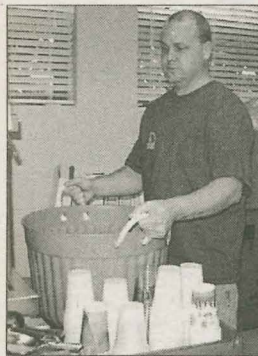


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FOR THE RECORD

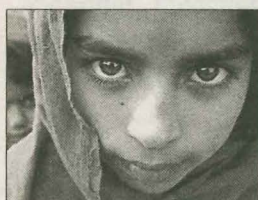
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World
Ministry in quake-damaged areas resulting in opportunities to share the gospel. *Page 13.*

Survey: 1 in 4 churches have no Web ministry

Phoenix, Ariz. (BP)—One out of every four Protestant churches in America has virtually no involvement with the World Wide Web, according to a new study conducted for LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The study found that 27 percent of surveyed churches have no staff e-mail, no Web site and no Internet connection.

The survey, published in LifeWay's Facts & Trends magazine, found that 58 percent of churches provide Internet access for staff.

A similar study in 2004 found that 91 percent of ministers have access to the Internet. The current study likely demonstrates that ministers have personal access but not access through their church.

Only half of all churches provide staff with e-mail, and just under half maintain a Web site. The proportion with an active Web site has not changed significantly during the past year, according to Ellison Research, which conducted the poll.

Just 23 percent of Protestant churches use e-mail prayer chains, 18 percent have an e-mail church newsletter and 4 percent have an online member directory.

The survey, conducted by Ellison Research of Phoenix, polled a national sample of 871 Protestant church ministers.

□ See Survey: 1 in 4 ... *Page 6*

After the storm



DISASTER AREA National and state convention officials are aware that extensive disasters often result in pastors leaving.

Groups seek to keep Gulf Coast pastors from burning out

By Ken Walker
State Correspondent

Louisville—While Baptist churches along the Gulf Coast continue to try to recover from hurricanes Katrina and Rita, state and national Baptist leaders are working to keep the natural disasters from becoming personal ones.

Armed with the knowledge of what has happened in other areas that suffered extensive floods, hurricanes and other tragedies, they are seeking to give pastors and their families support to prevent them from burning out or giving up.

Still, Kentucky pastor Ray Hayes

already is hearing from pastor friends along the Gulf Coast looking to get out.

"I've had a couple call me and say, 'Are there any churches up that way? I'll come,'" said Hayes, pastor of Maple Grove Baptist Church in Louisville.

The son of a minister, Hayes has seen personally how natural disasters can create problems for church leaders.

After a tornado struck their church in Hayes' youth, his father told him he expected to have to leave.

"If we get the church together,

we won't be allowed to stay here," Hayes recalled his father saying. "You'll use all your trump (cards) up because everyone will be in crisis. You can't win."

Likewise, when floods overwhelmed Bardstown Junction Baptist Church in March of 1997, Hayes started planning for his exit, which happened two years later.

But before leaving that church, Hayes and his wife found relief at a pastors' retreat organized by the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

The retreat was the brainchild of former Kentucky Baptist Convention pastor ... *Page 8*

Missionaries fighting spiritual battles to share gospel in Peru



MISSION: PERU Kasey Nun (left), a summer missionary to Peru, shares Bible verses with children in the village of Obrajillo. Nun and other summer missionaries distribute Bibles, teach English and seek out a variety of other opportunities to share their faith in Jesus Christ. The national goal for Southern Baptists' Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions is \$150 million. (IMB photo)

By Shawn Hendricks
SBC International Mission Board

Lima, Peru—Boots Holder refers to his recent months in North Peru as "the best and worst of times."

As a strategy coordinator missionary, Holder and his "Rapid Entry Advance Plan" team in North Peru use hundreds of volunteers from the United States to share the gospel throughout the mountains and jungles of North Peru.

But spiritual warfare has become a major issue, says.

"The devil is fighting us pretty hard," he says. "It's a war, and every war has casualties."

Some of the missionary families on the REAP North team have experienced a variety of personal struggles. Volunteers have had to leave the mountains and jungles early from sickness. Some have been run out of villages, and many Peruvians have been persecuted for not being

part of the "cultural Catholicism" of the region.

Though many people in this area claim to be Catholic, Holder says, many are "cultural Catholic"—Catholic only by name, not practice. Along roads high in the mountains, concrete shrines can be found where locals pray to saints, light candles and leave flowers.

Carolina, a Peruvian missionary in the mountains, moves from home to home in a village because the Catholic community won't allow her to rent a place to stay. In that same community, two churches have started, and hundreds of people in the area are hearing the gospel.

"They had to band together or leave the community," Holder says. "In one village, they'll shut your water off if you're not Catholic."

Inside: Meet missionary Boots Holder. *Page 7.*



That all peoples may know Him

Dated material. Please deliver by Wednesday, January 18

IMB 'impasse'

Mission board seeks to remove Oklahoma trustee

"The trustees consider this a rare and grievous action but one that was absolutely necessary."

IMB trustee chairman Thomas Hatley

"The real issue is crusading conservatives vs. cooperating conservatives."

Embattled IMB trustee Wade Burleson

Richmond, Va.—Trustees of the Southern Baptist Convention's International Mission Board will seek to remove a member of their board, apparently for posting information about the board's deliberations on his weblog.

Oklahoma pastor Wade Burleson, former president of the Oklahoma Baptist Convention, has been outspoken in his criticism of recent board actions. The impetus for his online reports was his opposition to missionary personnel policies adopted by trustees in November. The policies addressed believer's baptism by immersion and the use of a "private prayer language," a form of speaking in tongues.

But a brief IMB statement said Burleson's proposed removal involved "broken trust and resistance to accountability, not Burleson's opposition to policies recently enacted by the board."

Burleson, pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church in Enid, Okla., and an active blogger, regularly posts his comments about the IMB on his web page.

"In everything I have spoken truth, never violating any confidentiality policies or guidelines of the IMB, and have always spoken with the desire to make our beloved convention better," he wrote Jan. 10 in his blog at www.kerussocharis.blogspot.com.

Messengers elected Burleson to a four-year IMB trustee term during the SBC's 2005 annual meeting in June. He and nine other trustees elected to four-year terms last year would be eligible for re-nomination in 2009 for another four-year term.

Board seeks SBC action

Because IMB trustees are elected by the Southern Baptist Convention, they only can be removed by action of the convention, which meets June 13-14 in Greensboro, N.C. According to Baptist Press, a check of SBC records shows there has been no action in recent history to remove a trustee of an SBC entity.

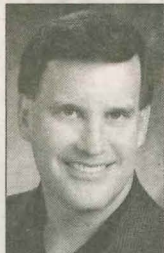
Burleson wrote Jan. 11 that he was not allowed to respond to the trustees' accusations during the meeting. "I have not been given a copy of the statement, but I know it contained the words 'slander' and 'gossip,'" he wrote.

In a statement released after the meeting, trustee chairman Thomas Hatley of Rogers, Ark., said: "This difficult measure was not taken without due deliberation and exploration of other ways to handle an impasse between Wade Burleson and the board. ... The trustees consider this a rare and grievous action but one that was absolutely necessary for the board to move forward in its duties as prescribed by the SBC."

Kentucky Baptist Convention President Paul Chitwood, also an IMB trustee, said board members agreed to allow Hatley's statement "to speak for itself" rather than

have individual trustees elaborate on the closed-door proceedings.

"It really is tragic for everybody," Chitwood said. "We had a lot of discussion in executive session about how sensitive and personal this issue is for him (Burleson), his family, the board and the convention."



Wade Burleson

Burleson and a few other trustees say the November vote to exclude missionaries who use a private prayer language actually was aimed at undermining IMB President Jerry Rankin, who has acknowledged using such prayer language when he was a missionary in southeast Asia.

"I have felt for some time that there are a few trustees who are dead set on opposing the direction, vision and leadership of Dr. Jerry Rankin," Burleson wrote. "I am blogging to make sure Dr. Rankin is no longer undermined, or if he is, to call it out."

The policy change regarding tongues is not retroactive, so it will not apply to Rankin who told Christianity Today earlier this month, "I acknowledged even in the discussions that (tongues) has been a continuing practice (of mine) for 30 years."

In his blog, Burleson said the larger conflict behind the opposition to Rankin, and his own potential ouster, is "the removal from leadership and service those who do not conform to specific interpretations of the Bible." He has contended that the policies are overly restrictive, even among some Baptists who hold to the inerrancy of Scripture.

"The real issue is crusading conservatives vs. cooperating conservatives," he wrote.

That language has been used to describe a growing rift among some conservative leaders. Last year, SBC Executive Committee President Morris Chapman warned such a conflict threatens the denomination's future.

Burleson also has charged that a small group of IMB trustees exert inordinate control over the board's actions, in violation of IMB policies. In a Jan. 9 blog, he described encountering a small group of trustees in the lobby of their Richmond hotel—the day before the vote to oust him.

"As we entered the hotel, a group of about 10 or 12 trustees were seated in the foyer of the hotel," he wrote. "I decided to come back down and listen in on the conversation without being observed by the group. After 10 minutes of hearing things that I am not yet prepared to place in print, I ... (decided) to confront these men."

"I asked them to explain to me what I heard, which I believe to be a clear violation of trustee policies and procedures establishing agendas and motions outside of normal trustee meetings. I also asked them to explain other things I heard."

Chitwood, pastor of First Baptist Church of Mount Washington,

told the Western Recorder he was in the hotel lobby when Burleson confronted a group of trustees. Chitwood said he did not hear any trustee discussion that violated board policy.

"Having walked through the lobby of the hotel and seeing people who were gathered at all hours of the day and night, I would think the discussions were nothing more than informal conversations that should not raise any concerns," Chitwood added.

Among details of the policies that sparked Burleson's concerns, trustees adopted a statement in November that declares "the majority of Southern Baptists do not accept what is referred to as 'private prayer language.' Therefore, if 'private prayer language' is an ongoing part of his or her conviction and practice, the candidate has eliminated himself or herself from being a representative of the IMB."

The baptism policy states that missionary candidates must have been baptized in SBC-affiliated churches or have received believer's baptism by immersion in another denomination or non-denominational church. If the candidate received baptism in another tradition, it must be viewed as symbolic rather than sacramental or regenerative. Also, the church or denomination in which the baptism took place must adhere to the doctrine of the "security of the believer," or the belief that one cannot lose one's salvation.

Burleson "greatly saddened"

In a statement released to Baptist Press after the board vote, Burleson said he was "greatly saddened by the action taken by the IMB board of trustees."

"We must move beyond personal attacks and power plays," he added. "At risk is the appointment of Southern Baptist missionaries who have a heart for the lost and value doctrinal integrity as expressed in the Baptist Faith and Message 2000."

In other action last week, trustees voted to require the IMB's communications office to clear any stories about trustee actions with the board's chair or someone he designates.

The action apparently is in response to a dispute over last November's vote count—which was taken by a show-of-hands—to approve the prayer-language restriction.

The initial story distributed by the IMB reported a vote of 25-18. Some trustees later challenged that count, claiming a more decisive 50-15 count. The original story later was removed from the IMB's Web site.

"We were trying to decide how not to get in that situation again," IMB spokesman Van Payne said in explaining the new policy about news releases. "The trustee chairman will get a look at trustee stories before they are released."

Based on reporting by Editor Trennis Henderson, Associated Baptist Press, Baptist Press and Religion News Service

Westmoreland new president of Samford

Birmingham, Ala. (ABP)—Andrew Westmoreland, president of Ouachita Baptist University, was unanimously elected



Andrew Westmoreland

president of Samford University Jan. 10.

Westmoreland, president of Ouachita in Arkadelphia, Ark., since 1998, will succeed Thomas

Corts, who retires May 31. Corts has served as president of Samford in Birmingham, Ala., since 1983.

Westmoreland, 48, was recommended to the board by an 18-member presidential search committee after an eight-month national search involving more than 140 applicants.

"The board is very confident that Dr. Westmoreland is just the person to lead Samford at this point in the university's 164-year history," said Samford trustee chairman William Stevens.

He noted that Westmoreland "brings an outstanding record of academic leadership" and that he is an effective administrator and "a proven fundraiser."

Westmoreland said he accepted the board's invitation to become Samford's president "with a strong sense of excitement for Samford's future." He will continue as president of Ouachita for the next four months, but will be involved in some transition plans with Samford before June 1, Stevens said.

Prior to being elected president of Ouachita, Westmoreland served 19 years in various administrative capacities at the Arkansas Baptist institution, including vice president for development.

He directed two campaigns that raised \$68.7 million for Ouachita while serving in the development post. During his presidency, Ouachita completed another campaign that raised \$62.5 million during 2002-05.

An Arkansas native, Westmoreland is a 1979 graduate of Ouachita. He also holds degrees from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville and the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

Westmoreland's wife, Jeanna, is dean of Ouachita's School of Education.

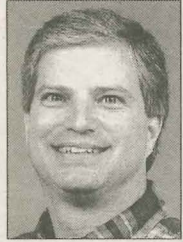
Ouachita enrolls about 1,500 undergraduates compared to Samford's 4,500 undergraduate and graduate students. U.S. News & World Report ranked Ouachita fifth in the South in its category (regional comprehensive colleges) and Samford third in the South in its category (master's degree universities).

Kingkade to head church relations at Georgetown

Georgetown—H.K. Kingkade, Baptist campus minister at the University of Kentucky since 1993, has been named director of church relations for Georgetown College effective Feb. 1.

He succeeds Eric Fruge who has been named Georgetown's capital campaign director.

Kingkade, a Georgetown alumnus, also is a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. Prior to serving at the University



H.K. Kingkade

of Kentucky, he was minister to college students at First Baptist Church of Auburn, Ala., and minister of youth and education at Lexington Avenue Baptist Church in Danville.

