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FOR THE RECORD

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Archaeologists believe discovery is Herod's tomb

Jerusalem (RNS)—Israeli archaeologists believe they have discovered the tomb of King Herod, the excavation's chief archaeologist announced May 8.

Professor Ehud Netzer from the Institute of Archaeology at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem said his team discovered the tomb three weeks ago during ongoing excavations at Herodium, a once-magnificent palace located nine miles south of Jerusalem, in what is now the West Bank.

Herod, who was appointed by the Romans, ruled Judea from 37 to 4 B.C. During his reign he undertook numerous monumental building projects, including the fortress at Masada and the reinforcement and expansion of the Second Jewish Temple in Jerusalem.

According to the gospels of Matthew and Luke, Jesus was born during Herod's reign and Joseph and Mary fled to Egypt because the king planned to kill the infant Jesus.

Archaeologists have long based their belief that Herod was buried at Herodium on the account of the historian Josephus Flavius, who described the king's lavish funeral although not the tomb itself.

Pointing to intricately carved remains from the excavation, Netzer said his team had discovered a grave, fragments from a sarcophagus and a mausoleum on Mount Herodium's northeastern slope.

"It was the quality of the things that were uncovered that led us to understand that this was the grave of a king," Netzer said of the finely detailed remains of the sarcophagus, which was decorated with rosettes; the beautifully decorated urns for storing ashes; and the well-built podium of the mausoleum.

Partnership preparation



MINISTRY PARTNERS Kentucky Baptist Convention Executive Director Bill Mackey signs a three-year partnership agreement with the Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware approved last week by the KBC Mission Board. Looking on (from left) are Kevin Smith, KBC first vice president; Darren Gaddis, KBC president; and Randy Jones, leader of the KBC missions growth team. (KBC photo by Kristie Randolph)

KBC leaders approve partnership with Maryland/Delaware

By Trennis Henderson
Editor

Hardin—Kentucky Baptist leaders approved a new missions partnership with the Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware during last week's Kentucky Baptist Convention Mission Board meeting.

The three-year partnership, set to begin Jan. 1, 2008, could be extended beyond 2010 if both conventions agree.

According to the partnership mission agreement, the effort's purpose is to "intentionally make known the good news of Jesus Christ to all the people in Mary-

land/Delaware, Kentucky and the world." The purpose statement adds that "we believe this can best be accomplished as we partner together in ministry for the growth of God's Kingdom."

Randy Jones, leader of the KBC's missions growth team, noted that the partnership is "an exciting opportunity for us as Kentucky Baptists."

Jones said Maryland/Delaware Executive Director David Lee described the partnership proposal as "a Macedonian call" for the two conventions to work together.

Maryland/Delaware Baptist

leaders "want reciprocity" in the partnership, Jones added. "They don't want to be the receiving convention only."

The partnership agreement outlines strategies to "strengthen existing churches, associations and state convention ministries which will result in helping to bring people to Jesus Christ and the starting of new Southern Baptist churches."

Specific goals include partnership prayer ministries, evangelistic outreach and church planting, leadership development, construction projects and discipleship.

Diagnostic tool aims to strengthen KBC associations & churches

By Ken Walker
Kentucky Baptist Convention

Louisville—While a new Kentucky Baptist Convention initiative aimed at helping Baptist associations strengthen their churches' ministries isn't fully implemented, it already is paying dividends.

As a result of interviews with pastors and follow-up evaluations, several churches in Pulaski Baptist Association have started "Celebrate Recovery"—which originated at Rick Warren's Saddleback Church—and other programs to help people deal with drug addiction.

In Three Forks Baptist Association, two churches are taking steps to strengthen their Sunday schools. Director of Missions Jim Castlen said he is hopeful the efforts also will forge closer ties among the association's 43 churches.

"One thing that I hope will come

out of this is churches will see the association not as a different entity but will see themselves as an integral part," Castlen noted. "The association is here for the churches."

Announced last summer by the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board, this associational diagnosis/assessment was launched in Kentucky last fall with on-site interviews.

Personnel from the Kentucky Baptist Convention and NAMB interviewed between 66 and 75 percent of pastors in the Somerset and Hazard areas to determine what problems and challenges they face.

From there the program entered a prescription phase to determine what kinds of things need to be done to help churches improve their reach into their communities.

"In both associations, the key is discipleship," said Larry Baker, di-

rector of the KBC's new work and associational missions department. "There's also a need for evangelism and outreach. Churches are struggling with how to do that."

Another problem that surfaced is the significant number of pastors who identified drugs as a serious issue.

Drugs have affected churches in numerous ways, from increasing poverty and crime in their communities to impacting extended family members and sometimes church members, Baker said.

In response to the finding, the KBC Mission Board staff formed a work team to compile lists of resources churches can use to address the problem, including materials from NAMB and LifeWay Christian Resources.

"We're trying to do a customized fit. Each church had its own illness-

es," said Baker, noting that numerous KBC departments are helping churches find solutions. "We want to deal with the disease and provide the right medicine."

Because the Pulaski and Three Forks associations already were involved in another NAMB effort called "Set the Journey," Baker said they were able to easily adapt to the assessment program.

The emphasis grew out of work done with NAMB's "Strategic Focus Cities" outreach and helps churches develop a vision and design ways of meeting community needs.

Yet to be implemented in the two associations is the solution phase. Baker said there will be a review one year after completion of the effort to determine how well the proposed answers are working.

He noted that such measures as

□ See *Diagnostic tool designed ... Page 3*

Dated material. Please deliver by Wednesday, May 16.

SBC president clarifies views on education

Taylor, S.C. (BP)—

With some news reports linking him to the so-called public school "exit strategy," Southern Baptist Convention President Frank Page issued a statement May 9 saying he "strongly supports" Christian families involved in public school education but also is "deeply concerned" for parents who cannot afford to choose alternatives to public education.

Page, pastor of First Baptist Church of Taylors, S.C., said he is "in full support" of last year's SBC resolution that affirmed those who teach in public schools and also called on Southern Baptists to "engage the culture of our public school systems nationwide by running for election to their local school boards and exerting their godly influence upon these school systems."

Page released his statement after representatives of the Exodus Mandate—a group calling for a Christian "exodus" from public schools—said they would introduce a resolution at next month's SBC annual meeting that "applauds" those who teach in public schools but also calls for more churches to start Christian schools. The proposed resolution refers to what it terms the "anti-Christian government school system" and it mentions Page six times, including a quote from Page from last year when he said more churches should start Christian schools.

In his statement to Baptist Press, Page said he was seeking to clarify his stance on the issue of education. Page last year was a member of the SBC Resolutions Committee that rejected a proposed resolution from Exodus calling for a withdrawal from public schools.

"I am pastor of a church that has strong support for home schoolers and their families," Page said. "However, I also support those who feel led to continue their children in public school education."

IMB trustees tweak guidelines on tongues, baptism

Chitwood: Goal is to halt controversy, focus on missions

By Erich Bridges
SBC International Mission Board

Kansas City, Mo. (BP)—Southern Baptist International Mission Board trustees have adopted revised guidelines on baptism and the practice of tongues and private prayer languages among prospective missionaries. The revisions, both of which are now termed "guidelines," retain much of their original wording.

The new guidelines, overwhelmingly adopted by trustees during their May 7-9 meeting in Kansas City, Mo., come after a year of review by two special ad hoc committees. The revised guidelines reaffirm the main provisions of a policy and a guideline that stirred debate among Southern Baptists after being approved by IMB trustees in November 2005.

The 2005 policy ruled out the appointment of missionary candidates who practice either glossolalia (speaking in tongues) in public or a "prayer language" usually practiced in private. The baptism guideline stated candidates must have been baptized in a Southern Baptist church or in a church of another denomination that practices believer's baptism by immersion alone. Also, the baptism must not be viewed as sacramental or regenerative, and the candidate's church must embrace the doctrine of the security of the believer.

The revised measures include several changes for clarification. Neither the original actions nor the revisions apply retroactively to missionaries appointed before adoption of the measures.

Former Kentucky Baptist Convention President Paul Chitwood, chairman of the trustees' mission personnel committee, presented the revised guidelines.

"The ad hoc committees have met over the course of this past year along with staff, and we also invited input from our (overseas missionary) regional leaders," noted Chitwood, pastor of First Baptist Church of Mount Washington.

The ad hoc committees met during regular trustee meetings and a two-day special session to "consider the vast amount of material that we gathered from scholars and pastors across our convention," Chitwood said. The personnel committee "solicited this material in an attempt to be faithful to our task. The committee has also spent considerable time praying, fasting and seeking God's heart on these issues. The committee has no desire to create further controversy. Rather, our desire is to bring this study to completion and to allow the board to maintain its focus on our world mission task."

Charismatic issue "not systemic"

Chitwood said the ad hoc committees found that field-related data and consultation with regional leaders have "not indicated a systemic problem with charismatic practices among field personnel." He added, however, that "the rapid spread of neo-Pentecostalism and its pressure

Revised IMB guidelines

The Southern Baptist International Mission Board's revised guidelines on tongues, prayer language and baptism include:

Guideline on tongues and prayer language Glossolalia

1. The New Testament speaks of a gift of glossolalia that generally is considered a legitimate language.

2. The New Testament expression of glossolalia as a gift had specific uses and conditions for its exercise in public worship.

3. In terms of worship practices, if glossolalia is a public part of the candidate's current practice and it does not fall within the definitions of Parts 1 and 2 above, the candidate has eliminated himself or herself from being a representative of the IMB of the SBC.

Prayer language

1. Any spiritual experience must be tested by Scriptures.

2. New Testament teaching is that prayer is to be made with understanding.

3. The board is not persuaded that ecstatic utterance as a prayer language is a valid expression of the New Testament teaching on prayer.

4. Therefore, if an "ecstatic ut-

terance on new churches in various regions of the world warrants a concern for the clear Baptist identity of our missionary candidates."

"Furthermore, the diversity of denominational backgrounds among missionary candidates requires a clear baptism guideline to guide the work of our candidate consultants as they consider the qualification of candidates."

