


PRACTICAL RESOURCES FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING
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FOR THE RECORD



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Survey: Ministers report highest level of job satisfaction

Chicago (RNS)—Ministers rank highest in job satisfaction, according to a report released April 17 by the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago.

More than 87 percent of clergy said they were satisfied with their jobs, followed by firefighters (80 percent) and physical therapists (78 percent).

"People are not going into the profession out of some sense of 'I want a lot of power and prestige,'" noted Cynthia Lindner, director of ministry studies at the university's divinity school.

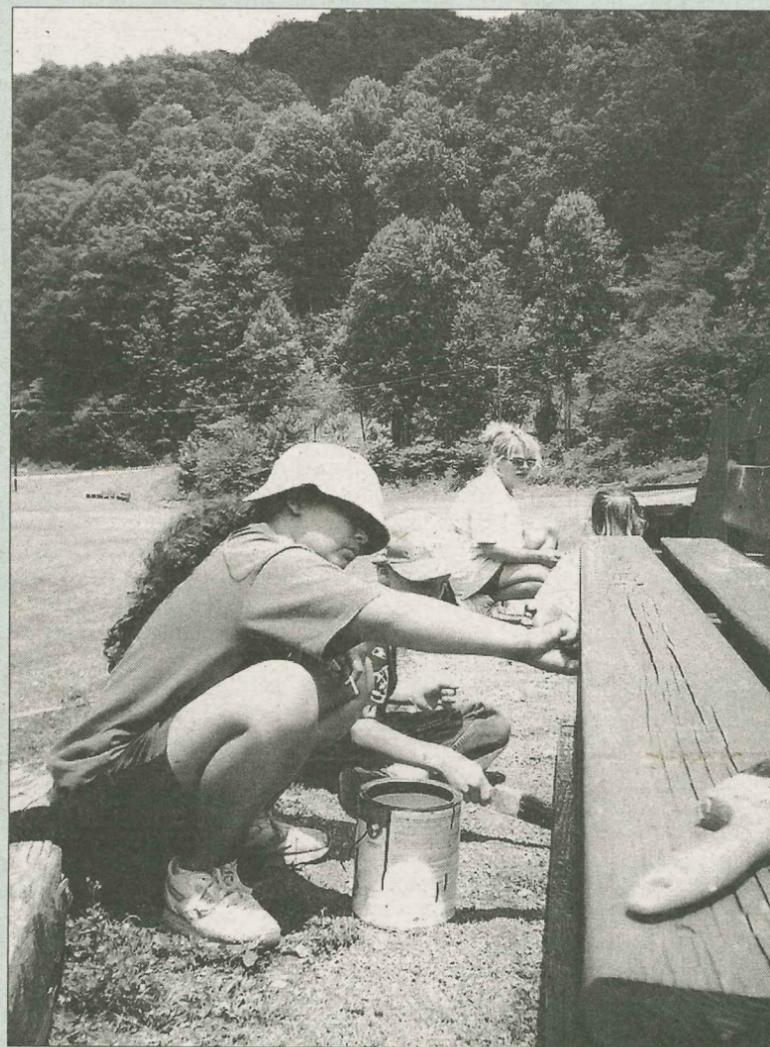
Because work plays such an important role in people's lives, those who are more satisfied with their work also tend to be happier. So clergy also topped the list as happiest, with 67 percent of them describing themselves as generally happy.

Researchers noted that the jobs people were most satisfied by tend to involve helping others or expressing creativity. Education administrators and teachers, psychologists, authors, painters and sculptors all expressed high degrees of satisfaction.

The least satisfying jobs were low-skill or customer service jobs. Waiters, cashiers, laborers, and clothing and furniture salespeople were among the least satisfied with their jobs.

The rankings are based on information collected in the research center's general social survey over almost two decades from more than 27,000 people.

'Families on Mission'



ON MISSION Cierra Smith, 11, paints park benches during last year's "Families On Mission" trip to Lynch. Cierra joined her parents, brother and grandmother for the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board project. (Photo by Theresa Farson)

Lynch among sites for NAMB's family mission projects

By Mickey Noah
SBC North American Mission Board

Lynch (BP)—It's a winding, nine-hour car trip from Greencastle, Pa. (pop. 3,700), down to Lynch, Ky. (pop. 900). But Fred and Nicole Smith, their two kids and grandma Theresa Farson don't mind. They have driven it once and, this July, they'll drive it again.

During the Fourth of July weekend, when many American families will be trekking through amusement parks or to the beach, the Smith clan will be sharing the gospel, hammering boards, installing siding, painting, cleaning or maybe baking.

It will be the second straight year for the three generations to participate in a mission through the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board's "Families on Mission" initiative.

"The economy in Lynch is so poor and the people there are so needy," Nicole Smith said. "It was such an eye-opening experience for our kids and even for us adults. We got a bigger blessing from the people down there than they received from us."

Smith said her 16-year-old son Brandon and 11-year-old daughter Cierra are excited about going. *See Lynch among sites ... Page 3*

Leaders agree intentional interims can strengthen congregations

Plainview, Texas (ABP)—Every church needs to step back periodically and reevaluate its purpose, according to Michael Summers, a director of church services at Wayland Baptist University in Plainview, Texas.

It's a time for members to determine who they are, where they started and where they want to go, Summers said. And an intentionally placed interim minister can help lead churches through that process, he added.

"The intentional interim ministry is one that sees the interim between pastors as an opportunity to re-examine the church, to help bring healing to the church, to help discover the church's identity and to prepare for the next phase of the church's life," Summers noted.

Process aids church's identity

The process helps strengthen the church body and helps members determine what roles they play in the overall mission of the church, he said. It breaks the mold of churches that rely solely on their pastor to lead and coordinate all ministries.

It also gives the church an identity that members can adopt and apply to themselves, leading them to find a pastor who fits the church's identity.

"In many churches, you have the situation that whatever pastor is there at the time, that is who they are," Summers said. "So, the church body becomes schizophrenic. It has multiple personalities based on whatever pastor is there at the time."

David Odom, founding president of the Center for Congregational Health in Winston-Salem, N.C., agrees that a change in church leadership can be a helpful time when churches clarify their identity and work through other critical issues.

While issues such as changes in worship style have put stress on congregations during transitional times, the basic principles underpinning the intentional interim process remain valid, Odom said.

"Identity clarification is a good thing for congregations," he noted, "and that's as true today as it was before."

Churches that go through an in-

tentional interim process show lasting benefits, according to recent research. The Center for Congregational Health examined churches 24 to 36 months after they completed an intentional interim, paying particular attention to how it affected each church's new pastor.

Communicating expectations

In a questionnaire, pastors in churches that had previously had an intentional interim gave their new churches highest marks for clearly communicating shared expectations and for differentiating their congregational identity from the former pastor's personality and leadership style.

The new pastors also responded favorably to questions about whether they felt involved in their congregation's shared vision of the future.

When members of transitional teams were asked to evaluate their congregations after intentional interims, they generally described the health of their churches as improved or improving.

Les Robinson of the Center for Congregational Health saw the sur-

vey results as "affirming" of the intentional interim process.

"Churches that go through the process seem more in touch with who they are as the people of God and who God wants them to be," Robinson noted. "As such, they are in a better position to know what kind of pastor they need."

Pastors gave lowest marks to their new churches for having systems of training lay leadership for various ministry tasks and for incorporating new people into leadership roles. Almost two-thirds of respondents said their churches had no plan for training lay leaders.

"This is by far the weakest link," Robinson acknowledged.

Most surveyed churches showed increases in nearly every readily measurable area. Membership after the interim grew 11 percent, with nine congregations gaining members and two decreasing in membership. Overall worship attendance increased almost 10 percent, with eight churches experiencing growth and three measuring some decline. And church budgets grew overall by more than 4 percent.

Dated material. Please deliver by Wednesday, May 2.

Prayer will be major focus of 2007 SBC annual meeting

San Antonio (BP)—Describing prayer as Southern Baptists' "only hope," Southern Baptist Convention President Frank Page said prayer will be a major focus during the SBC's June 12-13 annual meeting in San Antonio's Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center.

Each of the SBC's five sessions will have a prayer focus, with topics including transformation, repentance, unity, revival and evangelism.

"The central focus for my presidency and therefore for this meeting is to seek from the Lord spiritual awakening—His Holy Spirit's revival," Page emphasized. "And that is always prefaced by and enabled by and empowered by prayer."

A second key facet of this year's convention will be unveiling a general outline for a 10-year evangelistic strategy in the SBC, said Page, pastor of First Baptist Church of Taylors, S.C.

Geoff Hammond, the North American Mission Board's newly elected president, has become part of the planning process, Page said, adding that proposal "brings associations, state conventions, NAMB and other entities into a true focus in calling churches not just to win souls but, better, showing them how."

The evangelistic strategy will encompass "the more traditional people within our convention and the more contemporary or non-traditional people, old and young, various styles and philosophies of evangelism and church planting, Calvinists, non-Calvinists, various people groups ethnically and various groups from the geographical areas across our country," Page said.

"Obviously, every Baptist entity is autonomous," he added. "But we are coming together to say here is a common direction for 10 years to equip churches and people to win the lost to Christ."

The evangelism initiative must be in the context of "a massive emphasis on prayer and spiritual awakening," Page said, "but at the same time we've got to put a tool in the hand, a plow in the hand to say here's how you do it."

Among other highlights of the convention:

■ The 300th anniversary of Baptist associations, to be marked during Tuesday morning's session, will be led by Tom Biles, president of the Southern Baptist Conference of Associational Directors of Missions and director of missions for the Tampa Bay (Fla.) Baptist Association.

The first Baptist association was formed in Philadelphia in 1707. Baptist associations arrived in the South in Charleston, S.C., and Sandy Creek, N.C., soon after. These associations were the forerunners of the Southern Baptist Convention, established in 1845.

Today, there are nearly 1,200 Baptist associations, representing more than 44,000 cooperating Southern Baptist churches.

■ Page will deliver his presidential address to close out Tuesday

morning's session. Rob Zinn, senior pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church in Highland, Calif., will deliver the convention message Wednesday morning.

■ The International Mission Board's presentation will be Tuesday evening and the North American Mission Board's Wednesday evening.

The theme of the convention reflects Page's call to prayer: 2 Chronicles 7:14, "If My people who are called by My name humble themselves, pray and seek My face, and turn from their evil ways, then I will hear from heaven, forgive their sin, and heal their land."

A time of prayer during the SBC's three Tuesday sessions and on Wednesday morning will include several minutes when messengers pray in groups of two or three for revival in the SBC.