Kingkade's election comes amid Georgetown's transition from a Kentucky Baptist Convention institution to a revised ministry partnership approved by KBC messengers in November. Georgetown will begin electing its own trustees this year and the KBC will phase out the school's Cooperative Program funding over the next four years.

Noting that Georgetown officials "are real excited" about bringing Kingkade on staff, Georgetown President Bill Crouch said, "We want to keep the relationship with the Kentucky Baptist Convention very strong and felt he could do that for us."

In his new role, Kingkade said he will "be going across the state, getting to know pastors and church staff, sharing with them what Georgetown College is doing, what they offer in the way of a Christian education for students and why students should come to Georgetown."

While "leaving the campus ministry family is really tough to do," Kingkade added, "My hope is that I can provide opportunities so that Kentucky Baptist churches see that Georgetown College is still connected to Kentucky Baptists and still very much Baptist in the way we do higher education."

Keith Inman, leader of the KBC's collegiate ministry group, said Kingkade "was a contributor to the big picture of the breadth of collegiate ministry in our state."

Fruge, who was named capital campaign director in November, had served as director of church relations since 2001. He previously was a Southern Baptist church planter in France as well as minister with single adults at Calvary Baptist Church in Lexington and associate pastor of Broadway Baptist Church in Lexington.

Getting people involved

KBC conference to spotlight former Kentucky pastor's assimilation efforts

By Ken Walker
State Correspondent

Franklin, Tenn.—Clearview Baptist Church in suburban Nashville has mushroomed since Bret Robbe arrived eight years ago, but the former Kentucky Baptist pastor won't take all the credit.

"When I got to Clearview, the deacons said, 'We've got to do something; the family ministry plan isn't working and deacons are discouraged,'" recalled Robbe, who was pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Owensboro for most of the 1990s. "The deacons came up with this. I can't take the credit."

"This" is a plan that matches works with each adult Sunday school class at the Franklin church. The congregation has grown from average weekly attendance of 300 worshippers in 1998 to 1,300 today.

Robbe and a team of church leaders will review the plan at the annual Kentucky Baptist Convention Deacon/Pastor/Spouse Retreat Feb. 3-4 in Bowling Green.

Former Clearview member Howard Foshee, who designed the family ministry plan that numerous Kentucky Baptists have used, has endorsed the approach, Robbe said.

"His plan changed deacons from acting as boards to being focused on ministry," Robbe said of Foshee, now living in Alabama. "He would tell you this is the next generation of deacon ministry."

"We don't have all the answers," Robbe added. "We've been tweaking it for six or seven years, and we're still tweaking it. But I have happy deacons."

After a sell-out crowd of 400 at last year's presentation by Clearview's team in Cave City, KBC church development/evangelism leader Dan Garland decided to book a return engagement and move the event to a larger facility.

"Guys are looking for what works," Garland said. "The bottom line is (Clearview's) deacons have embraced the concept of being servants and caring for people through Sunday school."



HOSTING HOMELESS Lisa Turner and her son, Stephen, prepare cots for Clearview's homeless ministry. The church's assimilation program has gotten 76 percent of its members involved in a church ministry.



HABITAT HOMELESS Members of Clearview Baptist Church near Nashville work to help build a house. The congregation's program to involve members in ministry will be highlighted at the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Deacon/Pastor/Spouse Retreat Feb. 3-4 in Bowling Green. (Clearview photos)

But the plan isn't the only growth force at Clearview. The church also recruits members into ministry activities, with 76 percent of active members currently involved.

Robbe said the latter goes back to the late 1980s when he wrote his doctoral dissertation at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

He led the recruiting methods worked at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington, where he then served as singles minister; and at Bellevue, which grew from 180 to nearly 1,000 during his eight-year tenure.

"This stuff works no matter what size the church and no matter what the location," Robbe said.

"Effective Deacon Ministry" will kick off with a dinner Friday evening, Feb. 3, followed by a talk by Robbe.

Two workshops will follow Saturday morning. The one for first-time deacon ministry plan, presented by former deacon chairmen Jim Lackey and David Jones.

"Permission to get involved"

The other will discuss Clearview's recruitment program, which is directed by Lanetta Heyen, a part-time staff member. Joining her will be Steve NeSmith, part of the ministry training team.

Heyen said that while all its ministries are active, the ones drawing the largest numbers include its wor-

ship choir, ministry to the homeless and vacation Bible school teams.

"It helps them believe they can serve God," Robbe said of his church's effort to enlist more lay involvement.

"That's the No. 1 reason people don't: They think they're not wanted or don't think they can. This gives them permission to get involved."

Lackey said the relationship between deacon and Sunday school classes extends to class members nominating deacons. The rationale, he said, is that class members can pick candidates based on seeing their spiritual leadership and character each week.

Deacons' spouses help maintain caring relationships with women's classes, Lackey said, while most children are covered through family relationships.

Ironically, Lackey said, after living in Texas he chose Clearview when he returned to Nashville 20 years ago because he wanted to attend a small church.

In his opinion, the deacon-Sunday school connection helps maintain a friendly, informal atmosphere despite Clearview's newfound megachurch status.

"The paid staff shouldn't be the only ones who minister," Lackey said. "Everyone works here, and that's been a very pleasant surprise."

Lackey said one secret for the deacon program's success is its yoke-fellow program. Men nominated as deacons must serve a one-year internship as yokefellow before being ordained, even if they served in that role in another church.

Since last year's Deacon/Pastor/Spouse Retreat, Lackey said he and another deacon had been invited to a Western Kentucky church to review Clearview's deacon plan.

"Not everyone will want to do this, and we're not trying to convince them," said Lackey, owner of a health care company. "Maybe it will help your church. It helped ours."

Not only has it promoted growth, but it also has created a much easier church to lead, Robbe said.

"We don't get bogged down in minor things," Robbe said. "There's too many positive things to pay attention to. It makes my job a ton easier."

WESTERN RECORDER

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

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Hurricane relief needs

I spent three days at the end of December with a group from Clayvillage Baptist Church in Shelbyville working with Riverside Baptist Church of Pascagoula, Miss. We worked hard in our short stay and were deeply impressed by:

1. An estimated 500 volunteers from Baptist churches working in homes and churches across that region. Kentucky was well represented with groups from Mount Sterling, Owensboro, Paducah and Somerset.

2. The feeding unit of disaster relief workers who fed us volunteers at First Baptist Church three times a day. The food and fellowship were terrific.

3. The great ongoing need for workers to help the Gulf Coast region recover. Please do what you can to go and serve or help someone else to go. Your service and witness will be a great blessing and encouragement to the citizens and the churches in that area.



Lee Bolton
Shelbyville

Speak truth to power

On the third Monday of January each year, America honors Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. during his birth month with a special day of remembrance—a national holiday.

Choose to experience God's fullness

By Henry Blackaby

Atlanta (BP)—The Apostle Paul, recognizing the need for God's people to develop a more intimate relationship with God, urged them to experience "God's fullness."

He states this prayer in Ephesians 3:14-21: "For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ ... that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through the Spirit in the inner man ... that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."

Dr. King is one of my heroes. He was a great prophet who personified Christ-like love. He had a tough mind and tender heart, followed Jesus, and possessed a quality only truly great people possess—humility. King called America to accountability for failing to live up to her proclamation: all men and women are created equal in our fair land of "liberty and justice for all."

Since his assassination in 1968, it is amazing how so many of his eloquent words are relevant today. In the spring of 1967, King preached a sermon on why he was opposed to the war in Vietnam. Almost 40 years later, the following excerpt from that sermon speaks prophetically at a time when we are waging war in Iraq:

"Don't let anybody make you think God chose America as His divine policeman force to be a sort of policeman of the whole world. God has a way of standing before the nations with justice and it seems I can hear God saying to America, 'You are too arrogant, and if you don't change your ways, I will rise up and break the backbone of your power, and I will place it in the hands of a nation that doesn't even know my name. Be still and know that I'm God. Men will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks, and nations shall not rise up against nations, neither

shall they study war anymore.' I don't know about you, I ain't going to study war anymore."

The world today sorely needs a prophet like Martin Luther King Jr., to speak truth to power.

Paul L. Whiteley Sr.
Louisville

Don't speak for God

Isn't it amazing how some people always know the mind and heart of God?

Pat Robertson's latest words over the air are that God may have smote Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon with a stroke because he gave back some land to the Palestinians. What arrogance; what prejudice.

Ariel Sharon already has lived seven years past the three score and ten. Why couldn't one say God already has blessed him with extra years?

There are those who know that God directed the fall of the twin towers. A whole slew of preachers tells us that God sent the hurricane into New Orleans to punish the wicked. Does that mean the rest of us somehow are more righteous?

Let us face it. We all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. There is none righteous; no not one. If God is out to punish the wrong doers, I am sure He would not bypass a lot of us.

Joseph H. Scalf Jr.
Danville

you and through you? If not, why not?

Make a clear choice before God to set your mind and heart to experience God's fullness throughout this year.

What if, in this moment, you fully surrender to God and let Him give you His fullness—in your prayer life, in your walk of faith, in your decisions and in all of your relationships with others? You will come to experience God's best for your life, and those you touch will come face to face with Him and experience His mighty presence.

Henry Blackaby is president of Blackaby Ministries International in Atlanta

Celebrating strong mission churches

I recently had the opportunity to be with two strong Kentucky Baptist Convention churches that have a heart for missions in their local community, state, nation and world.

I participated with Buckner Baptist Church in La Grange for a Men of Faith conference. My wife, Kay, and I then had the privilege of being with First Baptist Church of Clinton for the dedication of its newly remodeled sanctuary and educational building.

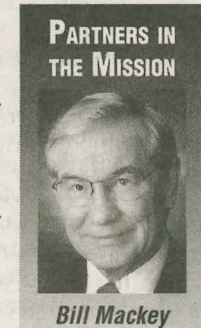
Brian Shoemaker, the Buckner pastor who also teaches at Christian Academy, has led the church to focus on its witness in the marketplace. My assignment was to speak to the teenage young men and adult men about taking a stand for Christ in the marketplace. I was blessed to be a part of this emphasis that relates to Kentucky Baptists Connect and its emphasis on "connecting all people to Jesus Christ."

What an awesome truth-filled, with all the fullness of God. This is for every believer, especially for living out our lives in our homes and workplaces.

COMMENTARY

As 2006 unfolds, we must make a conscious choice to experience in our lives all the fullness of God being expressed in us and through us. This year will be the product of the choices we make with God.

Could you say during the past year that you lived this reality openly for all to see? Is the fullness of God being clearly expressed in



Bill Mackey

In addition to the mission work, Shoemaker has led this church to give 13 percent of undesignated receipts to mission work in Kentucky and around the world through the Cooperative Program. Every church member should look for ways to penetrate their marketplace creatively with the gospel.

Howard Kitter, pastor of First Baptist Church of Clinton, has led this church to renovate its educational building and sanctuary. The facilities are bright, inviting and functional.

Kay and I were impressed with the dynamic music and worship, the involvement of young adults and the strong commitment to missions. In a community of declining population, it was gratifying to note 20 baptisms, excellent youth and children's ministries, and participation by many young adults.

The pastor serves on the KBC Mission Board and administrative

committee and has led the church to support missions by giving 12 percent of undesignated receipts through the Cooperative Program.

This church also has a strong record of giving to missions through the Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions. Vicky Kitter, the pastor's wife, is the Woman's Missionary Union director.

Pastor Kitter also has led the church to raise \$10,000 for tsunami relief in India. He is taking a group to India this month and anticipates the group will share the gospel personally and in crusades with more than 30,000 people.

Steve Thompson, assistant KBC executive director, and I are available to speak during Sunday School, or on other occasions, about missions in Kentucky, Kentucky Baptists Connect and other ministries through the Cooperative Program in Kentucky and beyond. Just call the KBC executive office at (502) 489-3370 or (866) 489-3370, or send an e-mail to pat.beverly@kybaptist.org to extend an invitation.

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention

FAMILY

Creative approach can help reduce fast-food conflict

By Jeremy White

Do your kids ever wear you out at restaurants? One child



always seems to want the most expensive food item on the menu while another is more interested in a big drink. One

loves chicken nuggets while another just wants fries and a prize.

I, Jeremy, being of sound mind and tight wallet, began to realize how I was perceived as a grinch at the restaurants. Our kids would tell me what they wanted. I usually would reply that we weren't going to spend that much, or that choice was too unhealthy.

After tiring of the battles about whether to order the side items or to order water only, I was inspired with this idea:

While on vacation, we had stopped at one of those convenience gas stations with several fast-food chain restaurants located inside. I just said, "We're going to do this differently today. I'm giving you \$4 to buy what you want for lunch." The kids loved the idea. They had the opportunity to engage in a basic economic transaction where they had to digest their own choice.

They made acceptable choices. I was relieved from being the judge and arbiter. I had taken away their potential opportunity to complain about my choice for them. We reduced conflict.

On one occasion, our older daughter noticed the restaurant had given her onions when she specifically requested no onions. Rather than DQed address the restaurant workers, I instructed her about the importance of bringing this feedback politely to the management's attention. She was the customer; she gave a specific order; they should make it right. It was her first opportunity as a consumer to give such feedback. She had a good experience as they gave her a new sandwich and profusely apologized.

If you want to learn more about how your kids respond, give them incentives to come back with change. Say to them, "Here's \$5 for your lunch. If you come back with any change, then we'll split it. You keep half and I'll keep half." There's not necessarily a right or wrong amount to spend. It's simply interesting to learn about your child's financial personality.

Perhaps if we adults set a budget for ourselves at restaurants, we'd control our spending (and calories) much better.

