



WESTERN RECORDER

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FOR THE RECORD

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Hungry boy led churches to start Greenville sack lunch ministry

By Brenda Smith
Kentucky Baptist Convention

Greenville—When Pam Smith was finishing a backyard Bible club several summers ago, she had no idea that a hungry 3-year-old boy was about to stir her heart to start a ministry.

"There was a 3-year-old boy—who had already eaten breakfast and a snack—eating his third hot dog, bun and all, before some of the kids had even eaten their first," Smith recalled.

"That's when I knew how hungry he really was."

Most of the children who were attending her Bible club were eligible for free lunch during the school year. Unless they went to summer school, many of them did not get lunch at all, Smith said.

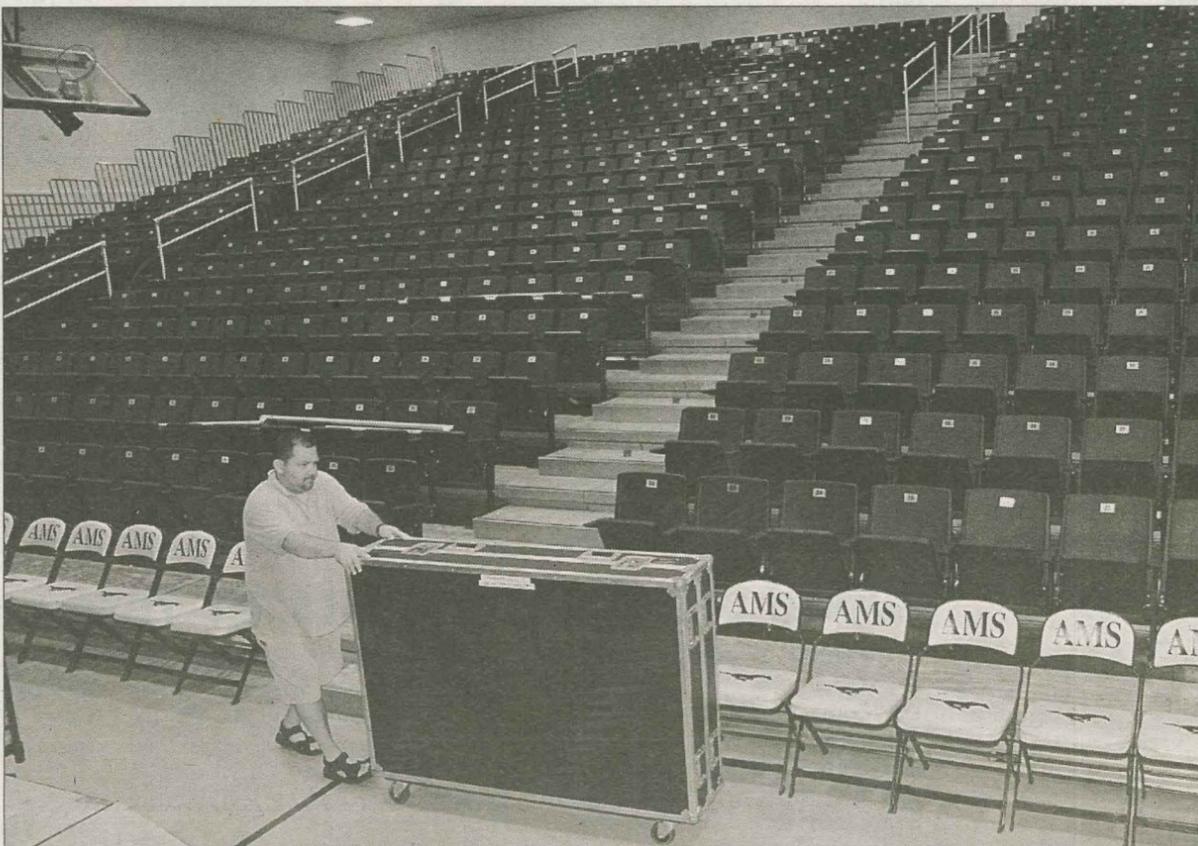
That eye-opening realization prompted Smith to ask fellow members at First Baptist Church of Greenville to start a ministry to feed hungry children during the summer.

Her plan was simple: Volunteers would pack and deliver sack lunches to hungry kids, and donations would support the ministry.

What began in 2001 with the need of one boy has expanded to serve approximately 250 children and adults in the Greenville area. Several other churches, including Second Baptist Church, have joined in the ministry and deliver meals on other days of the week.

□ See Greenville ... *Page 6*

Moving experience



Every Sunday morning—throughout the commonwealth and around the country—teams of church volunteers transform public schools into places of worship. This week's Western Recorder looks at the benefits and challenges churches face when they meet in schools.

■ **Above:** Chuck Austin, a member of Hope Community Church in Lawrenceburg, wheels the church's sound board into the auditorium at Anderson County Middle School. ■ **Right:** Tim Baker (center) and his son, Mason, begin to unload a trailer full of supplies with Allen Hellard. Approximately 30 church workers must unload four trailers full of instruments, sound equipment, Sunday school materials and other supplies before worship starts. After worship, the work begins again in reverse. (Photos by David Winfrey) See story on page 3.



Poll: Most Americans reject moral absolutes, Christian worldview

Ventura, Calif. (BP)—Barely a third of all Americans believe in absolute standards of right and wrong, and far fewer hold to a biblical worldview, a new poll says.

The poll by The Barna Group, a Christian research organization, shows that only 35 percent of Americans believe in absolute standards of morality—that is, believe that right and wrong do not change with time or circumstances.

Thirty-two percent of Americans say that morality depends on the situation and the circumstance, while 33 percent say they do not know if morality is absolute or relative.

"The fact that only 35 percent of all Americans believe in moral absolutes provides some frightening insight into our culture," said Craig Vincent Mitchell, instructor

of Christian ethics at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.

"This statistic translated means that most people are willing to do whatever they can get away with," he added. "A moral society is a happier society and a more successful one. An immoral society is one that destroys itself and its citizens."

But despite the outward rejection of moral absolutes, people still believe in absolutes "when it involves them or what belongs to them," Mitchell said.

"No one believes that Kenneth Lay did the right thing for his employees or investors when he was the CEO of Enron," he said. "In other words, what people say or profess is often one thing, but what they really believe is another."

Polls consistently report that a majority of Americans consider themselves to be Christians. Despite that, only 5 percent of Americans hold to a biblical worldview, the Barna poll found.

Barna defines a biblical worldview as believing that: moral absolutes exist; the source of truth is the Bible; the Bible is "accurate in all of the principles it teaches"; salvation is by grace alone; Jesus lived a sinless life; believers have a duty to witness; Satan is real and not just a symbol; God is the "all-knowing, all-powerful maker of the universe who still rules that creation today."

"Our studies consistently show that churches base their sense of success on indicators such as attendance, congregant satisfaction, dollars raised and built-out square foot-

age," Christian researcher George Barna said in a statement.

"None of those factors relates to the kind of radical shift in thinking and behavior that Jesus Christ died on the cross to facilitate," Barna said. "As long as we measure success on the basis of popularity and efficiency, we will continue to see a nation filled with people who can recite Bible stories but fail to live according to Bible principles."

Mitchell said America's rejection of moral absolutes will not make it "more difficult to preach the gospel." Deep down, all people know that God exists and that they are sinful, he said.

"People may deny the existence of moral absolutes, but deep down, when they are alone, they will admit the truth to themselves."

Dated material: Please deliver by Wednesday, August 17

Tom Elliff named IMB senior vice president

By Michael Chute
SBC International Mission Board

Richmond, Va. (BP)—Former Southern Baptist Convention President Tom Elliff has been named a senior vice president of the Southern Baptist International Mission Board.

Elliff, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church in Del City, Okla., was approved by IMB trustees as senior vice president for spiritual nurture and church relations. Trustees are scheduled to ratify his selection during their Sept. 12-14 meeting in Pensacola, Fla.

In his new role, Elliff will teach and nurture missionaries, mentor IMB staff and relate to Southern Baptist pastors and churches. Elliff told his congregation Aug. 7 of his decision to resign the pastorate and join the IMB leadership team.

Elliff, 61, has been pastor of the Oklahoma church for the past 20 years. In denominational life, he served two terms as SBC president in 1996-1998, as well as serving as president of the SBC Pastors' Conference and chairman of the Southern



Tom Elliff

Baptist Council on Family Life. He and his wife served briefly as missionaries to Zimbabwe in the early 1980s.

"We are thrilled that Tom and Jeannie Elliff have felt God's leadership to join the IMB team at this point in their ministry," IMB President Jerry Rankin said.

"The Elliffs have reflected a call to missions throughout their ministry," he added. "They each have been an adviser and encourager to our leadership and have already been involved extensively in ministering to our missionaries and training national leaders around the world."

IMB trustee chairman Tom Hatley described Elliff as "the best-known missions pastor in the nation over the last three decades. You can't go wrong when you talk about Tom Elliff and his love for international missions. Tom brings that heart for missions a pastor can have, and hopefully through him we're going to duplicate that heart in thousands of other pastors."

Elliff said his decision to leave the pastorate "in one sense is a change,

but in another it is not. When you speak of spiritual nurturing, an emphasis on doctrinal training and strengthening families, that's what I've done all my life.

"If we take the Great Commission seriously," he added, "we must prepare for massive waves of participation from Southern Baptists."

Hatley said Elliff's selection "is going to allow us to be more understanding of our churches than anything we could have possibly done. We're not only bringing in the pastors' perspective, but Tom Elliff is known as a pastor's pastor, and he's going to allow us to bring understanding to the board about how pastors think and what church needs are in relation to the International Mission Board.

"Bringing someone from outside the organization to a senior vice president position is rare for us," Hatley added. "We almost always promote from within. Showing that openness is a good move; it's showing we're developing some flexibility and recognizing our own needs better than ever before. It's going to be a 'win-win' situation all around for the board."

NAMB offers 'Everyone Can' resources online

Alpharetta, Ga. (BP)—Following in the footsteps of the Southern Baptist Convention's "Everyone Can" emphasis, the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board has unveiled this fall's "On Mission to Share Jesus focus: 'Everyone Can ... Be On Mission to Share Jesus'"

The annual emphasis is designed for churches to challenge their members to cultivate an evangelistic lifestyle. The suggested time to observe the emphasis is Oct. 2, but churches are encouraged adapt the emphasis to their own schedule.

The materials reinforce SBC President Bobby Welch's "Everyone Can" Kingdom Challenge for Southern Baptist churches to lead 1 million people to Christ and to baptize them during the coming church year.

Distribution of this year's materials shifts to the Internet where churches can download and print the materials by clicking on the link at www.namb.net. Resources also are available on CD by calling NAMB at (770) 410-6315. A portion of the materials also will be available in Spanish.

Welch described the On Mission to Share Jesus evangelism emphasis as a way to help churches develop a Kingdom mindset.

"The greatest delight of my 31 years of ministry at First Daytona Beach is to see a large and mighty army of members who are equipped, trained and motivated to do personal evangelism," Welch said. "Pastors and church leaders will never do anything better for their members than to train, equip and lead them in personal soul-winning. We don't have a problem soul-winning will not solve."

BAPTIST DIGEST

Most GuideStone medical rates decrease.

Rates for the majority of GuideStone Financial Resources' PPO medical plan participants will decrease for 2006, according to GuideStone President O.S. Hawkins. He said 57 percent of Personal Plan participants will see a decrease in their medical plan rates. For 2005, GuideStone changed to the Blue Cross Blue Shield network as its single preferred provider network, allowing GuideStone and its participants to take advantage of lower negotiated provider rates. For the second year in a row there will be no medical inflation-based rate increase for participants in GuideStone's Personal Plans. Some individuals will see an increase of 2 to 6 percent in their monthly rates as they move into a new age range.

Missouri court rejects rehearing motion.

The Missouri Court of Appeals turned down a motion for a rehearing Aug. 2 in the continuing legal struggle between the Missouri Baptist Convention and five related institutions. The order overruled the motion for a rehearing and denied the agencies' motion for the case to be transferred to the Missouri Supreme Court. Lawyers for the entities have until Aug. 17 to petition the Supreme Court to consider the case. Attorneys for The Baptist Home, Wandermere Baptist Conference Center, Missouri Baptist University, Word & Way

and the Missouri Baptist Foundation filed a request for rehearing with the Appeals Court June 15 in response to a preliminary opinion the court issued May 31. In that opinion, the three-judge appellate panel reversed Cole County Circuit Court Judge Thomas Brown's March 2004 decision to dismiss legal action against the five institutions. In 2000 and 2001, the five entities changed their charters to allow each entity to elect its own trustees.

Midwestern college gains accreditation.

Midwestern Baptist College, SBC, the undergraduate school of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Mo., will offer a fully accredited bachelor of arts degree in biblical studies beginning in the fall 2005 semester. Midwestern was granted accreditation for the 126-hour degree program by the Higher Learning Commission's Institutional Actions Council Aug. 2. Formal validation by the commission's board of trustees is expected later this month. The first classes for the program will begin Aug. 22.

Seminary consortium elects female leader.

A consortium of Asian Baptist seminaries has elected a Singaporean woman as its president and admitted a Japanese seminary to its membership. The board of the Asian Baptist Graduate Theological

Seminary elected Lilian Lim to a seven-year term as president and voted to admit Japan Baptist Theological Seminary in Yokohama as a member during a recent meeting in Bangkok, Thailand. Lim, from Singapore, served as ABGTS board chair before her election as president. She is the first woman, and only the second Asian, to serve in that capacity for the 46-year-old consortium. She succeeds Chow Lien-Hwa who served as chaplain to Taiwan President Chiang Kai-shek prior to his ABGTS election.

Holman, ABS sign distribution agreement.

Officials of Broadman & Holman Publishers recently signed a 15-year agreement with the American Bible Society for distribution of products containing the Holman Christian Standard Bible translation by the ABS and the United Bible Societies. The agreement allows the ABS to produce, market and sell Bibles containing the Holman CSB to individuals, churches, para-church organizations, members and affiliates of the United Bible Societies and ministries worldwide as well as international bookstores and distributors. "Teaming with the American Bible Society provides a vast array of opportunities for the Holman Christian Standard translation," said Ken Stephens, president of Broadman & Holman Publishers, a division of LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention.

More than 1,000 churches commit to Acts 1:8 focus

By Tim Yarbrough
SBC North American Mission Board

Alpharetta, Ga. (BP)—More than 1,000 Southern Baptist churches have committed to the Acts 1:8 Challenge, a Southern Baptist Convention missions initiative launched in May 2004.

