor. Call (859) 393-4154 or e-mail betcobb@yahoo.com.

BOOKS: We buy quality used Christian books. Narrow Path Bookstore, 1829 Bardstown Road, Louisville, Ky. (502) 459-4001.

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 Mexico Road, Marion, KY 42064, Attn: Brent Highfil, or call (270) 965-2149. turnerchandler@hotmail.com.

SEEKING: Full-time pastor, New Salem Baptist Church. Send resumé to New Salem Baptist Church, 632 New Salem Church Road, Vine Grove, KY 40175-9611.

SEEKING: Part-time worship leader for rural church near Frankfort, Ky., to work with pastor in planning worship utilizing choir, congregation and praise team. Send resumé to: North Fork Baptist Church, 3660 Rocky Branch Road, Frankfort, KY 40601; or e-mail to: tstratton79@hotmail.com.

SEEKING: Part-time church secretary for Southminster Baptist Church to handle the day-to-day activities in a church office: assist the pastor; direct incoming calls; maintain bulletin and newsletter publications; maintain weekly deposit records and contributions to the church. Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. (flexible). Valley Station area. Call for interview: (502) 933-2761.

SEEKING: Interim pastor for Parkway Baptist Church, Lexington, Ky. Send resumé and tape or video to: Deacons, Parkway Baptist Church, 1915 N Broadway, Lexington, KY 40505.

SEEKING: Full-time pastor for Parkway Baptist Church in Lexington, Ky. Send resumé, belief statement and philosophy of ministry to: Search Committee, Parkway Baptist Church, 1915 N Broadway, Lexington, KY 40505.

SEEKING: Full-time pastor for East Cumberland Avenue Baptist Church, located in Middlesboro near the entrance to historic Cumberland Gap National Park in southeastern Kentucky. ECABC averages 125-150 in morning worship; we are a mission-minded church ready to grow. Send resumé and related information to: Pastor Search Committee, East Cumberland Avenue Baptist Church, PO Box 1332, Middlesboro, KY 40965.

SEEKING: Pastor for Corinth Baptist Church, Corinth, Ky. Send resumé to Corinth Baptist Church, PO Box 38, Corinth, KY 41010.

SEEKING: Minister of discipleship/outreach for growing suburban church w/500+ in Sunday school. Send resumé to: Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 3223 N Gallagher Road, Dover, FL 33527.

SEEKING: Campbellsville University is currently seeking both male and female resident hall directors. These are full-time, live-in positions with benefits and many opportunities for ministry. If interested, contact Mary Clark at (800) 264-6014, or send resumé to: Mary Clark, UPO 1302, Campbellsville University, 1 University Drive, Campbellsville, KY 42718.

SERVICES: Christian long distance at 3.9¢/minute (24/7); no monthly service charge. Toll-free: (866) 587-8346 or www.covenantphoneservice.com.

Our fast-changing world

Missions strategist: Massive migrations alter world where Christians minister

By Marv Knox
Texas Baptist Standard

Dallas (ABP)—Christians must minister in a world where escalating change is speeded up by the “migration” of everything from people to technology, missions strategist Bill O’Brien insisted.

“We live in a world where accelerating change is the norm,” O’Brien told participants at a briefing sponsored by Greater Good Global Support Services at the WorldconneX offices in Dallas.

“That kind of change brings all kinds of radical discontinuities,” he said. “We’re in the age of the science of chaos. ... Is there a way to get our heads, our hearts, our hands around this kind of world? Is there any way to bring some integratedness?”

O’Brien, a former missionary to Indonesia, was executive vice president of the former Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board and founding director of the Global Center at Samford University’s Beeson Divinity School. He and his wife, Dellanna, retired executive director of the national Woman’s Missionary Union, now operate Bellmitra Associates, a strategy-consulting firm in Frisco, Texas.

WorldconneX is the Baptist General Convention of Texas’ new missions network. Greater Good Global Support Services is a non-profit organization created to provide logistical, troubleshooting and communications support to people “living or traveling in cultures other than their own” and to help people who “invest their lives in overseas humanitarian and other greater good work.”

O’Brien presented a view of the world “as seen through the lens of various kinds of migration.” Those migrations include:

People

The United Nations High Commissioner on Refugees estimates 23 million refugees have fled their own countries, he said. In addition, about 27 million others are displaced within their native lands.

Political unrest is the prime mover of refugees, he acknowledged. Floods, earthquakes and volcanoes create environmental

refugees. Global economics also contributes to the problem.

But refugees account for only about half the world’s people migration, he added.

“At any point, over 100 million people are in migration—half of them internationally for business and education. We’re seeing whole families picking up. And it’s affecting everything as never before.”