Jeremy White, a certified public accountant, is a partner with Blythe, White & Associates in Paducah

Weekend marriage retreats help enhance relationships

Q: My wife and I always seem to stay extremely busy with our children's schedules—school, sports, church—and our own work schedules. We have been invited to attend a weekend marriage retreat, but we don't see how we could possibly make time in our schedules. What is the value of a weekend marriage retreat? Couldn't a one-day workshop or something at church do the trick?

There is no substitute for a weekend away. Every couple should spend time alone with one another, away from all the distractions you mentioned. It allows you to communicate and to focus on what your marriage is all about.

Additionally, you need time away from your children, and they need time away from you. The goal of parenting is to produce healthy, independent adults. We do our children no favors when we make them the center of our lives.

Adults often are busy building work-focused and child-focused lives that do not model for children marital communication or marital priority. When your children are grown and gone, you have the potential of decades together to build upon a marriage you are creating now. Too often, an empty nest becomes a marital crisis when the focus has been on children and their activities.

What opportunities are available for weekends away? Here are a couple of possibilities:

■ LifeWay Christian Resources is sponsoring a special event this year at the Opryland Hotel in Nashville built around the "Five Love Languages," led by author Gary Chapman.

■ Individual churches often sponsor weekends away retreat leaders skilled at leading couples in fun, communication and spiritual focus. One option is the team of Karen and Mike Gilbert (see *Designediversity.com*). Their retreat, called Couples Communication Camp, is based on how understanding one another's personality types can foster healthy communication.

Information about the Gilberts, along with referrals for other potential retreat leaders, is available from the Kentucky Baptist leadership development team. A church can budget a modest amount of money toward such a weekend and allow the couples to cover the cost of their room and meals. State resort parks are ideal locations for such retreats.

Another advantage of this focused time is that it allows couples to get to know other couples. Every couple needs a support system. Churches are often places of superficiality where people are afraid to open up about challenges faced by every couple. A retreat setting can become a safe place to admit struggles. Permission is granted for the growth that can happen only in such an atmosphere.

In a larger church, the retreat can be built around a particular age group or Sunday school department, allowing members to bond and become a support to one another. The strong fellowship will continue long after the retreat weekend is over.

I strongly encourage couples to take one weekend per year to focus on their marriage. Out of 52 weeks, this is not an unreasonable investment in what is designed to be your most important human relationship. It also is an investment in your children, as they see the priority of your marriage modeled in your life. That will provide them a healthy picture of what marriage is meant to be.—James Stillwell

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Hurricane recovery: Major needs remain

The wrath of Katrina and other hurricanes that battered the Gulf Coast continues to be felt months after the storms subsided.

Hundreds of Kentucky Baptist disaster relief workers responded to the initial needs while thousands of others prayed and provided financial support. As significant as those endeavors have been, the Gulf region has moved from short-term relief to long-term recovery efforts.

One major way the Kentucky Baptist Convention is seeking to respond is through hurricane recovery partnerships with churches in three Baptist associations in Louisiana and Mississippi. For churches and individuals who already have been involved in relief projects, there still is much to do. For those who have not yet taken an active role in addressing the widespread need, it's not too late.

During the KBC annual meeting in November, state convention leaders unveiled plans for long-term recovery partnerships with Adolph Stagg Baptist Association in Houma, La.; Carey Baptist Association in Lake Charles, La.; and Jackson Baptist Association in Pascagoula, Miss.

Leaders of the affected associations identified more than 40 churches with pressing post-hurricane challenges. Among specific needs cited:

■ "Several feet of water in the sanctuary and missionary house. Pastor's home, minister of music home and missionary house were all flooded. Many church families' homes were flooded. Church will experience loss of budget support and high restoration costs."

■ "Church needs new roof. Sheetrock on walls and ceilings need to be replaced. ... Two air conditioning units destroyed by falling trees. No insurance. Community is low income and needs help."

■ "Three of four deacons relocated out of state. Treasurer relocated. This church is in serious trouble. Severe budget shortfall. Total flooding of buildings."

■ "Plant new church to replace three mission churches that were destroyed by the hurricane."

You get the picture. The needs are virtually unlimited and can be matched to any size Kentucky Baptist church or association.

According to KBC Executive Director Bill Mackey, the hurricane recovery partnerships are designed for Kentucky Baptist churches and associations to "rebuild the church building and church family so they can meet needs, answer questions and provide hope." He said other goals are to "support and encourage pastors" as well as "support churches in outreach to seekers and the new growth that will come."

Randy Foster, director of the KBC's Baptist men on mission department, and Larry Baker, new work/associational missions director, are coordinating the KBC's partnership response.

Foster said it is important for Kentucky Baptist congregations to realize the partnership needs go far beyond a one-time construction project. He urged KBC churches to partner with a Gulf Coast church "and ask, 'What are your needs?' including construction, training, ministry outreach and financial commitments."

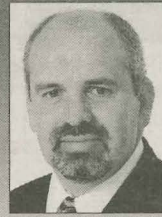
Emphasizing the need for "stabilizing the church in the community and sustaining continued outreach," he called on local congregations to "focus in on one or two churches they could relate to on a long-term basis based on size, needs or location."

According to Baker, "Evangelism is going to have to be a big part of the partnership. ... It's a very responsive area to the gospel right now."

"Get in contact with the associations and find out what the real needs are," he added. "Be there to share the burdens the people are experiencing."

For more information about getting involved in the hurricane recovery partnerships, contact Randy Foster at (502) 489-3398 or Larry Baker at (502) 489-3417.

STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR



Tretnis Henderson

A fuzzy line between the church & the world

By Todd Brady

Jackson, Tenn. (BP)—Distinguishing between the church and the world is getting harder and harder these days. Although the thought has floated in my mind for some time, my 2-year-old recently drove its reality home to me.

As we were driving in our van, Jack, in typical fashion was positioned snugly in his car seat, loudly naming whatever he saw. "Police car!" "Hospital!" "Water tower!" "Dog!" "School!" "Water tower!"

Not being able to go anywhere without his enthusiastic commentary, our usual response during our journeys is always "Yes, Jack. That's right. What else do you see?"

However, we were all thrown for a loop on this particular day when Jack proved himself completely wrong about a particular appraisal. Given the day in which we live, though, I don't blame him.

Passing a beautiful brick medical complex located near our home, Jack immediately exclaimed, "Church!" I hesitated, not knowing how to respond to my backseat tour guide. Church architecture is by no means an indication of a congregation's biblical fidelity, but how do you explain that some churches these days do in fact look like office buildings or warehouses? I've thought it for some time, but I felt it strongly on that day—distinguishing between the church and the world is getting

harder and harder these days.

With that experience resounding in my mind, the next day on the way to work I saw a nearby church sign advertising, "Attend Happy Hour this Sunday Morning!" Was the pang in my stomach! The result of my overly caffeinated morning coffee, or was there really something wrong with this picture?

I started thinking about the leaders of that church. Do they truly believe that their creativity and seeming images will cause people to flock to their morning worship service? Moreover, what do the thousands of pagans who pass that church each day think of such a worldly appeal? Even more importantly, what does God think?

If those experiences were not enough, I did a double, triple and quadruple take when I passed the church with a sign screaming, "Elvis in concert! Sunday, 7:00." The thought came again—distinguishing between the church and the world is getting harder and harder these days.

If Christians like me are troubled by such silly messages coming from churches, how much more do non-Christians find themselves perplexed by the confusing words and actions of the church? We say we are not like the world, and the Bible clearly commands, "Do not love the world or the things in the world. If

anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride in possessions—is not from the Father but is from the world" (1 John 2:15-16).

Are we as the church trying to get the world to like us and to come join us by doing our best and to be like them? Try as we might, it will not work. And even if it might, the world will end up having more influence on the church than the church will on the world.

One of the favorite eateries of our university community is the local Mexican restaurant. Go in at any time during the day and odds are that you will find a handful of students or faculty over in the corner munching on chips and salsa. While the food is quick, good and inexpensive, there is one problem. When you leave, you smell like any number of the various combination plates offered on the menu. To eat there means you carry the restaurant's odor the rest of the day.

I am finding some churches these days smelling strangely like the world. Some look too much like the world. Some act like the world. Distinguishing between the church and the world is getting more difficult.

If the line between the church and the world seems fuzzy to me, imagine how fuzzy it must be to those in the world.

Todd Brady is minister to the university at Union University in Jackson, Tenn.

Survey: 1 in 4 churches ignoring Web ministry opportunities

Continued from page 1

Ron Sellers, president of Ellison Research, said the study confirmed the company's previous research showing a growing technology gap between larger and smaller churches.

"Not only are larger churches far more likely to have a Web site, but they have much more content available for visitors to their sites," Sellers said. "Their sites are also much more interactive, with ways to contact staff, learn about upcoming events, watch streaming audio or video and submit prayer requests."

But Sellers also noted that even large churches often fail to take advantage of the many ways the Internet can impact ministry and communication.

"Even among larger congregations, only a minority have a Web site where visitors can interact with other visitors, get help studying the Bible, get involved in a small group, learn about the pastor's background or submit a prayer request," Sellers said.

"Businesses of all sizes are learning how to incorporate the Internet into a broader communication and marketing strategy, using their Web site to take orders, interact with customers, educate people and promote the brand.

"Many church sites, on the other hand, are limited to static information such as a map to the church and a statement of beliefs," Sellers said.

"Increasingly, churches need to determine whether they want to have an online site or an online ministry. Right now, most only

have the former, if they have anything at all."

Size influences Web presence

Larger churches are not only dramatically more likely to have a church Web site than are smaller churches, but their sites tend to be more sophisticated with far more content, the study said.

For example:

■ 60 percent of large churches with a Web site provide special pages for youth or teens, compared to only 25 percent of small churches.

■ 45 percent of large churches provide information about joining a small group, compared to just 8 percent of small churches.

■ 65 percent of large churches provide staff e-mail addresses, versus only 37 percent of small churches.

About the only common type of content equally likely to appear on church Web sites regardless of the size is denominational information.

The proportion of churches making some use of the Internet is lower in the South, where just 65 percent of churches are connected, than it is in other parts of the country.

The smallest churches, those with fewer than 100 in the congregation, are much less likely to use the Internet (60 percent) than are midsize (100-199 people; 86

percent) or larger churches (200 people or more; 96 percent).

Churches led by older ministers also are much less likely to be connected than are those with a pastor under the age of 60, the study found.

Presbyterian churches, at 92 percent, are the major denominational group most likely to be using the Internet.

In general, mainline and evangelical churches do not differ much in church use of the Web.

More complete data, including denominational detail, is available at www.ellisonresearch.com.

What's on church Web sites?

Map/directions to church	70%
Calendar of events	60%
Statement of belief	60%
Pages for specific ministry areas	56%
Staff e-mail addresses	50%
Denominational information	43%
Staff biographies	42%
Special pages for youth/teens	42%
Church newsletter	38%
Submit a prayer request online	27%
Information about how to join a small group	25%
Bible study materials/helps	19%
Upcoming sermon topics	14%
Sermons in streaming audio	13%
Bulletin board, forum or chat	12%
Sermons in streaming video	4%
Testimonies	4%
Opportunity to donate online	2%
Other	4%



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Missionary seeks best and brightest to finish work in Northern Peru

By Shawn Hendricks
SBC International Mission Board

Canta, Peru—About 50 missions volunteers scatter around a hotel lobby high in the mountains of Canta, Peru.

As they prepare to jump in trucks and ride into villages, missionary Boots Holder is where he likes to be—out of the way, flipping pancakes in the kitchen.

On this day, volunteers from First Baptist Church of Pickens, S.C., and Crow Hill Bible Church in Bailey, Colo., finish breakfast before heading out to distribute Bibles at a local school. A soccer team plans to board a bus later in the morning to compete in games and share their faith.

Meanwhile, Holder scrubs plates and silverware, making sure every one heads out on a full stomach.

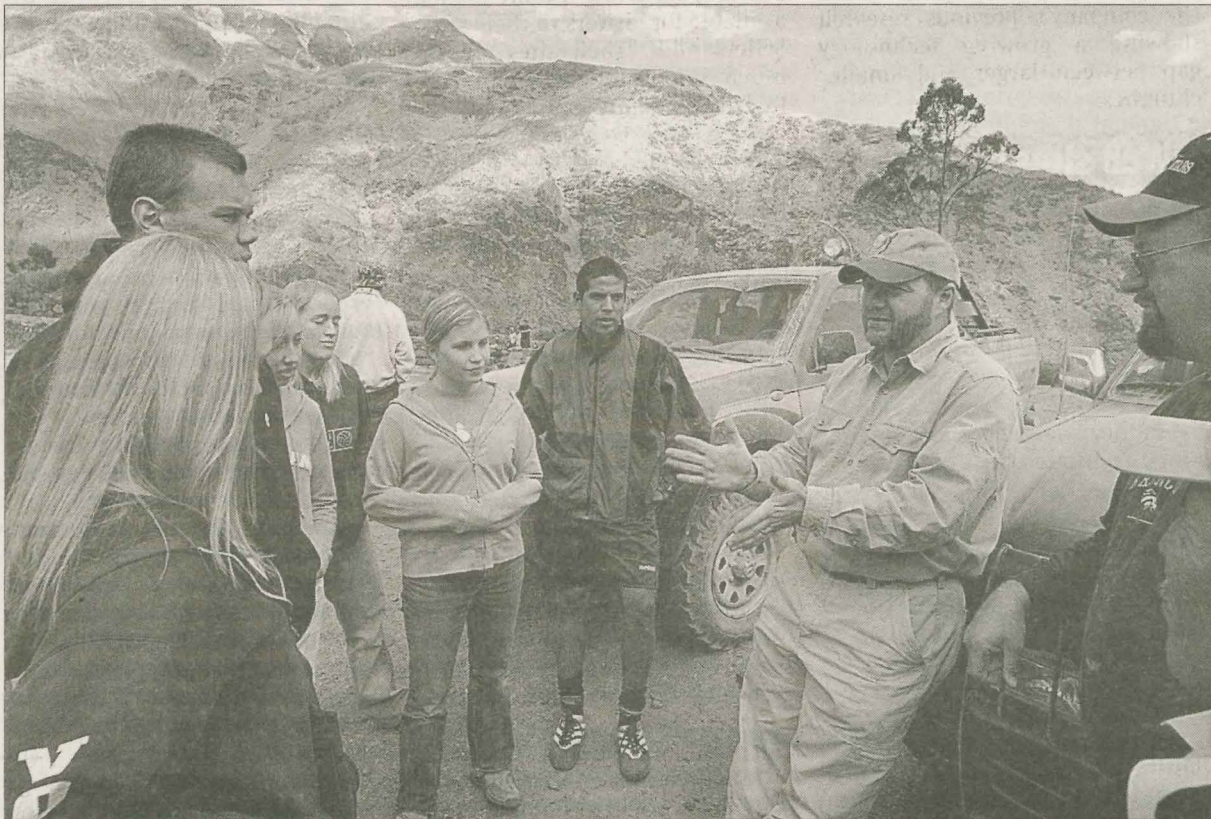
Holder is the strategy coordinator for REAP (Rapid Advance Plan) North Peru. He has lived in Lima for three years with his wife, Katie, and their three children. The rest of his team is comprised of a journeyman and two missionary couples.