Also in conjunction with the SBC annual meeting, "Crossover San Antonio" will include hundreds of Southern Baptists who will hit the streets of the metropolitan area June 9 to share the gospel via door-to-door evangelism, block parties and an international festival featuring dozens of ethnic groups showcasing their cultures, food, dress, music, dance and art.

Crossover "is big for us," said Charles Price, director of missions for the San Antonio Baptist Association, "and we're getting a good response from our area churches."

"We pray that God will give us an infusion of new believers into our

churches and that we would be able to start three or four new churches as a result of Crossover," Price added.

This year's pre-SBC outreach is jointly sponsored by the San Antonio association, NAMB, the Baptist General Convention of Texas and the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention.

Churches can register their messengers online at www.sbc.net to avoid waiting at the counter upon arrival at the convention. By registering online, the SBC Web site gives a church a messenger reference number form to be printed out and presented by each messenger at the SBC registration booth in exchange for a nametag and a set of ballots. On-site registration also is available.

Messengers wishing to propose resolutions must submit them at least 15 days prior to the annual meeting, giving the Resolutions Committee a two-week period in which to consider them. Detailed guidelines on submitting resolutions are available at www.sbcannualmeeting.net by clicking on "resolutions."

Shuttles will be available to and from most San Antonio hotels for the SBC sessions and the Sunday-Monday Pastors' Conference in the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center and the Woman's Mission Union meeting in the Marriott Rivercenter Hotel.

Childcare (birth-3 years) and children's conferences (ages 4-12) are available, with registration information at www.sbc.net.

SBC PREVIEW

Pastors' Wives Conference. June 11, 8:30 a.m. to noon, Lila Cockrell Theatre in the Gonzalez Convention Center. Theme: "The Strength for the Journey" (Ephesians 3:16). Keynote speaker: Kathy Ferguson, director of women's ministries at the Church at Pinnacle Hills in Rogers, Ark. Ferguson's husband, Rick, was pastor of Riverside Baptist Church in Denver for a decade before his death in a car accident in 2002 at age 47.

Directors of Missions Conference. June 9-11. Keynote speakers: Al Mohler, president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, will preach at a worship service June 10 at 10:30 a.m. in the Crowne Plaza Hotel ballrooms. Jim Henry, former SBC president and retired pastor of First Baptist Church of Orlando, Fla., will speak during the 300th anniversary celebration of Baptist associations at a rally June 10 at 3 p.m. at San Antonio's First Baptist Church. Jerry Rankin, president of the International Mission Board, will speak June 11 at 10:45 a.m.

Evangelists' Conference. Annual retreat, June 8-9, Marriott Plaza. Theme: "Do the Work of an Evangelist" (2 Timothy 4:5). Speaker: Ed Stetzer, missiologist and senior director of the Center for Missional Research at the North American Mission Board. Worship service June 10, 8:45 a.m., Lila Cockrell Theatre at the Gonzalez Convention Center. Business meeting, June 11, 11:30 a.m., Marriott Plaza.

Seminary luncheons. The six Southern Baptist seminaries will host luncheons for alumni and guests June 13. **Golden Gate:** 12:30 p.m., rooms 008 A/B on the Gonzalez Convention Center's River Level. Tickets \$10, (888) 472-8709. **Midwestern:** noon, room 004 on the Gonzalez Convention Center's River Level. Tickets, (877) 414-3720. **New Orleans:** Noon, rooms 103 A/B on the Gonz-

lez Convention Center's Street Level. Tickets \$10 before June 1, \$12 after June 1, www.nobts.edu/alumni. **Southeastern:** noon, Alamo Ballroom sections A-D of the San Antonio Marriott Riverwalk. Tickets \$20, (919) 761-2203. **Southern:** 12:30 p.m., rooms 217 A-D on the Gonzalez Convention Center's Concourse Level. Tickets \$20 in advance, \$23 at SBC, (502) 897-4142. **Southwestern:** 12:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 13, in Ballroom A on the Gonzalez Convention Center's Street Level. Tickets \$10 before June 1, \$15 after June 1, (877) 467-9287.

Hispanic Baptist Fellowship. June 9-11. Theme: "Rise and Build." June 9, 7 p.m., Hispanic Crossover Evangelistic Outreach Celebration, South San Filadelfia Baptist Church. June 10, National Hispanic Celebration, Ballroom B of the Gonzalez Convention Center, Sunday evening. Speakers: Texas evangelist Sammy Fuentes, Southern Baptist Convention President Frank Page and newly elected Southern Baptist North American Mission Board President Geoff Hammond.

National African American Fellowship. June 10, 6 p.m., Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church. Speaker: Michael Brown of True Vision Baptist Church in San Antonio. June 11, 4 p.m., room 203B of the Gonzalez Convention Center's Concourse Level. Speaker: K. Marshall Williams, pastor of Nazarene Baptist Church in Philadelphia, and president of the Pennsylvania/South Jersey Baptist Convention. June 11, 6 p.m., banquet, room 204A/B. Tickets \$20, www.naafsb.org.

Messianic Fellowship. June 8, 7 p.m., room 008A on the Gonzalez Convention Center's River Level. Theme: "Continuing to Bear Fruit and Build Up the Saints." Speakers: Aslam Masih, a church planting missionary with the North American Mission Board, and Jack Kinsella, editor of The Omega Letter Web site.

SBC Pastors' Conference to feature breakout seminars and testimonies

San Antonio (BP)—For the second year in a row, the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference will feature Monday morning breakout seminars.

In addition to the seminars, Pastors' Conference President Hayes Wicker said the June 10-11 conference will feature Jerry Vines and Chuck Colson speaking during the opening session on Sunday evening, while the Monday afternoon and evening sessions will feature James MacDonald, James Merritt and Johnny Hunt, among others.

The conference's theme is "Jesus Christ ... From Him, Through Him, To Him," a reference to Romans 11:36.

WMU meeting to highlight 'Live the Call'

San Antonio (BP)—The 2007 Woman's Missionary Union Missions Celebration and annual meeting will kick off at June 10 at 3 p.m. at First Baptist Church of San Antonio with a joint celebration with directors of missions for the 300th birthday of Baptist associations in America.

Subsequent WMU sessions, beginning at 6:45 p.m. on Sunday, will be held at the San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter near the city's famous Riverwalk.

The meeting's theme of "Live the Call" will be woven throughout the celebration as participants hear how Christ followers have responded to His call, noted Wanda Lee, national WMU executive director.

The Sunday evening program will

The conference also will feature testimonies by current or former SBC entity heads, who will tell how Christ brought them through the valleys in their lives. Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary President Paige Patterson will speak Sunday evening, GuideStone Financial Resources President O.S. Hawkins will speak Monday afternoon, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary President Al Mohler and former LifeWay Christian Resources President Jimmy Draper will speak Monday evening.

The two breakout sessions will be at 8:30 a.m. and 9:45 a.m. Monday, followed by a prayer gathering led by author T.W. Hunt.

reflect a fiesta spirit complete with a mariachi band and other festivities celebrating San Antonio's cultural heritage.

Three general sessions and various conference options are scheduled for June 11, including a Spanish-speaking track.

National WMU President Kaye Miller will preside over the WMU business session, which will be held in the Monday morning session. The afternoon session will highlight the 10th anniversary of WMU's Christian Women's Job Corps ministry.

Monday evening's featured speaker will be Travis Collins, senior pastor of Bon Air Baptist Church in Richmond, Va., and a former missionary to Venezuela and Nigeria.

Lynch among sites for NAMB's family mission projects

Continued from page 1

ing back to Lynch, established decades ago around the nearby coal mines in Eastern Kentucky's Appalachian Mountains.

"We all hope to reconnect with the wonderful people who live in the area and see how they've done and grown since last year," Smith said.

The six-day mission trip to Lynch is one of six pre-packaged family mission trips scheduled between June and October.

All 100 openings for the Lynch experience are filled, but other mission trips—each with 225 slots—to New Orleans; East St. Louis, Mo.; and Mobile, Ala., are still open. Each trip lasts six days (Saturday through Thursday) and costs \$199 per person.

Rick Head, NAMB's senior associate for adult volunteer mobilization, said the pre-packaged experience enables families to draw closer by spending a week sharing their faith, helping others, participating in family worship and daily devotionals and interacting with missionaries.

Ministry projects may include yard and park cleanup, grass-mowing, hedge-trimming, washing cars, painting, light repair work, roofing and even minor plumbing. Last year, Farson and her granddaughter baked cookies for shut-ins in Lynch.

"It was such an awesome experience and we just fell in love with the people there," said Farson, a secretary to a school superintendent back home. "They were so committed and believed in what they were doing, and you just wanted to be part of it."

Mrs. Smith, a secretary to a middle school principal and her husband and her children—attends Greencastle Baptist Church, noted that "all five of us have a strong calling from the Lord."

"Mom and I first talked about the family doing a mission trip last year," she added. "We saw some NAMB flyers in our church bulletin and then saw the Families on Mission Web site. We wanted to do something as a family. We just went for it."

"Going to Lynch gives us an opportunity to be together, working for a purpose and serving the Lord and finding others to connect with," Mrs. Smith explained. "Little did we know that it would be so different than what we expected. We thought we'd go down and help someone else. Instead, the people of Lynch taught us how to be an even more united and stronger family and how to serve the Lord as a family."

For more information about Families on Mission, visit www.namb.net/fom, or contact Rick Head at (800) 462-8657, ext. 6219; e-mail, rhead@namb.net.

Page urges prayer for spiritual awakening

By Trennis Henderson
Editor

Louisville—Reflecting on his first-ballot election last summer as Southern Baptist said he still views messengers' actions last June as a possible "turning point" in SBC life.

He said messengers "came to the forefront" during last year's SBC annual meeting to say "that the Cooperative Program does matter and that we can't keep electing leaders who give parsimoniously to the Cooperative Program. I believe that's going to have an impact in the future."

Page's congregation, First Baptist Church of Taylors, S.C., gives more than 12 percent of undesignated receipts through the Cooperative Program each year. By contrast, the two other presidential candidates' congregations gave less than 2 percent each through CP.

Page: Dialogue, debate healthy

Page said his surprise election over two better-known candidates also indicates that messengers "said it's time to give people a choice. To have one group determining who the president is going to be is not the Baptist way. Dialogue and debate are healthy."

"I am making great efforts to spend a lot of time with people in the pew and smaller church pastors and ministers—trying to connect and build a bridge," he added. "In the past, when one small group of people controlled who would be president, many people felt disenfranchised from the leadership of

our convention."

Page visited Kentucky recently to speak at a Stewardship Summit and an emerging leaders dinner at the Baptist Building in Louisville as well as the dedication of Campbellsville University's Ransdell Chapel.

In a Western Recorder interview during his visit to the state, Page voiced concern that "our baptisms continue to go down" in Southern Baptist churches.

