

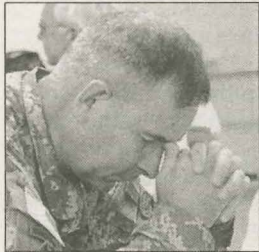


# WESTERN RECORDER

July 25, 2006  
Vol. 180, No. 29

## FOR THE RECORD

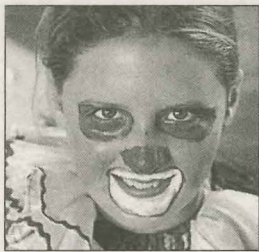
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Eastern Kentucky mission project lets families serve, worship together. *Page 9.*

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Separate fires destroy church building and pastor's home. *Page 10.*

Dated material. Please deliver by Wednesday, July 26.

## Study: Children of divorce often feel abandoned by their church

By Deborah Potter  
*Religion & Ethics NewsWeekly*

Charlotte, N.C. (RNS)—When Jen Thompson looks at family pictures, the memories are still painful.

Her parents divorced when she was 14, and along with the sense of loss came a crisis of faith.

"My father was emotionally just barren—just not available," she says. "So I came across as thinking that my father was just impossible to please. And that definitely carried over into my relationship with God—that I felt God was just very judgmental. God was just waiting for me to slip up and make a mistake, and that I was, in God's eyes, unforgivable and unlovable."

It's a surprisingly common experience.

A recent national survey of adults who were kids when their parents divorced found that the separation had a major impact on their spiritual lives.

They were, for example, much less likely to go to church or to call themselves religious than those adults whose parents stayed married.

"One extraordinary finding in our study was that of those grown children of divorce who were active in a church at the time of their parents' divorce, two-thirds say that no one in the clergy or congregation reached out to them at that time," said Elizabeth Marquardt, the author of "Between Two Worlds," a study of children and divorce.

Her study found that adults often feel the church abandoned them as children when their parents were divorcing and that their pastors were no better than anyone else in helping them cope with the experience.

"At the time of divorce," Marquardt said, "people are reluctant to reach out to the children because they don't know what to say; they don't want to offend the parents. They're afraid they might upset the child, so they don't reach out."

Jeff Williams, a leader of the Association of Marriage and Family Ministries, was 10 when his parents divorced. He says no one seemed to notice the cataclysm that was taking place in his life.

"We went to church and the older ladies were complaining about the temperature of the sanctuary, and the ushers, the people who served, went on with their rituals, and nothing seemed to change there, while my life had radically changed.

"And I know now they didn't know what to say," Williams said.

□ See *Study finds divorce ... Page 7*

## Falling for Jesus



**WHAT GOES UP ...** Kimberly Logsdon, 12, of Louisville proves Newton's law of universal gravitation at Cedarmore Baptist Assembly's lake. She was among more than 2,000 youth attending Crossings at Cedarmore camp this summer. (Photos by David Winfrey)

## Crossings offers campers fun, opportunity to discover God

By David Winfrey  
*News Director*

**Cedarmore**—Cedarmore and Jonathan Creek's summer "Crossings" camps will break attendance records this year, but organizers insist the mud pit, water sports and climbing wall tell only half the story behind the camps' growing success.

Watching kids swing from a rope before freefalling into Cedarmore's new pond, chaperone Jill Grant agrees.

"It's so exciting to see the kids so pumped up about Jesus," said Grant, a youth leader at Green Acres Baptist Church in Louisville.

As teens continue taking the plunge, she explains that she already plans to return with her church group next summer. "You're just so pumped up for God you don't want it to end."

That's just the way David Melber wants it.

Since becoming president of Kentucky Baptist Assemblies three years ago, he has sought to continue the agency's two-pronged strategy of building facilities that will attract campers and programming that will make them want to return.

All the while, he and other KBA leaders focus on the true purpose of Cedarmore and Jonathan Creek.

"The camps exist to provide our churches with an environment where Christ is preached and where the culture is removed," he said. "You bring them there for a week, they hear the Word, they see the Word, they're prayed for, there's a good chance they're going to get saved."

Step onto either campus and it's hard not to focus on the renovations, new buildings and the variety of fun activities available to guests. Since the camps became their own entity 10 years ago, Kentucky Baptist Assemblies has spent approximately \$6 million in capital improvements.

But the main reason teens are making spiritual decisions and church groups are returning, according to Melber and other KBA leaders, is because Crossings emphasizes building relationships between campers and staff.

"Kids are starved for authentic relationships where they can be real," Melber said.

□ See *Crossings camps... Page 8*

BAPTIST  
DIGEST

**Ted Stone**, a Baptist evangelist and crusader against drug abuse, died July 16 during his fourth "Walk across America." He was 72. Stone, an evangelist from Durham, N.C., spent 29 years preaching his anti-drug message after serving four years in prison in the 1970s as the result of drug addictions. Stone, who was diagnosed with colon cancer in 2002, previously walked across America in 1996, 1998 and 2000. He was a trustee of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and the author of several books, including "The Drug Tragedy." He is survived by his wife, Anne, three daughters and five grandchildren.

**Randy Singer** has resigned as the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board's chief counsel and as president of NAMB's FamilyNet subsidiary to return to private legal practice, according to the Georgia Christian Index. Singer was hired by former NAMB President Robert Reccord in 1997 as NAMB's first executive vice president. He was a former member of Reccord's church in Norfolk, Va. Singer is the author of several books, including "The Judge Who Stole Christmas." He also co-wrote Christian self-help manuals with Reccord.

**Baylor University's** center for family and community ministries has received a \$1.1 million grant to help local congregations learn how to do more effective social ministry. The grant from Christ Is Our Salvation, a private foundation, is one of the largest donations ever received by the Baptist school in Waco, Texas. The funds, to be disbursed over three years, will go to develop ministry training classes, provide internships for community-ministry students, provide resources for churches and publish a quarterly journal for congregational leaders.

## Chitwood helps guide IMB policy review

**Richmond, Va.**—Meeting last week for the first time since last month's Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting, trustees of the Southern Baptist International Mission Board heard an update about missionary personnel policies from Kentucky Baptist pastor Paul Chitwood.

Chitwood, chairman of the IMB's mission personnel committee, also is president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

An ad hoc committee charged with revisiting the IMB's new policy on private prayer language and baptism guidelines has been divided into two subcommittees to deal with each of the measures approved by trustees last November, Chitwood reported.

The new guidelines, which have generated widespread debate since their adoption, were among issues addressed in an SBC motion introduced by IMB trustee Wade Burleson of Oklahoma.

Burleson repeatedly has voiced concern that the IMB shouldn't impose requirements more stringent than the SBC's 2000 Baptist Faith and Message doctrinal statement. His five-point motion, which was referred to the IMB for consideration, also expressed concerns about manipulation of the IMB trustee appointment process, attempts by heads of other SBC agencies to "influence and/or coerce IMB trustees, staff and administration," secret

trustee actions and suppression of dissent by trustees.

Chitwood said the two subcommittees addressing baptism and prayer language will come together after their studies and formulate a report for the personnel committee. He said IMB staff from the office of missions personnel, as well as IMB President Jerry Rankin, will be involved in the process to provide input to both subcommittees.

"We're also asking for input from seminary professors, seminary presidents and other leading theologians throughout the convention," Chitwood said. "We're putting together a very objective and deliberate study and we will be updating (trustees) as we move through that process."

## Floyd addresses conflict question

In another trustee-related issue, board chairman John Floyd announced he would "take no part in discussions, express no opinions, make no requests and relinquish the chair" during board action on policies that could impact financial benefits he and his wife receive from the IMB. The Floyds are former missionaries to the Philippines, and he later directed the IMB's work in Europe.

Floyd said the financial benefits he and his wife currently receive from the IMB in their emeritus missionary status include a \$10,000 life insurance policy and a \$127 month-

ly cash allowance each to help cover health insurance costs not covered by Medicare.

He said the IMB's legal counsel confirmed that those benefits do not disqualify a former missionary from serving as a trustee under SBC Bylaw 15(f). Some press reports raised that conflict-of-interest issue after Floyd was elected chairman during the board's May meeting.

In other business, trustees elected a vice president for mobilization and learned projects aiding victims of the 2004 South Asia tsunami will be completed within 12 months.

They also honored 54 retiring missionaries and heard appeals from IMB leaders for Southern Baptists to ramp up efforts to spread the gospel around the world.

Trustees unanimously approved Ken Winter as vice president of the office of mobilization. He will provide leadership to the IMB in communicating with and mobilizing Southern Baptists and partners to be involved in overseas missions.

Winter, who joined the IMB staff in 2004 as director for work among strategically mobilized Southern Baptist churches, has served since November 2005 as Rankin's executive assistant. He previously was associate pastor for global missions and associate pastor of administration at First Baptist Church of West Palm Beach, Fla.

Based on reporting by Baptist Press

## Page pledges continued focus on New Orleans

By Bruce Nolan  
Religion News Service

**New Orleans (RNS)**—New Southern Baptist Convention President Frank Page, making his first official visit in that role, toured New Orleans' vast flood zone last week.

Astonished at what he saw, Page promised to point more volunteers toward the region where tens of thousands of Southern Baptist volunteers have toiled in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

In a neighborhood off Elysian Fields Avenue, Page chatted July 17 with nearly two dozen sweat-soaked Missouri teens gutting a house along with a few adult chaperones.

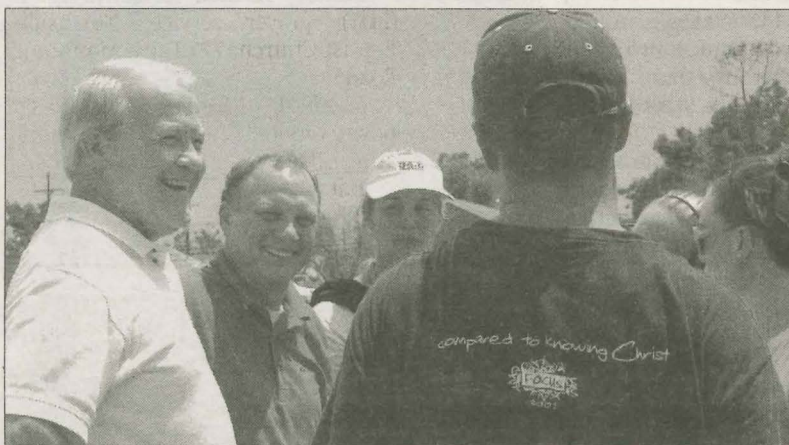
Later he visited more than 200 volunteers helping build 40 homes in the Baptist Crossroads Project, a New Orleans effort co-sponsored by local Southern Baptists and Habitat for Humanity.

Flanking those visits were tours of Lakeview and the Lower 9th Ward, two New Orleans neighborhoods hit hard by Hurricane Katrina.

"My reaction is ... incredulity," Page said later. "It's almost unbelievable. I've seen the pictures, but they cannot capture the widespread devastation. Mile after mile, it looks like something after a nuclear bomb."

Page, pastor of First Baptist Church of Taylors, S.C., took part in the inspection tour organized by David Crosby, pastor of First Baptist Church of New Orleans.

Like many faith-based groups, Southern Baptists have poured money and volunteers into the flood zone. Their work began the second day after the storm with cooking thousands of meals a day for dazed homeowners. It has expanded to



**WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT** SBC President Frank Page (left) and David Crosby, pastor of First Baptist Church of New Orleans, visit with Baptist volunteers at Baptist Crossroads, a 40-unit home construction project in New Orleans in which Southern Baptists are partnering with Habitat for Humanity. (BP photo by Karen Willoughby)

cutting trees off homes, gutting thousands of ruined homes and now building some houses.

The Southern Baptist North American Mission Board estimated its volunteers have contributed more than 43,000 days of Katrina relief work this year.

Among them last week were 17 teens and five adults from Smithville, Mo., gutting an empty pink home with a "For Sale" sign out front.

July 17 was their first day of work. Dirty and soaked with sweat, they took a break at midafternoon to chat with Page, who took time to haul out a couple of debris-filled wheelbarrows.

The team from First Baptist Church of Smithville spent a week's vacation in New Orleans, bunking in the World Trade Center, where Baptists have leased three floors as dormitory space for up to 500

volunteers at a time, Crosby said. Meanwhile, other Baptist churches are serving as auxiliary dorm sites.

Page pledged to use his role as SBC president to talk up New Orleans' needs throughout the denomination.

"I'll be speaking all over the nation for the next six months," he noted, "and I do pledge and promise to make New Orleans' neighborhoods a point of great emphasis for our ministry."

"What I saw today just burdened my soul," Page said during an evening service at First Baptist Church of Covington, La.

Noting that Katrina's devastation "provides an opportunity for greater ministry, an opportunity to reshape a city for Christ," Page urged Baptist volunteers to "come and be a part of what God is doing to reshape New Orleans."

With additional reporting by Baptist Press

Interest in aiding  
'closed' nations  
heightens risks

**Dallas (ABP)**—An increase in the number of Baptists serving in "closed" countries could lead to more incidents like a recent group from Texas experienced when they became trapped in Lebanon.

As a result of Hezbollah military strikes and fighting in the war-torn nation, a group of 10 people from First Baptist Church of Forney, Texas, recently was detained in Beirut as team members tried to return to the United States. Hezbollah is a Shiite militant group with a strong presence in southern Lebanon.

But despite the risk, Christians tend to understand the danger and continue seeking mission opportunities in so-called closed countries.

According to mission boards nationwide, a heightened focus on unreached people groups, many of whom live in volatile areas, continues to lead Christians into politically unstable nations. And many church organizations have connected directly with missionaries working in those areas.

One reason for the trend is that Christians are drawn to share the gospel with people who have never heard it, said Stan Parks, WorldconneX international liaison. Nearly 40 percent of the world's people groups are without a viable church, he said. About 28 percent of all people groups have no access to the gospel.

Denton Lotz, Baptist World Alliance general secretary, acknowledged the possible dangers associated with ministering in these situations, but he also noted that violence can happen anywhere in the world, like with the train bombings in Madrid and London and the 9/11 attacks in the U.S.

"I think the whole world is a hot spot," he said. "We never know what's going to pop up next."

Wendy Norvelle, a spokeswoman for the Southern Baptist International Mission Board, said the IMB relies on field personnel to form contingency plans of escape for themselves and mission groups. An evacuation plan usually is formed even before a mission team arrives, she noted.

"Our volunteer team training includes basic security precautions for any area of the world," said Steve Seaberry, director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas' partnership missions ministries. "Whenever a team is going to a particularly sensitive area, we discuss and help with forming contingency plans for that area."

Each church should consider situations and then plan accordingly, Parks said. That way, he added, the church can have ownership of the mission.

## KBC leaders plan September 'Pray the Interior' event

Louisville—Kentucky Baptist Convention leaders will hit the road Sept. 18-22 on a tour that will take them throughout the interior of the commonwealth, praying with and encouraging Kentucky Baptists at each stop.

The tour will include stops for worship services, meetings with pastors and associational leaders, and prayer.

Organizers say the "Pray the Interior" initiative is designed to focus on prayer with Kentucky Baptists throughout the state.

"Pray the Interior" is a follow up to last year's "Pray the Perimeter" tour.

"Pray the Perimeter helped participating KBC staff to keep in touch with the real needs experienced by people in the churches and expressed in their prayers," said Larry Baker, director of the KBC new work/associational missions department.

"On the flip side, I believe it did the same thing for the leaders and people in the churches as they witnessed the hearts of KBC personnel."

Bill Mackey, executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, along with several other KBC leaders will take part in this journey through the heart of the commonwealth.