They recruit, train and provide resources for volunteers from both Peru and the United States. After that, they let the volunteers go to work in the mountains and jungles of the area.

Working in an area half the size of California, Holder says, he needs all of the help he can get. Whether volunteers work with a medical team or help distribute Bibles, the REAP North Peru team finds a place for volunteers to plug into God's work.

"A lot of people might be afraid to use volunteers," Holder says. "But if someone has a gift, we want to let them use it. We've had people come in here and cut hair."

Holder is among the missionaries whose work recently was highlighted for the Week of Prayer for International Missions. The related



IN THE ACTION Boots Holder (center right), the International Mission Board's strategy coordinator for the REAP North Peru team, gives advice to missions volunteers before a soccer game. (IMB photos)

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions has a national goal of \$150 million.

Holder and his team rent an entire hotel—kitchen and all—to run their operation. His team helps with logistics and transportation, and they buy groceries and prepare meals for volunteers.

Volunteers distribute hundreds of Bibles and school supplies, teach English, perform dramas and share the gospel whenever and wherever possible. Before the week ends, dozens of villagers accept Christ as their Savior, and more than 30 of those make

that decision during one evening service.

Volunteers come in with the gospel, and then rely on the villagers to start their own church, Holder says. This empowers the locals to control their own plans rather than develop a dependency on outsiders to do the work.

"If you're the type of person who has to be in control of everything, then this probably isn't for you," he says.

More churches needed

First Baptist Church of Pickens heads up the work in the Canta region, a mountainous area that spans about 100 miles. As a strategy coordinator church, First Baptist sends three or four volunteer teams to Peru each year. It is one of about a dozen churches in the United States that works with Holder's team throughout northern Peru.

"(The Pickens team) is at the point where they don't need me anymore," Holder says. "They are flying solo with me in the co-pilot seat. We just make sure everything goes smoothly and give advice."

With the goal of starting a church in every village in northern Peru, Holder says more Southern Baptist churches are needed to join

the effort. In the past two years, it has attracted more than 500 volunteers from the United States and has allowed thousands of Peruvians to hear the gospel. But thousands more still need Christ in their lives.

After most of the Pickens team heads home, Jim Gilstrap is the sole volunteer who remains. Since May, Gilstrap, a retired schoolteacher, has been Holder's "point man" on the work in the Canta region. Without him, Holder says, he'd be in trouble.

With some churches sending volunteers for months at a time, the work requires an ongoing dedication.

"This has to be their thing," he says. "You have to have a deep commitment. We have way more work than we can keep up with."

God & altitude sickness

Members of Crow Hill Bible Church have worked alongside the Pickens volunteers for two years. In the mountains of Peru, where vomiting, headaches and nausea have sent several volunteers from the mountain hooked to oxygen, the Colorado group—familiar with high altitudes—has found their niche.

But flexibility is the key, Gilstrap says.

"Nothing happens fast," Gilstrap says one evening, while waiting for a group of summer missionaries to wrap up their work and head to another part of the mountain. "As long as you can accept that nothing is on time, and it is constant chaos, then it is OK."

Lisa Hiott, another member of the Pickens team, traveled to Peru with her 11-year-old daughter, Sally. They took suitcase full of Bibles and a full itinerary. She admits few things on the itinerary went as planned. But by the end of the week, all of the Bibles were gone and old friendships with the locals were rekindled.

"You prepare," she says. "But you

"A lot of people might be afraid to use volunteers. But if someone has a gift, we want to let them use it."

Missionary Boots Holder



That all peoples may know Him

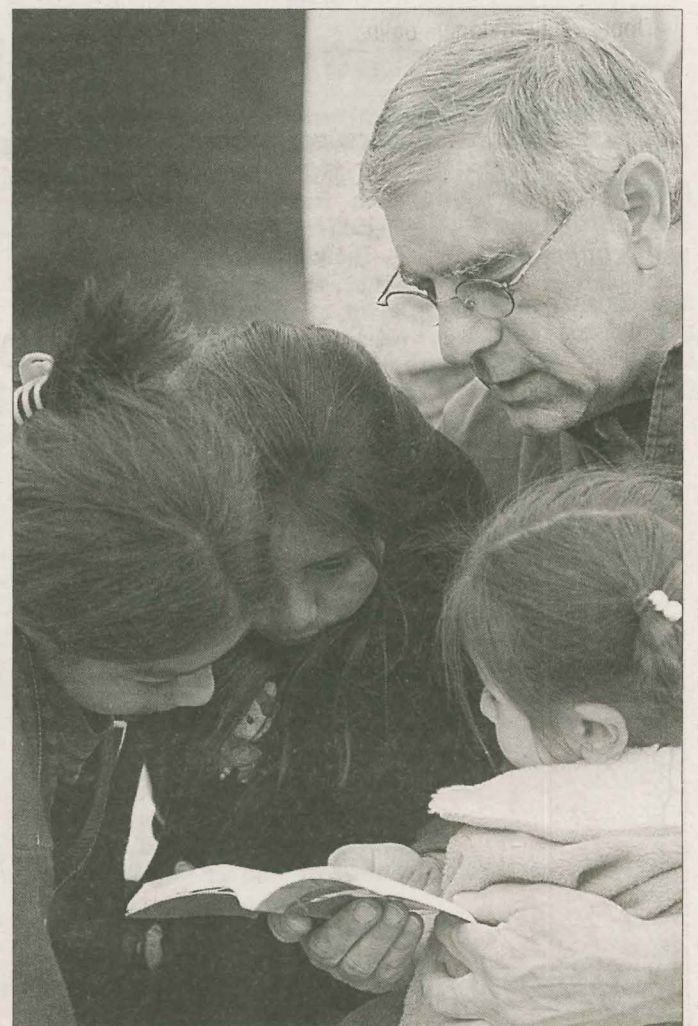
Prayer requests

■ Pray more Southern Baptist churches in the United States will partner with the REAP North Peru team.

■ Pray volunteer teams continue to have access to communities where Catholicism often is the only accepted religion.

■ Pray as they live out their faith in the villages.

■ Pray for missionaries and their families, and for Southern Baptist churches in the United States that commit to send teams to North Peru to help start churches.



never do exactly what you think you are going to do."

The salvation of many souls is well worth the effort to drag in piles of luggage and flip dozens of pancakes, Holder says. He's seen too many lives transformed by the gospel to switch the outreach plan at this point.

"(Peruvian) people would have tears in their eyes," he says. "They couldn't believe someone would walk in here to bring them a Bible."

For more information on REAP, visit reapwsar.org. To learn more about the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, visit imb.org.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
Jim Gilstrap points out verses from Scripture to children in Obrajillo, a village in the mountains of Peru. Gilstrap, a volunteer from Pickens, S.C., is the point man for the church's missions work in the area.

Post-flood retreat helped keep pastors, spouses sane

By Ken Walker
State Correspondent

Hardinsburg—When Steve and Brenda Boyd attended a retreat for pastors and spouses of churches damaged in the spring 1997 floods, he thought it would be a waste of time.

"I thought it was something the (Kentucky Baptist) Convention was doing because they had to," said Boyd, pastor of Dawson Memorial Baptist Church in Maceo. "I soon found out there were others who felt like I did. It kept me from feeling alone."

The Southern Baptist Home Mission Board also sent a chaplain to help facilitate the session in Erlanger in the fall of 1997.

For four days a dozen pastors and spouses relaxed, sang, ate, fellowshiped and expressed feelings that many had bottled up since the devastation.

When the Boyds, who both teach school in Hardinsburg, arrived at the retreat they had given up hope that Dawson Memorial could be rebuilt.

Sitting in a flood plain, more than 50 percent of the building had sustained flood damage and building codes prevented them from renovating it.

"We didn't have any money and we didn't think there was anything we could do," Boyd said. "Both of us loved the church and didn't want to leave. Brenda broke down and cried and told them about it."

At that point former missions director Larry Martin told the couple about Campers on Mission, a group of Kentucky Baptists who help churches with renovations and rebuilding.

Not only did these volunteers help Dawson Memorial construct a new building, last year they completed an addition.

The long-term impact of this help can be measured in spiritual terms. In the fall of 1996, Boyd had baptized a 68-year-old woman, the first convert in 25 years.

Since rebuilding, the church has conducted 8-12 baptisms annually. When the Boyds came to the church in 1993, its annual receipts totaled \$8,500. This year they will surpass \$50,000.

Improving KBC's reputation

The project also strengthened connections between the rural church and the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Boyd said.

"This was the first time they could remember somebody from

the KBC coming there," he said. "They had given 10 percent to the Cooperative Program for years, but they weren't aware there was any help for them."

Martin got the idea for the retreat from a similar session he oversaw in 1992 as vice president of the Home Mission Board.

Co-sponsored by the Florida Baptist Convention, the retreat in central Florida attracted about two dozen pastoral couples who had gone through Hurricane Andrew.

Huey Perry, retired director of chaplaincy services for the national mission board, said the session was instrumental in helping pastors move on, even if they decided not to remain at the same church.

"You know that old story about the beach and the starfish?" asked Perry, referring to a well-known story about a boy who rescues starfish by throwing them back into the ocean one at a time. "It certainly made a difference to those who attended, their families and their congregations."

Ray Hayes, pastor of Maple Grove Baptist Church in Louisville, said the 1997 retreat gave him a chance to unburden himself about the drop in attendance, morale and finances after eight feet of water

covered Bardstown Junction Baptist Church.

Hayes said he knew how to help others, but he had no opportunities to share his feelings with other pastors.

"They were trying to cheer me up when I wanted somebody to say, 'Man, I'm just praying for you,'" said Hayes, who left his former church two years after the flood. "Sometimes the ministry of prayer and presence is all you can provide."

Pastors scapegoats

Even though he left Bardstown Junction two years later, Hayes said the KBC retreat helped him prepare for moving by reflecting on many things, including his father's experience in recovering from a tornado at his church.

Leaders told them not to be surprised if people said "thank you and good-bye" after they poured out their lives helping their congregations recover from disaster, Hayes said.

"People scapegoat you even though they don't mean to," Hayes said. "But it helps you. You're a little more empathetic. Some crises you just have to go through. If you're in a leadership role, it comes with the territory."

"Sometimes the ministry of prayer and presence is all you can provide."

Ray Hayes, pastor of Maple Grove Baptist Church in Louisville

"The emotional trauma is for people to decide whether it's even worth going back."

Mike Canaday, missions and ministries director for the Louisiana Baptist Convention

Groups working to keep Gulf Coast-area pastors from burning out

Continued from page 1
tion missions director Larry Martin, who spearheaded a similar session after Hurricane Andrew struck Florida in 1992.

Then a vice president with the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, Martin became aware of the need for such help from officials with the South Carolina Baptist Convention.

After Hurricane Hugo struck that state in 1989, more than half of the pastors in affected areas resigned; some also divorced, Martin said.

"Pastors and spouses and staff members were so involved in ministry to people after disasters that nobody was ministering to them," said Martin, who now is a consultant with the state convention's missions growth team. "They were exhausted."

The legacy of that effort continues. The Southern Baptist North American Mission Board has sent counselors and chaplains to the area to minister to pastors. (See story, page 9.)

