

September 6, 2005
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ELIZA BROADUS
OFFERING
 See Insert

FOR THE RECORD

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Giving up?



Strategist urges pastors to talk about money more

By Ken Walker
 State Correspondent

Lexington—Glen Cummins compares stingy church members to a child who refuses to share M&Ms with his father even though Dad bought them.

To increase giving, church leaders must help members understand that God provides all their needs and asks for only a small portion in return, said Cummins, a church strategist for the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Cummins, who is teaching on this topic at KBC Super Saturday, said God often will bless His children again. But continued selfishness will stop the flow of blessings, he added.

"We're holding on so tight to what He has given us we can't receive more," Cummins said. "We're missing a blessing holding on to what He has given us."

A basic step toward more gen-

erous members involves teaching tithing as obedience to God's command, he said.

But unless people understand they can trust God to provide for their needs, appeals for giving will sound like one more "money grab" that confronts people every day, Cummins said.

Christians should approach money differently, Cummins said, noting that Jesus said in Matthew 6:21, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Cummins said that verse should prompt such questions as:

- What do I value most?
- What would I hate most to lose?
- Where do my thoughts turn most frequently when I am free to think of anything?
- What affords me the greatest pleasure?

Money was one of the leading subjects that Jesus addressed while

on the earth, but many pastors rarely discuss it, Cummins said.

Many pastors are afraid to talk about money because they fear resistance from the congregation, he noted.

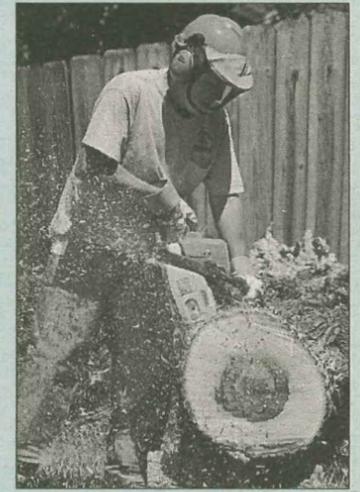
Likewise, many members don't want to hear teachings about money because that is their "treasure" and they don't like being challenged to give some of it away, Cummins said.

Still, pastors must be willing to address this touchy subject in a proper way if churches are to see increased giving.

"We preach two sermons a year and think people are going to respond, and it's not happening," he said.

Cummins recommended that pastors make money a year-round emphasis, teaching that giving is an essential part of a Christian's life and part of God's character.

□ See Speaker urges pastors ... Page 3



HARD WORK Kentucky Baptist disaster relief volunteer Clifford Frazier cuts a tree for a homeowner in Brandon, Miss. Frazier, a member of Cherryville Baptist Church in Louisville, is one of more than 1,000 Baptist disaster relief volunteers assisting in Mississippi, Louisiana and Alabama in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. (NAMB photo by John Swain)

Katrina relief work will take months, says KBC coordinator

By Brenda Smith
 KBC Communications

Clinton, Miss.—Kentucky Baptist disaster relief volunteers are expected to be needed for months to respond to what some are calling the worst national disaster in American history.

"We need people to be patient, and be ready to respond (both now and) way down the road," said Larry Koch, coordinator for the Kentucky Baptist Convention's disaster relief efforts.

"(Organizers) are talking a 90-day response, so we can't have everyone in the first week."

In the first days after the Category 4 hurricane slammed the Gulf Coast, more than 65 Kentucky Baptist disaster relief volunteers already were on the scene in Mississippi assisting victims.

Volunteers also are needed closer to home, to deal with cleanup in Hopkinsville, which suffered flooding when the remnants of Hurricane Katrina dumped heavy rains on the area.

In the Gulf Coast region, trained volunteers will be needed for weeks to come, Koch said.

Two Kentucky kitchen units have been deployed to Mississippi, where they are providing

□ See Kentucky volunteers ... Page 2

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Katrina response largest ever for Baptist volunteers

New Orleans—Ministry to the victims of Hurricane Katrina has grown into the largest response ever for Southern Baptist disaster relief workers.

During the first week after the

devastating storm ravaged the Gulf Coast, more than 1,000 Baptist volunteers and 120 mobile disaster relief units from Kentucky and across the nation were activated to hard-hit regions of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia.

By Aug. 31, Baptist disaster relief workers were serving in various capacities at more than 30 locations. Baptist volunteers also are manning two American Red Cross kitchens and two Salvation Army kitchens.

"We've worked for 35 years to build capacity to respond to something like this. It will be a major test," said Jim Burton, director of volunteer mobilization for the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board. "We are beginning to understand the extent of the damage and the logistical challenges that lie ahead."

Before Katrina hit the Gulf Coast, the American Red Cross asked Southern Baptist officials to deploy enough volunteers and services to feed 300,000 people a day. Burton said that number eventually could swell to 1 million meals.

Hurricane Katrina is one of the most powerful storms ever to hit the United States. Damage estimates already exceed \$25 billion, according to various reports.

Southern Baptist disaster relief has more than 600 disaster relief response units and 30,000 trained volunteers. State Baptist conventions recruit and train volunteers from Southern Baptist churches. NAMB coordinates multi-state and international disaster relief efforts.

Among other Baptist organizations, Life After Christ Organiza-tions has announced plans to donate \$10,000 each to the Baptist state conventions of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama to assist in disaster relief efforts.

The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's disaster relief emphasis focuses on working through local churches. CBF officials have pledged \$15,000 for hurricane relief ministry in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama.

Baptists across the nation also are opening their doors to refugees fleeing the devastated region. Baptist churches throughout Texas, Loui-



HURRICANE VICTIMS People wade through flood waters in New Orleans two days after the city was hit by Hurricane Katrina. (RNS photo by Alex Brandon)

siana and Mississippi have become impromptu shelters in partnership with the American Red Cross.

After surveying the storm damage last week, President Bush said, "The folks on the Gulf Coast are going to need the help of this country for a long time. This is going to be a difficult road. The challenges that we face on the ground are unprecedented. But there's no doubt in my mind we're going to succeed."

Louisiana Gov. Kathleen Blanco estimated about 1 million residents in Louisiana were left homeless by Katrina, and Red Cross officials reported about 40,000 people were being housed in 200 shelters across the area.

Officials in Mississippi were reporting an initial death toll of 185. Emergency workers set up makeshift hospitals in tents as they attempted to treat the injured.

As New Orleans soaks in a reddish-brown soup of sewage, gasoline and garbage, Mayor Ray Nagin predicted it could be two or three months before New Orleans is functional again.

When asked how many people died in the hurricane, Nagin responded, "Minimum, hundreds. More likely, thousands."

In Mississippi, Gulfshore Baptist Assembly was leveled by Katrina's storm surge, and two visible churches on the coast—First Baptist of Gulfport and First Baptist of Long Beach—were destroyed.

Kay Cassibry, director of disaster relief for the Mississippi Baptist

Convention, said disaster relief volunteers will be needed in the coastal Mississippi area for at least another couple of months.

"We'll need feeding units at least until everyone has electricity and water," she said. "But we'll need cleanup and recovery for a long time."

Morris Chapman, president of the SBC Executive Committee, urged Southern Baptists to "pray diligently" and "give generously" in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

Chapman requested special prayer for the faculty, staff and students of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, noting that "their tragic and extended displacement from the seminary campus is unprecedented in Baptist history."

After the levees broke, most of the campus was flooded.

Seminary President Chuck Kelley said he hopes to have the campus reopened by August 2006 and that classes still will be available to students this semester through such options as Internet courses, independent studies and transferring to the seminary's extension sites.

"We will have a semester. We will have a December graduation," Kelley said during a meeting last week at the seminary's Atlanta-area North Georgia campus.

"The seminary family has been deeply affected," Kelley noted. "Our greatest concern is taking care of the people side of this tragedy."

Based on reporting by Baptist Press and Associated Baptist Press

How to help

■ **Call before you go.** Coordinate your plans to work on a Kentucky Baptist Convention disaster relief team before traveling to the affected areas. Call the KBC's men on missions department, (502) 489-3527 or toll-free in Kentucky (866) 489-3527

■ **Be trained.** Attend one of two upcoming training sessions for disaster relief work, if you want to go helping and you have not already been trained. The sessions will be held Sept. 8, 6-9 p.m. and Sept. 15, 6:30-9:30 p.m. For more information, call the KBC men on mission department or visit www.kybaptist.org/drtraining.

■ **Be flexible.** Volunteers for Kentucky feeding and clean-up teams are expected to be needed for several weeks. Often the greatest need for volunteers comes during the first weeks, when the disaster is no longer the top item in the news.

■ **Donate money.** Money allows coordinators to buy exactly what victims and work teams need. Often spent in the affected area, the influx of disaster relief funds also helps fuel recovery in the region. Agencies collecting money for Katrina relief include:

■ **Kentucky Baptist Convention:** Contribute online by visiting www.kybaptist.org/dr; or mail a check to KBC, Dept 5088, Box 740041, Louisville, KY, 40201-9976. Make the check payable to the KBC and write "Disaster Relief—Hurricane Katrina" in the memo line.

■ **Southern Baptist Convention:** Call (888) 571-5895; or visit www.namb.net/disasterrelief; or mail a check, payable to NAMB, to NAMB/Disaster Relief, Box 116543, Atlanta, GA 30368-6543.

■ **Baptist World Aid:** Donate online by visiting www.bwanet.org/Support/support.htm; or mail a check to Baptist World Alliance, 405 N. Washington Street, Falls Church, VA 22046. Make the check payable to Baptist World Aid and write "Baptist World Aid—Hurricane Katrina" on the memo line.

■ **Cooperative Baptist Fellowship:** Donate online by visiting www.thefellowship.infor/landing/givng.icm; or mail a check to CBF, Box 101699, Atlanta, GA 30392. Make checks payable to CBF and write "Hurricane Relief Fund #17004" on the memo line.

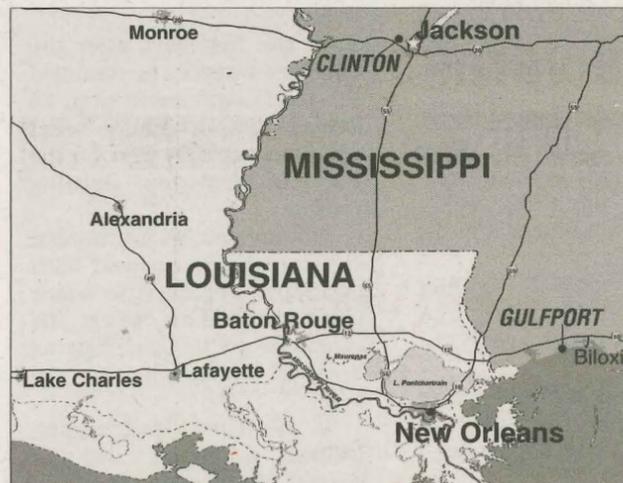
■ **Samaritan's Purse:** Donate online by visiting www.samaritanpurse.org; call (800) 665-2843; or mail a check to Samaritan's Purse at Box 3000, Boone, NC 28607. Make check payable to Samaritan's Purse and write "Hurricane Katrina Project" on the memo line.

What not to do:

■ Do not head to Mississippi or Louisiana expecting to assist a Southern Baptist disaster relief team without first contacting the Kentucky Baptist Convention's men on missions department. (See phone numbers above.)

■ Do not collect food or clothing, as organizations aren't prepared to collect, transport and distribute such items.

Where Kentucky volunteers are:



Kentucky Baptists currently have more than 65 volunteers serving on two kitchen teams and a clean-up crew. The kitchen unit that is based in Stanford is located in Clinton, near the capital city of Jackson. A second kitchen unit from Henderson was deployed to Gulfport, on the coast.

Kentucky volunteers to be needed for months

Continued from page 1

meals for power company linemen housed at the camp. Approximately 45 Kentucky Baptist disaster relief volunteers are staffing the unit.

In addition to preparing meals, the unit assisted two homeowners with cleanup jobs during their first operation, and they anticipate serving more as relief efforts continue.

The Henderson unit, led by Dallas James, a veteran disaster relief volunteer, was expected to begin operations Sept. 2, preparing 3,000 meals for distribution by the Salvation Army.

The unit is working under more primitive conditions, Koch added, and getting water and supplies has been difficult. Hot, muggy weather also is expected to take its toll on the 20 volunteers manning the Henderson kitchen unit. They will need to be relieved by fresh volunteers, Koch said.

A kitchen unit based in Stanford was deployed to Camp Garaywa, a Baptist camp located in Clinton, Miss., approximately 150 miles from the Gulf Coast. A second kitchen unit from Henderson was deployed to Gulfport, Miss., on the coast.

The Stanford unit began operations Sept. 1, serving 6,000 meals to disaster victims and relief workers, according to Koch, who is serving with the unit in Clinton, Miss.

The meals are distributed by the Red Cross to victims housed in four local emergency shelters.

The unit also is preparing

meals for power company linemen housed at the camp. Approximately 45 Kentucky Baptist disaster relief volunteers are staffing the unit.

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East Kentucky association bitten by missions bug

By Ken Walker
State Correspondent

Hazard—Clyce Smith manages a dozen apartments in southeastern Kentucky, but the semi-retired contractor wasn't too anxious to return home from Brazil earlier this summer.

That's because the longtime Sunday school superintendent had numerous opportunities to pray with people to accept Jesus as their personal Savior during a visit in June.