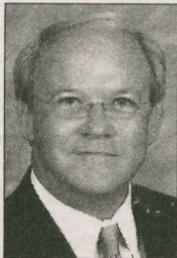
Despite a yearlong "Everyone Can' Kingdom Challenge" led by immediate past SBC President Bobby Welch for Southern Baptists to baptize 1 million people during the past year, recent statistics show that the baptism total declined for a second straight year, falling more than 635,000 short of the ambitious goal.

"Maybe there's something we're missing," Page suggested. "The emphasis I have been bringing to the table is prayer, spiritual awakening and revival. Without that, we're sunk."

Page said he is "seeking to promote unity (by) asking people to move past their differences to a common goal of seeking revival from the Lord so that we will see missions and evangelism accomplished at far greater levels than we've ever seen before."

Another of Page's goals involves "seeking to pull together people by involving a far larger number of people than have been involved before" in SBC leadership.

Page said his "parameters of service" include people with a sweet spirit, commitment to soul-winning,



Frank Page

KBC's CP gifts still behind previous year's pace

Louisville—With Kentucky Baptists' Cooperative Program falling behind last year's pace, Kentucky Baptist Convention Executive Director Bill Mackey is calling on Kentucky Baptists to increase their giving to their churches.

Seven months into the fiscal year, Kentucky CP receipts are down more than \$439,000 compared to the same period last year and are 3 percent under budgeted projections.

"I am concerned that CP receipts are behind budget, but I'm hopeful that Kentucky Baptists will continue to be faithful in financial support of their local church," Mackey noted. "Their faithfulness enables the churches to support state and world missions through the Cooperative Program."

Mackey said that because the Cooperative Program is the foundational giving program for both KBC

and Southern Baptist Convention missions and ministry causes, shortfalls are felt by virtually every missions effort.

Lowell Ashby, leader of the KBC's business services team, said Kentucky Baptist churches gave \$2,054,512 through the Cooperative Program in March, down from \$2,275,643 in March last year. For the fiscal year, which runs from Sept. 1 through Aug. 31, churches have given a total of \$13,329,895. That's down \$439,214 or 3.2 percent from the same period last year. Ashby said of the seven months recorded so far this fiscal year, only three have met or exceeded the monthly goal of \$1,963,500 in CP receipts. For the remaining five months, \$2,046,421 is needed per month to meet the CP budget goal by the end of the fiscal year.

In Kentucky, the Cooperative Pro-

Disaster relief workers respond to Floyd County flood

Maytown—Kentucky Baptist disaster relief volunteers from across the state recently completed repair work on Maytown homes damaged by flooding in Floyd County April 14-15.

A total of 10 volunteers served April 17-22 to help restore 10 area homes affected by the storms. The team removed water and damaged materials from flooded basements, and sanitized the homes to prevent

further damage.

The Maytown Center in Langley served as the unit's headquarters. The relief work, coordinated by the Kentucky Baptist Convention, was led by Curtis Smith of Lloyd and Bill Jackson of Ashland.

Kentucky Baptists are part of a larger network of Southern Baptist volunteers trained to respond to disasters by manning mass feeding operations, using chainsaws to

"a strong belief in the integrity of the Word of God" and commitment to the Cooperative Program.

Within those parameters, he added, he will seek to "show there is room for the diversity of people in our convention if they fit the criteria I have established."

During a question-and-answer session at the emerging leaders dinner, Page elaborated on the parameters related to Scripture, noting that his appointees must "believe in the inerrancy of the Word of God."

Inerrancy "not an issue anymore"

"I think people first of all realize the conservative resurgence has succeeded in bringing about a true appreciation of the inerrancy of the Word of God," Page told the Western Recorder. "That's not an issue anymore. It's time to look beyond strong leaders who will champion that cause to leaders who will champion the cause of the Cooperative Program and missions."

"Even though a church can do great work on its own, it cannot do what the Cooperative Program can do," he emphasized.

Describing the KBC as "one of the greatest states of providing leadership over the past years," Page said, "Thank you for your support of the Cooperative Program. Thank you for being a state that seems to want to make a difference in evangelism and missions."

As he prepares for next month's SBC annual meeting in San Antonio, Page added, "I'm just praying for a continued unifying focus of spiritual awakening so that we can see the hand of God bless missions and evangelism."

gram supports the work of the KBC Mission Board, Kentucky Baptist Assemblies, Kentucky Baptist Foundation, Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union, Sunrise Children's Services, Western Recorder, Campbellsville University, Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, Georgetown College, Oneida Baptist Institute and the University of the Cumberlands.

Nationally and internationally, Kentucky CP giving goes to support the SBC International Mission Board, North American Mission Board, six Southern Baptist seminaries and several other SBC causes.

Despite decreases in CP giving, Kentucky Baptists' giving to special offerings remains strong. Receipts for the Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions totaled \$936,383 through March, a record amount that is 14.3 percent above last year's total.

clear downed trees and limbs, clearing mud out of flooded homes and more.

Southern Baptist disaster relief volunteers work in conjunction with other organizations, such as the Salvation Army and the American Red Cross.

For more information about Kentucky Baptist disaster relief, visit <http://www.kybaptist.org/dr>.



Western Recorder earns first-place BCA recognition

Mobile, Ala.—The Western Recorder staff earned a first-place award from Baptist Communicators Association in the organization's 2007 Wilmer C. Fields Award Competition.

Editor Trennis Henderson, partnerships editor Dannah Prather and former news director David Winfrey received the first-place award for state Baptist newspapers in the competition's print media and design division. Judging included such criteria as composition, use of artwork, originality, creativity and communicating the publication's message.

"Your layout, composition, typography, readability are all outstanding," judges wrote. "We honestly can't find much of a weakness."

Baptist Communicators Association is a professional development organization for Baptist communicators who serve in journalism, graphic design, electronic media, photography, public relations and related fields.

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

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Baptism by the Holy Spirit often misunderstood

By Jimmy Draper

Nashville (BP)—Great confusion surrounds the doctrine of the baptism of the Holy Spirit. For some people, it is viewed as a subsequent work of grace in a believer's life and is equated with the filling of the Holy Spirit. Others associate the baptism of the Holy Spirit with the gift of tongues. Still others diligently seek it

as an unusual work of God in the life of the believer that confirms God's power and allows a special closeness to God never before experienced. The phrase "baptism of the Holy Spirit" does not appear in Scripture. Christ is always described as the baptizer in the gospels (see Matthew 3:11) and Acts, and then the Holy Spirit is His agent in the epistles.

The only verse that actually deals with the doctrine of "the baptism of the Holy Spirit" is 1 Corinthians 12:13. There are narratives in the book of Acts that deal with encountering the Holy Spirit under special circumstances.

Acts is a history book that details the supernatural origin of the church. It is descriptive, but not generally prescriptive. It describes that unique time in history when Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to be the Paraclete, comforter and companion. But Pentecost was not the beginning of the work of the Holy Spirit any more than the incarnation was the beginning work of Christ. We cannot build a theology of the Holy Spirit from the book of Acts.

Believers need God's Spirit

One thing is very clear today. We need the Holy Spirit! We need Him now, we need Him desperately and we need Him always. There is an experience for believers that is called "the baptism of the Holy Spirit." We need it and we need to understand it.

It is a misunderstood experience. We actually have misnamed it. We refer to the baptism "of" or "in" the Holy Spirit as if He is an impersonal substance. From Scripture it should

be "by" or "with" the Holy Spirit.

The very meaning of the word "baptism" is often confused. The primary meaning of the word is "to immerse or submerge." It also means "to be joined with."

A redeemed sinner experiences a transformation when converted.

COMMENTARY

God chose the imagery of baptism to explain the Spirit's ministry of taking sinful people who believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and immersing them into a whole new dynamic of life, an entirely new realm called the "body of Christ." The Holy Spirit is not the solution in which we are immersed; He is the agent by which we enter this experience.

When does the baptism occur? The clear teaching of the New Testament is that it takes place at conversion. Note our key verse again. The word "baptized" is in the aorist tense, which refers to a past completed action. It refers to a once-for-all experience that is not repeated. Ephesians 1:13 tells us that we were "sealed with the promised Holy Spirit" when we believed. Every believer has been baptized by the Holy Spirit, but only once. You may be filled with the Holy Spirit many times, but there is no scriptural indication that baptism by the Holy Spirit is ever repeated.

Some identify this experience with the "tongues of fire" described in Acts 2 and use John the Baptist's statement in Matthew 3:11 and Luke 3:16 to substantiate that conclusion. But that is incorrect because it ignores the context of John's statement. Clearly the reference is to the fact that the coming Messiah will bring judgment as well as salvation and calls for a decision.

Nowhere are we commanded to be "baptized with the Holy Spirit." We are commanded to be filled (Ephesians 5:18), but never to be baptized with the Holy Spirit. Surely if this was a necessary experience we could expect the Word of God to urge us over and over again to be baptized with the Holy Spirit. But

Vision realized at WestSide Baptist Church

God still produces miracles. Just ask the people at WestSide Baptist Church in Berea who have had the privilege of seeing the hand of God at work in their move to beautiful new facilities.

During a recent preaching opportunity, long-term church members shared with me that the church had a vision to relocate for more than 20 years, but they had not been willing to venture in faith.

Then God blessed them with Allen Livingood as pastor. Under his leadership, their faith began to grow and they were willing to move forward. It is obvious that God was ready and able to fulfill their vision through a host of people they did not know at the time.

When they launched their plan, God provided a Christian builders group from Mobile, Ala., to assist. Once the foundation and basement walls were finished, more than 120 volunteer builders installed the sub-floor, walls and roof in one week.

Then, through the work of other volunteer groups and church members, the 17,000-square-foot building project was finished in nine months. Constructing that size building in nine months is a miracle.

Laypeople in the church really stepped up their involvement in order for the building project to be completed so quickly. In addition to numerous volunteers, the following people spent almost every working day at the church: Joe Merritt, Glenn and Rosella Wallin, Lee Martin and Steve Riddle. Church members laid 9,400 ceramic tiles in the spacious fellowship hall, vestibule, hallways and classroom wing, and vinyl tile in the basement.

A factory that was going out of business donated tables and chairs for the fellowship hall. There are many great stories of sacrifice by church members that made this vision a reality.

The volunteers were able to save the church about \$800,000 in costs.

the subject is never mentioned in Scripture.

Baptism by the Holy Spirit is a wondrously unique experience. By that experience we are joined to the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:13, Romans 6:3, Galatians 3:27). It is personal, but it is also corporate: "We are all baptized." There is only one body of Christ, one family, one church. Baptism by the Holy Spirit is not some extraordinary manifestation, for it happens to all believers.