The tour stops include:

### Monday, Sept. 18

**Louisville**, 9-9:45 a.m. (EDT), prayer service, Kentucky Baptist Building, 13420 Eastpoint Centre Drive.

**Bardstown**, 11-11:45 a.m. (EDT), prayer service, Parkway Baptist Church, 2580 Springfield Road.

**Elizabethtown**, 12:30 a.m.-2 p.m. (EDT), prayer luncheon, Northside Baptist Church, 1800 Pear Orchard Road.

**Letchfield**, 1:30-2:15 p.m. (CDT), prayer service, First Baptist Church, 106 East Walnut Street.

**Morgantown**, 3-3:45 p.m. (CDT), prayer service, First Baptist Church, 202 S. Main St.

**Beaver Dam**, 4:30-6 p.m. (CDT), prayer dinner, Beaver Dam Baptist Church, 343 S. Main St.

**Powderly**, 7 p.m. (CDT), prayer service, Woodson Baptist Church, 3570 US 62.

### Tuesday, Sept. 19

**Madisonville**, 8-9:15 a.m. (CDT), prayer breakfast, First Baptist Church, 246 N. Main St.

**Princeton**, 10:30 a.m.-noon (CDT), prayer luncheon, Highland Baptist Church, 313 Cedar Creek Road.

**Bowling Green**, 2-2:45 p.m. (CDT), prayer service, Warren Baptist Association office, 6448 Scottsville Road.

**Glasgow**, 4-4:45 p.m. (CDT), prayer service, Calvary Baptist Church, 307 Columbia Ave.

**Munfordville**, 7 p.m. (CDT), prayer service, Munfordville Baptist Church, 501 North West St.

### Wednesday, Sept. 20

**Greensburg**, 7:30-8:45 a.m. (CDT), prayer breakfast, Greensburg Baptist Church, 128 N. Main St.

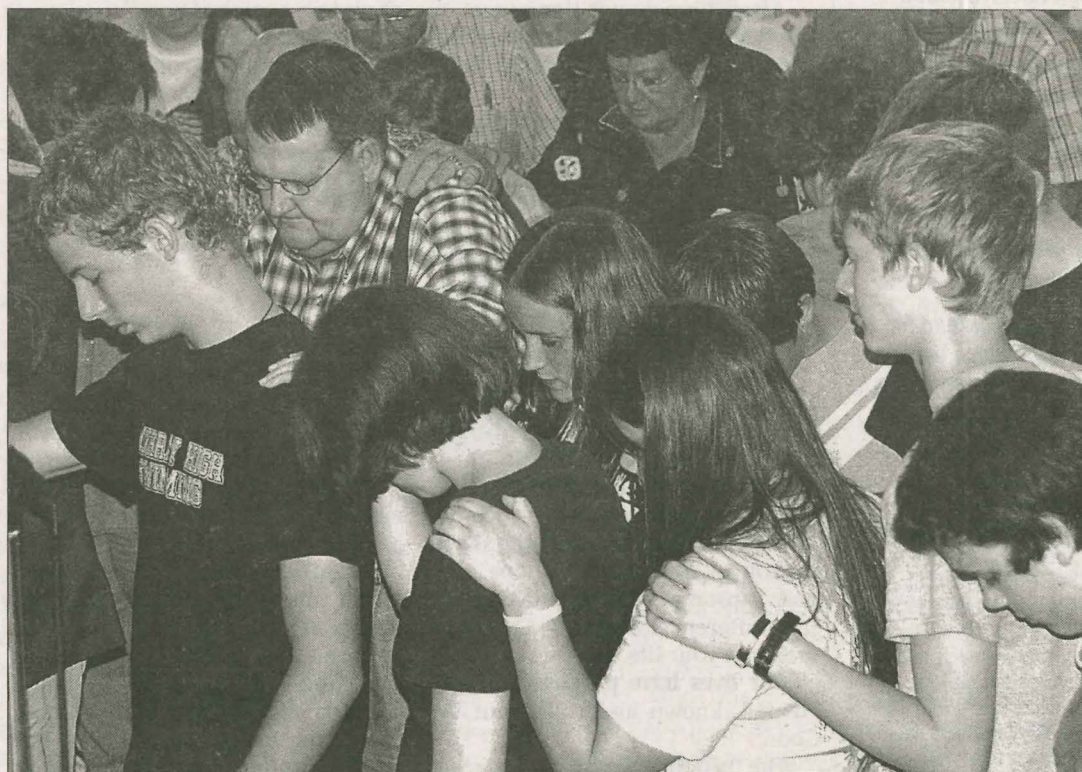
**Campbellsville**, 10:30-11:15 a.m. (EDT), prayer service, Campbellsville Baptist Church, 420 N. Central Ave.

**Jamestown**, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. (CDT), prayer luncheon, Jamestown Baptist Church, 165 W. Cumberland Ave.

**Somerset**, 3-3:30 (EDT), prayer service, Buena Vista Baptist Church, 324 Clifty St.

**London**, 4:30-5 p.m. (EDT), prayer service, Corinth Baptist Church, 1671 Old Whitley Road.

**Oneida**, 7 p.m. (EDT), prayer service, Oneida Baptist Church, 83 College St.



**PRAYER MEETING** People take part in last year's "Pray the Perimeter" event. The Kentucky Baptist Convention will sponsor a similar event in September called "Pray the Interior." (KBC file photo)

### Thursday, Sept. 21

**Stanton**, 7:30-8:45 a.m. (EDT), prayer breakfast, Stanton Baptist Church, 42 East College Ave.

**Winchester**, 10-10:30 a.m. (EDT), prayer service, Central Baptist Church, 101 W. Lexington Ave.

**Lexington**, 11:15 a.m.-noon (EDT), prayer service, Parkway Baptist Church, 1915 N. Broadway.

**Berea**, 1-2 p.m. (EDT), prayer luncheon, Silver Creek Baptist Church, 1784 Big Hill Road.

**Mount Vernon**, 2:45-3:15 p.m. (EDT), prayer service, Northside Baptist Church, 777 Faith Mountain Road.

**Stanford**, 4:15-4:45 p.m. (EDT), prayer service, Lincoln Baptist Association office, 4160 U.S. Highway 27 S.

**Harrodsburg**, 7:30 p.m. (EDT),

prayer service, Pioneer Baptist Church, 260 Sparrow Lane.

### Friday, Sept. 22

**Frankfort**, 7:30-8:45 a.m. (EDT), prayer breakfast, Crestwood Baptist Church, 1006 E. Main St.

**Owenton**, 10-10:45 a.m. (EDT), prayer service, First Baptist Church, 213 N. Main St.

**Williamstown**, 11:30 a.m.-12:50 p.m. (EDT), prayer luncheon, Williamstown Baptist Church, 214 N. Main St.

**Eminence**, 2-2:30 p.m. (EDT), prayer service, Eminence Baptist Church, 4847 N. Main St.

**Shelbyville**, 3:30-4 p.m. (EDT), prayer service, Highland Baptist Church.

For more information, visit [www.kybaptist.org/prayertour](http://www.kybaptist.org/prayertour).

## Students, churches help homeowners through Cumberlands' Mountain Outreach

Williamsburg—While many students at University of the Cumberlands are spending their summers at sunny beaches or home with their families, 10 have remained behind.

These lingering students are volunteering their time, energy and vacation to take part in the school's Mountain Outreach missions program.

Cumberlands' junior Erin Slocam is among those volunteering her summer at Mountain Outreach, a local ministry that builds homes and does home repair for families in need.

Slocam put her prior knowledge of construction to use, but she admits the summer has been a learning experience.

"I wanted to use what I knew, and I have found that I didn't know much. Working with a small group has helped. We help each other out when someone is struggling," she said. "This experience has helped me to be more grateful and to be more helpful. It has also reminded me that God's love really is everywhere."

Director Marc Hensley said students and other volunteers built two homes and accomplished 16 other renovation and repair projects.

One of the homes was built in just four days with the help of "su-



**INSTALLING SIDING** University of the Cumberlands students Sarah Whitaker and Tracy Smith install siding outside a newly renovated home. The home renovation is one of several projects to be completed by Mountain Outreach this summer.

per teams." This involves churches that bring 100 volunteers or more.

### "Amazing progress"

"They move the family in, and they do it in a week's time. It's an amazing process to watch," Hensley said.

Starting with a graded lot and a foundation on Monday morning, the church teams and other vol-

unteers built the floor, framed the walls, installed the drywall, painted the interior and installed exterior siding.

By 7:30 p.m. Thursday, volunteers had delivered the furniture and moved the family into the house, Hensley said. "I'm talking about towels in the closet, sheets on the bed and food in the refrigerator."

Founded in 1982, Mountain Out-

reach has built 123 homes for area residents and performed countless other repair projects.

"The last eight weeks have been a whirlwind," Hensley added. Projects this summer included building porches, wheelchair ramps and steps; installing roofs, drywall and insulation; as well as rewiring and painting homes.

"Just about anything that you can think of with home construction work, we've dealt with it, including wasps," he said. "You fall into bed with a smile on your face and think, man we touched somebody's life today."

The ministry groups also get to meet the families and see the difference being made in their lives. Freshman Sarah Whitaker said this aspect of the work keeps her motivated.

"By being able to talk to the families, we see that we are helping them and we see the impact," she said.

Hensley said the students have had a major impact on the families being served as well as the neighbors they meet along the way.

"It was amazing to watch my kids engage those folks and witness to them and minister to them."

Compiled from reporting by Kelly Schnee for University of the Cumberlands and News Director David Winfrey

## 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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## What difference does it really make?

By Marv Knox

After dinner not long ago, a wonderful friend asked a poignant question: "What's it mean to be a Christian?"

My friend is a lifelong Baptist and a serious Christian. We've known each other more than two decades, and we've talked often about the challenge of living the Christian life, particularly as parents, in a secular, materialistic community. She wasn't asking how a person becomes a Christian or what happens after death. She was asking: What difference does it make—or should it make—to be a Christian?

My friend's question stuck with me. A comprehensive reply could fill many books, but here's the short version of my answer. I hope and pray it prompts you to think about the difference being a Christian makes in your life.

**Our lives have purpose.** We are created, known and called out by God.

The prophet Jeremiah insisted God knew us before we were formed in the womb, consecrated us before we were born, and made plans for us (Jeremiah 1:5, 29:11). Jesus told us we have been chosen and appointed for our tasks (John 15:16). So, God knows us and has specific work for each of us to do. Our lives are far from meaningless, because they fit into God's plan—for us and for the world.

**Our priorities are clear.** We're supposed to love God with all we've

got and love others at least as much as we love ourselves.

When a lawyer asked Jesus to name the greatest commandment, He named two: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. (And) you shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Mark 12:28-31).

What if we were to love God and others that much? How would our lives be different? Would we purge wanting more, more and more? Would we give up on lust, envy, anger, suspicion and self-promotion?

**We put into practice the essential elements of our faith.** Here are a few of those elements:

■ **Godly living.** The prophet Micah noted our spiritual requirements are "to do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God" (Micah 6:8). If we truly are just, we seek right and fair outcomes for others, not simply for ourselves or people like us. We transcend the seduction of nationalism. We rise above racism and religious prejudice. Jesus also indicated the way we treat "the least of these" in society indicates how we have treated Him. This should shape how we think about immigration, look at the tax system and secure care for the elderly, children and the disabled. Jesus said we ignore Him if we ignore them. Are we damned by our insensitive blindness?

■ **Faithfulness.** The Apostle Paul

our role as followers of Jesus.

Baptists read and teach the Bible, which tells us that just peacemaking is our Christian duty. We are called to champion the cause of the least, the last and the forgotten.

Despite the remarks of U.N. Ambassador John Bolton, Baptists must advocate that all innocent civilians deserve protection as noncombats.

## Pursue peacemaking

With all the Baptists in Kentucky, we are painfully quiet these days on the subject of war and peace.

The growing number of casualties and indiscriminate destruction in the hostilities between Israel and Hezbollah make it past time for Baptists to speak out from



## Kentucky Changers: hands-on missions

Kentucky Changers is one of the most effective hands-on missions involvement programs for youth that has been developed. Each summer, hundreds of teenagers gather in selected towns and cities to carry out home repair and improvement projects for disadvantaged individuals.

This year, 829 participants completed 64 projects. Host cities and churches furnish money for supplies and each family must qualify under low-income standards.

Through Kentucky Changers, great needs are met while providing a wonderful missions emphasis and education for teens. It is incredible to see the before and after pictures of the houses that are transformed by the young people. It is even more powerful to see transformed people.

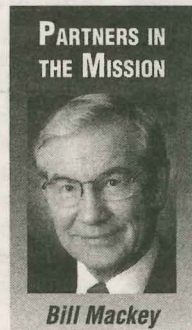
Everyone involved—homeowners, crew chiefs, church staff chaperones and the youth—seems to be impacted powerfully by the experience.

Each person comes away with a new appreciation of how God can use him or her to serve in missions and make a difference.

The youth develop relationships with homeowners during the weeklong projects. The homeowners are invited to the crew's devotional time and to a closing worship service on Friday when the home projects are shown by video and the teams are recognized.

The youth participants pay about \$190 to come, sleep on an air mattress, and work in the hot sun painting a house, replacing a roof or building a deck with ramps for wheelchairs. Other typical projects include repairing porches and windows, clearing undergrowth and trash, working on a Habitat for Humanity house or repairing a school building (often the one where the crew is staying).

"You may call them crew members but we call them 'angels,'" one



Bill Mackey

promised that God "will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able" (1 Corinthians 10:13). Christians are most vulnerable to temptation when we think we're invulnerable. Our culture blames circumstances for temptation and, ultimately, moral failure. But Paul promises God will "provide a way of escape." We don't have to fail, and our faithfulness in face of temptation in an "everyone's doing it" world may be our finest witness.

■ **Stewardship.** In a harrowing parable, Jesus described the death sentence of a greedy person who hoarded all his material treasures: "You fool! This very night your soul is required of you; and now who will own what you have prepared?" (Luke 12:20). We can determine what we really value by where we place our money, time and talents. What difference does our faith make if the way we invest our lives is no different than our neighbors?

■ **Confidence and courage.** Jesus told us, "Do not worry about your life ..." (Luke 12:22), and He promised to prepare an eternal "dwelling place" for us (John 14:2). If we know Christ is watching over us and will provide our ultimate protection, then the small stuff of life shouldn't shake our confidence or courage. (By the way, it's all "small stuff.")

■ **Mission.** Jesus commissioned us to lead others to follow Him (Matthew 28:19-20). Since we have been so blessed, how dare we ignore Him and hoard our salvation?

Marv Knox, editor of the *Texas Baptist Standard*, is a former editor of the *Western Recorder*

tants.

Baptists, especially the ones who claim that America is a Christian nation, need to call on our elected officials to press for an immediate ceasefire and to use their full diplomatic and political weight to end this conflict.

It's time for Baptists to preach what Jesus said. Then we need to practice what we preach.

Joseph Phelps  
Louisville

homeowner said about the youth.

During the Friday night reports, the teams tell their stories of repairs, friendships and spiritual growth, as well as decisions for Christ. This summer, 13 youth made professions of faith and 19 made decisions for vocational Christian service.

One of the special benefits for participants is that they learn new skills they can use the rest of their lives. The role of the crew chief and assistant crew chief is to teach the youth new skills and how to do the work.

I am grateful to the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Baptist Men on Missions department for their coordination. (Randy Foster is director and Peggy Murphy is ministry assistant.) Peggy was on site at each of the three Kentucky Changers projects and the Collegiate Changers projects.

