



# WESTERN RECORDER

June 14, 2005  
Vol. 179, No. 24



Oneida Baptist Institute  
Father's Day Offering  
See insert

## FOR THE RECORD

**Kentucky**  
Mentoring program helps couples prepare for marriage. *Page 3.*

**Editorial**  
Father's Day reflections: from playhouse to empty nest. *Page 5.*

**Family Forum**  
A successful marriage takes work. *Page 5.*

**Northern Kentucky**  
Pastor charged with misusing church funds. *Page 6.*

**Nation**  
Warren, Graham urge U.S. evangelicals to fight global poverty. *Page 8.*

**Books**  
"Experiencing God" authors mark Bible study's 15th anniversary. *Page 9.*

## Poll finds most Americans favor restrictions on indecent media

Washington (RNS)—Seventy-five percent of Americans favor enforcement of government restrictions on television content during hours when children are most likely to be watching, a new survey has found.

"New Concerns About Internet and Reality Shows" was released this spring by the Pew Research Center for the People and the Press. The survey interviewed 1,505 adults March 17-21 and has a margin of error of plus-or-minus 3 percentage points.

In addition to favoring restrictions on television during prime child-viewing hours, 69 percent of those surveyed supported steeper fines for indecent network programming. Sixty percent favored extending the same rules to cable television stations.

Americans also largely agreed that parents are primarily responsible for keeping explicit or offensive content away from their children.

The survey found a "tug of war" in public opinion, however.

Forty-eight percent of those surveyed see a significant danger in the government imposing restrictions on the entertainment industry, compared to 41 percent who say that harmful content is the greater danger.

This divide follows political and religious lines. Fifty-seven percent of those who identify themselves as conservative Republicans feel the entertainment industry is a greater danger, whereas 72 percent of liberal Democrats say that excessive government restrictions are the more pressing concern.

Fifty-one percent of white evangelical Protestants object to the entertainment industry more than the government initiatives, compared to only 27 percent of "secular" Americans.

A majority—68 percent—agree that children's exposure to sex and violence on television gives them "the wrong idea" about what's permissible in society.

The survey was released in the midst of an ongoing, and often heated, debate about proposals before Congress that would further involve government in enforcing decency standards in the media.

# Saving marriages

## Kentucky groups seek to help couples stay together

By Ken Walker  
State Correspondent

Lexington—After three couples in his church divorced in the late 1990s, Richard Gaines decided he had to do something about it.

"When you know the people involved, it becomes personal," said Gaines, pastor of Consolidated Baptist Church in Lexington. "I heard one (ex-wife and) mother say recently, 'If I had any idea it was going to be this painful, I wouldn't have done it.'"

That adversity prompted Gaines to start a marriage ministry in the Lexington congregation, including a monthly Bible study and fellowship for married couples.

Last January the church hosted a citywide "marriage tune-up" with speakers Jeff and Debby McElroy. This summer Consolidated will sponsor a weekend couples' retreat in Louisville.

Gaines also recently preached a sermon series on family. He said many couples are ignorant about what God requires of spouses and about such concepts as mutual submission, respect and love.

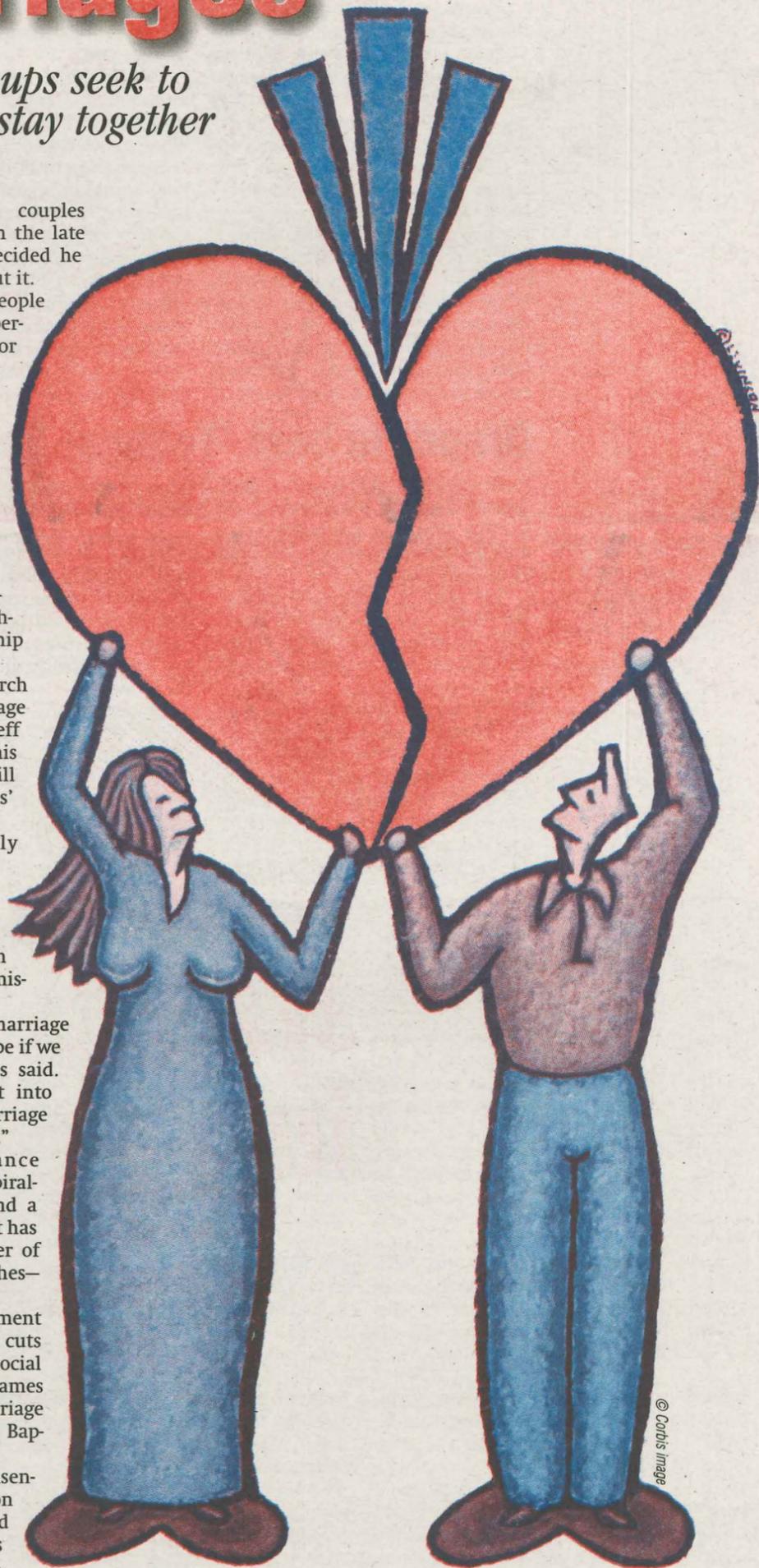
"God has a picture of marriage and how beautiful it can be if we understand Him," Gaines said. "The church has bought into the societal version of marriage versus what God says it is."

The desire to enhance matrimony and stem a spiraling divorce rate is behind a grassroots movement that has spread through a number of Kentucky Baptist churches—and beyond.

Nationally, the movement to strengthen marriages cuts across religious and social boundaries, according to James Stillwell, who directs marriage enrichment at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington.

"I think there's a consensus across a lot of lines on marriage experience," said Stillwell, who also writes for the Western Recorder's Family Forum column.

□ See Kentucky grassroots ... *Page 3*



Dated material. Please deliver by Wednesday, June 15

**Southern Baptists gave more than \$133.8 million to the 2004 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. The amount fell just short of the previous year's record of \$136 million and also was short of the 2004 goal of \$150 million.**

## IMB's Lottie Moon gifts top \$133 million

By Shawn Hendricks  
SBC International Mission Board

Richmond, Va. (BP)—After a year when Lottie Moon Christmas Offering giving shattered old records, Southern Baptists raised nearly that amount again by giving almost \$134 million to overseas missions.

When the books closed on the 2004 offering May 31, Southern Baptists had given \$133,886,221.58. The amount fell just short of the previous year's \$136 million total and also was short of the \$150 million goal.

### Second-largest total in history

Despite the shortfall, it was the offering's second-largest total in its 115-year history. Southern Baptists also gave more than \$16.3 million to relief efforts after a tsunami struck parts of southern Asia and the Pacific Rim regions Dec. 26, 2004.

"We are overwhelmed with this testimony of Southern Baptists' heart for missions and desire to reach our world for Jesus Christ," said Jerry Rankin, president of the Southern Baptist International Mission Board. "We were able to remove restrictions on the number of missionaries being appointed after the record offering (in 2003) but were concerned about whether

or not that level of support would be sustained.

"While the slight reduction in the amount given does not enable us to move forward as much as we had anticipated, we will stretch the dollars and do all we can to use it to push the edge of lostness."

Wanda Lee, executive director of national Woman's Missionary Union, also commended Southern Baptists for their sacrificial giving in support of international missions.

"As local churches strengthen their focus on missions, it is exciting to see an increasing number of Christians grow in their understanding that the Great Commission is a personal mandate to each one of us," Lee said.

"In her final address in 1938, former WMU leader Annie Armstrong said, 'After the study of the Word comes the study of the fields. Then people pray, then they give.' Her words still hold true today," Lee said. "Developing a worldview through strong and thriving missions programs and initiatives is vital in Baptist churches. Through increased knowledge and awareness of the needs around our world, we can pray more effectively and will be convicted to financially and prayerfully support those who are called to

full-time missions."

In 2003, IMB officials reported that some missionaries were not able to go to the field because there were not enough funds to send them. That year, churches responded to the need by increasing their Lottie Moon Christmas Offering amount by 18 percent—the largest dollar increase in the offering's history.

### Missionary force reaches 5,225

That response has helped remove restrictions and slowly increased the number of missionaries to 5,225 as of the end of May. David Steverson, IMB treasurer, said Southern Baptists again showed their desire to spread the gospel throughout the world.

"Even after an 18 percent increase in (the 2003) Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, Southern Baptists again responded well in 2004 with only a slight decline over the previous year's record offering," he said.

Gordon Fort, IMB vice president for overseas operations, noted, "When over 50 percent of our budget comes from this annual free-will offering, we cannot adequately state the potential global impact it will have on reaching a lost world for Jesus Christ."

## Draper to host 'Younger Leaders Summit' June 19

Nashville (BP)—The "Younger Leaders Summit 2005," hosted by LifeWay Christian Resources President James Draper, will be held June 19 in Nashville.

The summit begins at 2 p.m. at the Global Café in downtown Nashville. Adam Greenway, pastor of the Church at Andover in Lexington, will be among the featured speakers.

"I'm very excited about the way the program has come together," Draper said. "We've invested a lot of effort over the past 12 months raising the awareness of our convention to make a place at the denominational table for younger leaders. I've encouraged younger leaders to

get involved and bring to bear their energy and creativity.

"I believe that what we have scheduled for the 19th is a strong step toward getting us to where we'd like to go," he said, "and that is ultimately toward being a denomination that uses various creative methods to reach all people with the gospel."

Draper, who voiced concern at last year's SBC annual meeting about younger leaders' lack of involvement in the convention, has held several face-to-face dialogue sessions in recent months with younger leaders in several states.

Draper said the dialogue sessions

have had a direct impact on LifeWay, adding that he will announce on June 19 several commitments LifeWay will make as a result.

"One of our goals as a ministry partner is to provide individuals and churches with the resources they need to spiritually impact the culture around them," he said. "We have already begun to implement some of what we heard and we are making a commitment to younger leaders that we will continue listening to them and find ways to involve them."

Registration information for next week's summit is available at [www.lifeway.com/youngerleaders](http://www.lifeway.com/youngerleaders).

## BAPTIST DIGEST

### WMU to launch social work network.

National Woman's Missionary Union has announced plans to facilitate the launch of a new network for seminary graduates in Christian social ministries and church social work. "The purpose of this network is to help re-establish and support the Baptist culture of church social work," said Wanda Lee, national WMU executive director. "Those who have been called to work in church social ministries will be affirmed and encouraged as they connect with others who share their passion for service." Partnering with Baptist educational institutions, the Church Social Work Network will provide social work practitioners with opportunities for professional development networking, and fellowship.

### Spanish-language social work expanding.

Three Baptist entities in Texas are teaming up to help train Spanish-speaking Christian social workers. Baptist University of the Americas will develop a minor in social work. Buckner Baptist Benevolences will provide staff member Patty Villareal to the historically Hispanic school in San Antonio, Texas. And Baylor University's School of So-

cial Work will make available consultation and faculty exchange. Long-term plans call for Baptist University of the Americas to develop a bachelor's degree in social work.

### Texas plan reduces Executive Board size.

The Baptist General Convention of Texas' Executive Board has approved revised bylaws that would reduce the board's size by more than half. Messengers to the BGCT annual meeting Nov. 7-8 in Austin will vote on the amended bylaws—part of an overall reorganization process in the convention. Currently, each of the BGCT's 114 associations has at least one member on the 234-member Executive Board. The new system divides the state into 30 sectors, with each sector having three board members.

### Draper's weblog changes addresses.

LifeWay Christian Resources President James Draper launched a new weblog June 1 on [www.lifeway.com/youngerleaders](http://www.lifeway.com/youngerleaders), LifeWay's younger leaders webpage. Draper cited the response to his original blog, posted at [www.Crosswalk.com](http://www.Crosswalk.com), as the reason for the change. Draper said he received e-mails

from several readers of his Crosswalk.com blog and felt there were comments that should have been available for public viewing, which many blogs allow. A comments feature was not available through Crosswalk. "I now realize I need to provide that avenue for comments," he noted.

### Southern names interim women's leader.

Jaye Martin has been named interim director of women's ministry programs at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. Martin, who serves as women's evangelism strategist for the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board, is the creator of the HeartCall women's evangelism program. She will continue at NAMB in addition to her duties at Southern Seminary.

### Hill to head moderate Missouri group.

Jim Hill, former executive director of the Missouri Baptist Convention, has been named executive director of the moderate Baptist General Convention of Missouri. Hill, who was named interim executive director of the new convention last year, will continue to serve part-time.

## Church leaves SBC over Koran sign controversy

Forest City, N.C. (ABP)—The church that received national media attention last month for a sign that said the Muslim holy book should be flushed has withdrawn from the Southern Baptist Convention.

Members of Danieltown Baptist Church in Forest City, N.C., also voted to leave the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and Sandy Run Baptist Association.

Creighton Lovelace, the church's pastor, said the June 5 vote to become an independent Baptist church was unanimous. About 22 people—a typical number for the small church—attended the regular monthly business meeting in which the vote took place, he said.

Lovelace's sign had read, "The Koran needs to be flushed!"

It was an apparent reference to a now-retracted Newsweek article claiming an American guard at the Guantanamo Bay detention center in Cuba had defaced scriptures down a commode.

Although Newsweek retracted the story when its source backed away from the claim, Pentagon officials admitted May 26 that an investigation had uncovered intentional mistreatment of the Koran at the hands of American personnel.

As for Lovelace's sign, an American Muslim civil-rights group first brought it to national attention May 23. Soon, other civic and religious leaders, including SBC Executive Committee President Morris Chapman, were criticizing the sign.

Noting that he now realizes how "offensive" his actions were, Lovelace said in a written statement, "I apologize for posting that message and deeply regret that it has offended so many in the Muslim community."