Information

“The speed (of information) is unbelievable,” he said. “A single optic fiber can move about 3 billion bits per second. At that rate, you can download the entire Library of Congress in 48 seconds.”

Control of information creates power, and that power is multiplied by the speed of information migration, he said.

“All of this is affecting the global economic situation. It’s affecting everything,” he said.

For example, the migration of information is closely linked to the migration of money, since information is the key to exchanging currency electronically.

And the migration of information/money fuels the migration of people, he added. In one year, Hispanics living in the United States sent \$30 billion back to their families in Latin America.

Disease

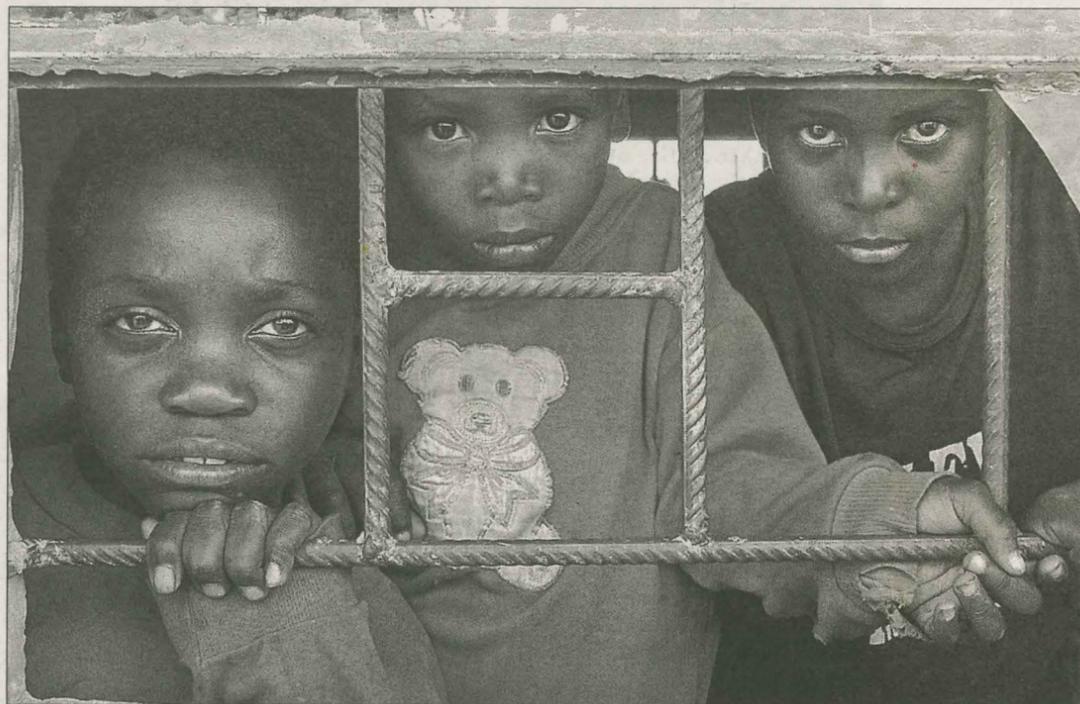
O’Brien pointed to an array of diseases circling the globe.

For example, tuberculosis broke out in Russian prisons. Families took food to the prisoners, contracted the airborne disease and spread it throughout Eastern Europe. But an ocean isn’t wide enough to protect the United States, where the disease arrives on airplanes, as well as cruise and transport ships.

So, 300 million new cases of multi-drug-resistant tuberculosis were reported in just one year. The disease takes the life of one child every 30 seconds and kills 1 million people a year.

Globally, 40 million people are infected with HIV/AIDS. That includes 5.1 million cases in India and 5 million new cases in South Africa.

“It is not just affecting individuals, families and communities,”



O’Brien said. “It now becomes a major topic in the war rooms of the Pentagon and the State Department. Why? Every category of work is being affected—police, security forces, teachers.”

Technology

Nanotechnology is “the marriage of chemistry and engineering,” he said. “We’re learning how to manipulate atoms and molecules. ... A nanorobot will be able to work in your arteries and clean out your cholesterol.”

The possibilities of nanotechnology could dwarf the strides made during the Industrial Revolution, he added.

“It’s going to create mechanisms and things very cheaply, just like the copier reproduces information. When it hits full-force—if we’re worried about unemployment now, just think what kind of radical discontinuity and unrest will be created by all of that.”

Biotechnology and the Human Genome Project offer the hope of wiping out diseases and rehabilitating damaged genes, he said.

“But there are a lot of ethical issues that come along with that.”