This baptism by the Holy Spirit is positional, not emotional or empowering. It places us in a position in Christ which makes it possible for us to receive power. It does not guarantee power in our lives. The Corinthians were baptized by the Holy Spirit, yet they were a very sensual and carnal church. Yet Paul said, "We are all baptized." That baptism has to do with our position in Christ and it is universal for all believers.

Spirit baptism isn't incremental

God does not baptize on an installment plan. All of the Holy Spirit you are ever going to get as a believer you got when Jesus baptized you by means of the Holy Spirit into His body at your salvation. The question is not, "How much of the Holy Spirit do you have?" Instead, you should be asking, "How much of me does the Holy Spirit have?"

A newborn baby has all he needs to be an adult. He will never get new parts as he ages; he simply grows in his ability to use the parts he has. The Spirit's baptism is a unique, completed ministry. Thank God there are no second-class members of the body of Christ. None of us deserves to be in that body, but we are by His grace. All of us are joined to Him by the Spirit's baptism and we all have access to the resources of the spiritual life that come through the continual filling of the Holy Spirit.

Thank God for this wonderful experience of the baptism by the Holy Spirit. It brings us new life, a new identity and a new nature.

Jimmy Draper, former president of the Southern Baptist Convention, is president emeritus of LifeWay Christian Resources

The appraised value of the building is about \$1.8 million.

The church typically averages about 160 people in worship, but on Easter Sunday had a capacity crowd of about 260. Sunday school average attendance is up about 20 percent in the new facility.

The worship service was friendly, energetic and filled with great musicians, and a sense of God's presence. Some musicians were out singing other places on the day I attended, but the small choir sounded like 50 voices.

Even as God has blessed WestSide in its move, the church has not forgotten about missions as the congregation continues to support local missions through Tates Creek Baptist Association and ministries and missions through the Cooperative Program.

Although the KBC was slightly behind in CP receipts at the end of March, it is my hope that KBC churches will continue to be strong in CP giving so that KBC and SBC ministry and mission needs will be met.

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention

CHURCH

Startling statistics show struggles over stewardship

By Doug Strader

A few years ago the Christian

Stewardship Association, which is based in Indianapolis, reported some startling statistics. These statistics may

have changed some in the past few years, but even if each category has improved in the last few years, I am sure that most churches and denominations still have a long way to go before they would feel good about their giving statistics.

■ 10 percent of churches have active programs to teach biblical financial and stewardship principles.

■ 15 percent of pastors feel they have been equipped by their denomination or seminary to teach biblical financial and stewardship principles.

■ 2 to 4 percent of seminaries offer courses, seminars or Bible studies to teach emerging Christian leaders biblical financial and stewardship principles.

■ 1 to 2 percent of Christian colleges and universities offer courses, seminars or Bible studies to teach their students biblical financial principles.

■ 10 percent of denominations actively seek to equip their pastors and churches to teach biblical financial and stewardship principles.

■ Because of this "stewardship silence," there has been more than a 30-year decline in the percentage of income that Christians give through their church.

■ 1.5 to 3.5 percent is the average portion of income that Christians give to church and other religious causes.

■ 17 percent of Christians say they tithe (give 10 percent or more of their income) through their church.

■ 3 percent of Christians actually tithe through their church.

■ 70 percent of Christians leave nothing to their church or God's work when they die because they do not have a will or a written estate plan.

■ 2,350 Bible verses speak on the subject of finances and material possessions.

■ 70 percent of cardholders carry \$6,000 to \$7,000 in unpaid balances.

■ 65 percent of college students and 18- to 25-year-olds have an average unpaid credit card balance of \$1,700.

This list is presented in hopes that your church can grow in biblical stewardship as you evaluate these statistics.

Doug Strader, retired director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's stewardship department, is pastor of Farmdale Baptist Church in Louisville



How can parents avoid worry in light of campus violence?

Q: In light of the recent violence at Virginia Tech, I find myself constantly worried about our teenagers. Though my husband tells me that my worrying does nobody any good, I can't seem to stop. What ideas might help?

Nowhere in the Bible are we told there is anything wrong with realistic acknowledgement and consideration

PARENTING

of some of the identifiable problems of life. Worry, however, moves beyond this to an excessive preoccupation with the "what ifs" of life, often robbing Christians of joy and paralyzing them with anxiety. Worry erodes our health, distorts our judgment, wastes time and energy, insults God and damages our witness. While parents of teens have many situations that can raise anxiety, we do well to be reminded of the truths found in God's Word.

Paul wrote, "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:6-7).

Allow worry and anxiety to serve as prompters that move you to pray for your teens. Remember that God will give you and them the strength to handle anything that comes up. Be realistic in facing the truth that they will not be exempt from difficulty in this world, but God will provide Christians with extraordinary support.

Keep in mind that by reading the Word of God, engaging your Father through prayer, and worshipping regularly with other believers you will be able to experience a peace that you will not fully understand. This will enable you to enjoy your teens as you live one day at a time, gazing at Him and glancing at the world.—Scott Wigginton

Q: My husband keeps accusing me of disrespect and of wanting to get out of our marriage. When he acts irresponsibly, I do disrespect him and want to get out of the marriage. I'm at my wits end. Whenever we talk, we get "stuck" with both of us bringing up what the other person has done to hurt the other. Is there hope for us?

Of course, while there is life, there is hope. The fact that you are asking the question reflects the spark of life. And the fact that you are asking for pastoral advice suggests that your faith is important to you. As a Christian, you know that divorce falls short of the glory of God.

In your question are the seeds of your problem and your solution. You have gotten yourselves into a negative cycle in which each of you provokes the other to do and say things that are hurtful. The only way to stop a game is to stop it. If you were to get into marital therapy and yet continue to insist on doing and saying destructive things, you would be wasting the therapist's time. It's time to stop the destructive cycle.

The way forward is through mutual forgiveness. Forgiveness is made easier when there is some show of sincere repentance and desire to change on both parts. Steven and Catherine Martin call for the following plan to "get things going" in the right direction:

- Determine to work on one issue at a time. You must both agree when you're ready to talk about that issue.
- Practice active listening techniques. The objective is to understand and feed back the feelings of the other person.
- The offender asks for forgiveness. Hear the pain of the one asking for forgiveness.
- The offender agrees to change his or her behavior as appropriate.
- You both move forward with a commitment to a better future.

You would do well to enlist a marriage therapist or marriage educator to guide you through this process. The result can help make your life more satisfying to you and more pleasing to God.—James Stillwell

Family Forum writers are:

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



SBC baptisms: Where do we go from here?

What will it take for Southern Baptist congregations to substantially increase baptisms in the coming years? Based on the latest Annual Church Profile statistics, it clearly will take far more than a catchy slogan and an enthusiastic spokesman.

If enthusiasm alone was the key, immediate past Southern Baptist Convention President Bobby Welch's "Everyone Can' Kingdom Challenge" would have been the answer. Welch traveled to all 50 states during his presidency to encourage personal soul-winning and a huge goal of 1 million baptisms.

As recently as last summer's SBC annual meeting, Welch guaranteed Southern Baptists would achieve that ambitious goal. "We will baptize a million in a year," he declared in his presidential address, but quickly added, "I don't know if it'll be this year." It wasn't.

According to the 2006 ACP statistics released recently by LifeWay Christian Resources, Southern Baptist churches reported 364,826 baptisms for the 2006 church year—a decline of more than 7,000 from the previous year's total of 371,850 baptisms. That marks the second straight year of decline with baptisms in 2005 decreasing by more than 16,000 from the 2004 total.

That means annual baptism totals have dropped by more than 23,000 during Welch's "Everyone Can" emphasis. Even more troubling, baptisms in Southern Baptist churches have declined six of the past seven years.

In the midst of such a negative trend, the reality is that it wouldn't have taken 1 million baptisms to consider "Everyone Can" a success. If Southern Baptist churches had reported half a million baptisms for the year, it would have been an incredible turnaround. Even a jump to 400,000 would have been a significant milestone. But the latest two-year decline means there's still lots of work to do for evangelism and baptisms to be considered top priorities in Southern Baptist life.

"While many did their very best, many others did

about the same or less than before," Welch acknowledged. He emphasized that "a collective commitment" to evangelism and discipleship is needed among "a vast number of leaders at all levels of the SBC—national, state and association and especially the local church."

Current SBC President Frank Page noted that "news of a continued decline in baptisms is discouraging," adding that "our obedience continues to lack both substance and passion."

Page said he is "working closely with our North American Mission Board, our state partners, directors of missions as well as others to bring to our nation a true long-term, flexible, multi-faceted evangelism strategy which will enable us to help our church-

es know better how to implement the wonderful encouragement from Dr. Welch and others to be soul-winners."

That's a definite starting point. But even more important than a denominational evangelism strategy will be renewed personal commitment to evangelism as well as ongoing prayer for spiritual awakening and divine leadership by God's Holy Spirit.

We also must remember that Kentucky Baptist churches face the same challenges reflected on the national level. While Kentucky Baptists reported a slight gain in baptisms last year, overall baptism statistics have been basically flat for the past several years.

Among the KBC's primary Kentucky Baptists Connect goals is to "encourage each church, as led by the Holy Spirit, to increase its baptisms by at least one each year by Jan. 1, 2010." The challenge is before us and the need is obvious.

But even as we look to the future, we also should pause and praise God for the hundreds of thousands of individuals who professed faith in Christ and were baptized this past year. We must never lose sight of the fact that every one of those 364,826 converts is precious in God's sight. And that should be motivation enough for every believer to seek to reach even more people with the gospel.

STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR



Trennis Henderson

Lessons learned at Fonde Baptist Church

I am not quite sure which it was. Was it simple church, simpler church, simply church or just church?

But on that April Sunday morning at Fonde Baptist Church in Frakes, I experienced it. The church has been there almost 100 years in a community that has long ago seen its heyday. Frakes is a former mining camp in Bell County, in a hollow between Middleboro and Jellico, Tenn.

What once was a bustling mining town with 1,000 homes and a school is a shell of its former self, with few homes and people. It is an Appalachian community that reminded me of a simpler time.

So what brought me to this place? It was an e-mail from one of our Kentucky Baptist Convention Mission Board staff members asking for someone to go and talk about missions to a church that is mostly youth. I read it again: A church that is mostly youth? I quickly responded because I knew there were some things happening there that I needed to learn and experience.

When I got there, the description was right. The congregation on that Sunday included three of us in our 40s, one senior adult named Mrs. Rose, a young adult in his late 20s, four college students and five or six youth.

It wasn't their typical Sunday since there were a couple of families out that morning as well as several of their youth. Pastor Jeff Griggs and his family have been there for seven years ministering to this community, pouring their hearts and lives into people there—trying to take the gospel to a community that most of us don't even know exists.