The new guideline on tongues and prayer language specifies that the New Testament gift of glossolalia generally is considered a "legitimate language" that "had specific uses and conditions for its exercise in public worship." If a missionary candidate currently engages in public worship outside those parameters, "the candidate has eliminated himself or herself" from being a representative of the IMB.

The guideline further states that the New Testament teaches that prayer is to be made with understanding. "The board is not persuaded that ecstatic utterance as a prayer language is a valid expression of the New Testament teaching on prayer. Therefore, if an 'ecstatic utterance as a prayer language' is a part of the candidate's current practice, the candidate has eliminated himself or herself" from being appointed.

The baptism guideline states that a missionary candidate's baptismal experience must be examined in light of the Baptist Faith and Message, Article VII, which defines baptism as "the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. It is an act of obedience symbolizing the believer's faith in a crucified, buried and risen Savior, the believer's death to sin, the burial of the old life, and the resurrection to walk in newness of life in Christ Jesus."

IMB consultants who work with

terance as a prayer language" is a part of the candidate's current practice, the candidate has eliminated himself or herself from being a representative of the IMB of the SBC.

Guideline on baptism

That each candidate's baptismal experience be examined, during the application process, in light of the "Baptist Faith and Message" statement and the points listed below:

"Baptist Faith and Message": Article VII—Baptism. Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. It is an act of obedience symbolizing the believer's faith in a crucified, buried and risen Savior, the believer's death to sin, the burial of the old life, and the resurrection to walk in newness of life in Christ Jesus. It is a testimony to his faith in the final resurrection of the dead. Being a church ordinance, it is prerequisite to the privileges of church membership and to the Lord's Supper.

Points to be covered during the appointment process:

1. The individual
a. Believer's baptism by immer-

sion. Baptism by immersion follows salvation.

b. Baptism is symbolic, picturing the experience of the believer's death to sin and resurrection to a new life in Christ. Baptism does not regenerate.

2. The church

a. Baptism is a church ordinance. Baptism must take place under the authority of a local church that practices believer's baptism alone, embraces the doctrine of the security of a believer's salvation and does not view baptism as sacramental, regenerative or essential to salvation.

b. A candidate who has not been baptized under the authority of a local church, which meets the standards listed above, is expected to request baptism in his or her Southern Baptist church.

3. The candidate

Candidates are responsible for requesting their home church assist them in meeting this doctrinal commitment to the above points.

4. The consultant

While the candidate consultant should have a working knowledge of many denominational groups, he or she is not expected to investigate every church.

urged his colleagues to "seriously consider the wisdom of adopting these guidelines."

If regional mission leaders see no systemic problem with charismatic practices among missionaries, he said he questioned the rationale for implementation. If the reasons for adopting the guidelines are doctrinal, he added, "I would much rather that the convention speak on this matter than our board."

IMB attorney Matt Bristol responded to another question by Burleson about the difference between a policy and a guideline. Bristol said the term "guideline" suggests that "as the circumstances are presented with each individual candidate, it will be applied with a degree of flexibility."

Following the vote on the guidelines, trustee chairman John Floyd of Tennessee asked the trustees to unite around it.

"We have made a decision," he said. "We need to own it."

In other business, trustees celebrated the largest Lottie Moon Christmas Offering on record, appointed 35 new missionaries and earmarked \$5 million to fund an additional 200 missionaries.

David Steverson, IMB treasurer and vice president for finance, reported that the IMB ended 2006 in good fiscal condition.

Citing the projected total for the 2006 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, which will close May 31, Steverson said, "We now have over \$144 million in hand and continue to believe that in the next three weeks enough will come in so that the 2006 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering will not only be the largest of our history, but we will also meet the goal of \$150 million."

With additional reporting by Associated Baptist Press

missionary candidates should have a "working knowledge" of many denominational groups but are not expected to "investigate" every church, the guideline states. "The candidate is responsible for requesting their home church to assist them in meeting this doctrinal commitment."

Baptism guideline amended

The baptism guideline was adopted with one amendment proposed by trustee John Russell of Florida, first vice chairman of the board. Russell requested adding the words specifying that candidates ask "their home church to assist them in" meeting the baptism requirement.

"By adding that, we're saying we're no longer rejecting the candidate, but we're sending the candidate back to their local church as a deferral or a delay. We have now identified the issue for the local church," Russell explained. "My goal here is to try and soften the blow. ... It's less impact on the local church."

A subsequent proposed amendment by trustee Charles Fowler of Tennessee was defeated. Fowler's motion was to remove language that requires a candidate to "verify that the church where they were Scripturally baptized by immersion affirms the security of the believer." Fowler noted that "candidates are required to affirm the Baptist Faith and Message as well as articulate their beliefs prior to appointment. Therefore their theology regarding the security of the believer is not in question either in faith or practice."

Opponents of the IMB guidelines, led by trustee Wade Burleson of Oklahoma, say the measures improperly exceed doctrinal parameters set in the SBC's 2000 Baptist Faith and Message statement.

Burleson, who indicated the softened guidelines aren't enough,

KBC board endorses budget, possible sex abuse registry

By Trennis Henderson
Editor

Hardin—Kentucky Baptist Convention Mission Board members voted last week to endorse the details of a \$24 million Cooperative Program budget for 2007-2008.

Meeting May 7-8 at Jonathan Creek Camp and Conference Center, board members also approved a call to study the possibility of creating a registry of ministers involved in sexual abuse or other criminal activities.

The CP budget goal, approved by KBC messengers last November, is a 1.86 percent increase over the current budget. It includes 63.3 percent for Kentucky Baptist ministries and 36.7 percent for Southern Baptist Convention causes.

The budget proposal came amid a report that the state convention's current Cooperative Program receipts continue to lag behind budget.

According to Cathi Roy-Sanders, director of the KBC's accounting services department, CP receipts are more than \$630,000 below budget and more than \$230,000 behind last year's pace eight months into the current fiscal year.

Mackey: "Move forward in faith"

Noting that the budget goal is set by the convention almost a year advance, KBC Executive Director Bill Mackey said in an interview after the meeting that "it is difficult to react in the short term to the goals that have been set."

"Because we don't know what the shortfall might be this year, it's not appropriate to overreact," he added. "We must move forward in faith, trust God for the needs and encourage churches to be faithful in support of missions through the Cooperative Program."

"The Mission Board is always looking at how we will deal with any shortfall that occurs and have contingency plans in place even



KBC BUSINESS Kentucky Baptist Convention President Darren Gaddis, pastor of Central Baptist Church in Corbin, presides over last week's KBC Mission Board meeting at Jonathan Creek Camp and Conference Center. (KBC photo by Kristie Randolph)

now in case that happens," Mackey explained. "The plan is to ask each department and team to be careful about their spending so that when we get near the end of the year, we haven't spent all the funds that are budgeted."

Despite the KBC's current budget challenges, the proposed minister registry sparked the most discussion during the two-day meeting.

Introduced by Paul Sisk during the meeting's closing miscellaneous business session, the proposal calls for the Mission Board's administrative committee to "consider the feasibility of developing and implementing a registry of ministers/staff/employees in Kentucky Baptist Convention member churches who have been accused, charged, arrested and/or terminated from church responsibilities for any criminal activities including but not limited to child abuse and/or sexual abuse of any nature."

Citing "the autonomy of the local church," Sisk's recommendation added that "this would be a voluntary registry maintaining the highest confidentiality. A program of

materials would be made available to all churches in the convention to educate on the significance and importance of participating for the welfare and protection of children, youth and other would-be victims."

Sisk, pastor of Anchor Baptist Church in Lexington, presented the proposal in the wake of recent media reports about scattered instances of child sexual abuse by Baptist ministers.

Debate centered on whether to include the word "accused" in the proposal since some ministers could be falsely accused but still have their reputations ruined.

"The intent is for a committee to be formed to include all the possibilities," Sisk noted. "I'm certainly not limiting the scope of the work to what is printed here."

A motion by Bennie Bush, pastor of Faith Baptist Church in Corbin, to table the motion until the next board meeting failed.

John Birchett, pastor of New Friendship Baptist Church in Auburn, introduced an amendment to delete the word "accused," but the proposed amendment also failed.

Questions also were raised about the possibility of expanding the scope of the registry to include convention and agency staff members as well as local church ministers.

"This is going to be a study," KBC President Darren Gaddis responded. "That is something they could consider."

Sisk cites "spirit of motion"

Sisk emphasized that "the spirit of the motion is to stop churches from concealing information from other churches about criminal activity or child sexual molestation."

Board members adopted the proposal to study the issue. Although the measure did not set a specific date for the administrative committee to report back to the full board, Gaddis told board members, "The expectation would be at the next Mis-

sion Board meeting if possible."

In other action, board members:

- Approved an additional \$100,000 be transferred from reserve funds for the current fiscal year "to help offset the Mission Board's portion of the projected CP income deficit."

- Approved expanding eligibility for counseling assistance provided by the KBC to include bivocational as well as full-time ministers. The convention provides a portion of counseling fees for ministers "in the event the minister's personal stress or stress in the minister's family indicates the need for professional counseling."

- Approved increasing the eligibility requirements for churches participating in the church retirement plan from \$525 per year to \$1,000 per year to help offset a larger portion of the program's costs.

- Approved eight new Mission Board members to fill unexpired terms. New board members include Jerry Bailey of Stanford, Art Beasley of Winchester, DeWayne Chadwick of Murray, Ron Davis of Whitley City, Jerry Hurley of Walton, Bill Page of Crittenden, Ben Stratton of Hickman and Rebecca Townsend of Stanton.

- Approved two trustees to serve unexpired terms on the board of the Kentucky Ethics League. New trustees are Robert Drexler of Louisville and James Harley of Harrodsburg.

- Witnessed the signing of a partnering covenant between Elk Lick Baptist Church in Lewisburg and Southern Heights Baptist Church in Russellville. Troy Luttrell, pastor of Elk Lick Church, and Chris Short, pastor of Southern Heights Church, signed the covenant on behalf of their congregations.