The converts included a blind man who responded to Smith's presentation of the "EvanGcube," a popular tool used to explain the gospel.

"I don't think he could see me, but with his spiritual eyes he could," said Smith, a member of Big Creek Baptist Church in Hazard. "I get excited about that."

Smith was one of 15 people on a trip to northeast Brazil organized by Three Forks Baptist Association.

The group included Bill Mackey, executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, and two Brazilian pastors from Connecticut.

Team member Carmen Maggard knows how Smith feels after she also led several people in prayers to accept Christ.

The new Christians included a woman who pulled Maggard back into church the last evening of their stay so a friend could snap their picture.

"They are so open and hungry to hear the truth," said Maggard, a member of First Baptist Church of Wooton. "Here, you try to talk to someone about Jesus and they don't want to hear it. There, they can't wait to hear it."

In Teresina, Brazil, volunteers led several worship services and a vacation Bible school, spoke in various schools, distributed 530 gospel tracts and 75 Bibles, and visited more than 200 residents.

A nurse for the Leslie County school system, Maggard also taught Brazilian students proper dental care and did vision screening.

In addition to 11 people in Teresina, four members of New Bethel Baptist Church in Benton traveled to another city in the region for similar outreach efforts. The two teams recorded more than 300 professions of faith in Christ.

A second group from Three

Forks Association also traveled last month to Teresina to conduct medical clinics.

Missions involvement has increased over last year, which Director of Missions Jim Castlen hopes spreads awareness among the association's 43 churches in Perry, Knott, Letcher and Leslie counties.

DOM helping focus churches

Despite the state convention's emphasis, missions hasn't been uppermost in many churches' consciousness, Castlen said.

A missionary for 18 years in the Philippines and Australia, Castlen is working to change that focus.

Last year he took 19 people to Atmore, Ala., to help residents clean up after Hurricane Ivan. The missions director also organized trips to Brazil and Honduras in 2004 and this summer's return trips to Brazil.

"The vision for missions near and far will gradually catch hold," Castlen said. "It doesn't happen overnight."

This year's "Crossover" evangelism and outreach emphasis in southeastern Kentucky also should help stimulate interest.

Instead of waiting for this fall's state convention, activities began earlier this summer. About 15 KBC churches are among two dozen groups that have signed up to help thus far.

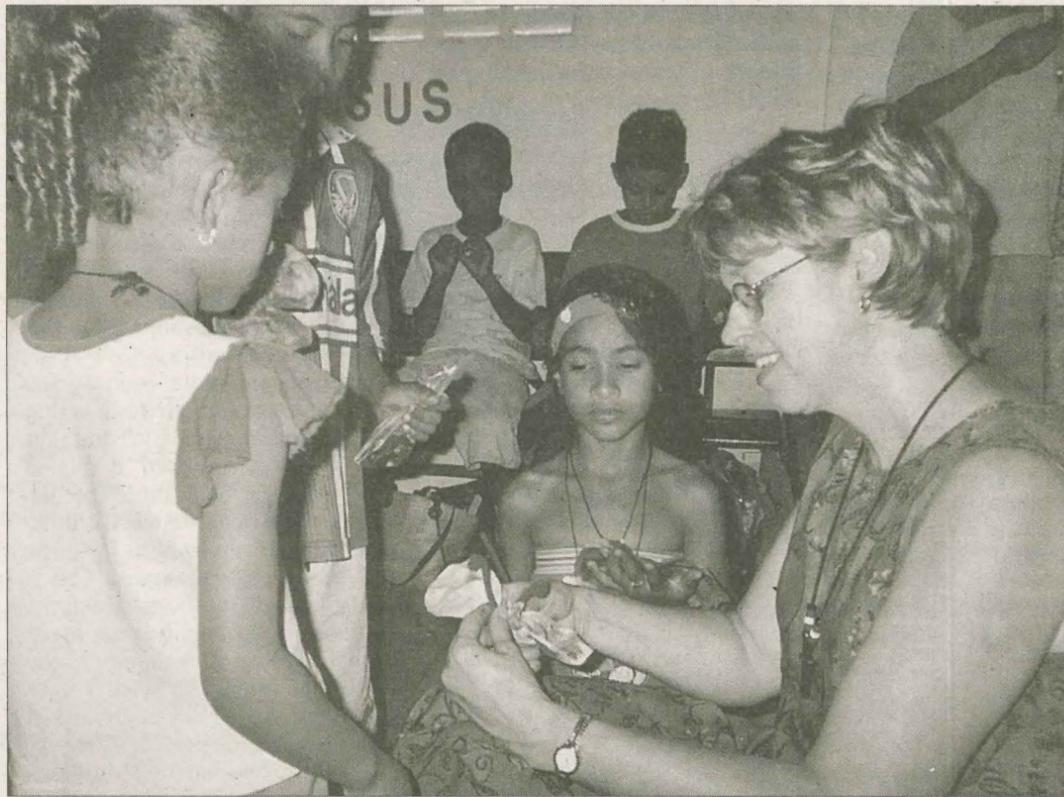
Much of the activity has occurred at Middlefork Mission in Leslie County. Located about 10 miles south of Hyden, it is the only Kentucky Baptist congregation in a 30-mile area stretching to the Harlan County line.

Among those who have visited Middlefork lately are teams from First Baptist Church of Dothan, Ala.

One team built a handicap ramp, covered deck, steps and porch on the double-wide trailer that serves as the church's home. A second team led a vacation Bible school and other activities.

In mid-June, a team from Fisher-ville Baptist Church hosted a cook-out and worship service for more than 50 people. The next day the group distributed gift bags in the community that contained "Jesus" videos and other items.

Mission Service Corps missionary Jack Hester, who helped start



BRAZIL FRIENDS Carmen Maggard, a member of First Baptist Church of Wooton, helps a child with a craft activity in Teresina, Brazil, earlier this summer. Several churches in Eastern Kentucky's Three Forks Baptist Association have recaptured their interest in missions after taking part in recent trips and activities.

the church as a volunteer with the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board, said the teams have been valuable.

It takes a long time to gain the trust of area residents, Hester said. Sunday night services only draw up to 22 people, and not everyone who professes faith in Christ follows through with baptism.

But he has seen some progress, recording 12 conversions last year. In addition, a man in his 50s and a woman in her 40s currently are awaiting baptism.

"They needed a church here," said Hester, a retired businessman who grew up an hour away in western Virginia. "There's a lot of unchurched people."

"People are accepting of me, but you've got to prove yourself," Hester said. "It's hard work, but it's good work."

Connecting with New England

The third leg of Three Fork's missions emphasis is a newly-formed partnership with New England's West Connecticut Baptist Association.

At a dinner for directors of missions two years ago, Castlen learned that Bowling Green native Ron Huffman was directing missions in that association. After contacting

him, Castlen and several pastors traveled to New England last fall.

In addition to leading two Brazilian pastors to join this summer's mission trip, the visit resulted in First Baptist Church of Hazard working with Candlewood Baptist Church in Danbury, Conn.

First Baptist has supplied funds to help Candlewood repair its sign and the two are exploring other possibilities, Castlen said. He also hopes to schedule Huffman to speak at Three Forks' annual meeting this fall.

"My interest is to maintain the contact and build relationships between sister churches as well as association to association," Castlen said. "I believe firmly if a church is losing its vision for growth, you get them involved in some kind of missions and that will spur them more than Tuesday night visitation."

It also helps to have a leader to promote the vision, said Smith, who credited Castlen for inviting him to take his first trip to Brazil last year.

"Sometimes what we teach doesn't make any impact," Smith said. "Matthew 28:18 (which records Christ's command to go and make disciples) began to ring some bells. Here I was teaching and I wasn't going myself."

Speaker urges pastors to speak more about stewardship

Continued from page 1

One way to accomplish this is to enlist members to give testimonies about the joy of giving and asking Sunday school teachers to address stewardship in their classes.

Cummins also challenged churches to approach their annual budget much differently. He questioned whether most members are excited about their church's budget, or whether they even support it.

Many churches vote on their budgets during a Wednesday night business meeting, which few members attend, he said. Instead of involving just a few people in the budget, Cummins suggested that church leaders prepare an interest-

ing Sunday morning presentation about the budget and vote on it then.

"Do a 10-minute PowerPoint presentation on Sunday morning, hand out pictures of a mission trip (or) do short testimonies," Cummins said. "Show people what you're doing with their money."

Pastors also should read more about stewardship, the speaker said. In his first three Super Saturday workshops, when he asked how many read any materials about stewardship in the past year, only one person raised a hand.

Cummins offered a list of other ideas and resources for leaders to develop stewardship in their churches:

■ Schedule stewardship testimonies throughout the year.

■ Contact LifeWay Envelope Service to discuss delivery options.

■ Provide envelopes for children to help them develop the habit of giving.

■ Contact KBC church strategist French Harmon for free stewardship bulletin inserts.

■ Have the pastor or another designated leader write personal notes to first-time givers.

■ Download stewardship materials at www.kybaptist.org/stewardship.

■ Visit www.primesourceproviders.com for a four-week study on finances and other information.

■ Visit www.lifeway.com to learn

Reading list

Several good books about stewardship exist, Glen Cummins said, but few pastors take advantage of them. Books he recommends include:

The Law of Rewards by Randy Alcorn
Money, Possession and Eternity by Randy Alcorn
Money Talks, But What Is It Saying? by O.S. Hawkins
Jesus on Money (three volumes) by Larry Burkett
How Much Is Enough? by Larry Burkett

how to host a "Successful Christian Financial Management Seminar."

■ Schedule "Financial Peace University" at your church. Find information at www.daveramsey.com.

■ Hold a "Good Sense Budget Course." For information visit www.goodsenseministry.com.

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

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EBO & disaster relief

At such a critical time for disaster relief on the Gulf Coast, many people are asking: Should we give to the Eliza Broadus Offering or give directly to Kentucky Baptist disaster relief? The answer is yes to both.

The Cooperative Program and the Eliza Broadus Offering provide foundational support that make it possible for Kentucky Baptists to have a disaster relief ministry. As noted in the 2005 "Follow His Lead" materials, the Eliza Broadus Offering provides about one-third of the regular budget for Kentucky disaster relief. Cooperative Program funds provide the salary of Larry Koch, our KBC disaster relief director. Without the foundational funding that provides the trucks, buys gasoline for the equipment, and many other ongoing expenses, we cannot have this ministry ready to go when needed.

Please use the 2005 Follow His Lead DVD and other teaching materials to help your congregation know about Kentucky Baptist disaster relief ministries, as well as other vital ministries in our state. Emphasize the importance of the Eliza Broadus Offering for our ongoing work. Challenge your congregation to go the second mile with an additional offering for the needs on the Gulf Coast.

Contributions to the Kentucky Baptist Convention for the Eliza Broadus Offering should include the code EBO. Contributions for hurricane relief should be coded DRHURR. Your prayers and generous giving for all of our mission work is greatly appreciated.

Joy Bolton
Executive Director, Kentucky WMU

Warren is right

I think Rick Warren was exactly right in his statement that it was "silly" for the Southern Baptist Convention to pull out of the Baptist World Alliance.

A recent letter writer stated that

the BWA had left him several years ago. That is exactly how many lifelong Southern Baptists feel about our convention. The actions of the Southern Baptist Convention in recent years have said to us, "We want your money; we do not want your opinion."



The theological drift toward five-point Calvinism is totally unacceptable to many of us. How many of our churches are aware that many future pastors and denominational leaders are being subjected to this theology?

One of the most controversial tenets of five-point Calvinism is that God predetermines which humans will be damned to hell. A related tenet teaches that those predestined to be saved, the elect, will be irresistibly drawn to faith in Christ and cannot choose otherwise. This is totally foreign to Southern Baptist doctrine I was taught at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in the 1960s and foreign to what I have taught and shared as a pastor and in witnessing for the past 50 years.

I feel the SBC has "left" millions of Southern Baptists!

Mr. Henderson, thanks for the excellent coverage of all the news that relates to Baptists in our state. A special thanks for publishing the "Happy 100th Birthday" advertisement for the Baptist World Alliance. Great Southern Baptist leaders of the past and present speak volumes as related to BWA.

Ernest L. Martin
Danville

Exclusive attitudes

I graduated from high school in a small, Southern town in 1952. I graduated from a small, conservative Baptist girls' college in 1956, just 15 miles north of my parents' front door.

I came to Kentucky with my husband in 1958. He earned his doctoral degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. I have been involved in Kentucky Baptist life for

Participate in 'Pray the Perimeter'

"Pray the Perimeter" of Kentucky, Sept. 10-16, will be an incredible time with God's people across Kentucky. Over these seven days, a group of Kentucky Baptist Convention staff and I literally will traverse the entire perimeter of our state to pray with hundreds of Kentucky Baptists.

The idea came from a Southern Baptist International Mission Board missionary when Dan Garland, KBC church development & evangelism team leader, heard him talk about praying the perimeter of a closed country in Africa. Dan thought that if this missionary could pray around an entire nation, surely we could pray around Kentucky.

It will be an incredible privilege to pray with Kentucky Baptists for spiritual awakening and revival in local churches, to pray for the gospel to be shared with every person, and for people to be reached and developed in local Baptist churches to the glory of God.

We also will encourage every association to "pray the perimeter" of the association and to prayerwalk every church. Also, churches will be encouraged to become a part of Kentucky Baptists Connect and to help with the "Our Best for God's Best" baptism emphasis.