What I learned and experienced that morning isn't what I expected. So what can we learn about youth ministry from Fonde?

Keep it simple. It doesn't get much simpler than it is at Fonde. Words are projected on a screen from an overhead projector; Alan Jackson and some of the biggest name worship leaders in the nation accompany our singing on CD. The second worship set was done a capella from the hymnal. No bells, no whistles, just worship pure and simple.

Involve everyone. One of the teens was changing the CDs in the CD player, two girls in jeans took up the offering, and the first song sung that day is Mrs. Rose's favorite. This is family at its best. No agenda on who we are niche marketing the gospel to; just trying to involve the entire church family.

Develop relationships. There is a

reason that students come to Fonde, and that is the relationships that have been built with the adults in the church. Students will build relationships with each other, that comes with being a teenager, but these students had healthy relationships with adults in the church.

I experienced that firsthand when I was invited to the Griggs' for lunch after worship. Most of the students came by for lunch and it wasn't just because they had the guest speaker over; it is a regular occurrence. It isn't unusual for there to be students there two or three days a week, just hanging out.

For me, it felt like Easter at my grandparents when all the family would stop by for Sunday dinner. I felt like the long-lost relative who dropped by for the day.

These relationships are authentic, not the typical youth/adult relationships I find in most churches. They had laughed, cried, prayed and traveled across the state together. They truly enjoyed each other's company.

I do not know when I will ever again be given the opportunity to speak to a congregation that regularly has more students than adults during Sunday morning worship. I know this is an anomaly, but it sure was fun. It will be a long while before I forget the lessons learned at Fonde.

Joe Ball, a former youth minister at Edgewood Baptist Church in Hopkinsville, is youth strategist for the Kentucky Baptist Convention

YOUTH MINISTRY CORNER



Joe Ball

Parents Television Council study describes TV ratings as a 'sham'

By Michael Foust
Baptist Press

Nashville (BP)—Families who use television ratings to guide their TV viewing habits are relying on a "sham" system that doesn't work, a new study asserts.

The Parents Television Council study of 546 hours of primetime broadcast programming found that 67 percent of the time, shows contained offensive programming without the proper content label. For instance, a program may have had sexual content but no "S" label to warn viewers.

The April 16 study is significant because ABC, CBS, NBC and Fox filed suit last year challenging fines imposed by the Federal Communications Commission due to various indecency violations. In fact, the networks issued a joint statement criticizing the "growing government control over what viewers should and shouldn't see" and arguing that parents already have control over their TV thanks to the V-Chip and other blocking technologies.

But the V-Chip relies on television ratings, which the Parents Television Council says are useless. Each program is given a rating, such as "TV-G," "TV-PG," "TV-14" and "TV-MA," along with letters warning viewers of offensive content. For example, an "S" refers to sexual content, a "V" to violence, an "L" to language and a "D" to suggestive dialogue. A show's rating can be seen at the beginning of the program and sometimes following commercial breaks. Newer television sets contain V-Chips that automatically detect the ratings.

Study blasts TV's "toxic content"

"The ratings system is a sham meant to keep Congress at bay while Hollywood continues to pump more and more of its toxic content into America's homes," the study noted. "The V-Chip cannot be relied upon to consistently block offensive programs because parents cannot rely on the ratings to correctly identify problematic content."

The study examined programming on all six broadcast networks

(the four mentioned above plus CW and MyNetworkTV) during the November and February sweeps weeks. News and sports programming were not included. Among the findings:

- 63 percent of shows with sexual content did not have an "S" descriptor.

- 54 percent of shows with suggestive dialogue lacked a "D."

- 44 percent of shows with foul language had no "L."

- 42 percent of shows with violence did not have a "V."

The study's findings mean, for instance, that a mother who wanted to block all sexual content from her children would be unsuccessful the majority of the time.

Report cites specific violations

The 15-page report contained several pages of violation examples by the networks. An episode of NBC's "Friday Night Lights" was rated "TV-PG" and had 14 instances of profanity, but no "L" label. An episode of ABC's "What About Brian" was rated "TV-PG DL" but did not have an "S" descriptor, even though there was a scene in a strip club with scantily clad dancers. And a "TV-14" episode of CBS' "How I Met Your Mother" had a graphic discussion about pornography and sexual noises but no "D" label.

Ninety-nine percent of all the programs examined were rated either TV-PG or TV-14. No programs were rated TV-MA—the strongest possible rating.

The problem, the study pointed out, is that the ratings are done by the networks themselves.

"Clearly, the TV ratings and the V-Chip are inadequate for protecting children and families from offensive content," the study said. "Congress and the courts should not be swayed by Hollywood's argument that the existing decency laws are no longer needed because of these technologies. The FCC must continue to vigorously enforce broadcast decency laws, and the American people must continue to hold the networks accountable for how they use the publicly owned broadcast airwaves."

Veterans Affairs agrees to allow Wiccan symbols as grave markers

Washington (RNS)—The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has approved the pentacle, a religious symbol used by Wiccans, as an official symbol for veterans' grave-stones, according to a settlement announced April 23.

"The Wiccan pentacle will henceforth have the same status as the other emblems of belief on VA's list of emblems available for inscription on government-furnished headstones and markers," reads the settlement released by Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

The agreement comes after the Washington watchdog group filed suit last November seeking recognition of the pentacle used by groups such as Circle Sanctuary, which includes widows of U.S. veterans among its members.

Barry Lynn, executive director of Americans United, described the agreement as "a proud day for religious freedom in the United States."

By contrast, President Bush said in a 1999 interview while campaigning for the presidency, "I don't think witchcraft is a religion. I would hope the military officials would take a second look at the decision they made" to allow Wiccan soldiers to hold services at Fort Hood in Texas.

Concerning the latest action, VA spokesman Matt Burns said the department "acted to settle in the interest of the families concerned" as well as "to spare taxpayers the expense of further litigation," according to the New York Times.

Roberta Stewart of Fernley, Nev., a plaintiff in the suit, expressed relief with the VA decision. Her husband, Sgt. Patrick Stewart, was killed in Afghanistan

in 2005.

"I was in shock the day I ordered my husband's memorial plaque and I was told I could not put our emblem of faith (the pentacle) on that plaque," she recalled. "I cried for days."

In December, a state-approved pentacle was added in her husband's honor to a memorial plaque at the Northern Nevada Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Fernley. Now, she will be able to have the federally furnished marker at the Circle Cemetery at the church headquarters in Wisconsin, where some of his ashes are buried.

Selena Fox, senior minister of Circle Sanctuary, an international Wiccan church based near Barneveld, Wis., said at least 11 families will be immediately affected by the settlement.

The pentacle will join 38 other religious or philosophical symbols permitted by the VA, including symbols representing Christians, Jews, Buddhists, atheists, Muslims, Sikhs and others. Wiccans had long sought to have the pentacle—a five-pointed star within a circle—included among the symbols used by the VA.

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod has applied for its stylized cross symbol to be approved by the VA.

Some Seventh-day Adventist veterans have asked that their church's emblem—consisting of a cross, flame and open Bible—be considered, too. Chaplain Gary Councell, military endorser for Seventh-day Adventist chaplains, said a committee is studying the issue, but no official request has been made of the VA.

With additional reporting by Associated Baptist Press



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BarlowGirl helps highlight May 3 National Day of Prayer



"We want to be a part of encouraging people to press into God, pray and seek His face, then watch Him move in their lives."

Contemporary Christian band BarlowGirl

Washington (BP)—BarlowGirl, three sisters who are one of the top bands in contemporary Christian music, are on board with this week's National Day of Prayer.

"We want to be a part of encouraging people to press into God, pray and seek His face, then watch Him move in their lives," Rebecca, Alyssa and Lauren Barlow wrote in a statement on the nationaldayofprayer.org Web site. "If there is one thing we've experienced in our lives, it is that prayer changes things."

As this year's National Day of Prayer youth ambassadors, the members of BarlowGirl are encouraging students and adults to participate in the May 3 National Day of Prayer.

"BarlowGirl is reaching out to a generation of young people who are passionate about the things of God, calling them to action and challenging them to make an impact in their

communities," said Michael Calhoun, director of marketing and communications for the National Day of Prayer Task Force.

This year's National Day of Prayer honorary chairman is author Charles Swindoll, pastor of Stonebriar Community Church in Frisco, Texas. Swindoll will be the keynote speaker at the national observance in Washington, D.C., at noon May 3 in the Cannon House Office Building.

A special observance of the National Day of Prayer also is scheduled at the White House.



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Meet the class of 2007, part 6

International students such as Omar give Oneida a global perspective

"I was born in the U.S. and lived here for about five years and then I went to Ethiopia, where I have lived for the past 11 years. So I consider myself an Ethiopian."

This is the way Omar (not his real name) began his senior essay, "My Oneida Experience." Omar came to OBI because he was moving back to the U.S. and planned to enroll in college this fall. His English language skills were fair, but he and his father felt strongly that he needed a year of U.S. schooling before going to college. Omar came to us last fall, and in the short time we have known him, he has been a delight to work with. He is respectful and polite and is never in trouble. While I believe Omar will do well in college, he definitely needed to be with us for his senior year.

Oneida has had an international presence on our campus for more than 50 years. Back in the 1950s, our international students came to us primarily from one or two countries. Today we are blessed to have students from more than a dozen different nationalities. While they bring their own set of challenges, usually they are a delight to work with. Often, they have a much greater desire to get the best education possible than some American children do. Here is part of Omar's essay:

"My first impressions of Oneida were probably like most other students. I thought I would be working on the farm with the pigs and cattle. Although the interview and orientation went well, I was scared out of my mind. ... At Oneida, my academic progress has been great. The one thing

that I enjoyed the most was studying in groups with other students. The most enjoyable class was my Bible class, where I discovered the spiritual aspects of different religions. I would like to give a special thanks to Mr. Scull, Dr. Davidson, Mr. Self and the houseparents because they have been like parents to me. They have been there for me when I needed them the most, both in the classroom and out. ... During my stay at Oneida, I had many opportunities to connect to God. The daily chapel sermons were quite influential. The chapel services have helped my relationship with God. I found out that life isn't worth living without Jesus as my Savior. ... At Oneida, I have grown physically, mentally and especially socially. I have learned to be independent. I have also begun to realize that my mom and dad aren't going to be here forever to help me. Living in the dorms has helped me to learn to take responsibility. The lessons that were the most valuable were

THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

learned in the dorm and in the work program. It made me see life in a whole different way. If you don't work to make your dreams happen, no one is going to do it for you."