The plan is designed to help churches implement a comprehensive missions strategy involving their community, region, continent and the world through cooperation with their local Baptist association, state convention, North American Mission Board and International Mission Board.

Churches accepting the challenge commit to eight "Kingdom-growing" responses as they seek to prepare, learn, pray, give, go, tell, send and multiply.

Among the 1,087 churches registering their commitment to the Acts 1:8 Challenge are 45 Kentucky Baptist congregations.

Nate Adams, author of the 2005 Baptist doctrine study focusing on Acts 1:8, said the strength of the challenge is that it provides structure for a church's missions efforts.

"The Acts 1:8 Challenge is becoming what many of us hoped it would—a single, simplified missions message that every church can understand, and a strategic, biblical missions model that every church can embrace," said Adams, vice president of NAMB's mission mobilization group.

Ken Hemphill, coordinator of the SBC's Empowering Kingdom Growth emphasis, described the Acts 1:8 Challenge as "the mission component of the convention-wide Empowering Kingdom Growth initiative."

IMB leaders said they view the Acts 1:8 Challenge as a way to inspire churches to take the gospel throughout the world.

"This expansion of leadership structure allows people to focus on the area of missions that stirs their hearts and passion," said Jerry Daniel, leader of the IMB's church and partner services group. "God is awakening the church and people are finding significant ministry opportunities through the Acts 1:8 Challenge."

On the state convention level, Debbie McDowell, director of the South Carolina Baptist Convention's missions mobilization group, said a united focus on Acts 1:8 "has been a good point of challenge for our churches to look at how they are strategically and intentionally living out the Great Commission."

For more information about the Acts 1:8 Challenge, visit www.ActsOne8.com or call (800) 422-8718.

Sunday schools

Churches reap benefits turning public school buildings into houses of worship

By Christine Robertson
State Correspondent

Independence—In addition to his Bible, every Sunday morning, Pastor Tim Freimuth of Bethesda Community Church in Independence is responsible for transporting his pulpit.

Other members of the church bring guitars, keyboards, video equipment and teaching materials because every Sunday morning, the members of Bethesda turn Twenhofel Middle School into a place of worship.

The weekly transformation is repeated throughout the country as churches without a place to call their own rent public education space to meet on weekends.

Church leaders say school buildings offer a cost-efficient meeting place, complete with plenty of parking, a well-known, non-threatening location and a chance to build community relations.

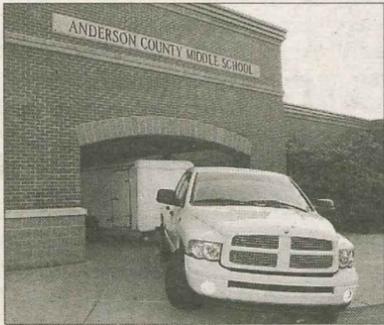
Exact numbers aren't known, but observers say school-based churches have become a common model for new congregations.

About 15,000 U.S. congregations worship in a school setting, according to Mark Chaves, a University of Arizona sociologist of religion and author of "Congregations in America."

Sociologist Scott Thumma of the Hartford Institute for Religion Research puts the number of public school-based congregations between 10,500 and 17,500 of the nation's 350,000 congregations. In the Southern Baptist Convention alone, about 600 of its church starts in 2004 are worshipping in public schools.

One such church is Hope Community Church in Lawrenceburg. Since Hope began meeting in August 1998, Sunday worship attendance at Anderson County Middle School has grown to an average of more than 650. Principal Steve Carmichael said the school's multipurpose room has seating available for up to 900.

In addition to providing room to grow, meeting at Anderson County Middle School has given Hope op-



DELIVERY Tim Robinson, a member of Hope Community Church in Lawrenceburg, backs one of four church trailers into the middle school where the congregation meets. Robinson said he works on the set-up crew every other month. "I just bring my family with me," he said. (Photos by David Winfrey)

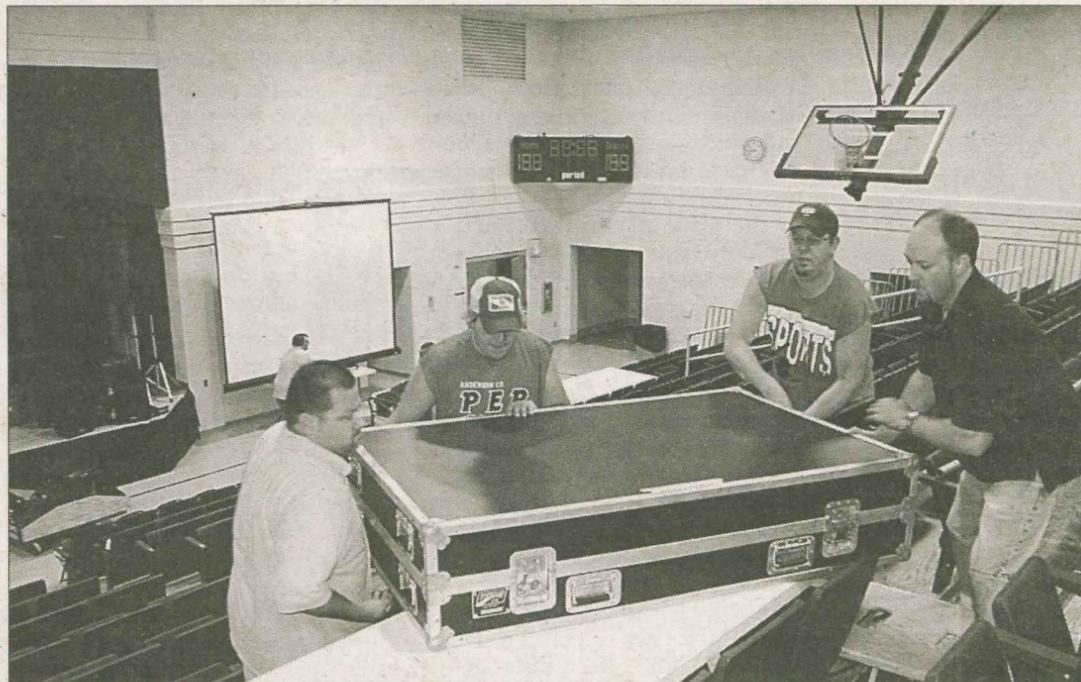
portunities to reach its community. Steve Rose, associate pastor at Hope, said that by meeting in the school building, the church can become involved in the school by eating lunch with students, attending events as chaperones and just being around the kids. Additionally, Hope Community Church's junior high students and church staff have been able to start Bible studies for the school's students. As a result, some of these students and their families have begun to attend the church.

Instant community credibility

School buildings don't just provide room to grow; they also are cost effective. Both Bethesda and New Work Fellowship of Hopkinsville report paying approximately \$400 a month for school building use and utilities. Freimuth said other rental properties can start at \$1,000 per month plus utilities.

Bethesda also found the public school to be a stable location. Twenhofel Middle School and Bethesda signed a renewable contract guaranteeing the church the use of the space for as long as it is needed. After meeting in two condominium clubhouses and a family home in two months' time, the stability of meeting at the school each week has helped strengthen the church body.

Another advantage to meeting



HEAVY LIFTING Chuck Austin (from left) Andrew Eaton, Steve Rose and Chad Walker lift the case containing the church's sound board in the school auditorium. About 30 people help prepare the school for worship each Sunday. "When UK plays at 1:30 (p.m.), we'll have four people to tear down," Rose said.

in a school, pastors say, is that the entire community knows where to find the church on Sundays.

"Schools are built where people live," Freimuth said. "They need education, but they need Jesus even more. We can go right into their neighborhood, right where they live and teach them where they are."

As churches seek to attract people, school buildings offer environments that are less intimidating than churches for non-Christians, church leaders say.

"The school provides a neutral venue," said Ric Frazier, pastor of First Baptist Church of Louisa who works with The Rock, a church start in Louisa. "It relinquishes any traditional baggage as well as gives you a fresh start, especially when you are seeking a specific focus group, in our case young adults 35 and under."

Though meeting in a school might attract some non-believers, the location also can create legal battles for churches in some parts of the country. Particularly in places such as New York City, churches face looming legal challenges that threaten their rights to rent school property for worship services.

Principal Carmichael recognizes that some residents raise an eyebrow because Hope Church has been meeting at Anderson County Middle School for more than six years. But he said he sees no problem because

the church is treated like any other renter. The school routinely rents to various organizations, both religious and secular, he said, and thus far no one has raised any legal issues.

A long Sunday

Public school-based churches also face challenges in preparing for services. Like Freimuth and the members of Bethesda, churches meeting in school buildings must have a team dedicated to setting up and storing equipment.

Each week, team members arrive early to set up, and they stay long after worship to pack everything up. Bethesda members generally allow 30 minutes to set up the sound equipment and prepare for worship in the cafeteria. Sunday school teachers come prepared with crayons, worksheets and lessons, and they spend about 15 minutes to set up for class.

At Hope on a recent Sunday, approximately 30 people helped unpack four trailers full of Sunday school materials, sound equipment and instruments.

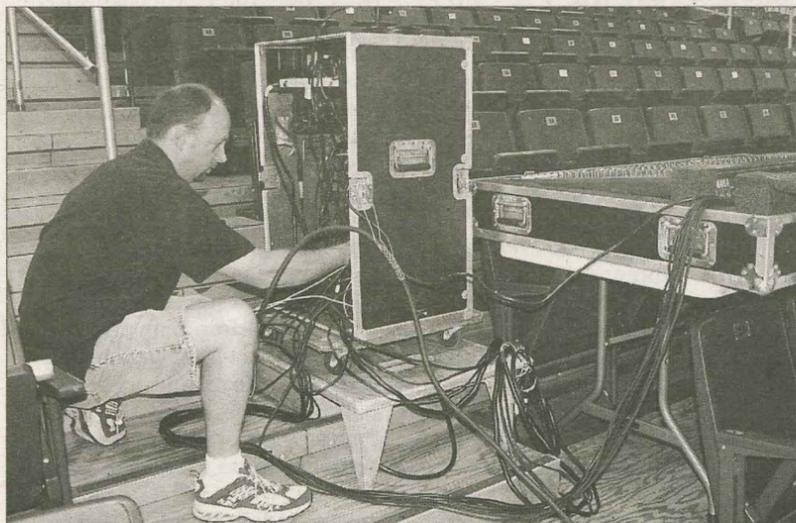
"When UK plays at 1:30 (p.m.), we'll have four people to tear down," Rose jokes.

Though Hope Community Church, New Work Fellowship and Bethesda Community Church all recommend meeting in a public school, meeting in the local school is not a permanent location for any of the three.

Hope has purchased land and hopes to move to its own building in about a year. After three years of meeting in a local school, New Work Fellowship left its days of meeting in a public school behind. Bethesda is hosting vacation Bible school in its new building this week and hopes to hold worship services there in September.

For those considering using a public school for a church meeting place, Pastor Kent Workman of New Work Fellowship recommends having "total (school) board and superintendent support as well as the principal's support, putting all meeting times in writing and communicating with the school board regularly."

With additional reporting by Jeffrey MacDonald for Religion News Service



WIRED Chad Walker checks the wiring for the sound board before worship. When a church doesn't own its own building, he said, members usually don't get to spend as much time together. That's why he enjoys helping during Sunday setup. "It's work, but it's also fellowship."



LITTLE HELPER Brooke Marquardt (left) helps her father, Jimmy, unload the music trailer, which must arrive first so the worship team has time to practice.

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

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Let Jesus shine

Put Jesus first! Isn't that how it should be? That's what the Bible tells us. Yet much of the material offered to teach our children doesn't do that.

I think the name Jesus should be prominent in our lesson books and materials for Sunday school and vacation Bible school programs. How did we get to the place that we feel the only way we can get children to listen to the gospel message is to lure them under the guise of secular fun?

Do we really think looking like the world is the best way? Shouldn't we be different than the world? We lure them using a fun premise, and through secular shrubbery we sneak in a message about Jesus.

I guess the thinking is that children will be interested only if they don't think they're going to learn about God. The lesson must be interesting, relevant and true. It can be fun; fun certainly doesn't hurt. Getting to know Jesus and how to develop a personal relationship with Him for life is the most important and the most interesting concept we can teach. Don't you think the miracles, the parables and Jesus' life and purpose are pretty awesome? Children think so too.

Did Jesus disguise His message? No. He often told parables in terms people could relate to in order to teach His truths.

That's what we need to do today—teach the gospel to children in terms and situational parables they can relate to. They need to learn what a personal relationship with Jesus means and why they should want to know Jesus.

Jesus didn't hide His message. Let's put Jesus right up front where He belongs. Put His name bigger and brighter than the name of the program and let Him shine! He will, you know.

Glenda Blair
Waddy

BWA 'left me'

In reference to your coverage of the Baptist World Alliance let me say that like William Humphrey, a letter writer in last week's Recorder, I am a lifelong Southern Baptist and pastor who attended the Baptist World Alliance meeting in 1980 in Toronto.

Yes, Rick Warren said he thought it "silly" for the SBC to pull out of the BWA. But as Morris Chapman said in your editorial, had Rick Warren studied the BWA for the past seven years as had our SBC Executive Committee, it is possible that he would have reached the same conclusion to leave the alliance.

Having served on the Executive Committee from 1999-2004 and having been exposed to the study material concerning the BWA, I came to the conclusion that I was not the one leaving the BWA; that they in fact left me several years ago with their theological drift toward liberalism. Their actions in recent years told our convention "we want your money, we just don't want your opinion."

Humphrey states he is "grieved" by the "elitist attitude" of our current SBC leadership. As I understand our Baptist polity, the Executive Committee and leadership of our convention are powerless to take money from any budget item. In fact, it must be remembered that the BWA was defunded based on a recommendation voted on at the annual meeting on the convention floor. This was not a decision of our leadership but of the vast majority of the convention attendees. The SBC leadership does desire to build relationships worldwide with like-minded Baptists.

Thank you, Mr. Henderson, for admitting your bias in your coverage of the BWA as you currently serve on their Communications Committee; now I understand why your coverage reads more like a propaganda piece than it does news reporting.

Thomas James
Bowling Green



Family vacation reflections

Summer is a wonderful time of camps, vacation Bible school, mission trips and family vacations. Kay and I had the privilege of being with our family for our annual vacation in North Myrtle Beach, S.C., in late July.