God willing, I plan to be at every location starting in Whitesburg on Saturday night, Sept. 10, and concluding in Harlan on Friday afternoon, Sept. 16.

I hope Kentucky Baptists will do their best to meet us at the location nearest you. There are 30 prayer sites involving 31 associations. Several associations are joining with an adjoining association for prayer.

If you can't join us, please follow our schedule and pray with us during the journey, especially during the times when we will be in prayer. You can find the schedule online at kybaptist.org/prayertour.

Sunday night through Thursday night, prayer services will be hosted

47 years—and now I'm 70.

I have learned that religious fundamentalism sometimes leads to harsh judgment of others, arrogance and exclusive attitudes.

There are times when the present leadership of the Southern Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary make the 1950s seem like the Age of Enlightenment. "I am perplexed, but not driven to despair."

Betty Jo Gaba
Louisville

Where's the research?

I find it interesting that Thom Rainer, Lifeway Christian Resources president nominee, would make the following statement concerning the decline in Southern Baptist baptisms: "The statistics would be even worse if moderates had remained in leadership."

I would like to know of the "research" that supports such an arrogant statement.

Tracy L. Powell-McCoy
Richmond

Editor's Note: According to an article published May 17 in the Western Recorder, Rainer said he believes the Southern Baptist Convention's 2003 ratio of 43 members for each baptism recorded "would have dropped even further if there had not been a major shift" in the SBC since 1979. Citing statistics of some churches affiliated with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Rainer claimed that group's baptismal ratio in 2003 was 92 to 1. Responding to Rainer's study, CBF spokesman Ben McDade said many of the churches affiliated with CBF are dually aligned with denominations other than Southern Baptists, so it is "not statistically possible" to link baptisms to a particular Baptist organization.

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.

by local churches. It will be my privilege to bring a brief message on prayer. I am experiencing the presence of God in a special way as I prepare for these prayer experiences.

The Bible is filled with dynamic prayer experiences by God's people. Moses pleads with God to forgive the children of Israel and if not then to blot his name out of the book of life (Exodus 32:32). Elijah prayed for fire to fall and consume the sacrifice (1 Kings 18:38). Nehemiah mourned, fasted and prayed, and confessed his sins and those of Israel (Nehemiah 1:5-11).

Jesus prayed with compassion over Jerusalem (Matthew 9:36), and for all who would follow Him (John 17:9-23). Paul prayed with great compassion for his own race to be saved (Romans 9:3), and he prayed for the church of Philippi because of their partnership in the gospel (Philippians 1:4).

We must be a people devoted to prayer. Please join us!

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention

STEWARDSHIP

Succinct quotes
provide profound
financial lessons

By Don Spencer

Understanding financial concepts sometimes can be rather complicated. Below are some succinct quotes that cut through the complexities of

finances and remind us how applying some simple principles can make life less complicated:

"If you can't pay as you go, you're going too fast."

"Nobody ever went broke saving money."

"You should have two financial goals in life: to make a little money first, and then to make a little money last."

"What ever resources of good health, character and fortitude you bring to retirement, remember to bring money."

"Every man ought to have money on his mind. No man ought to have money on his heart."

"Money is what you'd get along beautifully without if only other people weren't so crazy about it."

"Molehills of debt build mountains of worry."

"We seldom think of what we have but what we lack."

"More people should learn to tell their dollars where to go instead of asking where they went."

"An investor's worst enemy is not the stock market but oneself."

"When a person with experience meets a person with money, the person with experience will get the money. And the person with the money will get some experience."

"Economists have correctly predicted nine out of the last five recessions."

"A dirty penny can hide the brightest star if it is held too close to one's eyes."

"Money can't buy love, health, happiness—or what it did last year."

"People want economy, and they will pay any price for it."

"How to handle money: Use common sense. The simplest choices are often the best ones. Impulse is your enemy, time your friend."

"Creditors have much better memories than debtors."

"It's not the bears and the bulls that make you lose money on Wall Street. It's the bum steers."

We can read quotes like these and enjoy the wittiness. Just don't forget the truths contained are weighty. If we apply their truths, they can be extremely valuable to us.

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



Involved parents can help kids gain more from Sunday school

Q: With a new church year getting under way, how can I help my elementary-age children get off to a good start in Sunday school this year?

Think of all the things parents typically do to help children prepare for a new year of school. Supplies and clothes are purchased. Schedules are consulted and adjusted to make sure students get to school on time.

PARENTING

Summertime bedtimes are moved up. Parents and students attend back-to-school events to meet teachers and see classrooms. New first graders and 6th graders heading to middle school are given lots of encouragement.

In the same way, there are specific things parents can do to communicate the importance of Sunday school and make the experience more meaningful. Talk to your children about the new church year. Make sure they know who their teachers will be and where their class will meet. Check to see if there are any special activities or events (retreats, special programs, etc.) that your children will be eligible for and begin talking about them.

Make sure your children go to bed at a decent hour and get plenty of rest on Saturday night. Make sure they have a Bible in a translation they can read and understand, and make sure they have it with them on Sunday morning. Conversely, make sure your children do not bring games, toys or other items to Sunday school that will distract them and other children.

Work together as a family to be on time. Help teachers take full advantage of the one precious hour each week they have to teach your child God's Word. Check on Sunday school just as you would check on schoolwork. Spend a few minutes during Sunday lunch to ask about the morning Bible study. Ask, "What did you learn?" instead of "What did you make?"—David Garrard

Q: My husband refuses to talk about his feelings with me. I know he loves me, but he will not open up to me. I want to scream at him, but I know that would not help. What can I do to get him to talk to me?

The Scriptures are rich in expressing feelings that lie within. In Matthew 6, Jesus teaches that prayer is to be genuine, open and honest communication with God. God knows how important and good it is for us to have an outlet for our fear, anger, hurt and joy. Jesus' actions in Scripture are a powerful model for us to follow to be open and genuine about our feelings with others.

Our feelings can create a strong sense of vulnerability. God desires us to be vulnerable with Him. He is safe and reliable. Matthew 7:11 lets us know God wants to give good things to us.

Unfortunately, the harsh reality of a sinful world is that many people do not feel safe. Many people tend to keep their real feelings buried deep within themselves.

There are times in our lives when people have proven themselves to be untrustworthy and even harmful. When this happens, we learn to protect ourselves and our vulnerable parts. Sometimes we hide our feelings so deep they are hidden even from ourselves. We use all kinds of distractions to keep our feelings in check, such as humor or busyness. We change the topic or might show anger to deflect others.

You can model healthy sharing for your husband by expressing your feelings about this situation in an open and loving way. You can acknowledge and affirm any attempts your husband makes to share his feelings. Allow him to trust you with a little until he can trust you with much. Pray for him to know the freedom and confidence of bringing all of who he is to God and to you. Through this process a couple can feel close to God and each other. This is intimacy. God designed it because He knows we need it.—Valerie Vincent

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Help, hope & healing amid difficult days

These are dark, desperate days for hurricane survivors along the Gulf Coast. One public official in Mississippi described Hurricane Katrina's devastation as "our tsunami."

In the midst of such overwhelming grief and despair, Southern Baptists' disaster relief ministry is shining brightly. Hundreds of trained disaster relief workers from Kentucky and several other states were dispatched last week to key areas of need in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama.

As Ecclesiastes 3:4 eloquently reminds us, there is "a time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance." Southern Baptist disaster relief workers consistently minister to people who are weeping and mourning, offering them much-needed physical, emotional and spiritual assistance and encouragement.

Louisiana Gov. Kathleen Blanco issued a call last week for a statewide day of prayer. "As we face the devastation wrought by Katrina, as we search for those in need, as we comfort those in pain and as we begin the long task of rebuilding, we turn to God for

strength, hope and comfort," she said, emphasizing that as people join in prayer, "we can pull together and draw strength we need—strength that only God can give us."

It was too early to accurately estimate the death toll late last week as officials in New Orleans focused the bulk of their time and energy on locating and rescuing stranded survivors. Preliminary indications are that this will be among the most financially draining natural disasters in American history.

As Baptist volunteers work alongside relief teams from the Red Cross, Salvation Army and other relief groups, Baptists from across the state and nation can make a significant impact through ongoing prayer support and financial assistance. (See page 2 for donation information.)

While it likely will be in the distant future before those battered by Katrina are able to move from weeping and mourning to laughing and dancing, Kentucky Baptists have the opportunity to offer help, hope and healing amid the difficult days ahead.

STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR



Trennis Henderson

State missions and disaster relief: 'Follow His Lead'

Kentucky Baptists' annual Season of Prayer for State Missions and Eliza Broadus Offering are scheduled for Sept. 18-25. This week's Western Recorder features a four-page insert highlighting the 2005 theme, "Follow His Lead."

This year's state missions emphasis comes as most Kentuckians' hearts and minds are focused on the victims of Hurricane Katrina. As Kentucky Baptists financially support such efforts as the Eliza Broadus Offering and Kentucky Baptist disaster relief, Joy Bolton notes in a page 4 letter that the most appropriate choice is not either/or but both/and.

"The Eliza Broadus Offering provides about one-

third of the regular budget for Kentucky disaster relief," explained Bolton, executive director of Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union. She also encourages churches to "go the second mile with an additional offering for the needs on the Gulf Coast."

"Disaster relief is basically following the lead Christ has set for us," said Larry Koch, the KBC's disaster relief coordinator. "It is a ministry to try to get people back into their homes ... and in the process, share the love of Jesus Christ."

How can Kentucky Baptists support both state missions and Hurricane Katrina relief efforts? The key is to consider Christ's example and "follow His lead."

The big one finally hit New Orleans

By Joe McKeever

Nauvoo, Ala. (BP)—The amazing thing to me—as a 15-year resident of metro New Orleans and director of missions for the Baptist Association of Greater New Orleans—is that some people are saying New Orleans actually dodged the bullet with Hurricane Katrina. If that's true, we do not want to see that bullet.

Here's what I know:

Our pastors and church members are scattered from one end of this country to the other. My associate, Freddie Arnold, spent hours this morning trying to locate pastors of some of our 60 mission churches and found no one. Keep in mind that all our cell phones have to go through the towers and centers that took the full brunt of Katrina, and you will understand why communication is nearly impossible even for those of us out of harm's way.

My wife and I, along with our son Neil and his family, left New Orleans Aug. 27 and drove to Birmingham. The traffic already was getting heavy. We checked into a motel near Samford University, and with the indoor pool right down the hall, the three grandchildren experienced a mini-vacation. Along with the rest of the nation, the four adults were glued to the television news.

The funny thing—I guess you can call it funny—is that Friday night, I had attended a Saints' preseason football game in the Superdome

without the slightest idea of what was ahead. Before the weekend ended, the dome was filled with citizens seeking shelter, and within another 24 hours had become a cesspool of heat and noise and filth.

FIRST PERSON

Our associational office is across the street from the University of New Orleans and right on the banks of Lake Pontchartrain—the address says it all: 2222 Lakeshore Drive—and doubtless is either under water or fairly well saturated with water. Freddie set the computer hard drives on chairs before leaving the offices Saturday. No one has any idea what we will find when we finally are able to re-enter.

It is a bizarre feeling to be in anguish over what's happening back at home, to be crying out to God on behalf of those left behind, and knowing there is not one blessed thing you can do more. It's the very definition of helplessness. Our daughter-in-law, Julie, could not reach her parents who had decided to stay at home in Slidell. Only on the Wednesday after the storm did she finally make contact to discover they are fine and had no damage. One of her brothers is taking them a generator.

My neighbor across the back street rode the storm out and called us the day after the storm to say our home had come through fine. A few shingles off the roof and the back fence knocked down by a falling tree

from the neighbor's yard. I'll take that any day. Thank you, Lord.

However, there is no doubt that within a half mile of my house, people's homes and churches like Riverside Baptist are flooded. This is exactly how it happened in May 1995 when we got 14 inches of rain in one night. Our little ridge of land sits 13 feet above sea level and became an island of calm and safety.

People already are asking me what they can do to help. The answers include:

■ Pray for God to guide in every decision being made. People are rescuing the stranded and caring for the hurting, draining the water, restoring utilities, etc.

■ Pray for the Lord to be in charge of when and how people return home. Everything I see and hear tells me life in New Orleans has been changed forever by Katrina. That's not all bad. Pray for the Lord to rule and reign in every change.

■ Understand that no disaster relief teams can re-enter the city to assist until the citizens as a whole are invited to return. So there will be no church groups coming to help for months yet.

■ Those who want to send money to assist churches and Baptist members and ministers in metro New Orleans may send checks to: New Orleans Assistance, in care of the Louisiana Baptist Foundation, Box 311, Alexandria, LA 71303. Thanks for your love and prayers.

Joe McKeever is director of missions for the Baptist Association of Greater New Orleans

Graham breaks ground for 'living crusade' in Charlotte



"Pray for this project. It's the greatest thing you can do for it."

Billy Graham

By Andrea Higgins
Baptist Press

Charlotte, N.C. (BP)—As he helped break ground on the library that will bear his name and tell his life's story, Billy Graham was clearly at ease reminiscing in the casual company of 400 invited friends and family members.

But the aging evangelist, often called the world's most famous preacher, did not fail to give his ageless message: Christ died for the sins of the world.

"In traveling to different places, the Scripture that has deepened in my heart is where the Apostle Paul says, 'I am not ashamed of the gospel,'" said Graham, whose ministry has spanned more than six decades.