Lovelace said the church pulled out of the SBC and other denominational organizations for several reasons. Some members indicated a desire that the church become independent before the sign controversy, he said. Meanwhile, according to Lovelace, some raised concerns that the controversy could endanger Southern Baptist missionaries serving in majority-Muslim countries.

Church members also had read weblog entries by Tony Cartledge, editor of North Carolina Baptists' newspaper, which Lovelace described as "scathing" in their opposition to the church and to him.

The church's message, "like a roadside bomb, seems carefully calculated to cause pain and outrage," Cartledge wrote. If the sign's purpose was "to point anyone toward the love of God as revealed in Christ," he added, "it has miserably failed."

## Mentoring sessions help couples prepare for marriage

By Ken Walker  
State Correspondent

Crestwood—Brandi and Joseph Corbett had dated for nine years before their wedding last Saturday, but it wasn't until they took a premarital mentoring series that they learned how to fight fair and communicate better.

"I knew I interrupted him a lot, but I didn't know it bothered him so much," Brandi Corbett said. "This gave us a chance to reflect about things to make sure we were on the same page. ... You take things for granted."

Meeting eight times with mentors B.I. and Debbie Houston, the future newlyweds reviewed the FOCCUS inventory (the acronym stands for "Facilitating Open Couple Communication Understanding Study.")

"We learned a lot of things, such as our communication struggles," Mrs. Corbett said.

She said she also appreciated the realistic perspective the sessions provided, and the practical information they received that will help them deal with inevitable marital disagreements.

Because they already had discussed such issues as money, children and family, the couple knew they were compatible, as reflected



**MARRIAGE MENTORS** Mark and Judy Brockman, two of nine marriage mentors at Crestwood Baptist Church in Crestwood, talk with Janette Patterson and her fiancé Brad Hicks. The church strongly encourages couples to take six to eight mentoring sessions before their wedding.

in the high scores they registered on the FOCCUS inventory.

Still, Mrs. Corbett said, there was value in discussing them further in the mentoring sessions.

Both newlyweds came from families that experienced divorce, something they hope to avoid.

### "Absolutely critical"

Still, if the church had not required them to participate in premarital counseling, she said they probably wouldn't have done it.

"But after the fact, we're glad we had to do it. I think it's absolutely

critical for couples who haven't dated that long."

Its premarital program is only one aspect of Crestwood Baptist Church's marriage ministry, which started in 2002 under the direction of David and Penny Hudson.

Mrs. Hudson said Crestwood offers an annual marriage enrichment event, Bible studies and workshops devoted to marital topics. Half a dozen small groups meet monthly for marriage-related activities.

The church hopes to obtain its certification soon as a Marriage Savers church.

Mrs. Hudson helped coordinate an early May kickoff meeting for Oldham County pastors, with the goal of writing a community marriage policy by this fall.

The Crestwood resident said the church's ministry has succeeded, particularly its premarital mentoring, which includes a follow-up session six months after the wedding. None of the couples who completed the sessions has divorced, she said.

In addition to the church's ministry, last fall the Hudsons opened the Marriage Education Resource Center in LaGrange.

In addition to monthly 90-minute workshops, the center maintains a resource library with marriage-related materials available to the public.

One of the center's objectives is to provide help for smaller churches who don't have the resources or may conduct only one or two weddings annually, Mrs. Hudson said.

"Part of this is an outreach effort," Mrs. Hudson said. "If they will call us and we have someone trained, we will mentor the couple."

"We're trying to train mentors at other churches, too. Most people agree they will be open to help smaller churches with mentoring. Hopefully, word of mouth will travel."

**"After the fact, we're glad we had to do it."**

Brandi Corbett, marriage mentoring participant

## Kentucky grassroots efforts help families strengthen marriages

Continued from page 1

"It's definitely not coming from the top down in the church world. It's coming from the marriage-education movement.

"People want to bring the divorce rate down," he added. "It's also about strengthening people's marriages. It has to be a positive movement rather than a negative one."

It also comes as the Kentucky Baptist Convention has shifted its marriage support strategy. Although Karl Babb still oversees marriage ministry, the KBC's family ministry department is gone.

"We're working with associations and grassroots efforts taking place and we're providing churches leadership training and consulting," said Babb, who now directs the convention's leadership development team.

As a result, the KBC no longer sponsors an annual fall marriage conference, although last year it helped coordinate regional meetings in Richmond and Owensboro.

This spring it worked on another with Crittenden Baptist Association and is helping plan one for next October at Campbellsville Baptist Church.

The convention also maintains a Web-based roster of couples available to speak on marriage issues. A booklet of marriage ministry ideas and other resources can be downloaded there as well.

Babb is a member of the Commonwealth Marriage Initiative Task Force, chaired by John Chowning of Campbellsville University.

Composed of several dozen representatives from a variety of academic, legislative, community and religious groups, the task force is studying public policy initiatives that might strengthen marriages.

Chowning said it has looked at a marriage initiative in Oklahoma and legislative models in other states that use financial incentives to encourage couples to obtain premarital counseling.

The three-year-old group has not yet advocated specific legislation, but it is urging the Kentucky legislature to pass a resolution authorizing a study of all state policies affecting marriage.

"We believe what the government is doing or not doing affects marriage," Chowning said, referring to tax policies and government programs. "We're asking: Are there ways we can create more marriage education in public schools? Can we encourage school systems on curriculum about relationship building and marriage preparation?"

The task force also is examining the role of faith communities in meeting these objectives, Chowning said.

### Marriage Savers

Stillwell said Christians already have a vital role, particularly through Marriage Savers, which he called the movement's most prominent faith-based element.

Started by Michael McManus, Marriage Savers has been adopted in several Kentucky communities. Through this program, pastors from various backgrounds form a community-wide covenant agreeing not to marry couples unless they attend at least four premarital counseling sessions.

McManus also advocates ongoing assistance, such as marriage enrichment workshops, counseling for troubled marriages and programs to help stepfamilies.

"His idea is that there needs to

be something at every level of life, with the biggest emphasis on premarital counseling and mentoring part of life," Stillwell said.

Immanuel was one of about 100 Lexington-area churches that signed the Marriage Savers covenant eight years ago.

Since then, Immanuel has developed various marriage enrichment activities, including premarital counseling and an annual marriage education conference.

In 2003-04 it hosted a 10-month program based on authors David and Claudia Arp's "Ten Great Dates"; Stillwell hopes to resurrect that initiative this fall.

The church has partnered with Calvary Baptist and Trinity Baptist churches to support the Interfaith Counseling Center, located at Calvary. The center offers marital counseling at reduced rates to church members who need it.

Through the years, Stillwell has counseled 144 couples using the "Prepare-Enrich" premarital education program. Half a dozen decided against marrying after considering potential conflicts, he added.

"When couples begin to look at this stuff and see they're not ready, that is a victory," Stillwell said. "That is divorce prevention."

### Trouble tracking progress

But Sherry Hendricks, the volunteer coordinator for Marriage Savers in Kentucky, said a drawback to its grassroots nature is the difficulty of tracking its progress.

Hendricks said she doesn't know how active churches in Louisville, Lexington, Owensboro and Hardin County are supporting policies drafted in the past.

"It's difficult to keep going if you don't have paid staff to keep

up with it," said Hendricks, who with her husband, Gary, has been working with the organization since 1993. "Now we're more concentrated in helping communities start marriage policies than trying to run it."

While she doesn't have statistics regarding Kentucky's success, Hendricks noted that in Modesto, Calif., the first city to adopt Marriage Savers, the divorce rate dropped 57 percent after community leaders formed their covenant.

Hendricks, who was a marriage ministry coordinator at Shively Baptist Church, said she believes premarital counseling and mentoring will benefit any church.

"It helps with relationships across the board," Hendricks said. "We have to get these couples early on if we're looking to prevent divorce and get them to sift through what we're asking them to look at so there's time before the wedding."

Cheryl Esters, who has helped coordinate Shively Baptist's marriage ministry for the past year, said premarital counseling and marriage enrichment have made a tremendous difference there.

Previously people didn't know where to turn for help, but now more are participating, Esters said.

She said 134 people attended its most recent enrichment event and about 50 went through "Ten Great Dates" last year.

Esters said marriage enrichment programs can benefit any size church.

"If they have any discipleship training, there are wonderful opportunities out there," Esters said. "There are a lot of things that can be done in small groups, too. It's a great way to reach your neighbors."

**"We believe what the government is doing or not doing affects marriage."**

John Chowning, chairman of the Commonwealth Marriage Initiative Task Force

## WESTERN RECORDER

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

TRENNIS HENDERSON  
Editor

DAVID WINFREY  
News Director

JANET McINTOSH  
Marketing & Business  
Manager

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Directors:

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

## Don't 'profile' pastors

While churches must exercise care in selecting a pastor, the methods used by many search committees violate the sovereignty of God.

Churches will tell you that they want to do God's will in selecting a pastor and then proceed to create a profile that stipulates what they want their new pastor to be like. They want a man who is between 25 and 40 or perhaps 45 years old. They want him to have a certain amount of formal education and experience. Where is God's part in the selection of the pastor? Does God no longer use a man under 25 years old? When you pass that magic number of 45, should you announce your retirement?

I admit to a bias in asking these questions because I am now being affected by this procedure. The past three years have been the most fruitful years of my life devotionally. My preaching and teaching have taken on a whole new perspective. While I am older than those who fit into the parameters of most profiles, I am absolutely convinced that God is not finished with me. Nor is He finished with many others who do not fit the profiles.

Instead of profiling committees how to construct a profile, perhaps someone should help them do the difficult work of getting before God and learning His will.

Larry Brown  
Morgantown

## Support abuse victims

I recently read a book by a Christian police detective who is certified to train law enforcement and health care workers in dealing with domestic violence. Detective Sgt. Donald Stewart states that in the U.S. an act of domestic violence occurs every 12 seconds. This is a frightening statistic that is hard to comprehend. He says the batterers often are seductive and charming when not being violent and gener-

## Fathers and godly families

In a statement prepared for me to read at her recent wedding, my wife Kay's niece, Kelly, wrote:

"I grew up in a loving Christian home, supported by aunts, uncles and cousins. My parents were not only loving to my sister and me, but also to each other. Early on, through them, I knew what the relationship of marriage was supposed to be. ... I honestly thought I would never find a man that could measure up to the strong male examples that I had in my life until Chuck came along. I knew there was something different about Chuck. He felt like 'home,' and in my life, home was always the best place to be. The way he talked about family, I knew that he valued family as I do."

Her husband to be, Chuck, wrote the following about Kelly:

"I love her smile, her values and the way she and her family connect. She really helped me to get back to church, where I needed to be. She is

ally maintain a public image as a friendly, caring person who is a devoted "family man." Men commit 95 percent of all domestic violence.

Battering is the single largest cause of injury to women. According to the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, 3 million to 4 million women are beaten in their homes every year. However, these are only the ones injured severely enough to receive medical treatment or call the police.

Stewart states that the leading professions in domestic violence are the clergy, police and military. What is our convention doing to educate and train pastors and laypeople in how to recognize the symptoms? One symptom is that the batterer often lies to cover up his abuse and blames his spouse with the things he is doing. This creates confusion about who to believe because the batterer often is a public figure in the community and abuse often is concealed because of fear, shame or to keep from hurting the reputation of Christian work when it involves the clergy.

Often when a woman turns to her pastor who has not been trained about domestic abuse, she is encouraged to return home and be more submissive. Where does a Christian woman turn when she does not receive the support she needs from her pastor or church? What are we doing to help women cope, to get out of the abusive situation and to train pastors?

Name withheld

## Unanswered questions

A few weeks ago, I questioned the church relations director of Georgetown College about the doctrinal beliefs of their religion professors. The questions related

## 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.

to their beliefs regarding the accuracy of the Bible, the historicity of Adam and Eve as the parents of the human race, the reality of New Testament miracles, and the necessity of explicit faith in Christ for salvation.

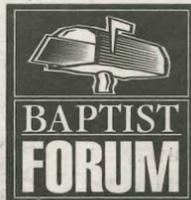
I did not pose these questions with malicious intent, nor were they meant to create guilt by suspicion, as I was accused. It was a genuine invitation to educate Kentucky Baptists on their philosophy of religious education. Still, I have been given answers to many questions I didn't ask, such as: "Does Georgetown College have great mission-minded students?" Answer: Yes! "Does the faculty love the Lord and their neighbors?" Answer: Yes!

However, I didn't ask those questions because I know all of our great Baptist institutions are filled with such people. Had I asked those questions, the response would have been indignation for daring to ask.

Other questions answered, perhaps unintentionally, in this forum include, "Are theological conservatism and academic excellence incompatible?" Some people appear to think so and the mere suggestion that an academic institution can embrace both is tantamount to turning college into Sunday school. Lastly, "If a person loves Jesus, does it matter what he or she teaches?" Apparently some think not, and believe it inappropriate and offensive even to ask.

After reading letters to the editor and having one lengthy conversation with a key member of the Georgetown administration, I've been able to confirm that there is a religion professor who believes all the questions posed above. So let me ask the questions again, and hope for the answers to the questions I asked. I might be the only one interested, but I doubt it.

Kevin Hash  
Bowling Green



## GIVING

## 'Balanced sales' achieve multiple financial goals

By Laurie Valentine

When you last checked your investments, did you discover there were too many eggs in one basket—one stock holding had grown to be too large a

share of your overall portfolio?

Do you need to make some changes, to better diversify your assets, but the thought of the capital gains taxes you'll have to pay when you sell that stock stops you in your tracks?

If you find yourself in such a situation, a "balanced sale" could be the ideal vehicle to achieve your desire to diversify without incurring capital gains taxes. Through a balanced sale, you make a charitable gift of enough shares of the appreciated stock to generate the needed tax savings to offset capital gains tax due on the sale of the remaining shares.

Here's an example: Sarah Martin owns stock with a current market value of \$15,000. She paid \$5,000 for the stock 10 years ago. Sarah thinks the stock has reached its peak value and it represents too large a portion of her investment portfolio. She wants to sell the stock, but doesn't want to pay \$1,500 in capital gains taxes.

Sarah also has been considering how she might make a gift of \$6,500 to her church's capital campaign. She is in the 15 percent income tax bracket and hopes a gift to the campaign can provide some tax savings.

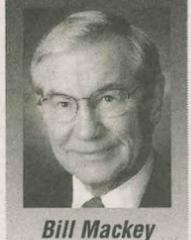
A balanced sale can accomplish both of Sarah's objectives—diversification and tax savings. If she gives her church \$6,500 of the stock and sells the remaining \$8,500, the \$900 of capital gains tax she will incur on the sale will be offset by the \$975 of income tax savings from the charitable gift. Her tax liability on the sale portion of the transaction is balanced by the tax benefit from the charitable gift portion.

A balanced sale also can involve the sale of one asset and a gift of another—a gift of stock and the sale of a bond; a gift of real estate and a sale of stock. The key is to "balance" your capital gains tax liability against the tax savings of making a charitable gift.

You can take advantage of the incentives provided by our tax laws and make a significant gift to one or more causes that are important to you with a balanced sale.

Laurie Valentine is trust counsel for the Kentucky Baptist Foundation

## PARTNERS IN THE MISSION



Bill Mackey

a very loving and caring person and I am very lucky to have been introduced to her. I know that we will grow old together in our marriage."

It was gratifying to perform a wedding where the bride and groom seemed to grasp the depth of the commitments they were making to each other. Not everyone has been as fortunate as Kelly and Chuck to grow up in families with strong Christian values and loving relationships.