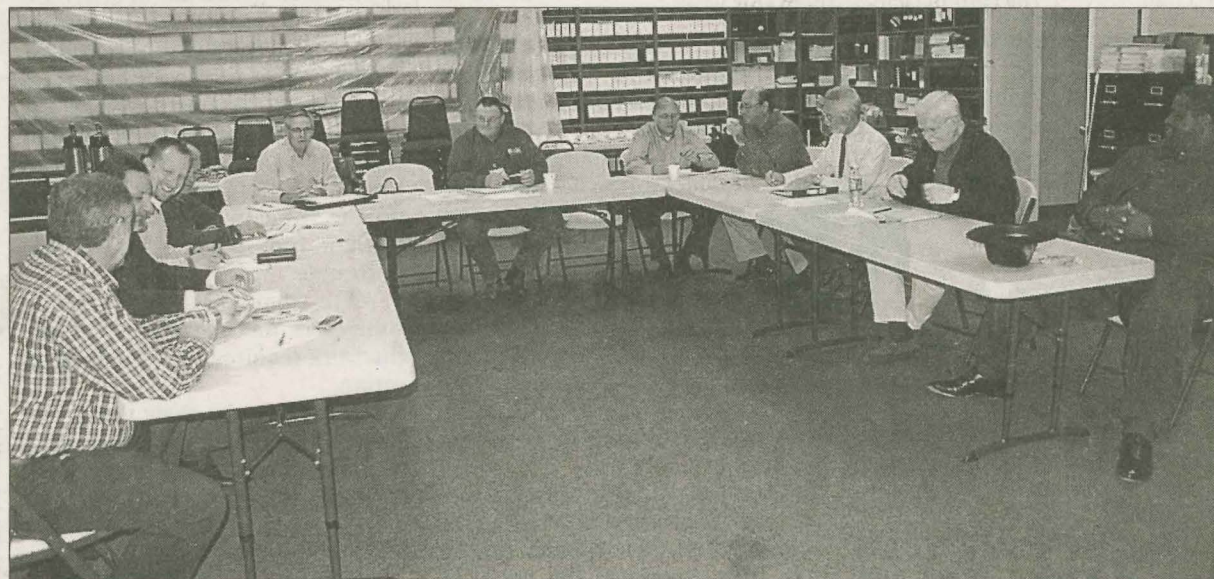
State conventions in Mississippi and Louisiana also are reaching out to their pastors.

Counseling in Louisiana

The Louisiana Baptist Convention is trying to help pastors and spouses deal with their emotions. The state convention sponsored a women's retreat in November that attracted 250 women, about 40 percent from storm-ravaged areas.

Three counselors stayed busy throughout the event, according to John Yeats, director of communications for the Louisiana Baptist Convention.

The state convention also is scheduling several pastors' retreats during the next several months.



PASTORS REGROUP Several pastors from churches in St. Bernard Parish, along with representatives of several Baptist entities, met to weigh the future of ministry in the area that, like neighboring New Orleans, sustained catastrophic damage in Hurricane Katrina. (BP photo)

It already offers free counseling to pastors and their families through centers associated with Louisiana's Baptist Children's Home.

"We don't want any pastor or family who needs counseling to go without counseling," said Mike Canaday, the LBC's missions and ministries director.

Canaday's office has identified 259 hurricane-damaged churches in the state. Of those, 155 are matched with 700 congregations through NAMB's "Adopt a Church" effort.

While other areas have suffered hurricane destruction in the past, Canaday said the difference is that customarily an infrastructure still exists. That means after the storm passes, people can rebuild, Canaday said.

"Yeah, they got tired emotionally and spiritually but they had a

goal," Canaday said. "With these two hurricanes, you had one million people evacuated and they can't go back. Some areas aren't going to get electricity and water for six to eight months."

"This is long-term emotional displacement," Canaday added. "The emotional trauma is for people to decide whether it's even worth going back."

Asking Mississippi pastors to pause

The Mississippi Baptist Convention has identified 224 churches that suffered damage, with 187 involved in "Adopt a Church," according to Steve Stone, associate executive director.

To help pastors cope with devastation, Stone said it offered a weekend getaway in mid-November at a retreat center in Macon, Miss., or a \$300 voucher to choose their own site.

"We were going to try to provide a weekend getaway but it's impossible to find a time when everyone can come," said Stone, noting that only six families attended the recent retreat.

"They've got so many people down there partnering it's hard for them to get away."

Acknowledging that many are too busy to take time off immediately, Stone said those who don't respond by next spring will be encouraged to take a break.

In addition, First Baptist Church of Jackson, Miss., has offered help to other pastors through its major counseling ministry, Stone said.

"We've not had a great deal of response right now, mainly because they're still in the throes of it," Stone said. "They haven't had time to stop. I think it's going to come back later when they have a chance to step back."

Chaplains help Gulf Coast pastors face future

By Ken Walker
State Correspondent

New Orleans—Joe Williams has encountered plenty of discouragement lately while counseling pastors around the Gulf Coast region, but he also has seen rays of hope.

One that shone recently involved a young pastor who talked of working 10-12 hours a day with area residents, displaced church members and visitors to his church's feeding site.

After this grueling regimen, the pastor noted, he didn't feeling like much of a husband or father when he got home. He then broke into tears.

"Then I asked, 'What was your best experience?'" said Williams, an FBI chaplain temporarily stationed in New Orleans with the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board.

"He said, '(NAMB President) Bob Reccord called me and asked, 'How can I pray for you?' That helps me.'"

Known among Southern Baptists for his efforts after the 1995 bombing in Oklahoma City and the 2001 terrorist attacks in New York, Williams hopes to have other, similar encounters in the near future in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

The North American Mission Board sent Williams and SBC chaplain Naomi Paget to the Gulf in October to help comfort pastors, church

staff members and SBC-endorsed chaplains.

Paget, who has completed her assignment in the Gulf, agrees that pastors and chaplains have been taxed by the demands of daily survival.

"Some of the pastors I talked to have said, 'I'm so busy taking care of everyone else I don't have time to take care of my own family,'" Paget said.

"That speaks volumes," added Paget, who said pastors in the region are under stress as they constantly deal with urgent demands.

Many of the pastors, Paget said, have lost material goods.

"We know we can't do anything to relieve the pain of the loss or replace the loss," she added.

Williams said pastors often are the hardest people to console.

"The mentality of pastors is, 'I'm strong. I have to be strong for everyone else; I don't need help,'" Williams said. "Pastors are hard to help because we think if we express weakness it's a sign of a lack of faith. I've been there.

"But I remember a book that said, 'Every pastor needs a pastor.' We will encourage pastors to make sure they're connecting with other pastors to discuss their worst and best experiences and what happened to them this week."

Many of the pastors, Williams

said, may still be in shock, although he says he has "not seen a lot of people who have seemed to be completely overwhelmed."

"One staff person told the pastor, 'I can't take it any more. I'm leaving.' I think we'll see some more of that."

Baptists can help the effort even if they can't travel to the Gulf, Williams said, by praying.

"Pray that we will be able to frame this in a way pastors will relate to it," Williams said. "Pray for me, that I have the wisdom and insight to take the experience God has given me and get enough value out of that."

Paget suggested that churches identify a specific congregation and intercede for its needs, and then let the church's pastor know that they're praying.

"I think it's important that pastors in those associations know that people are praying for them and what they're praying for," Paget said. "Being specific is so encouraging for local pastors."

Pastors' families, Paget said, have many unmet needs because pastors have been so overwhelmed in caring for their church members and other storm victims.

Baptists outside the Gulf can offer to send personal items and form relationships, Paget said.

"Relationship building is so important to spouses, wives particularly, because women are relational people," Paget said.



Joe Williams

NAMB launches long-term relief initiative, extends church loans

Alpharetta, Ga. (BP)—The Southern Baptist Convention's North American Mission Board has launched a pair of initiatives to stimulate emotional and physical recovery for hurting ministers and damaged SBC churches along the Gulf Coast.

"Recovering Hope" is designed to go beyond Southern Baptists' traditional post-disaster response of feeding and cleanup.

It focuses on a long-term approach to help pastors and their congregations snap back emotionally and spiritually from "compassion fatigue."

"While we celebrate what God has done in the physical area of disaster relief, Recovering Hope will move Southern Baptists into a new realm of long-term recovery," said Jim Burton, director of volunteer mobilization at NAMB's headquarters in Alpharetta, Ga.

On another hurricane-related front, NAMB has announced it is extending a \$10 million program to provide low-interest loans—up to \$100,000—to Southern Baptist churches in the five Gulf states damaged by hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma. The extended deadline for loan applications is March 31.

"We want to help churches get back on their feet as quickly as possible," NAMB President Bob Reccord said. "The loans—which will require a minimum of paperwork—are just one way we can help them do that."

Disaster relief loans are available to affected SBC churches in Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas for repair of church facilities, replacement of equipment or materials, or to cover the expenses while a church is displaced, said Karl Dietz, director of NAMB's church finance ministry team.

No fees will be assessed by NAMB and churches will be responsible for minimal closing costs.

No interest will be charged during the first year of the loan. In years two through five, the interest rate will be NAMB's preferred rate minus 1 percent fixed.

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NATIONAL NOTES

Indiana House speaker obeys prayer ruling. Indiana Speaker of the House Brian Bosma rejected requests to defy a judge's order banning the use of Christ's name in legislative prayers. Instead of opening the session with a "government-approved" prayer, Bosma invited legislators to pray "uncensored" prayers on the floor of the House before each legislative day begins and decided not to have formal prayers from the podium. State officials are appealing the November decision of U.S. District Judge David Hamilton that legislative prayers could not invoke "Christ's name or title."

President signs bill targeting sex trafficking in U.S. President Bush signed into law Jan. 10 a bill strengthening the campaign against worldwide trafficking in people, especially the effort to combat the sex trade in America. The Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act reauthorizes and expands the original 2000 law, but it includes a measure targeting purchasers of illegal sex acts and traffickers who exploit victims domestically. An estimated 20,000 people are trafficked into the States each year. Religious groups had urged legislation targeting sex trafficking.

"Ten Commandments" judge collected more than \$250,000. Fees from speaking engagements and sales of his book, "So Help Me God," generated more than \$250,000 in 2004 revenues for "the Ten Commandments judge," former Alabama Supreme Court Chief Justice Roy Moore. Moore reported the income to the Alabama Ethics Commission, soon after announcing that he would run for governor this year. Moore was removed from office in 2003 for refusing to abide by a federal court order demanding that he move the massive granite Ten Commandments monument out of the state's judicial building.

Poll: Most support letting terminally ill make decisions. An overwhelming majority of Protestants support laws endorsing the right of terminally ill patients to decide whether medical care should keep them alive, a survey by the Pew Research Center has found. Eighty-four percent of white Protestants support legislation that would allow a patient or his or her closest family member to decide if medical action should be taken to prolong the patient's life, the survey found. The poll results come less than a year after the Terri Schiavo case sparked end-of-life debates.

Intelligent design gains steam on campuses

By Sarah Price Brown
Religion News Service

Ithaca, N.Y. (RNS)—When Hannah Maxson started an intelligent design club at Cornell University last fall, a handful of science majors showed up for the first meeting. Today, the high-profile club boasts more than 80 members.

Until recently, the nationwide debate over whether intelligent design should be taught alongside evolution was centered primarily in public elementary and high-school science classes. In Dover, Pa., for example, parents won a legal fight against a school board decision to teach intelligent design in biology classes.

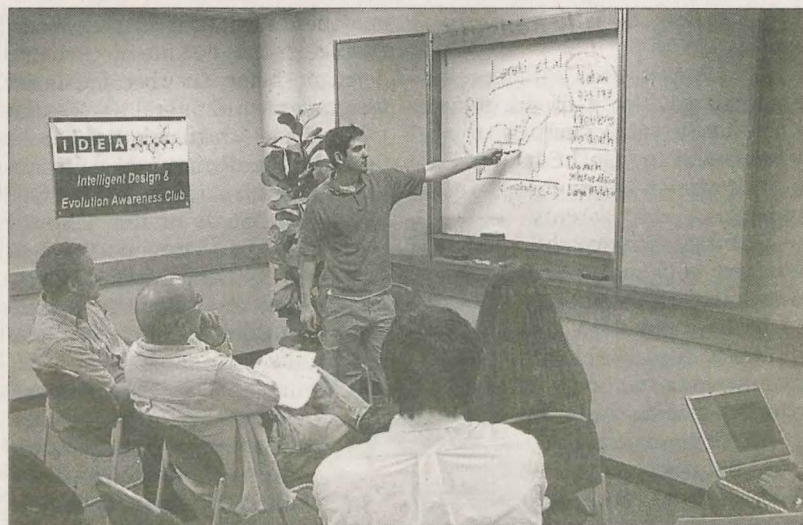
Now the discussion is spilling over onto university campuses. At nearly 30 public and private universities across the country, students have started clubs aimed at promoting intelligent design.

The clubs, sponsored by the Intelligent Design and Evolution Awareness Center (IDEA), a small, nonprofit organization based in San Diego, have been gaining members and visibility.

Proponents of intelligent design say the theory, which says the universe is so complex that it must have been created by a higher being, is a scientific one.

Opponents—including most of the nation's scientific establishment—put their weight behind Charles Darwin's theory of evolution, and dismiss intelligent design as a religious idea based on the biblical creation story in Genesis.

When Cornell's interim president, Hunter R. Rawlings III, de-



COLLEGE CLUBS Casey Luskin, founder of the Intelligent Design and Evolution Awareness Center (IDEA), a small, nonprofit organization based in San Diego, speaks at an intelligent design club meeting at the University of California at San Diego. (RNS photo by Brit Colanter)

nounced intelligent design as "a religious belief masquerading as a secular idea" in a speech in October, Maxson, a 21-year-old junior and president of the Ithaca, N.Y., school's IDEA club, responded with a press release. Rawlings' comments were a "gross misstatement," she said, and "an insult to people of faith throughout America."

Suddenly, Maxson found herself and her club in the spotlight. "Before, we were just basically a science club," she said. "Now, we have to defend our ideas everywhere."

Intelligent design clubs at other universities also have been gaining momentum and attention.

Casey Luskin, 27, founded the first IDEA club in 1999, at the University of California at San Diego.

Luskin, then a college junior, had become interested in intelligent design after taking a biology seminar that taught about the theory.

If a high school or university student contacts the IDEA Center about starting an intelligent design club, the center will provide a curriculum with suggested discussion topics, books and videos.

The group's advisory board includes Michael Behe and William Dembski, fellows at the Discovery Institute in Seattle, a think tank that is the driving force behind the intelligent design movement.

The IDEA Center also requires club presidents to be Christian. As a Christian group, Luskin explained, "we wanted to be totally open about who we thought the Designer was."

Israeli government won't do business with Robertson for Sharon remark

Jerusalem (RNS)—Religious broadcaster Pat Robertson apologized Jan. 12 to the family of Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon for suggesting on television that Sharon's recent stroke could be God's judgment for ceding the Gaza Strip and Northern West Bank to the Palestinians.