An extended standing ovation greeted Graham, 86, as he stepped onto the stage in Charlotte, N.C., with the aid of a walker.

Graham, who has prostate cancer and Parkinson's disease, spoke in a strong voice but quipped that his hearing has gotten so bad he needs an interpreter to speak to his wife, Ruth.

Self-directed jokes about his failing hearing and eyesight notwithstanding, Graham's wit was as sharp as his piercing gospel message.

"I never heard a word my wife says," he said chuckling during his unprepared remarks for The Billy Graham Library groundbreaking that included anecdotes about loyal

friends and his longstanding pledge to stay out of politics.

Earlier this year, Graham announced his June crusade in New York City would be his last.

Son Franklin Graham, president and chief executive officer of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, told the gathering at the groundbreaking how reluctant his father was to have a "monument built to himself."

Franklin Graham said he assured his father that The Billy Graham Library will be a "living crusade," meant for evangelism and to illustrate how God can work through anyone.

The 40,000-square-foot library should be completed in 2007.

Franklin Graham said the facility, which will be free to the public, could attract 200,000 to 400,000 visitors each year—with the aim "to tell about God's Son, the Lord Jesus Christ."

He said it is a fitting tribute to the humility of his father's life, the story of a humble farm boy who rose to world prominence, eventually sharing the gospel with 210 million people in 185 countries and hundreds of millions through his broadcasts.

A little more than half of the \$25 million needed for the library has been raised so far through private donations. It is the first capital campaign in the 55-year history of the

BGEA, according to board member Graeme Keith.

Glass wall & talking cow

Franklin Graham said the lobby of the library building will resemble a dairy barn, inset with a striking glass wall in the shape of a cross, with a door at the bottom through which all visitors will enter.

Quite unlike the 75 cows that Billy Graham milked each morning at 3 a.m. as a youth, a mechanical talking dairy cow will greet children as they enter the interactive library.

Reporters have focused on the talking cow, Franklin Graham noted. But "how do you get young

kids engaged? The lobby is going to resemble a dairy barn, and the milk cow is going to ... challenge the kids, asking them how many times Billy Graham says Jesus," as they go through the exhibits.

"I hope to put a New Testament in the hands of every child who comes through," he said, adding that he hopes it will be a field trip destination for schools throughout the Carolinas.

"Pray for this project. It's the greatest thing you can do for it," Billy Graham said, smiling and adding an unaccustomed request: "If you have any money, give that too," as laughter rose once again.

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Sunday, September 11
Whitesburg, Pikeville, Prestonsburg, Rush

Monday, September 12
Maysville, Erlanger, Glencoe,
Carrilton, LaGrange

Tuesday, September 13
Louisville, Hardinsburg, Owensboro,
Henderson, Sturgis, Smithland

Wednesday, September 14
Paducah, Wickliffe, Fulton, Mayfield,
Murray

Thursday, September 15
Oak Grove, Russellville, Scottsville,
Tompkinsville, Monticello

Friday, September 16
Williamsburg, Pineville, Cumberland

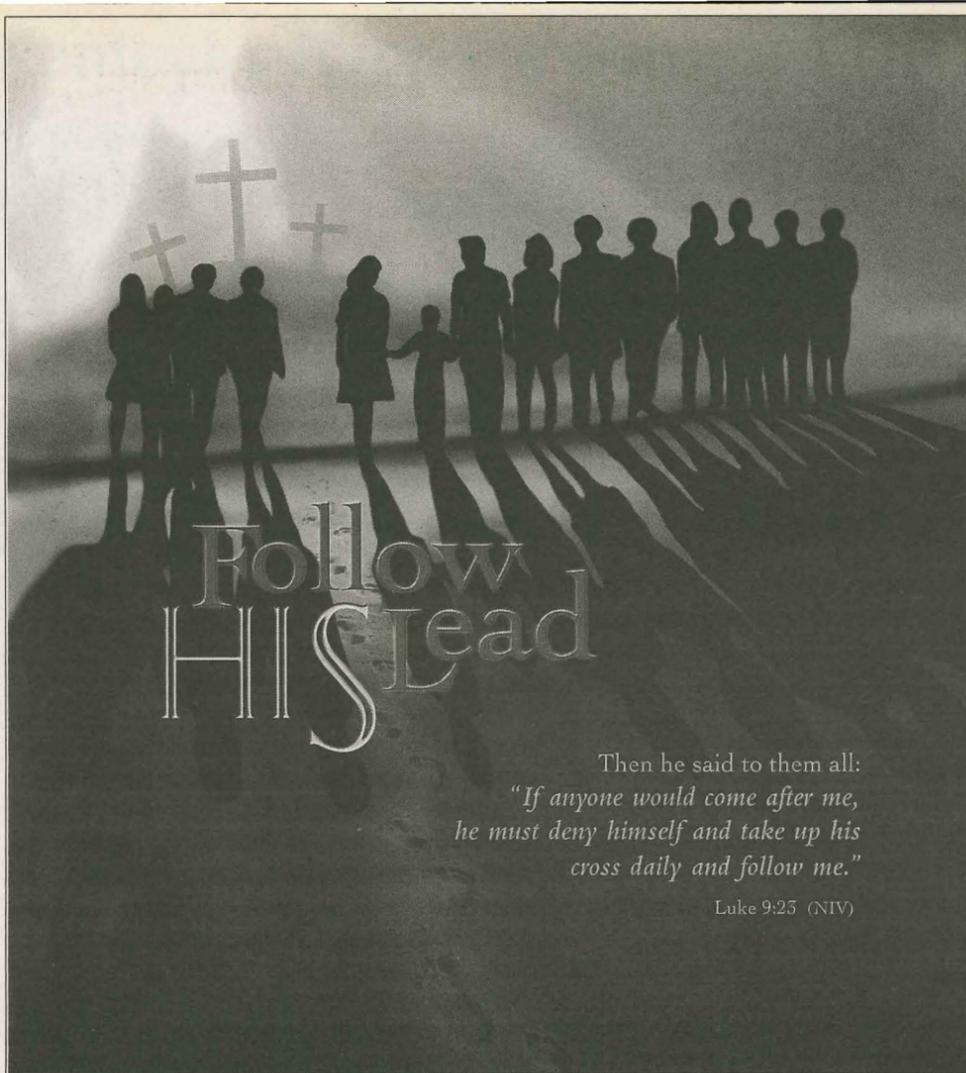


For more information, call the
Kentucky Baptist Mission Board at
866-489-3571 or
502-489-3571

Prayer is crucial to help us stay focused on God's will as we seek to achieve the Kentucky Baptists Connect goals to reach more people for Christ, disciple Christians and develop leaders. Convention leaders will lead a prayer tour that will take them around the perimeter of the state of Kentucky.

At each stop, committed Kentucky Baptists will gather to pray for:

- ▶ Believers to experience Renewal
- ▶ Churches to experience Revival
- ▶ God to use our churches to share the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ with every person in their community



Then he said to them all:
*"If anyone would come after me,
 he must deny himself and take up his
 cross daily and follow me."*

Luke 9:23 (NIV)

Follow His Lead by Shirley Cox

Throughout His ministry, Jesus often challenged people to "Come, follow me." Perhaps there is no greater challenge than "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me" (Luke 9:23 NIV). As we study scripture, and listen to the call of Jesus in different settings, there is much to learn as we Follow His Lead.

Imagine the day Jesus walked along the shore of the Sea of Galilee where Peter and Andrew were casting their nets and beckoned to them. "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." At once they left their nets and followed him" (Matt. 4:19-20, NIV). Today, every Christian has the same calling - to follow His lead. If we follow, our daily lives are transformed into an exciting adventure. If we follow His lead, His love and compassion flows through us to all mankind.

Kentucky Baptists are following His lead to missions throughout the state. Followers of Christ are leaving the comfort of their homes and responding to the needs of others during disasters. They are working countless hours to share compassion and mercy with people who are often traumatized and homeless. They are also mobilizing volunteers and church mission

teams to meet the spiritual and physical needs of hundreds of thousands of people during a summer raceway season. In our Baptist churches, WMU challenges everyone to understand and be radically involved in the mission of God. Through WMU, men and women are following His lead by devoting their time to teach children and teens about missions and involve them in ministry to others.

During the 2005 Season of Prayer for State Missions, you can follow His lead through prayer. Pray for God to stir the hearts of Christians toward missions in Kentucky. Pray that God will teach us new ways to honor and glorify Him through missions. Follow His lead by supporting missions work of Kentucky Baptists through your financial gifts to the Eliza Broadus Offering. Praise God for the opportunity to present your offering as an act of worship. Pray that God will reveal His purpose for your life. Like Peter and Andrew, step out behind Him and experience a deeper relationship with the Master. As we join hands across our state to pray, give to the Eliza Broadus Offering and minister to others, *Follow His Lead* becomes a compelling challenge.



Kentucky Disaster Relief volunteers Follow His Lead to help people in need following tornados, floods, hurricanes, and other natural disasters.



2005 Season of Prayer for State Missions

and

Eliza Broadus Offering September 2005

Offering Goal: \$925,000

**Challenge Goal for New
 Work, Special Ministries, &
 Cedar Crest:**

\$75,000

**TOTAL GOAL:
 \$1,000,000**



A packet of materials has been sent to the WMU director or contact person in every KBC church. It includes a DVD and teaching plans for all ages as well as suggestions for churchwide promotion of the Season of Prayer for State Missions and the Eliza Broadus Offering. Contact Kentucky WMU to order posters, prayer guides, and offering envelopes. You may request a state missions packet by calling Kentucky WMU at 502-489-3534 or toll free, 1-866-489-3534; or by email: kywmu@kybaptist.org. These materials are provided by the gifts of your church to the Eliza Broadus Offering and the Cooperative Program.

Contributions to the Eliza Broadus Offering should be mailed to: Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions, Kentucky Baptist Convention, PO Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433. Checks should be made payable to Kentucky Baptist Convention and designated "EBO." Church Treasurers may also include EBO contributions with other contributions through the Kentucky Baptist Convention using the KBC church contribution form and designating the amount for the Eliza Broadus Offering as "EBO."

Contributions for the 2005-06 Eliza Broadus Offering will be received from September 1, 2005 through August 31, 2006.

Kentucky Disaster Relief volunteers respond when needed

Disaster. The word creates mental images of rolling floodwaters, destroyed homes and faces of grieving and misplaced families. When disaster strikes in Kentucky, approximately 3,000 volunteers are trained to respond. These volunteers perform countless acts of mercy for days, weeks or months as they minister to the needs of disaster victims.

"Disaster relief is basically following the lead Christ has set for us," said Larry Koch, Disaster Relief Associate in the Baptist Men on Mission Department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. "We help them get their feet on the ground after a crisis situation. It is a ministry to try to get people back into their homes, get them back into their lifestyles and in the process, share the love of Jesus Christ."

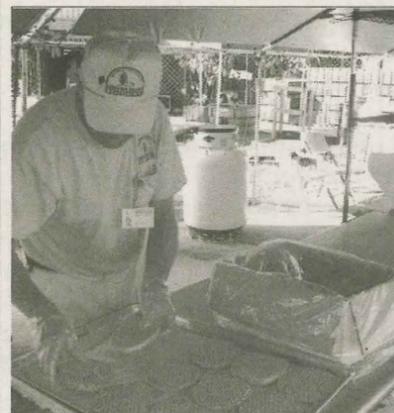
Disaster Relief teams are activated, Koch said, when a pastor or Director of Missions calls him to report that a disaster has occurred. "Sometimes, we hear about a situation over the radio or television and call to see if there is a need for a team. We do not go out of the state unless we are invited. Kentucky Baptists have been responsive here in the state and around the world," he said.

The teams provide assistance for disaster victims through:

- Mass care - providing hot nourishing meals to victims.
- Chainsaw work following ice storms, tornados or hurricanes.
- Mud-outs - cleaning homes after flood situations which includes tearing out drywall, ripping up floors, taking out ceilings and sanitizing the house after cleaning. A house must dry 3-6 weeks before families can move back in.

Teams also provide care kits with personal care items. A care kit, enclosed in a zip-lock bag, contains a washcloth, hand towel, soap, deodorant, toothpaste, feminine items for women, shaving kits for men, and toys for children.

Sometimes, during an ice storm, flooding or tornado, all electric and power lines are temporarily out of service and families are hungry. "We work side-by-side with the Red Cross," said Harold Moore, 78, State Volunteer Coordinator. "They furnish food, we prepare it and they deliver it into the community."



Southern Baptist Disaster Relief also has a national agreement with the Salvation Army. Salvation Army purchases the food which the teams prepare and serve over a feeding line, or Salvation Army delivers the prepared food in their trucks.

The Kentucky Disaster Relief volunteers, who once cooked 198,000 meals in five weeks in North Carolina, have a reputation for their cooking. "Our cook, Harold Moore, is largely responsible," Koch said. Known as "head cook" in Kentucky, Moore trains people to cook several thousand meals at a time but he has done every kind of disaster relief work. His first time out on an operation was during a flood in 1989 in Frankfort. The team set up a tiny lean-to beside a trailer at the Shively Baptist Church in Louisville and Red Cross delivered the meals. "I opened cans for the cooks," Moore said. The second time he turned out for Disaster Relief, the head cook had died a week earlier so he became head cook. "I told the Lord, 'You have allowed me to retire early. I have the ability to do this. If this is what you want me to do, I'm going to follow you,'" he said.