Christian families should rehearse the mighty acts of God in creation and history, and in their family history. When I ask enough questions, and listen, I discover that most Christians have a wonderful testimony of the providence of God in their immediate family.

It is important to be faithful in carrying out the mission of our Lord through the local church? Consider

involving children and grandchildren in mission experiences.

Art Beasley, pastor of Central Baptist Church in Winchester, has just returned from a mission trip to Brazil with his third daughter. Two other children will have the opportunity in the future.

Where possible, church members have an opportunity to support those who may have lost their parents. Father's Day is a wonderful occasion for fathers to renew their commitment to leave a worthy legacy of faith, and to support and encourage children who might not have a father in the home.

Oneida Baptist Institute provides a wonderful Christian atmosphere for children with special needs. We are grateful for the financial support of this great ministry through the Cooperative Program and the Barkley Moore Father's Day Offering.

**Correction:** Monticello Baptist Church of Provo, highlighted in last week's article, is affiliated with Gasper River Baptist Association.

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention

## Successful marriages require work, but its worth the effort

**Q: I recently read the book "Sacred Marriage" by Gary Thomas. He quotes Katherine Anne Porter who said, "Love must be learned, and learned again and again; there is no end to it. Hate needs no instruction, but waits only to be provoked." I also have heard that if marriage is work, there is something wrong with the relationship. Which perspective is accurate?**

We have to learn those things that do not come naturally to us.

Gary Thomas notes that "Christian love ... must be chased after, aspired to and practiced." There are numerous teachings in Scripture about love. To love

the way God intends for us to love means we are going to have to work at it. That kind of love is not going to come naturally to us.

Thomas states that infatuation often occurs naturally in relationships. Attraction and chemistry can just happen. Most of us tend to be lazy in our relationships.

We prefer what comes easily and naturally, without much effort. We might excuse our behavior by saying, "That is just the way I am." It is more likely that the way we are has been learned either from watching our parents or someone else and then modeling that behavior.

Some of us have been misinformed to believe that marriage and love should not involve work. What might Porter's words mean in light of Christ's instructions on loving? Scripture is meant to edify and instruct. Part of God's plan is for us to continue to learn throughout our life. Some of this learning involves learning how to love.

As partners change in a marriage, the need for learning continues. At times we will need to learn how to love when we do not feel like it. As various life events occur during a marriage, there will be a need for learning how to love through those events. God is the only Being Who never changes. For humanity, learning is changing.  
—Valerie Vincent

**Q: Much has been written and said about the influence fathers have on the development of their sons. As Father's Day approaches, what does a son really need from his father?**

**He needs your presence.** Research from the National Fatherhood Initiative says, "Children with involved, loving fathers are significantly more likely to do well in school, have healthy self-esteem, exhibit empathy and pro-social behavior and avoid high-risk behaviors such as drug use, truancy and criminal activity compared to children who have uninvolved fathers." Your son needs you to take time to be involved in his life.

**He needs your love and approval.** Your son needs to hear you say, "I love you." He needs to know that you are proud of him and glad to be his dad.

**He needs you to teach him practical skills.** Your son needs you to teach him how to mow the grass, how to drive a nail, how to treat a woman, how to pray and read the Bible, how to shine his shoes, how to manage money and a host of other practical life skills.

**He needs you to take him to church.** In order to mature spiritually, your son needs to see you active and involved in spiritual matters. He needs to see you taking leadership roles at church. He needs to see that God matters to you and that your relationship with God makes a difference in your life. He needs to know that real men love and serve God.

**He needs you to love his mother.** It has been said that the greatest gift a father can give his son is to love his mother.—David Garrard

Family Forum writers are:

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

**James Stillwell**, minister to singles at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington. E-mail: jamess@ibs-lex.org.

**Valerie Vincent**, Christian counselor with Hardy Associates in Louisville. E-mail: dr.vincent@insightbb.com.

**Scott Wigginton**, associate professor of pastoral ministries and counseling at Campbellsville University. E-mail: sewigginton@campbellsville.edu.

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

## Father's Day: from playhouse to empty nest

Father's Day gradually is taking on new meaning in our home. As Pam and I move closer to being empty-nesters, our parenting roles are beginning to undergo significant changes.

Emily, our older daughter, will begin her sophomore year of college this fall. Audrey, our younger daughter, is preparing for her junior year of high school. In just two short years, our 20-year career of daily parenting responsibilities will experience a major shift.

It seems hardly any time has ticked away since we were packing diaper bags, playpens and beloved/bedraggled stuffed animals for trips to Grandma and Grandpa's house. Then it was kindergarten, grade school, softball games, dance recitals and a slew of other activities. Eventually came high school, marching band, drama productions, first dates, college catalogs and the list goes on and on.

Other recent transitions have included teenage boys (two in particular) hanging around our house quite a bit and Emily heading off to college last fall.

During a family visit to Arkansas last month, Pam, Emily, Audrey and I drove through our old neighborhood where the girls spent most of their elementary school years. We stopped at a neighbor's house and there it was—the playhouse with pink shutters I had built for the girls when they were preschoolers.

Rather than joining us on our move to Kentucky six years ago, the old playhouse stayed behind for other kids to enjoy—symbolically marking a major milestone in our girls' journey from childhood to young adults.

As we inspected the playhouse, we noticed the

doorway still bears the pencil marks charting Emily and Audrey's heights at various ages. We were flooded with long-tucked-away memories of mud pies, tea parties and baby dolls.

The brief visit also was a vivid reminder that life moves on—and that generally is a good thing. "When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child," the Apostle Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 13:11. "But when I became a man, I put away childish things."

I must admit this is not the Father's Day editorial I set out to write. I had intended to reflect on a topic such as "Ten Words of Truth for Fathers" based on various Scripture passages. However, I never really made

it past my opening illustration. Sorry about that. Maybe next year.

In the meantime, thanks for indulging my sentimental fatherly reflections once again. I suspect there are many fathers out there (and mothers too) who can relate to the emotions associated with watching your children move step by step toward maturity and independence.

For those of us who are dads, Father's Day is a fitting time to reflect on our roles and to make a fresh commitment to help guide our precious children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

On the front door of our house is a small plaque quoting the inspiring and challenging words of Joshua 24:15, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." My Father's Day prayer is for that commitment always to remain true for our family—and yours—as we celebrate the God-given privilege of being Christian parents ... even after the nest is empty.

**STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR**



Trennis Henderson



## Do you pray for the denomination?

By James Draper

Nashville (BP)—Twenty-four percent.

According to research done for LifeWay Christian Resources, that's the percentage of Southern Baptist ministers who pray for their denomination during an average week. A summary of that information can be found in the May/June issue of Facts & Trends magazine. My column in that issue addressed the findings, but with the Southern Baptist Convention convening next week, prayer for the denomination is very much on my mind.

We face serious issues as a people. Frankly, we need a renewal to prayer and seeking God's leadership through prayer if we are to navigate successfully the challenges ahead. A study recently released by Barna revealed that those professing to be "born again" think or act virtually the same as non-believers, yet we don't seem to have urgency about changing our behavior.

That alarms me. We will never have a spiritual impact in the lives of others if there has not been a spiritual transformation in our own. And I daresay there has never been a major move of the Spirit that was not preceded by people being on their knees and faces before God.

And this is why we must pray. I wrote in my Facts & Trends column that it is not the quantity of prayer we offer, but the quality—the focus on God, the submission to His authority. We quip, "prayer changes things," and it does. It really does.

But I wonder if this is more fodder for bumper stickers than a passionate belief among Christians. If it were a stronger belief, Southern Baptists would spend more time pleading with God to use us to reach humanity for Christ and waste less energy on unnecessary denominational maintenance and infighting.

For instance, I've been extremely encouraged these past several months by the desire expressed by younger leaders to be involved in the denomination. They have a desire for productive changes that keep Southern Baptists focused on the Great Commission.

However, mixed with their mostly constructive comments is some unconstructive criticism. Younger leaders, how much time have you spent praying for the denomination, its focus and the changes necessary that will keep us a useful instrument in the hand of God?

But I pose the same question for those currently in leadership positions across the denomination. We often quote 2 Chronicles 7:14, "If My people who are called by My name humble themselves, pray and seek my face, and turn from their evil ways, then I will hear from heaven, forgive their sin, and heal their land," but the fact is that we are not leading the people in our churches to sanctified lives. Barna's research shows as much.

What's at stake? Since 1845 Southern Baptists have pursued the peoples of the world. In that time,

our message of Jesus as the Way, Truth and Life has stayed the same but our methods in conveying that message have changed, albeit too slowly at times.

We currently find ourselves at a crossroads. SBC Executive Committee President Morris Chapman best defined our challenge at the Baptist state executives meeting in Albuquerque, N.M. He said Southern Baptists have a choice: be a denomination that reaches the peoples of the world with the gospel or relegate ourselves to being a regional denomination. We are three years removed from that challenge and have yet to give a definitive response.

Our churches have become so homogenous that we close ourselves off to the very people we say we need to reach—not to mention our fellow brothers and sisters in the faith. We need an infusion of methodological creativity. These times call for drastic measures, such as when the paralytic's friends ripped up a roof and lowered him through because that was the only way he was going to encounter Jesus. Are we willing to go to such extremes?

So, where do we begin? At the basics: on our knees. In Facts & Trends I also quoted Randy Sprinkle, former prayer strategy coordinator for the International Mission Board. He said: "Prayer works. Prayer is work. Prayer leads to work. Prayer is the work."

Let's get to work. The period at the end of this sentence is a good time to start.

James Draper is president of LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention

## N. Kentucky pastor accused of misusing church funds

**The indictment comes after an 18-month investigation of Larry Davis, pastor of First Baptist Church of Cold Spring.**

By Jim Hannah  
Cincinnati Enquirer

Covington—Pastor Larry Davis purchased a Porsche with some of the more than \$700,000 he stole from the First Baptist Church of Cold Spring—sometimes brazenly withdrawing the money at horse racetrack ATMs, a federal prosecutor says.

"The thought of somebody in a leadership position misappropriating funds for personal use is very troubling," said U.S. Attorney Gregory Van Tatenhove.

"We, as a community, need to take a strong stand to hold those individuals accountable."

A seven-count federal indictment returned June 8 says Davis submitted a false loan application to Fifth Third Bank, evaded federal income taxes for four years, and transferred stolen church money across state lines to buy the Porsche 911 and a minivan.

The indictment comes after an 18-month investigation into the finances of the church and of Davis—who was among those who successfully brought the Billy Graham Crusade to Cincinnati in 2002.

The 57-year-old Davis, known for his folksy, Southern-style sermons, declined through his attorney, Patrick Hanley, to speak with reporters.

Hanley, however, said Davis looks forward to telling his side of the story at trial.

Davis has been summoned to appear before a U.S. magistrate for his arraignment June 17.

"I think it is important that people realize that this is just an allegation and it isn't indicative of guilt in any way," said Hanley, who is a former assistant U.S. attorney in Ohio.

"The grand jury who returned this indictment only heard the government's version," Hanley said.

### Indictment: Building funds diverted

The indictment outlines how federal authorities believe Davis diverted hundreds of thousands of dollars from church accounts from 2000 to 2004. That's when the congregation's treasurer wrote to Kentucky State Police, raising concerns about how Davis was handling church finances.

Much of the money was diverted from building funds for the once rapidly growing congregation, the indictment says. Fifth Third Bank loaned the congregation \$3.5 million in April 2002 to construct a multimillion-dollar sanctuary with a wrap-around balcony, brass chandeliers and flat-screen TVs.

Davis then fired the general contractor and appointed himself to the post.

All the time, he was stealing church money, according to the indictment, by making checks out to himself, writing out checks for

cash and withdrawing money from automatic teller machines. Some of those ATM withdrawals were at horse racetracks.

Van Tatenhove said one of the most outrageous purchases was the Porsche. Public records show that in 2002 Davis purchased a 1993 or '94 model special edition Porsche 911, called RS America. By September 2003, the church was running short on money to pay contractors.

That's when Davis, Van Tatenhove says, submitted forged documents to get Fifth Third to loan the church an additional \$4 million.

Those documents included a letter from the church authorizing Davis to ask for the extra money from the bank, the indictment says.

The IRS claims that Davis underpaid his taxes by \$77,472 in 2000 and 2001, and didn't file his federal claims on time in 2002 and 2003.

Davis' joint taxable income with his wife grew from \$86,111 in 2000 to \$409,957 in 2003, according to the indictment.

"We should, as a community, expect a higher level of accountability and trust of leaders ... like Larry Davis," said Van Tatenhove.

### Attorney: Church supports Davis

Davis' attorney attended a meeting the pastor called at the church on the eve of the indictment and said members support Davis.

"Not surprisingly, this is a dif-

icult time for the Davis family, but it is made bearable by the support of his congregation," Hanley said.

Church members gave Davis a would continue to preach, even if he were indicted. "We're members, and we don't intend to quit going there," said Genevieve McCullough of Cold Spring.

Harody Mendez of Fort Thomas, First Baptist Church, said he expects the church and its spiritual leader will continue to be "a vibrant part of the community."

The investigation "is always in the back of people's minds," but church members don't dwell on it, Mendez said.

"I think this weighs more on Brother Davis than the church as a whole," Mendez said. "He's told us that he's looking forward to defending himself. Now that he knows what the charges are, he can address them and put this all behind him."

Mendez predicted that Davis will continue to be effective.

Dan Reynolds, spokesman for Christ Baptist Church, said the announcement of the charges "should sadden all people, both Christians and non-Christians alike." Several members of First Baptist Church of Cold Spring formed that church in April 2004. "We continue to pray for the congregation of First Baptist Church and the Davis family."

## Make plans now to attend the 2005 KBC Annual Meeting in Kentucky's capitol!

### Frankfort Accommodations

Rates do not include the current Frankfort 4.24% hotel tax. Messengers are responsible for making their own reservations. Kentucky Baptist Convention must be mentioned and reservation deadlines met to receive blocked room rates. Most blocked rooms are non-smoking.

#### Holiday Inn Capital Plaza

Next to the Convention Center  
405 Wilkinson Boulevard  
502.227.5100  
\$72 (king and/or double beds)  
On-site restaurant  
Reservation deadline: October 14

#### I-64, Exit 53B

Hampton Inn  
1310 U.S. Highway 127 South  
502.223.7600  
\$89 (1-4 persons)  
Complimentary continental breakfast  
Reservation deadline: October 31

#### I-64 & U.S. Highway 60, Exit 58

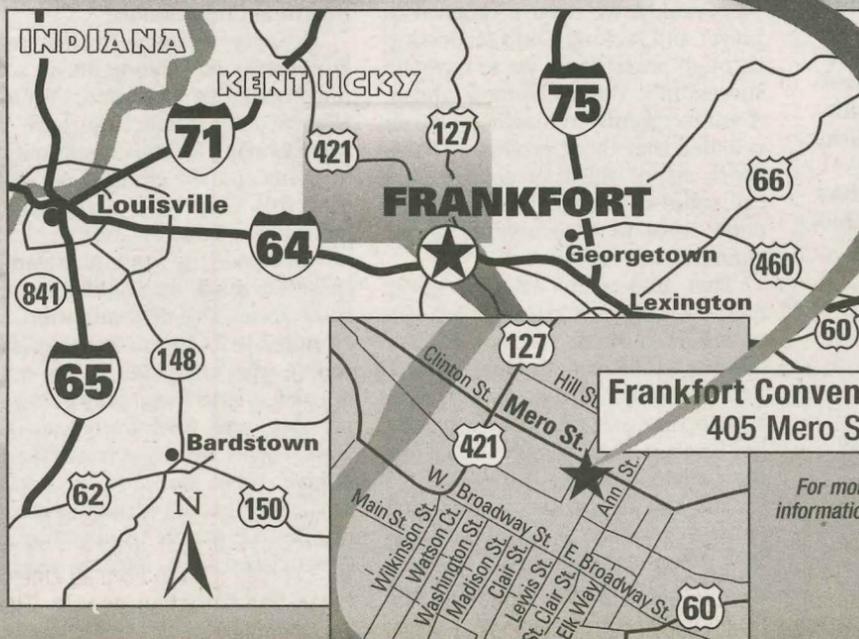
Best Western Parkside Inn  
80 Chenault Drive  
502.695.6111  
\$79 (kings); \$69 (doubles)  
Complimentary continental breakfast  
Reservation deadline: October 31

#### Fairfield Inn & Suites

40 Chenault Drive  
502.695.8881  
\$89 (kings); \$79 (doubles)  
Complimentary continental breakfast  
Reservation deadline: October 31



**The Frankfort Convention Center** (405 Mero Street) is five miles from Interstate 64 and one block from the downtown business and historic district. Ample parking, with 2,000 spaces, is located in nearby garages and lots within close walking proximity. (A potential \$3 per day parking fee may apply by November.)



