

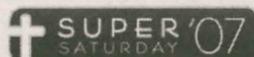


# WESTERN RECORDER

September 11, 2007  
Vol. 181, No. 36

## FOR THE RECORD

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## Christian campus group fights ruling on foot-washing

Savannah, Ga. (RNS)—An evangelical Christian campus group that was expelled from Savannah State University is in a legal battle with the college over the question of whether the practice of foot-washing can be considered hazing.

The student group, Commissioned II Love, was recognized as an official organization in 2003 but was later suspended and then expelled in 2006, after some students complained to university police that its members engaged in "practices that are not unlike (that) of a cult," such as "foot washings" and "baptisms."

"Christian groups can't be treated as second-class citizens on campus," said Joseph Martins, an attorney with the Alliance Defense Fund's Center for Academic Freedom, which has sued the school on behalf of the group and its officers.

The group held an off campus weekend retreat at a nearby beach at which current members washed the feet of new members, following a practice instituted by Jesus with His disciples.

A campus hearing officer ruled that there was a "cause of concern" about some of the activities of the group, which was charged with harassment and hazing.

## Changing lives a world away



Pastor Tata, the director of Corkern Christian Orphanage, stands with teachers nearby, leading Indian children in prayer before a meal. "They eat rice every meal," said Deb Corkern, co-founder of the orphanage. "Sometimes they get vegetables with the rice. On special occasions they add chicken." (BP photo)

## Orphanage in India becomes mission field for utility clerk

By Andi Cook  
Louisiana Baptist Message

Franklinton, La. (BP)—An orphanage in India is evidence of how God got Deb Corkern's undivided attention eight years ago.

Corkern, a clerk for a utility company in Louisiana, was at home recovering from surgery when, she said, God spoke to her.

"It was so loud it would bust your eardrums, but it was total silence," Corkern said. "He told me I wasn't a Christian and I was going to hell."

The message contradicted Corkern's life. She had been a church member since the sixth grade when she prayed with a camp counselor. Still, she recognized the truth that her conversion "was a lie."

"The first time I just repeated some words and got wet," Corkern said. "Now I've got the real thing. When I do something, I want to do it for the Lord and not for me. With the orphanage, I want Him to get every drop of the glory. I'm just His hands and feet."

Corkern, who went to work straight out of high school as a clerk, has since been used by God on the other side of the world to lead people to Christ without leaving her job of 28 years.

Her initiation into world missions came through Operation  See From Louisiana to India ... *Page 9*

## Struggles, perseverance mark Lincoln County High Impact church



REACHING OUT Jefferson Calico, pastor of thechurch@cedarcreek in Stanford, counsels a student who made a decision for Christ during Freedom Experience at Lincoln County High School last month. Calico served as coordinator for the event and witnessed "a number of decisions from people who would not have stepped in a church, which is exactly why we did this event," he noted. (Photo by Drew Nichter)

By Drew Nichter  
News Director

Stanford—In the gym at Lincoln County High School, thousands of students press themselves to the front of the stage. Professional freestyle skateboarder Tim Byrne is standing atop his skateboard, ready to attempt a trick that has never been done.

Byrne tries to make his skateboard flip three times in the air, before landing on top of it feet first—while blindfolded. Several times, he fails. Finally, he nails the trick. The crowd erupts as Byrne's friends rush to congratulate him.

The stunt is part of the Freedom Experience, a traveling youth evangelism show complete with music, BMX stunt riders and Christian illusionist Brock Gill that passed through last month. During the three-day event, hundreds of decisions were made for Christ.

"I think God is at work in Lincoln County," said Jefferson Calico, the local organizer of the event. "I think He's doing something new."

Following God's lead, Calico is also doing something new as pastor

of thechurch@cedarcreek in Stanford, a Kentucky Baptist Convention High Impact church. By sponsoring events like Freedom Experience, Calico is working hard to reach the unchurched for Christ.

"What history has proved, in order to reach people that are outside church, you have to do things that are out of the normal church routine," Calico said. "So (Freedom Experience) was a natural fit for our church to be involved in."