The covenants are part of the KBC's five-year Kentucky Baptists Connect emphasis. More than 40 churches have signed covenants as part of the Connect goal of having at least 100 churches involved in partnering relationships by 2010.

"The spirit of the motion is to stop churches from concealing information from other churches about criminal activity or child sexual molestation."

Paul Sisk, pastor of Anchor Baptist Church in Lexington

Church secretary faces six years in prison for embezzling \$396,000

Princeton—A church financial secretary in Princeton has been sentenced to six years in prison for embezzling approximately \$396,000 from Southside Baptist Church.

Marla Adams accepted a plea agreement and received the sentence from 56th Judicial Circuit Judge C.A. Woodall III.

Adams, 39, was Southside's financial secretary for eight years. The thefts occurred over a six-year period—primarily through fraudulent use of church credit cards and writing checks for credit card bills, but posting them on the church books as contributions to various missions and ministries. The improprieties surfaced when the Kentucky Baptist Convention published Cooperative Program receipts from churches in the Western Recorder, but those figures didn't match the church's budgeted amounts.

Two church members testified

at the sentencing hearing, asking the judge to show mercy and take into consideration that she and her husband have two children at home.

Commonwealth Attorney G.L. Ovey said he opposed shock probation, pointing out it is the largest theft he has prosecuted in 19 years as prosecutor for the four-county circuit.

Woodall noted that Adams had strong family support and church support, adding that is seldom true of defendants in his courtroom. He said he had received numerous letters from church members on Adams' behalf.

"I appreciate all those letters, and there were many people who wrote that they were praying for me," he said.

But Woodall issued the six-year sentence, noting the severity of the crime. Adams is now incarcerated in the Christian County Detention Center.

Diagnostic tool designed to aid KBC associations and churches

Continued from page 1

worship attendance, giving, baptism, discipleship programs and missions involvement will reflect whether churches are seeing renewal.

While Baker isn't sure how many associations eventually will participate in this initiative, Long Run and Nelson Baptist associations are slated to implement it this fall.

"If it were up to me, I'd get every association involved with it," Baker said. "We're trying to find out how much time it actually takes to complete the process, and then be able to offer it to additional associations."

Malcolm Cheek, director of missions for Pulaski Association, said the assessments have been a boost to the 60 churches in his association.

Cheek noted that many pastors appreciated leaders from outside the area visiting to say, "I'm concerned too; tell me what's going on."

"Most I've talked to said this was something they needed," Cheek added. "They're thinking of dreaming dreams they hadn't had before."

The program has prompted Three Forks Association to draft a new mission statement, which will be presented at its annual meeting in October.

"To a man, the pastors came out of the interviews with a positive sense of having been heard and having an opportunity to think about their vision," Castlen said. "A lot of pastors are in maintenance mode. There's been no vision to embrace or achievement to help the vision come to fruition, in terms of claiming their community."

Eric Allen, director of the KBC's mission service and ministries department, said he is pleased that the interviews he conducted in Somerset helped make small churches aware the convention is interested in helping them, not just larger congregations.

"Many pastors said, 'We want to make a difference in our community but aren't sure how to do that,'" Allen said. "We can help them discover needs and what the church, working with others, is equipped to address."

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Box 43969
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TRENNIS HENDERSON
Editor

THOMAS C. TOWNSEND
Marketing & Business
Manager

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

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Is your marriage adrift?

By Ray Sanders

Oklahoma City (BP)—What's going on? I recently came to the realization that I have nearly as many close friends and family who have been divorced as I do those who are still married to their original spouse.

Surely these wonderful people didn't just wake up one day and decide to call it quits. I don't believe their marriages broke up. I believe they slowly went adrift.

Marriages that end in divorce often do so quietly, one subtle conflict at a time. Emotional and physical needs go unmet. Hearts begin to harden as they turn brittle and break. With love and intimacy unfulfilled at home, yearnings to be cherished and admired cause many to seek companionship from a lonely soul outside the bounds of marriage. With clouded judgment and compromised convictions, the love lost between once-happy newlyweds ends in an ugly, public legal battle over kids, cars and collateral.

Friends and family wonder what went wrong. Sophisticated cover-

ups and fake smiles buried symptoms of a marriage gone sour. Most of the men sought respect and rarely gained it. The majority of the women desired to be cherished but never felt it. Selfishness set hearts adrift as needs failed to be met.

COMMENTARY

Communication was either heated and escalated or cold and non-existent. Kids were often caught in the crossfire and became collateral damage as Mom and Dad failed to recognize each other as queen and king. Instead, they modeled how to treat each other worse than friends.

What would people think of your marriage if it was the storyline for a reality TV show? Would they believe what goes on behind the scenes as garage doors close and blinds are pulled? Does the act you portray in life match the reality of life at home?

The truth is we are only as good a Christian as we are at home. The depth of our faith is measured in our interaction with those we claim to love most. Despite what others

might believe about us, the truth of who we are is undeniable at home as actions truly speak louder than words.

How many married couples reading this article consider their marriage to be great? What are we to learn from marriages gone bad? How do we anchor our marriages and avoid the pain of those who have gone adrift?

The solutions are many and troubles complex, but I suggest that we must first recognize that our marriages have gone adrift. We then need to do all we can to free ourselves of any selfishness that prevents us from lovingly serving and meeting the needs of our spouse.

Finally, we must communicate our love and our own needs on a regular basis, realizing that true love is more than a feeling but most of all a commitment to fulfill God's purpose for our marriage. Otherwise, we will soon be on our way to becoming another divorce statistic, wondering what went wrong and how this could have ever happened to me and the love of my life.

Ray Sanders is editor of the Oklahoma Baptist Messenger

Pursue evangelism with integrity

By Frank Page

Taylor, S.C. (BP)—As we approach this summer's Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in San Antonio, I am asking all Southern Baptists to join me for the next several weeks in a serious time of prayer for spiritual awakening, spiritual renewal and spiritual revival.

I ask that some ponder the possibility of fasting as well as praying. I have said over and over that we are at a crossroads moment. I believe that God wishes for our convention to move strongly ahead in soul-winning, mission work and ministry. However, we will continue to struggle in each of these areas if we do not have His power upon our churches and lives.

2 Chronicles 7:14 says, "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."

FIRST PERSON

Note that the first phrase is, "If My people who are called by My name."

This phrase indicates a presupposition on the part of our Lord. He is calling us to make sure that we truly have a regenerate church membership.

This is an issue that has been discussed in many places over the last years. All of us must be saddened by the fact that Southern Baptists claim more than 16 million members. One preacher once told me

that the FBI could not find 5 million of them! I happen to agree with him.

It is time to emphasize evangelism with integrity. No longer should we use manipulative methods that may bring about larger numbers when those individuals' commitment to Christ is little or none. I cannot judge a person's heart. However, I do believe that the Scripture calls for a change when salvation occurs.

As we look at this passage, let us focus on that first phrase. Let us seek to win the lost to Christ, even if they are in our own churches. We cannot have revival among God's people if many of them do not even know the Lord.

Frank Page, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, is pastor of First Baptist Church of Taylor, S.C.

Evangelism: More than a dream

"The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest" (Matthew 9:37-38).

I am sure all Kentucky Baptist Convention, church and associational leaders would say they believe in evangelism. However, we are all only dreaming if we are not intentionally telling people about Jesus.

Leaders must be examples in personal evangelism and in serving as mentors. There are receptive people in every community who are willing to hear the gospel as well as people in every church who are eager to receive training about how to be a good witness. Therefore, every leader should have at least one witnessing approach that they can teach others to use to multiply the number of witnesses.

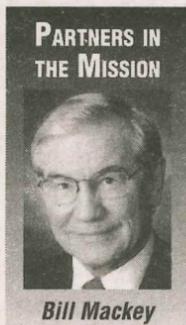
I recently went through FAITH witness training that my pastor, Mike O'Neal, taught at Hurstbourne Baptist Church in Louisville. It was

amazing to see the Holy Spirit use this to bring people into my life who were open to a witness.

Without an intentional focus by leaders, evangelism will not be a priority with all Christians in the church. And without an intentional plan, evangelism will remain a dream.

There is help available for every church. The Southern Baptist North American Mission Board has produced a free DVD that walks a pastor and church leaders through a one-year process of intentional evangelism. Ross Bauscher, KBC evangelism growth team leader, is also happy to work with associations or groups of churches.

The KBC staff and associational leaders are also encouraging every church to conduct a vacation Bible school. Churches that may lack enough workers but are open to hosting a VBS in their church building should contact their associational office or the KBC church



Bill Mackey

GIVING

Durable power of attorney is useful stewardship tool

By Laurie Valentine

Estate planning is part of our Christian stewardship responsibilities. Being a good estate steward requires that you not only plan for how your assets will be distributed at death, but also how your personal and financial affairs will be managed in the event you become incapacitated.

"Incapacity planning" must be done while you have the mental capacity to understand what you are doing. It requires careful consideration of your particular situation to best assure that the documents used and the powers granted would enable the person you are empowering to do all that needs to be done on your behalf.

A key incapacity planning document is the durable power of attorney. A durable power of attorney remains in effect and useable even if you become incapacitated; a general power of attorney does not. A power of attorney is "durable" if it states "this power of attorney shall not be affected by the disability of the principal" or words to that effect.

Both financial management powers and personal decision-making authority can be granted under a DPOA. Certain powers must be specifically granted in order for the person you are empowering (your "attorney-in-fact") to have legal authority to take action.

Financial management powers that must be specifically granted include the power to sign tax returns and deal with tax matters; to make contracts; to buy, sell, lease or convey real estate; to carry out banking and security transactions; to access your safe deposit box; and to make gifts.

Including personal decision-making powers makes the DPOA a "full service" incapacity planning document. Authority to make healthcare decisions, including the power to consent (or withhold consent) to medical treatment and the power to contract for healthcare services should be specifically included. A DPOA also should include specific authority to request, review and receive any oral or written information regarding your physical and mental health.

If your power of attorney is not durable or does not contain all necessary powers, an expensive and time-consuming guardianship may be the only way someone can manage your affairs if you become incapacitated.