This kind of great ministry makes me proud to be a Kentucky Baptist. Pray for these youth as they follow Jesus Christ, as well as for their faithful chaperones and church leaders.

Bill Mackey is executive director of the *Kentucky Baptist Convention*

## GIVING

## Learn Medicaid facts before you need benefits

By Laurie Valentine

People age 65 or older face a 40 percent risk of having to go into a nursing home at some time during their lifetime, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

About 10 percent of those who go to a nursing home will stay five years or longer.

Those statistics, coupled with the ever-growing cost of nursing home care, lead many to be concerned about how they would pay for nursing home care. The Health Care Financing Administration estimates 5.3 percent of long-term care costs are paid by private insurance; 32.5 percent is paid by the patient or family; and 46.3 percent is paid by Medicare or Medicaid.

Medicaid is a government-funded program established to pay the difference between the cost of nursing home care and a nursing home resident's own income. To qualify for Medicaid benefits in Kentucky, the applicant must meet both a "resource" eligibility test and an "income" eligibility test.

An applicant meets the "resource" test if he or she has no more than \$2,000 of "countable" resources (assets) and if his or her spouse has no more than \$99,540 in countable resources.

Excluded from "countable" resources are the applicant's home, personal property, household goods and several other assets.

To meet the "income" test the applicant's countable monthly income must not exceed either the "special income standard" set by the state (\$1,809 in 2006) or the state-determined nursing home private pay rate (\$2,796 in 2006).

A Medicaid applicant or spouse who makes "prohibited transfers" within the "look-back" period will be denied Medicaid benefits for a period equal to the value of the assets transferred divided by the private pay rate.

Prohibited transfers are any transfer for which you receive less than the market value for the asset you transfer.

The "look-back" period is 36 months from the date of the Medicaid application (60 months for transfers from trusts created after Aug. 10, 1993). Transfers made for the sole purpose of qualifying for Medicaid are counted against the applicant no matter when the transfers are done.

Laurie Valentine is trust counsel for the *Kentucky Baptist Foundation*



## How should Christian families respond to adversity & pain?

**Q: It has been a tough summer for our family with the death of a close relative, a breakup in a dating relationship, the loss of a job and financial struggles. Our teenagers are asking if God is punishing us. How should I respond?**

Going through the kind of adversity you are experiencing can be painful and confusing. While I don't pretend to completely understand the origins of all suffering and adversity, consider the following ways we can understand various human struggles:

- Sometimes we deal with tough times because we do the wrong thing (Adam and Eve in Genesis 3; David and Bathsheba in 2 Samuel 11; Jonah; Galatians 6:7).
- Sometimes we deal with tough times because we do the right thing (Joseph and Potiphar's wife in Genesis 39; Stephen in Acts 7; 1 Peter 4:12-16).
- Sometimes we deal with tough times because someone else does the wrong thing (Judas in Matthew 26:14-16, 48-49; Joseph's brothers in Genesis 37:12-36; Exodus 20:5; Hosea; Galatians 5:19-20).
- Sometimes we deal with tough times because someone else does the right thing (Bricks without straw in Exodus 5; John 15:18-20).
- Sometimes we deal with tough times because God is trying to test us and strengthen our faith and trust in Him (Abraham in Genesis 22:1ff; James 1:2-4, 12; Matthew 7:24-27).
- Sometimes we deal with tough times because we live in a world infected and corrupted by sin and evil (Ephesians 6:12; Romans 8:18-22).

Keep in mind that God's choicest servants experienced great adversity. Remember also that God often will grow your greatest ministry out of your most profound struggle and pain. In the midst of your trials, keep your eyes focused on Christ and on what you can change to make things better.—*Scott Wigginton*

**Q: Our kids recently told us about a choking game that is killing some kids. Do you have more information about this tragedy?**

The game goes by various names: pass out, space monkey and the choking game. It is a risky suffocation game in which kids use everything from curtain cords to ropes, belts and plastic bags to momentarily cut off oxygen to their brains in an attempt to achieve a drug-like high.

Kids play the game for thrills, and most often play in groups. But the game becomes especially dangerous when played alone. Children simply do not see where it can lead and can pass out and die.

Asphyxia games have been around for years, but a culture that encourages the extreme, coupled with easy access to information through the Internet, has brought participation in the game to new levels.

"It's about pushing the envelope farther to have an extreme experience," says pediatrician Thomas Andrew, who in part blames the television show "Fear Factor" for fueling such extreme, risky behavior.

Child-care professionals encourage parents to pay attention and watch for the rather obvious signs that a child is experimenting with the choking game. These include bloodshot eyes, dizziness and red marks on the neck.

Christian parents also should concentrate on building their child's sense of value, worth and self-esteem. Research shows that most children who get involved in destructive behaviors do so because they don't feel good about themselves. An understanding of God's love and of our importance to Him can help counteract such feelings.—*David Garrard*

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## Cross Over '06: How will you get involved?

The Kentucky Baptist Convention's annual Cross Over evangelistic emphasis, typically held the weekend before the KBC annual meeting in November, already is under way this summer in Bowling Green.

The annual ministry blitz, patterned after an SBC effort begun in 1989, was introduced in the Bluegrass State in conjunction with the 2001 KBC meeting in Murray. Since then, Kentucky Baptist volunteers have been involved in Cross Over ministry projects in the Williamsburg, Lexington and Louisville areas.

Last year's emphasis was shifted to southeastern Kentucky, rather than the host city of Frankfort, in an effort to respond to pressing ministry needs in the mountains of Eastern Kentucky. In addition to a change in locale, the 2005 Cross Over projects involved mission teams working throughout the summer and fall rather than concentrating ministry efforts a few days before the KBC meeting.

This year's Cross Over focus is a combination of the two previous strategies. While a number of ministry projects will be held immediately prior to the annual meeting, there also is a church construction project already in process and prayerwalking opportunities the month before the KBC gathering in Bowling Green.

KBC evangelism leader Dan Garland, who was instrumental in launching Kentucky Baptists' Cross Over ministry, said this year's two-pronged strategy "was more of just trying to tailor it to the association and its needs."

That flexibility hopefully will pay significant ministry dividends for Warren Baptist Association, the host association for the state convention's Nov. 14-15 annual meeting.

Jerry Oakley, director of missions for Warren Association, said the top priority this summer and fall for Cross Over volunteers is helping construct the first church facility for a Hispanic Baptist congregation in Bowling Green. He added that the community needs

surveys and evangelistic outreach in November "will give new life to our churches."

This year's two-phase approach provides opportunities for even more Kentucky Baptists to get involved. Those with construction skills and interest can contact Cross Over leaders to schedule a team to help with church construction. Others who are available in October can join the prayerwalking efforts.

Activities immediately before the KBC meeting range from servant evangelism projects Nov. 8-11 and community surveys Nov. 11-13, including youth rallies Sunday and Monday nights featuring Christian illusionist Brock Gill.

Describing Cross Over as "hands-on missions that's close to home," Garland said it helps participants "get out there and discover needs."

For more information, contact the KBC church development and evangelism team at (502) 489-3571, toll-free at (866) 489-3571 or call Warren Baptist Association at (270) 842-4160.

Garland, who was called this week as pastor of Crestwood Baptist Church in Oldham County, will conclude his KBC role in August. His leadership in Cross Over Kentucky will be part of his ministry legacy after seven-plus years on the KBC Mission Board staff.

From a personal perspective, Garland's call to Crestwood prompts mixed emotions for me. As a member of Crestwood Baptist, I am excited about him becoming my pastor and guiding the church's future growth and ministry. On the KBC side, I regret that he no longer will be leading the state convention's evangelism and church development strategy.

As we trust God's wisdom and timing, however, pray for KBC Executive Director Bill Mackey and other leaders who will be seeking Garland's successor. May his vision for Cross Over and other innovative ministry efforts continue to reap spiritual benefits for years to come.

### STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR



Trennis Henderson

## Finding joy amid life's great trials

**Editor's Note:** Jennifer Barrentine, 28, was diagnosed five years ago with ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease). Barrentine, whose father, Jimmy Barrentine, is executive director of the Baptist Convention of Iowa, wrote this article for the Iowa Baptist newspaper, one of the Western Recorder's six partnership publications throughout the nation.

By Jenifer Barrentine

Rejoicing in suffering seems impossible. However, if you allow God to be in control of every situation in your life, it is possible to experience joy.

That doesn't mean there won't be days of heartache, struggle, grief and even self-pity, but God can help you through those days. He will make them more bearable and give you peace.

I don't know why we suffer or why one person has to suffer one way and others another. But I do know that suffering and difficulties come to everyone. The Bible helps us understand this in Romans 5:1-8. This passage lets us know we can rejoice in suffering because it leads to perseverance, then character, and ultimately, to hope.

At 23, I was a full-time college student and taught kindergarten at a daycare center. Life was good. But my life soon changed drastically. I became ill with what eventually was diagnosed as systemic lupus, fibromyalgia and ALS.

When these illnesses struck, I didn't know what to do except pray

that God would heal me, but He didn't. I did not want to accept the fact that I wouldn't get better.

When acceptance finally came, I prayed to God: "Lord, You don't have to heal me; but please use these illnesses and disabilities to help bring others to know You, to encourage and inspire those who already know You and to help bring me closer to You."

Almost five years have passed since I became ill. My condition has continued to deteriorate. I cannot walk or even transfer myself from my wheelchair to my bed.

I can't even use my motorized wheelchair, but have to be pushed by others. I am unable to drive my modified van. I have difficulty swallowing and get short of breath. I cannot talk, so I use a voice synthesizer to communicate.

This journey has not been an easy one for a hyperactive, very talkative person in her 20s. However, I have learned that there are many reasons to rejoice.

One thing is that God answered my prayer of acceptance. He has given me opportunities to share Jesus with people more frequently and more effectively than I ever had before I was sick.

In stores, in restaurants and on the streets, people would come up and talk to me. They were concerned or curious and wanted to know what had happened to me. That opened the door for me to talk about what God had done, and was

doing, for and through me. Obviously, that is not as easy now, but I can still write—even if it is on a keyboard and sometimes with just one finger.

Another reason for rejoicing is that He has also allowed me to encourage, and some say even inspire, others who are having difficult times in their lives. I can assure them that God is there for them. Sometimes just listening is all they need.

The Lord has given me the ability to "hang in there" one day at a time. After all, no one is promised more than that. I can rejoice that He can give us a positive attitude if we ask Him. "His grace is sufficient and His power is made perfect in weakness" (2 Corinthians 12:9).

I can rejoice because God has helped me grow closer to Him. He has taught me that we can be blessed with laughter. Even in the most difficult times, He can "tickle" us by having spiders fall into the bathtub at inopportune moments. After all, what else can you do when you can't just jump out?

God's lessons extend to His blessings through other people. I wanted to help others, but others also have blessed me. I am grateful for family, friends and a wonderful Christian doctor.

Of course, the ultimate reason for rejoicing in suffering is hope and assurance. I know that heaven is waiting for me. How can I not rejoice when I know that one day I won't need the wheelchair or voice synthesizer, but instead I will "soar on wings like eagles" (Isaiah 40:31).

### FIRST PERSON

## NAMB missionary terminated amid dispute with trustee

By Greg Warner  
Associated Baptist Press

**Gilroy, Calif.** (ABP)—The Southern Baptist North American Mission Board has terminated its support for an associational missionary in California who has crossed swords with Southern Baptist leaders.

Michael Stewart, director of missions for Central Coast Baptists Association in California's Monterey Bay area, lost his NAMB funding in June. His position—like those of many associational missionaries in Southern Baptist life—has been jointly funded by NAMB, the California Southern Baptist Convention and the local association.

NAMB spokesman Marty King said the "rare" dismissal is unrelated to Stewart's recent accusations that the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee interfered in a church-property dispute in his association. Instead, King blamed it on a "deteriorating relationship" between Stewart and NAMB. In addition, he said, Stewart has been critical of the agency.

Stewart also has been in a long-running dispute with NAMB trustee Ron Wilson, a Los Angeles-area pastor and former trustee chair. Wilson serves on NAMB's missionary personnel committee, which terminated Stewart's missionary status.

A transcript of a May 30 meeting between Stewart and NAMB

officials reveals those officials were concerned about Stewart's relationship with Wilson, who had lodged the complaints that prompted the showdown meeting with Stewart.

"What about your relationship with Ron Wilson, who happens to be a trustee?" asked trustee Terry Fox, chair of the missionary personnel committee. "It would be important to get that resolved."



Michael Stewart

Stewart told ABP he understood the underlying message: "I was told at the May meeting that I had to get along with Ron Wilson if I was going to continue as a missionary."

Wilson, pastor of First Baptist Church in Thousand Oaks, Calif., did not participate in the May 30 meeting, which included several NAMB administrators and two trustees—including Fox, senior pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church in Wichita, Kan.

But Wilson said he did attend the June 12 meeting of the trustees' missionary personnel committee and that he voted to dismiss Stewart. He declined to discuss the reasons for Stewart's termination.

Stewart remains director of missions for the association, his ultimate employer. And the California convention has issued a statement of support for him. But Stewart's salary supplement and insurance coverage from NAMB have been

eliminated—an estimated \$25,000 annually.

### Allegations & investigations

Wilson acknowledged he brought the original allegations against Stewart to the missionary personnel committee in 2004. "The original thing was that people in his association made some complaints to me as a trustee," he told ABP.

However, those charges were investigated by the association and dismissed. The allegations were that Stewart made "derogatory" statements about the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message statement and that he tried to "take over" San Tomas Baptist Church, a troubled congregation in the association.

NAMB asked the California Southern Baptist Convention to look into the charges in December 2004. The convention in turn contacted the association which formed an investigative committee.

According to the committee's report, released in late 2005, Stewart opposed an attempt in 2001 to require each church in Central Coast Baptist Association to adopt the 2000 Baptist Faith and Message as its official statement of faith. Stewart said such an action would violate local church autonomy and decimate the association. The motion failed 148-2.

Stewart got involved in the controversy at San Tomas Baptist Church in 2001 because Mike Nich-

ols, the pastor, had sold off \$900,000 worth of church property and given the proceeds to himself and family members, the investigative committee concluded.

The associational committee concluded all allegations against Stewart were "totally without merit." It also asked Ron Wilson and the North American Mission Board to repent for making false accusations.

Wilson refused, saying he had done nothing wrong. NAMB did not apologize either. But in a crucial letter to the association's moderator Oct. 12, 2005, NAMB's Eduardo Docampo said that, after the association's investigation, "the matter was closed and remains closed."

A month later, at the California Southern Baptist Convention in November 2005, the association's investigative committee challenged Wilson for interfering in the association's affairs and refusing to repent. Without naming Wilson, the committee convinced messengers to bar him from participation in the meeting.

By December 2005, NAMB was again looking into the earlier allegations against Stewart.

King, NAMB's spokesman, declined to say whether Wilson's dispute with Stewart was a factor in the dismissal.