The devastation from a disaster provides work for volunteers that is often hard labor. "We go in and cut the trees up and take them to the front yard to be hauled off by the city or county," Moore said. If it is a flood, we take everything out of the house, take the carpet up. We will take the walls out until we find dry insulation. People do not realize that the biggest health hazard after a flood is the mold that builds up in a house which causes illness, sometimes even death, when it is breathed into the lungs."

When rains fall in the mountains of Eastern Kentucky, hollows often flooded very quickly. Teams responded to flooding six times in Eastern Kentucky in 2004, once in Martin County and five times in Floyd County. In Floyd County, Moore worked for thirty-one days, cooking a week with the Salvation Army and doing mud-out work the remainder of the time. Teams also responded to a tornado in Henry County, a windstorm in Breckenridge County, hurricanes in Florida, Alabama and Georgia and flooding up and down the Ohio River.

Photos by Green Wagers



Cooking and serving meals is a vital part of Disaster Relief ministry.

Kentucky disaster relief volunteers have a reputation for their cooking.

Photo by Green Wagers



"Sometimes we return to the same homes in Floyd County two or three times," Moore said. "The people are kind of used to it but each time it puts more pressure on their lives. For people who are on walkers or handicapped, it puts physical pressure on their lives. Last year, some of the homes in Floyd County were flooded for the first time in 100 years. You don't always know if you live in a safe area."

"In Eastern Kentucky, 75-80% of the people we help are poor people who may not even own their home. A lot of them live in trailers, which are hard to clean and recondition after they have been in a flood. Most of the people do not have anything except what is in the house and it has been destroyed. For every home we help, follow-up work needs to be done. Few of these people have insurance."

Disaster Relief efforts provide many opportunities for witnessing. While working at an abandoned airfield in New York during the 9/11 disaster, the team witnessed to a security policewoman who was assigned to the site. She accepted Christ and came to Kentucky the following year to share her testimony at the state Baptist Men on Mission Convention.

In 2004, when Kentucky volunteers went to Alabama after a hurricane, they invited a Red Cross kitchen manager to stay with them in a church. Moore used the opportunity to share his testimony. About two nights later, a member of the team also witnessed to the man and he accepted Christ. During another operation, a 16-year old girl volunteered to help with disaster relief while she was out of school and during the week, she accepted Christ. She later took writing and is a SBC Disaster Relief worker.

A need exists for both short-term and long-term volunteers. Men and women can serve in disaster relief. In fact, at least one-half of the volunteers are women who often prefer chainsaw and mud-out work to the kitchen. "Every home we help needs some follow-up rebuilding and putting back what we have taken out," Moore said. "There is all kinds of work. Drywall needs to be replaced.

Personal items and clothing are needed." A volunteer may donate a weekend, a couple of days or a week.

If God is leading you to be a Disaster Relief volunteer, a Disaster Relief is available. If a church has a group of 20 people, KBC will schedule a training session for the church. Please note that youth volunteers must be 17 (or 16 with a parent or responsible adult or guardian).

Training is also offered at different locations throughout the year and during the annual KBC Creative Ministries Festival. For information, please call the Baptist Men on Mission office or visit the KBC web site (www.kybaptist.org) and click on Baptist Men on Mission.

You can help support the Kentucky Disaster Relief effort by giving to the Eliza Broadus offering, which provides one-third of its funding. "We have depended on WMU from the very beginning," Koch said. "In 1984, WMU gave \$35,000 to the Brotherhood Department which helped buy our first equipment. Expenses include gasoline and maintenance for trucks, new equipment and food for volunteers. Currently, KBC Disaster Relief owns pickup trucks, trailers, chainsaws, pressure washers, pumps for basements and chainsaw sharpeners which are stored in a building in Stanford."

"This year, we will increase the cooking capacity of our big kitchen by 25-30% and double the capacity for three smaller kitchen units," Moore said. "The better equipped we are, the more work we can do and we can do it in an easier fashion."

"The most important thing we need is prayer," say both Moore and Koch. Please pray for families affected by disasters. Pray for the safety of disaster relief volunteers while they are traveling and on the job. Pray for more volunteers.

When the work of the Disaster Relief teams is finished, the love and gratitude they receive is ample reward for their labor. "After we have worked on a project and are putting our tools away, we get a lot of hugs and thank yous," Moore said. "Sometimes we shed a few tears. We always have prayer before we leave. We thank God we were able to come and pray for Him to meet their needs day-by-day."

Disaster Relief is basically following the lead Christ has set for us.

Disaster Relief is a ministry to get people back into their homes, get them back into their lifestyles, and in the process to share the love of Jesus Christ.

A new ministry is needed, perhaps to be called "Baptist Rebuilders."

Every home we help needs some follow-up rebuilding and putting back what we have taken out.

Kentucky Raceway Ministries

The fastest growing sport in America today is NASCAR-type automotive racing. It involves one-sixth of the world's population and at Kentucky Speedway in Sparta, fans are enjoying the thrill and excitement of racing each season from May through September.

During a race, approximately 10,000 racing fans who enter the Kentucky Speedway campground are greeted by smiling volunteers from Kentucky Raceway Ministries. Fans are handed an information packet containing a racing schedule and driver lineup, along with information about Kentucky Raceway Ministries' activities, Steps of Salvation (presented with pit stops and colors of flags), and other Christian literature.

Kentucky Raceway Ministry's mission is to "share the love of Jesus Christ with the racing community, as well as provide an opportunity for worship and fellowship for Christians attending racing and other events at the Kentucky Speedway." Throughout all racing events and a four-day musical festival at Kentucky Speedway, ministry volunteers provide campers with free biscuits and gravy breakfasts, free coffee, cold water, cold lemonade, homemade cookies, horseshoe tournaments, handicapped transportation, gospel concerts and worship services.

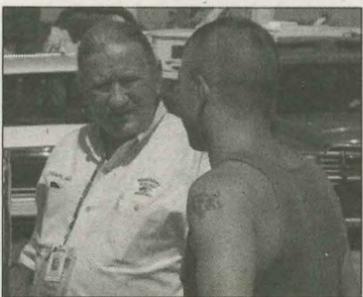
In addition to the large tent at the camp entrance, the ministry operates an information tent in the vendor's area. "In the vendor's area, we greet 50,000-60,000 people who drive to the race for the day," said John Roberts, Director of Kentucky Raceway Ministries. "We give the fans a list of racing and ministry activities, along with homemade cookies, free cups of water and Bibles with colorful racing logos on the cover. We have the opportunity to minister to fans, employees, vendors, parking attendants and fire and safety teams, and State Police. We are there to share the love of Jesus Christ."

The ministry also provides a trauma response team to minister to injuries, illnesses or other traumatic situations in seven sections of grandstands. Care centers to handle minor injuries to children or fans are also available. "We have been very fortunate to have no multiple injuries," Roberts said. "It is a possibility when we have people driving cars 200 miles per hour."

Kentucky Raceway Ministries also provides organized activities for children by setting up stations for face painting, puppet shows, clowning, games and crafts. "Many times 400-500 children are there at the campground for three days," Roberts said. "They ride their bikes to the ministry tent. We sometimes ask the Kentucky Speedway mascot (a person dressed as a horse with sparkplug ears) to join us. The children love it when he comes out. After the children are there for an hour or two, their parents come and by the end of the day, more parents have made salvation bracelets than children."

Along with NASCAR crayons and coloring books, the team gives Bibles to the children. "So often, we have children who have never heard of Jesus Christ," Roberts said. "They don't know what a Bible is. We ask, 'Do you go to church on a regular basis?' So many times, the kids say, 'The only time we go to church is when we come to the raceway.' We want to tell them the story of Jesus."

Perhaps the most exciting activity for the children is the "Timothy Cup," a Hot-Wheels Race, (based on II Timothy), which is conducted by a man from Alabama. "We buy Hot Wheels (miniature cars) to give kids before the race," Roberts said. The children compete in different age groups before a final race for 1st-4th place trophies. Prizes are also awarded for first place. "The children bring their parents back for the final race and the ministry team gives a five-minute gospel presentation about



John Roberts shares Christ with racing fans.

how Jesus can change their lives," he said.

God prepared Roberts' heart for raceway ministry through a personal experience. A few months

after he rededicated his life several years ago, he attended a racing event in Bristol, Tennessee. "I knew there would be drinking and language, all kinds of sin," he said. "When I arrived at the race, Satan kept saying, 'Go ahead, John. Nobody will know.'"

To escape temptation, he left his friends and went for a walk

Volunteers help children make salvation bracelets. Everyone enjoys a visit from the Speedway mascot.



through the campground and found a ministry tent. "It was a refuge," he said. A team of volunteers offered him refreshments, prayed with him and invited him to worship services the next morning. He attended the services and later told his wife that he spent the weekend in church. Just one year later, Roberts heard Kentucky Speedway was coming to Gallatin County. He said he viewed the new raceway as "a chance for me to make some big money."

"But God knocked on my heart," he said, "leading me to begin a raceway ministry." The ministry at the Kentucky Speedway began during the first racing season in 2000 with John and one volunteer. "Five minutes before worship services, no one had arrived," he said. "We decided if only one person came to the service, it would be all right. Just then, thirty-five people got off a shuttle bus." At the next race, seven or eight people volunteered and 75 people attended the worship service. "That was the end of the season and we were ecstatic," he said. "We knew we were doing what God wanted us to do."

From the beginning, Ten Mile Baptist Association has sponsored the Kentucky Raceway Ministry. For the past three years, however, Whites Run and Owen Associations have formed a covenant agreement with the Ten-Mile Association to give support to the ministry through prayer, financial gifts and volunteers. Association members serve on a board that gives direction to the ministry. Roberts said he has also reached out to the Long Run and Northern Kentucky associations for ministry support.

"We are trying to fulfill the Great Commission," said Bob Young, Director of Missions of the Whites Run Baptist Association. "I heard about a man who started a ministry seventeen miles away who needed help. Anything that can happen in a town or community of 10,000 on a weekend can happen in the campground. The stadium seats nearly 70,000 people. We are their pastor, their counselors, while they are there."

Kentucky Raceway Ministries also has a great impact on WMU groups, who baked almost 5,000 cookies for the ministry last year. "Through our adult activities, men come to the ministry tent and get as many as forty bags of cookies and take them back to the campground," Young said. Inside each bag is a scripture verse—John 3:16. WMU groups also

provide Bibles, supplies, water and volunteers. In fact, women volunteers outnumber men, ten-to-one. "One woman who volunteers is 72 years old," Young said. "She comes faithfully to give information and organize materials."

Sometimes God uses WMU volunteers to touch hearts. "A little girl came to the ministry tent and the WMU women developed a relationship with her. The third time she came, she gave her heart to Christ," Young said. The ministry also witnessed to a woman who was divorced and angry with God for several years. Eventually, she rededicated her life and became active in church. When she remarried, the ministry team led her husband to Christ.

For the past two years, your gifts to the Eliza Broadus Offering have provided financial support for Kentucky Raceway Ministries. "The first year, we purchased a large trailer to haul and store equipment that we had been hauling in our cars and trucks," Roberts said. "The second year, we purchased a large tent. We have also purchased Bibles and brochures with the Eliza Broadus grant."

Volunteers are crucial for the Kentucky Raceway Ministry. Adult and youth missions groups are encouraged to share creative ministries or other ministry gifts. Ordained pastors are needed for the trauma team. Volunteers can come for several hours, one day, or for three days at a time.

Roberts' dream of a similar ministry in two other campgrounds on Kentucky Speedway property has not materialized because more volunteers are needed to expand the ministry. For more information, contact John Roberts (859-991-1239 or John_15933@msn.com). Visit the Kentucky Raceway Ministries website at www.go2krm.com.

Please pray for volunteers to help share the gospel of Jesus Christ at Kentucky Speedway. Pray that God will open doors to share the gospel. Pray for the safety of volunteers, drivers, crews and spectators. Pray for God to lead the volunteers to people who need Him. Pray for boldness in verbal witnessing. Pray when volunteers return home, they will share with their own church how God has changed them through this experience.

So often, we have children who have never heard of Jesus Christ. They don't know what a Bible is. We ask, 'Do you go to church on a regular basis?' So many times, the kids say, 'The only time we go to church is when we come to the raceway.' We want to tell them the story of Jesus.



Visit New Hope Missionary Baptist Church in Radcliff, Kentucky on the first Monday of the month and you will find Annette Neblett teaching an energetic group of Acteens, a missions group for girls in grades 7-12. Annette, who has led Acteens groups for the past eight years, will probably be smiling because she enjoys spending time with the girls and she realizes that teaching missions is God's calling for her life.

On the second Monday of each month, Annette leads the Acteens in projects that go along with the mission study. "The third week, we visit the nursing home or do other missions," she said. "I try to teach them as much as I can inside. Then, we go out and put this into action."

Through missions activities in their community, the girls are beginning to understand the importance of giving their time to others. "I see the impact on the girls when the adults come back to ask, 'When are you coming back to my house again?'" The girls see they are doing the right thing," she said. "God is calling us to follow His lead by cleaning for the elderly and making and delivering care packages to patients in the nursing home."

Annette's first exposure to missions education was when her daughter, Gwen, joined Girls in Action (GA), a missions group for girls in grades 1-6, and the leader invited the parents to attend the meetings. "The more I sat in the missions meetings, the more God dealt with me about getting involved."