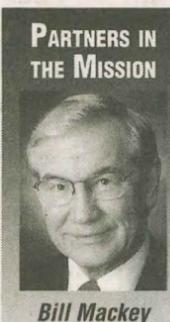
For more than 20 years my cousin has been gracious to let us use her beach house. She added an apartment several years ago, providing space for 14 people.

The surprise news of the week was the announcement by our daughter, Beth, and her husband, Bartley Wooten, that they are expecting their third child. They currently have two children: Lilly, 4, and Mack, 2.

Lilly is quite verbal and sensitive, and loves gymnastics. She has mastered the cartwheel and has made progress on the walkover.

Mack has begun to grow and has become very active, but his speech is very slow. Please join us in pray-

ing for his speech to develop. He has a cyst in his brain that the doctor is watching closely to make sure it does not interfere with his development.



Bill Mackey

Bartley is a minister to singles and college students at First Baptist Church of Indian Trail, N.C., his home church. He considers it a privilege to serve in this great church, and views it as a great learning experience.

Our older daughter, Anonda, and her husband, A.J. Nepa, have two sons: Will, who will be 3 in December, and Zach, 16 months. The Nepa family currently lives in Raleigh, N.C.

Will is a little gentleman with strong relational skills. During the July 4th parade in A.J.'s hometown, A.J. greeted some individuals watching the parade from their porch. He noticed that Will had entered the porch and was shaking hands with everyone on the porch.

Overcoming evil

America's dropping atomic bombs on Japan to end World War II in 1945 set a precedent that has not been repeated since those fateful days 60 years ago.

We can be thankful for that, but there is no guarantee that today's more powerful nuclear weapons won't be used on another nation in our much more dangerous world. In fact, it is much more likely than not that nuclear weapons will be used again in the not-too-distant future.

While the millions of people are starving to death in Africa and other places, nuclear powers are racing to make more destructive nuclear weapons. There is no major movement to reduce or abolish growing nuclear arsenals. Our greatest fear, a legitimate one, is that evil terrorists somehow will acquire and use a nuclear weapon to kill multitudes of people living in one of the world's large cities.

President George W. Bush calls the struggle against worldwide terrorism a confrontation of good versus evil. What is good about using unlimited resources to make more powerful, sophisticated nuclear weapons while hungry people are dying around the world? We never will overcome evil with good until we acknowledge that only God is good. We cannot call ourselves good until we remove the evil specks from our own eyes.

The "love of money is the root of all evil." Who among the world's nations is free from evil greed and its devastating effects? I hope civilization does not end where it began—in the land between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers.

Paul L. Whiteley Sr.
Louisville

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; or e-mail, wesrec@earthlink.net.

Zach has red curly hair and a personality to go with it. Influenced by his brother and cousins, he is learning how to influence others with his smile and to hold his own in most situations. It is fun to observe his development as an independent little boy.

Kay and the grandkids visited swimming pools, made trips down to the beach and, of course, went shopping. It was my job to buy groceries, baby-sit on occasion and entertain grandkids often. I did walk down to the beach for four early morning slow jogs.

It was delightful to arrange a visit with Ronnie Taylor and his wife whom I had not seen for years. He is a retired high school principal at Latta High School. He has been a bivocational pastor of Clio First Baptist Church for three years. I was a summer youth associate at Latta Baptist Church when Ronnie was a teenager.

Please pray for teachers and students as they return to school.

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention

STEWARDSHIP

Endowment funds enhance lifetime giving options

By Laurie Valentine

You do not have to be a millionaire to be able to provide financial resources that will change people's lives in the Lord's name.

Whether you want to provide support for your church; ministries to hurting children and their families; disaster relief; state, national or international missions work; or financial assistance to students attending Kentucky Baptist educational institutions, you can set up a means to provide funding that will continue to give until the Lord returns by creating a new endowment fund or by making gifts to an existing endowment fund.

An endowment fund is a permanent, perpetual fund managed either by the cause benefited by your gift or by another entity such as the Kentucky Baptist Foundation. Only the earnings from the endowment fund are distributed for use by the causes you have designated; the original value of what you give is never spent.

A large gift is not required to establish an endowment fund with the Kentucky Baptist Foundation. An endowment fund can be started with any amount, to which you can add from time to time during your lifetime. This permits even those of modest means to do much more than they ever dreamed possible.

Endowment fund giving does not have to be an all-or-nothing proposition. You might want to use a life income gift to fund an endowment fund. Life income gifts allow you to make a gift now that will provide an income stream to you or others for life with the endowment fund being established at your death with the remainder of your original gift.

Establishing or adding to an endowment fund during your lifetime provides tax benefits—a charitable income tax deduction and, if you make your gift with appreciated assets, capital gains appreciation. If you use a life income gift to fund the endowment, you also might attain a higher level of income than the given asset is producing.

Everything with which we have been blessed comes from God. Establishing an endowment fund, whether through a single large gift or a lifetime of more modest levels of giving, permits you to demonstrate your gratitude for God's blessings and your desire to be involved in touching lives in His name.

Laurie Valentine is trust counsel for the Kentucky Baptist Foundation



Couples face various seasons that influence marital health

Q: How can my marriage seem to be so good for a season and then go downhill so quickly that my spouse and I find ourselves at great odds?

There are seasons to marriage just as there are seasons to life. While it seems that some couples experience a less drastic change of seasons, all couples must learn to expect some measure of the following marital seasons:

MARRIAGE

Spring. This is the time when the relationship feels alive and refreshing. The relationship is growing and delightful and both parties are making discoveries about themselves and their beloved.

Summer. Couples experience relational heat and anger. While conflict often characterizes this period, growth can continue to occur if the couple handles conflict with integrity and creativity.

Fall. Some individuals begin to find themselves disenchanted with their spouse, leading to disillusionment with the relationship. Alternately, the disenchantment of fall might simply involve discovering the beauty of a different aspect of one's partner.

Winter. The relationship is characterized by a certain sameness, even deadness, as energy is focused on other things. Spring can re-emerge as a couple gives themselves to an intentional process of tending to the marital garden through mutual discovery and valuing.

Couples do well to remember that just as the tides ebb and flow, our marital success ultimately depends less on our self-sufficiency and more upon our dependence upon the Prince of Tides.

Our struggle and inability must serve as a northern star to point us to Jesus Christ, Who alone can teach us how to transcend selfishness so that we might love our partners just as Christ the Bridegroom loves His Bride the Church.—*Scott Wigginton*

Q: One of my friends recently suggested I look into "Girls on the Run" for my daughter. Where can I get more information about this program?

Girls on the Run is a non-profit prevention program that encourages preteen girls to develop self-respect and healthy lifestyles through running. Four-time Hawaii Ironman triathlete Molly Barker established Girls on the Run in 1996. Today the program operates in more than 40 states.

PARENTING

Here in Kentucky, 700 girls have completed the program since 1999. Volunteers lead the girls through a 12-week, 24-lesson curriculum made available through after-school programs, recreation centers and other non-profit organizations. Special tracks have been designed for 3rd-5th graders and 6th-8th graders. Both include the same basic content, but the depth of discussion varies developmentally. The experience culminates with a 5K road race.

Girls on the Run uses running to encourage emotional, social, mental, spiritual and physical growth. Though not specifically Christian, the program does recognize and promote the spiritual dimension of life by helping girls learn to take care of the bodies God has given them.

In today's culture, many young girls face challenges related to self-esteem and body image. Many succumb to a variety of destructive behaviors. Research indicates that participation in Girls on the Run reduces the risk of eating disorders, obesity, adolescent pregnancies, depression and suicide. Girls are provided with positive role models and are encouraged to steer clear of trouble by redirecting their energy toward physical exercise.

Additional information, including how to get involved either as a participant or volunteer, is available at www.girlsontherun.org or www.gotrlouisville.org.—*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: james@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.



Get involved in KBC ministry opportunities

As summer speeds along and the busy fall season approaches, Kentucky Baptists have the opportunity to be involved in a variety of training events and ministry projects. Those opportunities also come as the Kentucky Baptist Building staff makes its transition to a new facility.

Among major events under way or in the near future are:

Super Saturday. This year's first Super Saturday church leadership training conference was held this past weekend at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington. Upcoming conferences will be Aug. 20 at First Baptist Church of Prestonsburg and Second Baptist Church of Hopkinsville; Aug. 27 at Central Baptist Church of Corbin and First Baptist Church of Paducah; and Sept. 10 at Crestwood Baptist Church in Crestwood.

Super Saturday, a major Kentucky Baptist Convention training event since 1992, has grown into a series of regional events that attract more than 3,000 people a year. Designed for pastors, deacons, Sunday school teachers, youth leaders, choir directors, Woman's Missionary Union workers and more, Super Saturday offers more than 60 workshop sessions at each site.

Highlighting the theme, "Strengthening Every Church," this year's program features such workshops as "Becoming a Disciple-Making Church," "Creative Ideas for Reaching Students," "What Is Your Sunday School Climate?" and "Taking Your Ministry to the Next Level."

Each conference also will feature an emerging leaders dialogue for pastors age 39 or younger. Designed as a time for discussion about issues and challenges facing young pastors, the sessions will include time for participants to network, share ideas that have worked in their churches and discuss resources that help them in ministry.

Pray the Perimeter. State convention leaders have announced plans for an ambitious weeklong "Pray

the Perimeter" tour next month. The Sept. 10-16 prayer emphasis will include 30 stops for prayer, worship and meetings with pastors and associational leaders. The tour is designed to support the KBC's five-year Kentucky Baptists Connect ministry emphasis.

Dan Garland, leader of the KBC church development/evangelism team, said his prayer is that "every KBC church and association will catch the vision and join in the effort to pray the perimeter of their church, community and/or association."

The seven-day tour will begin with a 7 p.m. prayer service Sept. 10 at Three Forks Baptist Association in Hazard and conclude Sept. 16 with a 3 p.m. stop at First Baptist Church of Loyall.

Baptist Building move. By the time you read this editorial, the staff of the KBC Executive Board, Kentucky Baptist Foundation, Western Recorder and Woman's Missionary

Union are scheduled to be in our new offices at 13420 Eastpoint Centre Drive in Louisville. After 48 years in the Baptist Building on Shelbyville Road, the move to a new location will be a major transition for convention staff.

Please be patient for the next few weeks as staff members unpack, organize, learn a new phone system and work out the typical bugs that come with a move. The long-term goal is to be better prepared to serve Kentucky Baptists in the years ahead.

There are numerous other events on the fall calendar such as a Minister's Wives Celebration Sept. 24 at Parkway Baptist Church in Lexington; Journey into Worship II, Sept. 30-Oct. 1 at Severns Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown; Reconciliation Networks of Our World, Oct. 5-8 at St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville; and a Celebrate Baptisms event Oct. 18 at Hillvue Heights Church in Bowling Green.

Take time to look at your schedule and plan to be involved in ministry opportunities that can make a difference in the Bluegrass State and beyond.

STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR



Trennis Henderson

Be kind to preacher's kids

By Gene Fant Jr.

Jackson, Tenn. (BP)—When I was 8 years old, I had the chickenpox.

I was bumpy and feverish and completely miserable. I lamented to my mom and dad, "This is even worse than going to church!"

Mind you, I had no option about going to church: Dad was the pastor and the tiny mission church where he served met in our home. Our living room was our sanctuary and the children's Sunday school classroom was the bedroom I shared with my brother Steve.

As preacher's kids, or PKs, Steve and I were under intense scrutiny. It seemed as though everyone knew each error we made precisely because our lives as the pastor's family were so public. PKs are under sharp scrutiny in their home churches. Many have reputations as being spoiled, disobedient or even outright rebellious. Fair or not, everyone knows who they are. There is no invisibility for PKs.

Now that I'm an adult, I have a special place in my heart for PKs. I teach at Union University, and in our classes we have scores of Baptist PKs. When I meet these students and they tell me their fathers are pastors, I always sigh knowingly and remark, "I'm in that club as well. In fact, my father, my uncle and my grandfather were all pastors!"

As a grown-up PK, I'd like to offer some suggestions for my fellow church members as they relate to their pastor's kids:

Treat PKs' parents with respect. I know many PKs who no longer attend church, in part because of how their fathers were treated by church members.

Conflicts are bound to occur and pastors make mistakes, but take care as to how you talk about the pastor and how you handle these situations. Too many times, pastors' families bear the painful brunt of church conflict.

Invite PKs to be a part of your family. Despite what some people might think, pastors work on more than Sundays and Wednesdays. Most pastors work 60-plus-hour weeks and are in meetings or out visiting several nights a week. PKs often are not able to attend sporting contests or special events with their families because of packed church schedules. Go out of your way to have your pastor's kids over for a special cook-out or for play dates. By the time I got married, I had so many special church "mamas" that my poor wife had lost count of them. These were the women who made sure I felt welcomed in their homes, as though I was an adopted son.

Celebrate with joy your PKs' life-milestones. My dad's church flooded me with graduation gifts. I spent all

summer writing thank-you notes. When I got married, the ladies of dad's church threw my wife a wonderful bridal shower. A huge crowd from the church traveled for an hour to my wife's home church for the ceremony; many of the ladies even volunteered to serve at the reception.

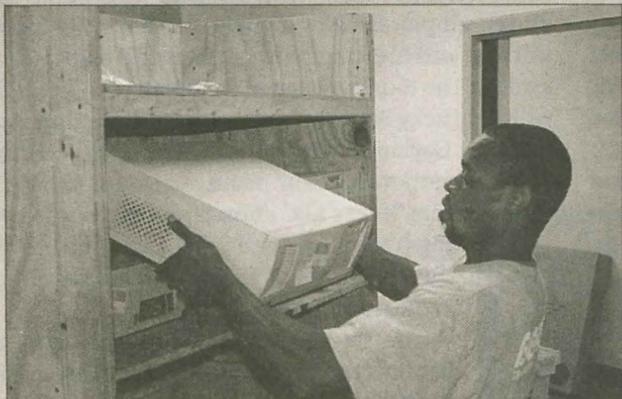
Cut your PKs some slack. Like all kids, PKs go through stages of rebellion or soul-searching, especially during their teen years. Certainly there are times when they need to be reported to their parents or even admonished on the spot, but treat them with fairness. Parenting experts say discipline without relationship leads to defiance. This principle applies to the other adults in the church community who provide discipline.

When I was an obnoxious teenager, I really did listen to church members who fussed at me, especially those with whom I had a personal relationship. I knew they loved me and that they wanted the best for me. Even when I grumbled, I knew deep-down their discipline was correct.