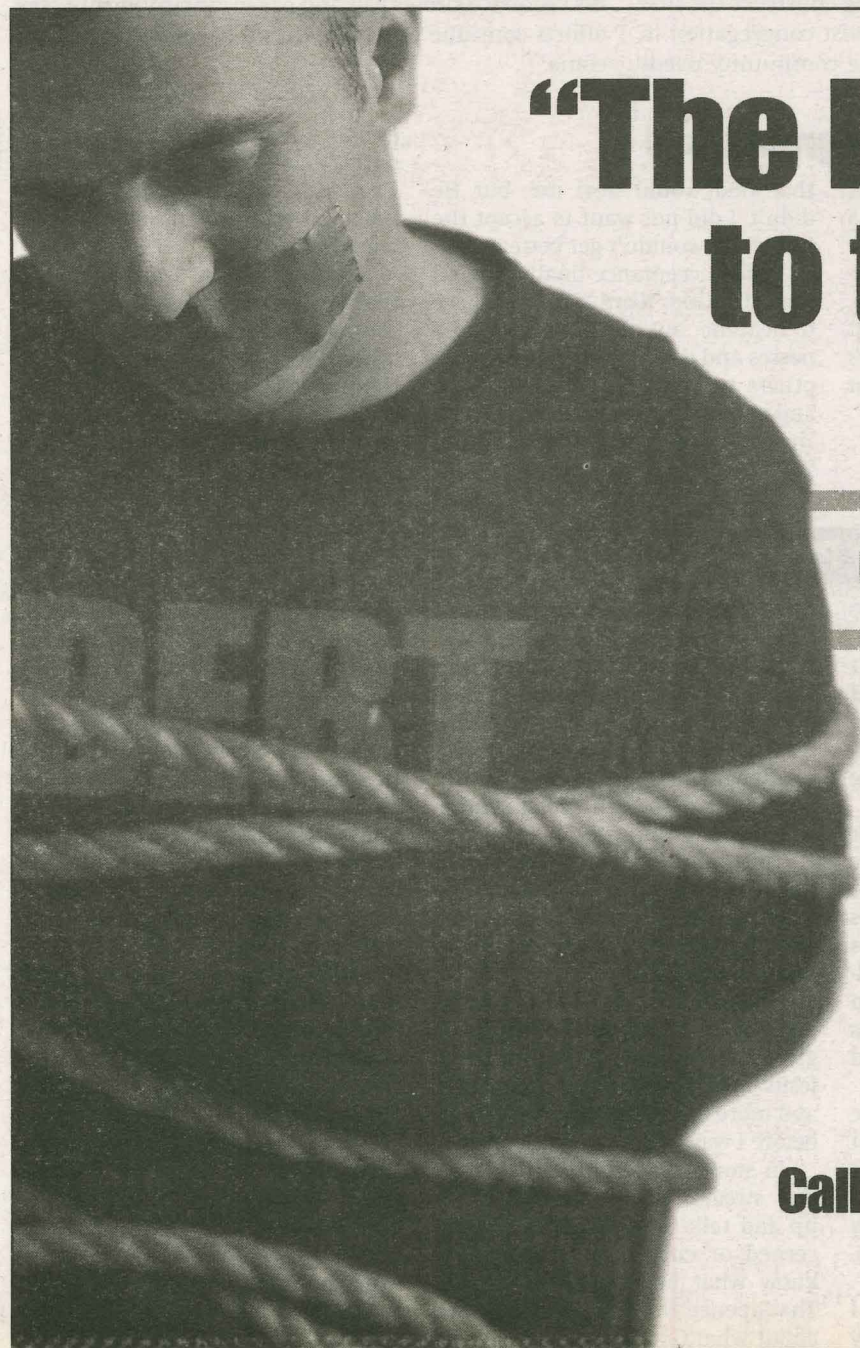
Stewart said the association's churches "are all shocked" about the NAMB termination but "we're going to move on."

"People in his association made some complaints to me as a trustee."

NAMB trustee Ron Wilson

"I was told ... that I had to get along with Ron Wilson if I was going to continue as a missionary."

Michael Stewart, director of missions for Central Coast Baptist Association in California



# "The borrower is slave to the lender."

Proverbs 22:7

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## Conference challenges Baptists to improve their Sunday schools

By Andrea Higgins  
SBC LifeWay Christian Resources

Ridgecrest, N.C. (BP)—Sunday school is alive and well. It just needs a wakeup call, according to LifeWay Christian Resources President Thom Rainer.

"God is not done with Sunday school," Rainer told attendees at the 2006 Sunday school conference at LifeWay Ridgecrest Conference Center near Asheville, N.C.

"It's not that Sunday school is not working—it's that most churches are not working Sunday school," Rainer said, citing research he has led that found Sunday school is the No. 1 outreach and evangelism tool and the most effective assimilation arm of the church.

At the recent conference David Francis, LifeWay's director of Sunday school, underscored a three-pronged approach: invite, discover and connect.

"It's about helping church members as well as leaders ... understand their class can be a safe place to come and discover Bible truths, share faith stories and connect," Francis said.

Although Sunday school numbers hit a plateau over the past 10 years, Francis said the Sunday school movement is being rediscovered across all denominations.

Rainer, citing the Old Testament book of Zechariah, said God's one instruction to the remnant that had returned to Jerusalem was to rebuild the house of God.

"This text speaks to us today because, quite frankly, across America, it's time to rebuild the house of God," Rainer said.

"Do you know that over half of Southern Baptist pastors have not talked to anyone about Jesus in the last six months, ... that the majority of Southern Baptists will go to glory without ever having shared their faith one time?" Rainer asked. "Across America it takes 86 Christians a year to reach one person for Christ ... and 94 percent of churches are reaching less than their community is growing. In other words

they're losing ground.

"Sunday school began to grow across America when God's people began to be burdened about lost people and began inviting people to Sunday school," Rainer said. "It's easy to play church instead of having a passion for those who are out there."

### Teach for transformation, not info

LifeWay senior Sunday school leadership specialist Wayne Poling told conference participants, "You must teach for transformation, not just information."

In his seminar, Poling pointed out that "Jesus was the master teacher. But you can use the tools He used."

"It's not just a matter of getting through the lesson," said LifeWay Sunday school specialist Wayne Etheridge. "It's: What have we done and how do we address the need for spiritual transformation?"

Lawrence Phipps, pastor of Vaughn Forest Baptist Church in Montgomery, Ala., agreed.

He told attendees that the success of a Sunday morning class "will not be measured in how many people can be put in seats, but how many people the classes place in service and the classes' ability to start new classes."

LifeWay leadership specialist David Apple told attendees to remember that God is stronger than any destructive—but inevitable—spiritual warfare attacks.

"We have reduced the Sunday morning experience to the point that it is no longer a threat to Satan," Apple said.

Conference attendee Birch Jones, 36, said he grew up attending Sunday school but never grasped that he was to put into action what he learned.

"I never got that," said Jones, now Sunday school director at Cedar Creek Baptist Church in Louisville. "Sunday school is not an end. It's a means. It's right in the Great Commission. It says go and make disciples—not just converts."



Thom Rainer

## Study finds divorce affects children's spiritual development

Continued from page 1

"But it's like you have had a leg blown off or you've had a wound and it's terrible and nobody sees it."

Linda Ranson Jacobs, executive director of Divorce Care for Kids, or DC4K, says her group's program, which has been adopted by 2,000 congregations, argues that divorce affects every area of a child's life—emotionally, spiritually and intellectually.

"We wanted to put together a program to teach churches what the children are experiencing, the grief that they're going through, the stress that they're under, and bring them into the church family," Jacobs said.

"You know, what better place for a child who's lost their earthly family to be than in a church fam-

ily?" she said.

Training videos by DC4K feature children wrestling with common divorce-related problems, such as being torn between the parents' two homes and their two churches.

"I think the biggest accomplishment is just keeping God in front of those children, changing how they look at a father image or a parent image," Jacobs said.

### Comfort in evangelical churches

According to Marquardt, some children of divorce become more religious after their parents' breakup, but they do so in a different way.

More than 40 percent of those adult children of divorce who are members of a faith community describe themselves as born again.

## Worship's top 10

### Pastor offers "Ten Commandments" for setting a theology of music during worship

By Jenny Rice  
SBC LifeWay Christian Resources

Ridgecrest, N.C. (BP)—Christians should be worshipping God, not worship, when they attend a worship service, according to Denver pastor Jim Shaddix.

Speaking at a recent worship conference, he explained that Baptists have had a hard time maintaining a biblical balance in worship.

"We are a people of extremes," explained Shaddix, pastor of Riverside Baptist Church in Denver.

"A long time ago, people were nervous about the charismatic movement, so worship services became like funeral services.

"Now the pendulum has swung all the way to other side and we have hand raising and clapping but lyrics without correct theology," he added.

"In the revival of worship and the reaction of what we've seen, our focus is on the style rather than the object of our worship—God," he said.

Worshipping God and not worship was the first of "Ten Commandments" that Shaddix offered during his address at this summer's LifeWay Worship Conference, June 19-23 at LifeWay Ridgecrest Conference Center in North Carolina.

Others commandments were:

■ **Thou shalt worship as a lifestyle, not as a music style.**

"If there is a disconnect in what happens at the church event and what is happening in people's daily lives, there is a problem," Shaddix said. "That needs to be more important than if people are singing on the right key."

■ **Thou shalt make the Divine Seeker comfortable first and foremost.**

Shaddix warned about trying to make seekers comfortable first and foremost rather than God, Who seeks after non-Christians.

Citing 1 Corinthians 14:23-25, Shaddix noted, "If the presence of God is thick in a place and His Word is communicated clearly, seekers will be transformed."

■ **Thou shalt use music as a sacrifice of praise, not as a synonym for worship.**

Shaddix challenged today's definition of worship as music only, adding that the term also should include preaching.

■ **Thou shalt be theologically equipped.**

As a former professor at New Orleans Bap-

tist Theological Seminary, Shaddix shared his conviction that seminaries tend to give the impression that the study of theology is less important for those serving as ministers of music rather than senior pastors.

"We've compartmentalized theological education and raised worship leaders to believe it isn't important to know theology. Therefore they aren't able to filter out songs that don't accurately represent God."

He encouraged worship leaders to pursue the study of theology in addition to technical skills.

■ **Thou shalt reflect a holistic theology in worship content.**

"Celebration is not the only kind of worship," he said.

"The Bible speaks of worship involving all seasons of life," Shaddix noted. "Is there a place in our worship for saying, 'God, I don't understand?'"

■ **Thou shalt worship in a rhythm of revelation and response.**

"There is no worship without revelation," Shaddix said.

"God reveals Himself most clearly through His Word," he added. "We can't separate the music from the preaching event. We have nothing to worship if God doesn't reveal Who He is."

■ **Thou shalt employ lyrics that reflect communal identity.**

Shaddix encouraged the use of songs that represent worship on behalf of the entire church body rather than only individuals by incorporating songs that include "we" in the lyrics rather than "me."

■ **Thou shalt use technology with theological and pastoral sensitivity.**

Shaddix noted that the Bible speaks of worship including clashing cymbals and loud music.

But "hearing others sing encourages worship," he added. "If amplification is so much that you can only hear the sound on stage rather than the people singing beside you, that isn't good."

■ **Thou shalt foster worship that reflects the diversity and unity of heaven.**

Shaddix encouraged worship leaders to keep the end in mind.

"God is honored in worship when we strive to accomplish ethnic diversity and congregational unity."

**"What better place for a child who's lost their earthly family to be than in a church family?"**

Linda Ranson Jacobs, executive director of Divorce Care for Kids

"The compassion born of sorrow has allowed me to feel deeply and minister deeply to the children of divorce and parents who are going through divorce."

Twenty years after her parent's marriage dissolved, Jen Thompson—now recently divorced herself—says she still is working on her image of God.

"I have had to ask God to make Himself real to me and (I) say, 'I need You to clear this up for me. I'm having trouble seeing You as a loving Father.'

"And sometimes I call him Daddy. Sometimes, when I'm praying ... about things that are going on in my own life, sometimes instead of saying 'God,' or 'Lord,' I just say 'Daddy, I'm having a hard time,'" she said. "I'm trying to personify Him as that loving Father."

Marquardt theorizes that they are drawn to the theology found in evangelical churches, "where you have a more direct personal relationship with God as Father through the Son, Jesus Christ.

"For instance, they're much more likely to agree that God became the loving Father or Parent (they) never had in real life," she said. "So they are turning to God and the faith for something they didn't have in their own lives. And in the midst of that healing, in the midst of finding wholeness, there's also a very poignant story of loss."

Williams agrees.

"I'm interested in looking at God not as ... what He can do for me but what I can do for Him—appreciating life, even being thankful for the experiences," Williams said.

## Crossings camps built on relationships, not facilities

**"We look for college students who really want to build relationships with kids at camp."**

Scott Bidwell, associate director of Cedarmore Baptist Assembly, on staff selection for Crossings camps

*Continued from page 1*

"Our goal is to be the very best at a relational-based camp model," he said. "There's more staff per camper (at Crossings) than any camp we're aware of."

That relational-based model differs from many other camping alternatives, Melber noted. Many camps attract church groups to a neutral location, such as a beach or mountain conference center, and host large-scale worship and training events with big-name worship leaders, speakers or musicians.

The large-scale model can be successful, Melber says, if church leaders take the initiative to build on the nightly worship and discipleship sessions. But often the rest of the time is unstructured or solely recreation time, Melber said.

But at Crossings, the relational strategy extends from staff recruitment to the weekly schedule, according to Scott Bidwell, associate director at Cedarmore.

"We look for college students who really want to build relationships with kids at camp," he said.

Even meals last an hour instead of 30 minutes so staff can sit and talk with campers, he added, and staff are told from the beginning that their No. 1 job is to love the kids.

"Because we're all about relationships, we see a definite correlation between relationships that are built with staffers and (spiritual) decisions that are made."

The proof is in the numbers. Throughout the camping season, which ends Friday, more than 200 youth have made first-time professions of faith.

Church leaders who bring their youth to Crossings praise the camps for their effectiveness and professionalism.

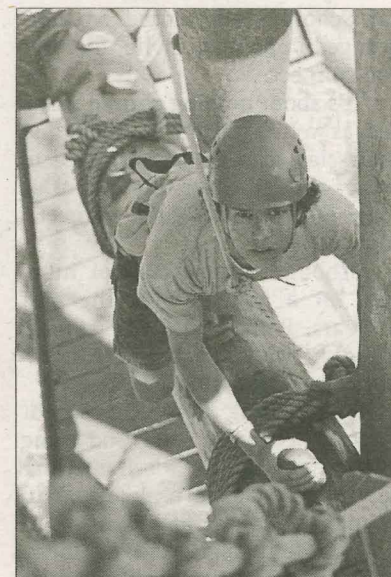
"Jonathan Creek seems like a great place to get kids saved," said



**CROSSINGS COUNSELOR** Patrick Perry, a student at Morehead State University, leads a Bible study with youth. Kentucky Baptist Assembly leaders say the summer camps' emphasis on relationships between staff and campers is the secret to Crossings' success. (Photos by David Winfrey)



**HOLD ON** John Abney (right) and Joe Benson of McHenry Baptist Church try to stay atop a water float while pulled behind a boat at Jonathan Creek.



**CLIMBING** Andrew Barfell of Cleveland scales the 50-foot climbing tower at Jonathan Creek.

Joe Crabtree, who helped chaperone the youth group from Versailles Baptist Church.

Just two days into their camping

experience, he said, five youth from his church already had made public decisions to become a Christian, and nine others recommitted themselves to Christ.

### "Not just a fun week"

"It's not just a fun week, it's the spiritual element that goes along with it," said Crabtree, who also became a Christian at a summer camp. "It can be a very powerful influence on young people's lives."

And because they spend lots of time with the campers, staff have a huge impact on the kids' lives, he added.

"A kid's camp experience will be greatly affected by who leads their small group," Crabtree said. "Whether they realize it or not, the staff members, the kids really look up to them. They say, 'Gee, when I get to be college age I'd like to be

like that."