"I ask your forgiveness and the forgiveness of the people of Israel for remarks I made at the time concerning the writing of the holy prophet Joel and his view of the inviolate nature of the land of Israel," Robertson wrote in a letter to Omri Sharon, the prime minister's son.

Robertson and some other "Christian Zionists" contend that the Bible warns God will punish those who oppose Israel or seek its ancient borders to be changed. That view and Robertson's recent remarks have been roundly criticized by Christian leaders, including evangelicals.

"My zeal, my love of Israel, and my concern for the future safety of your nation led me to make remarks which I can now view in retrospect as inappropriate and insensitive in light of a national grief experienced because of your father's illness," the letter said.

Robertson's apology came after the Israeli government decided to exclude Robertson from the team of evangelical Christian leaders working with the government to build a \$50 million Christian Heritage Center in the Galilee.

Rami Levi, senior deputy director general of Israel's Tourism Ministry, said in an interview that his government will not work with Robertson due to his Jan. 5 asser-

tion on his television show, "The 700 Club."

"Tourism Minister Avraham Hirschson thought the remarks were outrageous," Levi said.

Sharon, whose government withdrew from these territories in August, remains in critical condition following a Jan. 4 stroke.

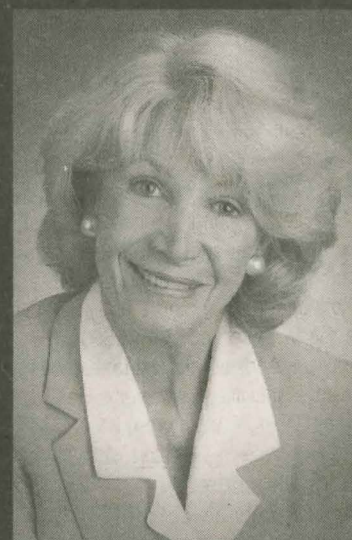
Robertson, whom Israeli officials had long considered a staunch supporter of Israel, suggested to

viewers of his show "The 700 Club" that Sharon might have received divine retribution for "dividing God's land."

"I would say, 'Woe unto any prime minister of Israel who takes a similar course to appease the (European Union), the United Nations or the United States of America,'" Robertson told viewers. "God says, 'This land belongs to Me, and you'd better leave it alone.'"

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A couple's lasting legacy

Faithful generosity benefits various ministries

In June 1998, a friend of the foundation connected us to a couple with whom he had had a long personal relationship. They were his and his parents' neighbors during his growing-up years, and fellow church members. Over time, he became not only a trusted friend but also a trusted advisor.

This couple had come to the stage in their lives, age-wise and health-wise, when they needed to update their estate plans to reflect what they understood to be God's purposes for the things of this world with which He had blessed and entrusted to them for continued use in His mission after they died.

What an inspiration it was to Laurie Valentine, our trust counsel, and me to meet and to assist them in putting in place what became their final plans. Working with them, their advisor and their attorney, the necessary documents were executed by them in August 1998.

The latter of the two of them died in 2005, two years after the first one died; both were in their 90s. How fortunate it was for them

and their beneficiaries they had completed and documented their plans long before they became incapacitated prior to their deaths.

What a legacy they left! What a difference for the cause of Christ they will continue to make beyond their lifetimes! After distributions to family, friends and various charities, the remainder came to the foundation to fund the perpetual endowment, which bears their names, for the benefit of the ministries of their local church, a KBC-related institution and an SBC-related institution. This represented the largest single bequest the foundation had ever received.

Throughout their lives, they lived well below their means, and they believed financial independence and helping others were more important than displaying high social status. They discovered the truth of Jesus' teaching about being "rich toward God" and that one's life does not consist in the abundance of one's possessions (Luke 12:13-21).

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

KENTUCKY BAPTIST FOUNDATION



Barry Allen

Kudzu

Doug Marlette



For Heaven's Sake

Mike Morgan



Bible Crosswords

Evelyn Boyington

Across

- 1 Cleo's killer
- 4 Asa or Ahab
- 8 Perfect
- 12 "They cast _____, that is, the lot, before Haman" (Esther 3:7)
- 13 One who sold his birthright
- 14 "As he saith also in _____, I will call them my people" (Romans 9:25)
- 15 Where one uses a wood
- 16 "Six _____ shalt thou labour and do all thy work" (Exodus 20:9)
- 17 Reporter's question
- 18 "There shall come a _____ out of Jacob and a Sceptre shall rise" (Numbers 24:17)
- 20 Word's partner
- 21 "Stretch out the _____ that is in thy hand toward Ai" (Joshua 8:18)
- 23 Greek letter
- 25 To exhibit exhaustion
- 26 Burdened one
- 27 Golden State (abbr.)
- 29 Godfrey, to friends
- 30 "The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy _____" (Romans 10:8)
- 31 "For the Father ... hath committed all judgment unto the _____" (John 5:22)
- 32 Bible div.
- 33 "Ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days _____" (Acts 1:5)
- 34 KJV verb
- 35 Out of (arch.)
- 36 Says "whoa"
- 37 "I am the _____ vine" (John 15:1)
- 38 "Nadab and Abihu ... offered strange _____ before the Lord" (Leviticus 10:1)

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	37							38				
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45						46					47	
48						49					50	

- 39 Hurries
- 40 Speed
- 42 Compass dir.
- 45 Opposed to aweather
- 46 "In _____ there was a voice heard, lamentation" (Matthew 2:18)
- 47 Iowa college
- 48 Kind of hall
- 49 Memo part
- 50 Before

- 19 Make lace
- 20 KJV verb
- 21 Measure of length
- 22 Say adieu
- 23 "_____ hither thy finger, and behold my hands" (John 20:27)
- 24 Tortoise's opponent
- 26 "My people are _____ to back sliding from me" (Hosea 11:7)
- 27 Pasture youngster
- 28 They head for the hills
- 30 Now's partner
- 31 "Let the lying lips be put to _____" (Psalm 31:18)
- 33 Provides shelter
- 34 "We do not _____ after the flesh" (2 Corinthians 10:3)
- 35 Loosens
- 36 "So _____ gave Solomon cedar trees and fir trees" (1 Kings 5:10)
- 37 Game piece
- 38 "His _____ went throughout all Syria" (Matthew 4:24)
- 39 Son of Noah
- 40 Every third (comb. form)
- 41 "_____ thou not the bread of him that hath an evil eye" (Proverbs 23:6)
- 43 Conjunction
- 44 Shoe width

Last week's solution

E	W	E	S		I	L	L		C	H	E	W
H	I	N	T		N	O	A		O	A	T	H
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52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64
W	I	S	H		A	S		S	D	I	V	E
56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68
A	L	E	E		L	I	E		O	V	E	N
59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71
N	E	A	R		M	R	S		W	E	N	T

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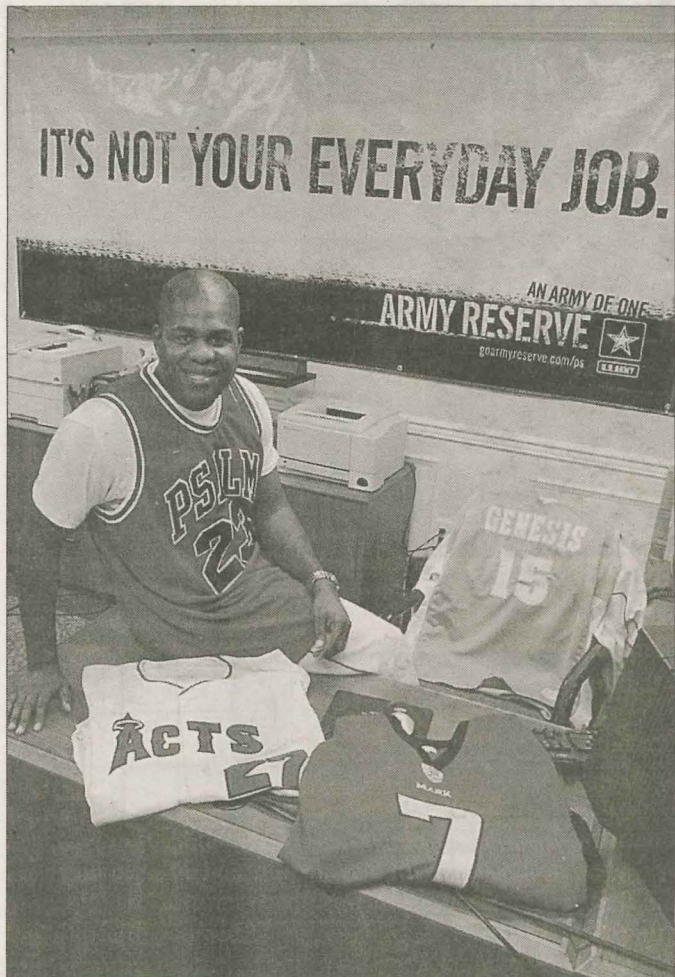
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Christian 'throwback jerseys' promote Bible verses

By Greg Garrison
Religion News Service

Birmingham, Ala. (RNS)—Army Reserve Sgt. 1st Class Cornell Jackson switches out of his military



THROWBACK JERSEYS Army Reserve Sgt. 1st Class Cornell Jackson has started a company called Christian Throwback Jerseys. The sports-style jerseys refer to Bible verses. (The Birmingham News photo by Beverly Taylor)

uniform and pulls on what looks like a Michael Jordan Chicago Bulls basketball jersey bearing the number 23.

But where the word "Bulls" would be, it reads "Psalm." So the sports jersey becomes a biblical reference to Psalm 23.

Another version looks like Kobe Bryant's Los Angeles Lakers basketball jersey, except it says "Luke 8." And Acts 27 adorns what looks like the uniform of Angels outfielder Vladimir Guerrero.

Jackson calls them Christian Throwback Jerseys. But instead of hearkening back to classic NBA or NFL uniforms, they're invoking books of the Bible.

He started the business in July and has sold several hundred jerseys, mostly in New York, California and Washington, D.C.

"People really jumped on it," said Ronea Rouse, owner of Ristic Riginals Christian Bookstore in Los Angeles, who has sold more than 100 of them. "We do a lot of street evangelism. It's really a good tool."

Some popular Christian rappers have made public appearances wearing the shirts, Jackson said. "The artists are loving my jersey."

Jackson was hired by a friend, Paul Fleming, to manage a Birmingham, Ala., Christian gift store in 2004. Fleming closed the store in 2005. But while helping out there, Jackson began thinking about Christian products for young people.

"I was trying to come up with something different for youth, offering the kids a message in a product they can wear and be cool,"

he said.

Jackson studied popular sports jerseys and noticed that the kind he wanted to emulate, with thick, hand-stitched letters, were all made in Korea. So he flew to Korea last February and spent three weeks searching for a manufacturer who could produce what he wanted.

He visited companies and met the owners, who typically spoke some English. He showed them his designs.

"I got a company to agree to it," he said. "We came up with a great product."

He also showed the jerseys to the NBA Properties office. The jerseys clear any copyright or trademark infringements, he said, because they imitate only colors and type fonts. By not using team names or logos, he stays out of trouble with the NBA.

Youth-friendly witnessing tool

Nonetheless, they look enough like authentic jerseys to create a buzz.

"A lot of youth pastors have been looking for something to use to get in touch with youth," he said. "Adults are loving it just as much as kids."

Jackson, 35, hopes the jerseys prompt people to think about the Bible, maybe even look up, read and

study the biblical references.

"It's a conversation piece," he said. "It's a way we can witness."

Jackson has been in the Army for more than 16 years, and for the past nine years has been a recruiter and retention officer, in charge of keeping soldiers enlisted.

His sideline of selling jerseys has gotten a lot of notice and appears ready to take off.

In its pre-Christmas issue, Gospel Today Magazine included the jerseys in its Christmas gift recommendations. Sports Illustrated columnist Pete McEntegart mentioned the jerseys in his Dec. 20 online column at SI.com.

"It is indeed strange to see a No. 8 jersey in Lakers colors but with 'Luke' written across the front; it's like some bizarre, mismatched trinity of Kobe Bryant, Luke Walton and Jesus Christ," McEntegart wrote. "Yet who wouldn't love to be the first kid on the block with a fly Deuteronomy jersey?"

Jackson mainly sells them through his Web site. Kids' jerseys cost \$59, youth jerseys cost \$69 adult jerseys cost \$75.

Jackson sees them as a blend of sport, style and evangelism.

"The response has been excellent," he said. "I came up with something people have been wanting and just never had."



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'Do you teach?'

Dean of students knows not all lessons at Oneida happen inside the classroom

By Judy Lawson
Oneida Baptist Institute Dean of Students

Some time back I was talking with a prospective teacher. "Do you teach?" she asked.

"Yes," I replied. "I teach manners and kindness. I teach boys to keep their pants from falling off and to open doors for ladies. I teach girls to act like ladies. I teach students to brush their teeth and hair, and a myriad of other things young people need to know to be successful."

My daughter came to Oneida Baptist Institute as a sixth grade student. I was a single mother, working hard to make ends meet and active in my church. In the fall of her sophomore year, she announced that she thought God wanted me to work at Oneida. I never could have imagined that the Lord could use me in a place of educators. I had a nice job at a local bank, but no particular skills I could see as useful in a school setting. And I had no college education. It is amazing what the Lord can do when one has a willing heart.

I began feeling called to OBI, and the next summer I came as a houseparent in the girls' and the younger boys' dorms. I remember at family reunions always playing with and supervising my younger cousins. My sister and I babysat regularly. All the while, God was honing parenting skills that would be useful for what He was preparing me to do as an adult. I never aspired to go to college. My ambition was to be a housewife and mother to a large family. That family now consists of a daughter, a stepson and hundreds of girls and boys the Lord has sent to Oneida during

the past 19 years.