Strengthening Every Church

2005 KBC Annual Meeting  
November 15-16  
Frankfort Convention Center  
Frankfort, Kentucky

For more information visit [www.kybaptist.org/annualmeeting](http://www.kybaptist.org/annualmeeting) or contact the Communications Department by phone: 502.254.4731 or 888.254.5713 or e-mail: [Denise.Withers@kybaptist.org](mailto:Denise.Withers@kybaptist.org)





# Oneida Baptist Institute

Education for Time  
and Eternity

The Perfect Fit • 2005 Father's Day Offering

## WHAT IS ONEIDA?

Oneida Baptist Institute is a fully accredited Christian boarding school for grades 6-12.

OBI was founded in 1899 by James Anderson Burns, and opened its doors on January 1, 1900. We have been ministering to young people for 105 years.

At Oneida, we teach respect for authority, honesty, high moral standards and responsible behavior.

## THE PERFECT FIT

Young people often come to OBI needing to find a place to fit in academically, emotionally or socially. Smaller classes, nightly study hall and caring teachers can give them an academic boost.

Students from broken or single-parent homes often need a stable, structured environment where adults can nurture them and prepare them for the future. They can find that place at Oneida.

Young people at OBI can learn valuable lessons in respecting authority, living with others and accepting cultural differences.

Often teens who simply didn't fit in at their previous schools find a special niche at Oneida.

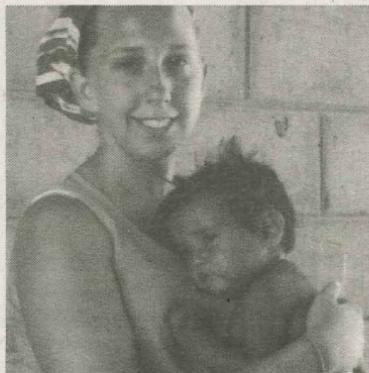
## ONEIDA BAPTIST INSTITUTE

P. O. Box 67  
Oneida, KY 40972  
(606) 847-4111  
Fax: (606) 847-4496  
Web site:  
www.oneidaschool.org

Campus tours are available. Please call ext. 248 to schedule your next visit.

## Meet some of the class of 2005

### The perfect fit for a central Kentucky family: meet OBI's valedictorian



Emily has a heart for missions after two trips to Venezuela

Emily is the last of four sisters from central Kentucky to graduate from OBI. Her family has had long-standing ties with Oneida ever since her grandparents sent their sons to OBI as students and began visiting as volunteers nearly 30 years ago.

Emily's parents made a family rule that their girls must wait until high school to attend OBI. They each lived in the dormitory for one year before being allowed to live off campus with their grandmother, a full-time volunteer at Oneida. Emily chose to attend OBI because, "I knew this was where God wanted me. I like the Christian atmosphere a lot better than public school. I didn't want to be in that en-

vironment for four years and deal with the pressures," she said.

Emily graduated as the class valedictorian with a cumulative GPA of 4.01 in addition to earning the Commonwealth Diploma. "I really like school. It's just a lot of fun to me," she said. She enjoyed the challenge of advanced placement courses and said maintaining her A average was easier because of Oneida's smaller class sizes and more individual attention from teachers.

What Emily enjoyed most about Oneida were the numerous activities available to her. She said she had "pretty big shoes to fill," but she managed to find a "couple things" her sisters had not done. "There are so many opportunities at Oneida. If you want Oneida to be fun, if you don't want to be bored, you've got to get involved," she said. Drama and sports were her top two cocurriculars. She acted in four plays and assisted with hair and makeup on two plays. She lettered in drama each year and earned the Best Supporting Actress and Director's awards. She played volleyball and tennis each for two years, earning athletic letters both years and the Coach's award in volleyball. Her senior year, she also played the flute in pep band during basketball season.

In addition to after school activi-

ties, Emily was a member of the Student Government Association, the Beta Club, and a participant in Creative Ministries. "Everything has helped to shape who I am," she said.

In class and out, Emily was known among staff and students for her positive attitude and Christian witness. The faculty voted her the Most Outstanding freshman girl. OBI volleyball coach, Mrs. Melissa Travis was also Emily's chemistry teacher. She said, "Emily is a fine, Christian young lady who has exhibited Christ-like behavior in every situation in which I have observed her."

As a young Christian at Oneida, Emily found it easier to openly discuss her faith at OBI. "The students' hearts are not as hard. They're a lot more open to hearing the Gospel, and they even ask questions," she observed. "Being here has given me more confidence as a Christian," she said.

After Bible college, Emily would like to become an international missionary working with orphans in Spanish-speaking countries. She has had the opportunity to work in Venezuela on short-term missions trips the last two summers and described visiting the "dump," where thousands of people live. "It's changed my life," she said.

### International student found God's love with the help of caring houseparents and teachers

Anu is an international student from Mongolia who came to the United States in 2002. She did not speak English and found herself struggling in the school she attended in North Dakota. She met a friend who told her about OBI. "He told me there was a really nice school. He gave me the telephone number," Anu said.

Anu arrived at OBI for her junior year in 2003. She noticed the diversity but also the friendliness of Oneida's student body. "Everyone is really peaceful. They act like brothers and sisters," she said. Anu was placed in our English as a Second Language program with Ms. Carolyn Valentine. "Ms. Valentine helped me a lot. I learned so much grammar, [and] so many things about everyday life. Ms. Valentine is a Christ-like woman who loves and helps other people," she said.

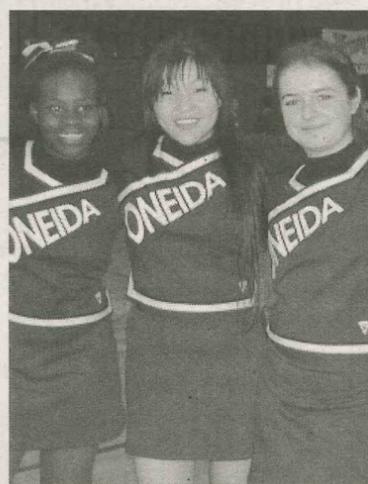
In all her classes, Anu welcomed the extra help her teachers were willing to give her and often stopped by their classrooms after school to ask questions. Impressed with her diligence and cheerfulness, the faculty voted Anu the Most Outstanding and Most Studious junior girl. Ms. Valentine said, "Anu is a joy to have

in class. She finds something good in everyone and never complains. We can see the Lord has blessed her heart with His love."

Anu had never before received any type of award. "I was so amazed. I was really proud. I was so thankful to God and the faculty," she said. This year, the faculty named Anu "Most Likely To Succeed" and awarded her OBI's second highest honor, The John Michael Davis Citizenship Award.

For the last two years, Anu has enjoyed being involved in numerous school activities. She was a cheerleader, participated in Creative Ministries and was a member of the Beta Club and Baptist Student Union. She earned an Outstanding Worker award this spring for cleaning Ms. Valentine's classroom and assisting her each day after school.

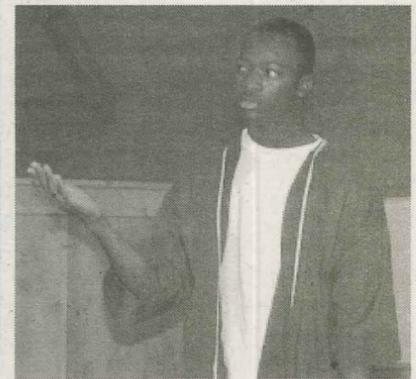
Before coming to Oneida, Anu said she was not a Christian. She heard the Gospel from her OBI teachers and houseparents and accepted Jesus as her Savior. "When I came to OBI, everything changed and I got baptized. All the teachers are really Christian. They can feel who needs help. They make me feel really good. I love these teachers."



Anu, center, fit right in among Oneida's diverse student body.

Anu was listed among the top ten of the 2005 graduates and would like to become a nurse. "That way I can help others. I can use God's blessing and my career to spread God's word," she said. Anu knows she will miss Oneida and is grateful she was allowed to be here for two years. "I'm so glad Oneida takes non-Christian people. That way people can become Christian like me," she said.

### Brandon found his second chance at OBI



Brandon thrived in OBI's fine arts and creative ministry programs

Brandon came to Oneida from New York as a sophomore in April, 2003. "This school is known as a second chance, and that's what I needed," he said.

At home, "I was basically disobedient... I thought I should get to do whatever I wanted," he said. At school, he was behind in credits because he had been skipping classes. "In New York, it's not like Oneida where if you're not in class they go look for you," he said. Brandon and his mother were looking for affordable Christian schools on the internet and found Oneida Baptist Institute.

When Brandon arrived in Oneida, he was impressed with the personal attention he received from the OBI admissions staff. "You felt welcome and you weren't even here yet," Brandon said. He also took note of the distinctly smaller class sizes and the wide variety of activities available to students.

Drama and music were Brandon's areas of interest. He acted in three school plays, numerous chapel skits, and traveled with the OBI choir. He delivered a monologue during the choir program. He also sang the national anthem at several home basketball games, won the student talent show and was crowned the senior banquet king. He lettered in drama, piano and choir and received the Best Supporting Actor and the Director's awards in drama. "Brandon has been a mature and reliable core member of our troupe for the last three years. He could be counted on to help in any capacity both on and off stage," said OBI drama director Tamara Cochran.

During his time at Oneida, Brandon also held jobs as a dorm hall monitor, the supervisor of a cleaning crew, and he earned an Outstanding Worker award in the campus grill. He and his roommates received one of four Cleanest Room awards from the houseparents this year.

Brandon enjoyed daily chapel at Oneida. "I benefited from every sermon," he said. He appreciated the spiritual nurturing he received from staff members. "Everybody was there to help me...and pray for me," he said.

# Oneida Baptist Institute

## ANNUAL OFFERING

This is the eleventh year for Kentucky Baptist churches to observe the Father's Day Offering for Oneida Baptist Institute.

## Beth thrived in Oneida's sports program where there are 'no tryouts!'



Beth was first runner up in the 2004-2005 Oneidian Yearbook Queen pageant

Beth was in the seventh grade when her family moved to Oneida from western Kentucky. "It was good to get away from the city," she recalled. Beth had grown up visiting extended family in Oneida on vaca-

tions. "I was usually excited to come to this place," she said.

Beth welcomed the move to Oneida, where she and her younger brother would attend OBI as day students. "My [old] school was really big," Beth said. "It was hard to be in sports, and my family are sports fanatics....Here, I took advantage of all of it and played everything I could. I love the sports program here, because there are no tryouts!"

She started with cheerleading in the seventh grade then added tennis in eighth grade. Her freshman year, she joined volleyball. These three sports kept her busy throughout the school year in grades 9-12 and provided a strong social link to Beth's dormitory peers.

As she grew in her athletic skills, she also grew in appreciation for her relationships with her coaches. "They're not just coaches, they're your teachers or someone you babysit for. You have a better relationship, which makes you want to

play better," Beth said. Awards and accolades followed Beth's athletic career. She was the captain of the volleyball team in grades 11-12. She was also named to the All Tournment team in volleyball and would like to play in college. Beth was the captain of the cheerleading squad her sophomore, junior and senior years during which she earned the Coach's award, the 110% award, the School Spirit award and the Leadership award.

In tennis, she was the number one seed for three years, earned several singles and doubles awards, and was seeded fourth in the region in doubles. "That was exciting," she said. OBI tennis coach Ken McCain has enjoyed the opportunity to work with this talented young lady and said, "She's probably the best 'home grown' tennis player we've had at Oneida since I've been here. She's the best that Oneida has to offer in terms of quality tennis players, and being seeded in the region the last two years proves it."

The OBI faculty voted Beth the Most Outstanding sophomore and junior girl not just for her top grades but also for her cocurricular involvement and her positive attitude. "That was awesome. It was a surprise, especially the second year," she said. "To think that the teachers think of you as Most Outstanding in any way is pretty nice." She graduated in the top ten of the senior class and was named Miss Oneida, the Most Outstanding award for the senior class. She also received OBI's highest honor, the William A. Evans award for excellence.

Beth appreciated the opportunity to attend a school that would foster spiritual growth in its students. "OBI definitely helped, especially the staff who prayed before class or a ball game and [offered] their encouragement," she said. She was most impacted by the chapel praise and worship time. "I love music and when you incorporate God into the music, it really helps," she said.

## FUNDING

Approximately nine percent of Oneida's funding comes from the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

35 percent comes from student fees.

The remaining 56 percent comes from income from our modest investments, churches, and individuals who choose to invest in the lives of young people. These gifts are the financial backbone of our ministry.

## Richard found his best fit at Oneida

Richard is originally from Oneida with a family genealogy dating back to OBI's founding president. His parents graduated from OBI, and Richard was born in Oneida. The family moved when Richard was six years old but returned several years later. He enrolled at OBI as an eighth grade student.

Richard needed academic help. At his previous school, his grades had been mostly F's. Smaller classes and individual attention from his teachers enabled him to improve and even make the honor roll. OBI teachers voted him the Most Outstanding freshman boy.

His sophomore year, Richard's family moved to northern Kentucky. "I didn't want to leave [Oneida]," Ri-

chard said. He could not concentrate in the large classes and his grades dropped. Personal problems at home developed that he said "were easier to work out away from home." His dad allowed him to attend OBI as a dorm student.

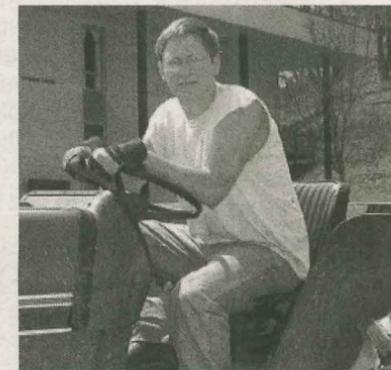
Richard was relieved to return to OBI where he could find extra help with school work and attend evening study hall. He was soon back on the B honor roll. "The teachers don't leave as soon as the bell rings, and many of the [houseparents] can help you with anything," he said.

Spiritual help was also available to Richard. He had accepted Christ in the sixth grade but said Christian faculty and staff at OBI taught him "how to walk with God." He said daily

chapel provided time to "pause and say 'thank you God' for another day."