Melber points to camper surveys where teens list Crossings' worship and Bible studies as their favorite activities more than water sports, mountain biking or any other recreational program.

He calls camps a resource—not a replacement—for churches seeking to connect with youth.

"With the pressures on youth today, it is going to become more critical to get them unplugged from their culture so they can understand who they are, Who God is and that He's got a plan for them," he said.

"Camp can help the churches connect back with youth," he added. "They can more easily see Who God is with the distractions removed."

## Distractions removed so campers can explore 'Identity'

Cedarmore—To find out what kind of Bible study and worship young campers needed to hear, Crossings staff asked them.

Before the first camper arrived, Kentucky Baptist Assemblies leaders formed focus groups of youth leaders, past staff and even campers.

Specifically, youth were asked what they struggle with.

Camp staff heard youth describe the challenges of trying to live up to the world's standards of looks, popularity and athletic accomplishment.

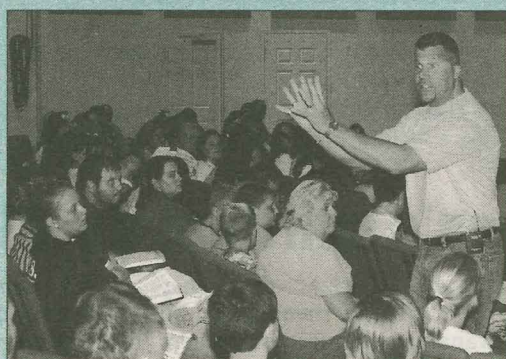
"The girls, in particular, struggle with (how) the world says you should look a certain way, your friends should be certain friends and your identity is very much in how you look and how popular you are," said David Melber, president of Kentucky Baptist Assemblies.

As a result, the camps this summer have the theme of "Identity."

Based on the Gospels' story of the Samaritan woman at the well, camps have emphasized that the Samaritan woman was accepted, satisfied, a worshipper and a witness as a result of her encounter with Jesus.

"What they don't understand is you're accepted just the way you are," said Scott Bidwell, associate director at Cedarmore Baptist Assembly. "That's a huge realization for everyone."

Another result of the focus groups, Melber said, was the decision to divide the Bible stud-



**EVENING WORSHIP** Steve Ayers, pastor of Hillvue Heights Church in Bowling Green, preaches during an evening worship service at Jonathan Creek. Students have made more than 1,700 spiritual decisions this summer at Crossings camps at Jonathan Creek and Cedarmore.

ies by gender and age so that campers could be more honest with less concern about what someone of the opposite sex might think about their responses.

"It removed the distraction of girls and boys having their mind on each other rather than the Bible study," Melber said.

"It has also allowed for gender specific discussions that never would have happened before," he added. "They can really open up about how they feel and work and process through that."



**BELLY FLOP** Bracken Harpole, 14, of Concord Baptist Church in Hartford, does a dramatic entrance to the mud pit at Jonathan Creek.

# A different family vacation

*Families spend week performing missions work in Eastern Kentucky*

By Mickey Noah  
SBC North American Mission Board

Lynch (BP)—More than 200 volunteers gave up their Fourth of July to spend time in Eastern Kentucky, become closer-knit families and minister in Jesus' name.

Families came from as far away as Arizona, Wisconsin and Michigan to make Lynch their summer vacation spot for four days.

"It was the best vacation we've ever had as a family," said Sharon Guinn, who came with husband Creig and their four children from Lugoff, S.C. "It was a life-changing experience for all of us."

It was an eternity-changing experience for Creig, who was led to become a Christian by another dad during their four days in Lynch.

"That was the crowning moment for us," said Sharon Guinn, a member of Mt. Olivet Baptist Church in Camden, S.C.

The event was a pilot project for the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board's "Families on Mission" effort. NAMB organized two sessions, July 1-5 and July 5-9.

"We actually had to turn people away because we could only accommodate 100 in each of the two sessions," said Rick Head, a volunteer mobilization specialist at NAMB.

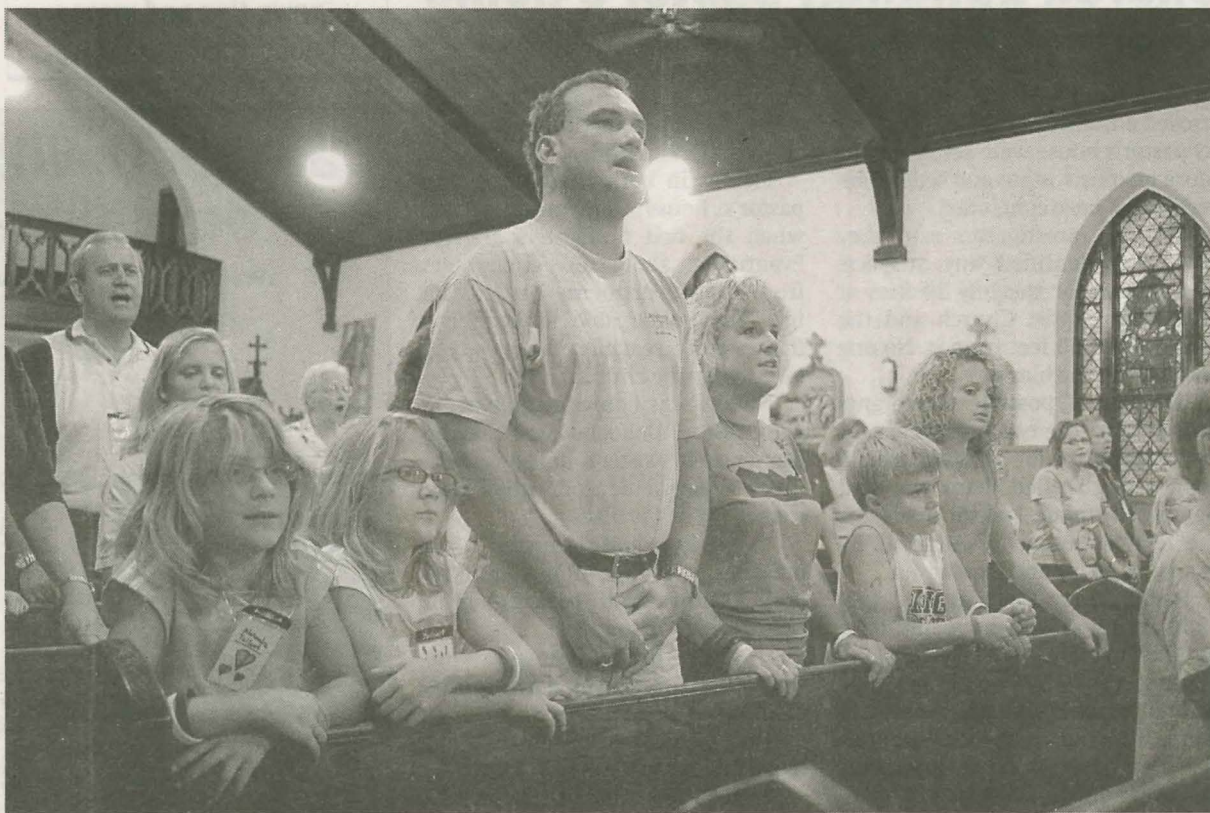
Lynch was selected for NAMB's inaugural Families on Mission experience because it is the home of Meridzo Center Ministries, a local ministry led by Southern Baptist Mission Service Corp missionaries Lonnie and Belinda Riley, who are well-known in the Lynch area.

Meridzo Center Ministries has been operated by the Rileys since 1999 ("Meridzo" is the Greek word for care.)

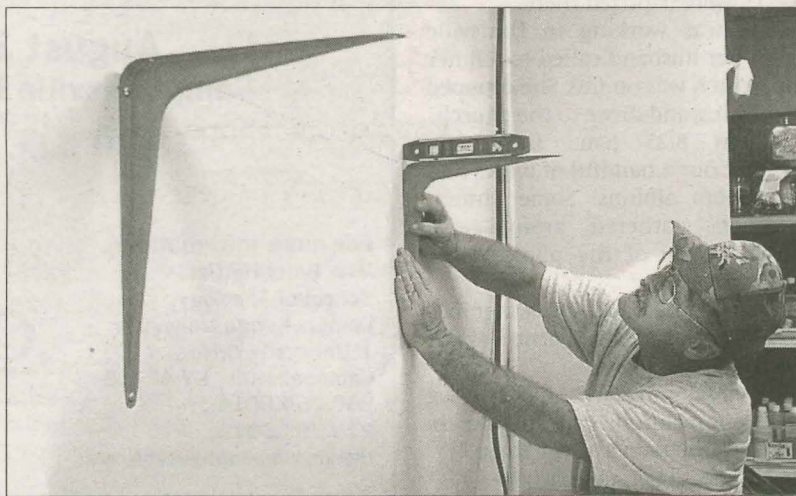
Meridzo has served thousands of people in southern Appalachia through the distribution of food, clothing, furniture and appliances.

The ministry undertakes home repairs, church repairs, construction assistance, backyard Bible clubs, concerts, festivals, job training, worship services and more.

"Since this was our pilot program, we needed to plug into some-



**WORSHIPPING TOGETHER** The Tallent family of Spring City, Tenn., worships together during the recent "Families on Mission" experience in Lynch. Families from as far away as Arizona traveled to Kentucky to take part in the ministry work. A total of 200 people took part in the pilot project, sponsored by the SBC North American Mission Board. (NAMB photos by Jim Burton)



**LEVELING OUT** Rick Holland of Sebastian, Fla., secures braces for shelves at Scents 'n' Such candle and gift shop. The shop employs several women as part of the Meridzo Center's economic redevelopment strategy.

thing with instant credibility in the Lynch community and that was Meridzo," Head explained.

Part of Meridzo Center Ministries is Solomon's Porch Retreat Center, an old four-story hospital built in 1917 to treat coal miners. After buying and renovating it, the Rileys now use it to house and feed mission volunteers year-round.

The Families on Mission initia-

tive is not just another mission project to help the local community—although many Lynch citizens received help, Head said. It's also designed to help bond participating families closer together—physically, emotionally and spiritually.

"We spent half of every day on family devotionals, prayer, worship, mission awareness, family small-group discussions and interacting with missionaries like the Rileys," Head said.

## Multiple mission opportunities

After morning family time, Head said each session's 100 participants were assigned mission projects in the Lynch area, including minor home repairs, painting, free car washes, visiting shut-ins, cutting grass and offering free swim lessons to local Lynch children.

The Guinn family, who usually travel to the beach or mountains each summer, was looking for a different kind of vacation when mom Sharon searched for a family mission trip on the Internet last February. Despite a collective groan from her family when she told them about going to Kentucky coal

country to do mission work, she nevertheless signed up the clan.

"We had done the same things for summer vacation over the years and I was just burned out," said Guinn, who drove six hours to Lynch with her husband Creig and their four children, ages 9-16.

The Guinn family's work projects included grass-cutting for Creig and park cleanup and weed-eating for Sharon and the kids. Daughter Lydia dressed up as a clown for a Fourth of July block party at a Lynch park.

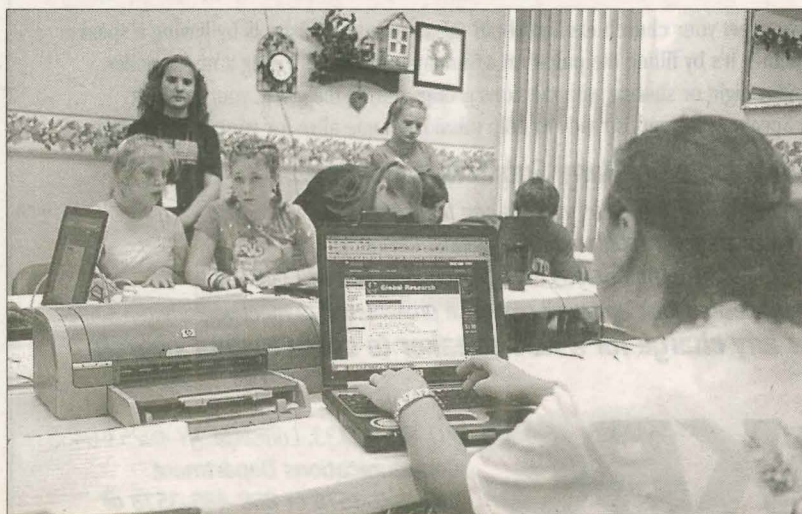
Next year, Families on Mission projects will expand to five days. It will include another mission to Lynch, but other U.S. sites also are under consideration.

Families on Mission is open to family members who are at least 6 years old. A per-person fee covers housing, meals, T-shirts, mission education and project materials. For more information, e-mail Rick Head at rhead@namb.net or call (800) 462-8657, ext. 6219.

For more information about Meridzo Center Ministries, visit meridzo.org, call (606) 848-2766 or e-mail the Rileys at lriley98@bell south.net.



**MORNING DEVOTION** Tammy Sicz and her son Donovan of Wickenburg, Ariz., pray during their morning devotional time. NAMB officials said they expect to return to Lynch next year for another "Families on Mission" project.



**MISSIONS EDUCATION** Amy Harvey (right), of Murfreesboro, Tenn., researches a missions topic during a youth mission education assignment.

Lynch was selected for the inaugural project because it is the home of Meridzo Center Ministries, a ministry led by Lonnie and Belinda Riley.

## Arson destroys Bullitt County church building, pastor's home

By Patrick Howington & Brandy Warren  
Louisville Courier-Journal

Shepherdsville—Fires that destroyed a Bullitt County church and its pastor's house were set by one or more arsonists, state and federal investigators have concluded.

But the investigators said they have not identified any suspects or a motive for the July 20 fires at Sunnyside Baptist Church and the house about 50 feet from it. No one was hurt in the blazes.

Samples of possible accelerants used to start the two fires were sent to a laboratory for analysis after a trained dog sniffed them out, said George Huffman, special agent for the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Pastor Marty DeRoche said July 22 he had no idea who would have set the fires, or why. "We've never had any problems—no threats. I've had no personal threats," he said. "I don't think there's anybody that has anything against me, at least that I'm aware of."

For the most part the fire was out by 8 p.m., although the rubble was still smoking. The frame of the church was still standing, but it was gutted and the roof was gone.

The fire was called in to both

the Zoneton and Nichols fire departments about 5 p.m. Both calls described it as a house fire. "The caller didn't say anything about the church," Orkies said.

Flames in both the church and pastor's house were going strong when the first firefighters arrived. Eventually about 60 firefighters from five departments battled the fire. They were able to keep the flames from reaching two propane tanks near the church.

No one was home at the parsonage. Pastor DeRoche was having dinner at his sister's house in Fern Creek when a deacon called him with word of the blaze.

"I just keep telling myself it's a building, and a building can be rebuilt," said DeRoche, who has been pastor about 18 months.

"I can't think of anyone who would want to do any harm to this church," he said.

The church was built in 1938 and had a major renovation in 1996.

Anne Ickenroth of Shepherdsville, a member for eight years, was married in the church three years ago. Her husband, Matthew, and her two children, Conner, 8, and Victoria, 11, were baptized there.

She was working in Louisville when her husband called to tell her the church was on fire. She dropped everything and drove to the church.

About 8:25 p.m., firefighters brought out a handful of Bibles and two photo albums. Some church members gathered around the albums—none of the photos were damaged.

Robena Shepherd, 75, a member for 65 years, said she learned of the fire from a neighbor.

"It breaks my heart. I know we (the congregation) can still be together, but it won't be the same."