After Annette led the GA group for a couple of years, the church's Acteens leader returned to college. "Instead of letting Acteens fall by the wayside, I began to lead the group," she said. "I fell in love and have been my real calling."

In 2003, Annette took the Acteens group to the National Acteens Convention in Nashville, Tennessee. "The girls had so much fun meeting Acteens from around the world," she said. "We have scrapbooks and pictures that we shared with the church." One session of the national conference was devoted to a mission project. "We worked in a school that was 150 years old, moving books and cleaning rooms," she said. "The girls are looking forward to the next NAC."

The group also attends Acteens camp at Cedar Crest in the summer. "The camp director always gives me positive feedback about our girls," Annette said. "They are positive role models."

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, pastored by O. C. Jones, Sr., often partners with a local agency, North Hardin Hope. The second Tuesday of each month, the Acteens assist the group in a clothes drive and later help with clothing distribution.

"At Christmas, North Hardin Hope has a Christmas Angel Tree," Annette said. "We



New Hope Acteens help with community ministries.

sit in the mall and collect gifts for needy children in the community. Our pastor really appreciates what we do because he believes in the Great Commission."

Teaching missions has helped Annette recognize the eternal impact God is making on the hearts of the girls. "What keeps me going is that maybe, one day, a spark will ignite and one of my Acteens may become a missionary," she said. "I pray constantly that will happen. The reward for me is just to see the expressions on the girls' faces when they can actually do something."

Miles away, at First Baptist Church in Georgetown, Kentucky, other Acteens and GA groups meet the first and third Wednesday of each month from 6-8 p.m.

The church's Acteens group has completed projects with a Special Olympics group in Georgetown and they also served as hostesses for Exalt 2005, the State Acteens Conference, held at Georgetown College. Renea Houston, wife of the church's pastor, Frank Houston, attributes the girls' enthusiasm for missions to their leader, Sandy Williams. "Sandy enjoys teaching and learning," she said. "She is very creative so she is always looking for something new and different to share. She gets the girls fired up because she has a passion for what she does and a passion for God."

Missions education at First Baptist in Georgetown also includes a GA group that studies about different types of ministries and actively participated in mission work. "Recently, our GAs worked with girls from the Elkhorn Association in Lexington to make hygiene kits for migrant workers," Renea said. "On the third Wednesday, the girls cook a food that is related to their study or do a missions project. We try to help them identify with the area they are studying through cooking and missions projects."

The lasting effect of missions education on the girls is evidenced by their participation in activities and their caring attitude toward others. "Missions education helps the girls think outside themselves to their relationship with God and people," Renea said. "We try to encourage them to study the Bible and learn their scripture verses, but we also try to encourage them to pray for other people and think about what is going on in the world around them. We all have a tendency to think about ourselves and what is going on in our little space. I have seen a lot of growth and caring from our girls. We use to have to ask them to participate in things. Now, the girls are asking us if they can do things."

Frank Houston became interim pastor at First Baptist Church of Georgetown while he was finishing a PhD at Southern Seminary. In 2001, he was called to pastor the congregation, which averages 200-225 in attendance. The church was already actively involved in missions at the Amen House, a local food and clothing ministry. When Houston became the church's pastor, however, both he and Renea wanted to expand the ministry role to include state and world missions.

"So many times in the past," Renea said, "I didn't think I had the time when people were doing missions projects. I thought it was more important to give my money and let other people do the work, but it is important that I do some things myself."

One important step the couple took to

ELIZA BROADUS OFFERING for Kentucky State Missions, Special Ministries, and Missions Education 2005-06 OFFERING ALLOCATIONS

The Eliza Broadus Offering is sponsored by Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union. All Eliza Broadus Offering funds are used for missions ministries and missions education in Kentucky. The Eliza Broadus Offering provides important funding for state missions and evangelism, for special ministries sponsored by churches and associations, and for the work of Kentucky WMU.

Kentucky Baptist Convention

State Missions & Evangelism	\$615,000
State Missions	311,000
Language Missions	76,000
Church & Community Missions	112,000
Evangelism	6,000
Student Work	90,000
Baptist Men on Mission Special Projects	20,000

Kentucky Special Ministries \$50,000

Requests for Special Ministries Funds are made through an application process. The deadline for submitting an EBO allocation request for the 2005-06 offering is December 31, 2005. Contact Kentucky WMU for an allocation request form.

Missions Education

through Kentucky WMU	\$260,000
Missions Education Leadership Training, Events, & Materials ...	65,465
Missions Education Camping	76,180
Missions Education Promotion	67,400
Missions Education Administration	48,755
Missions Education Scholarships	2,200

ELIZA BROADUS OFFERING GOAL \$925,000

CHALLENGE GOAL: To be divided between New Work, Special Ministries, & Cedar Crest \$75,000

TOTAL OFFERING GOAL \$1,000,000



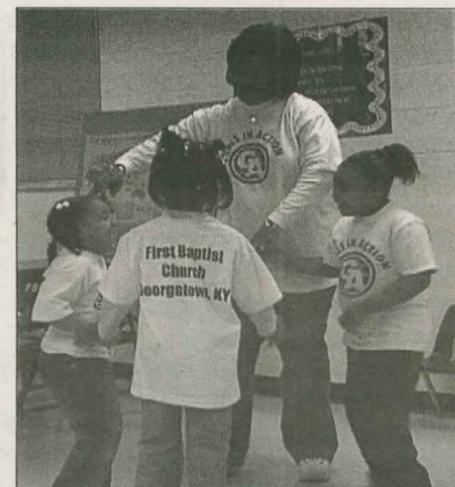
The Writer: Shirley Cox is a Mission Service Corps missionary and freelance writer from Mt. Vernon, Kentucky. Shirley writes regularly for *Missions Mosaic*.



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Email: kywmu@kybaptist.org
www.kywmu.org

expand the missions vision of the church was a visit to the Kentucky WMU office in Louisville where Renea discovered the WMU Women on Mission magazine, *Missions Mosaic*.

"After I subscribed, I showed it to my husband and we subscribed for the women's groups in our church," she said. "We all compare articles in the magazine." Renea also expanded her missions vision by attending a training conference at Ridgecrest Conference Center in North Carolina. "Since the conference at Ridgecrest, I haven't looked back," she said. "I am reminded that Jesus was always with people that others left out, had given up on or didn't want to be bothered with. These are people who need Christ. Missions gives us an opportunity to think about that and put it into practice."



FBC Georgetown Girls in Action members enjoy learning about missions.

Legacy giving ideas

Options allow you to keep giving long after you're gone

Have you ever prayerfully considered perpetuating your Christian witness beyond your lifetime through a legacy giving plan? I urge you prayerfully to consider such an idea and to call upon Laurie Valentine and me to assist you in your consideration. Here are three simple legacy giving ideas to get you started in your consideration.

Make your tithe last forever. Establish during your lifetime, or at death, a permanent endowment fund and let the foundation distribute the earnings to the causes you designate. The original principal of the fund will never be distributed, only the earnings. Generally it takes 20 times your current annual tithe to create an endowment sufficient to generate the earnings to replace your tithe.

For example, if your tithe is \$2,500, it would take a \$50,000 fund to generate that much in earnings. You could start now with a more modest amount, add to it over your lifetime, then include a bequest in your will, or a beneficiary designation in a life

insurance policy or retirement account for the balance.

Income for life. A charitable gift annuity is a simple gift plan that first provides you, and up to one other person, fixed income payments for life. Upon the death of the latter to die, the remainder can be used to provide financial support for your favorite charitable causes, either outright or through a permanent endowment fund. The older you are, the higher the payout rate. The age 75 rate is 7.1 percent.

Have it come back to you or be passed on. A charitable lead trust will provide your favorite cause or causes a designated stream of income for a predetermined term of years; at the end of the trust term, the remaining assets can be returned to you or passed on to other family members. It's a great way to fund a pledge for a capital campaign while assuring a portion to be returned to you or passed on to heirs.

KENTUCKY BAPTIST FOUNDATION



Barry Allen

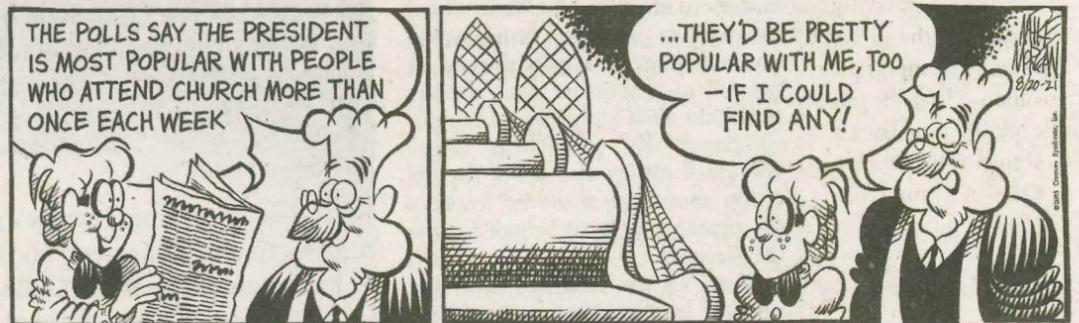
Barry Allen is president of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation, PO Box 436389, Louisville, KY 40253; (866) 489-3533; www.kybaptistfoundation.org

Kudzu



Doug Marlette

For Heaven's Sake



Mike Morgan

Bible Crosswords

Evelyn Boyington

Across

- 1 Have Midas' touch
- 5 "God is ... a very present _____ in trouble" (Psalm 46:1)
- 9 Unit with several rooms (abbr.)
- 12 _____ code
- 13 State one's case
- 14 Certain princess' veggie villain
- 15 "When he had found one _____ of great price, went and sold all" (Matthew 13:46)
- 17 Debussy's "Le _____"
- 18 High school subject (abbr.)
- 19 Kind of gloves
- 21 Escalator alternative
- 23 Unlikely hit
- 27 Take-home pay
- 28 Between a rock and a hard place
- 29 Lion _____
- 31 "Unto whom he said, _____, such a one!" (Ruth 4:1)
- 33 Employ
- 34 Title in Tijuana
- 35 "Yet _____ is born unto trouble" (Job 5:7)
- 36 Exist
- 37 Kind of watercraft
- 38 What it's better to be
- 39 Fire
- 40 Defies detention
- 42 Tide, Crest, and others
- 45 Sympathetic sound
- 46 "Give _____ unto the law of our God" (Isaiah 1:10)
- 47 Detergent name
- 49 Purple peddler of Philippi
- 53 Linking verb

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46					47		48		49		50	51	52
53					54			55		56			
57					58						59		

- 54 Den of beasts
- 56 Many, many moons (pl.)
- 57 Buttons or Auerbach
- 58 "Consider the lilies ... they toil not, they _____ not" (Luke 12:27)
- 59 Descartes

- 25 Poetic before
- 26 Songdom's "home"
- 30 One of the "3 Stooges," and others
- 31 "Do good to them which _____ you" (Luke 6:27)
- 32 Addition column
- 34 "But be shod with _____; and not put on two coats" (Mark 6:9)
- 35 It usually has a key
- 37 Prohibit
- 38 "And, behold, a certain _____ stood up and tempted him" (Luke 10:25)
- 39 Was concerned about
- 41 Masculine nickname
- 42 "In their hands they shall _____ thee up" (Matthew 4:6)
- 43 "It is a _____ thing that the king requireth" (Daniel 2:11)
- 44 Smite, more familiarly
- 48 Weeks in a year, Roman style
- 50 Stag's mate
- 51 Bed and breakfast, for example
- 52 Chemical suffix
- 55 Hospital employee (abbr.)

Last week's solution

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
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Poll: Americans want creation taught alongside evolution

"This is one way, from the point of view of the average American, to solve the problem: Teach both sides and let the students sort it out."

John Green, a senior fellow at the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life

Washington (RNS)—Nearly two-thirds of Americans support teaching creationism alongside evolution in public schools, according to a new poll, but there is far less agreement over who gets to decide what is taught.

The poll, released last week by the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life, found that three-quarters of Americans believe God created life on Earth, and 64 percent support teaching both evolution and creationism.

The battle over evolution in the classroom has flared in public school districts in Kansas, Pennsylvania and elsewhere. The poll showed 41 percent of Americans want parents to decide what children are taught, compared with a slightly larger combined group who think the decision should be made by teachers (28 percent) or local school boards (21 percent).

Those figures roughly mirror the number of Americans who believe that life has always existed as we know it today (42 percent) versus those who believe life has evolved over time (48 percent).

John Green, a senior fellow in religion and American politics at the Pew Forum and director of the Bliss Institute of Applied Politics at the University of Akron, said the allow-both-sides approach was typically American.

"This is an example of American

pragmatism," Green said. "Most Americans are not especially ideological people ... and this is one way, from the point of view of the average American, to solve the problem: Teach both sides and let the students sort it out."

Gerry Wheeler, executive director of the National Science Teachers Association, said adding creationism or intelligent design in the interest of

fairness is misplaced.

"At first blush, being fair seems to mean, well, we ought to do both of them," he said. "The challenge is that it's not fair to the student to present a religion in the guise of science."

Robert Crowther, director of communications for the Seattle-based Discovery Institute's Center for Science & Culture, a leading proponent of teaching about intelligent design

alongside evolution, said allowing both approaches to be presented solves the problem.

"We see this as a common-sense approach that avoids the extremes and focuses on teaching students about the scientific debates over evolution," said Crowther. "I would think from these poll results that most Americans would agree with that approach to science education."