This month, the church enters its second year of existence. And on many occasions during that time, Calico may have felt like Tim Byrne on his skateboard: attempting to do something that has never been done—at least not in Lincoln County.

"We've gone through some trying times," Calico recalled. "There has been opposition to this work on a spiritual level."

While thechurch@cedarcreek may only be in its infancy, the vision began much earlier—thanks in part to the state of Kentucky

In 2002, the Kentucky Department of  See Church does 'whatever' ... *Page 6*

Dated material. Please deliver by Wednesday, Sept. 12.

## IMB initiative seeks young adult volunteers

**"Hands On is designed to be a conduit for this generation to go to the edge with the gospel."**

Greg Sharpe, IMB's West Africa coordinator for "Hands On" ministry initiative

By Jesse Lyautey  
SBC International Mission Board

**West Africa (BP)**—Daniel Ruiz, 21, wanted a challenge, so he thought he'd try the Sahara Desert.

Despite the heat and harsh climate, he immersed himself in learning the Fulani culture and language so he could share the love of Jesus overseas for two months.

"I never imagined that God was going to teach me and bless me like He has on this trip," Ruiz said. "I have definitely witnessed the great power of prayer and learned to pray big prayers in faith that God can and will make it happen."

With short-term missions volunteers such as Ruiz needed to help reach the unreached people groups of West Africa, a new Southern Baptist International Mission Board initiative titled "Hands On" will equip 18- to 29-year-olds to be effective in spreading the gospel and encourage them to consider a long-term commitment to missions by spending a semester overseas.

West Africa is one of the pilot regions on the continent of Africa for Hands On projects in 2008. The IMB plans to offer Hands On projects in other parts of the world in 2009.

"I've seen short-term missionaries bring a passion that really makes an impact on the field," said Greg Sharpe, West Africa coordinator for Hands On. "They share their faith with boldness, and they pour all of their energy into what they have come to do."

Students, young couples without children and those just out of college looking for something more than a desk job can find an adventure in West Africa, Sharpe said. Hands On volunteers in the region will be grouped in teams of four to work for four to five months



**MISSIONS FOCUS** Betsy Childs, who served as a missions volunteer in a remote part of the African desert, said she discovered that God wants to include her in His plans to reach the nations for Christ. (BP photo)

on projects ranging from human needs, community outreach and evangelism to media, ethnographic research, sports and university ministry.

Graduate student Betsy Childs said she initially didn't think God could use her.

"I have never felt as unworthy to do anything as I did when I stepped foot onto the first plane to take me to Niger," Childs recalled.

But she saw God change the hearts of the people around her, and her own heart changed while she was a short-term missions volunteer.

"He set me free from bondage that had kept me from surrendering my all to Him," Childs said. "And I got to see His truth at work more than ever before."

Now, Childs can't wait to return. Dusty Allen, 22, realized his dream of teaching could be used

on the mission field while serving as a short-term missions volunteer in West Africa.

In the mornings this summer after rising from his bed—a foam mat on the concrete floor—he used a bucket of cold water to bathe, then put on flip-flops and hiked through thick sand to visit the homes of young believers in a West African village.

Although Allen did not speak the Wolof language fluently, he used teaching skills he learned in college to disciple new believers.

"I just took a dictionary and looked up very basic words," Allen said. "They read the Scripture along with me in their Wolof Bibles. It's so refreshing to teach people hungry to learn, and I can feel the Holy Spirit working through me."

"I could really see myself doing this long-term."

Hands On volunteers, after completing a two-week orientation in West African culture and mission philosophy, will take a three-week language course to gain confidence in their ability to share about Jesus in West Africa. The next step will be to use their new language skills to look for opportunities to tell the stories of the Bible.

"Hands On is designed to be a conduit for this generation to go to the edge with the gospel and to bring it into places where Jesus is not known," Sharpe said. "Some people may just find out it's where God wanted them to be all along."

There are 60 openings for Hands On volunteers beginning in January and a need for 100 volunteers for the fall of 2008. Applications for the January group are due Oct. 20, 2007.

For more information, visit [www.hands-on-africa.com](http://www.hands-on-africa.com).