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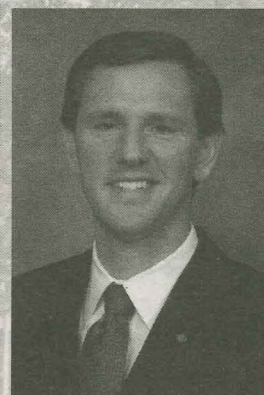
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1, 2, 3 John



### Dr. Paul Chitwood

Dr. Paul Chitwood is pastor of First Baptist Church, Mt. Washington, Kentucky. He has pastored First Baptist Somerset, First Baptist Owenton, and South Fork Baptist Church, (Owenton, KY). He also currently serves as Adjunct Professor of the Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism, and Church Growth, The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and has served as adjunct professor of Missions, Evangelism, and Church Growth, Boyce College of the Bible. He has served extensively in denominational work since 1994.

August 3, 2006

Campbellsville Baptist Church

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**CHURCH DESTROYED**  
About 60 firefighters from five departments battled the fires July 20. (© Louisville Courier-Journal photo by Carla Winn)



## Campbellsville prof killed in crash

Campbellsville—A Campbellsville University professor was killed in an auto accident Saturday, July 22.

Beth Kemper, associate professor of English at Campbellsville, died in the afternoon accident near the Kentucky-Tennessee border. She was 38.

Kemper, who taught at Campbellsville since 1995, also directed the school's Writing-Engagement-Learning Program.

"Beth Kemper was a professor who loved teaching," Campbellsville President Mike Carter said. "Beth was a lover of writing and wanted every student to succeed. She will be missed greatly by the Campbellsville University family."

Frank Cheatham, vice president for academics, called Kemper "a friendly individual with a contagious smile. She had a true love for teaching college students. Her positive attitude and strong leadership on campus will certainly be missed."

She established and directed Campbellsville University's first writing center and served as its director from 1999 until 2003. She also was the honors program director at Campbellsville in 2003.

Kemper received her doctorate in English from the University of Kentucky and her bachelor's and master's degrees from Western Kentucky University.

She was the recipient of the 2000-2001 Appalachian College Association Fellowship, the Sowder Award for Best Graduate Essay at the University of Kentucky and the Wanda Gatlin Essay Award from Western Kentucky University.



Beth Kemper

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Great staff, great results

Crossings at Cedarmore ends, other work continues

Crossings at Cedarmore has officially ended. Our summer camp theme at Cedarmore and Jonathan Creek has been centered upon finding our real identity. I am so thankful for what has taken place this first year as we launched two new programs. We offered Crossings at Cedarmore for middle and high school students and Crossings for Kids for elementary age students.

Closing day of Crossings for Kids was exciting. Upon reflection of these weeks, a video interview with a young girl remains in my thoughts. The question was asked, "What did you learn at camp?" She responded that she learned her identity. I asked her to explain and she replied, "My identity is not in stuff or what I look like, but my identity is that I am a child of God."

Her response is the greatest comment we can hear about what takes place at camp. It is not the facilities, food or recreation, but knowing that biblical truth has been understood by our campers.

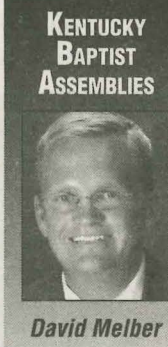
I cannot say enough to our staff and volunteers at both camps who have given so many hours to

see campers ministered to during the summer. In most cases, these servants are behind the scenes and do not receive much public recognition. So publicly, I wish to honor them, their hard work and their endurance. They are a blessing to this ministry.

I also am thankful for the Crossings at Cedarmore "Year One" summer staff. Their unity of purpose and servanthood has been seen by so many campers throughout the summer.

We still have two more weeks of Crossings at Jonathan Creek. After the summer is over we will have served approximately 8,000 guests in the United States and another 6,000 campers in Moldova. I am thrilled to report that at the midpoint of the summer, we have seen more than 1,000 salvation decisions! Our prayer is that the number of decisions will be more than double by the end of the summer. Thank you for your prayers. Please continue to pray that God makes our path clear as we seek to reach this young generation for the glory of our Lord.

David Melber is president of Kentucky Baptist Assemblies. Contact him at Box 99918, Louisville, KY 42069-0918; phone (502) 491-7000.



KENTUCKY BAPTIST ASSEMBLIES

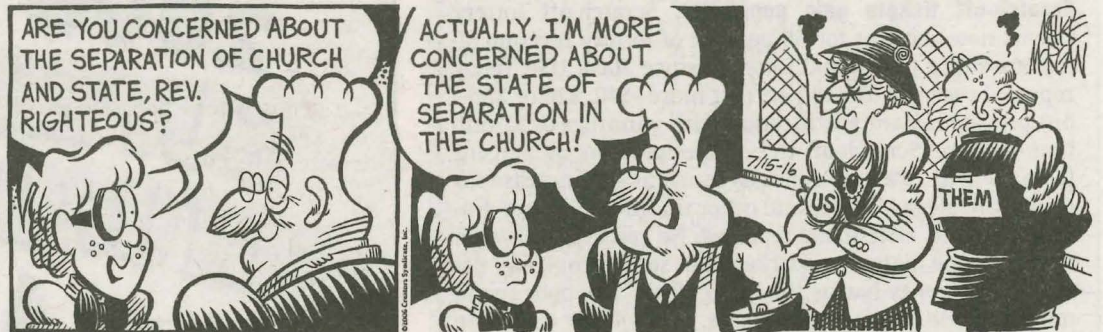
David Melber

Kudzu



Doug Marlette

For Heaven's Sake



Mike Morgan

Bible Crosswords

Elizabeth B. Smith

Across

- 1 "I \_\_\_ not want" (Psalms 23:1)
- 6 "The sucking child shall play on the hole of the \_\_\_" (Isaiah 11:8)
- 9 Father of Hophni and Phinehas (1 Samuel 2:27, 34)
- 10 "Lie down in green \_\_\_" (Psalms 23:2)
- 14 "Then I will \_\_\_ your flesh" (Judges 8:7)
- 16 "\_\_\_ the people together" (Deuteronomy 33:17)
- 17 Mother, for short
- 19 Sandwich shops
- 21 Maiden name
- 22 "I will fear no \_\_\_" (Psalms 23:4)
- 24 "All the days of my \_\_\_" (Psalms 23:6)
- 26 "He will not \_\_\_ thee" (Deuteronomy 31:8)
- 28 "Thy rod and thy staff they \_\_\_ me" (Psalms 23:4)
- 31 "Thou preparast a \_\_\_ before me" (Psalms 23:5)
- 34 Yukon Front, abbr.
- 35 Mined matter
- 37 "Even unto the \_\_\_ of the jubile" (Leviticus 27:18)
- 38 "Lord, be not \_\_\_ from me" (Psalms 35:22)
- 40 What?
- 42 "Thy \_\_\_ and thy staff" (Psalms 23:4)
- 44 "Valley of the shadow of \_\_\_" (Psalms 23:4)
- 46 "None that doeth good, no not \_\_\_" (Psalms 14:3)
- 47 Maryland's neighbor to the south, abbr.
- 49 Flightless bird
- 51 "In \_\_\_ time Christ died for the ungodly" (Romans 5:6)

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	60					61				

- 54 "To lie down in \_\_\_ pastures" (Psalms 23:2)
- 57 Assistant, abbr.
- 59 Not Jr.
- 60 Edible root
- 61 Inhabitant

Down

- 2 "\_\_\_ maketh me to lie down" (Psalms 23:2)
- 3 Height, abbr.
- 4 "\_\_\_ down in green pastures" (Psalms 23:2)
- 5 Organization for veterans, abbr.
- 6 Preposition indicating when or where
- 7 "I ... will \_\_\_ with him, and he with me" (Revelation 3:20)
- 8 Fruit
- 10 "Thou \_\_\_ a table before me" (Psalms 23:5)
- 11 "Beside the \_\_\_ waters" (Psalms 23:2)
- 12 Wind direction
- 13 "The Lord is my \_\_\_" (Psalms 23:1)
- 15 In the year of our Lord, Lat. abbr.
- 17 "\_\_\_ shall follow me" (Psalms 23:6)
- 18 Audio-visual, abbr.
- 20 Yes, Sp.

- 23 "\_\_\_ hath sent me unto you" (Exodus 3:14) (2 words)
- 25 "\_\_\_ their skin from off them" (Micah 3:3)
- 26 "Fear no evil: \_\_\_ thou art with me" (Psalms 23:4)
- 27 "God saw that \_\_\_ was good" (Genesis 1:10)
- 29 Not on
- 30 "Dwell in the house of the Lord \_\_\_" (Psalms 23:6) (2 words)
- 32 "The well ... is between Kadesh and \_\_\_" (Genesis 16:14)
- 33 Southeast Asian
- 36 Myself
- 39 Paid announcement
- 41 "I will dwell in the \_\_\_ of the Lord" (Psalms 23:6)
- 43 Medium, abbr.
- 45 "Anointest my \_\_\_ with oil" (Psalms 23:5)
- 48 "Thou \_\_\_ with me" (Psalms 23:4)
- 50 Social worker's graduate degree
- 52 "\_\_\_ not vain repetitions" (Matthew 6:7)
- 53 "Do not \_\_\_, my beloved brethren" (James 1:16)
- 55 Apiece, abbr.
- 56 "I will fear \_\_\_ evil" (Psalms 23:4)
- 58 Thallium, chem. symbol

Last week's solution

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39	O	A	Y	40	A	T	R	E	S	I	A	42	A
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PRACTICAL RESOURCES FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING  
WESTERNRECORDER

## President uses first veto on stem-cell research legislation

Washington (RNS)—President Bush exercised the first veto of his presidency July 19 to reject a bill that would have expanded federal funding for embryonic stem cell research.

Speaking at a White House event that included young children from the embryo program of a Christian adoption agency, Bush said "these boys and girls are not spare parts."

The legislation Bush vetoed was passed by the Senate on July 18 and by the House of Representatives in 2005. It would have lifted restrictions imposed by the president in 2001 on embryonic stem cell research.

Many medical groups argue that the research holds the promise of cures for a variety of illnesses, but conservative Christians lambaste it

because it involves the destruction of human embryos.

"This bill would support the taking of innocent human life in the hope of finding medical benefits for others," Bush said. "It crosses a moral boundary that our decent society needs to respect, so I vetoed it."

Neither the Senate nor the House was expected to override the president's veto.

Because embryonic stem cells can be made into any kind of cell, many scientists consider them to be important steps toward finding cures for a variety of ailments—from Parkinson's disease to diabetes.

But the human embryo is essentially destroyed in the process, leading conservative Christians to condemn the procedure as tantamount to abortion.

### NATIONAL NOTES

**Scratch-off tickets gain popularity.** Scratch-off lottery tickets now account for 55 percent of lottery revenue after outselling traditional lotteries since 2004, USA Today reported recently. The tickets cost more—\$10, \$20 or \$30—but provide instant gratification with winnings of \$1 million or more. Scratch-off ticket sales grew by 59 percent from 2001 to 2005, six times as much as the increase for Powerball, Mega Millions and other traditional games during that time, USA Today reported. No research exists on who buys the high-priced tickets, but some people say the scratch-off frenzy harms the lower class. "The poor spend more of their income on lotteries, so it's likely they'll be hurt by expanding this regressive, deceptive way of raising money," Alicia Hansen of the research group Tax Foundation told USA Today.

**Ralph Reed loses bid for office.** Ties with corrupt lobbyist Jack Abramoff were blamed for Ralph Reed's lost bid to win the Republican nomination for lieutenant governor of Georgia. Though he led in polls leading up to the primary, Reed was defeated July 18 by state Sen. Casey Cagle, who took 56 percent of the vote. Reed, the former director of the Christian Coalition and former leader of the Georgia Republican Party, could not escape his history with Abramoff, who pleaded guilty to charges of fraud, tax evasion and bribery. Abramoff had arranged for Reed to be paid \$5.3 million by Indian tribes that ran casinos in exchange for coordinating anti-gambling campaigns against competing casinos, The New York Times said, though Reed said he did not know the source of the money he received.

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### Beyond our dreams

#### Missionaries' international ministry continues with Oneida students

By Paul Davidson.

Oneida Baptist Institute Faculty Member

In the corner of our living room, there is a collection of things that a year ago I never would have dreamed would be in our house. Of course, a year ago I never would have dreamed that my family and I would be at Oneida as piano teacher, math tutor/teacher and students.

The four of us came from our 15-year International Mission Board ministry in Nigeria to the United States in the middle of February 2005 because of a serious medical situation in our family. Initially we expected to stay in the United States for only six weeks. In the middle of July (five months after our arrival) we found ourselves looking for a place to serve the Lord in the U.S. until the medical situation was resolved.

Every door we tried to open seemed to be locked. At last, the Lord led us to Oneida, which was His place for us for this time. The medical need vanished without further treatment upon our arrival at Oneida. Just as the hymn writer penned, "God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform."

Just as my wife and I had determined many years ago as we committed ourselves to full-time overseas missionary service, we again committed ourselves to "wherever He leads, I'll go."

It has been a blessed year and a difficult one; blessed as we have become a part of a powerful and life-changing mission to the youth of the entire world here at Oneida and difficult as we have felt the heartache of separation from the people and the work in Nigeria that we fell in love with

in 1990.

The Lord has graciously helped us through the transition from one international mission field to another. It has been our joy to become involved here at Oneida with international students from 14 countries—to teach them, to counsel them, to pray with them and for them and their families, to fellowship with them in our home, to rejoice with them as they give their lives to Jesus Christ, and to continue (via e-mail) to encourage them in their Christian walk when they graduate or transfer to another secondary school. It has been an unexpected privilege to become a part of their lives and to have them become a part of ours.

Because of this, today our living room not only has mementos of Nigeria, but it also has two types of Korean tea (very different in flavor from our common American varieties), as well as other tokens of love and appreciation from Korea and China. Especially prominent in that now-special corner is a joyful-countenanced pair of Korean dolls, both of which seem to be singing to God with thankfulness in their hearts. For us, they so very appropriately express the joy we have experienced in and through the lives of our newest international friends.

Just as we continue to exchange e-mails happily with our loved ones in Nigeria, we look forward to expanding and deepening our relationships with the international students here at Oneida, both while they are here and when they continue their education in the United States and in their home countries.

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



W.F. Underwood

### A Times Square witness

#### Clear Creek student mission team works in New York City

Eight students and missions professor Bob Hughes were on mission in New York City last month. "At 44th and Broadway, it is like being at the crossroads of the world," Hughes said. "New York is a Third World city with 23 million people. It can be overwhelming."

Stationed a hundred yards from Times Square as a witness for Christ, the group gave away 30 cases of water and Gospel of John pamphlets and talked with anyone willing to share. "It was often easier to talk with internationals," Hughes observed. "One way we secured a conversation opener was to volunteer to take their photo with Times Square behind them."

After mornings on the street, students got to interview ministry leaders and observe outreach efforts in the city. In Brooklyn, they visited Jean Baptiste Thomas, a former investment banker and now pastor of a Haitian church started in 1965, attended by 1,500. The church operates a school training Haitian pastors, holds free health clinics each month and has started 68 other congregations throughout the city reaching

30,000 people. On 8th Street, they saw Graffiti Baptist Church, where Taylor and Susan Fields work with the homeless and hungry. Here, they met Gill, a hotel doorman laid off from work. The church has had a significant impact in a relocation ministry after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Students visited offices of The Journey, a rapidly growing church launched by Saddleback Church in California. Located in central Manhattan, the church has 100 small groups. Part of the mission team worked in the library of a theological school; another helped move 75 used computers to the Bronx for a computer-training ministry for inner-city youth.