Richard thrived in the work program. He earned class credit working two periods a day in the Field Placement program. After school, he worked on the farm and in the dormitory as a hall monitor and night cleaning crew supervisor. Dean of Boys John Saldaris valued Richard's help. "He was my right arm... He is very dependable and trustworthy. He's been a joy to work with and to know." This spring, Richard received an Outstanding Worker award and a service award for his leadership in the boys' work program. As president of the FFA, he received the club's top honor, the Dekalb award.

With all his OBI experiences, he



Richard honored as "right hand man" in dorm and work program

believes he is equipped for a variety of jobs after graduation. "I think it's neat that students at OBI get the chance to supervise others and learn more responsibility," Richard said.

## Why do young people choose Oneida Baptist Institute?

- ◆ Some are struggling with academic setbacks.
- ◆ Others have been hurt by family conflicts and situations.
- ◆ Many need a change in peer group.
- ◆ Still others are seeking a distinctly Christian education.
- ◆ Often parents and grandparents are looking for a loving and structured environment for their teens.
- ◆ Young people enjoy the independence boarding school gives in preparation for college.

## Oneida's rural setting helped international student Leinada focus on academics

Leinada, nicknamed Lily, and her younger sister came to the United States from the Ivory Coast. Their parents wanted a better education and safer environment for their daughters. "It's a better life here [in the U.S.]," Lily said. They had an aunt in Maryland, where they attended school for one year. They transferred to OBI, where their cousins attended, to experience the benefits of a private, Christian school.

Individual attention from her teachers at OBI was the first of many benefits Lily experienced. "Here, they pay attention you. You're not just ignored. You get a chance to talk to the teachers and they talk to you. It's different than most schools," she said.

In Oneida's rural setting, it was easier for Lily to concentrate on school work. "You get more things done here, because you're in the dorm," she said. The teachers noticed

her study habits and voted Lily the Most Studious freshman girl.

There were fewer distractions but plenty of activities to keep Lily busy. She had never been interested in sports, but she joined volleyball her first year. "It keeps you in shape instead of sitting around eating and sleeping," she said. She joined basketball and played these two sports each year, earning her athletic letter jacket. As a senior, she was named to the Class A All Tournament team and received the Coach's award in basketball. Between seasons, she worked in the campus grill.

Lily was also able to keep her spiritual life in shape at OBI. "Here, I've gotten even closer to God. I read the Bible more and pray more in my spare time," she said.

Lily graduated with a GPA that put her in the top ten of the senior class. Dean of Students, Ms. Judy Lawson

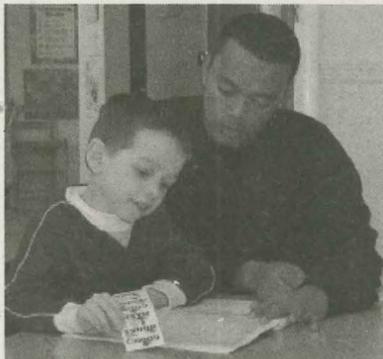


Leinada enjoyed being active in sports and work at OBI

commented, "Leinada 'Lily' has proven to be a wonderful role model in the dorm, in sports, and in her Christian walk. I am so proud of her."

# Oneida Baptist Institute

## Yared found the perfect fit socially and academically at Oneida



Yared's field placement experience helped shape his career goals

Yared was born in Ethiopia and immigrated to the U.S. at age ten. He was five years old when his mother left Ethiopia to start a new life in America. He lived with his grandmother until his mother was able to send for him. "It was hard," he recalled. "I loved my mom more than anything." Yared's reunion with his mother in the U.S. was a happy day.

By high school, Yared was not doing well in school. "I used to choose playing over my homework," he said. He had cousins who had attended OBI and told him it was a good place to improve his grades. "I wasn't a bad kid. I just wanted to see if I could bring my grades up. I needed help," he explained. He enrolled at OBI as a junior.

With a cousin still enrolled here, it was easier for Yared to adjust to living away from home. He said he never had a problem with his roommates

"as long as they cleaned." His room earned the Cleanest Room award from the houseparents during Yared's first year at OBI. He liked the diversity of Oneida's students and enjoyed getting to know his peers. He noticed, "No matter what color you are, everybody sees you for who you are and they still accept you."

At school, Yared observed, "There are not a lot of students in one class, and the teachers are nice." Required evening study hall for those not on the honor roll gave him time to study. "I improved a lot. I even made the honor roll a couple of times," he said. He graduated in the top ten of the senior class.

Yared tried sports for the first time at OBI and earned a letter in soccer. He worked as the manager for the boys' varsity basketball team and played the drums one season in the pep band.

In the dorm, he became the supervisor of a cleaning crew his junior year and was a hall monitor as a senior. He was an office aid this year for high school principal Dan Stockton who said, "Yared is a tremendous worker who pays extreme attention to detail. He is a mature young man who accomplished any task that I gave him."

Yared gained more work experience in the Field Placement program his senior year. He chose to work as a classroom assistant in the kindergarten-second grade class for OBI staff children. From the experience, Yared learned that he enjoys working with children, but he would prefer a non-teaching career.

## Savannah overcame shyness, made friends and became a leader

Savannah is from a small town in Illinois. She is one of eight children, four of whom have attended OBI. Savannah thought the idea of attending boarding school sounded "fun," so she came with her brother who needed to be at Oneida for social and academic reasons; but Savannah would also benefit from her Oneida experience.

Savannah had fallen behind in the areas of math, reading and English, so she was placed in the Tutoring Lab for these classes. The faculty voted her the Most Studious eighth grade girl because of her noted effort in the Tutoring Lab. In high school, she enrolled in all regular classes and maintained a B average.

Savannah chose the farm for her after school job her first two years. She became an officer in the FFA, where she learned leadership skills and overcame her shyness. "I used to not be able to talk to anyone. Now, I drive them up a wall!" she said. She earned numerous awards including a blue ribbon for heavyweight steer showing and her Chapter Degree. She was an FFA officer for four consecutive years.

Her senior year, Savannah confidently entered the Yearbook Queen pageant and recited a monologue for the talent portion. "Everybody was shocked I could really speak," she said. "People said I couldn't do it. I wanted to prove them wrong." In her interview with the judges, Savannah said she "wasn't nervous at all."



Savannah developed her skills as a fine artist and also learned a lucrative trade in OBI's commercial art program

For the last three years, Savannah worked in drama as the stage manager. "The only thing I don't like about being stage manager is you don't get to see the play," she said. She earned the Director's Award as a junior and the Super Stage Manager award as a senior.

Savannah is an avid artist who studied both fine art and commercial art each year of high school. Through the Field Placement program, she worked two periods a day as a sign lab assistant to commercial art instructor Sheri Nutter who said, "Watching Savannah gain maturity as well as considerable skill these past three years has been a real joy. It is a privilege to work with a student who exhibits a wonderful combination of talent, skill and ambition. Her absence will be felt in the commercial art program at OBI."

Savannah would like to find a job this summer in a sign shop and continue studying art in college.

### A FEW MORE FACTS

- ◆ Our average enrollment is 325.
- ◆ We have approximately 150 full-time faculty and staff.
- ◆ Our classrooms have an average 1:11 teacher/student ratio.
- ◆ Oneida has a 700-acre campus which includes a 200-acre farm. We have a full agriculture program.
- ◆ Our student body consists of young people from the local community, across the state of Kentucky, the United States and around the world.
- ◆ We accept students throughout the year.
- ◆ OBI provides Christian education at an affordable cost.

### EDUCATION FOR TIME AND ETERNITY

Every school deals with the mind of man, but few, like Oneida, minister to the soul as well. Day after day, our students hear the gospel message. Each year, many boys and girls make positive decisions of eternal significance.

### WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT THE OFFERING

- ◆ Make sure your church has received our box of offering materials.
- ◆ Offer to take charge of displaying posters and distributing brochures in your church.
- ◆ Tell others about the Oneida ministry.
- ◆ Pray for a successful offering.

## International student Yusuke improved his English while submerging himself in American culture at OBI



Oneida faculty and students were privileged to hear Yusuke practice and perform classical piano selections

Yusuke came to the United States from Japan three years ago to study English. "My dream, my goal is to be a translator," he said. "I asked my parents to send me to America or another country. It was kind of expensive. I looked for the cheapest school I could find on the internet, and I found this school."

Yusuke spoke no English, and he

was the only one from his country at OBI. "I kind of had a lonely time," he said. Besides language, Yusuke had to adapt to the food and customs like shaking hands. "In my culture we don't [have] body contact...you just walk by people you don't know," he said. "I'm still getting used to things."

He spent most of his time with his

English as a Second Language instructor, Ms. Valentine. "She's wonderful. She knows how hard it is to be an international student. She helped me in a lot of ways," he said.

Mrs. Kay Underwood serves as the admissions coordinator for all of OBI's international students. Throughout their time at Oneida, she helps these young people with all sorts of issues.

Mrs. Underwood described Yusuke as a "model student" who was "extremely neat and clean in the dorm." She also noticed that Yusuke, more than other international students, frequently had questions for her about U.S. holidays and customs. "He was like a sponge soaking up everything he could from the American teenagers. He was so eager to learn American ways," she said. Like any other teen, Yusuke had difficult days. Mrs. Underwood noted also that he had high academic standards. "Even when things were tough for him, and he was very hard on himself academically, he always came through with a smile," she said. Yusuke graduated third in the class, won the Highest

GPA award of the senior class for the 2004-2005 academic year, and was named by the faculty Most Studious and Most Versatile senior boy.

Yusuke viewed OBI's work program as the students' way to help offset costs and keep tuition low. He cleaned classrooms, supervised a dorm cleaning crew, and worked as a dorm hall monitor. Additionally, he was a manager for the boys' varsity basketball team as a junior and played tennis in the spring. His senior year, he joined basketball as a player, earning the Highest GPA and the Coach's award.

Yusuke is a self-taught pianist. He won the student talent show his sophomore year playing a Japanese piano selection titled Sakura-Sakura. He enjoyed piano class each day for the outlet it provided him and for the knowledge he gained. "[Before coming to OBI], I never actually had a teacher to learn how to read the notes. I learned the official, proper way to play [in piano class]," he said. He enjoyed spending free time practicing on the chapel piano after school or on weekends.

# Oneida Baptist Institute

## Oneida helped Brian get back on track

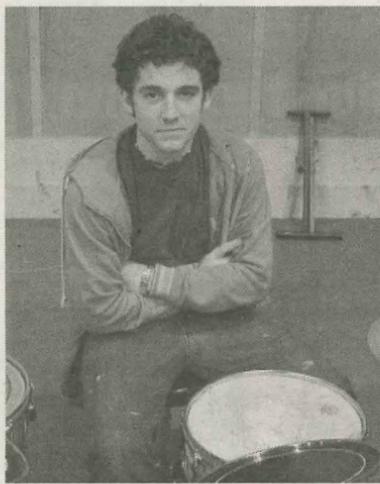
Brian came to Oneida as a junior from Ohio. "I had made bad decisions ... I was failing all my classes and getting in trouble with my parents," he said. He had attended a Christian school since fifth grade, but in high school he started getting into trouble with a friend. "I would sneak out with him," he said.

Brian's parents began looking for another school and learned about OBI from one of Brian's friends, a former OBI student. "They wanted to straighten me out, like any other parent would," he said. Brian did not know what to expect at a boarding school. "I was kind of scared. My friend made it sound like this horrible place, like military school," he said. One of the first things he noticed was kids at the track area riding skate boards. "I'm really into skate boarding," he said. He also learned that he was allowed to bring his guitar, another favorite hobby to keep him busy. He heard the pep band and explained that he is a third-generation drummer. "I've been playing as long as I can remember," he said. He enjoyed the many fine arts classes he could add to his schedule including band, art, piano and choir.

"I've learned a lot musically here ... from different people, teachers and students," he said. "I really enjoy pep band. Everyone likes to be in a band, to be a part of something. You're able to make music with other people and it doesn't matter how cool you are. Brian's end-of-year accolades included Most Improved in choir, Most Valuable Player in band and Most Inventive in piano.

Band and choir director Tim Cochran noted, "Brian is probably one of the most intelligent, most musically gifted students that I've worked with at Oneida. He is passionate about music and works very hard to excel."

One of the main reasons for changing schools was to get back on track academically. He admitted that change was slow, but "I started doing better third quarter. Fourth quarter, I completely buckled down and



Brian enjoyed a wide range of fine arts classes at OBI

got straight A's and Most Improved junior." Brian explained his newfound motivation saying, "I realized I had to graduate, and the effort I was putting in was lacking significantly." Also, being excused from evening study hall is a privilege for honor roll students. "That was a motivation for me to really concentrate in class," he said. "It was so great to be on honor roll. I learned to do the work and realized it wasn't impossible. I actually enjoyed school," he added.

Brian held a variety of after school jobs, often several at one time to keep from being bored. "Boredom leads to trouble," he said. He became a supervisor of a dorm cleaning crew and worked on a mowing crew. He was a dormitory hall monitor, worked in the campus grill and played with the pep band at home basketball games.

Looking back on this last year of high school, Brian said, "The experience was really great. It helped me think about a lot of things and taught me to appreciate living simple and to accept responsibility for bad decisions. I was raised that way anyway, but this was just a wake-up call." Brian plans to attend college close to home to study business and learn another language.

## Oneida is a perfect fit

Oneida's ministry is all about kids! I lost a close friend recently who always reminded me that "kids" were baby goats. Even though he was right, "kids" are also boys and girls, often those who have not been given the best opportunities. It is true that our students do not come to us nearly naked or starving to death. Most are reasonably well dressed and nearly always well fed. Others are less fortunate. Young people have been coming to OBI for 106 years now, and while their clothing and hairstyles have changed, they still come for many of the same reasons they came a century ago.

Nearly 80 percent of our students come from broken homes; a staggering 40 percent from single-parent families. Over 30 percent of our teens come from low-income homes, and another 30 percent from families with very limited incomes. Nearly 50 percent enroll with failing grades from their old schools. And approximately 75 percent of our students are not Christians when they enroll and have little or no spiritual training. What a wonderful opportunity we have to teach young people in the ways of the Lord! Each year, dozens are led to Christ at Oneida.

I cannot tell you that every OBI student becomes a poster child for happiness and success. But Oneida is on the front line, battling for the dreams and lives of boys and girls. We are only able to do this with the help of many, staff who are willing to make significant personal sacrifices and the blessing of God. We accomplish what we do with very few dollars compared to nearly any other ministry similar to ours.

With your support we will continue to provide a Christian environment where teenagers can turn failure into success and can come to a saving knowledge of Jesus. Please help us continue to be "a perfect fit" for young people in the years to come.

— W. F. Underwood, OBI president (OBI '63)



W.F. Underwood

## Every Boy's Dream

I think every little boy's dream is to have the perfect family. A mom, a dad, brothers, sisters and a dog. I had all but one. I had no father. The only father figures I had for the first 10 years of my life were my brother and my cousins. My brother was busy with school and relationships, but always managed to find time to spend with me until he left to further his studies elsewhere.

Mom worked many hours at her business. My sixth grade year, she sent me to Oneida Baptist Institute. I was not a discipline problem. I made good grades. However, Mom knew that something was missing in my life—something that every boy my age needed: a "father figure."

My third year at Oneida, God gave my mom and me what we had been looking for. A man came to begin his service here. I learned so much from this man. He took me into his home and even called me "son." I remember seeing my mentor many times, watching me perform as I sang in the choir or played in the band. I could see from the look on his face that he was proud of me. He supported me.