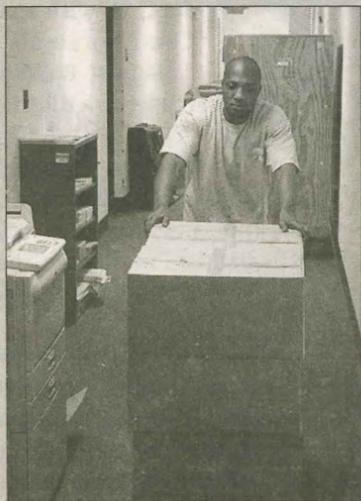
Look at your church's PKs with fresh eyes. How can you encourage them? How can you make a difference in their lives? Your kind words and actions can make a huge difference in the life of your PKs.

Gene Fant Jr. is chairman of the English department at Union University in Jackson, Tenn.

Moving out



Moving vans and boxes invaded the campus of the KBC building and the offices of the Western Recorder, Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union and Kentucky Baptist Foundation last week. The offices of all four agencies were closed last Friday and this past Monday as computers, desks and other items were moved to the new Baptist building at 13420 Eastpoint Centre Drive. ■ **Top:** Anthony Carter, an employee of Berger transfer moving company, loads desktop computers onto a rolling container. ■ **Right:** James Price rolls boxes through the hallway of the former Kentucky Baptist Convention building on Shelbyville Road.



Greenville churches serve hungry kids

Continued from page 1

School counselors, family resource centers and church members pass along the names of neighbors who might need a sack lunch.

The ministry is not limited to the poor. Some sack lunch recipients are mentally handicapped, elderly or children who have been left home alone during the day and who may not fix themselves lunch. Volunteers trust that needs are genuine; the lunches are distributed with no pre-qualifications or questions asked.

"There will always be those who will try to find a way to take advantage of you. But we are doing God's work and we are doing a lot of good," said Twilla Gabbard, a volunteer who began as a driver and now coordinates the 10-12 drivers on their four rounds.

Mommies teaching ministry

Lunches typically include a sandwich, cookie and chips, packed by volunteers on Monday and Wednesday evenings before they are delivered on Tuesday and Thursday.

Volunteering is often a family affair. Gabbard said most of the workers are moms themselves who get involved as a way to teach their children about ministry.

"The children have learned to be merciful and graceful about how to handle situations in going up to a door and expressing God's love in a

gentle way," Gabbard said. "I think people sense that with us."

The kids look forward to fixing the vehicles and piling into the delivery vehicles every week.

"They get upset if they can't participate," Gabbard added.

Gabbard said delivering the meals has opened church members' eyes to the needs in their community.

"The kids, like me, grew up in First Baptist, (a) traditionally middle-class church with friends who live like we do. But after delivering sandwiches we have had our eyes opened to the needs in the county to not only food, but to homes that are in sad situations," she said. "It is changing the way First Baptist is thinking."

Before the ministry, Gabbard said she assumed everyone in her community was eating lunch daily just like she and her children were.

"(But) if it weren't for the sack lunch ministry many of these kids may not be eating," she said.

Though the children delivering the food often see kids they know from school, the recipients and giv-

ers both know it is not a handout, but a ministry, she said.

Most recipients don't claim a church, youth group or family to experience missions first-hand by being involved on the mission fields of Mexico and beyond! www.utri.org

Volunteers emphasize it is not about them, or the church, but about spreading God's love.

For Smith, the purpose for her involvement in the ministry is much more personal.

"If I forget that little boy's face," she said, "I will forget what the ministry is all about."

Upon This Rock International is providing opportunities for your church, youth group or family to experience missions first-hand by being involved on the mission fields of Mexico and beyond! www.utri.org



Double blessings...just in time for Pastor Appreciation Month.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month. Be an early blessing to your pastor this year and help Kentucky's abused and neglected children while you're at it.

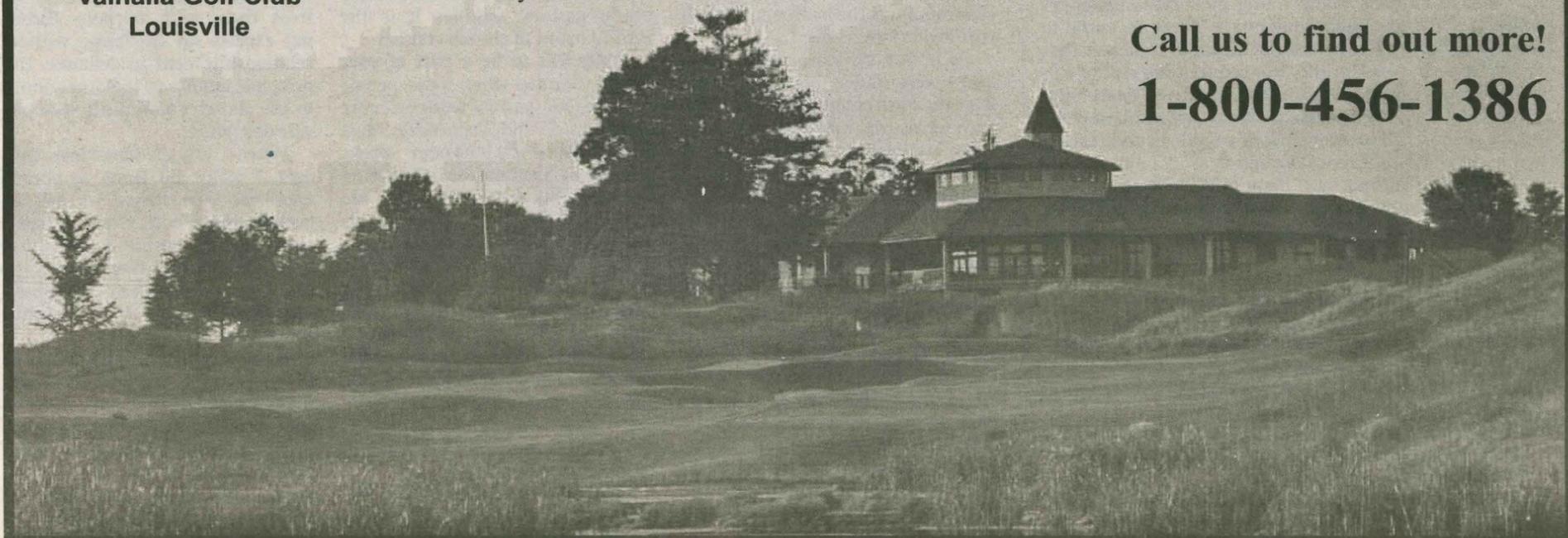
By donating \$2,500 to Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, you can sponsor your pastor to play in KBHC's Champions' Challenge golf event at the exclusive Valhalla Golf Club, where he'll enjoy playing with celebrities on a PGA Championship course. He and his spouse or another guest also have the opportunity to enjoy dinner and Christian entertainment the night before at Louisville's Seelbach Hilton Hotel.

Your tax-deductible donation becomes a double blessing by helping the more than 300 children and teens in KBHC's care each day!

Call us to find out more!
1-800-456-1386



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Former Vice President
of IMB



Ralph McIntyre
Former Vice President of SSB

As former Southern Baptist Convention State and National Executives, we express our support and encouragement for the Baptist World Alliance in this their Centennial year. As thousands of Baptists from around the world gather in Birmingham, England, July 27-31 for their Centennial Celebration under the theme, "Jesus Christ Living Water," we send our prayers, greetings and heartiest congratulations!

We pray for the Baptist World Alliance as it enters a new century of service and continues to show the essential oneness of Baptist people in the Lord Jesus Christ. We are pleased that the Baptist World Alliance leads in evangelism, defends religious freedom, helps people in need through Baptist World Aid, and unites Baptists around the world in the fellowship of Christ.

We are pleased that millions of Southern Baptists are continuing in fellowship with the Baptist World Alliance.

We invite you to join us in supporting the Baptist World Alliance by becoming an Associate Member and by your prayers and financial assistance. You may contact the Baptist World Alliance by writing:



405 North Washington Street
Falls Church, VA 22046
www.bwanet.org

(Note: Institutions named are for identification purposes only.
The undersigned are not speaking for any institution with which they were once associated.)

NOT PICTURED: Bill Marshall, Former Executive Director, Kentucky • Reggie McDonough, Former Executive Director, Virginia

Poll finds increasing support in U.S. for stem cell research

Washington (RNS)—Americans' support for stem cell research has grown significantly in the past three years, with the notable exception of white evangelical Christians, according to a new poll conducted by the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life.

Asked to weigh the potential benefits of the research against ethical concerns about destroying the embryos, 57 percent of Americans favored the research and 30 percent favored the embryos. The remainder—13 percent—did not register an opinion.

Overall, support of embryonic research is up 14 percentage points from 2002, when Pew first polled on the stem cell question.

Support for the research has been particularly significant among white Catholics—up 18 percentage points over three years, from 43 percent to 61 percent. The Catholic Church opposes embryonic research.

The poll found that three years ago, when the stem cell issue was fairly new, Americans' opinions on the research were fairly fuzzy. But, as they learned more about the issue and its potential benefits, Americans grew more solid in their support of the research.

To be more precise, Americans, over time, seem to have fewer qualms about destroying embryos in order to harvest the stem cells.

Among white Evangelical Christians, however, support for embryonic research has remained comparatively low: 32 percent in 2005 (up from 26 percent in 2002).

In order to collect the stem cells, the embryos must be destroyed. Most conservative evangelicals consider embryos human life that cannot be destroyed.

In May, the House passed the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act, which would allow federally funded research on excess frozen embryos at fertility clinics that are donated by parents. The Senate is scheduled to consider the bill, which President Bush has threatened to veto.

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IN RECOGNITION of Deceased Kentucky Baptist Leaders



We Need Your Help to Gather the Following Information:

1. Full name of deceased
2. Date of birth
3. Date of death
4. Active or retired status in last position held in city, state where located
5. Name of church where member, association and state
6. Service or ministry worthy of recognition (briefly stated)

These obituary entries will be reported to the 2005 KBC annual meeting in Frankfort. You are an important part of our network to gather information on those servants who deserve to be remembered among Kentucky Baptists.

The 2005 KBC Obituaries Report will include information on deceased persons who have served our Lord and Kentucky Baptists in a noteworthy manner. We are including persons who died during the convention year, September 1, 2004 through August 31, 2005.

These persons would be Kentucky Baptist ministers, missionaries, educators, laypersons, institutional leaders and staff and others whose Christian service has significantly benefited our state convention fellowship and mission programs.



Executive Office
PO Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433
Phone: 1-888-254-5712, Ext. 254
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"HEARTS ON FIRE" IS A CHRIST-CENTERED CONFERENCE DESIGNED TO WIN THE LOST TEEN TO FAITH IN CHRIST AND TO CHALLENGE THE BELIEVING TEEN TO A MORE DYNAMIC SPIRITUAL WALK AND COMMITMENT. IT IS ALSO OUR GOAL TO MAKE HEARTS ON FIRE A CONFERENCE THAT EVERYONE CAN AFFORD.

IT IS AN HONOR AND PRIVILEGE TO HAVE AS OUR GUEST SPEAKERS DARREN WHITEHEAD & KEN FREEMAN, THE LORD UNDOUBTEDLY HAS HIS HAND ON THESE MEN AND THEIR MINISTRIES. SPECIAL MUSIC WILL BE PROVIDED BY TODD AGNEW & JONAH33. OUR PRAYER IS THAT GOD WILL USE HEARTS ON FIRE TO BLESS YOU LIKE NEVER BEFORE!

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Prof: 'Nationalism' new cultural dividing point for U.S. Christians

By Ken Camp
Texas Baptist Standard

Waco, Texas (ABP)—Culture wars threaten to divide churches in ways that make worship wars pale in comparison, according to a professor of Christian ministry and church music.

But at the same time, this new splitting point can unite some Christians across denominational lines, according to Terry York, who teaches at Baylor University.

Rather than dividing over worship style preferences, York said he sees Christians in the United States splitting into two camps—"those who want to try to re-establish Christendom and those who refuse to wrap the cross in the flag."

While the division began to emerge more than 25 years ago when the Religious Right took shape, it surged and solidified following the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, York said.

"A kingdom clash"

The urge to rally around the flag as part of corporate worship cuts across denominational differences and draws all kinds of worshippers, he noted.

"Fighting over what songs we sing pales beside the clash of kingdoms, and this is a kingdom clash," he said.

Ironically, the rush to wed patriotism and worship has led to alliances across denominations and drawn followers from a variety of worship style traditions, he added.

York said he sees nationalism reflected in musical selections, symbols in a church's sanctuary and in sermons.

In contrast, other churches reject the nationalistic approach, and they range from traditional Baptist churches to post-modern emergent churches.

The division between the two church models—nationalistic and non-nationalistic—does not fall entirely along partisan political lines, and many Christians who reject the nationalistic approach to worship are fiercely patriotic, said York, an ex-Marine who grew up in a military family.

"If a military officer came in the room, I would stand up. But if Jesus walked in, I would fall down on my face," he said. "It's all about knowing the difference between what we stand up for and what we bow down to."

Nationalistic worshippers confuse respect and reverence "because they live next door to each other in the deepest places of our hearts," York said. "The things we're willing to go to war for and that which we worship are the extremes, and they live close together."

NATIONAL NOTES

Bush to seek corporate support of faith groups.

President Bush has announced plans to hold a conference next March that aims to foster more corporate foundation support for faith-based organizations. Jim Towey, director of the White House Office of Faith-based and Community Initiatives, said the president had intended to have a gathering of corporate and foundation leaders in late 2001, but those plans were postponed after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and the corporate governance scandals.

President backs teaching 'intelligent design.'

President Bush endorsed the teaching of "intelligent design" on an equal level with natural selection during an interview with Texas reporters. Bush said students should be exposed to the theory, which posits that biological evidence suggests life is too complex to have evolved without an intelligent designer, presumably a divine creator. "I think that part of education is to expose people to different schools of thought," Bush said.

Land returns to religious liberty panel.

Richard Land, president of the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, is returning to the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, this time as a senatorial appointee. Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist of Tennessee named Land to the nine-member panel, the USCIRF announced July 26. Previously, President Bush had appointed Land to the commission for two terms totaling three years. Land completed his second term in September 2004. Land's new appointment to the panel is effective immediately.

Calif. court expands rights of same-sex couples.