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New year, new friends, familiar hopes

Ministry resumes as students return for classes at Oneida Baptist Institute

By Michael Spencer
Assistant to the President

The beginning of a school year is always an optimistic time. Those of us who live by an academic calendar look forward to the renewal of hope and rebirth of possibilities that come with the arrival of new students and the return of familiar ones. Relationships are revisited, goals for the year always seem attainable, and the familiar problems of discipline, boredom and misbehavior seem far away.

Often, even those of us who work at Oneida Baptist Institute forget just what an oasis our school is for the students who call it home for much of the year. Barkley Moore taught us that large public schools, for all their impressive buildings, are often a difficult and anonymous experience for lonely, overlooked students. Oneida is a small campus where everyone is part of a small group of roommates, attends small classes and, if he or she chooses, participates on smaller co-curricular teams.

It is rare to find an Oneida student who doesn't count his or her OBI friends as "best" friends, and as we've seen many times, friends for life. Is there a poorer man than one without friends, or a richer person than someone with a few true friendships?

Of course, friendships between faculty, staff and students are renewed as well. A teacher teaches students, not subjects. Without our students, we might be scholars, but we wouldn't be teachers. Many of us count our students as

among God's best gifts to us. In their lives, we relive our own experiences and we see the grace and goodness of God from a new perspective.

Some of our OBI students have broken and hurtful relationships with adults. We cannot replace parents, but God graciously often allows us to love, guide and influence our students as their fathers and mothers in the faith (as Paul said of his relationship with the Thessalonians). Call us mentors, role models or "stand-in families"; we frequently find God's love rising up in our hearts for these "children" whose lives have become the fields in which we labor in ministry.

Our optimism for these students always includes the hope that they will embrace Jesus Christ as Lord and Master, or if they already have done so, will live out that commitment in a way that shows growth and maturity. We begin sharing the gospel with our students from day one, but we also plan focused times of evangelism on campus. Pray for Doug Williams and "Surrendering Isaac" as they share the gospel with our students during "Proclamation Week," Sept. 18-21. In preparation for evangelism, we've dedicated Sept. 5-9 as "Prayer Week" on campus.

Optimism soon will mix with reality, and there will be disappointments and defeats. But we could not live without hope, and hope is buoyant and alive these first few days of the school year at OBI. With your support for God's school in the mountains of southeast Kentucky, you help keep that hope alive.

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

THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

Outstanding alumni recognized

Faculty select two grads to Bible college honor society

Delta Epsilon Chi is the honor society for Bible college graduates. Each May, membership is granted to the male and female student graduating with the highest academic average. The faculty awards two honorary memberships to alumni who have graduated at least 10 years previously.

The award recognizes alumni who have "exhibited outstanding intellectual achievement, Christian character and leadership ability." The 2004-05 awards went to 1983 alumnus Doyle Dunn and 1989 grad Dale Rose.

Doyle is a native of Cleveland, Tenn. After graduating from Southwestern Seminary in 1987, he started active duty in the Navy; Doyle holds the rank of commander. As a chaplain he served in the First Gulf War, Somalia and most recently on the H.S. Truman aircraft carrier. His ministry is featured in the Oliver North book, "A Greater Freedom." He and his wife, Donna, have three children; she is pursuing a master's degree in family studies.

"I assumed while a student I would be in pastoral ministries,"

Doyle said. "God changed that to pastoral ministry in the military. Clear Creek provided the foundation for a ministry and life in which God has repeatedly demonstrated His grace is sufficient."

A native of Monticello, Dale Rose and his wife, Millie, left his job operating a shoe store to follow God's calling. While at Clear Creek, he was pastor in nearby Knox County. "I came to Clear Creek thinking I knew a whole lot," Dale said. "By the time I finished seminary I realized how little I knew. If I had to choose between seminary and Clear Creek, I'd choose Clear Creek."

Dale leads church and community revival; he and Millie also lead family life conferences. They also operate E&E Shoe Brokerage. "We are in the soul business in two ways," Dale said. "We can help you both ways." Dale and Millie recently made a commitment to help establish the Dale and Millie Evangelism Endowment, providing support for Clear Creek's emphasis in evangelism.

The faithful ministry of Doyle Dunn and Dale Rose honors Clear Creek and testifies to the value of a Bible college education.

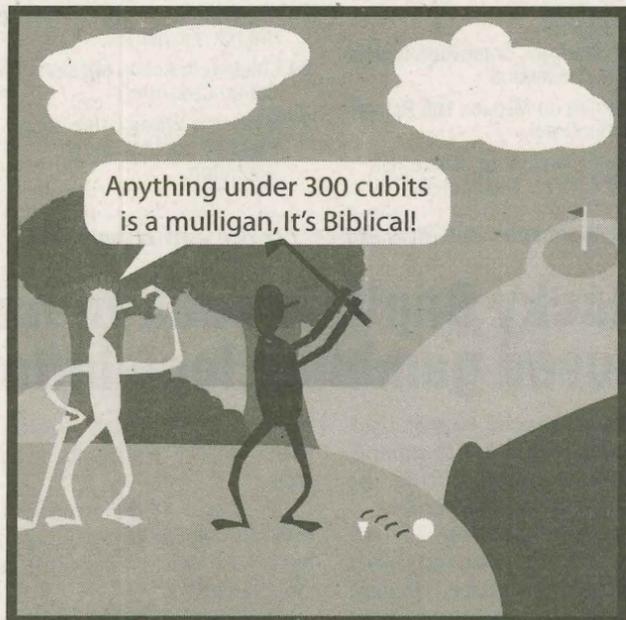
Bill Whittaker is president of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, Pineville, KY 40977; (606) 337-3196

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

Kentucky Baptist State Ministers Golf Tournament



Cherry Blossom Golf & Country Club Sept. 19-20, 2005

Cost of tournament stays the same as last year...

- \$15.00 pre-registration fee (Non-refundable) by September 14, 2005 at Noon; covers food and door prizes. Please make checks payable to KBC.
- \$43.00 cart and green fees total for Monday and Tuesday (includes 18 holes Monday and 18 holes on Tuesday—paid to the course on Monday).
- This is a discounted price for 2 days of golf compliments of Cherry Blossom Golf and Country Club and Georgetown College (coupon needed).
- Upon receipt of registration, a postcard with confirmation and additional information about the 2 day event will be mailed to you.



With Tournament questions contact...

- Tom Smoot or Jay Parker by calling 502-245-4101, web: www.kybaptist.org/creative, or E-mail: tom.smoot@kybaptist.org or jay.parker@kybaptist.org

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Missionary: Physical, spiritual hunger stalks region in Niger

By Shawn Hendricks
Baptist Press

Maradi, Niger (BP)—Famine is nothing new to Niger—or to Southern Baptist missionary Mike Loftice.

In recent months, drought and an invasion of locusts have made the situation even worse, threatening millions with starvation in the West African nation.

Loftice, who has lived and worked in the hard-hit Maradi region of Niger since 1997, recently coordinated a \$75,000 relief project in six villages. The effort supplied more than 8,000 people with tons of millet and beans—and a second chance at life.

"There is no doubt that hundreds of lives were saved," Loftice reported.

"In every village where we distributed food, literally hundreds of people from other villages came to us searching for food. We gave to as many as possible, but unfortunately our resources were not enough."

In a country with 11 million people, more than 3 million face starvation, according to recent estimates. More than 800,000 of the suffering are children; thousands of them are dying.

"Death is a huge part of everyday life in Niger," Loftice said. "Over 50 percent of all children die by the time they reach 5 years of age."

The Maradi region contains about 1,000 villages. Because of a lack of Southern Baptist personnel—Loftice and his family are the only International Mission Board workers assigned to the area—just a few villages could receive relief.

More than 90 percent of the Hausa people who live in this area are subsistence farmers, Loftice said. They struggle to sur-



vive on an average of about seven inches of rain per year. Even in a "good year," the people grow only enough food—millet, beans and peanuts—to sustain themselves for about six months.

Many have left their villages to seek aid, but others are too weak to move. Thousands of people sat outside the Loftice home for more than three weeks, hoping to receive a small handful of food.

"People are scared, desperate and lack any sense of hope in their villages," he added. "My average-sized 13-year-old (son) is literally 100 pounds heavier and 1 1/2 to 2 feet taller than the same age Hausa child in our area. Many 2-year-olds look like newborns."

Spiritual hunger, isolation

While physical starvation is a part of life in Maradi, what the people truly hunger for is hope, Loftice said, because spiritual famine also stalks the land.

Most of the 3.6 million Hausa people who live in Niger embrace Islamic teachings and reject Christ.

A handful of Christians who live in these villages deal not only with hunger but with daily rejection and isolation. Some shop owners refuse to give Christian villagers the same service they give Muslims.

"The Muslim people of this area need a Christian witness of love and compassion," Loftice said. "The greatest need of any people is to know Jesus as Lord and Savior."

Southern Baptists should be careful not to nurture a movement of "rice bowl" Christians, he added, but to express genuine concern for all the needs of Hausa people—physical and spiritual.

"Food is never enough," Loftice stressed. "Money is never enough. Resources are never enough. Only our all powerful and all-loving God can cure what ails Niger."

For more information or to contribute to hunger and relief efforts in Niger, contact the International Mission Board's World Hunger & Relief Ministries at (800) 999-3113, ext. 1736. Checks can be sent to the International Mission Board, Box 6767, Richmond, VA 23230.

HELPING FARMERS

Southern Baptist missionary Mike Loftice (left) works with a group of farmers in the famine-stricken nation of Niger, West Africa. Loftice, who has lived and worked in the Maradi region of Niger since 1997, recently coordinated a \$75,000 relief project in six villages. The effort supplied more than 8,000 people with tons of millet and beans. (BP photo by Sue Sprenkle)

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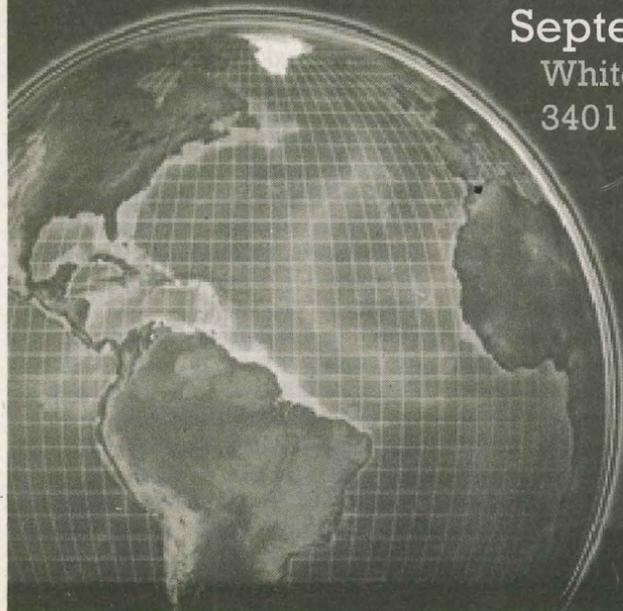
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HOW TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN

By Larry Martin

The Apostle Paul continuously marveled at his relationship with God through Jesus Christ. He emphasized the forgiveness and freedom received through his relationship with Christ, which so dominated his life.

Today there is a new movement of God throughout Kentucky. Hundreds of new believers' lives have been so transformed by a relationship with Jesus Christ that they can't stop telling others how radically different their lives now are. They have experienced the reality of living transformation Paul described when writing to the people in Rome:

Jesus died on the cross for all people, a truth Paul first experienced in his dramatic conversion on the road to Damascus. The gift of His Son was God's ultimate way to express His love for us. Perhaps you first learned this truth years ago during vacation Bible school or maybe recently through a conversation with a friend. (See Romans 5:6-8.)

We all are separated from God, but He loves us so much that He seeks to restore us to relationship with Him. He offers the free gift of a relationship with God through Jesus Christ, which brings life, beginning now and lasting through eternity. (See Romans 3:23 and 6:23.)

We receive this free gift through a faith relationship. Each of us must acknowledge our separation from God, confess our sin, ask His forgiveness, and invite Jesus Christ to become Lord of our life. This new relationship is life-changing. Just as with the Apostle Paul, many Kentuckians today experiencing their new relationship with God cannot help sharing the life-changing forgiveness and freedom they now enjoy. (See Romans 10:8-10.)

Larry Martin, retired leader of the Kentucky Baptist Convention missions growth team, is serving as a KBC missions growth consultant

MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

■ **ASHLAND**—Rose Hill Church will host **Squire Parsons** in concert Sept. 18, 6 p.m.

■ **BELLEVUE**—First Church will dedicate its new sanctuary Sept. 18 with breakfast at 9:30 a.m. and a dedication service at 10:40 a.m. **Bruce Peters** is pastor.

■ **CADIZ**—Rocky Ridge Church recently called **Doyle Thresher** as pastor.

■ **CENTRAL CITY**—Living Grace Church ordained Pastor **Jackie Perkins** to the gospel ministry Aug. 28. **Jeff Hendricks**, pastor of Walnut Memorial Church in Owensboro, led the service.

■ **ELIZABETHTOWN**—Elizabethtown Church called **Danny Haynes** as pastor effective Sept. 4.

■ **FOUNTAIN RUN**—First Church celebrated Christmas in August by visiting widows and nursing homes with cookies and fruit and by sending more than 40 boxes of clothes and nonperishable supplies to soldiers in Iraq. First Church also recently ordained associate pastor **Mark Graham** to the gospel ministry. **Herham Wilkins** is pastor.