My senior year at OBI was the best. I took the best-looking girl in the school to the senior banquet. She was the daughter of the man God sent to be my "father." I graduated that year knowing that I would be leaving the father that God had blessed me with. But I also left knowing much more about myself than I would have ever known had it not been for all the



faculty and staff serving here—each playing his or her part in taking a confused, lonely little boy and transforming him into a bright, sure young man.

This is my tenth year serving at Oneida Baptist Institute. I work in the boys' dormitories as the Dean of Boys. While I was a student here, I really didn't know at first why my mom sent me away. Now when I look back I can see where God's hand was in everything that took place all along. He knew I would be here now, doing and being exactly what that man many years ago was for me. I have the privilege of working with many other young men who in today's world need that "father figure" more than ever before.

—John Saldaris, class of 1989  
OBI Dean of Boys

## A day at Oneida

**Morning:** Students get up, clean their rooms, and must be in class on time.

**At school:** Young people may take a variety of classes. High school students can choose a college or vocational track of study.

**Chapel time:** Each school day, our entire student body and faculty join for a time of worship.

**Afternoon:** As the school day ends, an afternoon of jobs, sports and other activities begins.

**Evening:** "Free time" is a chance to visit with friends in our recreational facilities.

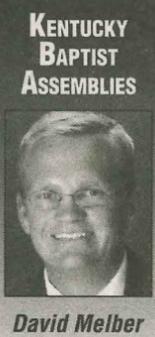
**Study hall:** All students not on the honor roll attend nightly study hall.

**Night-time:** Students do evening chores and get ready for another day.

### Summer camp is under way

#### Good staff remains the key to successful camp ministry

At the time you read this, summer camp will be in full swing and we already will have had nearly 2,000 people attend camp. This year is much different for me because my family and I have moved to Louisville to be more centrally located between Cedar-moore, Jonathan Creek and Northern Kentucky. While the move is exciting in view of our ministry's future, the move is sad in the fact that my day-to-day involvement with Crossings at the Creek has ended.



David Melber

For the last three summers, Sunday to Friday afternoon, my focus was on the campers and staff at Jonathan Creek. I truly miss being there and seeing camp operate from such an intimate involvement.

While many factors have contributed to our ability to shift focus, none are more significant than the development and level of leadership at Jonathan Creek. First, Brad Lauer who has been my associate director (a better title would be partner and brother in Christ) has continued to grow and become a great asset to our ministry. Due to the travel and 16-18 hour days

in the summer, it seems we have worked together for many years.

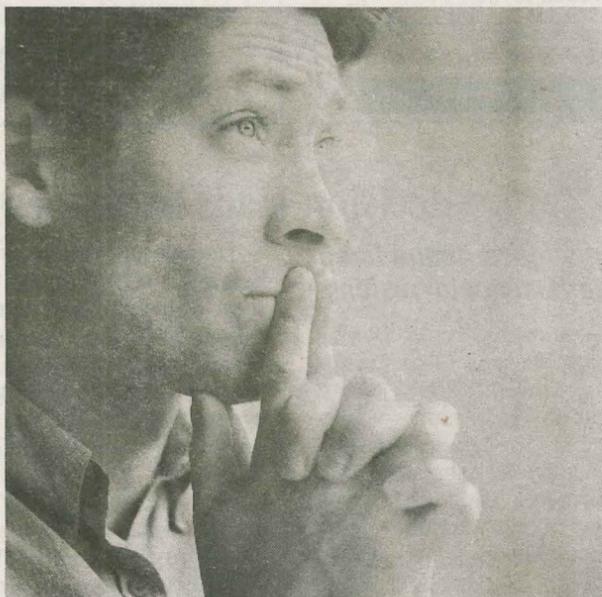
During the last year, we have added Scott Bidwell to our staff, and most recently Harold Bellendir as director of Jonathan Creek. Quite frankly, it would be impossible for me to reprioritize my time toward Cedar-moore and other opportunities without these three men who now lead Jonathan Creek.

I cannot say enough about the staff we have at each location. Camp ministry is hard and certainly taxing throughout the summer schedule. Our ministry survives, in part, because of the team God assembles at each place.

During the summer, as you think about our ministry, please pray for Bert Lacey, Shane McGrath, Derek Knisley, Sue Hill, Eva Fisher, Doug Satterley, Harold Bellendir, Brad Lauer, Scott Bidwell, Andy Causey, Rose Sharp, Schana Thorn, Sue Brandon and Ron Collins.

They are the leadership who direct and support volunteers, summer staff and other workers who total more than 100. Summer will be amazing.

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



## I see the needs of my city, my state, my nation, the world.

In Acts 1:8, Jesus instructed His followers to reach out to the world. Today, this means starting at our front door. Missions Leader<sup>SM</sup> magazine provides creative ways to help and inspire church leaders to meet the needs of the world. Inside each issue are insightful articles about missions involvement and timely information about local, national, and global concerns.



\$15.99 for four quarterly issues.  
Order today at [www.wmstore.com](http://www.wmstore.com)  
or call 1-800-968-7301.

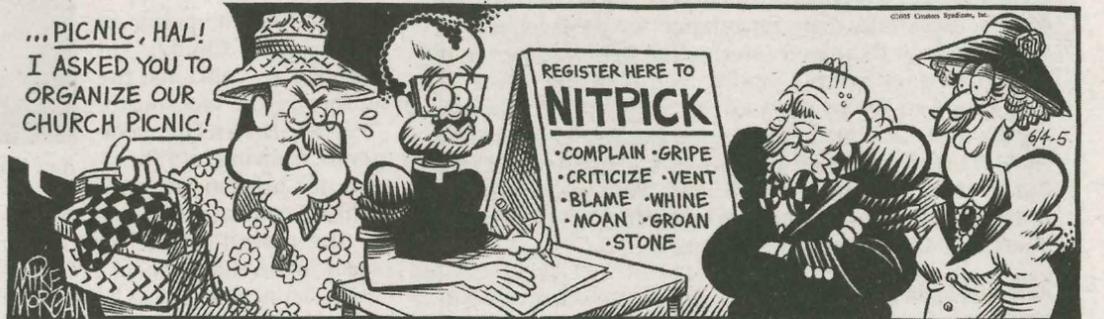
[www.MissionsLeader.com](http://www.MissionsLeader.com)

### Kudzu



Doug Marlette

### For Heaven's Sake



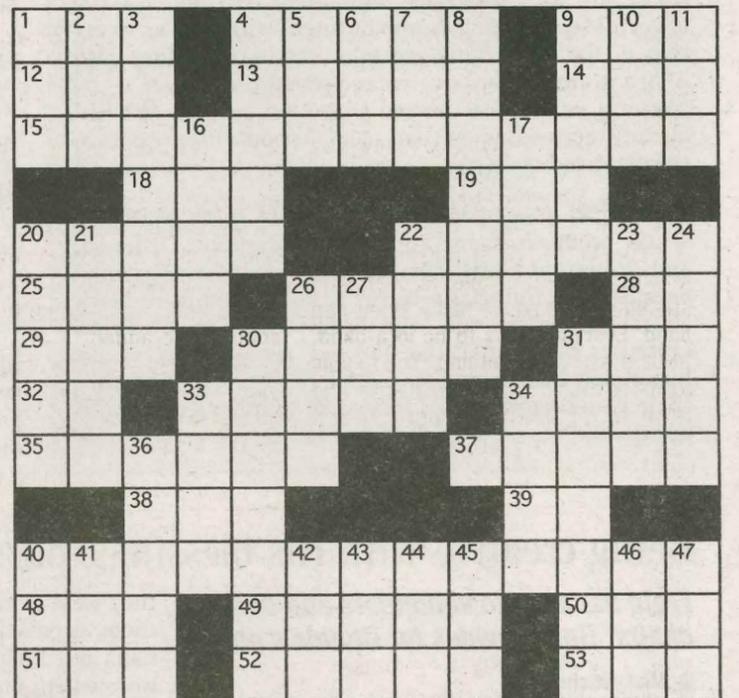
Mike Morgan

### Bible Crosswords

Evelyn Boyington

#### Across

- 1 Linking verb
- 4 Prophets, such as Samuel and Isaiah
- 9 Occupy; control
- 12 Suitable; apt
- 13 Doctrine or belief held as truth
- 14 Poetic before
- 15 "\_\_\_\_\_ (3 words); and blessed be my rock" (Psalm 18:46)
- 18 Status in a group, slang
- 19 Decay
- 20 Loiters or lingers (colloq.)
- 22 Gets ready to face the day
- 25 Exclamation of dismay
- 26 Referred to
- 28 Greek letter
- 29 Unit equal to 1/1,000 inch
- 30 "One load of bread, and one cake of \_\_\_\_\_ bread" (Exodus 29:23)
- 31 "If we say that we have no \_\_\_\_\_, we deceive ourselves" (1 John 1:8)
- 32 Fifth or Park; e.g.
- 33 "When thou prayest, \_\_\_\_\_ into thy closet" (Matthew 6:6).
- 34 Act stubbornly
- 35 Orderly
- 37 Puts aside
- 38 Option at car dealership
- 39 City near Bethel
- 40 "\_\_\_\_\_ (3 words), O my soul While I live will I praise" (Psalm 146:1, 2)
- 48 Owns
- 49 "The house was filled with the \_\_\_\_\_ of the ointment" (John 12:3)

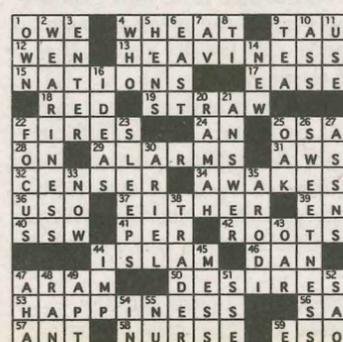


- 50 Western Native American
- 51 Chemical ending
- 52 Memos
- 53 Button on the VCR (abbr.)

#### Down

- 1 "The servant of the Lord must ... be ... \_\_\_\_\_ to teach" (2 Timothy 2:24)
- 2 Stadium sound
- 3 "The \_\_\_\_\_ God is thy refuge" (Deuteronomy 33:27)
- 4 Organ options
- 5 Poetic contraction
- 6 "Mark the perfect man ... for the \_\_\_\_\_ of that man is peace" (Psalm 37:37)
- 7 Kin (abbr.)
- 8 "They \_\_\_\_\_ up the people, and the elders, and the scribes" (Acts 6:12)
- 9 Certain sports competitions
- 10 "Rabbi, thou \_\_\_\_\_ the Son of God" (John 1:49)
- 11 O.T. minor prophet (abbr.)
- 16 "The \_\_\_\_\_ of the lame are not equal" (Proverbs 26:7)
- 17 "The earth was without form, and \_\_\_\_\_" (Genesis 1:2)
- 20 In the Book of Esther, Mordecai's nemesis
- 21 "In Christ shall all be made \_\_\_\_\_" (1 Corinthians 15:22)
- 22 Son of Hezekiah (Ezra 2:16)
- 23 John on Patmos, for example
- 24 Is unable to swim
- 26 Bigger than a borough
- 27 Destination pour les vacances
- 30 "There was a dead man carried out, the \_\_\_\_\_ (2 words) of his mother" (Luke 7:12)
- 31 "My spirit hath rejoiced in God my \_\_\_\_\_" (Luke 1:47)
- 33 Ornamental case
- 34 Idol of the Phoenicians and Tyrians
- 36 "Those that walk in pride he is able to \_\_\_\_\_" (Daniel 4:37)
- 40 Greek letter
- 41 Tore
- 42 Tokyo, formerly
- 43 Young one
- 44 Tint
- 45 Sounds of hesitation
- 46 Highway (abbr.)
- 47 "They shall wet thee with the \_\_\_\_\_ of heaven" (Daniel 4:25)

#### Last week's solution



## NATIONAL NOTES

**Groups denounce .xxx on Web.** Saying it will create an online "red light district," conservative Christian groups are opposing the proposed creation of adult-oriented Web addresses ending with ".xxx." The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers, the organization that oversees the Internet addressing system, has announced it will allow ICM Registry Inc. to launch the voluntary adult domain ".xxx." But the Family Research Council voiced the concerns of many religious conservatives. "The '.xxx' domain ... cloaks the porn industry with legitimacy," said Patrick Trueman, FRC's senior legal counsel.

**Alabama Methodists repent for past segregation support.** Alabama United Methodists made a symbolic gesture June 6 to demonstrate their repentance for past support of segregation in their state. Methodists held a prayer walk outside one of several predominantly white churches that closed in recent years as the neighborhood became mostly black. The marchers recited a prayer of confession that included harsh self-analysis for a denomination that has seen decades of steady decline. "Forgive our willingness to close churches and our unwillingness to risk new churches," the group recited aloud.

**AFA suspends Ford boycott.** The American Family Association has suspended its boycott of Ford Motor Co., allowing dealers time to communicate directly with Ford officials regarding AFA's concern over the company's support for the homosexual "marriage" movement. AFA launched the boycott May 31, citing disappointment with Ford's promotion of the "gay rights" agenda. But in a meeting with AFA, a group of Ford dealers requested time to see if the concerns could be addressed without a boycott. AFA had already recruited more than 110,000 people to take part in the planned boycott.

**Ecumenical group postpones launch for black churches.** A new group that aims to bring U.S. Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant Christians together has been postponed because the effort has received little interest from black churches, the leaders said. The fledgling group, Christian Churches Together in the USA, has struggled to recruit historically black churches, who have been skeptical that their issues would be addressed in another ecumenical group.

## Warren's new purpose: fighting poverty

By Holly Lebowitz Rossi  
*Beliefnet*

**Lake Forest, Calif. (RNS)**—Usually when the words "evangelical" and "poverty" appear in the same sentence, the minister at the helm is Jim Wallis, Ron Sider or Tony Campolo.

When Rick Warren is written and talked about, it's almost never in the context of any political issue.

But Warren, pastor of Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, Calif., and the author of the blockbuster "Purpose-Driven Life" book series, is driving into the issue of Christian responsibility to combat global poverty.

The move took the form of an open letter campaign to President Bush, launched June 3 by Warren with heavyweights Billy Graham and evangelist John Stott and sent to more than 150,000 evangelicals nationwide.

"I deeply believe that if we as evangelicals remain silent and do not speak up in defense of the poor, we lose our credibility and our right to witness about God's love for the world," Warren wrote in his appeal for participants in the campaign.

As an influential evangelical leader, Warren lends powerful weight to

the cause of ending global poverty.

Following its publication in 2002, "The Purpose-Driven Life" went on to become the best-selling book for 2003 and 2004, and the best-selling non-fiction hardback in history, with sales of more than 22 million copies. Warren and his wife, Kay, have set up three foundations through which to distribute 90 percent of the proceeds from the book back into global ministry, including assistance to individuals in Third World countries who are battling AIDS.



Rick Warren

## New politics for Warren?

Warren stressed that his action did not signal a new, political phase of his career, but rather was an urgent call to live out his Christian faith.

"I've never been involved in partisan politics—and don't intend to do so now—but global poverty is an issue that rises far above mere politics," he wrote in his letter. "It is a moral issue, ... a compassion issue ... and because Jesus commanded us to help the poor, it is an obedience issue!"

Warren's push is part of a larger vision he has been unfolding over the last few months.