In a decision that broadens the rights of homosexual couples, the California Supreme Court ruled Aug. 1 that same-sex domestic partners must be treated the same as married couples by private businesses. The ruling dealt specifically with membership in a country club, although it apparently will impact a long list of other businesses, such as health clubs and banks. California has a domestic partnership law, which grants registered same-sex couples the state-sanctioned legal benefits of marriage.

Presbyterians to target companies over Israel.

The Presbyterian Church (USA) last week announced plans to target five public companies that it says "contribute to the ongoing violence that plagues Israel and Palestine." Church officials said they ultimately could pull their assets, or divest, in those companies if corporate behavior remains unchanged. On the list are five companies that have allegedly served militaristic efforts of either Israelis or Palestinians. Those named are: Caterpillar, Citigroup, IIT Industries, Motorola and United Technologies.

Minister tapped to lead denomination ousted.

The newly named top executive of the Christian Reformed Church has been forced to resign just three weeks before he was to take office. Calvin Bremer was asked to step down by CRC officials who felt he showed bad judgment in seeking to promote a female colleague to a prominent CRC post. Bremer resigned on July 29 both as executive director of the CRC and director of the Back to God Hour, the denomination's worldwide broadcast ministry. He was to assume the CRC's top administrative post Aug. 22.

The Kentucky Baptist Convention offices have

The Kentucky Baptist Convention offices have relocated from Shelbyville Road to 13420

Eastpoint Centre Drive. For your information, new telephone numbers are listed here. The main switchboard toll-free and regular numbers have not changed.

Main Switchboard

502.245.4101
800.266.6477

Executive Office

502-489-3577 or 866-489-3577

Communications Department

502-489-3578 or 866-489-3578

Archives

502-489-3579 or 866-489-3579

Business Services Team

502-489-3531 or 866-489-3531

Accounting Services Department

502-489-3587 or 866-489-3587

Administrative Services Department

502-489-3586 or 866-489-3586

Information Technology Department

502-489-3585 or 866-489-3585

Church Development & Evangelism Team

502-489-3571 or 866-489-3571

Adult Sunday School Group

502-489-3572 or 866-489-3572

Collegiate/Young Adult Ministries Group

502-489-3573 or 866-489-3573

Creative Ministries Group

502-489-3574 or 866-489-3574

Preschool/Children's Ministry

& Sunday School Group
502-489-3575 or 866-489-3575

Youth Ministry & Sunday School Group

502-489-3574 or 866-489-3574

Leadership Development Team

502-489-3520 or 866-489-3520

Annuity Department

502-489-3521 or 866-489-3521

Leadership Development Department

502-489-3522 or 866-489-3522

Worship & Music Department

502-489-3524 or 866-489-3524

Missions Growth Team

502-489-3525 or 866-489-3525

Baptist Men On Mission Department

502-489-3527 or 866-489-3527

New Work/Associational

Missions Department

502-489-3528 or 866-489-3528

Partnership Missions Department

502-489-3529 or 866-489-3529

State Missions Department

502-489-3530 or 866-489-3530

Kentucky Baptist Foundation

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Western Recorder Newspaper

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Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union

502-489-3534 or 866-489-3534

Note: 800 & 866 numbers are toll-free in Kentucky.



Bioethicists worry about new early test for baby's gender

"Five weeks out" shifts the moral equation for some people. Ending a pregnancy is easier to do than at 20 weeks."

Arthur Caplan, chairman of the department of medical ethics at the University of Pennsylvania

By Peggy O'Crowley
Religion News Service

Washington (RNS)—Congratulations, you're pregnant! And it's a girl!

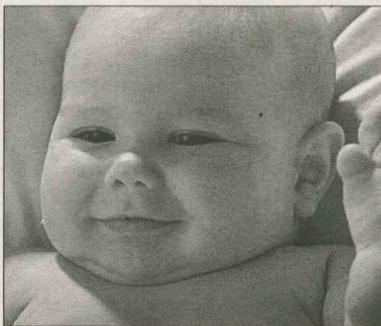
These two revelations usually come months apart. But a new blood test enables expectant mothers to find out the gender of their baby-to-be as early as five weeks into the pregnancy.

The Baby Gender Mentor test kit, which can be bought online at pregnancystore.com, includes two pregnancy tests and a kit for collecting and sending a simple finger-prick blood sample to a Massachusetts laboratory. The kit costs \$25, and the lab charges \$250 for processing and e-mails the confidential results within 48 hours.

Because embryonic DNA is present in maternal blood, the sample is tested for the presence of the Y chromosome, which indicates a male. If there is no Y chromosome, the embryo is female. The test does not need federal Food and Drug Administration approval because it is not used as a diagnostic tool.

Some see this kind of early gender identification as a simple, harmless way to find out what color to paint the nursery almost four months before conventional tests, such as amniocentesis or ultrasound, reveal a baby's sex.

But bioethicists question whether the new technology will be used



EARLY NOTICE A new test that allows parents to know their baby's gender five weeks into their pregnancy has ethicists questioning whether the test will be used to determine which color to paint the walls or to decide whether to end the pregnancy.

as a tool for sex selection, prompting a woman to abort her fetus if she doesn't approve of its gender.

While surveys of Americans show no general gender preference, some cultures prize boys far above girls. That preference is fueling trends in India and China, for example, in which the number of boys born each year outstrips girls far beyond the natural ratio of about 105 boys to every 100 girls. Those governments have tried to crack down on ultrasound labs that specialize in sex determination.

At present, the Baby Gender Mentor test, which is processed by Acu-Gen Biolab in Lowell, Mass., is available only in the United States.

A Canadian company, Paragon Genetics, offers a similar test for \$390, but it cannot be conducted until 10 weeks into the pregnancy, and it takes 10 business days to process, according to the company's Web site.

Arthur Caplan, chairman of the department of medical ethics at the University of Pennsylvania, said he doubted the new test would be used widely in the United States. But the ability to find out gender so quickly is troubling, he said.

Different purpose in China, India

"If you sell the test in India, China or the Philippines, that's a problem. 'Five weeks out' shifts the moral equation for some people. Ending a pregnancy is easier to do than at 20 weeks," Caplan said. He also questioned the lack of counseling for those who want to find out the baby's gender.

Caplan said the test is just the beginning in using DNA testing to gain information about embryos.

"It's the cutting edge of what's coming," he said. "What if you find out if the baby will have a high risk of depression, or obesity, or will have red hair? What about a disposition to homosexuality? If it's not to detect a disease, you shouldn't be doing it."

But Kimberly Mutcherson, an assistant professor at Rutgers Law School in Camden, N.J., said people

should be able to use the information any way they want.

"People make sex selection decisions for many reasons—to balance their family, or to check for gender-related disease. If you believe women have the right to choose, those are perfectly legitimate reasons," said Mutcherson, who teaches a class called "Bioethics, Babies and Babymaking."

Sherry Bonelli, president of Mommy's Thinkin', which sells the Baby Gender Mentor test, dismissed the possibility of misuse in the United States.

"Within other countries with preferences for boys vs. girls, that might be a concern, but I firmly believe it's not an issue in the U.S.," she said.

The test, based on newly patented technology, is so reliable, Bonelli said, that the company offers a double-money-back guarantee.

The company's scientific director, C.N. Wang, told the Boston Globe the gender test is designed to showcase the power of an innovative DNA technique that can acquire definitive results from a drop of dried blood. Wang said the company is not ready to publish data on the technique and its accuracy, the Globe reported.

Since the test debuted on the "Today" show in mid-June, Bonelli said, more than 2,000 kits have been sold.

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

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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

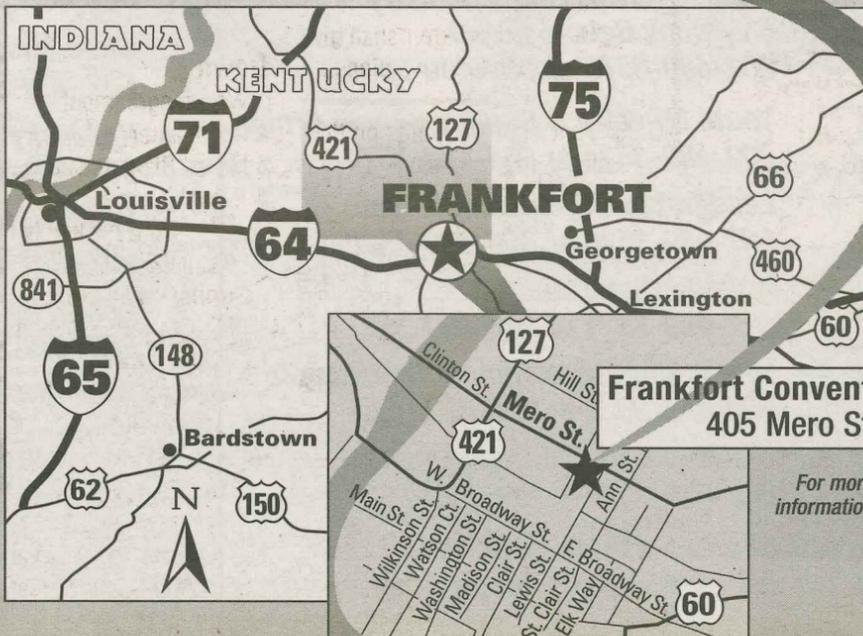
40 Chenault Drive
502.695.8881

\$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.)



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



For more information visit 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



A plan for generosity

Determine what matters to you and enjoy giving again

Like most people, you are bombarded with solicitations by telemarketers calling at the dinner hour, fund-raisers surveying the neighborhood and organizations campaigning through the mail. With so many appeals, even the most generous among us get tired and confused. There is a way to revive the joy found in helping others.

First, prayerfully consider your values. What are the principles in which you most strongly believe? Consider the experiences, people, causes and organizations that matter the most to you.

Second, prayerfully concentrate your efforts. From your list of values and the organizations and causes that mean the most to you, through which ones can you make the greatest difference?

Third, prayerfully prepare a personal plan. Decide how much money you can devote to charitable organizations. Do not let limited resources intimidate you. No one is excluded from making worthy gifts.

Fourth, prayerfully look before you leap. Be as prudent in your

evaluation of a charitable organization as you would be with any other investment decision. If necessary, visit the site.

I hope your church, association and one or more causes of our larger Baptist family are among those charitable organizations you determine to be making the greatest difference in the world. My wife and I have concentrated our giving among the various missionary, educational and benevolent causes of our larger Baptist family. We followed the four-step plan outlined above and came to the conclusion we could make the greatest impact by giving to and through these causes.

In 2 Corinthians 9:6 and Galatians 6:7-9 Paul reminds us of the law of sowing and reaping. In 2 Corinthians 9:7 he instructs us about giving not out of impulse, but after careful and prayerful reflection. Paul closes in 2 Corinthians 9:15 by exclaiming his gratitude to God for God's indescribable gift.

Let us assist you in your plan for generosity.

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

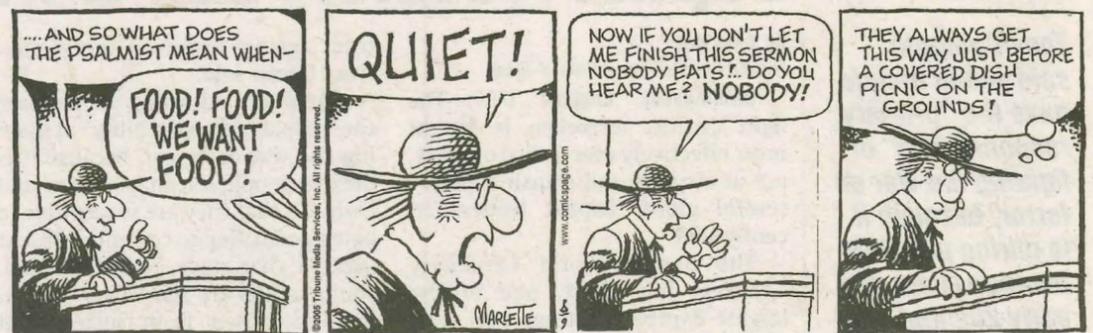
KENTUCKY BAPTIST FOUNDATION



Barry Allen

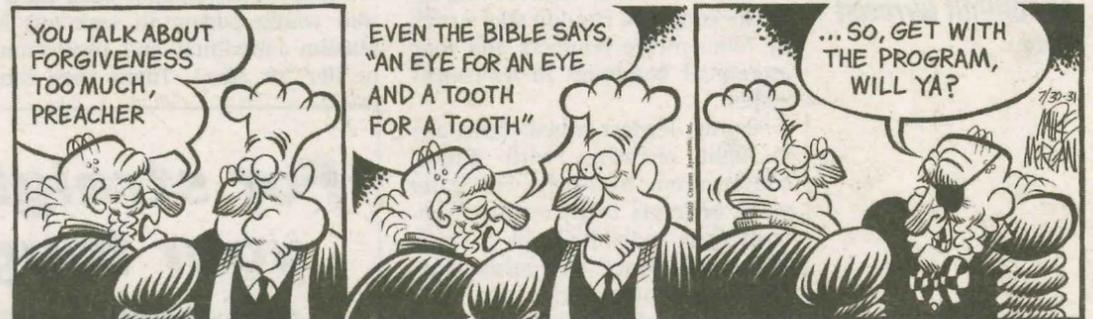
Kudzu

Doug Marlette



For Heaven's Sake

Mike Morgan

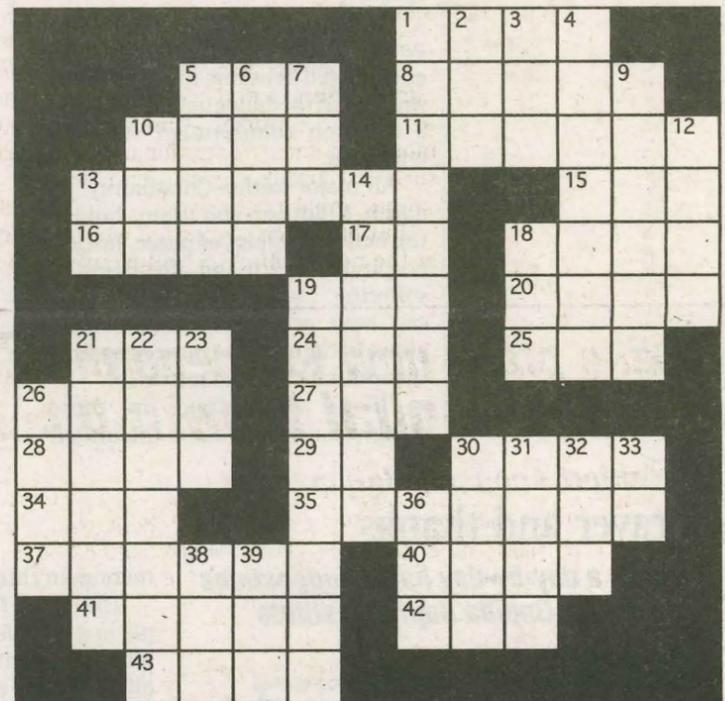


Bible Crosswords

Evelyn Boyington

Across

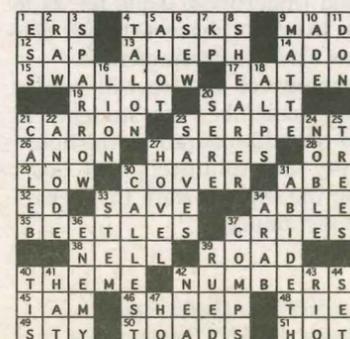
- 1 "They came to the threshing floor of _____, which is beyond Jordan" (Genesis 50:10)
- 5 Highway (abbr.)
- 8 Bargain events
- 10 _____ apple (candy flavor)
- 11 "After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had _____" (1 Corinthians 11:25)
- 13 Beyond compare
- 15 Paddle
- 16 Momentous sign
- 17 _____-Eglaim, near the Salt Sea (Ezekiel 47)
- 18 Wight, for one
- 19 King _____ (J. Clavell novell)
- 20 Went golfing
- 21 "The Lord is good to _____" (Psalm 145:9)
- 24 Compass dir.
- 25 Like some numbers
- 26 _____ bargain
- 27 "These shall ye not eat of them that chew the _____" (Leviticus 11:4)
- 28 Minor prophet
- 29 Conjunction
- 30 "For we are saved by _____" (Romans 8:24)
- 34 "He it is, to whom I shall give a _____, when I have dipped it" (John 13:26)
- 35 "They shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall _____" (Mark 16:18)