This was the first visit to New York for six students. Seeing poverty and isolation deepened thanksgiving for their blessings. One student is praying about applying for an internship with The Journey; all left more committed to missions. "All of them had their perceptions of life expanded," Hughes stated. "The response to our free water was often, 'What's the catch?' We were blessed to talk about Jesus."

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



Bill Whittaker

# Balancing act

## Jordan seeks to juggle tourism and preservation

By Cecile Holmes  
Religion News Service

**Amman, Jordan (RNS)**—Biblical history flows through the nation of Jordan, from the cave where Lot is said to have lived after his wife turned into a pillar of salt to the archaeological park where many people believe John the Baptist baptized Jesus.

Abraham passed this way as he traveled from Mesopotamia to Canaan, and Moses climbed Mount Nebo to look out upon the Promised Land.

In Jordan's northwest corner at Umm Qais, called Gadara in the New Testament, Jesus performed the miracle of the Gadarene swine.

"Jordan is the best kept secret in the world as a travel destination, especially for people of faith," said Graham Bardsley, a Presbyterian pastor and adjunct faculty member of Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria, Va.

But as more and more travelers uncover that secret, the country is trying to strike a fragile balance between attracting essential tourist dollars and preserving ancient sites from damage by visitors.

Bardsley co-founded a nonprofit network known as Friends of Jordan, which has taken hundreds of Christian leaders to Jordan over the past several years. Many sites in Jordan remain "as they were seen by Moses, Alexander the Great, Saladin, Marco Polo, John the Baptist and Jesus," Bardsley said.

### Archaeological wonderland

Today, a park stretching 27 square miles with a large visitor center has been developed at Bethany beyond the Jordan, an archaeological wonderland located just 40 minutes from Jordan's capital, Amman.

It's a place where Christian history and the story of Jesus' life and ministry seem omnipresent. In the

past decade, the site has generated enough publicity to attract a range of VIPs, from the late Pope John Paul II to Britain's Prince Charles.

Already, hordes of tourists, along with damaging weather, have threatened pieces of the ancient rose-red rock city of Petra, perhaps Jordan's most famous site. An estimated 300,000 tourists visit Petra annually.

With increased tourism has come more pollution, a higher demand for scarce water, damage to artwork from flash photography and sometimes vandalism at archaeological sites.

Since 1996, excavations at Bethany beyond the Jordan have revealed one ancient site after another associated with John the Baptist and John's baptism of Jesus. Pottery, coins and stone objects, and architectural remains affirm that the site was in use early in the first century.

Pilgrims can visit a small hill believed to be the place from which Elijah ascended into heaven. The same hill is where God is said to have appeared to Elijah and Elisha in a whirlwind.

In addition, traces of the early Christians can be found throughout Bethany beyond the Jordan. There are architectural remnants of a fifth or sixth century Byzantine monastery with churches, baptism and water storage pools, water systems and chapels. A Roman-era building with mosaics has been called an early Christian "prayer hall."

All feed into a tradition that would place Jesus' baptism east of the Jordan River, even though there are others who link the baptism to the other side of Jordan, in Israel.

Many Christians come at religious holidays. Some—eager to make use of a place so steeped in Christian history—want to baptize their children there, said Rustom Mkhjian, who supervises archaeological work

at Bethany beyond the Jordan.

Jordan is a "relatively poor country" compared to the other oil-rich nations in the Persian Gulf, said Chris Johnson of the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature, which was founded in 1946 to protect Jordan's natural—and historical—resources.

The society struggles to provide options that accomplish three goals: continuing to lure tourists to Jordan, creating income-generating projects in poorer regions and highlighting the work of local artisans.

"For each site, we find out the skills of the local people and then we develop a craft that links people to the site," Johnson said.

For example, in southern Jordan, the society has set up a wilderness lodge in an arid desert area. Solar-powered, the lodge also uses candlelight. "All the candles are made by Bedouin women, and we use hundreds of candles a day," Johnson said.

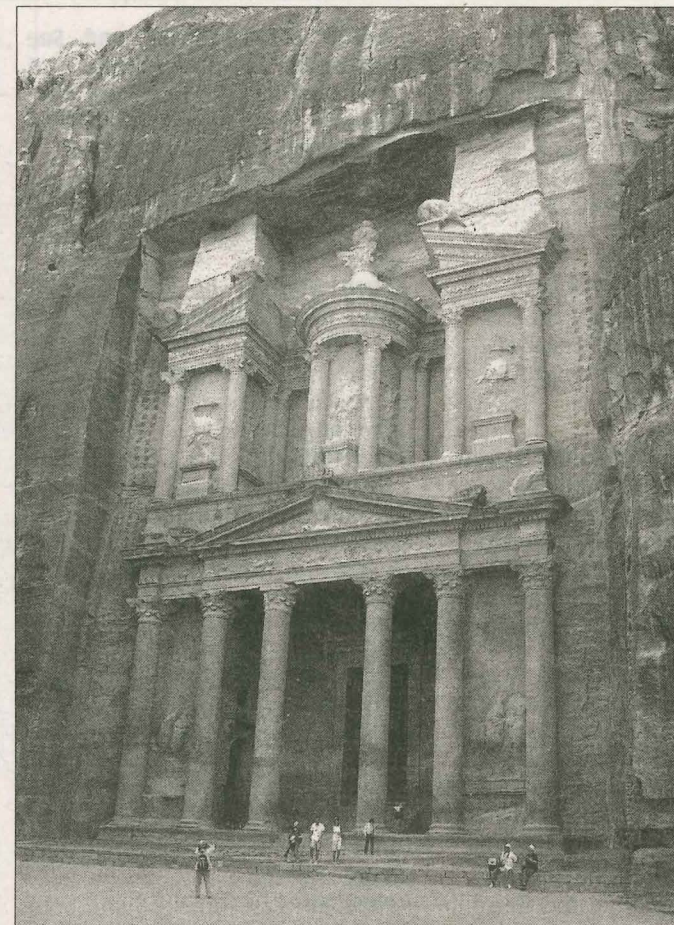
### Tourist numbers rebounding

At Bethany beyond the Jordan, tourists and pilgrims clearly are welcome, but are asked to stick to the marked trails to avoid damaging a history-rich area. "This site is our baby," said Mkhjian, the archaeological site supervisor. "My decision was to protect the site from human intervention."

The number of international visitors to Jordan declined right after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. But tourism was up last year.

In 2005, Jordan attracted 623,572 overnight foreign visitors, almost 50,000 more than the previous year. Tourism revenues increased by 8.5 percent the same year.

Though predominantly Muslim, Jordan also is home to many Christians. The estimates of how many live there, including Palestinian refugees who are Christian, varies. But



Jordan's King Abdullah II is stressing peaceful co-existence among the nation's various religions and emphasizing interfaith dialogue.

Standing near the ruins of a Byzantine monastery with a church building dating to the time of the Emperor Anastasius (A.D. 491-518), Mkhjian notes that some people believe this particular spot might be the ruins of Bethabara.

"This was part of the wilderness" in which John the Baptist lived and moved, Mkhjian said. Inscriptions uncovered at various sites in the archaeological park and other findings make it appear likely Jesus was baptized at the site, he said.

"I leave it to you," Mkhjian told a small group of tourists. "It's your decision in what we are doing."

**PETRA** The ancient stone city of Petra in Jordan is located in the area known as "Bethany beyond the Jordan." The nation of Jordan is trying to strike a balance between attracting tourists to such sacred sites and protecting them from damage. (RNS photo by Jace Holloman)

## Baptist workers call for prayer as Mideast fighting escalates

**Richmond, Va. (BP)**—Southern Baptist missions personnel in the Middle East are urging fellow Southern Baptists to pray for peace in Lebanon, Israel and the entire region as it plunges closer to full-scale warfare.

"We're not here to take sides," said John Brady, who leads Southern Baptist International Mission Board work in Northern Africa and the Middle East. "Our tasks are to pray and minister in the name of Jesus Christ, so one day the people of these troubled lands will know the Prince of Peace."

Conflict erupted on July 12 when Hezbollah guerrillas killed eight Israeli soldiers and captured two others in cross-border attacks from Lebanon. Since that time, both sides have launched offensives—including Israel's attack on Beirut and Hezbollah's barrage of Haifa—leaving scores dead on each side.

The attacks continued to escalate last week as Israeli warplanes launched numerous attacks on Lebanon's eastern and southern ar-

eas and Hezbollah fired more than 1,000 rockets into northern Israel. Meanwhile, Israeli forces continued to battle Hamas-led Palestinian fighters in Gaza on Israel's southwestern coast.

"The news gets worse each day as this conflict deepens," Brady said. "We're asking Southern Baptists to please take a moment to pray after any news update."

Southern Baptists have a long-standing relationship with Baptists in Lebanon and elsewhere in the Middle East. Workers in the region asked for prayer for the safety and ongoing ministry of Lebanese Baptists and other believers affected by the fighting in the region.

"We've had personnel in this part of the world for a long time," Brady said. "No one ever gets used to the violence here, but we have learned to act wisely and be careful about where we go and what we do each day."

In a related development, a Southern Baptist Theological Seminary professor witnessed a Hezbollah

rocket attack while working with an archeological team at Tel Hazor, Israel.

T.J. Betts, assistant professor of Old Testament interpretation at Southern, said he was standing on top of a hill the morning of July 13 when he saw a rocket explode.

### "Dangerous situation"

"It was really bizarre because we could hear the explosions all around us," he said. "All of the cities are built on hills and we could see for miles. I was on top of a hill and I saw a huge explosion."

"At first, the Israelis who were with us said, 'Oh, it is just artillery practice.' They didn't want us to know that it was an attack. But the smoke was as tall as a 10-story building. Not long after that, they said, 'We need to evacuate you.'"

Betts and his group were moved to Tiberius, a resort town on the Sea of Galilee, where they saw news reports of the attack.

"I can honestly say for the whole group that no one was frightened

until we saw the news," Betts said. "Then we realized that we had been in a somewhat dangerous situation and hadn't even realized it."

Betts was part of a team led by Amnon Ben-tor, head archeologist at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. The dig included scholars and students from around the world looking for artifacts from the middle to late Bronze period. Seth Rodriguez, a doctoral student in archeology at Southern Seminary, also was a member of the team.

Also caught in the middle of the ongoing conflict are Israeli and Lebanese Christians, an often-overlooked segment of society in both nations.

"Anytime there is a conflict in the Middle East, it makes it difficult for believers in the countries involved," said Jim Sibley, director of the Pasche Institute of Criswell College in Dallas and a former Baptist representative to Israel.

Sibley, who served in Israel 14 years, said Christians around the world should be praying for those who are threatened by the conflict.

**"We're asking Southern Baptists to please take a moment to pray after any news update."**

John Brady, Southern Baptist International Mission Board

## PRAYER PARTNERS

Please pray for the following volunteers taking part in projects related to Kentucky Baptists' mission partnerships with Baptists in Brazil and Europe:

■ Volunteers from Scottsville currently conducting backyard Bible clubs in Jurubise, Belgium.

■ Volunteer teams from Blood River Association and Pulaski Baptist Association who will lead church planting and evangelism projects in Teresina, Brazil, July 31-Aug. 10.

■ Praise God for six new believers who recently were baptized in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

■ Pray for participants who will be involved in 2007 partnership projects coordinated by the Kentucky Baptist Convention partnership missions department.

## MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

■ **CAMPBELLSVILLE**—Lanny and Sue **Fightmaster Parrott**, members of Campbellsville Church, recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. **Skip Alexander** is pastor.

■ **CENTRAL CITY**—Calvary Church ordained **Craig Skipworth** to the gospel ministry July 23. **Roger Skipworth** is pastor.

■ **CRESTWOOD**—Crestwood Church called **Dan Garland** as senior pastor effective Aug. 13. He currently is leader of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's church development and evangelism team.

■ **FARMINGTON**—Bell City Church will observe its 102nd anniversary July 30 with **John Sheppard** as guest speaker. Sheppard also will lead the church's revival services July 30-Aug. 2. **Bill Dodson** is pastor.

■ **FRANKFORT**—**Phil Champion** recently resigned as minister of children and youth at Crestwood Church. **Wallace Kent** is pastor.

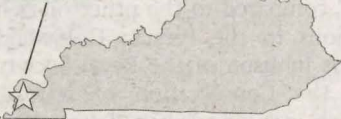
■ **HOPKINSVILLE**—**Nathan Hicks** recently resigned as minister of youth at Second Church.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Clifton Heights Church recently called **Michael Galdamez** as pastor.

■ **PADUCAH**—East Church will hold homecoming services Aug. 13, celebrating 115 years as a church and 20 years at their current site. **Curtis**

## Spotlight on ...

### Bardwell



Antioch Church will celebrate homecoming Aug. 6 and hold revival services Aug. 7-11. **George Gardner** is pastor.

**Harrell** is pastor.

■ **RICHMOND**—Unity Church will celebrate its 23rd anniversary with revival services July 28-30 led by **Hershael York**. The church also will host a fish fry July 29, 5:30 p.m. **D.L. Brewer** is pastor.

■ **WESTPORT**—**Lynn Traylor** recently resigned as pastor of Westport Church.

■ **WILLIAMSBURG**—Mossy Gap Church recently called **Josh Smith** as pastor. He succeeds **Jimmie Ball** who served as interim pastor.

## What's going on?

Mail your happenings to Mountains to the Mississippi at Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253. E-mail: wesrec@earthlink.net.

## KBC leaders approve funding for three 'high impact' church plants

By Ken Walker  
Kentucky Baptist Convention

**Louisville**—Kentucky Baptist Convention leaders recently approved \$100,000 grants for three "high impact" churches, two of them located in Eastern Kentucky.

All three congregations plan launch services for late summer or early fall, with hopes of rapidly reaching their five-year goal of 250 in attendance.

Started as part of the KBC's five-year Kentucky Baptists Connect initiative, high impact churches are designed to attract young adults and the dechurched—people who formerly attended church.

Using contemporary worship and other non-traditional features, the goal is to start 25 high impact churches by 2010. The three new starts bring the overall total to eight.

Larry Baker, director of new work and associational missions for the KBC, said it was exciting to hear the church planters from the three churches share their vision with the state planning team.

"All the guys on the high impact team are sold on church planting," Baker noted, "but to hear these testimonies from guys who are out there doing it, it was an amazing time."

The three church starts are:

■ **Mountain View Community Fellowship** in Paintsville, which will hold its launch service Aug. 20. The pastor is **Jason Hutchinson**.

**Bill Mills**, president of the Christian Appalachian Project, and **Harold Underwood**, CAP's manager of volunteers, and their wives begin the new work as a home Bible study. After meeting with Baker in March

of 2005, they returned to Louisville in July of 2005 for a church-planting workshop.

The first person they met there was **Hutchinson**, who had been thinking of starting a church elsewhere but had refocused on Paintsville.

Sponsoring churches include **Bruner's Chapel Baptist Church** in Harrodsburg and **Immanuel Baptist Church** in Danville.

■ **Life Song** in Ashland, which plans to begin worship services Oct. 1. The pastor is **Keith Menshouse**, former pastor of Oakland Avenue Baptist Church in Catlettsburg.

**Life Song** started Sunday evening Bible studies on July 2. Its sponsoring church is **Fairview Baptist Church** in Ashland.

**Menshouse**, a native of Ashland, said he saw the potential for a new church after initiating an early morning contemporary worship service at Oakland Avenue in 2002.