Laurie Valentine is trust counsel for the Kentucky Baptist Foundation



Consider benefits that come with a season of singleness

Q: Every family reunion is a painful time when aunts and uncles, parents and grandparents ask when I am going to get married. I almost want to go out and hitch myself to the first person who comes along just to get it over with. Any suggestions?

Rather than give you a list of snappy answers to annoying questions, let me suggest that the answer starts with you. Come to a settled acceptance of reality regarding your season of life. You can't change the seasons. Every season

SINGLES

has its purpose. Make the most of each season, including your season of singleness.

In "The On Purpose Person," Kevin McCarthy said there are three kinds of people in regard to their attitude toward their circumstances:

- Floaters passively resign themselves to accept the river in its present condition, aimlessly going along for the ride whichever direction the river takes.

- Fighters fight against the realities, flailing against the river, trying to control it. These individuals can become bitter and angry, feeling that the world and God have let them down.

- Navigators recognize they cannot control the river. They can equip themselves for the adventure, choosing to make the most of the unique opportunities provided by the season.

As you approach family reunions in your season of singleness, contemplate all the wonderful opportunities God has given you for service and enjoyment that might not be available to you if you married. Begin to navigate the waters of singleness to your advantage and to the glory of God.

For more ideas about what to do with your season of singleness, check out Harold Ivan Smith's little book, "51 Good Things to Do While You're Waiting for the Right One to Come Along."—James Stillwell

Q: Our son is about to turn 16 years old and seems to expect that we will give him a car as well as the privileges that go with it. What advice can you give us as we approach this important day?

In the book "Boundaries with Teens: When to Say Yes, How to Say No," Dr. John Townsend points out three important questions parents ask when approaching this significant life transition:

PARENTING

- When should I let my teen get a driver's license?
- How much should I let my teen drive?
- Should I buy a car for my teen?

Parents need to remind themselves (and their teens) that driving is not a right, but a privilege. Allowing your son to obtain a driver's license should require that he is being faithful to his responsibilities in life. For a period before teens reach age-16, they should meet some reasonable expectations. These might include: a minimum grade point average, no major behavioral violations (lying, drug or alcohol use, etc.) and commitment to assigned chores.

According to Townsend, when students receive a license they should have clear parameters about when and where they can drive as well as clear expectations of who should and should not be in the car. Students must realize that speeding, recklessness and accidents will affect their driving privileges in the future. The same is true with attitude, conduct and grades. While they are not required to be perfect, they must demonstrate responsibility and maturity to continue to enjoy the privilege of driving.

Just as driving is a privilege, so is car ownership. Does the family need another car, or will you be buying it just to make the teenager happy? If you opt to buy another car, consider having your teenager pay for part of it with money he have been saving. Remember that the most important part of driver's education is teaching responsibility. That begins at home.—Scott Wigginton

Family Forum writers are:

David Garrard, minister to children at St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville. E-mail: dgarrard@smbclouisville.org.

James Stillwell, minister to singles at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington. E-mail: james@ibs-lex.org.

Valerie Vincent, Christian counselor with Hardy Associates in Louisville. E-mail: dr.vincent@insightbb.com.

Scott Wigginton, associate professor of pastoral ministries and counseling at Campbellsville University. E-mail: sewigginton@campbellsville.edu.

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



Mission Board tackles major ministry goals

Meetings of the Kentucky Baptist Convention Mission Board typically address a wide variety of business items. But last week's board meeting at Jonathan Creek Camp and Conference Center was particularly significant.

For starters, the meeting site itself was unique. The board's May meeting generally is held at Cedarmore Camp and Conference Center in central Kentucky. But this year's May 7-8 meeting was held at Jonathan Creek in western Kentucky.

The change of venue gave Kentucky Baptist Assemblies President David Melber the opportunity to introduce board members to the facility improvements and ministry expansion in recent years at Jonathan Creek. Dozens of board members indicated that last week's meeting was their first visit ever to the Kentucky Baptist camp facility.

Describing the assemblies' youth camp ministry as "a life-and-death cause we're involved in" for teens' spiritual destiny, Melber told board members, "I pray that by God's power, through the power of the Holy Spirit, He will convict all of us to be ready to give a witness of the faith within us. ... God has a purpose for every one of us."

Another far-reaching action last week was the board's approval of a three-year missions partnership between Kentucky Baptists and the Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware. Partnership missions has matured into a vital ministry tool in recent years as volunteers share the gospel throughout the nation and around the world—while also experiencing life-changing spiritual growth in their own lives.

Randy Jones, leader of the KBC missions growth team, noted that the partnership will be a two-way ministry effort with Baptists from Kentucky and Maryland/Delaware sharing time, resources and expertise to help strengthen ministry efforts in Kentucky, Maryland, Delaware and around the world.

Another timely proposal adopted by board mem-

bers calls for the Mission Board's administrative committee to "consider the feasibility of developing and implementing a registry of ministers/staff/employees in Kentucky Baptist Convention member churches who have been accused, charged, arrested and/or terminated from church responsibilities for any criminal activities including but not limited to child abuse and/or sexual abuse of any nature."

The proposal, introduced by Paul Sisk, pastor of Anchor Baptist Church in Lexington, generated more discussion than most board recommendations typically do, but the debate remained positive and productive as board members carefully evaluated the proposal.

In addition to seeking to address the crucial issue of child sexual abuse, the proposal affirms the autonomy of the local church, calling for "a voluntary registry maintaining the highest confidentiality."

Board members also approved the details of a \$24 million Cooperative Program budget for the 2007-2008 fiscal year. As CP receipts drop more than \$600,000 below budget so far this year, KBC Executive Director Bill Mackey emphasized the need to "move forward in faith, trust God for the needs and encourage churches to be faithful in support of missions through the Cooperative Program."

With Kentucky Baptist churches' percentage of undesignated giving through the Cooperative Program slipping from more than 10 percent in 1997 to 7.24 percent last year, an urgent appeal is needed for local churches to reexamine their mission giving priorities and begin increasing their percentage gifts through CP.

Last week's Mission Board meeting offered a clear reminder that camp ministry, missions partnerships and efforts to help curb child sexual abuse are among the many ways the KBC is seeking to make a positive difference in Kentucky and beyond.

STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR



Trennis Henderson

Surviving the trauma of job loss

By Howard Dayton

Gainesville, Ga. (BP)—Job loss ranks high as a stress-maker. Losing a job is emotionally upsetting. Anger may surface because this major life-change often leaves a person feeling totally out of control. Job loss

is critical for men, because they often base self-esteem on the ability to be successfully productive.

The days when job security depended on not much more than regularity and a certain degree of competence is a thing of the past. Buy-outs, mergers and loss of market share have left many individuals and families across our nation suffering from job loss. Perhaps you are one of them.

Obviously, reduced income significantly increases your need to make sound financial choices. However, the problem is that when you're in the middle of a crisis it's not easy to know just how to do that.

Organizations, such as Consumer Credit Counseling Service, often can help you negotiate with your creditors. The Atlanta CCCS office (888-771-4673 or www.cccsatl.org) works with people in any area of the country.

Crown Financial Ministries' network of trained volunteer budget counselors also may be able to help during this difficult financial transition. You can call Crown at (800)

722-1976 or visit www.crown.org for more information.

When you have lost your job, your new "work" is to find a job. However, the trauma of job loss often requires time for healing and evaluating what has happened. Unfortunately, many people don't have the luxury of time for emotional healing. Bills pile up, groceries are required, mortgages must be paid and most people simply don't have adequate savings for such emergencies.

But there are some things you should do. First, list your financial assets. Take immediate stock of your savings, spendable assets, income, any severance pay and unemployment compensation.

Develop financial plan

Next, develop a short-term financial plan. You must know your bottom-line monthly needs, so be sure to include all bills. Cut expenses in every way possible. That could mean things such as premium cable service have to go.

Then, you may have to arrange a temporary plan with creditors to reduce payments. Project the cash you will have available for a short-term budget and develop a timeline for how long you can be without work. Be sure to let your church know that you might need financial assistance during this transitional period.

Identify your transferable skills and career focus so you can present them to a future employer. Outline your work history and identify types of work and responsibilities you've had. Then, develop a one-page resume and tailor it to fit particular job openings. Think creatively, and if you have the financial resources, use this time to learn new skills.

Draw on leads from people you know to make direct contact with potential employers. Get involved in a church-sponsored job network group or begin one.

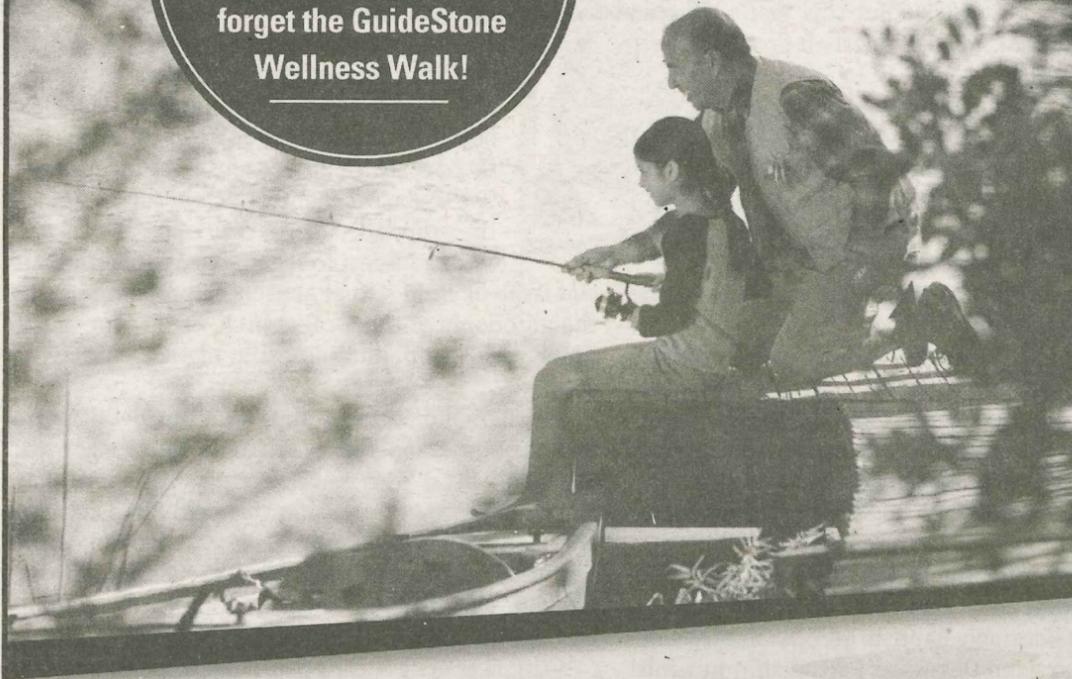
Check your spiritual pulse and that of your family. Maintain family devotions, Bible study and prayer. This is no time to become a church dropout. Relax, read and relate to family members and others. Avoid excesses of any kind. Get enough sleep, eat well, exercise and spend six to eight hours each day job-hunting.