- 37 Entrapped
- 40 "So be it"
- 41 "When he had made a scourge ... he _____ them all out of the temple" (John 2:15)
- 42 David _____-Gurion
- 43 Action

- 12 _____ Scott, subject of landmark legal case
- 13 Hence
- 14 Dry or liquid
- 18 Judge Lance
- 19 Taped
- 21 "I see a rod of an _____ tree" (Jeremiah 1:11)
- 22 "The _____ shall lie down with the kid" (Isaiah 11:6)
- 23 _____ Cruces, NM
- 26 Bridge response
- 30 "Whilst we are at _____ in the body, we are absent from the Lord" (2 Corinthians 5:6)
- 31 "God so clothe the grass ... which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the _____" (Matthew 6:30)
- 32 "I will not with ink and _____ write unto thee" (3 John 13)
- 33 Hesitation sound
- 36 NYC sight
- 38 "Let her be as the loving hind and the pleasant _____" (Proverbs 5:19)
- 39 First female

Last week's solution



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Baptist leaders: Pizza & friendship can fight terrorism

Tony Campolo said young people have the "primary responsibility" of fighting the war on terror, because it is during people's teenage years and early 20s that they are susceptible to being persuaded to commit terrorist acts.

By John Hall
Baptist General Convention of Texas

Birmingham, England (ABP)—The fight against terrorism is fought most effectively over a slice of pizza, not at airports and transit stations, several global Baptist leaders recently said.

The Baptist World Centenary Congress July 27-31, one of the largest Baptist meetings ever, was played out against the backdrop of terrorism and increased security in England. In the days leading up to the congress, London was struck by four suicide bombers and four attempted bombings in its transit system.

Baptist leaders urged Christians to fight terrorism with dinner conversation. Terrorism will wane when believers reach out to disenfranchised individuals in a spirit of love and peace, said former U.S. President Jimmy Carter and Tony Campolo, professor emeritus of sociology at Eastern University in St. David's, Penn., and popular Baptist speaker.

Carter, a longtime BWA supporter and human-rights advocate, encouraged believers to get involved in interfaith dialogues and "build a common commitment" to fight terrorism.

All major faiths—Christianity, Judaism, Hinduism and Islam—hold to the basic principles of peace, justice, hospitality, truth and alleviation of suffering, Carter said. Those tenets can help people of different religious backgrounds connect against the mutual threat of terrorism.

"If we concentrate on those things, that would make the united

front against terrorism more effective," Carter said.

Campolo said young people have the "primary responsibility" of fighting the war on terror, because it is during people's teenage years and early 20s that they are susceptible to being persuaded to commit terrorist acts. At that stage of life, he said, young adults are most likely to feel disenfranchised from society and are more willing to go to extreme lengths to change the situation.

Campolo encouraged each Christian young person to seek out a Muslim individual and meet him or her for pizza. There they can

talk comfortably about ways they can prevent people from becoming isolated.

Campolo said this approach has helped in Northern Ireland, an area that has been divided between Roman Catholics and Protestants for years. A friend of Campolo's encouraged young people there to use the pizza approach between Protestants and Catholics. Healthy dialogue and friendships resulted. Both are important in leading to change.

Conversation creates an awareness and understanding of someone else's viewpoint, Campolo noted. Positive action can be taken from

there. There also may be opportunities to share the gospel.

Rick Warren, pastor of Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, Calif., and author of the "The Purpose-Driven Life," said the threat of terrorism "shows there is evil in the world," a notion he said some people in his generation have trouble acknowledging.

Characterizing the fight against terrorism as a battle against evil, Warren said this issue should be taken seriously.

"I do not believe you can pacify evil," he said. "I do not believe you negotiate with it."

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GFA LTC 720, 8/03

Rev 8/04



Prayer and thanks

Here's a day-by-day list of suggestions to pray for Oneida Baptist Institute

By Joy Godbold

Oneida middle school teacher and choir accompanist

Hear ye, hear ye! A new school year begins. We shout a heartfelt "thank you" to all you camel-kneed prayer warriors who constantly lift the ministry of Oneida Baptist Institute before God. Others of us have more tender knees. We welcome ideas to help us "pray without ceasing." So behold a few amateur tips on how to pray for Oneida this year.

Sunday: Praise God that we share Christ with the students daily. Pray that our chapel speakers will bring God's messages. Ask that many students will meet the Master through Baptist Student Union, special meetings, a silent witness of love, chapel sermons and friendships. Pray also that those who know Christ will grow into strong, godly young women and men.

Monday: Thank God for supplying needed new staff members. Thank Him for their vitality and creative ideas. Ask for His special care, strength and encouragement as they embark on this awesome mission.

Tuesday: Thank God for the seasoned staff. Ask that they would not turn rancid or burn out. Pray that the Holy Spirit would shower them with a fresh and eager vision to reach youth of the high-rises and the hollows, the slums and the suburbs with the news of God's amazing grace.

Wednesday: Praise God for safety and health of students and staff. "On the Road Again" could be our motto, with regular travel such as choir trips, sporting events, FFA activities, scrapbooking outings and visits to the doctor. Ask for continued

mercies in this area.

Thursday: Though we minister to young people in grades 6-12, pray especially for our middle-school students. Some are 10, 12 and 14 years old. They are away from home, hearth, parents, siblings and, of course, pets. Their bodies are exploding in all directions. For you yo-yo fans, their emotions swing between "rocking the cradle" and "walking the dog." And their hearts are still tender. Implore our heavenly Father to draw their tender hearts to Himself.

Friday: Praise God for the international students He has brought here through the years. Ask that many will be powerhouses for Christ in their home countries. For those still at Oneida, ask that the Way, the Truth and the Life will clearly be shown to them by our actions. May they explain when they leave here, "I just fell in love with Jesus."

Saturday: "Praise Him, praise Him" for a terrific 2004-2005 choir year. God blessed us with a large cadre of well-behaved young men and women. We boasted great songs, great singers, a super director and a great chauffeur (President Bud Underwood). Look for us to break into the top 10 on the charts with our new recording. But now a new year commences.

A new year commences and we will need a whole lot of help. Remember the students in prayer. Remember the administration, the house parents, the faculty and volunteers. Ask God's special blessing on the support staff, the "rebar" that keeps us all functioning.

Pray, and thanks.

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



W.F. Underwood

Standing on the Word

Alumni celebrate the past and commit to the future

Alumni from several decades returned to campus for the annual alumni conference, Aug. 1-2. The date marks the first Bible classes held at Clear Creek in 1926.

Under the theme, "Standing on the Word—Continuing the Vision," alumni heard two messages from Charles Sullivan, retired executive director of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana. He challenged the group to follow the example of Caleb and be "wholly committed unto the Lord." The Tuesday morning message focused on Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. "They stood ramrod straight in a world of moral corruption," Sullivan said.

Indiana pastor and 1974 graduate Bobby Slagle served as alumni association president. Herman Campbell, a 1989 alumnus and Somerset minister of music, led congregational music. Margaret Anne Smith of Old Roads Ministries was featured soloist.

Alumni presented an engraved resolution in memory of W.B. Bingham II and in thanksgiving for the long-time support of Binghamtown Baptist Church in Middlesboro.

Officers elected for 2005-06 include: President Mark Whicker (a 1992 alumnus in London); Vice President Daryl Mullins (1993, Butler); Secretary Beth Wyatt (1975, London); Treasurer Greg Humpert (1990, Harrodsburg); and Assistant Treasurer Emery Kinslow (1969, Glasgow).

The Kentucky Baptist Foundation sponsored a golf tournament: About 25 alumni played under clear skies, hoping to avoid the water hazards on the Wasioto Winds Golf Course.

Alumni Doyle Dunn and Dale Rose received honorary membership in Delta Epsilon Chi, Bible college honor society. Chosen by the faculty,

the award recognizes "an alumnus who has exhibited outstanding intellectual achievement, Christian character and leadership ability." Dunn, a 1983 graduate, holds the rank of commander in the U.S. Navy and serves as a chaplain. Evangelist Dale Rose graduated in 1989 and lives in Monticello.

The 2006 alumnus conference will be Aug. 7-8. The date will celebrate 80 years of ministry for Clear Creek.

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



Bill Whittaker

'Voices' combines Beth Moore's insights with missionaries' stories

Richmond, Va. (BP)—Author and speaker Beth Moore calls Christians to unite in prayer for missionaries around the world in her new devotional book, "Voices of the Faithful."

Moore and missionary Kim Davis, her partner on the project, collaborated with nearly 300 missionaries who contributed to the 366-day devotional with stories of sacrifice, hardships and joy in spreading the message of Jesus-Christ.

"My earnest prayer is that once you feel like you know a handful of missionaries personally, your motivation to remember them, pray for them and support them in any of many ways will explode into a full-fledged partnership," said Moore, who wrote introductions for the book and each monthly set of devotionals.

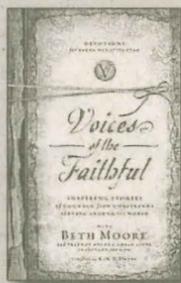
In addition, the Southern Baptist International Mission Board has developed an initia-

tive to partner with churches through "Lift Up Your Voice," a year-long prayer emphasis involving "Voices."

The emphasis encourages church members and families to use "Voices" at home each day. Church groups can meet monthly to pray and discuss what God teaches them through prayer. Resources include the "Voices of the Faithful" book, a facilitator's guide and a companion music CD and worship DVD.

Through the book and prayer emphasis, IMB President Jerry Rankin said he hopes Christians will understand the significance of praying daily for missions.

Moore writes: "Whether you are called to pray, called to give, called to go on short-term mission trips ... or surrender entirely to career missions, you are all called to the nations."



Mississippi Baptist Minister to Host

Alaska Cruise

And Pacific Northwest Vacation

"I liked this trip so much...we're going back!"

On July 18, 2006 join your Spiritual Director, Baptist Minister Pastor Roy Meyers on this 15-day vacation including a 7-day deluxe Alaska Cruise with Holland America Line and a 7-day Pacific Northwest vacation with Your Man Tours. Devotions will be made available for those in the group who wish to participate. Pastor Meyers served for 43 years as pastor of several churches in Mississippi. Currently he is semi retired and serves as interim pastor at Double Springs Baptist Church in Starkville, Mississippi. Pastor Meyers and his wife Syble took this same trip in June of 2005 serving as Your Man Tours' Baptist Hosts. They look forward to returning next year as hosts for our Baptist group visiting the land of the midnight sun during some of summer's longer daylight hours. Your group will fly into Seattle for a night before a scenic motor coach drive to Vancouver where you'll board the five-star ms Volendam. **Next, travel through a wondrous maze of forested-island and glacier-carved fjords, past charming coastal villages, migrating whales and calving glaciers to Juneau, Skagway, Ketchikan and spectacular Glacier Bay.** After the cruise you'll start a six-night motor coach tour with daily escorted sightseeing visiting British Columbia; the Cascade Mountains; Washington; the Grand Coulee Dam; Lake Coeur d'Alene; Montana; Yellowstone (Old Faithful) and Grand Teton National Parks; Jackson Hole, Wyoming; Idaho Falls, Idaho; and in Utah: the Great Salt Lake, Mormon Tabernacle, and more. You'll fly home after a night in Salt Lake City. Prices for this 15-day vacation start at only \$1998 (per person, double occupancy), including, port charges and taxes, lots of escorted motor coach sightseeing throughout the Pacific Northwest, the 7-day deluxe Alaska cruise, 7 nights in quality hotels, and baggage handling. Add \$500 airfare from Lexington, Louisville, Evansville, Nashville or Knoxville..

\$100 deposits are now due. Friends and family are welcome.

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"The Seven Checkpoints: Seven Principles Every Teenager Needs to Know." Andy Stanley and Stuart Hall. Howard Publishing, 2001. \$14.99. 252 pages. ♦♦♦♦♦ (out of five)

What should a youth ministry leader want youth to be exposed to, retain and live as they go through their teens and into college and adulthood?

Andy Stanley and Stuart Hall from North Point Community Church in Alpharetta, Ga., have written "The Seven Checkpoints" to help answer that question. They offer seven checkpoints that are all-encompassing of what they say teens will need in life.

Stanley and Hall contend the following seven checkpoints are both biblically based and easily measurable: authentic faith, spiritual disciplines, moral boundaries, healthy friendships, wise choices, ultimate authority and others first.

This study has challenging points to consider at the end of each chapter. Chapters include Scriptures to review and questions about how each checkpoint works in one's youth ministry.