"I thought if it would work at this early an hour, it ought to work at another time," **Menshouse** said.

■ **Journey**, in south Boone County, which is planning its first public service for mid-September. The pastor is **Mike Osborne**.

While **Journey** hasn't located a meeting place yet, **Osborne** hopes to rent space in a school in a rapidly growing area. **Erlanger Baptist Church** is the first sponsor; several others are considering offering financial support.

Formerly pastor of evangelism and worship at **Erlanger Baptist**, **Osborne** said many of the core group participants of 35 adults and 30 children will come from that church.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### July

31-Aug. 2 Mountain Missions Conference, Oneida Baptist Institute.

### August

5 Crafters on Mission Day, Grace Baptist Church, Lexington.

19 Super Saturday, Porter Memorial Baptist Church, Lexington.

26 Super Saturday, First Baptist Church, Bowling Green, and First Baptist Church, Prestonsburg.

### September

9 Super Saturday, Beacon Hill Baptist Church, Somerset, and Lone Oak First Baptist Church, Paducah.

15-16 Women on Mission/Baptist Nursing Fellowship Fall Retreat, Jonathan Creek.

16 Super Saturday, Crestwood Baptist Church, Crestwood.

18-21 FAITH Clinic, Parkland Baptist Church, Louisville.

18-19 Kentucky Baptist Ministers Golf Tournament, Cherry Blossom Golf Course, Georgetown.

23 Children in Action Day Camp, Cedar Crest.

25 Discipleship/Assimilation, Living Hope Baptist Church, Bowling Green.

29-30 FOCUS 2006, Crestwood Baptist Church, Crestwood.

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



## CLASSIFIED ADS

**FOR SALE:** 1985 32-passenger church bus; new tires, runs and drives good. \$2,900. Call (606) 523-0043.

**NEEDED:** Used 15-passenger van for small Eastern Kentucky church. Contact **Bill Walton**, (606) 593-7144.

**SEEKING:** Part-time (25 hours) volunteer coordinator for the Cabbage Patch, a non-profit Christian organization. Monday-Friday, 2-7 p.m.; occasional weekends. Responsibilities include working closely with staff in recruitment, orientation, scheduling, monitoring, evaluation and recognition of volunteers. Resumé, salary requirements: **Lisa Griffin**, Cabbage Patch, 1413 S 6th St., Louisville, KY 40208; [lgriffin@cabbagepatch.org](mailto:lgriffin@cabbagepatch.org); fax: (502) 637-9943.

**SEEKING:** Full-time ministry assistant for the Kentucky Baptist Convention Administrative Services Department. Position requires three to five years related experience. Excellent organizational and computer application skills required. Attractive compensation and benefit package. Contact: Administrative Services Department, Kentucky Baptist Convention, Louisville, (502) 489-3320.

**SEEKING:** Part-time music minister. Send resumé to: **Friendship Baptist**, 5411 Bengal Road, Campbellsville, KY 42718.

**SEEKING:** Senior pastor for **Delaney Street Baptist Church**. Please send resumé to: **Delaney Street Baptist Church**, 1919 Delaney Ave., Orlando, FL 32806, Attn: Chairman of the Pastor Search Committee. E-mail: [office@dsbc.org](mailto:office@dsbc.org). For general church information, visit our Web site: [www.delaneychurch.com](http://www.delaneychurch.com).

**SEEKING:** Part-time director of missions for **Franklin Baptist Association**—a challenging opportunity with a mission-minded organization. If interested, please send resumé to **DOM Search Committee**, c/o **William S. Coakley**, 529 Kickapoo Trail, Frankfort, KY 40601.

**SEEKING:** Part-time youth minister, **Friendship Baptist of Campbellsville**. Send resumé to: 5411 Bengal Road, Campbellsville, KY 42718.

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister of music and a pianist. Send resumé to: **Grace Community Baptist Church**, 7300 National Turnpike, Louisville, KY 40214.

**SEEKING:** **Shelbyville Mills Baptist Church** in **Shelbyville, Tenn.**, is accepting resumé for the position of worship minister. To be considered, applicant must be well-grounded in doctrine, love the Word of God more than music, have a passion for expository preaching and teaching of the whole counsel of God, and be willing to fill out a lengthy questionnaire and undergo thorough questioning, credit and background checks. If interested, e-mail [Jonosmbc@bellsouth.net](mailto:Jonosmbc@bellsouth.net), or write to 900 Union St., Shelbyville, TN 37160, Attn: **Jonathan Sims**.

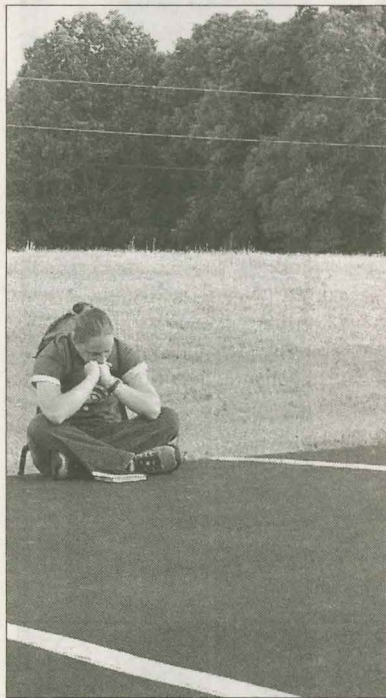
**SEEKING:** Part-time youth minister (20 hours per week). **First Baptist Church** (predominant affiliation: CBF). Mail resumé to church: 254 South Buckman St., Shepherdsville, KY 40165, Attn: **David Wells**; or call the church office, (502) 955-7372, for more information.

**SEEKING:** Full-time minister of music for contemporary, purpose-driven church. Please forward resumé and DVD to: **Worship Search Committee**, **First Baptist Church**, 106 East Walnut St., **Leitchfield, KY 42754**.

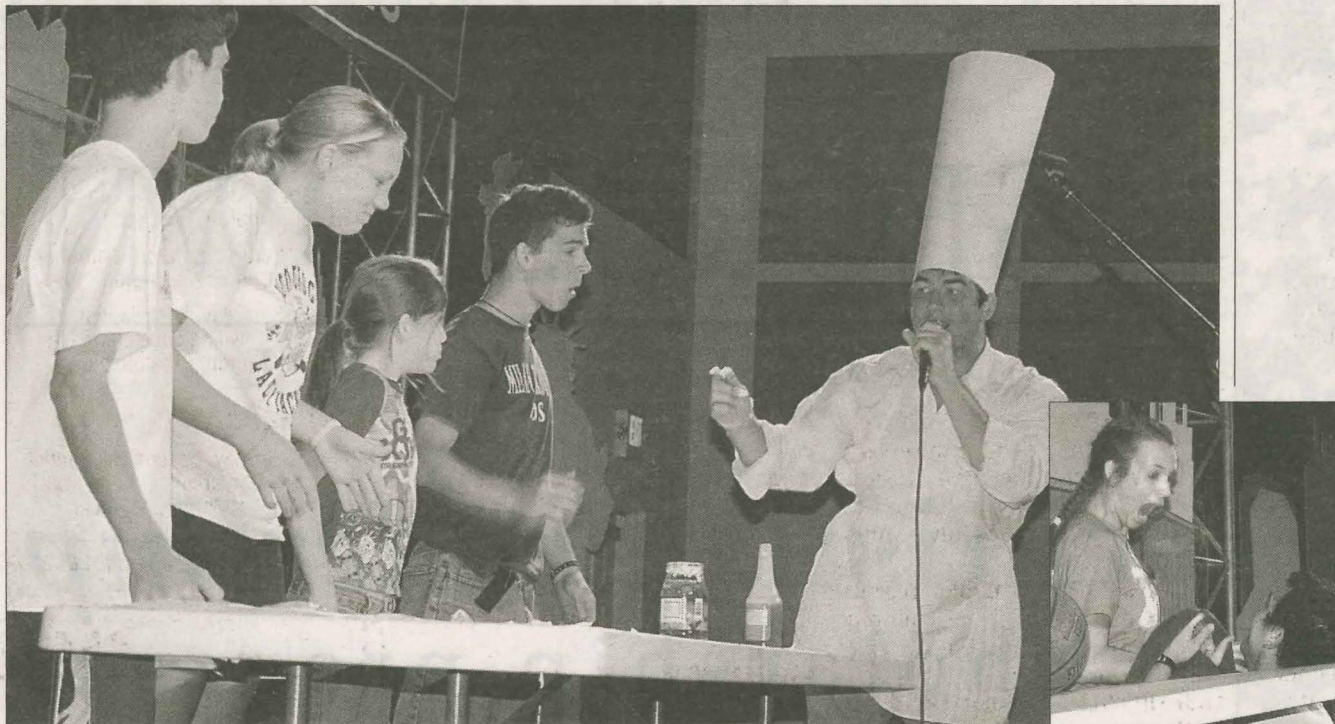
**SEEKING:** Part-time music minister. Mail resumé to: **LaVetta Mahan**, **Piney Grove Baptist Church**, 3009 Mountain View Lane, **Corbin, KY 40701**.

**SEEKING:** Part-time youth director for **First Baptist Church, Hazard, Ky**. Visit our Web site at [hazardfbc.org](http://hazardfbc.org) for salary information and job description. Applicants should send resumé to: **Dr. Ricky Ray**, **First Baptist Church**, 560 Main St., **Hazard, KY 41701**.

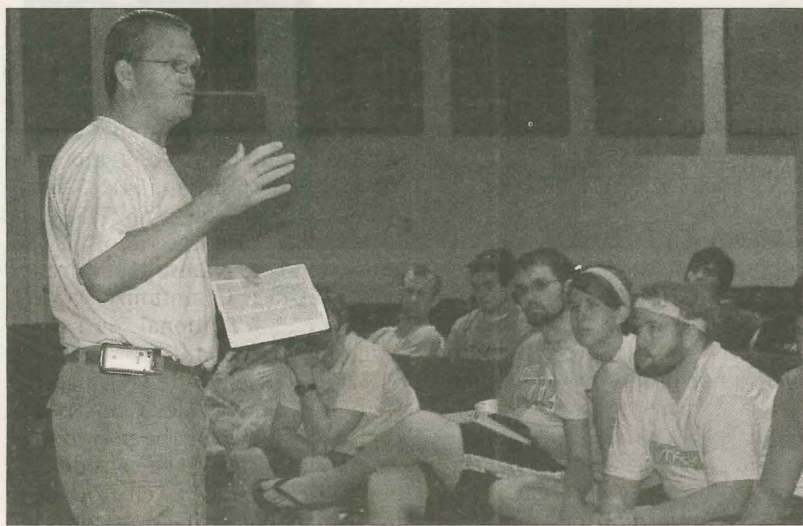
# Crossings images



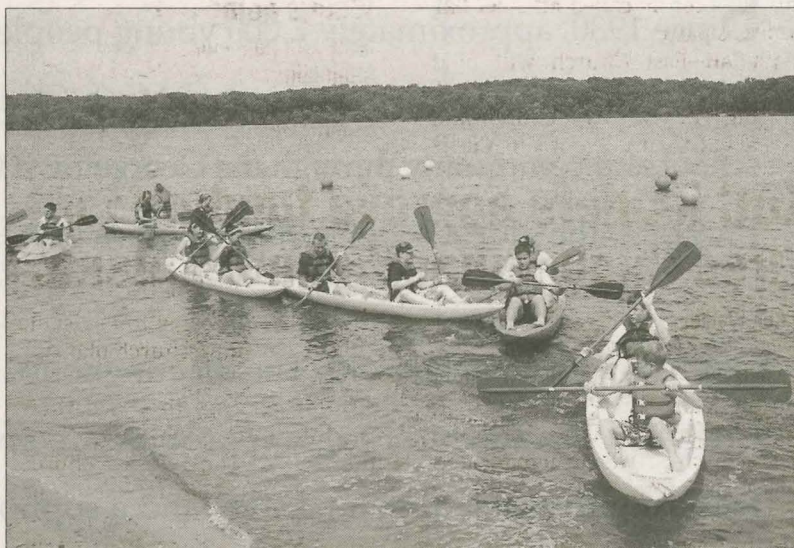
**PRIVATE PRAYER** A Crossings counselor sits near the Jonathan Creek worship center to pray for students inside.



**MORNING FUN** What's summer camp without a few whacky games? ■ Above: Campers compete on stage to see who can eat hot sauce-laced crackers the fastest. ■ Inset: Maggie Smith, 15, of Providence Baptist Church in Fordsville, gets a scare.



**MORNING BIBLE STUDY** David Melber, president of Kentucky Baptist Assemblies, leads a morning devotion time with staff at Jonathan Creek. Counselors are involved in individual Bible study and group mentoring to maintain their spiritual focus throughout the summer. (Photos by David Winfrey)



**RECREATION TIME** Campers at Jonathan Creek learn to work together on two-person canoes. The Western Kentucky camp has 125 acres that sit on nearly a mile of shoreline on Kentucky Lake.

## Crossings campers sponsor kids at camps on the other side of the world

Jonathan Creek—The Republic of Moldova is a long way from Jonathan Creek, but the two are linked when it comes to Christian camping.

Students attending Crossings camps at Jonathan Creek and Cedarmore help send thousands of Moldovan children to a five-day Christian camp program.

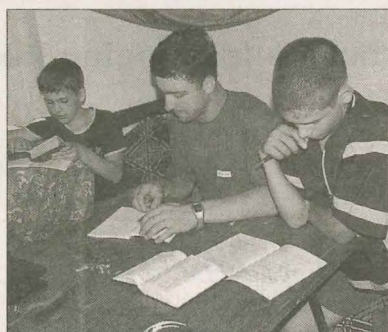
Three years ago, Kentucky Baptist Assemblies President David Melber traveled to the Eastern European country (located between Romania and Ukraine) to explore buying property for a Christian camp.

But during his visit, he learned it would be more cost-effective to rent a property and focus money on sponsoring kids for camp.

In Moldova, it costs approximately \$3 per day per camper for food, facility rental and camp-related materials, Melber said.

Kentucky Baptist Assemblies partners with Baptists working in Moldova to sponsor 10 weeks of camps at four different locations, he explained.

"They're all old facilities that at one time were used in the Soviet



**BIBLE STUDY** More than 3,000 campers in Moldova have become Christians as a result of camps sponsored through Kentucky Baptist Assemblies.

Union for government purposes," Melber said. Some were even used as indoctrination camps, he added.

Crossings campers learn about the Moldova camp and pray for the campers there throughout the week. On the last night of Crossings camps, youth are encouraged to be a witness for God. As a part of that challenge, the Crossings leaders collect a missions offering to sponsor Moldovan kids.

"It's insane how much money some parents send with their kids"



**MOLDOVA CAMP** Crossings campers at Jonathan Creek and Cedarmore this summer are expected to sponsor 6,000 kids to attend camp in Moldova.

to camp, Melber noted. Students learn that for the cost of a T-shirt they can send a kid to camp.

"In the last two years, we've sent a little over 9,000 kids to camp in Moldova, and roughly 3,200 of those have accepted Christ," he said.

This summer, Crossings leaders expect to send 6,000 Moldovan kids to camp. Halfway through the season, Melber said, 977 kids had made professions of faith to become a Christian.

"It's the best money we spend."



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The Christian Leadership Program provides scholarships ranging from \$1,000 to \$2,500.

**Application deadline is February 1, 2007.**

More information about this financial aid opportunity and an application may be obtained online at <http://www.georgetowncollege.edu/Admissions/cls.htm>, or by contacting either Megan McGee or Omar Rasoul at (800) 788-9985.

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