Oneida's sphere of influence reaches far beyond the mountains of eastern Kentucky. We believe our greatest blessing is ministering to young people in this community, our state, across the U.S. and around the world. Our international students have given us the chance to share the good news with young people from all around the globe. We thank God for this opportunity, and for our friends who make it possible for us to impact the lives of our students.

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

"Today, millions are uniting in prayer" through each year's national call to prayer, Calhoun noted. "Over 6 million people have visited the Web site since April 2006, an increase of 84 percent."

"More than 108,000 people have been given information on how to have a relationship with Christ through prayer," he added.

"So far we have seen an increase of 384 percent in posted events, indicating that God's people will turn out in massive numbers this year as well," Calhoun said. "These events are taking place in courthouses, on capitol steps, in churches, firehouses, on mountaintops and even in airplanes." An estimated 46,000 churches are expected to be involved.

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Thank you for the opportunity

Reflections on 19 years as president of Clear Creek

These 19 years as president of Clear Creek have brought some accomplishments through the united efforts of Kentucky Baptist churches and friends, trustees, faculty, staff and students.

Finances: A debt of nearly \$1 million was eliminated in two years. The college's endowment, managed by the Kentucky Baptist Foundation, increased from \$2.1 million to \$13 million. Established were: 57 named, endowed student scholarships; three endowed chairs for academic instruction; and two annual lectureships. Endowments now exist supporting the library, student "workshop" program, plant maintenance, home missions and evangelism involvement.

Academics: Accreditation was reaffirmed twice from the Association of Biblical Higher Education; initial accreditation was secured from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools—which recently reaffirmed that approval for another decade. The curriculum was revised to include additional majors and the Christian Service degree for non-vocational ministry students. Over the years, I've congratulated

604 graduates at commencement.

Physical plant: Renovations included the Carolyn Brooks Library, Aldridge Administration Building, Kelly Hall, Harking Physical Plant Building, chapel, 20 student homes, student lounge and post office, missionary-in-residence apartment and Asher Building. The Irene Peterson Child Development Center, Brooks Medical Center, classroom building, six student duplexes, three townhouses and new campus entrances all were added. Most of the labor for these projects came from volunteers and students.

My wife, Rebecca, served nine years as director of the child development center, and has faithfully supported me. These years have demonstrated abundantly that God keeps His promises and our faith is marvelously rewarded through participation in His work for His glory (Romans 4:20-21).

I pray that Kentucky Baptists increasingly will value Clear Creek's contribution to the Kingdom. Thanks for the opportunity you've given me to have a part in this unique ministry.

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

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Bill Whittaker

Chris Tomlin is top winner at GMA's annual Dove Awards

Nashville (BP)—The Gospel Music Association's biggest night of the year launched with a thumping rendition of "Lose My Soul" performed by Mandisa, TobyMac and Kirk Franklin, setting the stage to honor top Christian artists across a spectrum of musical styles.

Christian singers, songwriters and producers gathered April 25 for the 38th Annual GMA Dove Awards at the Grand Ole Opry House in Nashville.

Singer/songwriter Chris Tomlin captured six Dove Awards, exceeding the five statues he won last year.

"I am overwhelmed by the whole thing," Tomlin noted. "I am grateful

for the honors, but at the end of the day that's not what impresses God. ... He must increase and I must decrease. I know this is nothing that I do; I just know that the presence and favor of God is with me."

Tomlin won for the second consecutive year both the Artist of the Year and Male Vocalist of the Year awards. He also won for his contribution on the Special Event Album of the Year, "Passion: Everything Glorious."

Tomlin's current release, "See the Morning," earned two additional awards when it was named Pop/Contemporary Album of the Year and Praise and Worship Album of

the Year. "Holy Is the Lord," co-written with Louie Giglio, won Worship Song of the Year.

Tomlin, who garnered the most awards during the event, said he plans to remain faithful in writing worship songs that "give a voice to the people in the church."

Dove Award debut winner Aaron Shust captured Song of the Year with "My Savior, My God" and New Artist of the Year. He also was named Songwriter of the Year.

"I am a huge fan of Christian music," Shust said. "The awards have boosted my confidence tonight ... but tomorrow when I wake up I will still be a sinner saved by grace."

John Styll, president and CEO of the Gospel Music Association and executive producer of the GMA Dove Awards, said Tomlin and Shust "will be impacting gospel and Christian music for some time to come."

Casting Crowns was named Group of the Year for the third consecutive year, winning over nominees BarlowGirl, David Crowder Band, Jars of Clay and MercyMe.

Casting Crowns also won the Pop/Contemporary Recorded Song of the Year for "Praise You in the Storm."

"The purpose of our songs is to direct (listeners) to God's Word," said lead singer Mark Hall, adding that after three consecutive Group of the Year awards the members stay grounded by "going back to the real world" and ministering in their churches and their families.

Ed Cash won Producer of the Year for the third consecutive year.

Natalie Grant was named Female Vocalist of the Year for the second consecutive year, winning over nominees Krystal Meyers, Christy Nockels, Nichole Nordeman and Rebecca St. James.

Performers at the annual awards show included Mac Powell of Third Day, Steven Curtis Chapman, Mark Hall, Take 6, Brian Littrell, Leeland, DecembeRadio, The Crabb Family, Chris Tomlin and others.

The Dove Awards will be televised nationally in May and June. For a list of specific dates and times, visit doveawards.com.

Theological Decision-Making

If you are involved in ministry, you likely face situations in which making the right decision is difficult. If you would like to gain more insight into how to make decisions that are theologically grounded, this course is for you. You will examine the process of theological reflection as a tool for decision-making in your ministry context. You will develop theological reflection skills for decision-making in active ministry and increase your understanding of your own theology.

The 4-week online course Theological Reflection is highly interactive and provides opportunities for online discussion with the facilitator and other study participants.

• Course dates: May 14–June 10, 2007

Registration is \$150 — Scholarships are available to cover 50% of the registration fee

For more information, visit www.btsr.edu/theo_reflection.html, call 1-888-339-2877 (toll free), or email scminfo@btsr.edu.



BTSR
BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY AT RICHMOND
SCHOOL of
CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

Study: Teens addressing MySpace, Facebook risks

Nashville (BP)—Teenagers are taking precautions to protect themselves against online predators after numerous reports warned of the risks associated with social networking sites such as MySpace and Facebook, according to a recent study.

Two-thirds of teens with profiles on blogs or networking sites have implemented some sort of restricted access to their information, the Pew Internet and American Life Project reported April 18. Such restrictions include passwords or limiting access to approved lists.

"I think teens are getting the message," Amanda Lenhart, a senior research specialist with Pew and coauthor of the report, told Scripps News. "A lot of teens have been bombarded by the message that social networks are not safe. This is something teens are living with and swimming with every day, and that's reflected in the steps they're taking."

Fewer than one-third of teens use their last names on profiles, and about that number include e-mail addresses, Pew found. Only 2 percent post their cell phone numbers.

"Teens, particularly girls and younger teens, have gotten the message about protecting themselves on social networks, but the fun of these networks is the ability to share yourself with others on them," Lenhart told Associated Press.

One-third of teens reported that they had been contacted by strangers online, but most did not feel uncomfortable with the encounter.

Based on a survey of about 1,000 teens and their parents, Pew found that 45 percent of teens who use the Internet do not have profiles at all.

Some teens also are realizing that college recruiters and employers are surfing profiles, so they are starting to consider the consequences of what they post online.

**Sharing Good News
Through
Good Works**

Monday & Tuesday, May 14 & 15, 2007
Crestwood Baptist Church, Crestwood, Kentucky

A National Ministry Training Conference to encourage and equip those who are meeting the physical and spiritual needs of lost and hurting people through practical, biblical, and relevant ministry

KBC
KENTUCKY BAPTIST CONVENTION

Mission Service & Ministries Department
P.O. Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253
502-489-3530 or 866-489-3530

For more information visit:
www.kybaptist.org/nmec
Non-Refundable Registration Fee of \$20

Southern Baptist Convention

**2007
MESSENGER
CARDS**

Attention PASTORS:
Messenger Cards for voting privileges at the SBC are available through the KBC Executive Office. They **MUST** be signed by your church clerk or moderator **BEFORE** being presented for registration.

Please make your request to:

KBC
KENTUCKY BAPTIST CONVENTION

Executive Office
PO Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433
Attn. Wanda Karolyi
Call 502-489-3374 or 866-489-3374 or
e-mail: wanda.karolyi@kybaptist.org

DEADLINE: May 25, 2007

HOW TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN

By Kevin Smith

I really like the arrival of spring! The cold of winter has passed and I can enjoy outdoor activities again.

Spring also is a time of great excitement for graduates and their families. As I observe parents and grandparents hoping and praying for their loved ones' success, I am mindful of Jesus' question, "What does it profit a man to gain the whole world and lose his soul?" (Mark 8:36). With all the celebrations surrounding springtime graduations, I find it helpful to reflect on the gift of salvation:

■ Graduates rightly feel successful. But success can cloud our understanding of where we stand according to the judgment of God. Despite the honors our graduates will earn, unless they have trusted Jesus Christ as their Savior, they are still condemned sinners according to the Bible (Romans 3:23).

■ Graduates are beginning life "on their own." The non-Christian young person, who does not have the guidance of God's Word, can stumble in this peer pressure-filled culture. Likewise, the Christian who disobeys the Bible is subject to the same failures. I always seek to remind graduates that God's Word is the "lamp unto our feet and the light for our path" (Psalms 119:105).

■ Graduates need to be reminded of the reality of heaven and hell. How can I see a young man or woman embarking on the next phase of life and not remind them that the "wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord?" (Romans 6:23).

I love the coming of the spring. Unfortunately, so does the enemy of our precious graduates.

Kevin Smith, first vice president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, is pastor of Watson Memorial Baptist Church in Louisville and assistant professor of church history at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

■ **ALLEN**—Allen Church recently called **Chris Bumbalough** as youth minister.

■ **BEECHMONT**—Hazel Creek Church will hold revival services May 6-9 with **Gene Garner** as evangelist. For more information, call (270) 476-8513.

■ **CADIZ**—Canton Church recently called **Billy Stamps** as youth/associate pastor.

■ **CAMPBELLSVILLE**—Acton Church will host a mother-daughter banquet May 12, 6 p.m. **Elene Gilpin** and **Patty Durrett** will speak about breast cancer awareness with special music by **Karen Batcher** and **Keisha Robertson**. For more information, call (270) 465-2948.

■ **ELIZABETHTOWN**—Severns Valley Church will host **The Crabb Family** in concert May 20, 7 p.m. For more information, visit www.severnsvalley.org or call (270) 765-7822. **Billy Compton** is pastor.

Severns Valley Association recently called **Gerald Murphy** as director of missions.