Oneida is "Education for Time and Eternity" and we, the houseparents, are a vital part of that education. It is important that we display and teach fairness, honesty, integrity, dependability, truthfulness, respect for others and self-respect. It is important that young people know they are held accountable for their actions and that we do not live in a "no-fault" society.

Many other teaching opportunities exist, as our students are from inner cities, rural areas, Africa, Asia, South America, Spain and Russia. Some are poor, some are wealthy, yet they all live in our dormitories and learn to get along. Some students come with prejudices that are dispelled after living with and getting to know one another as roommates. There are many teaching situations presented to houseparents every day, so, yes, we can say we are teachers—teachers of morality and character.

Most importantly, we are witnesses of a God Who loves us all and gave Himself for us, a God Who leads, guides, empowers, encourages, uplifts, sustains, nourishes and enables. One of my favorite things to ask when talking with a student is, "Where does God fit into your life?" or "What is God doing in your life?" We somehow should impart to them that the Lord cares about every facet of our lives. He is the answer to every question and the solution to every problem.

"Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Thy sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer" (Psalm 19:14).

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

A place of memories

Frankfort visitor was a boy when Clear Creek started

This year is Clear Creek's 80th anniversary. Frankfort resident Jay Barlow was here when it all began with Pineville Pastor J.C. Kelly.

"Dr. Kelly baptized me, about age 7. Kelly was not a big man, but he was tough; he told it like it was," Barlow said. "He loved to fish in the creek, and I fished with him some; got me a cane pole and used crawdads. This place is full of memories."

In 1923 Dr. Kelly and a group of Bell County businessmen bought the 400-acre Davis farm. The Barlow home was located near the creek in the area where Kelly Hall now stands.

"It wasn't nothing but a corn field back then. We made our own soap and washed clothes in the creek," Barlow remembered. The train ran through the property, bringing out timber from the surrounding hills. Barlow would hitch a ride on the slow-moving train and jump off up the creek to fish.

Jay became "an expert with the slingshot." One day he sat on the bridge watching a group of Royal Ambassador boys. "One of them

turned over a rock and out came a snake. I shot the snake's head off."

It was open range then, and Jay recalled a big white bull. "He was really mean, and chased us boys. One day I shot him in a very vulnerable spot; he never bothered us again!"

Jay's mother, Dora Barlow, taught school for 70 years in Knox, Bell and Harlan counties. She also taught Sunday school for 60 years.

"I have two claims to fame," Barlow stated with a grin. "I put Ca-wood Ledford on the radio (Barlow operated a radio station in Harlan County), and I lived through being sheriff of Harlan County 50 years ago. If I couldn't out run or out talk someone, I deputized them."

He joined the administration of Gov. Bert Combs and has since lived in Frankfort. He is a member of Forks of Elkhorn Baptist Church. Barlow has faced cancer twice and quickly acknowledged thanks to the Lord for a full life.

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

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

Loving response

Workers say quake ministries lead to sharing gospel

Due to security concerns, pseudonyms are used to identify most Southern Baptist workers in this story.

Islamabad, Pakistan (BP)—The earthquake that rocked South Asia Oct. 8 has created a unique opportunity for sharing the gospel, and more Christians are needed to go and help, according to a volunteer in the region.

"We must go. This is the hour when the door is open," volunteer Liz Fendley said. "I don't know how long this window of opportunity will be open in this area. We need to help these people, show them His love, care for them and build those vital relationships—and pray that the Lord will move in their hearts."

"Women who have been hidden for years, we are now getting access to. We are able to build relationships with them and show them how much God loves them. I think this is an incredible opportunity," said Fendley, who recently joined a team of five people serving in Pakistan.

Volunteers can make a lasting impact on the lives they touch for the glory of God, Southern Baptist worker Aleta Ballinger said. They witness to non-Christians. They mentor young believers. And they bless Southern Baptist workers with whom they serve.

"They can come in and look at it from a whole different perspective," Southern Baptist worker Christina Smith said. "Just for them to sit down and say, 'Well, tell me about your day,' that is so encouraging. We cried and laughed. We had debriefing every day."

"Just little things they do—like getting up and making the coffee every morning—helps," Smith said. "But they are working, too. They come in and lighten the load just by sharing the load."

Officials estimate that the 7.6-magnitude earthquake killed 73,000 people and left about 2.8 million homeless in Pakistan. Another 1,300 people died in India,



SOBERING SIGHTS A volunteer medical team serves in a Pakistan village after the Oct. 8 earthquake. Volunteers saw a lot of head wounds, many of which were infected. Working on the wounds involved a lot of tears and a lot of cutting, scraping, cleaning and draining. (BP photos)

where 150,000 are homeless.

Volunteers are building temporary homes, providing medical care, assessing livestock losses and needs, teaching others to build shelters, offering trauma counseling, praying with people, distributing food and playing with children.

Thankful for vols; needing more

"We are so thankful for the volunteers who have come to help out here. They have been willing to go out under extreme conditions to show the love of Christ," Southern Baptist worker Josie Gabdon said. "One couple came up to our camp, sleeping on the ground in tents on the side of a mountain at the end of a seemingly endless, bumpy, dirt track. They are 76 and 80 years old! The people were so thankful to have them and us there to show love and care. Please pray for more volunteers to come and minister to these

devastated people in their time of need."

Volunteers involved in relief work face challenging circumstances. They might sleep in tents. They might have to hike long distances in high altitudes to reach villagers. There are no toilets in many villages. The nights are cold, and the days are long.

"It is stressful," Southern Baptist worker Brent Tinsley said. "They are here for a short time. There is a time difference. There are bouts of sickness from food and water. It's a tough thing to come halfway around the world and work hard in a different time zone."

Volunteer Chris Seay said his greatest reward during his Pakistan trip was the opportunity to mentor a young Christian believer who served as his translator.

"I don't know whether he knows it yet or not, but I feel like he is going to be called into the ministry," Seay said. "He genuinely loves to share his faith with his people."

That's important, Seay said, because locals are the ones who will carry the real load of the work. Volunteers are there for only a short time.

When Seay returns to Alabama, he said his goal will be to encourage others to pray for earthquake survivors, to give sacrificially on their behalf and to seek God's direction about whether to travel to South Asia to help.

"I have memories that I'll never forget," Seay said. "I don't know how to take that information and create a desire for other people. I think they would do without more at home and give more if they could actually see this. I guess that's my job, to go back and encourage others and try my best to explain to them."

"I think they would do without more at home and give more if they could actually see this."

Southern Baptist volunteer Chris Seay



TENT CITIES A Pakistani mother shelters her children in one of the tent cities that have sprung up since the Oct. 8 earthquake. Many people traveled to the camps, some housing as many as 3,000 residents, barefoot through mountainous terrain, with nothing except the clothes on their back.

Southern Baptist workers in Pakistan are asking for volunteers to travel there to:

- Set up temporary medical camps in tent villages and in remote areas.
- Build temporary shelters.
- Distribute food staples and supplies.
- Present children's programs.
- Clear rubble.

"Pray that those God is leading to take part in this effort will respond to His call enthusiastically and that He would prepare the way for them," Ballinger asked.

The people in Pakistan are in great need and their hearts are open to anyone who will help, Fendley said.

"It is an opportunity to show the love of Jesus ... physically, emotionally and spiritually," she said. "I see it as God taking a horrible situation and turning it to good. His eternal purposes are being accomplished."

For more information about current and future volunteer needs, e-mail southasiavim@wigtake.org.



HOUSING NEEDED Southern Baptist volunteers are helping build temporary shelters to provide relief from the harsh winter.

PRAYER PARTNERS

Please pray for the following missionaries and projects associated with Kentucky Baptists' partnerships with Baptists in Brazil, Poland and with the International Baptist Convention:

■ A team led by Calvin Wilkins, KBC partnership missions consultant, that is serving in Teresina, Brazil, Jan. 16-26. The team of nine people will be attending the Brazilian Baptist National Convention and working with Scott and Joyce Pittman, Southern Baptist missionaries to Brazil who are serving as field leaders for the Brazilian partnership.

■ Scott and Joyce Pittman as they make final preparations for the annual convention in Brazil.

■ Southern Baptist international missionaries Earl and Robin Pinkston as they return to Malta to continue their ministry after a family trip to Kentucky since October.

■ Nancy and Bob Walden as they continue their work as state coordinators for the On Bended Knee prayer network.

MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

■ **CADIZ**—New Light Church is sponsoring a mission team to Mexico Feb. 4-12 to do evangelism and construction.

■ **CENTRAL CITY**—New Hope Church recently called **Mickey McPherson** as pastor.

■ **DUNMOR**—**Tom Wilkins** recently resigned as pastor of New Hebron Church.

■ **JENKINS**—Emmanuel Church recently called **Tony Carson** as pastor. He previously was pastor of Buffalo Lick Church in Cadiz.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Highland Church ordained **Gene Nisbet** to the gospel ministry Jan. 15. **Joe Phelps** is pastor.

■ **LEXINGTON**—Porter Memorial Church will host Men's Night Out 2006 Jan. 27, 6:30 p.m., with **Michael Franzese** as guest speaker. For

Spotlight on ...

Coxs Creek



New Salem Church will host the country gospel group **Heritage Road** in concert Jan. 29, 6 p.m. For more information, call (502) 348-8260.

more information, call (859) 272-3441. **Bill Henard** is pastor.

■ **MOUNT WASHINGTON**—Bethany Church recently called **Wayne Shealy** as youth minister. **Charles Gruber** is pastor.

Foy Valentine remembered for courage rooted in love for God

Dallas (ABP)—During a memorial service at Park Cities Baptist Church in Dallas, friends and family celebrated Foy Valentine's love for God, which they said stimulated his love for people, his courage and even his "quirkiness."

Valentine, a Baptist leader who spent a lifetime prodding Christians to apply their faith to daily life, died of an apparent heart attack Jan. 7 in Dallas. Valentine, who was 82, led the Southern Baptist Convention's Christian Life Commission from 1960 to 1987.

"You can't talk about Foy Valentine without talking about courage," said David Sapp, pastor of Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church in Atlanta, who worked for Valentine on the CLC staff 30 years ago.

Valentine courageously led Southern Baptists through the civil rights era, prompting them to embrace equality and justice in the face of withering criticism, Sapp said.

"While some stood in schoolhouse doors and shouted, 'Closed!' Foy stood in the church-house door and shouted, 'Open!'"

Valentine was a "modern prophet," insisted Jimmy Allen, former president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

"I discovered a rare man," Allen said of meeting Valentine about 50 years ago. "In days of confused identities, this man knew who he was. ... This man lived his whole life fighting for freedom."

Valentine's ability to champion racial reconciliation and to lead Baptists toward biblical positions, even when they were unpopular, transcended animosity and bitterness, noted Darold Morgan, former president of the SBC Annuity Board.

"We're not going to put a halo on Foy," Morgan said of his friend. "In the final analysis, he was a delightfully quirky character. Quirky, yes, but lovable moreso."

Nineteen Kentucky students earn degrees from Southern Seminary

Louisville—Nineteen students with Kentucky ties were among 132 graduates who were awarded degrees during Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's commencement services in December.

Graduates, their hometowns and degrees are:

David Bell, Rumsey, doctor of philosophy.

Mary Conner, Louisville, master of arts in Christian education.

Elizabeth Cribb, Louisville, master of divinity.

Nathan Dooley, Lexington, master of divinity.

Kristin Gaddis, Owensboro, master of divinity in Christian education.

Epimaco Goncalves, Rio de Janeiro, master of divinity.

Jay Graham, Louisville, master of arts in missiology.

Melissa Hopper, Louisville, master of arts in Christian counseling.

Marty Lee, Hodgenville, master of arts in Christian education.

Christy Lowder, Louisville, master of music.

Clint Miller, Louisville, master of arts in worship.

Nathan Millican, Louisville, master of divinity.

Gary Richmond, Henderson, master of arts in Christian education.

Kerry Spencer, Hardinsburg, master of arts in missiology.

Ronald Stimphil, Louisville, master of divinity in pastoral counseling.

Sharon Swan, Danville, master of divinity.

Bradley Walker, Paducah, master of arts in Christian education.

Valerie Weir, Louisville, master of divinity in pastoral counseling.

Rebecca Wilson, Benton, master of arts in Christian education.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January

- 19 Pastor/Staff Forum, Southside Baptist Church, Princeton.
- 24 Pastor/Staff Forum, Victory Baptist Church, Lexington.
- 27-28 Preschool/Children's Ministry Meeting, Lakeside Baptist Church, Louisville.
- 27-28 Quarterly Prayer Meeting for Spiritual Awakening, Severns Valley Association Office, Elizabethtown.

February

- 3-4 Deacon/Pastor/Spouse Retreat, Bowling Green.
- 20 Retirement Choices Workshop, First Baptist Church, Princeton.
- 21 Retirement Choices Workshop, Baptist Building, Louisville.
- 22 Retirement Choices Workshop, First Baptist Church, London.
- 23 Retirement Choices Workshop, Porter Memorial Baptist Church, Lexington.
- 25 All-State Youth Choir/Orchestra Auditions and State Youth Choir Festival—East, Central Baptist Church, Winchester.
- 25 Hispanic Evangelism Conference & Hispanic Women's Meeting, Horse Cave Baptist Church.
- 27-28 Kentucky Baptist Evangelism Conference, Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington.