Covenant with your spouse or a friend to hold you accountable for goals in your job search and, at the same time, encourage you in the process.

Continue to trust God and wait patiently for Him to provide your next job. The Psalmist wrote, "If I say, 'My foot is slipping,' Your faithful love will support me, Lord" (Psalm 94:18). Christians need to remember this truth in all that occurs—God will support you.

Howard Dayton is CEO of Crown Financial Ministries

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Beckwith returns to Catholicism, resigns evangelical society post

Waco, Texas—Francis Beckwith, a prominent professor of church-state studies and philosophy at Baylor University, has resigned as president of the Evangelical Theological Society, citing his return to the Roman Catholic Church.

Beckwith, who was raised Catholic but embraced Reformed Protestantism in his youth, disclosed on a May 5 weblog that he had received the sacrament of confession April 28 and had been received into the communion of the church during a mass at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Waco, Texas, the following day.

In a subsequent blog, Beckwith announced he had resigned as president of the theological society to “avoid bringing scandal to either ETS or the Church.”

Beckwith initially said he would remain an ETS member because he could “in good conscience, as a Catholic, affirm the ETS doctrinal statement.” But a statement released by the ETS executive committee May 8 said that “after further prayer and reflection, Dr. Beckwith has voluntarily withdrawn his membership from the society as well.”

Beckwith, famous for his arguments against abortion and for intelligent design, has been a leading figure in the ETS, the prominent academic society for conservative Protestants.

Beckwith said he had planned to wait until after his presidential term was over in November to make the move because “I wanted to make sure that my return to the Church brought as little attention to ETS as possible.” But then, he added, “my 16-year-old nephew, Dean Beckwith, called me and asked if I would be his sponsor when he receives the sacrament of Confirmation on May 13”—a role that requires good standing in the Catholic Church.

Rather than tell his nephew no, Beckwith said, he decided to return to Catholicism April 29.

The ETS executive commit-

tee said Beckwith's resignation and subsequent withdrawal from membership were “appropriate in light of the purposed and doctrinal basis of the Evangelical Theological Society” and in light of Beckwith's “whole-hearted confessional agreement with the Roman Catholic Church.”

The executive committee also stated that the ETS holds to the belief that “the Bible alone, and the Bible in its entirety, is the Word of God written and is therefore inerrant in the autographs.” Similar language and other statements supporting scriptural authority are included in the Chicago Statement on Inerrancy, the document on biblical inspiration and authority adopted by the society's membership in 2006. The committee said that the Catholic Church's statements “from the Council of Trent to Vatican II set forth a more expansive view of verbal, infallible revelation.”

Beckwith wrote on his blog that his departure from Protestantism was prompted by his study of the early church fathers. His wife, whom he described as “a baptized Presbyterian,” also has begun the initiatory rites for adults seeking to enter the Catholic Church.

“I became convinced that the Early Church is more Catholic than Protestant and that the Catholic view of justification, correctly understood, is biblically and historically defensible,” Beckwith wrote.

Several scholars critical of Beckwith's decision responded to his statements on the blog. Doug Groothuis, professor of philosophy at Denver Seminary, said Beckwith's return to the Catholic Church was a “sad day for all true sons and daughters of the Protestant Reformation, for all who lived and died for its truths.”

Malcolm Yarnell III, assistant dean for theological studies and director of the Center for Theological Research at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, said while Beckwith is “a sensitive Christian scholar who deserves our sincere prayers on his behalf,” his arguments regarding his return to the Catholic Church warrant “careful analysis and rebuke.”

Compiled from reporting by Baptist Press and Associated Baptist Press



Francis Beckwith

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Southern Baptist workers provide meals for Kansas tornado victims

Haviland, Kan. (BP)—Southern Baptist volunteers have prepared about 5,000 meals for victims and rescue workers since the most powerful tornado in recent U.S. history destroyed 95 percent of the small Kansas town of Greensburg.

John Lucas of the Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists told Baptist Press May 8 that the convention has a feeding unit stationed at a high school in Haviland, about 18 miles east of Greensburg.

Meals are being served from that site, Lucas said, and other meals prepared by Southern Baptists are being sent in Red Cross mobile units to the 600 to 800 National Guardsmen, highway patrolmen and other workers in the area.

Lucas explained that the situation in Greensburg is unique because the town was almost entirely destroyed May 4 and residents evacuated to neighboring towns and sought shelter with family and friends.

"Because of all of the displaced persons going to various cities in the western Kansas area, we didn't have the larger ministry (involving) persons to feed and assist as we would have otherwise had," Lucas said. "We have been inundated with all kinds of offers from fellow Southern Baptists wanting to send volunteers, but we just don't have any place to apply them now."

Officials are restricting access to the town, and because of the magnitude of destruction, Greensburg will need professional help from governmental agencies designated to clean the debris and rebuild, Lucas said.

In the short term, Southern Baptist cleanup crews are not necessary, but time will tell if there is a need in the long term, he added.

Lucas said four shelters were set up immediately following the tornado, but now they're down to the one in Haviland. And by early last week, just 52 people were staying there.

As residents sifted through the rubble of their homes, the death toll in Greensburg rose to 10, including an 84-year-old man who earned a Bronze Star at the Battle of the Bulge in World War II, The Wichita Eagle reported.

David Paulison, director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, toured the destruction and called it "some of the worst I've ever seen."

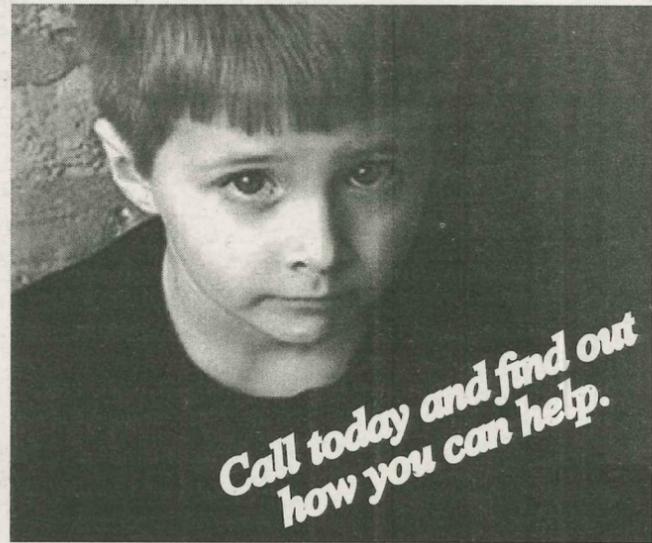
The plan was for residents to claim their belongings before dozers could clear debris and make way for utility trucks to restore electricity, the newspaper said. Electricity then would be used in trailers provided by FEMA as temporary homes for displaced residents.

"When you look around at the devastation here, it is amazing that there aren't more deaths," Sharon Watson, a spokeswoman for the Kansas Division of Emergency Management, told Associated Press. "You really can't look in any direction without seeing destruction, without seeing houses that are demolished, piles of rubble."

The F5 tornado, which left a path of destruction 1.7 miles wide and 22 miles long, also left 13 people hospitalized, including four in critical condition, AP reported.

May is

National Foster Care Awareness Month



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North Eastern 866-259-9883

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Meet the class of 2007, part 8

While at Oneida, Kaitlyn learns more lessons than could fit in any textbook

This is the final profile of a senior who will soon be a 2007 Oneida Baptist Institute graduate. Like many other students, "Kaitlyn" (not her real name) came to OBI primarily because of low academic achievement in her old school. This caused tension at home until finally Kaitlyn and her parents knew something needed to change.

She came to Oneida in the middle of her junior year and has done remarkably well. We wish she had come her freshman year, or even earlier. She is an OBI success story and here is part of her senior essay.

"Some people might say that I came to Oneida because I wanted a change, but they would only be half right. I came to improve my grades, to be in a different environment and to exercise some independence. Since preschool I have done poorly academically. I needed to be in a structured environment. The decision to come to Oneida was suggested 100 percent by me.

"Coming to Oneida was like learning to ride your bike without training wheels. It's hard and you want to quit but you realize it's time to grow up. There are always those bumps in the road where you fall, but come to think of it, what road doesn't have its bumps?"

"A month or two after school started, I decided to join the morning farm crew. I had been having trouble waking up for school so it was very difficult to wake up to do my farm chores at 6 a.m. One night before I went to bed I prayed to God, 'Lord Jesus, please make me wake up in the morning. I don't care how you do it, just get me up early enough so I don't miss my ride to the farm.'

THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

"That night I woke up with a headache so I had to go downstairs to the dorm office to get some Tylenol. When I went back to bed I fell asleep with my robe and slippers still on because I was so tired. When 6:02 a.m. rolled around I heard the alarm, except that morning it was twice as loud! I said, 'Man, I am doing good, I'm hearing the alarm twice as loud this morning!' I looked up to see my two roommates, who were also on the morning farm crew, running out the door. I asked them where they were going and they said, 'The alarm is going off!' I said 'Well, turn it off.' I went to shut the alarm off but it wouldn't turn off. Then one of my roommates yelled at me and said, 'No, Kaitlyn!' That's when I looked up and realized that the fire alarm was going off.