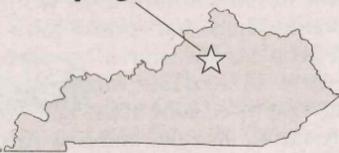
■ **LOUISVILLE**—The Christian Business and Professional Women will host a noon luncheon May 17 at Hurstbourne Country Club with **Pam Schram** as guest speaker. For reservations, call (502) 419-4371.

Deer Park Church will host the **Boyce College Chorale and Worship Band** in concert May 2, 6:30 p.m.

Linda Campbell recently retired as Highland Church's preschool/

Spotlight on ...

Stamping Ground



Cedar Grove Church celebrated its 130th anniversary April 29 with former pastor **Orville Griffith** as guest speaker. At the close of the celebration service, members buried a time capsule that included a DVD highlighting the church's history. **Darrell Taylor** is pastor.

children's coordinator. **Joe Phelps** is pastor.

■ **MELBER**—Melber Church will host **The Truth Troupe** as they present "Get in the Book" May 6, 6 p.m. For more information, call (270) 856-3359. **Jeff Cruse** is pastor.

■ **SLAUGHTERS**—Slaughters Church will hold revival services May 6 during morning worship and May 6-11, 6:30 p.m., with **James Shutt** as evangelist.

What's going on?

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



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May

- 4 Children's Bible Drill, Beacon Hill Baptist Church, Somerset, and Reidland Baptist Church, Paducah.
- 4-6 Equestrian Trail Ride, Mammoth Cave.
- 5 Children's Bible Drill, First Baptist Church, Bowling Green, and Second Baptist Church, Hopkinsville.
- 7-8 KBC Mission Board Meeting, Jonathan Creek.
- 14-15 Sharing Good News through Good Works, Crestwood Baptist Church, Crestwood.
- 21-23 Youth Ministers Spring Retreat, Georgetown College.
- 22 Women of Worth Lifestyle Evangelism Conference, Northside Baptist Church, Princeton.

June

- 2 Church Weekday Education Seminar, Crestwood Baptist Church, Crestwood.
- 9 Technical Ministries Conference, Baptist Building, Louisville.
- 9-16 Kentucky Changers, Russellville.
- 11-15 Mission Adventure Camp for Girls, Cedar Crest.
- 15-16 Mother/Daughter Overnight, Cedar Crest.
- 17-24 All-State Youth Choir/Orchestra Tour, Campbellsville.
- 18-22 Mission Adventure Camp for Girls, Cedar Crest.
- 22-23 Acteens Splash, Girls in Action Overnight, Mother/Daughter Overnight, Jonathan Creek.
- 23-30 Kentucky Changers, Maysville.

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



DISASTER RELIEF Larry Koch, the Kentucky Baptist Convention's disaster relief associate, and his wife, Elaine, recently participated in the Southern Baptist Disaster Relief Roundtable in Talladega, Ala. The event, which attracted more than 420 participants, marked the 40th anniversary of Southern Baptist disaster relief ministry which began with relief efforts in Texas in response to Hurricane Beulah in 1967. Southern Baptist disaster relief has since grown into the third largest relief organization in the nation. (Photo by Shelby Ennis)

CLASSIFIED ADS

AVAILABLE: For supply, interim or bivocational pastorate—any place, anytime, any or no fees. Call Ben Render at (502) 368-3067.

FOR RENT: Family reunion or wedding parties. Highway 30A, beachside, 75 yards from the ocean; more than 5,000 square feet, eight bedrooms including five masters; full game room; large dining area; private heated pool. Call Suzannah at (800) 397-2708; www.reunionhouse.org.

FOR SALE: Striped neckties: retail value to \$20—your cost \$7. Christian and patriotic neckties: retail value \$15—your cost \$6. Humor book: "500 Laughter Doeth Good Like a Medicine," \$6. (606) 285-3051.

FOR SALE: Cookware (we stopped doing dinner parties). Have some gorgeous, 17-piece sets left; heavy, 7-ply surgical stainless steel; waterless and greaseless; brand new. Were \$2,000; three-day sale only \$288. (800) 434-4628. www.vaposeal.com.

FREE: Church organ. Gulbransen, 32-key, 15-pedal, 4'x4'. Perfect for small church/home. (502) 899-5353.

SEEKING: Minister of students/recreation (6th grade through college age). Accepting resumés until May 31. Send to: Red House Baptist Church, 2301 Red House Road, Richmond, KY 40475; or rhbc@redhousebc.com.

SEEKING: Full-time director of missions for Monroe Baptist Association. College and some seminary training desirable, as is associational experience. For more information, call Rev. Ty Clenney, (270) 618-4373. Send resumé: DOM Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 302 North Magnolia, Tompkinsville, KY 42167.

SEEKING: Music director for Clayville Baptist Church in Shelbyville, Ky. Duties include adult choir rehearsal and Sunday morning worship. Experience helpful; modest stipend. Contact pastor at leebolton@bellsouth.net.

SEEKING: Administrative assistant to senior pastor for Southern Baptist church in northern Kentucky. Applicant must be individual of integrity who demonstrates: a high level of trust; the ability to communicate well—orally and in writing; create an inviting environment for people passing through the office; ability to work efficiently with other staff members and support personnel; computer literacy in Word, Excel and PowerPoint, and Internet research skills. A minimum of three years experience or education equivalency also is required. Qualified applicants may submit their resumés by mail to: Administrator, PO Box 456, Florence, KY 41022-0456.

SEEKING: Minister of youth (full- or part-time) for Dry Ridge Baptist Church. Prefer 2-4 years experience in youth ministry, but will consider any candidate with a heart and calling to serve youth. Current youth group consists of about 50 youth with most activities on Wednesday and Sunday nights. The group currently has several committed adult leaders willing to serve and take our youth to a higher spiritual plane. Reply by mail to: Youth Minister Search Committee, Dry Ridge Baptist Church, PO Box 14, Dry Ridge, KY 41035; or by e-mail: p.puralewski@insightbb.com.

SEEKING: Part-time children's minister. Send resumé to: Pastor, Eastern Gate Baptist Church, PO Box 6686, Shepherdsville, KY 40165.

SEEKING: Piano player for Thursday evening and Sunday morning services for Calvary Road Baptist Church in Shepherdsville, Ky. If interested, call (502) 905-0902 or 905-3782.

SEEKING: Full-time senior pastor for Lawrenceville First Baptist Church, located in Gwinnett County, Ga. Please mail a resumé with DVD, VHS or other media, to: Pastor Search Committee, PO Box 228, Lawrenceville, GA 30046-0028.

SEEKING: Minister of education. Cross Lanes Baptist Church is a dynamic, growing (worship: 500; Sunday school: 350), conservative (BF&M 2000) SBC church in West Virginia. We seek qualified candidates for the full-time position responsible for the overall educational ministries of the church. To receive a job description and ministry questionnaire, and/or submit your resumé (deadline is May 31), e-mail pastorseth@crosslanesbaptist.org or mail to 102 Knollwood Drive, Cross Lanes, WV 25313. No calls to church office, please. www.crosslanesbaptist.org.

SEEKING: Part-time/bivocational minister of music (approx. 20 hours/week). Duties include leading Sunday morning worship and evening congregational singing in blended music style, plus leading adult choir, youth choir and children's choir. Send resumé to: Search Committee, McHenry Baptist Church, PO Box 154, McHenry, KY 42354; or e-mail mchenrybaptist@vonageonline.net.

SEEKING: Part-time youth minister with focus on discipleship for rural church in NKY. Also coordinate activities and outreach events. Send resumés: Youth Search Committee, Knoxville Baptist Church, 110 E Fairview Road, Williamstown, KY 41097.

SEEKING: Full-time minister of youth and education at Harrodsburg Baptist Church, PO Box 286, Harrodsburg, KY 40330. Primary focus is youth, but education experience is important. For more church information, see www.harrodsburgbaptist.org.

SEEKING: Community-minded senior pastor for a church with an existing community outreach presence. Morganfield First Baptist Church is located in a small, western Kentucky town, and has an average attendance of 200-250 in two Sunday morning services—one contemporary and one traditional. This is an awesome church with a strong potential for growth. Send resumés to: Pastor Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 200 North Morgan St., Morganfield, KY 42437.

SEEKING: Minister of youth. Responsible for providing ministerial leadership and a comprehensive youth ministry that is consistent with the vision and mission of the church. Please send resumés to: Youth Minister Search Committee, First Baptist Church, PO Box 446, Taylorsville, KY 40071.

SERVICES: Christian long distance: 3.9 interstate; 3.9 in state; no monthly service charge. Call: (866) 587-8346 or www.lowermyphonebill.com/haroldtt.

KBC's 2007 All-State Children's Choir

Choir includes more than 130 children from 44 churches throughout Kentucky

Louisville—A total of 131 children, representing 44 churches across the state, have been named to the 2007 Kentucky Baptist All-State Children's Choir.

The children's choir is divided into two regional groups in order to provide greater opportunity for participation. The choir includes students in grades 4-6 selected by recorded auditions.

The East Choir met April 20-22 for a rehearsal retreat at Cedar-more Camp and Conference Center in Bagdad. The choir performed two concerts April 22 at Versailles Baptist Church and Parkland Baptist Church in Louisville.

Roxanne Nanney, preschool/children's music consultant for the Kentucky Baptist Convention and minister of music at First Baptist Church of Brandenburg, directed the East Choir. Judy Ridings of First Baptist Church of Richmond served as assistant director, and Chris Kihn of Hurstbourne Baptist Church in Louisville, served as the accompanist.

The West Choir met April 27-29 for a rehearsal retreat at Jonathan Creek Camp and Conference Center in Hardin. The West Choir performed two concerts April 29 at Lone Oak First Baptist Church and Immanuel Baptist Church of Paducah.

Lisa Hussung of Rich Pond Baptist Church in Bowling Green, served as director of the West Choir. Mary Suggs of First Baptist Church of Bowling Green, was the assistant director, and Bobbie Sue Chumbler of Lone Oak First Baptist Church served as the accompanist.

2007 All-State Children's East Choir:

Audrey Adams, Fern Creek Baptist Church in Louisville.
Emily Antle, First Baptist Church of Fisherville.
Ashton Bain, First Baptist Church of Lawrenceburg.
Matthew Bain, First Baptist Church of Lawrenceburg.
Alex Beard, First Baptist Church of Albany.
Loren Been, Fern Creek Baptist Church in Louisville.
Alexandra Billups, Unity Baptist Church in Ashland.
Brandon Browning, Ballardsville Baptist Church in Crestwood.
Rachel Bunker, Crescent Hill Baptist Church in Louisville.
Lucas Butler, First Baptist Church of Brandenburg.
Kira Clayton, Highland Baptist Church in Louisville.
Niki Clayton, Highland Baptist Church in Louisville.
Corey Cobb, First Baptist Church of Owenton.
Mitchell Collins, First Baptist Church of Richmond.
Samantha Cunningham, Versailles Baptist Church.
Victoria Daly, First Baptist Church of London.
Hope Darnell, First Baptist Church of Lawrenceburg.
Clay Daugherty, First Baptist Church of Fisherville.