LifeWay CHURCH BUSES  
Buses provided for LifeWay by  
Carpenter Bus Sales  
1-800-370-6180 • carpenterbus.com

In April, during Saddleback's 25th anniversary celebration, he announced he would lead thousands of churches around the world in eradicating five "giant problems" that oppress billions of people: global poverty; diseases, such as AIDS, that affect billions of people; illiteracy among half the world's population; spiritual emptiness through which to distribute 90 percent of the proceeds from the book back into global ministry, including assistance to individuals in Third World countries who are battling AIDS.

Saddleback's network of 2,600 small groups is now in the process of adopting villages in Rwanda, where a million people were killed in a 100-day genocide in 1994. Warren chose Rwanda after a recent visit there, and he recently hosted the Rwandan president at Saddleback.

Warren isn't the only evangelical leader outside the short list of the religious left to take on poverty. The National Association of Evangelicals adopted a document in October 2004 that urged evangelicals to embrace an agenda that is broader than—but doesn't exclude—the social morality-focused "culture wars."

Join us for Worship with  
SBC President  
**BOBBY WELCH**  
**June 19, 9:15 & 10:45 am**  
Judson Baptist Church  
4900 Franklin Rd  
Nashville, TN 37220  
www.judsonbaptist.com

**JUDSON**  
Helping People Through Life

## Being creative with His blessings, part 1

## From bananas to volunteers and barber chairs, God provides for Oneida's needs

By Missy Nichols

Oneida Baptist Institute Donations Coordinator

God knows our needs long before we do. As Oneida's donations coordinator, I am reminded of this every day. Most of the gifts we receive have obvious uses, while others take a little more thought. It seems God sends some things just to see how creative we will be with their use.

I have been in charge of receiving donations at Oneida for eight years and have seen an amazing variety of items come to our campus. Sometimes the donations are a mixture of items in smaller amounts. Maybe a church has collected a box of school supplies, or a woman's Sunday school class has handmade teddy bears. These are wonderful personal gifts, but more often than not our "blessings" come by the pallet or truckload.

One of the most common types of donations we receive is food items. We have more than 300 students, 150 faculty and staff, and a continuous stream of visitors to feed every day. There's no doubt we will eat the food, but the challenges include beating the expiration dates and being creative in serving it. Although we might scratch our heads wondering what in the world God was thinking when He sent this, in the end we usually are amazed and amused at our creativity.

Once we received 10 pallets of bananas. Produce is rated in stages based on ripeness. A stage one banana is very green and hard with a shelf life of four to five weeks. A stage four banana is perfectly yellow and should be eaten in two to three days. When we received these bananas,

they were at the end of stage three. So we kept them as cool as possible and began to make banana nut bread at a furious pace. Some loaves were eaten, but most were frozen for later. We peeled and froze several cases of bananas, and we ate banana pudding for weeks. We consumed eight pallets of bananas before time took its toll.

Another time we received more than 1,000 gallons of barbecue sauce. But getting it out of the 30-gallon drums was a challenge. Because the drums were too heavy to lift and pour, we needed a cart that could be tipped to pour and stand the drum back up. It took a few weeks, but eventually we got the cart. After two and a half years, we finally ran out of sauce.

Each year, we are blessed with volunteers on our campus. The work they do is a valuable donation of time. Their skills as carpenters, electricians or just able bodies saves the school thousands of dollars in labor costs. Recently, we have made use of another skill some of our volunteers have: beautician/barber. Our students usually get haircuts when they go home throughout the year. But because of time and expense, some students don't go home often enough to take care of this need. Our faculty and staff also benefit from these services.

When we first set up our makeshift salon, we had only bar stools to sit on. They weren't the best arranged for the stylists, but they never complained. One day we received two barber chairs in excellent condition. Now everyone is more comfortable. God answers our prayers in His time.

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

## THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

## New career decision leads to Tennessee

## Administrative Affairs Dean Donnie Rosenbalm resigns

Fifty months ago, Donnie Rosenbalm became Clear Creek's dean of administrative affairs. Next month, he becomes administrator of Tri-Cities Christian Schools, a five-school system with 132 employees and nearly 1,000 students in the Bristol-Kingsport-Johnson City, Tenn., area.

The decision wasn't easy; he declined an invitation to be considered three times, even though his son and five grandchildren live in Bristol. When he came to Clear Creek he saw it as "a career, in service to our Savior, ... a natural fit to my call to vocational Christian service."

Donnie worked for Kentucky Utilities from 1969 to 1995, serving the last 11 years as superintendent of operations. His supervisor, Charlie Grace, remembers him as a "very good employee; very intelligent and dependable." While with KU, he secured a bachelor of science degree in business administration at Union College, graduating at age 35. Injuries led to disability. Although continuing to deal with pain, he re-entered the workforce for the Clear Creek position in 2001.

Donnie was almost 39 when he became a Christian. He knew for some time afterward that God was calling him to vocational service. "There was a difference between the call and the commission of where I would serve," he said. "I'll serve wherever I can help further the gospel." The Lord placed him to use his primary gift of administration. After teaching for three years at Mill Creek Christian Academy, he became the school administrator. He completed the bachelor of arts degree at Clear Creek and earned a master's in education at Lincoln Memorial University.

As an unsaved person, Donnie saw a marriage dissolve. The issue of divorce loomed large when he surrendered to the call. He and Sandy recently celebrated 17 years of marriage. His coming to Clear Creek marked the employment of the first divorced person and an indication by trustees that divorce isn't an unforgivable sin; God desires to use each of his children. He certainly used Bro. Donnie at Clear Creek. Our loss will be a blessing to the Tri-Cities area. "Well done, good and faithful servant!"

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

## CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

## 'Purpose Driven' books among most influential, pastors tell poll

Ventura, Calif. (BP)—Rick Warren and his books "The Purpose-Driven Life" and "The Purpose-Driven Church" topped the list of typical pastor reading material in a recent survey.

Barna Research Group asked pastors to identify the three books that had helped them most as a ministry leader during the past three years and found that the most influential books often fail to reach the bestseller lists.

Among the 200-plus books listed, just nine were named by at least 2 percent of all pastors, Barna found, and just 10 authors were listed by at least 2 percent of pastors.

One out of every five senior pastors named "The Purpose-Driven Life" as one of the most helpful books they had read in the last three years. Demographically, Barna reported, the book had twice the appeal among pastors born during the Baby Boom generation as among younger pastors of the Baby Bust era.

Other books cited by at least 2 percent of pastors included:

■ "What's So Amazing About Grace?" by Phillip Yancey.

■ "Fresh Wind, Fresh Fire" by Jim Cymbala.

■ "Wild at Heart" by John Eldredge.

■ "Courageous Leadership" by Bill Hybels.

■ "Spiritual Leadership" by Henry Blackaby.

■ "Next Generation Leader" by Andy Stanley.

■ "21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership" by John Maxwell.

Following Warren on the list of authors were Maxwell, Blackaby, Cymbala, Hybels, Stanley and Yancey.

Three types of books emerged as most helpful for pastors. Fifty-four percent of ministers listed at least one book about discipleship or personal spiritual growth. Books about church growth, congregational health or ministry dynamics were listed by 23 percent of pastors, and leadership books were named by 22 percent.

"One of the most interesting outcomes is the different taste of younger pastors," George Barna said. "Given the divergent points of view that they consider most helpful and influential, it seems likely we will continue to see new forms and strategies emerge in their churches. They lean toward books and authors that extol adventure, shared experiences, visionary leadership, supernatural guidance and relational connections.

"If their choices in reading are any indication, they seem less obsessed with church size and more interested in encounters with the living God," Barna said.

# 15 years of 'Experiencing'

## Authors Blackaby & King note 15 years of 'God at work' through Bible study

By Polly House  
SBC LifeWay Christian Resources

Atlanta (BP)—Henry Blackaby and Claude King's Bible study has had a simple, but challenging, message: Find where God is working and join Him there.

Fifteen years after its release, "Experiencing God" continues to change lives.

The study has sold more than 4 million copies and has been licensed in 62 languages, from Chinese and Mongolian to Hebrew and Arabic.

"Experiencing God" is my life's message," Blackaby said. "It's how I had always understood and walked with God. This is how I pastored and led God's people."

King, who was an editor at LifeWay (then called the Baptist Sunday School Board) when he was paired with Blackaby, said "Experiencing God" was different from what Southern Baptists were accustomed to studying 15 years ago.

It was not a program, but an experience, he said. "As people began responding to the message in the workbook, we saw lives changed."

### "7 Realities"

The message of Experiencing God is built upon what Blackaby calls "Seven Realities":

1. God is always at work around you.

2. God pursues a continuing love relationship with you that is real and personal.

3. God invites you to become involved with Him in His work.

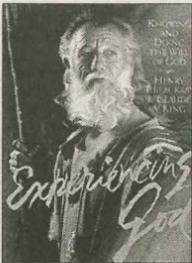
4. God speaks by the Holy Spirit through the Bible, prayer, circumstances and the church to reveal Himself, His purposes and His ways.

5. God's invitation to work with Him always leads you to a crisis of belief that requires faith and action.

6. You must make major adjust-

ments in your life to join God in what He is doing.

7. You come to know God by experience as you obey Him and He accomplishes His work through you.



### Building a workbook

King constructed the workbook and authored its learning activities, based on Blackaby's conference presentations.

"Experiencing God" set a new model for workbooks," said King, who currently is an editor-in-chief in LifeWay's leadership and adult publishing area.

"We videotaped Henry as he spoke to groups at Glorieta, then transcribed the tapes and compiled it all as a first-person narrative and added the learning activities."

A Canadian, Blackaby was pastor of Faith Baptist Church in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, for 12 years and then served as director of missions in Vancouver for two years before moving to the United States to become director of prayer and spiritual awakening at the former Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

He later served as special assistant to the presidents of the North American Mission Board, the International Mission Board and LifeWay. Since retirement, he has devoted his time to Blackaby Ministries International, his own speaking, writing and training ministry based in suburban Atlanta.

Blackaby said his life has changed considerably since the workbook's release.

"One of the best parts is now, everywhere we go, Marilyn (his wife) and I hear the most wonderful stories from people," he said. "We hear how their lives have been changed."

Blackaby gets more than 2,000 invitations each year to speak and lead conferences around the world based on the "Experiencing God"



**CHANGED LIVES** Henry and Marilyn Blackaby say they have been blessed by stories they hear from people whose lives have been changed by "Experiencing God," which was first published 15 years ago. (BP photo by Kent Harville)

message. Accepting all those is humanly impossible, so how does he choose?

"I have to make certain I have a discerning spirit," he said. "The size or location of an event is not important. I look and determine if God is already at work. And I won't do an event if I feel like I have been invited just because my presence will draw a crowd."

### Reaching other cultures

"Experiencing God" has proved to be an important LifeWay resource for reaching into other cultures.

"Experiencing God" is one of those resources that has translated well to the needs of our overseas churches," said Luis Lopez of LifeWay's international department. "It's been on the market for 15 years and people have become very familiar with it."

In January LifeWay released "A 40-Day Experience: Reality, 7 Truths from Experiencing God" by Henry Blackaby and his son Richard. "Experiencing God" also is available as an online study at LifeWay.com.

Even though he has influenced countless people through his Bible studies, devotionals, books and conferences, Blackaby still makes it a priority to keep his own daily appointment with God.

He said he spends between four and five hours a day in study and prayer. "I find that I am sleeping less than I used to."

## Movie editing companies attracting families & Hollywood lawsuits

Nashville (BP)—If Hollywood won't clean up its act, several companies have stepped forward to do it for them.

Thanks to DVD technology, a few innovative companies are offering a night at home with movies that mute curse words and skip over offensive scenes.

CleanFilms, CleanFlicks and Family Flix offer family-safe edited DVD versions of PG, PG-13 and R movies, deleting the objectionable content. Another budding company, ClearPlay, sells a DVD player with the capability of muting profanity and "skipping" offensive scenes.

In all instances, the profanity, sexual dialogue, nudity and graphic violence are gone. PG movies become G-rated. R movies turn PG-friendly.

"There's no question that Hollywood movies are getting edgier and edgier," ClearPlay CEO Bill Aho said. "You find sex and language and violence creeping into more and more movies. I don't think that these trends in Hollywood reflect the values

that parents have for their families."

While thousands of families have embraced the industry—CleanFilms alone claims nearly 10,000 customers—Hollywood's reaction hasn't been so kind. Movie directors have sued the companies, asserting they are infringing on artistic license.

Congress provided some protection, passing a bill that was signed into law by President Bush in April, shielding ClearPlay and similar companies from lawsuits. But the new law, called the Family Entertainment and Copyright Act, apparently does not protect the other three companies, which physically alter the DVD.

### Filters vs. digital editing

Among the four companies, ClearPlay's service is unique because it doesn't physically alter the original DVD recording. ClearPlay DVD players are pre-programmed with filters for hundreds of movie titles that tell it when to mute or skip objectionable content. Filters for the latest movies

are downloadable online, and parents can customize filters to fit their preferences.

The other three companies rent or sell edited movies, maintaining they are within the law because they keep a 1-to-1 ratio between edited and original copies. For each edited movie they rent or sell, they purchase an original copy of the movie. Customers receive two DVDs—an edited copy plus a disabled original version.

Editing companies defend their practice by noting that TV networks and airlines show edited movies that are free of profanity, nudity and graphic violence. But production companies don't sell those versions.

"A lot of us in the past have gone (to Hollywood) and said, 'Why don't you just take the airlines movies and make them available on DVD now that technology allows you to put two versions of the movie on the same disk?'" Richards said. "The problem is that they have gone in the opposite direction. They started using the (DVD's) double capacity (for) uncut versions."

## PRAYER PARTNERS

Please pray for the following Baptist missionary and ministries

**Couples ministry at First Baptist Church of Shelbyville.** The church recently began a marriage mentoring ministry for engaged and newly married couples. There is a tremendous need for young couples to receive biblical instruction and Christian mentoring from mature Christian couples. Ministry leaders desired to reach unchurched couples in the community with the message that they can have a strong and healthy marriage when Christ is at the center of their relationship. Pray for leaders as they seek to grow this ministry and strengthen marriages in the community. Pray also that couples will realize their need to include Christ in their marriage relationship.

**Mission Service Corps missionaries Frank and Lynn Harris of Mayfield.** The Harrises have recognized a need in their area for a ministry to drug abusers and their families. They are working with Steve Austin of 180 Degrees Ministries and local church and community leaders to develop a ministry that offers freedom to those caught in addiction. They will be working to help educate and train area pastors, school leaders, law enforcement officials, judicial system workers and community leaders about how to deal with those affected by addiction. Pray that God will provide the volunteers, materials, finances and other resources needed to address this growing need that touches so many lives. Pray also that abusers will experience Christ and that entire families will discover spiritual healing.

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

## MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

■ **ARLINGTON**—First Church recently called **Danny O'Guinn** as pastor.  
 ■ **BIG SPRING**—Big Spring Church recently called **Jack Simmons** as pastor.  
 ■ **CORBIN**—Central Church ordained **Will Zik** to the gospel ministry May 15. He is serving as youth minister of First Church, Central City.  
 ■ **ELIZABETHTOWN**—Sevens Valley Church honored **Bill and Charlene Ray** on their 50th wedding anniversary June 4.  
 ■ **HEBRON**—Hebron Church licensed **Mason Forsythe** to the gospel minis-

try April 24.  
 ■ **LONDON**—Providence Church recently called **David Thomas** as pastor. He previously was pastor of Old Salem Church.  
 ■ **LOUISVILLE**—Chapel Park Church recently called **Bradley Chalfin** as pastor.  
 South Watterson Trail Church recently called **Ron German** as pastor.  
 ■ **PRINCETON**—Chapel Hill Church recently called **Tom Keim** as pastor.  
 ■ **SHEPHERDSVILLE**—Mount Elmira Church recently called **Jason Littlejohn** as pastor.