March

- 3-4 Creative Ministries Festival, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

- 3-4 Handbell Festival, Cave City Convention Center.
- 4 RA Congress Region 5, Central Baptist Church, Maysville.
- 4 Vacation Bible School Clinic, Victory Baptist Church, Lexington.
- 6 Interfaith Witness Training, Northside Baptist Church, Elizabethtown.
- 7 Interfaith Witness Training, Paintsville.
- 8-22 Kentucky Changers College Blitz, Morehead.
- 10-11 Creative Ministries Festival, Hillvue Heights Church, Bowling Green.
- 11 All-State Youth Choir/Orchestra Auditions, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.
- 11 RA Congress Region 3, South Fork Baptist Church, Hodgenville.
- 11 Vacation Bible School Clinic, First Baptist Church, Madisonville.
- 18 All-State Youth Choir/Orchestra Auditions and State Youth Choir Festival—West, Beaver Dam Baptist Church.
- 18 RA Congress Region 2, First Baptist Church, Madisonville; RA Congress Regions 3 & 7 Combo, Hillvue Heights Church, Bowling Green; RA Congress Region 6, Red House Baptist Church, Richmond; RA Congress Region 7, Campbellsville University.
- 20-21 Basic Training for Church Planters, Baptist Building, Louisville.
- 20-21 Welcome to Kentucky, Baptist Building, Louisville.

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

CLASSIFIED ADS

SEEKING: Full-time associate pastor/youth minister for Thornhill Baptist Church in Frankfort. Send resumes to: Personnel Committee, 1142 Holmes St., Frankfort, KY 40601-1315.

SEEKING: Full-time minister of students (youth-college) for First Baptist Church, Pikeville, Ky. Resumes may be mailed to: Pastor Paul Badgett, 126 4th St., Pikeville, KY 41501; or e-mail: pastorbadgett@yahoo.com.

SEEKING: Full-time minister of education/youth for First Baptist Church of Walton. Resumes may be mailed to 47 South Main St., Walton, KY 41094; or e-mail to pastorfbcw@fuse.net.

SEEKING: Part-time director of children's ministries for Perryville Baptist Church near Danville, Ky. This church of 200 in Sunday school has an exploding children's ministry and desires to become a child-friendly church. Mail resume to Perryville Baptist Church, PO Box 26, Perryville, KY 40468, Attn: Personnel Committee.

SEEKING: Full-time pastor for First Baptist Church of Highland Heights, located in Northern Kentucky. Please send resume to: Pastor Search Committee, 2315 Alexandria Pike, Highland Heights, KY 41076.

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: Full-time pastor's secretary and general secretary for East End church. Must be proficient in Microsoft Publisher and Microsoft Word. Five days (35 hours) a week with benefits. Fax resume to (502) 893-9386.

SEEKING: Full-time minister of music to lead a 25-member adult choir, children and youth music groups for a Southern Baptist church. People skills and music skills are important. Potential for growth in the music programs. Contact: Personnel Committee, Cecilia Baptist Church, 416 E Main St., Cecilia, KY 42724, Attn: Bill Goodman.

SEEKING: Church secretary (20-plus hours per week). Call or submit resume to Victory Memorial Baptist Church, 3805 Southern Parkway, Louisville, KY 40214; or call (502) 638-2521.

SEEKING: Part-time secretary for Fisherville Baptist Church. Job includes a variety of duties, 15-21 hours per week. Send resumes to FBC/Personnel Committee, 15001 Old Taylorsville Road, Fisherville, KY 40023.

SEEKING: Full-time pastor for First Baptist Church, Brandenburg, Ky. Average Sunday school attendance: 170; worship: 275. Mail resumes to: Marilyn Craycroft, 333 Atwill St. Brandenburg, KY 40108. Applications accepted until Jan. 31, 2006.

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

Art of redemption

Georgetown chaplain's son seeking atonement through his drawings

By Frank Lockwood
Lexington Herald-Leader

Lexington—Isaac Moody wasn't an Episcopalian, but he liked Christ Church.

The cathedral was a giant, unlocked oasis in the heart of downtown Lexington, empty in the afternoons and—most important—close to a financial institution Moody planned to rob.

On Aug. 2, 2000, after demanding money from a terrified, pregnant teller, Moody left Traditional Bank and walked into the Episcopal house of worship, carrying \$5,000 in stolen cash. While police swarmed outside, the bank robber calmly changed his clothes, pretended to pray and even chatted with Rev. Morris K. Thompson Jr., the cathedral's minister.

Pausing to dip his finger in the holy water, Moody said he made the sign of the cross before making his getaway.

Five years later, Moody, 29, is now a resident of the Big Sandy federal penitentiary in Inez, Ky., where he's serving a 92-month sentence for bank robbery.

But he'll be making a return visit, of sorts, to his old Lexington hideout.

Next month, Moody's artwork, created behind bars, will be on display in the church's gallery, part of an Art at the Cathedral exhibit titled *Contrasts in Light and Darkness: The Human Condition*.

"Ray of hope"

Moody's paintings, which sell for up to \$1,200, have already been displayed in Georgetown and Owensboro.

Jesse Mark, the cathedral's associate gallery director, says there is something redemptive about Moody's journey from thief to artist.

And redemption is a key element in the exhibit.

"The world has gone through a lot of stuff right now with war and

disasters and so forth. We were ... trying to find a ray of hope in all of the darkness of the times," he said.

Before he robbed Lexington's Traditional Bank and Covington's Huntington Bank, Moody dabbled in art. He doodled. He drew. At Georgetown College, where his dad, Dwight Moody, is dean of the chapel, he took a couple of art courses, but flunked them because of poor attendance.

It wasn't until after his bank robbery conviction that he got serious.

"Getting involved in art just empties me or fills me up. Whatever I need, it seems to give it to me," he said during a phone interview. "For me, it's the medicine, you know. It's what gets me through the day."

He paints imps and giants, Jimi Hendrix and Winston Churchill, convicts and crucifixes. Sometimes he draws elves riding unicycles or playing trumpets atop a line of music as musical notes float skyward like hot-air balloons.

He uses whatever art supplies he can find on the prison's black market, drawing on canvas or cardboard or copier paper. Occasionally, he obtains paint. More often, he uses crayons or ink.

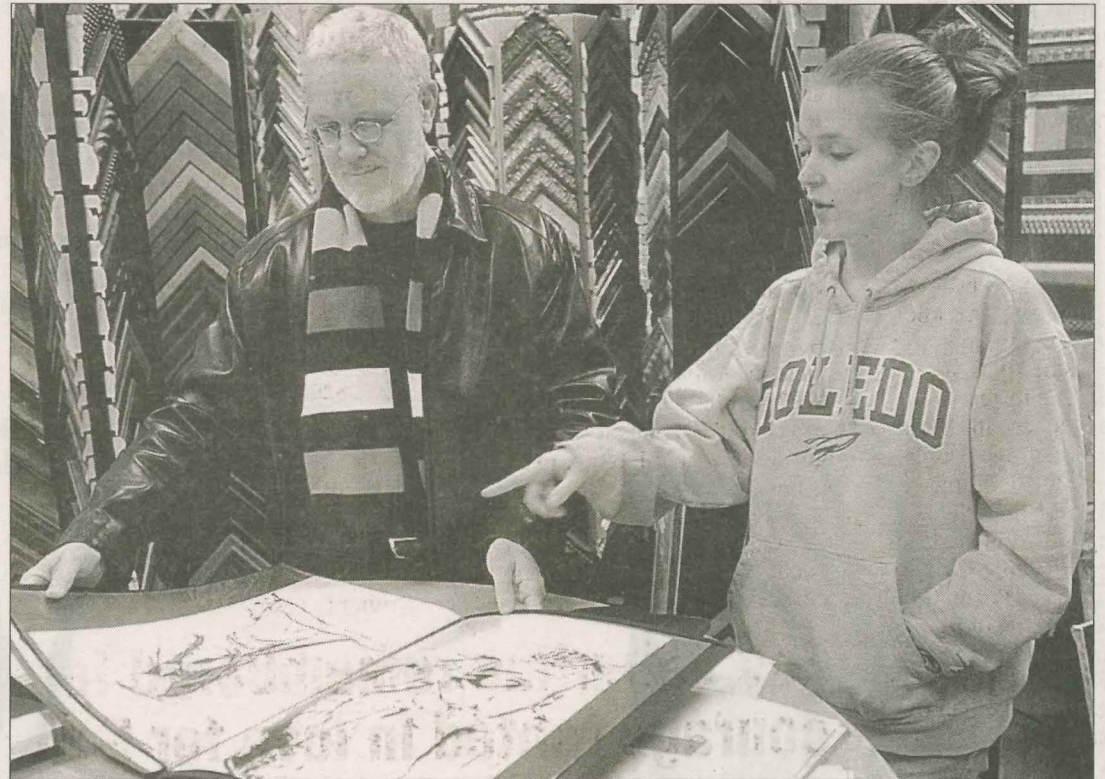
Work admired on both sides

In prison, Moody's choice of models is limited. He sketches fellow inmates, often bank robbers or murderers with nicknames like Woodstock and Pops.

Moody's work is admired on both sides of the prison fence.

"I'm the art guy. That's who I am around here. I walk around with my drawing board and just sit down and start sketching people," Moody said.

Fellow convicts ask him to craft pictures of their temporarily fatherless children. He gives his work away or trades the pictures for a book of stamps, the unofficial



prison currency.

Sometimes, he creates collages out of paint and candy wrappers, postage stamps and pages from the book of Job. Often, he sprinkles words or plasters entire stories around the canvas.

As an inmate, Moody can't profit from his paintings, he said. So he gives his artwork to his dad, who exhibits it, promotes it and sells it.

Dwight Moody has even formed his own business, The Easy Money Poetry Society, to help showcase his son's work.

The first piece sold barely two years ago for \$75. Since then, the prices have climbed. Late last month, two of the paintings fetched \$1,000 each.

A Web site, ikemoody.com, was just launched. Proceeds from the art help cover the cost of art supplies, distance-learning courses and other expenses, Dwight Moody said.

This month, Isaac Moody's artwork is on display at The Gallery in Lexington. Beginning Feb. 12, it will appear at Wingspan Gallery and Christ Church Cathedral.

The elder Moody, an author, educator and interim pastor at Midway Baptist Church, doesn't make excuses for his son.

"In this situation, I cannot be Isaac's therapist, I cannot be his lawyer. ... I am only his father, and it is my role as his father to nurture hope in his life and in my life," he said.

"Sometimes the dark side wins"

Father and son are collaborating on a book, which will be published by Mercer Press this year. The Other Side of Oddville will feature the minister's old small-town newspaper columns and the inmate's illustrations.

Dwight Moody shares his son's story with college audiences and members of his congregation.

"Every family has issues that complicate life and present challenges, and this is mine," he said. "We hope redemption is taking a bad situation and making some-

thing good out of it."

On the telephone, as he describes his artwork, Isaac Moody speaks warmly, enthusiastically. But ask why he robbed the banks, and his speech slows, the mirth evaporates.

"Probably a shrink would say 'Stress, panic, desperation, etc. etc.' but I've come up with a whole way of describing that," he said. "I have a non-traditional decision-making process, and sometimes the dark side wins."

The dark side was evident on Aug. 2, 2000, when he handed a Traditional Bank teller a note demanding \$5,000.

Despite his disguise—oversize glasses and a hat—law enforcement officials soon were on his trail. It didn't help, he says, that he robbed a bank where he had an account.

Five days later, Moody handed another stickup note to a teller in Northern Kentucky and dashed off with another stack of cash. His getaway car was a taxi, which took him to Cincinnati's Regal Hotel. He tipped the driver \$50. Minutes later, the taxi driver learned about the heist and led police to Moody's lair.

Bank officials declined to comment about Moody's crimes or his artwork.

"I certainly regret the pain that I caused people," Moody said. "I'm a firm believer that the mirror I broke will be cleaned up with the seven years I've put in" behind bars.

Once he's released, in early 2007, Moody says he'd like to work on an Alaskan fishing boat or a Mississippi River barge, maybe sail around the world with a former cellmate.

Wherever he is, he hopes to make art and make amends for the past.

"I want my dad to be proud of me," he said. "All of the artwork I've done, each picture is just proof that I'm trying."

This article originally appeared in the Lexington Herald-Leader and is reprinted with permission.

ART SHOW Dwight Moody, who helps sell his son's artwork while he's in prison, showed a customer, Shandon Armstrong, some of Isaac Moody's pieces; Moody's work will be shown in two Lexington galleries this year. (Lexington Herald-Leader photo by Janet Worne)



PRISON ARTWORK Isaac Moody uses whatever art supplies he can find on the prison's black market to produce his paintings and drawings, such as this one of a prison yard. As an inmate, Moody can't profit from his artwork, but he has given them to his father, who has promoted and sold them for as much as \$1,000.

GEORGETOWN

C O L L E G E

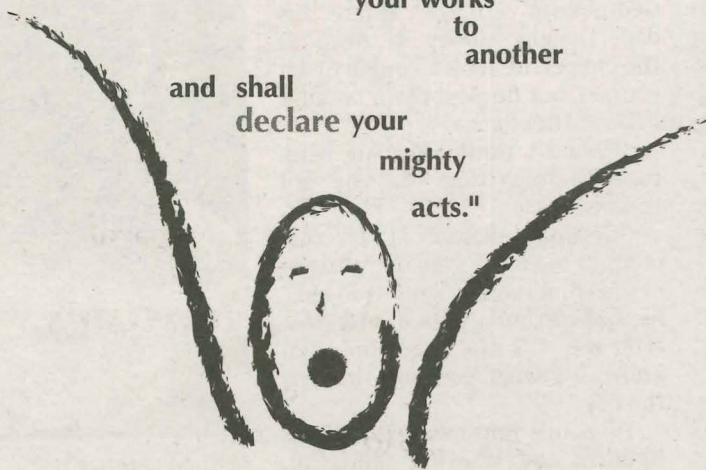
Ministry Reunion 2006

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praise

your works
to
another

and shall
declare your

mighty
acts."



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