"I thought to myself, 'Wow, God, You are so smart.' That whole day the students kept looking at me because I had told everyone that the fire alarm was for me. I guess when you pray, not only does God answer your prayer, but He also has a sense of humor. That was the first day I was actually early getting to the farm.

"I've enjoyed my time at Oneida. After I came to Oneida, my goals seemed to change. Now my goal is to graduate from college and have a successful life led by Christ Jesus. The lessons I've learned here are more than any textbook could hold. But the most important thing I've learned at Oneida is that it doesn't matter what you've been through, why you are here or how you got here. You are here and God has a purpose for your life."

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

For such a time as this

Wife provides reminder about following God's plan

Knowing God's plan for our lives calls for the highest level of commitment from us to carry out His plan. I call it the "for such a time as this" commitment (Esther 4:14).

This is the deciding factor between just knowing God's plan or knowing and following God's plan for our lives. My wife, Penny, reminded me of this commitment for my own life in a story she wrote about me on the day of my election as president:

"In 1962 a 3-year-old boy came with his parents to Clear Creek. The boy's father was a 1949 graduate of the school and was following a call from God to serve at the school. Little did he know God was also beginning to weave His plan, and a love for Clear Creek, into this boy's heart.

"The boy grew into a young man at Clear Creek surrounded by many professors, students and families that loved the Lord and His school. The young man tried to avoid God's call on his own life for several years. At the age of 32, he finally surrendered to that call.

"The man told his wife, 'God is calling me to preach His word, and I know I need to go to Clear Creek.'

The love for God's school had remained in his heart through all those years.

"God still was weaving His plan for this man and Clear Creek when he graduated in 1994 and went to pastor a local church. In 1999, God called this man back to serve at Clear Creek just like his father many years before.

"The next eight years, God would prepare this man through his work experience in many areas of the college. On April 17, 2007, God's plan for this man's life became a reality as he was elected president of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College.

"The words of Mordecai to Queen Esther, 'Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?' became more real to him on that day as God's plan brought him from a boy to the president."

Pray for all of us at Clear Creek to have that "for such a time as this" commitment as God continues to reveal His plans for Kingdom work in all our lives.

Donnie Fox is president of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, 300 Clear Creek Road, Pineville, KY 40977; toll-free: (866) 340-3196; Web site: www.ccbbc.edu; e-mail: dfox@ccbbc.edu

CLEAR CREEK CHRONICLE



Donnie Fox

Authors examine keys to creating 'comeback churches'

By Shawn Hendricks
Baptist Press

Nashville (BP)—The few remaining people at Terrace Heights Baptist Church in Yakima, Wash., didn't want their church to die.

After attendance had dwindled to a handful of members, they feared the church would soon shut its doors for good. Something had to change fast.

Terrace Heights is one of many churches in the United States that started out strong, stopped growing and then fell into a period of decline. Currently, 70 percent of Southern Baptist churches have either leveled off in growth or are declining, according to recent studies.

In the new book, "Comeback Churches: How 300 Churches Turned Around and Yours Can Too," authors Ed Stetzer and Mike Dodson researched 300 churches among 10 denominations around the country. They mapped out a detailed approach to restoring "plateaued" or declining congregations. The book is published by B&H Publishing Group, the publishing division of LifeWay Christian Resources.

According to Leadership Journal, which the authors cite in the book, 340,000 churches are in need of church revitalization.

"Over time, most churches pla-

teau, and most eventually decline," Stetzer writes. "Patterns and traditions that once seemed special eventually lose their meaning. ... (Congregations) become more concerned about a well-used policy manual than a well-used baptistry."

For Terrace Heights, realizing there was a problem was the first step.

The second step involved being more upfront about the church's vision and direction. The congregation toughened its membership requirements by unveiling a new members' course and a yearlong new members' "boot camp."

"They were desperate for anything that might bring life," Terrace Heights Pastor Rob Morris said. "We know it is working because we have seen very few people leave or stop coming to the church."

Having the courage to admit mistakes and take action is where church revitalization begins, the authors say.

"Business as usual will continue to produce the same slow or no-growth environment that plagues the large majority of churches," Stetzer and Dodson write. "The church will need to have an honest evaluation of their current condi-

tion, get the church working together for a common solution, and determine what to do together."

Stetzer, who will become director of LifeWay Research June 1, has authored several books and is currently co-pastor of Lake Ridge Church near Atlanta. Dodson has served as a pastor and church planter strategist for more than 10 years.

Many struggling churches are focusing too heavily on the wrong things, such as worship and preaching styles, they say.

"The wrong question is whether your church is 'traditional' or 'contemporary' and which is better," the authors add. "The real issue is whether your church is biblically faithful, acting as the presence of Christ in the community at large, able to relate Christ to people in culture, and is on mission."

Most of today's struggling churches fail to relate to their communities, the authors contend.

Since 1991, the adult population in the United States has grown by 15 percent. During that same period, the number of adults who do not attend church has nearly doubled, rising from 39 million to 75 million.

As staggering as that statistic might sound, most of today's churches still are not adapting to this growing trend. The authors contend this is more of a "heart" issue than one of strategy and style.

"Most Christians don't like lost people," Stetzer and Dodson write. "We wish it were not so, but it is. Lost people don't think like us; they often don't vote like us; they influence our kids; ... they are not our people."

Christians must get past their prejudices and focus on relationships and building more small-group ministries, the authors add.

"Unfortunately, many Christians make little effort to cultivate new friends because they feel comfortable with the friends they already have," Stetzer and Dodson note.

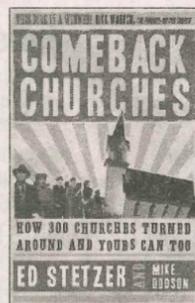
Nearly all growing churches have an outreach strategy, and almost all declining churches do not, the authors say. People need community, they add, and it is up to the church to provide that community.

"People who are connected in community are more likely to make the journey to connect with Christ," Stetzer and Dodson write.

"This study reveals that there is hope for struggling and declining churches," they add. "Churches can be restored, renewed and revitalized."

"The wrong question is whether your church is 'traditional' or 'contemporary.' ... The real issue is whether your church is biblically faithful."

Ed Stetzer and Mike Dodson, authors of "Comeback Churches: How 300 Churches Turned Around and Yours Can Too."



National WMU introduces print-on-demand Bible study resources

Birmingham, Ala. (BP)—National Woman's Missionary Union is now offering print-on-demand Bible studies to help small groups in churches increase in biblical and missional understanding of their responsibility and opportunities for sharing the gospel.

The Bible studies are available for all age levels as part of WMU's new Generation M (M stands for missions) brand of online products. Generation M products can be purchased and downloaded from the WMU on-

line store, www.wmystore.com.

Among the Generation M products is a 52-week Bible study based on the Book of Acts. Intended to spark discussion and understanding about present-day missions and missions involvement, the "Christ Followers" series provides an undated lesson plan to be used by small study groups any time of year. The intergenerational series includes four units of 13 sessions designed for preschoolers, children, youth and adults.

"Christ Followers is general and timeless, making it applicable to all Baptists and other Christians who want to grow in their understanding of God's call on their lives," noted national WMU Executive Director Wanda Lee. "The series features stories from missionaries (centering on) missions involvement for individuals by offering relevant ideas for ministry in today's world.

"With Christ Followers, all ages—grandparents, parents and children—will study and learn from

the same Scripture references each week, making intergenerational activities a part of everyday life," she added.

Other Generation M products include MissionsQuest, the individual achievement plan for Acteens, the WMU missions organization for teenage girls.

"Beginnings," another print-on-demand Bible study, uses an inductive approach to Bible study for small groups in homes or apartment ministries.

Do you need time and space to...

- ... reconsider how you do ministry?
- ... reflect on personal growth and professional effectiveness in ministry?
- ... renew your emotional and spiritual resources?

Maybe you need a sabbatical. Join us for the Sabbatical Leave Planning Workshop. **Topics include:** purpose and focus of the sabbatical, educating the congregation about sabbatical leave, helping the congregation develop a sabbatical leave policy, planning the sabbatical, funding the sabbatical, the minister's family on sabbatical, sabbatical leave opportunities at B TSR.

• Thursday, June 14, 2007. 9am to 4pm.
Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond

Registration is \$95 (includes lunch, copy of Clergy Renewal: The Alban Guide to Sabbatical Planning and Under the Predictable Plant.)
Scholarships are available to cover 50% of the registration fee

For more information or to register: 804.204.1240 or
888.339.2877 (toll free); scminfo@btsr.edu



DVD intends to challenge, enlighten Mormons

Salt Lake City (BP)—The "Jesus Christ/Joseph Smith" DVD distributed across Utah and other parts of the country this spring was intended to be upsetting, the co-director of the DVD said.

"I was offended when I was told these same things when I was a Mormon," Randy Gavin said.

"The reverence I held for Joseph Smith kept me from taking a critical look at him," he added. "If you're going to trust your salvation to something, you need to take a critical look at it."

The DVD has sparked criticism from within the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and in other religious circles. An LDS news release said the church has weathered similar attacks throughout its history and is not surprised that groups are trying to restrain its growth.

The Anti-Defamation League, meanwhile, condemned the DVD in a news release as the same kind of "plain, old-fashioned Mormon-bashing" various groups have been "spewing" for more than 25 years.

Gavin, however, cites Jesus' teachings in John 6:54-61 as one of his guidelines for the DVD, comparing the disciples' distressed reaction to Jesus' teaching of eating His flesh and drinking His blood to the reaction some Mor-

mons will have to the DVD challenging their faith.

"They're going to be offended," Gavin said. They will investigate the DVD's claims, he noted, and likely will become mad over various biblical falsehoods inherent to Mormonism.

"That's what I went through, as well as other people I've talked to," Gavin said. "If I had never been offended, I would have never known."

The ultimate goal of the DVD, Gavin said, is to "reach Mormons with the truth of who God is." The DVD attempts to do that by addressing Smith—the "epicenter of Mormonism," Gavin said—and explaining how "his doctrines of God contradict God's revelation."