Stanley contends that by using these seven checkpoints, North Point has grown both numerically and in the influence it has in the lives it is impacting. He shares stories of teens making wise choices about friends, sex, morality issues and biblical standards. Using the seven checkpoints not only directly impacts youth; it also helps teens influence other teens in areas of spiritual development and discipleship, he writes.

The book also lays out a plan on how to use the seven checkpoints at a local church. Stanley uses several schedules of reaching teens in a traditional setting as well as a more contemporary setting. Stanley offers a two-year program as well as a four-year program for middle school and high school students, respectively. *Steve Coleman*

The Simple Faith of Mister Rogers: Spiritual Insights from the World's Most Beloved Neighbor. Amy Hollingsworth. Integrity Publishers, 2005. 175 pages. \$19.99. ♦♦♦♦♦

This book is a loving testament to Fred Rogers, a.k.a. Mr. Rogers of "Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood." Hollingsworth does not claim to present an objective picture of Mr. Rogers. The author draws on her friendship with Fred Rogers, which covered the last nine years of his life.

By the time their friendship began (around a rare TV interview discussing his faith), Rogers was a cultural icon, as well as an Emmy award-winning television star. Hollingsworth's introduction to the book adds important and interesting background about Fred Rogers to the already known image of Rogers on his children's television shows. Rogers was an ordained Presbyterian minister who found his congregation through the TV screen.

Hollingsworth focuses on how Rogers' Christian faith was the basis for most all of what Rogers tried to

teach children in his show. Rogers "preached" what Hollingsworth identifies as basic elements of the gospel: forgiveness, kindness, compassion and respect.

Through letters, interviews and personal remembrances, Hollingsworth adds a private dimension to the public figure of Fred Rogers. Rogers is shown to be a widely read and thoughtful man, who mixed his knowledge of child psychology and childhood development with his natural affinity for children. He created an unforgettable world in which children could be taught. Personally, Rogers not only welcomed children to his TV neighborhood, he lived as a neighbor to all he met. The bottom line about Fred Rogers, according to Hollingsworth, is: What you saw on the show was what he was like in real life.

This is a pleasant read. Hollingsworth has penned a good-feeling book that will rekindle memories of your own experience with Mr. Rogers, either as a child or as a parent or grandparent. *Wayne Hager*

Whose Bible Is It? A History of the Scriptures Through the Ages. Jaroslav Pelikan. Viking, 2005. 174 pages. \$24.95. ♦♦♦♦♦

Jaroslav Pelikan attributes the origin of this book to two experiences. The first occurred in 1990 when he attended a performance of Handel's "Messiah" and read an essay titled, "Whose Bible Is It?" in the program notes. Its author acknowledged that while "Messiah" is almost universally inspirational to Christians, Jews and unbelievers, Handel wrote it as a uniquely Christian proclamation. How could distinct groups of people read the Bible so differently?

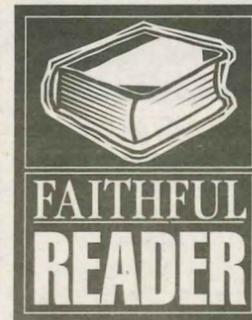
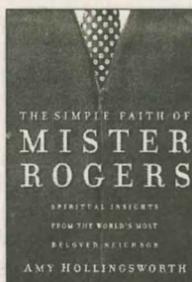
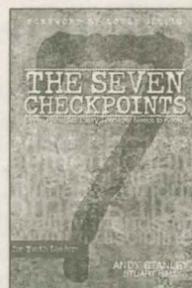
The second centered on Pelikan's late Aunt Vanda, who emigrated from Russia to the United States in 1930. After voraciously reading the Bible, she asked him, "Tall me, vot do you tink of Bible?" Pelikan admits to being brought up short, but sees this book as his best attempt "to answer dear Aunt Vanda's unforgettable question."

"Whose Bible" surveys the development of the Jewish and Christian Scriptures. Much of the middle chapters of the book summarize the Old and New Testament. Surrounding that all-too-brief review, Pelikan opens us up to the process and difficulties of biblical translation and transmission. His discussion of the impact of the Septuagint

(a Greek translation of the Hebrew Scriptures) on the New Testament might help many Christians understand why Jewish-Christian dialogue is difficult and why Catholics and Protestants include different books in the canon of Scripture.

The last two chapters read like Pelikan's personal testimony about the value of the Bible.

In the "afterword" he writes, "It is presumptuous for anyone to speak about 'possessing' the Bible. ... The Bible is the Book of God and the Word of God, and therefore it does not really belong to any of us." And "dat is what he tink of Bible." *Jim Holladay*



By Wayne Hager, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Mt. Airy, N.C.; Jim Holladay, pastor of Lyndon Baptist Church in Louisville; and Steve Coleman, pastor of education and youth at New Work Fellowship in Hopkinsville. They welcome feedback or suggestions for book reviews. Contact them via e-mail at: whager@trifluent.net; lyndonpastor@aol.com; risen4me@hotmail.com.

PRAYER PARTNERS

Please pray for the following people and projects involved with Kentucky Baptist partnerships with Baptists in Brazil and in Europe through the International Baptist Convention:

■ A medical team that will serve in Teresina, Brazil, Aug. 15-26. This team, composed of volunteers throughout the commonwealth, will work with children and do evangelistic work in addition to medical missions.

■ Leaders involved in preparing Kentucky project lists for 2006 in New England, Brazil, Malta, Greece, Poland and the International Baptist Convention.

■ Dewey and Jerryline Dick, former coordinators with the Kentucky partnership with the International Baptist Convention. They have returned to Kentucky from California and are praying for ministry opportunities in the near future.

■ Earl and Robin Pinkson, missionaries to Malta, who will begin a five-month stateside assignment and will have the opportunity to speak in churches and associations about their work.

MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

■ **BEREA**—Roundstone Church will celebrate homecoming Aug. 28, 11 a.m., with **Donna Cromer** and **Steve Sears** providing special music. **Rick Reynolds** is pastor.

■ **CAMPBELLSVILLE**—Lowell Avenue Church ordained **Robert Cowherd** as a deacon Aug. 14.

Saloma Church will celebrate homecoming Aug. 28. Activities will include worship at 11 a.m., a noon potluck meal and a program at 1:15 p.m., featuring **The Kellys** in concert. **John Chowning** is pastor.

■ **COVINGTON**—Latoria Church ordained **Tony Baxter** and **Robb Hedrick** as deacons July 31. **Steve Hollaway** is pastor.

■ **COXS CREEK**—New Salem Church recently called **Richard McPheeters** as pastor. **Chad Mantooth**, youth minister and interim pastor, has accepted a call to serve as pastor of a church in California.

■ **CUNNINGHAM**—Bethlehem Church will hold revival services Aug. 28-31 with **Cody Deese** and **James Dollar** as guest speakers. **David Hardy** is pastor.

■ **FANCY FARM**—Beulah Church ordained **Ian Carrico** to the gos-

pel ministry Aug. 7. He recently was called as pastor of Bethlehem Church in Wickliffe.

■ **HENDERSON**—Watson Lane Church recently called **Randall Hurt** as pastor.

■ **INGRAHAM**—East Jellico Baptist Church ordained **Shawn Cadel** to the gospel ministry July 13. Cadel, a recent graduate of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, is pastor of Amanda Baptist Church in Middletown, Ohio.

■ **LEXINGTON**—Ashland Avenue Church held a picnic and note-burning ceremony Aug. 7 to celebrate paying off the property for the church's future home on West Reynolds Road. **David Prince** is pastor.

Grace Church ordained **Michael Montgomery** as a deacon July 31. **Terry Freeman** is pastor.

■ **LONDON**—Calvary Church ordained **Brian Phillip George** to the gospel ministry Aug. 7. George is youth minister at Buena Vista Church in Owensboro.

■ **MOUNT VERNON**—Fairview Church recently called **Vaughn Rasor** as pastor.

■ **OWENSBORO**—Buena Vista Church

Baptist Nursing Fellowship helps meet medical needs in Tijuana

Tijuana, Mexico (BP)—Members of Baptist Nursing Fellowship stepped up to meet medical needs in the impoverished neighborhoods of Tijuana, Mexico, during FamilyFEST, a Woman's Missionary Union missions trip designed for families.

"Medical missions have always been my heart," noted LuAnn Marlow, a pediatric nurse practitioner in Lawrenceville, Ga. "When I saw an opportunity to do a trip with my kids, I jumped at that."

It was Marlow's fourth international medical missions trip but her first with her four sons and nephew. "I wanted to instill in them a love for

missions," she explained.

The partnership between Baptist Nursing Fellowship and FamilyFEST began in March 2004 when Judy Murray, former BNF national president, accompanied Kristy Carr, national WMU Volunteer Connection specialist, on her planning visit to Tijuana.

"Prayer was the biggest part of the preparation," Murray recounted. "As Kristy and I were walking in Tijuana last March, I began to pray that God would bring the individuals that He had called to participate in FamilyFEST."

Prayer continued as BNF mem-



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August

20 Super Saturday, First Baptist Church, Prestonsburg; Second Baptist Church, Hopkinsville.

27 Super Saturday, Central Baptist Church, Corbin; First Baptist Church, Paducah.

September

2-5 Wrangler Trail Ride, Land Between the Lakes.

10 Super Saturday, Crestwood Baptist Church, Crestwood.

16-17 Keyboard Retreat, St. Matthews Baptist Church, Louisville.

16-17 Women on Mission Fall Retreat, Jonathan Creek.

24 Children in Action Missions Day Camp, Cedarmore.

24 Minister's Wives Celebration, Parkway Baptist Church, Lexington.

30-Oct. 1 Focus 2005, Highview Baptist Church, Louisville.

30-Oct. 1 Journey into Worship II, Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown.

October

5-8 Reconciliation Networks of Our World, St. Matthews Baptist Church, Louisville.

8 KBC Preaching Conference, Lancer Baptist Church, Prestonsburg.

14-15 Women on Mission/Baptist Nurses Fellowship Fall Retreat, Cedarmore.

15 KBC Preaching Conference, New Vision Baptist Church, Mayfield.

18 Celebrate Baptism, Hillvue Heights Baptist Church, Bowling Green.

22 KBC Preaching Conference, First Baptist Church, Junction City.

24-25 Senior Adult Choir Festival, Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown.

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

will host **John Louis**, a Christian illusionist and musician, Aug. 20, 6 p.m., and Aug. 21, 11 a.m.

■ **PADUCAH**—Immanuel Church will host **Ken Medema** in concert Aug.

21, 7 p.m. **Jamie Broome** is pastor. ■ **SONORA**—First Church recently called **Wally Mantooth** as pastor. He previously was pastor of First Cedar Creek Church in Bardstown.

bers and other medical professionals began to sign up for the trip. As the team formed, they planned how to meet the needs that Murray had seen in March.

"The people in Tijuana have poor nutritional diets and live in poverty. Their homes are made of plywood, tin, with primarily dirt floors, with no indoor plumbing or electricity," Murray said. "The water around them is polluted and there are respiratory problems from inhaling smoke from the burning trash."

As the team began to work together in Tijuana, Murray knew God had answered their prayers to bring

the right people together.

The team consisted of seven BNF members and eight other medical professionals, including a pharmacist, a doctor of internal medicine and a pediatric nurse practitioner.

In addition to meeting immediate physical needs, team members taught basic first aid, baby and child care and disease prevention. The team also was able to do some vision testing.

BNF is a national organization for Christian nurses and other health-care professionals. For more information about BNF and FamilyFEST, visit www.wmu.com/ministry.

CLASSIFIED ADS

AVAILABLE: Children's or outreach minister. Desire to serve in central Kentucky part-time since I attend seminary. E-mail: Winkfam44@aol.com.

FOR SALE: 1993 Ford 15-passenger van, 88,619 miles. For more information, please call (270) 765-2545 or 765-4373.

FOR SALE: 1989 International Bluebird Bus. 70 seats, good condition. \$4,000. Clarkson Baptist Church, (270) 242-4567.

SEEKING: Pastor for newly formed DeHaven Baptist Church in LaGrange, Ky. Send resumés to: Pastor Search Committee, DeHaven Baptist Church, c/o Daniel Fendley, PO Box 135, LaGrange, KY 40031.

SEEKING: Accounting supervisor. Requires bachelor's degree in accounting with at least two years supervisory experience, preferably for a non-profit organization. Strong communication and computer skills also required. General ledger and payroll experience preferred. Send resumés with salary history and requirements to: Personnel Services, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 2825 Lexington Road, Louisville KY 40280; or personnel@sbts.edu.

SEEKING: Part-time youth minister. Send resumé to Yorktown Baptist Church, 7300 National Turnpike, Louisville, KY 40214, or e-mail ybc7300@aol.com.

SEEKING: Senior pastor for Centerfield Church, a contemporary Baptist church in fast-growing Oldham County, Ky. Please reply to: Centerfield Church, 4200 S Highway 393, Crestwood, KY 40014.

SEEKING: Full-time pastor of education and youth. Williams-town Baptist Church is a Southern Baptist purpose-driven church with a weekly attendance of 300-plus located in a growing Northern Kentucky town near Lexington and Cincinnati. Candidate should be energetic, self-motivated, well organized and a creative team player who has an ability to relate to people of all ages on a personal and spiritual level. A bachelor's degree is required and a master's with related experience is a plus. Check us out at www.williamstownbaptist.com. Send or e-mail resumés by Sept. 9 to: Stephen C. Rice, 214 North Main Street, Williamstown, KY 41097. E-mail: srice@fuse.net. Telephone: (859) 824-4102.

SEEKING: Part-time youth minister. Send resumé to: Farmdale Baptist Church, 1238 Durrett Lane, Louisville, KY 40213. E-mail: fbclou@bellsouth.net.

SEEKING: Full-time minister of music for Calvary Baptist Church. Send resumé to Search Committee, 121 Kentucky Ave., Princeton, KY 42445.

SEEKING: Full-time minister with youth for Broadway Baptist Church, an established, forward-looking congregation in Louisville, Ky., affiliated with CBF. A job description and other information are available at www.broadwaybaptist.org/position-MinisterWithYouth.html.

SEEKING: Experienced payroll accountant for Southern Seminary, a Christian working environment. The successful candidate will have proven accounting, computer, critical thinking, interpersonal and time-management skills, along with a strong customer service orientation. Send resumé with pay history and pay requirements to: Personnel Services, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, 2825 Lexington Road, Louisville, KY 40280, or e-mail to personnel@sbts.edu.

SEEKING: Full-time minister of music for Licking River Baptist Church. Send resumé: Daniel Lucas, PO Box 1057, Salyersville, KY 41465, or dalucas@gmail.com.