Hannah Deaton, Hurstbourne Baptist Church in Louisville.
Jenny Fackler, First Baptist Church of Brandenburg.
Jessi Fuller, First Baptist Church of London.
Megan Fuller, Highland Baptist Church in Louisville.
Casey Galyon, St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville.
Molly Garrett, Highland Baptist Church in Louisville.
Kaitlin Goodson, Valley View Baptist Church in Louisville.
Torey Hawkins, First Baptist Church of Frankfort.
Madeleine Hendrix, Immanuel Baptist Church in Frankfort.
Ben Hinson, First Baptist Church of Frankfort.
Andrew Hudson, First Baptist Church of London.
Carly Hudson, First Baptist Church of London.
Sydney Jessee, First Baptist Church of Lawrenceburg.
Jessica Kindrick, Faith Baptist Church in Georgetown.
McKenna Lewis, First Baptist Church of Lawrenceburg.
Hallee Mason, First Baptist Church of Frankfort.
Marjorie Mason, First Baptist Church of Frankfort.
Luke McCarty, First Baptist Church of Fisherville.
Amanda McDonald, First Baptist Church of Lawrenceburg.
Emily Metcalfe, Faith Baptist Church in Georgetown.
Tori Monnett, Emmanuel Baptist Church in Stanton.
Andrew Olson, St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville.
Beth Peeff, Mayslick Baptist Church.
Gabe Pope, Calvary Baptist Church in Danville.
Peighton Radlein, Valley View Baptist Church in Louisville.
Emily Ridings, First Baptist Church of Richmond.
Katie Ridings, Millville Baptist Church in Frankfort.
Benjamin Russell, Harrodsburg Baptist Church.
Andres Salazar, Ballardsville Baptist Church in Crestwood.
Robbie Sams, Millville Baptist Church in Frankfort.
Kaitlin Sanders, Highland Baptist Church in Louisville.
Shelbi Schooler, Ballardsville Baptist Church in Crestwood.
Morgan Schussler-Williams, Crescent Hill Baptist Church in Louisville.
Ally Sharp, First Baptist Church of Fisherville.
Ethan Shippey, Highland Baptist Church in Louisville.
Gregory Sholar, Edgewood Baptist Church in Nicholasville.
Julie Spaulding, Greenup Fork Baptist Church in Owenton.
Harrison Stiles, Hurstbourne Baptist Church in Louisville.
Brooke Tarpey, Crescent Hill Baptist Church in Louisville.
Sadie Theodore-Powell, First Baptist Church of Richmond.
Mina Thomas, First Baptist Church of Frankfort.



Courtney Thompson, First Baptist Church of Frankfort.
Brooke Thornsberry, Valley View Baptist Church in Louisville.
Blair Walden, First Baptist Church of London.
Erin Warner, Cornerstone Baptist Church in Lexington.
Andi Wash, First Baptist Church of Owenton.
Kathryn Weeks, Hurstbourne Baptist Church in Louisville.
Emma Whitlock, Faith Baptist Church in Georgetown.
Margaret Whitworth, First Baptist Church of Frankfort.
Sydney Wilson, First Baptist Church of Richmond.
Hannah Woggon, Crescent Hill Baptist Church in Louisville.
Dustin Wolz, First Baptist Church of Fisherville.
Kirsten Wright, First Baptist Church of Richmond.
Hagan Zoellers, First Baptist Church of London.

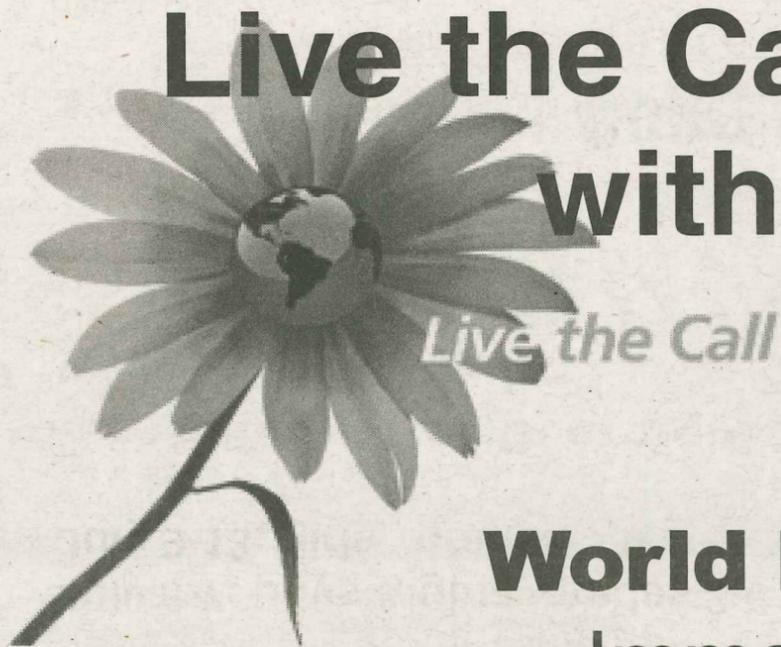
2007 All-State Children's West Choir:

Taylor Ater, First Baptist Church of Bowling Green.
Olivia Baird, Hartford Baptist Church.
Rachel Jean Baise, Cave City Baptist Church.
Trevor Baise, Cave City Baptist Church.
Sarah Bazemore, Buena Vista Baptist Church in Owensboro.
Duncan Beach, First Baptist Church of Bowling Green.
Anne Thomas Belcher, First Baptist Church of Bowling Green.
Monique Belmedioni, First Baptist Church of Morganfield.
Jamie Bigley, First Baptist Church of Bowling Green.
Andi Boyd, Immanuel Baptist Church in Paducah.
Bailey Brown, Lewis Lane Baptist Church in Owensboro.
Elizabeth Burden, First Baptist Church of Bowling Green.
Hannah Chaney, First Baptist Church of Bowling Green.
Jacob Clingermayer, First Baptist Church of Murray.
Lindsey Cowles, First Baptist Church of Bowling Green.
Rachel Daniel, First Baptist Church of Bowling Green.
Alyssa Durbin, Lone Oak First Baptist Church of Paducah.
Ashlee Edminster, First Baptist Church of Murray.
Julianna Felter, Rich Pond Baptist Church in Bowling Green.
Cortney Fleener, Beaver Dam Baptist Church.
Destiny Frizzell, Beaver Dam Baptist Church.
Rachel Garden, First Baptist Church of Bowling Green.
Justin Wayne Glover, Second Baptist Church of Hopkinsville.
Shelby Glover, Second Baptist Church of Hopkinsville.
Lauren Greenwell, First Baptist Church of Morganfield.
McKenzie Guess, First Baptist Church of Eddyville.
Travis Hardcastle, Rich Pond Baptist Church in Bowling Green.
Corine Hensley, Macedonia Baptist Church in Owensboro.
Sarah Holbrook, First Baptist Church of Morganfield.
Ellen Howard, Edmonton Baptist Church.
Haley Humphrey, First Baptist Church of Bowling Green.
Taylor Hurt, Macedonia Baptist Church in Owensboro.
Samantha Isbell, Lone Oak First Baptist Church of Paducah.
Kayla Joseph, Lone Oak First Baptist Church of Paducah.
Nathan King, Lone Oak First Baptist Church of Paducah.
Reagan Martin, Rich Pond Baptist Church in Bowling Green.
Rachel Mattingly, Buena Vista Baptist Church in Owensboro.
Olivia Melton, Beaver Dam Baptist Church.
Joseph Miller, Lewis Lane Baptist Church in Owensboro.
Caroline Nance, Beaver Dam Baptist Church.
Hallie Nicks, First Baptist Church of Bowling Green.
Craig Redden, First Baptist Church of Bowling Green.
Kelsey Roberts, First Baptist Church of Murray.
Emily Shaneyfelt, First Baptist Church of Bowling Green.
Mason Sims, Second Baptist Church of Hopkinsville.
Allison Stewart, Beaver Dam Baptist Church.
Sarah Suggs, First Baptist Church of Bowling Green.
Grace Summar, Rich Pond Baptist Church in Bowling Green.
Leah Thompson, Coral Hill Baptist Church in Glasgow.
Rebekah Thompson, Coral Hill Baptist Church in Glasgow.
Grace Waldron, Second Baptist Church of Hopkinsville.
Frances Walker, First Baptist Church of Morganfield.
Lauren Walker, First Baptist Church of Bowling Green.
Ryan Walker, Immanuel Baptist Church in Paducah.
Alexis Ware, Buena Vista Baptist Church in Owensboro.
Ashley Ware, Buena Vista Baptist Church in Owensboro.
Abby Watkins, Rich Pond Baptist Church in Bowling Green.
Adam Watkins, Rich Pond Baptist Church in Bowling Green.
Christy Wilkins, First Baptist Church of Bowling Green.

ALL-STATE CHOIR

Members of the KBC's 2007 All-State Children's East Choir, one of two regional groups selected by recorded auditions, performed concerts in Louisville and Versailles April 22. The West Choir performed two concerts in Paducah April 29.

Live the Call this Summer with Kentucky WMU



World Missions Unlimited Immanuel Baptist Church July 27-28, 2007

World Missions Unlimited provides training for church leaders of all WMU and Baptist Men on Mission organizations. The new guides for missions will be introduced in all WMU age level workshops. In addition, there will be a training track for Associational WMU leaders and special interest workshops will be offered.

The registration fee is \$20 if registered by July 6; \$25 if registered by July 21; and \$30 if registered after July 21.

Missions Camp

Mission Adventure Camp

Cedar Crest

- June 11-15: girls, grades 6-10
- June 18-22: girls, grades 3-6
- June 25-29: girls, grades 3-6
- July 5-7: boys & girls, grades 3-6
- July 9-13: girls, grades 3-6

Mother/Daughter Overnights

- June 15-16: grades 1-3
- June 29-30: grades 1-3
- July 2-3: grades 1-3

Overnights at the Creek

Jonathan Creek

June 22-23

- Mother/Daughter Overnight:**
grades 1-3
- GA Overnight:** grades 4-6
- Acteens Splash:** grades 7-12

Contact Kentucky WMU for more information
www.kywmu.org or (502/866) 489-3534
P.O. Box 436569, Louisville, KY 40253-6569