Planning for the DVD began in September 2005 by Gavin and Floyd McElveen, author of "The Mormon Illusion," along with LaBarge Media, the New York-based group that produced it.

The distribution, which Gavin described as the largest known outreach to Mormons, is still not complete. Gavin said 700,000 DVDs will be sent out worldwide over the next few months and a Spanish version is being planned. Numerous churches have requested DVDs to distribute in their communities.

Hundreds of volunteers across Utah hung the DVDs on doorknobs March 25 in white plastic bags that said "Good News for LDS."

PRAYER PARTNERS

Please pray for the following requests associated with the Kentucky Baptist Convention's partnership missions efforts:

■ Pray for the launch of the new missions partnership between the KBC and the Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware approved last week by the KBC Mission Board. The three-year partnership is set for January 2008 through December 2010.

■ Pray for missions growth team leader Randy Jones and KBC executive director Bill Mackey as they seek God's leadership for a new partnership missions department director.

■ Pray for volunteer teams preparing to serve this summer in Brazil and other locations.

MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

■ **BROOKSVILLE**—Brooksville Church recently called **Tony Cox** as pastor.

■ **CAMPBELLSVILLE**—Mount Carmel Church recently called **Freddy Thompson** as pastor.

■ **COVINGTON**—East Dayton Church recently called **J.C. McKinney** as pastor. Ninth Street Church ordained **Andre Jouett** as a deacon March 18.

■ **DUNMOR**—**Charlie Jones**, pastor of New Hebron Church, was ordained to the gospel ministry May 6.

■ **GREENSBURG**—Bethlehem Church's youth department sponsored Youth Fest 2007 March 16-26 with **Brian Rafordy** as keynote speaker. Several churches in the area participated and 58 spiritual decisions were reported. **Gary Ervin** is pastor.

■ **INDEPENDENCE**—**Tim Freimuth**, pastor of Bethesda Community Church, was ordained to the gospel ministry March 25.

■ **LaCENTER**—Mount Pleasant Church recently called **Jerry Hamilton** as pastor.

■ **LANCASTER**—Freedom Church is holding revival services this week through May 18, 7 p.m., with **Bill VanWinkle** as evangelist. **Sherman Isaacs** is pastor.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Walnut Street Church recently marked 40 years of television ministry. The church first went on the air May 7, 1967, broadcasting worship services live in the Kentuckiana viewing area. **Rusty Ellison** is pastor.

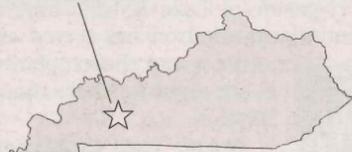
■ **MORNING VIEW**—Piner Church ordained associate pastor **B.J. Donahue** to the gospel ministry April 1.

■ **PADUCAH**—Olivet Church ordained **Chris Prescott** to the gospel ministry April 22. **Skip Parsons** is pastor.

■ **RINEYVILLE**—**Louis Johnson** recently resigned as minister of music at Rineyville Church. Johnson, who was manager of the LifeWay Christian Store in Elizabethtown, accept-

Spotlight on ...

Greenville



New Cypress Church will hold a Bible conference May 21-23, 6:30 p.m. Speakers include **Tommy Drury** and **Mike Cummings**, May 21; **Jeff Noffsinger** and **Ron Sivells**, May 22; and **Roger Heltsley** and **Mike Cummings**, May 23.

ed a relocation promotion with the LifeWay Christian Store in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

■ **SHELBYVILLE**—Clayvillage Church will celebrate Homecoming May 27.

Bob Fields will lead an adult Sunday school assembly at 10 a.m. and **Bill Burkhalter** will preach in the 11 a.m. worship service. Other activities will include a catered lunch and a 2 p.m. patriotic service in observance of Memorial Day. For lunch reservations, e-mail leebolton@bellsouth.net by May 21.

■ **SOMERSET**—Slate Branch Church recently called **Troy Strunk** as youth minister.

■ **WINCHESTER**—New Hope Church will hold revival services May 20, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m., and May 21-23, 7 p.m., with **Marion Brewer** 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

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.

25-29 Mission Adventure Camp for Girls, Cedar Crest.

29-30 Mother/Daughter Overnight, Cedar Crest.

30 Baptist Nursing Fellowship Summer Luncheon, Farmdale Baptist Church, Frankfort.

July

2-3 Mother/Daughter Overnight, Cedar Crest.

5-7 Express Mission Adventure Camp for Girls & Boys, Cedar Crest.

5-7 Pursuit Student Leadership Academy, Campbellsville University.

7-14 Kentucky Changers, Monticello.

9-13 Mission Adventure Camp for Girls, Cedar Crest.

19-20 Quarterly Prayer Meeting for Spiritual Awakening, Northside Baptist Church, Mount Vernon.

25-26 Kentucky Baptist Secretaries' Summer Conference, Baptist Building, Louisville.

27-28 World Missions Unlimited, Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington.

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

'Women of Worth' evangelism event scheduled for May 22 in Princeton

Louisville—Kentucky Baptists' 2007 Women of Worth Lifestyle Evangelism Conference is set for May 22 at Northside Baptist Church in Princeton.

The theme of this year's conference is "Love Wash Over Me." Phyllis Hendry, president of Lead Like Jesus in Augusta, Ga., will be the featured speaker.

Michael O'Brien, former lead singer for NewSong, will lead a time of worship. The program also will include dramatists Melinda Brinson

and Monica Hutchinson of Somerset, and sign interpreter Tyra Lokey-Robinson of Lawrenceburg.

The pre-session conference will begin at 4 p.m., and the main session will be held from 6:35 to 9:15 p.m. Registration is \$20, which includes light refreshments served before the main session.

For more information or to register for the event online, visit www.kybaptist.org/wow or call (502) 489-3580 or toll-free in Kentucky at (866) 489-3580.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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: Exciting Bible study. 102 fascinating Bible topics for group discussions by Preston Taylor. Chapter topics: angels, evangelism, family, forgiveness, health, love, temptations, war, worship. Ten scriptures on every topic with questions. Each chapter has an illustration that promotes discussions. Xulon Press, 225 pages, \$13.99. Cokesbury 20% discount; Barnes-Noble, Amazon, etc. Noted seminary professor: "Nothing like this book." Pastors and group leaders: Build enthusiasm with this new concept for small groups.

SEEKING: Ministry assistant to youth and children's minister. Applicant should be proficient using Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Publisher. Individual must possess excellent people skills. Interested applicants may submit resumes to Personnel Committee, Shively Baptist Church, 1599 Sadie Lane, Louisville, KY 40216.

SEEKING: Part-time minister of music/worship leader. Send resumé to Grace Community Baptist Church, 7300 National Turnpike, Louisville, KY 40214; e-mail: gcbc7300@peoplepc.com.

SEEKING: Part-time financial secretary. Hours and salary negotiable based on education and experience. For more information: <http://broadwaybaptist.org/positionavailable.html>. E-mail letters and resumes, attention Mr. Larry Dauenhauer, Broadway Baptist Church, 4000 Brownsboro Road, Louisville, KY 40207; phyllis@broadwaybaptist.org.

SEEKING: Teaching pastor for shared pastoral staff model to lead growing, missions-focused church in northeast Nelson County. Church currently has two full-time associate pastors and one part-time missions intern; worship attendance 300-350 (two services), Sunday school 185-200+; candidates must have an earned Master of Divinity (or equivalent) or higher degree and have demonstrated experience in leading a growing church. Send resumé to: Teaching Pastor Search Committee, Bloomfield Baptist Church, PO Box 217, Bloomfield, KY 40008.

SEEKING: Part-time minister of music for southeast Louisville church. Send resumé to Khill@universallinen.com; or call Jeff at (502) 263-4099.

SEEKING: Youth minister and music minister or combination—this could be full- or part-time. Submit resumé with letter of interest to: Silver Creek Baptist Church, PO Box 97, Berea, KY 40403.

SEEKING: Part-time youth leader. Please send resumé to brooks124@peoplepc.com (Subject: Youth leader); or mail to Calvary Hill Baptist Church, PO Box 482, Stanford, KY 40484.

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

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@voyageonline.net.

SEEKING: Pastor for Munfordville Baptist Church in Munfordville, Ky. Interested parties should mail resumes to: MBC, PO Box 768, Munfordville, KY 42765.

SEEKING: Music minister/director to lead the Sunday and Wednesday services and work with the choir and individuals in providing special music for small, rural church. Looking for a person with strong Christian morals who can work well with our pastor and set the tone for a Spirit-filled worship service. If interested, send resumé to Mt. Eden Baptist Church, PO Box 310, Hawesville, KY 42348. For more information, contact Alberta Morris at (270) 927-8755.

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 resumes to: Pastor Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 200 North Morgan St., Morganfield, KY 42437.

'God was in the room with us'

IMB couple returns to Tanzania to tell others 'what a wonderful God we serve'

By Charlie Warren
Arkansas Baptist News

Moshi, Tanzania (ABP)—Only a few months after being shot and attacked with machetes during a vicious robbery in Tanzania, two Southern Baptist missionaries are on their way back to that mission field.

Carl and Kay Garvin stayed in Arkansas to recuperate from the Feb. 23 attack in a remote village south of Moshi, Tanzania. In late April, they traveled to Nairobi, Kenya, for missionary meetings and a prayer retreat before returning to Tanzania May 6.

The Tanzanian authorities apprehended the alleged robbers and would-be murderers, but the Garvins said they still are reeling from the harrowing evening when they were attacked in a rural inn.

Commissioned by the Southern Baptist International Mission Board, the Garvins had just finished working in neighboring churches and were settling down after dinner when two men burst into the building, shouting for everyone to get on the floor. Baptist volunteers traveling with the missionary couple ran to their rooms, but when the Garvins retreated to their room, the men tried to break the door.

Couple injured in attack

Carl Garvin braced his back against a bed in the small room with his feet on the door to hold it closed. The door finally broke, collapsing onto Garvin's head and cutting him deeply. He was partially blinded by blood pouring into his eye. One of the men swung a machete at Garvin, who said he blocked the blow with his left arm.