■ **FRANKLIN**—The music ministry of First Church will host flutist and vocalist **Brendan McKinney** in concert Sept. 11, 6:30 p.m. For more information, call (270) 586-3205. **Bob Sutton** is pastor.

■ **JEFFERSONVILLE**—**Jerry Gould** recently resigned as minister of music at Jeffersonville Church.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Lowell Avenue Church will celebrate its 50th anniversary Sept. 25.

Maple Grove Church will host **Diane Anders & Family** in concert, Sept. 11, 10:45 a.m. **Ray Hayes** is pastor.

Don Davis recently resigned as minister of music at Midland Church.

■ **MOUNT EDEN**—Bethlehem Church will hold revival services Sept. 11-14, 7 p.m. with **Jeff Eaton**, pastor of Hope Community Church in Lawrenceburg, as evangelist. **Greg Taylor** is pastor.

■ **RAVENNA**—Williams Memorial Church ordained **Kevin Siebeneicher** as a deacon July 10. **Jim Ashcraft** is pastor.

■ **TAYLORSVILLE**—Little Mount Church will hold its Fall Festival Sept. 10, beginning at 10 a.m. The event will feature gospel music, food, children's activities and an auction. For more information, call (502) 477-2335. **John Mark Tittsworth** is pastor.

■ **WADDY**—CORRECTION: Mount Vernon Church recently call **Sean Post** as pastor.

■ **WINCHESTER**—Greenbriar Church recently called **Delmar McGee** as pastor.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September

10 Super Saturday, Crestwood Baptist Church, Crestwood.

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

19 Interfaith Conference, White Hall Baptist Church, Richmond.

20 Interfaith Conference, First Baptist Church, Fitzpatrick.

24 Children in Action Missions Day Camp, Cedarmore.

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

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

Kentucky Baptists seek to halt proposed gambling legislation

Louisville—Kentucky Baptist leaders are gearing up to battle expanded gambling proposals during the 2006 Kentucky General Assembly.

At a recent meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Public Affairs Committee, Howard Beaman detailed concerns about three gambling bills prefled in the Kentucky Senate and House of Representatives.

Beaman, executive director of the Kentucky League on Alcohol and Gambling Problems, said Sen. David Boswell has prefled Bill Request 18 which calls for a constitutional amendment authorizing the state to operate casinos and BR 19 which would allow nine casinos across the commonwealth.

In the House, Rep. Tom Burch has

prefled BR 29 which would permit video lottery terminals across the state.

Beaman said Kentucky League officials oppose expanded gambling based on moral, economic and social concerns.

"We think it's immoral to rely on chance rather than God," he added.

Beaman said studies show the addiction rate among gamblers is as high as 8 percent nationally.

Noting that supporters of BR 19 acknowledged the risk of compulsive gambling, Beaman said the proposal calls for creating a compulsive gamblers assistance fund.

For more information about anti-gambling efforts, visit www.kentuckyleague.org or www.kybaptist.org/publicaffairs.

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SEEKING: Minister of adult education. Florence Baptist Church (800-plus in worship) is located in the fastest growing county in Kentucky. We are in the process of relocating to 67 acres and are seeking an energetic individual to build the adult ministries of our church. Please send resumes to peggy.romes@florencechurch.org.

SEEKING: Full-time pastor for Fairfield Glade First Baptist Church. We are a growing of Fairfield Glade, Tenn. community of Fairfield Glade, Tenn. Current SS averages 140 and worship services average 180. Applicants must be Southern Baptist with seminary master's degree, preferably in pastoral ministries or preaching. If Spirit-led, send resumes to: Ben Ogletree, 13 Burton Terrace, Fairfield Glade, TN 38558. Deadline for receipt is Sept. 30, 2005.

SEEKING: Full-time minister for children through youth for McDowell First Baptist Church—an exciting, growing, loving fellowship in Eastern Kentucky. Mail resumes and/or sermon tapes to: McDowell First Baptist Church, PO Box 241, McDowell, KY 41647, Attn: Search Committee.

SEEKING: Part-time minister of youth and recreation and part-time minister of children. Applicants for both positions must be spiritually mature, enthusiastic and creative. Send resumes to: Fern Creek Baptist Church, PO Box 91146, Louisville, KY 40291, Attn: Personnel Committee. Resumes will be received through Oct. 8. Questions: call (502) 239-0316. Linda Barnes Popham, pastor.

SEEKING: Part-time youth minister (paid position; grades 6-12) for Mexico Baptist Church in rural school attendance: 135. Send resume to MBC Youth Council, 175 Mexico Road, Marion, KY 42064, Attn: Brent Highfil, or call (270) 965-2149. turnerchandler@hotmail.com.

SEEKING: Part-time pianist and part-time organist for Fern Creek Baptist Church. Strong accompanying skills are required for both positions. Send resumes to: Fern Creek Baptist Church, PO Box 91146, Louisville, KY 40291, Attn: Personnel Committee. Resumes will be received through Oct. 8. Questions: call (502) 239-0316. Linda Barnes Popham, pastor.

SEEKING: Part-time interim minister of music for Cecilia Baptist Church. Blended worship; services on Sunday mornings and evenings with adult choir practice on Wednesday evenings. Send resume to: Personnel Committee, 416 East Main St., Cecilia, KY 42724.

SEEKING: Part-time church pianist for Hurstbourne Baptist Church. Skills would include accompanying, improvisation and sight-reading for blended worship style. Contact: Chris Kihn, minister of worship & music, 8800 Shelbyville Road, Louisville, KY 40222, or (502) 426-2444.

SEEKING: Family nurse practitioner. Send resume to Dr. Cora Withrow, Berea Health Ministry, 132 Mini Mall Drive, Berea, KY 40403.

SEEKING: Full-time minister of youth for First Baptist Church, London. Please send resumes to: Minister of Youth Search Committee, 804 West Fifth St., London, KY 40741; or e-mail to: fbclondon@alltel.net.

SEEKING: Pastor for Petrey Memorial Baptist Church in Hazard, Ky. For more information, please visit our Web site at www.petreymemorial.org. Resumes, tapes/videos should be sent to: Pastor Search Committee, 141 Alto St., Hazard, KY 41701.

SEEKING: Full-time minister of music and part-time minister of youth for First Baptist Church, Richmond, Mo. Anyone interested may send resume to: Staff Selection Committee, First Baptist Church, 306 West Main, Richmond, MO 64085-1620; or e-mail to mkninard@epsi.net.

SEEKING: Full-time pastor of education and youth. Williamstown 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 resumes 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 minister of music and part-time youth minister for Temple Hill Baptist Church. Send resume to Helen Crabtree, Search Committee chairman, 174 Siloam Road, Glasgow, KY 42141.

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

SEEKING: Youth intern (15 hours a week) at St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville. Primary responsibilities include leading Bible study for middle school youth activities on Wednesday evenings and small-group Bible study on Sunday evenings. Intern also will need to be available to lead retreats, participate in recreational activities and conduct worship. If interested, contact Tomara Brown at (502) 896-8882, or tbrown@smbclouisville.org.

SEEKING: Full-time minister of education and music for Olivet Baptist Church. College graduate and Baptist training required. Preferred responsibilities include development and implementation of comprehensive religious study based on Baptist theology. Music responsibilities include direction of blended music that enhances the worship experience. Olivet is a suburban church with an average SS attendance of 180. Please send resume to Olivet Baptist Church, 5186 Hinkleville Road, Paducah, KY 42001. Resumes will be accepted until Oct. 15, 2005.

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Churches must penetrate cities to change world, preacher says

By Tim Yarbrough
SBC North American Mission Board

Atlanta (BP)—Urban churches should have as their goal building a great city, not a great church, according to Tim Keller, senior pastor of Redeemer Presbyterian Church, one of New York City's largest Protestant congregations.

"The great city churches don't have as their goal a great church in the city; rather, the goal of their ministry is a great city," Keller said. "They don't want to use the city as a means to build up a great church, rather, as a means to create a great city."

Keller said churches focused on using their denomination and resources to reach the city for God's glory will "change the world."

Speaking at a state leadership meeting this summer in Atlanta sponsored by the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board, Keller said that until Southern Baptists have as many churches in cities like New York as they have in southern states, there's simply not enough churches to reach the city.

"There's 8 million people in New York City. I'm pretty sure there's about 8 million people in Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina all together. Until you get it there, you're not reaching the city," he said.

While the American church generally wants to avoid the cities, Keller pointed to the work of the first missionaries in the Book of Acts as doing just the opposite.

Philip went to the great cities of his time to reach the people with the gospel, Keller said, because the cities were personally, culturally and globally strategic.

"What you see throughout the Book of Acts, all the missionaries always choose the biggest cities of the region to go to," he said.

"Generally speaking, people in the cities are open to new ideas," he noted. "Today, people in the cities are more open to new ideas like the gospel."

Keller asked: "What would happen if New York City were really changed by the gospel?"

Racial divisions would heal; poverty would drop; and people would talk about their faith without being vilified, he said.

Jesus Christ was crucified in disgrace outside the gate of the city but desperately wants to reclaim the city for His Kingdom, Keller said.

"Jesus Christ lost the city that was, so that you and I can become citizens by grace of the city that is to come, to be salt and light of the city that is."

Painting the town

Volunteers break out brushes to help New York outreach

By Karen Willoughby
Baptist Press

New York (BP)—Some people might have thought Southern Baptists were biting off more of the Big Apple than they could chew with their "Paint the Town" project.

But nearly 2,000 volunteers proved any skeptics wrong.

"Paint the Town is proving to be what I call the doorway to the soul of the city," said Gary Frost, director of missions for Metro New York Baptist Association.

"Southern Baptists are perceived by many in the Northeast to be fundamentalist Bible-thumpers. This project really allows us to be seen as who we are: compassionate people who love Christ and each other."

By the time school starts this week, Southern Baptists in two months will have painted the interiors of nine schools in the Bronx, one in Harlem and two on Long Island. Less visible are the hundreds of New Yorkers' lives changed as a result of connecting on the subways and streets of the nation's largest city with Baptist volunteers.

"Only on the other side of heaven will we see the lasting impact these volunteers are having on New York City," said Roy Mallory, a volunteer foreman for the project. "I know directly there have been at least 200 who have professed Christ that we've heard about, and we haven't begun to get our data back."

"What have you done?"

Local residents' question—"What are you doing here?"—becomes an open invitation to share the message of God's love, said Mallory, a member of the Atlanta-area First Baptist Church in Woodstock, Ga.

"We've actually had people ask, 'What have you people done to have to come out and paint in the schools?'" Mallory said. "They're even more astonished when we tell them we have paid our way to come and be here."



YOUTH WORK During Paint the Town's college week, young volunteers from throughout the country painted walls and ceilings at Roosevelt High School in the Bronx and prayerwalked on New York college campuses in late July. The effort also included block parties and sports camps.



In addition to travel and lodging expenses, each Paint the Town volunteer gave \$100 to help offset the cost of paint and supplies, said Sandra Mallory, the project's volunteer coordinator.

"It's not a fee; it's a contribution," she said. "Every mission trip I've ever been on, I have spent money on supplies and materials. ... We used that same philosophy and, with other donations, that's how we're able to paint as many schools as we are."

The Benjamin Moore paint company donated 2,000 gallons of paint, enough to complete two schools, and sold additional paint at reduced cost.

But painting the schools—as daunting as that can be when hallways can stretch 125 feet long and gym ceilings are 30 feet high—is only a part of Paint the Town. The summer effort included six block parties and 25 sports camps.

Each school also was "adopted" by a local church.

"Our goal is that if the school needs anything, the church will be their first call," Roy Mallory explained. "It will be a way the church can better serve its commu-

nity, serving children and families in need."

New Hope New York

Paint the Town is part of "New Hope New York," an evangelism and church planting thrust sponsored by the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board, now in its second year. The painting project started with the wistful dream of a Bronx middle school principal who wanted her 100-year-old school building painted last summer.

Ordinarily a lesser project would require a year or two of planning, but the Bronx painting project was organized in less than a month, and completed in less than two.

The 2004 effort involved more than 500 volunteers from at least 70 churches in 15 states.

By the end of August, the volunteers had spent about a half-million man hours completely painting the inside of five schools in the Bronx—teachers' offices, cafeterias, halls, rooms, restrooms—while four other Bronx schools have freshly painted halls, classrooms and restrooms.

And in Harlem, volunteers aided Albert Tibbs in starting the I AM Christian Center. Having received permission to use the cafeteria at Rice High School, a Catholic school for boys, as a meeting place, Tibbs requested a contingent of Paint the Town volunteers, who freshened up everything at the school but the headmaster's office with paint donated by World Vision.

New Yorkers have been responsive to Paint the Town because it involves their children, said Frost, of Metro New York Baptist Association.

"The fact that we're working with the schools speaks to the people about our concern for children and youth," Frost said. "Other people outside our church family are seeing this as us saying their children have value."

For more information about NAMB's partnership to reach New York City, visit www.NewHopeNewYork.com. For more information about Southern Baptist volunteer mission projects, visit www.thebridge.namb.net.

MURAL OF HOPE

Volunteers from Brentwood, Tenn., paint a mural commemorating Sept. 11 on the handball court at MS 117 in the Bronx. School administrators approved an inquiry from a professional artist on the mission team to grace the wall with some artistry. (Photo courtesy of New Hope New York)

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