For example, some companies want to patent genes, which would give them absolute control over some medical functions. One company has patented a high-productivity seed that self-destructs after one year. “Farmers in the developing world are dependent upon (leftover) seeds,” he said, noting the cost of buying seed every year would hurt the incomes of farmers the world over.

Victimization of poverty

The World Bank defines “absolute poverty” as living on less than \$1 per day. That encompasses 1.3 billion people, or about 22 percent of the world’s population, O’Brien reported.

“Upwards of 60 percent of the poor are women and children,” he said. “The most-affected people in refugee camps are children, unattended minors, child soldiers, widows, the handicapped, the mentally retarded and elderly people living alone.”

Child soldiers

“There are 300,000 child soldiers—anybody younger than 15, and many 9 and 10 and as young as 6—and 200,000 of them live in Africa,” he said.

The Liberian foreign minister estimates his country is home to 20,000 child soldiers, O’Brien said. The minister asked for help from the United Nations and the U.S. State Department, “and he didn’t get a dime from either.”

Arms sales.

“In 2000, the United States sold \$18.6 billion worth of arms, including \$12 billion to developing countries,” O’Brien said.

The five member nations of the UN Security Council sold 80 percent of the world’s weapons in 2003, he said, pointing out the widespread distribution of arms has fostered tribalism and empowered ethnic warfare around the planet.

“At any given moment, there are about 30 wars raging,” he said, noting very few of them cross geopolitical boundaries.

Terrorism

The spread of global terrorism is closely associated with arms sales, O’Brien said. “Some of the people we were arming and training in the late ’80s are the very people who are now aiming those arms back at us.”

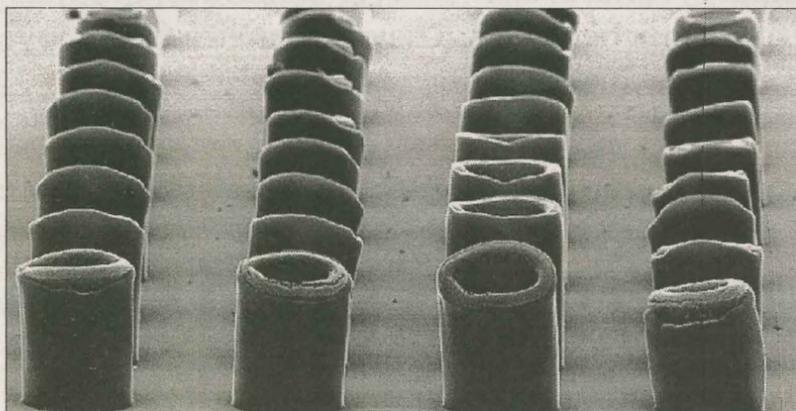
All the migrations present concerned Christians with a “reality check,” O’Brien said.

“What we’re seeing with this global migration is the transmigration of contexts,” he said, explaining that the situation virtually any place on the planet is more pluralistic and ever-changing than people could have imagined just a few years ago.

“This generation is probably one of the most spiritual generations we’ve had in a long time. The twentysomethings are searching for meaning and purpose. They may turn to any number of sources to get it. ...

“How can we integrate all of this (migration) in a way that can lead us through this maze?” he asked. “That is the question I put in your hands.”

AIDS ORPHANS Children peer from a shattered window at the Upeme orphanage in Kamaila, Zambia. The orphanage provides the barest of necessities to 220 children, many of whom have lost parents to AIDS. The rapid spread of disease is among several major changes affecting the world and how Christians minister in it, according to missions strategist Bill O’Brien. (RNS photo by Bernard Troncale)



NANOTECHNOLOGY These carbon nanotubes are only 1/1,000th the width of a human hair, yet 100 times as strong as steel and can conduct heat and electricity far better than other carbon-based materials. Such scientific gains could radically change health and work, but other ethical issues will result, according to missions strategist Bill O’Brien. (RNS photo courtesy of NASA Ames Center for Nanotechnology)

Oneida Baptist Institute



The Perfect Fit



Young people often come to Oneida Baptist Institute needing to fit in academically, emotionally or socially. Many enroll because they are having difficulties in school. Our smaller classes, required nightly study hall, and caring teachers can give them the boost they need. Eighty percent of OBI's students come from broken or single parent homes. They need a stable and structured environment where adults can nurture them and prepare them for the future. They can find that place at Oneida. Our students come from all sorts of religious, cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds. Often teens who simply didn't fit in at their previous schools find a special niche at OBI. They experience God's love firsthand through caring, Christian faculty and staff. Many come to Christ each year at Oneida.

Would you like to learn more about us?

Oneida Baptist Institute



Education for Time and Eternity

PO Box 67, Oneida, Kentucky 40972
Phone: 606-847-4111 Fax: 606-847-4496
Web site: www.oneidaschool.org