SEEKING: Full-time youth minister/education director. Bachelor's degree required; seminary training preferred. First Baptist Church, Kennett, Mo. Send resumé to Janet Scherer, 1621 South Lincoln, Kennett, MO 63857, or e-mail jscherer@we.rr.com.

SEEKING: Part-time children's ministry coordinator to work under the supervision of the children's ministry director for Bellevue Baptist Church in Owensboro, Ky. Send resumé by Aug. 24 to: Personnel Committee, Bellevue Baptist Church, 519 W Byers Ave., Owensboro, KY 42303.

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

TOURS: Come with us to the Holy Land and Petra, May 30-June 9, 2006. \$2,478 from Cincinnati. Tour host: Dr. Roy and Roberta Lucas. For brochure: (866) 340-3196.

Long live rock

More Christian rock bands keeping feet in both secular and gospel industries

By Beau Black
Religion News Service

Los Angeles (RNS)—A rock 'n' roll revival? Better believe it.

Soaring sales mean Christian rock is elbowing its way onto the forefront of the Christian music industry.

The rest of the music world is also paying attention, as big labels in New York and Los Angeles come calling on now-unheard-of acts they hope will become tomorrow's P.O.D. or Switchfoot.

Hard bands Skillet, Pillar, Day Of Fire and Disciple; pop rockers The Afters; innovative rock/electronic act MuteMath, and their current tourmate Mat Kearney, a singer/songwriter/rapper; all have scored mainstream deals.

They're not alone.

Improved musical chops, impressive fan bases cultivated by constant touring, and artists who don't trash hotel rooms are all part of the draw, according to label execs like Capitol Records' Jaime Feldman.

He snatched up Relient K's new record, "Mmhmm," after their previous disc sold 400,000 on a small Christian label. "Mmhmm" has equaled that already—and now both records have gone gold.

"They recognize that when a band plays several hundred shows a year and has a base of 100,000-200,000 units, they have a number of things already working for them," says Zach Kelm, Skillet's manager. "If they sign a brand new band, they don't have any of that, and you have to get a huge hit (to succeed)."

While pop artists Amy Grant and Michael W. Smith and R-and-B siblings BeBe 'n' CeCe Winans led the crossover charge in the late '80s, much of the success Christian rock acts are tasting today is because of a

couple of groundbreaking bands.

"Switchfoot dramatically changed the landscape," notes Brad O'Donnell, a vice president for EMI Christian Label Group, the band's Christian label home for seven years. "They changed what we think is possible for a Christian rock band."

Their success—a double platinum record (2 million copies) and two monster radio hits—is notable in part because of their record's lyrical approach. Rather than preaching, or dodging faith issues, songwriter Jon Foreman lobs questions at the listener: "This is your life/Are you who you want to be?"

For Christian artists, the answer increasingly means having a foot in both secular and sacred worlds—typically without changing their message.

Both O'Donnell and Kelm say eight of 10 acts they talk to now want to be signed in both markets. "It's not that they don't want to be in the Christian market," Kelm says. "They just want to look beyond that." In addition to Skillet, he's working with two new bands that will each debut in both.

Rethinking niche marketing

Steve Ford of S/R/E Recordings, home to the group Disciple, says, "More and more artists want to follow that Switchfoot model. There's an amazing band in Dallas (called) Radiant. I call up their management and ask 'How can I be involved?' He says 'Get us a general market deal.'"

Pop-oriented Christian labels have had to rethink relegating rock music to a niche. According to radio analyst Rick Welke, the target audience for the two largest Christian radio formats—"Adult Contemporary" and "Christian Hit Radio"—grew up on rock. "Now they're 20, 30 and



even 40-plus years old, and it is part of who they are."

Lyrics that address faith issues head-on don't necessarily hurt a band's chances, O'Donnell says.

"I'll be honest, sometimes we over-think the lyrical question. Sometimes if the music were stronger, it could go more places. Sometimes what we perceive as a bias against Christian music is just that the music's not as good."

It's possible to succeed without jettisoning faith-oriented lyrics: Skillet scored an active rock hit with the not-so-subtly titled "Savior," and pop band MercyMe has marched up the AC chart three times with blatantly faith-based songs.

Getting lost in the shuffle

Signing in both markets is not without pitfalls, though, as both Skillet and Pillar learned.

Pillar played round-the-label shuffle, a game artists often lose. Ac-

ording to lead singer Rob Beckley, when Universal chief Jimmy Iovine shuttered the declining MCA label, he shifted five acts over to sister Geffen Records: Mary J. Blige, Blink 182, The Roots, Newfound Glory—and Pillar.

"No one at Geffen knew who we were," Beckley says. "There was no interest, they did nothing."

They soon freed themselves from their contract, returned home to Flicker Records and put out a new record that's sold faster than their last. Now mainstream labels are courting them again.

Skillet got their shot through a long-standing connection with producer Paul Ebersold (Three Doors Down, Sister Hazel), who helmed demos they shopped to the mainstream.

Kelm recalls, "He said, 'I've got a 14 year-old kid, and I'm sick of working on things that mean nothing, so I'll invest my time with this.'"

SWITCHFOOT With a double-platinum recording, the band Switchfoot has more Christian rock bands looking to land contracts with secular labels.

Tech-savvy churches expand ministries with 'satellite campuses'

By Bobby Ross Jr.
Religion News Service

Oklahoma City (RNS)—Most weekends, Pastor Craig Groeschel preaches at 23 services in five church locations across Oklahoma.

His schedule isn't quite as busy as it sounds, though. The founder of LifeChurch.tv, a nontraditional church, Groeschel delivers only five of the messages in person. Technology takes care of the rest.

Welcome to the electronic church, live via satellite.

In the reality TV age, perhaps it's no surprise that fast-growth churches increasingly use cameras to put their pastors in two places—or more—at the same time.

Some do it to solve crowding issues or reach a wider geographical area. Others see it as a way to offer more worship styles under one roof, said Scott Thumma, a researcher of megachurch trends at Hartford Institute of Religion Research in Connecticut.

While the exact number of churches beaming pastors from one location to another is unknown, 22 percent of 153 megachurches sur-

veyed in 1999 said they had satellite campuses, Thumma said. He's currently updating that survey and expects that number "to be greater than that for sure."

The trend concerns traditionalists such as Ole Anthony, president of the Trinity Foundation, a Dallas-based religious watchdog group that tracks televangelists.

"Do you lay your hands on the screen for fellowship?" asked Anthony, who criticizes megachurches as bastions of amusement and anonymity.

But Thumma said satellite services only reflect what already occurs in most large worship settings.

"Even if you're in the main sanctuary, chances are you're not going to be watching the pastor at the pulpit anyway," he said. "Your attention is going to be focused on the large screens because you can't really see the pastor if you're in a gathering of 4,000."

Roll the tape

Groeschel, 37, said he stumbled on the video format when his wife delivered the fourth of their six chil-

dren on a Sunday morning in 2001.

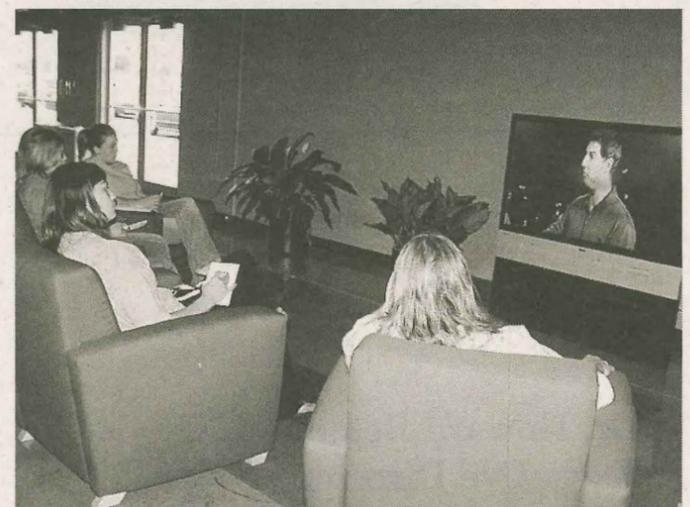
By then, LifeChurch.tv—known for its ear-piercing praise band and Groeschel's real-life sermon illustrations—already had grown to several thousand people at two locations. Groeschel had preached twice that Saturday night.

"I was holding my little son and asking, 'Who's going to fill in for the day?'" Groeschel said. "Someone said, 'Hey, why don't we roll video from the night before?' We did and it worked great. There was almost no difference."

Four years later, LifeChurch.tv has 130 ministers and staff members and serves a combined 13,000 people each weekend, with two locations in Oklahoma City and one each in Tulsa, Stillwater and Edmond.

And in September, LifeChurch.tv plans to take the concept to two new campuses in the Phoenix area, more than 1,000 miles away.

Groeschel—whose church advertises on highway billboards with messages such as "Love GOD, but hate church? So did we"—said church leaders felt called to share



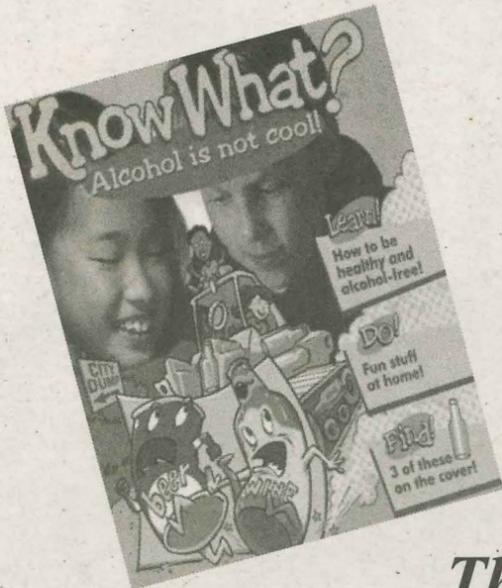
the message outside Oklahoma.

"We liked Phoenix because it's one of the fastest-growing cities in the entire country, and at the same time it's in one of the most unchurched counties in the entire country," he said.

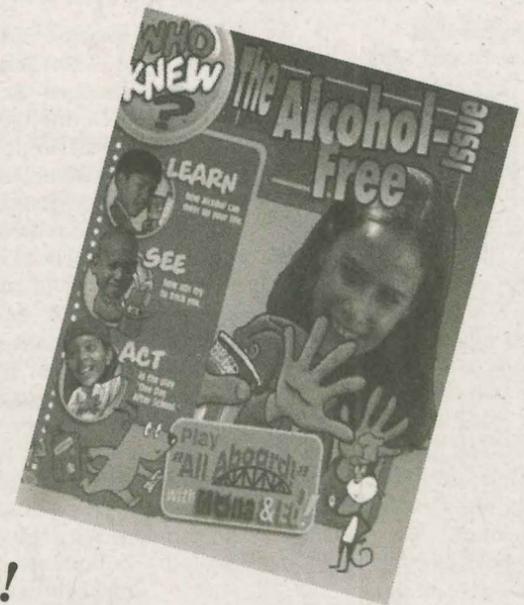
About 100 LifeChurch.tv members from Oklahoma have quit jobs, sold homes and volunteered to move to Phoenix to form the core groups for the new campuses.

ON SCREEN Women at LifeChurch.tv's south Oklahoma City campus take notes from comfortable chairs in the church coffee shop as they watch senior pastor Craig Groeschel's sermon broadcast live via satellite from Edmond, Okla., 22 miles away. (RNS photo by Tamie Ross)

Project Guardian Angel

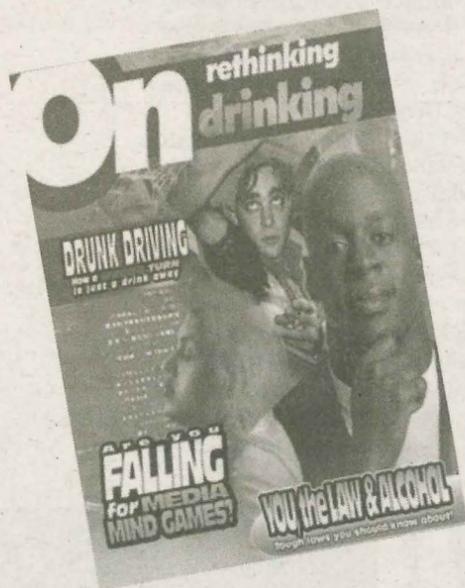


The average age of our children taking their first drink is 13. Is underage drinking affecting the kids in your church?



The Kentucky League can help!

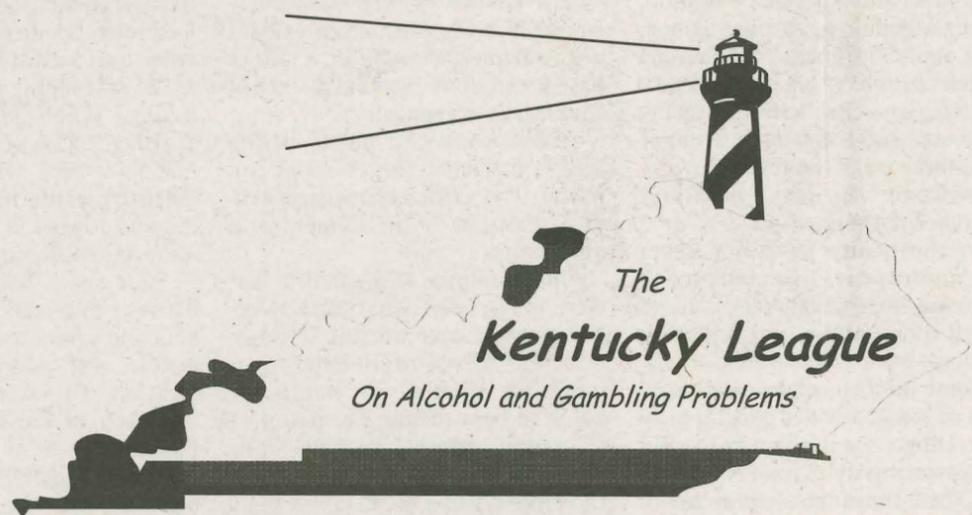
These materials are designed to help young people face peer pressure associated with drinking and teach them about the effects of alcohol.



Books are available for 3 age groups:
ages 6-8, ages 9-11, ages 12-18
teacher/leader guides are provided with each set.

The cost is \$3 per book.
To find out how to get these workbooks
free for your church,
call our office at 502.635.0002.

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"Let Your Light Shine Before Men"

Matt 5:16