"I felt the force of the blow, but I did not feel any pain," he said. "The man was wild-eyed. He looked demon-possessed to me. He was very much out of control. He never stopped. He just kept constantly swinging. I counted six or seven hits on my body."

At the same time, another "very calm" man stood in the hallway with a pistol. When the men demanded money, the Garvins gave them a purse and a wallet. As the first intruder laid down the machete, Mrs. Garvin picked it up and took a swing at him. She said she hadn't noticed the man in hall until he shot her.

"I told Carl, 'He shot me,'" she said, "I was in disbelief that the man did that. I truly thought I was going to die."

The bullet entered above her left breast, went through her lung and lodged in her back. Doctors later discovered that it missed her aorta by an inch.

Garvin said he expected the worst. "I thought I was going to get shot," he said. "We had seen their faces. I was not afraid, but I was resigned to the fact that the next bullet would be mine."

Instead, the men took the money and a few possessions and left. Garvin, a military nurse for 34 years and veteran of the Vietnam War, began treating his wife.



RETURNING TO SERVICE Carl and Kay Garvin, Southern Baptist international missionaries to Tanzania, returned to that mission field less than three months after a brutal attack and robbery.

"I had seen gunshot wounds, and I knew that the chest was not a good place to get shot," he said. "I thought I would lose her. I found it very difficult to say much more than a sentence prayer."

Just then, volunteers Joe and Cindy Lennon, members of First Baptist Church of Harrison, Ark., and Rudy Dehrens, a member of Grandview First Baptist Church of Berryville, Ark., emerged from their rooms. Dehrens, a nurse, began treating Mrs. Garvin.

Bones in Garvin's knee and arm were damaged severely. He organized locals to move his wife to a car to transport her to the nearest medical facility, in Moshi—a two-hour drive over rough roads.

"All I could do was pray short prayers," Kay Garvin said. "Lord, I love You. ... Lord, thank You for Your protection."

She said she asked God not to let her die.

"I knew if I went to sleep I would never wake up," she said. "I looked out the window. The sky was bright. The stars were beautiful, and I said, 'Lord, I know You are all around,

and I know You're going to protect me.' But I still had that fear. For two hours, I did not know if I would make it."

As she looked at the stars, she said, she started to sing "God is so good," and the others joined in.

IMB workers start prayer chain

Once on the road, Garvin called the IMB strategy associate in Nairobi, who happened to be in a meeting with IMB vice presidents. IMB personnel then called the Garvins' children and started a prayer chain.

Three missionary doctors and a Muslim physician the couple befriended met the Garvins at the clinic in Moshi. Meanwhile, the IMB arranged for a medical evacuation plane, equipped with a doctor and a nurse, to fly to the nearby Kilimanjaro airport. Lanterns were placed on the airstrip so the plane could take off.

The Garvins had to get special permission to leave the country. Finally, 12 hours after the attack, they arrived at a hospital in Nairobi to receive complete medical treatment.

Today, Garvin has a steel plate in

his arm. He will be unable to drive or lift anything for three months. His knee may require future surgery.

Garvin said he and his wife have heard skeptics ask how God would permit such an attack on His missionaries. Garvin calls that "shallow thinking."

"God was in the room with us," he said. "God allowed our bodies to be touched, but our lives were preserved. God's purpose was they could only go so far."

God enabled everyone to remain calm throughout the ordeal, Garvin added. God provided a driver to the hospital, protection on the difficult journey to Moshi and comfort to the injured during the trip, he said. Moshi even had electricity that night—an uncommon occurrence.

"This is not our story. It is God's story," he said. "It is a story of His mercy, His grace, His power, His timing, His miracles. It was miracle after miracle."

Mrs. Garvin attests to that power. After surgery, she held the .38-caliber bullet once embedded in her back. She said she would like to keep it.

"It was given to me personally, and I want it back," she joked, adding that she plans to mount it on a necklace and use it as a conversation piece about God.

The Garvins said they firmly believe that their return to Africa is necessary as a way to reach more people in Tanzania and encourage other missionaries there.

Despite all she has been through, Mrs. Garvin said she's excited to go "home."

"There will be many things we will have to face as we return, but God has seen us through so much already (that) I am sure He will see us through these things also," she said. "We look forward to see His plan for our life and how He will use us to share the gospel. We want to share what He has done for us, and we want the African people to see what a wonderful God we serve."

"I thought I was going to get shot. ... We had seen their faces. I was not afraid, but I was resigned to the fact that the next bullet would be mine."

Carl Garvin, IMB missionary to Tanzania

A place of prayer



Clyde Meador (left), executive vice president of the Southern Baptist International Mission Board, offers a prayer of dedication for a missionary prayer garden at the IMB's International Learning Center in Richmond, Va., in memory of missionary Deborah McCord, who died of cancer in 1998. A missionary to the Western Pacific, Southeast Asia and Oceania for 17 years, McCord was known as a "prayer warrior." The prayer garden was dedicated April 16. (IMB photo)

Kentucky Baptist Heritage

Newsletter of the Kentucky Baptist Archives Advisory Board

Bill D. Whittaker, Editor

May 15, 2007

County Missionary H.B. Edwards
By Bill Nichols

Horace B. Edwards was born and reared in Oklahoma; after high school he attended Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee. He came to Kentucky in 1938 to sell Bibles. He met and later married Mabel Hubbard, a native of Clay County.

Bro. Edwards started working for Kentucky Baptists in April 1946 as pastor of Annville Baptist Church and local missionary in the Annville area. In January 1947 he became pastor of two churches, Royal Oak and Elk Lick. In July 1948 he moved back to Clay County to become the Associational Missionary in the Goose Rock Association, serving until 1954 when he became County Missionary. In 1958 the Goose Creek Association disbanded and Edwards became Associational Missionary for the Booneville Association.

In 1965 Edwards became District Missionary of the Booneville and Irvine Associations; he labored among these thirty-six churches until his retirement. Edwards died in 1987.

[At the end of July, Bill Nichols retires as missionary for Booneville and Irvine Association, completing sixteen years of service. He and Charmane will move to Richmond.]

Council of the Southern Mountains Records, 1970-1989

Berea College's Special Collections & Archives proudly announces the availability of the Council of the Southern Mountains Records, 1970-1989. This collection, now accessible to the public for research and study, documents changes in welfare rights, miners' rights, mine health and safety, strip mining, and women's rights, among other things, in the Southern Appalachian Region. A finding aid for this collection, as well as one for the first set of CSM documents (1912-1970) is located online in the Southern Appalachian Archives collections. The website features summaries of CSM's activism in Appalachia during the 1970s and 1980s, a number of photos, a timeline of projects and activities, and a page including various resources. <http://www.berea.edu/hutchinslibrary/specialcollections/exhibit/exhibitsaa101intro.asp>

CELEBRATING HISTORY

During 2007 the following churches celebrate significant anniversaries.



	Church	City
200	Rockbridge Baptist Church	Springfield
	Mount Carmel Baptist Church	Campbellsville
	Friendship Baptist Church	Campbellsville
150	Patesville Baptist Church	Hawesville
	Providence Baptist Church	Frankfort
	Rochester Baptist Church	Rochester
	Hopewell Baptist Church	Leitchfield
	Campbellsville Second Baptist	Campbellsville
	Madison Avenue Baptist Church	Covington
	Buck Grove Baptist Church	Ekron
Olivet Baptist Church	Paducah	

BAPTIST HISTORY AND HERITAGE SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

Campbellsville University, June 7-9, 2007

Theme: "African Americans in Baptist History"

Meeting information and registration available online:

www.baptisthistory.org

Main Street, Williamsburg Celebrates Centennial

Condensed from the book, *What God Has Done Main Street Baptist Church, 1906-2006*, by Eric L. Wake

In 1885 the Mt. Zion Association was created with ten Baptist churches at the first meeting. In 1906 another Baptist church was organized at Tenth and Main Street and was called the Second Baptist Church. But why was the church organized at this location? Longtime church member, Paul Steely, declared, "We were a church that was organized ... on the basis of convenience for where we were at the time." Several of the members had moved to Williamsburg from more rural areas, and they wanted to establish a church in West Williamsburg. On May 5, 1906, eleven members joined together from five different churches. Their first meeting place was an abandoned school building, "Barefoot School," purchased for \$265.37. One member described the structure as "a long building, with warped floors and was, to put it mildly, pretty well worn and dilapidated." A new building was completed and dedicated the first Sunday in June 1911.

The first full-time pastor was W.H. Brummett (1855-1927), beginning June 1, 1906. The church had an annual call by secret ballot. Brummett was the candidate and every year he was reelected by unanimous vote. However, one year a vote was cast against him; Brummett declared he would no longer be pastor until he discovered who had cast the negative vote. This created a disturbance in the church and the negative voter demanded his letter "on grounds that he could not fellowship [with] the church any longer because there wasn't any religion in the church, and he did not approve of the way the church conducted their services." His criticism resulted in the church withdrawing fellowship from him.

Pastor Brummett was known as a generous man, sometimes serving without pay when church finances were low, and he would pay for items the church needed from his own pocket. In January 1923 the church elected him to an unlimited term as pastor.

In 1926 the church changed their name to Main Street Baptist Church. Pastor Brummett developed health problems and in 1927 his resignation was refused; the church gave him a two-month paid vacation. His last church business meeting was October 15, 1927; he died on December 29, 1927.

Waiting

The eerie silence of a long wait
Before the expected arrives
Is filled with much apprehension
Fears overshadow reason to persist
In waiting for the outcome.

William L. Kaufman
Retired Director of KBC Brotherhood
90 Slices of Life A Book of Poetry
Vantage Press, 2005

Baptists and Bible Translation

The Spring 2007 issue of *Baptist History and Heritage*, journal of BH&HS, will include five articles that focus on the historical role of selected Baptists in Bible translation. An introductory article looks at general developments and will be followed by four other articles featuring the translation involvements of Edgar Johnson Goodspeed, Ann and Adoniram Judson, Helen Barrett Montgomery, and Charles Bray Williams. Copies can be secured from BH&HS.