## Mauney, longtime Baptist leader, dies

**Williamsburg**—Harold Mauney, former pastor of First Baptist Church of Williamsburg, died June 1. He was 67.

Mauney, who retired in 2000 after 18 years as pastor of First Baptist, Williamsburg, had served since 2000 as part-time associate pastor of First Baptist Church of London. He previously was pastor of First Baptist Church of Taylorsville; Lonsdale Baptist Church of Knoxville, Tenn.; Pigeon Fork Baptist Church of Waddy; and Calvary Baptist Church of Corbin.

"Harold was a wonderful friend to me as a colleague in ministry," said Terry Lester, pastor of First Baptist, London. He described Mauney as "a real people person, a great scholar and a very thoughtful Christian who was deeply committed to the great foundational Baptist principles."

Citing Mauney's battle with can-

cer, Lester added, "In his dying days, he prayed our invocation every Sunday before us—his fears, doubts, hopes and faith. His prayers were beautiful expressions of who he was and Who God was for him in his dying days."

A former vice president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Mauney also had served as a member of the KBC Mission Board, trustee of Campbellsville University and board member of Baptist Healthcare System. He was a graduate of Georgetown College and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

Mauney is survived by his wife, Donna; daughter, Beth Ann Williams; and two granddaughters.

Memorial gifts may be made to First Baptist, Williamsburg, or to the building fund of First Baptist, London.

## KBC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### June

- 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.

- 27-29 Mission Adventure Camp for Boys Express Camp, Campbellsville University.
- 27-July 1 Discovery Youth Camps, Cedarmore Baptist Conference Center.
- 27-July 1 Mission Adventure Camp for Girls, Cedar Crest.

### July

- 1-4 Wrangler Trail Ride, Land Between the Lakes.
- 4-8 Mission Adventure Camp for Boys, Campbellsville University.
- 6-8 Mission Adventure Camp (Express) for Girls, Cedar Crest.
- 8-9 Mission Adventure Camp for Boys Father/Son Overnight, Campbellsville University.
- 8-9 Mother/Daughter Overnight, Cedar Crest.
- 9-16 Kentucky Changers, Louisville.
- 11-15 Mission Adventure Camp for Boys, Campbellsville University.
- 11-15 Mission Adventure Camp for Girls, Cedar Crest.
- 15-16 World Missions Unlimited, Sevens Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown.
- 18-20 Mission Adventure Camp for Boys Express Camp, Campbellsville University.
- 20-23 Kentucky Secretaries Retreat, Campbellsville University.
- 21-22 Quarterly Prayer Meeting for Spiritual Awakening, Columbia Baptist Church.
- 25-27 Mountain Missions Conference, Oneida Baptist Institute.

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

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**FREE:** Pollard Baptist is offering a free assimilation guide (including a step-by-step job description of an assimilation director) at [www.pollardbaptist.com](http://www.pollardbaptist.com).

**SEEKING:** Secretary/public education assistant. Exploited Children's Help Organization. Help children, work with volunteers, multi-job, small office. Resumé/salary, Excel, Quik books. Resumé/salary to: ECHO, 1500 Poplar Level Road, Louisville, KY 40217. No phone calls.

**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](mailto:tstratton79@hotmail.com).

**SEEKING:** Senior pastor for Hart Missionary Baptist Church located in London, Ky. Hart is an active, fast growing Southern Baptist church with 300-plus attending weekly worship. Candidates must have the ability to work with existing ministry teams, possess a heart for children and youth and have a vision for future growth. Bachelor's/seminary degree and previous pastoral experience a plus. For more information about our church, please go to [www.HartBaptistChurch.org](http://www.HartBaptistChurch.org). Resumés may be sent by e-mail to: [epatton@alltel.net](mailto:epatton@alltel.net); or mail to: Pastor Search Committee, Hart Baptist Church, PO Box 696, London, KY 40743.

**SEEKING:** Pastor. Send resumé to Piney Grove Baptist Church, c/o LaVetta Mahan, 3009 Mountain View Lane, Corbin, KY 40701.

**SEEKING:** Pastor for rural Southern Baptist church. Send resumé to: Pastor Search Committee, 529 Ada Drive, Harrodsburg, KY 40330-1011.

**SEEKING:** Full-time and part-time ministers for youth, education, evangelism and children. Send resumé to Pastor Bob Swift, 118 West South St., Mayfield, KY 42066.

**SEEKING:** Pianist. Please send resumé to First Baptist Church, 118 West South St., Mayfield, KY 42066. For more information: (270) 247-2992.

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister of youth at Bagdad Baptist Church in Shelby County. Candidate should be energetic, self-motivated, able to lead by example, to relate to all ages on a spiritual and personal level and be willing to make a long-term commitment to our youth ministry. Please send resumé to: Youth Minister Search Committee, PO Box 8, Bagdad, KY 40003, or e-mail to [Lynda4@netscape.com](mailto:Lynda4@netscape.com).

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister of music. First Baptist, Shepherdsville, is seeking a 20-hour-per-week minister of music. Primary responsibilities include Sunday worship, Wednesday choir rehearsal and resumé of new music. Send resumé to: [gary@shepfb.org](mailto:gary@shepfb.org), or Gary Hardin, 254 S. Buckman, Shepherdsville, KY 40165. See our Web site: [www.shepfb.org](http://www.shepfb.org).

**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:** 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 First Baptist Church, Williamsburg, Ky. Beautiful small town setting near Cumberland College. Diverse membership with an average Sunday attendance of 140 and an active youth group. Must be able to work with both SBC and CBF. Parsonage optional. Seeking individual with MDiv. degree and pastoral experience. Send resumé to: First Baptist Church, 230 S 5th St., Williamsburg, KY 40769.

**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:** 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 Second Baptist Church, located in the Western region of Kentucky. College degree preferred, with some seminary training. Send resumé to: Search Committee, Second Baptist Church, 633 Bishop St., Madisonville, KY 42431.

**SEEKING:** Part-time youth minister (paid position; grades 6-12) for First 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](mailto:turnerchandler@hotmail.com).

**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](http://www.covenantphoneservice.com).

## Extreme home 'GraceOver'

*Church planning missions blitz to help families and ministries*

By Erin Webster  
The Alabama Baptist

Birmingham, Ala. (ABP)—“Tell us again, Momma,” the children beg.

And so Beverly Gardner tells her 13 children about the church members who are coming to make over their six-bedroom house and send the family away to do wonderful things while the house is transformed.

It's a story filled with hope for a kid-friendly place to play in the yard—not to mention eyes glimmering at the thought of going to Visionland, fishing, playing sports and even a date for the hardworking mother and father.

The best part of the story is that it's real. The Gardners have been chosen as one of the families that will benefit from an “Extreme Home GraceOver” sponsored by The Church at Brook Hills in Birmingham, Ala.

After 25 years spent raising 16 children, 13 of whom still are at home, Beverly and Sam Gardners' house needs a few repairs. Washing four-to-five loads of laundry a day, cooking four times a day and eating in shifts at the kitchen table, the family's appliances also need repair.

But for the Gardners, it's all part of the joy of raising children. After having four children of their own, two with special needs, the couple felt led to adopt 12 more, many with special needs including blindness, cerebral palsy and Down's syndrome.

“Having given birth to one child with special needs makes (having more special-needs children) easier because you already have your life adjusted,” Beverly said. “It's just

obviously what we're supposed to be doing.”

Through it all, Beverly and Sam keep smiles and laughter handy, happy that everyone is healthy, clothed and well-fed. “I don't worry about the things that need fixing because there's no money to fix them with,” she said.

But July 15-17, many of those things will be fixed, thanks to the GraceOver project.

In addition to the Gardners, four other families, Ernest Chapel Presbyterian Church in Birmingham and Jessie's Place—a Birmingham homeless shelter for women and children—will also get a makeover.

### 800 volunteers, more needed

Volunteers from Brook Hills and area businesses are teaming up for the project. Already 800 volunteers have signed up to help, and area businesses are providing food, building supplies and other items to the effort. The church is hoping more will join in by providing sponsorships and goods, according to Gene Mason, communications minister for the church.

“It's a great way for businesses to be involved in the community,” Mason said. “Donating goods and services will help us transform these homes and organizations.”

While much has been donated, much is still needed, including 300 more workers, he said.

Mason said the popularity of home-makeover shows on television inspired Brook Hills. He was quick to point out, however, that a layperson in the church brought the idea of the “Extreme Home GraceOver” to the attention of



church staff, and “the project is almost entirely lay-led.”

Mason said the purpose of GraceOver is “service, pure and simple.”

“We want to live out Matthew 25:35-40, where Jesus relates that when we clothe and shelter others, provide food and serve in His name, we are doing it ‘as unto the Lord,’” Mason said.

Church members' initial reaction was enthusiastic, he added. “I haven't met a member yet who hasn't been excited about what God will do through this ministry.”

### Organizing projects

Of the 50 nominations submitted, seven projects were chosen by a team of prayerful GraceOver volunteers including designers and architects. Mason said the team conducted on-site interviews with nominees and looked at the

size and location of the projects because all work must be done in a few days' time and be within reach of the church and membership.

Mason said the projects chosen “are for people who have legitimate, practical needs that we can meet.”

Beverly said her family has been overwhelmed by the generosity of the church. “We can't believe it. I didn't even know (Brook Hills) existed.” The Gardners, who live in Trussville, are members of Holy Infant of Prague Catholic Church.

According to the project's Web site, this is Brook Hills' biggest missions project ever. “It's important to know that missions is not just about going around the world,” Mason said. “Sometimes it's about going around the corner or down the street.”

To learn more about the project, visit [www.bhgraceover.org](http://www.bhgraceover.org).

### GRACEOVER

**PREPARATION** Sam and Beverly Gardner, seated with their grandson, Eason, conduct an interview with Sheila and Rick Sutton of The Church at Brook Hills while their son Tony watches over the newest addition to their family, three-year-old Lynden, who has arthrogryposis and gastroscsis. (Alabama Baptist photo by Erin Webster)

## Graham's New York crusade to be translated into 20 languages

By Jason Anthony  
Religion News Service

New York (RNS)—In 1957, when Billy Graham's New York City crusade launched him into the national spotlight, he took the chance to cross racial lines in an age of segregation.

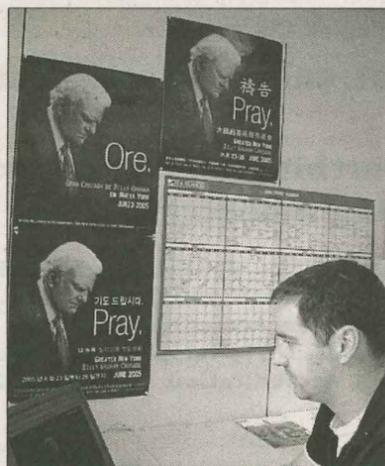
From June 24 to 26, Graham, now a feeble 86, will hold possibly his final crusade in New York, and aides say his goal is to speak to “the entire world, every ethnic group.”

It has his team scrambling to find volunteers who can deliver “the good news” in nearly two dozen languages.

“It's massive. The publicity, the trainings, the arrangements,” said Graham language coordinator John Sowers, whose cubicle is now dwarfed by piles of Graham's tracts in Urdu and Cantonese. “It's shocking how diverse this city is.”

Reaching out to the largest possible audience is typical of Graham, known for his lifelong habit of casting a wide net for evangelism. With more than 1,500 churches and 81 denominations helping, technology will augment diversity.

Over three days, 10,000 headsets will translate Graham's sermons



**MULTICULTURAL EVENT** Posters in different languages for the Greater New York Billy Graham Crusade show organizers' plans to translate Graham's sermons into 20 languages. (RNS photo by Jason Anthony)

into 20 languages. The event will be broadcast on a local Korean AM radio station all weekend and coordinators are trying to set up similar services in Spanish and Chinese.

The crusade will take place in Flushing Meadows Park in Queens, regularly used by families from more than 130 language groups in

neighboring communities.

Art Bailey, director of the New York crusade, said one of the first priorities for his office was building an event that involves a wide range of communities. In his 20th year with Graham, “this may be the greatest extent that we've done that,” he said. “But it's always been a part of what we've done.”

### A history of bridging cultures

Graham's first revival in New York in 1957 lasted 16 weeks at Madison Square Garden and made him the first coast-to-coast televised evangelist.

During that summer, Graham reached out to Latino and African-American groups, holding a rally in Harlem and offering Spanish services. He installed the first African-American member of his staff, and asked a young Martin Luther King Jr. to share the pulpit with him at Madison Square Garden.

Not that Graham's big tent policies were always well-received.

In 1953, a year before the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark *Brown v. Board of Education* decision on desegregation, Graham became one of the first preachers to hold in-

terracial revivals in the deep South, once personally removing the ropes dividing whites from African-Americans in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Graham's legacy includes the connections he has made between blacks and whites in communities, and between cultures and people groups throughout the world.

He held services for a crowd of more than 1 million in Seoul, South Korea, and preached in Moscow during the Cold War. His son, Franklin, now president of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, continues to travel extensively.

Officials said Graham sees his trip to New York, the city that bills itself as the world's second home, as an opportunity to fit everyone under one big tent.

The Graham crusade is aggressively reaching out to Spanish-speaking churches, reflecting a trend worldwide as Latinos join Protestant and evangelical traditions in larger numbers.

Adolfo Carrion, the local chair for outreach to Latinos, said the organization has tried to include everyone. “We have people from all over Latin America,” he said. “It's like the ITN.”

**Aides say Graham's goal for the New York City crusade, June 24-26, is to speak to “the entire world, every ethnic group.”**

# **Congratulations**

## **Clear Creek Baptist Bible College**

### **Class of 2005**



- These ladies and gentlemen just graduated from:**
- > **The Kentucky Baptist Convention's only BIBLE COLLEGE.**
  - > **One of only FIVE Bible Colleges that are accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.**
  - > **A Kentucky Baptist Tradition since 1926.**
  - > **A place where YOU could earn a Bachelor of Arts degree, choose the Associate's degree instead, or just get a BIBLICAL start on college.**

**(We have a Christian Service Degree for those not called to vocational ministry.)**

**"We are a community of learners who affirm the trustworthiness of God's revealed word as the guide for our life and the foundation for our equipping ministry." ...Core Values Statement**

Clear Creek Baptist Bible College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; telephone number 404-679-4501) to award the Associate of Arts and Bachelor of Arts Degrees. Clear Creek is also accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the Association for Biblical Higher Education (5575 S. Semoran Blvd., Suite 26, Orlando, FL 32822-1781; telephone number 407-207-0808), an institutional accrediting body recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and the U.S. Department of Education.



#### **CLEAR CREEK BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE**

**300 CLEAR CREEK ROAD, PINEVILLE, KENTUCKY 40977-9754**

**Phone: (606) 337-3196 Toll Free: (866) 340-3196 Fax: (606) 337-2372**

**Internet: [www.cbbbc.edu](http://www.cbbbc.edu)**

**E-Mail:**

**President, Dr. Bill Whittaker: [bwhittaker@cbbbc.edu](mailto:bwhittaker@cbbbc.edu)**

**Admissions, Billy Howell: [bhowell@cbbbc.edu](mailto:bhowell@cbbbc.edu) Online Studies, Jay Barnett: [jbarnett@cbbbc.edu](mailto:jbarnett@cbbbc.edu)**