## Wagner, former IMB missionary, to be SBC presidential nominee

**San Francisco (BP)**—Bill Wagner, a former Southern Baptist missionary and seminary professor and current president of Olivet University International in San Francisco, has announced he will allow his name to be placed in nomination for Southern Baptist Convention president when messengers meet in Indianapolis next year.

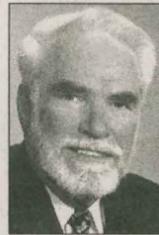
Wagner formerly was a professor of missions at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary and before that an International Mission Board missionary for 31 years in Europe, the Middle East and North Africa. He served as SBC first vice president from 2003-04. He also is the pastor of a small San Francisco-area church, Snyder Lane Baptist, and the author of the 2004 book, "How Islam Plans to Change the World." He said he has a passion for reaching Muslims with the gospel.

Wagner is the second announced candidate for SBC president. California pastor Wiley Drake, the SBC's immediate past second vice president, also will be nominated to the convention's top post next June.

Wagner has written a 10-point "Contract with Southern Baptists"

he said he hopes to implement if elected.

Among his stated goals are "to help SBC churches become more missional in lifestyle and outreach" and to "support the Cooperative Program and work to make it a priority for all Southern Baptists," to support the SBC's "conservative resurgence" and "to emphasize the importance of the small church in Southern Baptist life."



Bill Wagner

The 2006 Annual Church Profile lists four baptisms for the previous year for Snyder Lane Baptist, located in Rohnert Park, Calif., and primary worship service attendance of 30. The church gave \$670 through the Cooperative Program.

Wagner, who has been pastor of the church for two years, noted that the congregation "voted that we will give 10 percent to the Cooperative Program and have done so this year."

Wagner holds degrees from the University of New Mexico, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Texas, Fuller Theological Seminary in California and the University of South Africa.

## Missions professor receives NAMB's top service award

**Atlanta (BP)**—Missions professor Daniel Sanchez has been named the 2007 recipient of the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board's distinguished service award.

"It's hard to think of anyone who would be more deserving of the distinguished service award than Dr. Danny Sanchez," noted NAMB President Geoff Hammond.

The award recognized Sanchez, a professor at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, for "tireless and faithful leadership in evangelism, missiology, theological education and church planting among Southern Baptists throughout North America, as well as his influence for the Kingdom for reaching all people groups, especially Hispanics, for more than 35 years."

Hammond described Sanchez as "a respected practitioner, researcher, professor and encourager to students and missionaries."

Sanchez has taught missions at Southwestern since 1983. He also serves as director of the Scarborough Institute for Church Planting and Growth, which he established in 1993, and as associate dean for master's degree studies.

Sanchez's involvement in Southern Baptist life has included chairing NAMB's national Hispanic task force in 2004-05 and chairing a yearly consortium in which Hispanic ministry leaders from SBC-related entities share updates about Hispanic initiatives and assess needs in the Hispanic communities and churches.

Sanchez also served as a member of this year's SBC Committee on Resolutions.

The latest of his writings, released in 2006, is a book titled "Hispanic Realities Impacting America: Implications for Evangelism and Missions."

"This was unexpected and it was very humbling to get this award," Sanchez said after being honored during NAMB's annual summer state leadership meeting in Atlanta.

A native of San Antonio, Sanchez is a graduate of Howard Payne University in Texas, Southwestern Seminary, Fuller Theological Seminary in California and the Oxford Centre for Mission Studies.

As a student, Sanchez led in planting two churches. He then served as a missionary in Panama, teaching church planting, and continuing in that role as an assistant director of the former SBC Home Mission Board and as a state evangelism and missions director for the Baptist Convention of New York. He has also lectured and conducted church growth seminars in two dozen nations and more than 30 states.

## LifeWay, OfficeMax partner to provide church discounts

**Nashville (BP)**—File folders, printer paper, writing pens, staplers—as necessary as these items are for running a church office, they can seem like mundane expenses in light of funds needed for evangelistic and discipleship purposes.

In an effort to help churches lower administrative costs, LifeWay Christian Stores recently signed an agreement with the national office supply company OfficeMax, whereby churches can qualify for 15 to 70 percent discounts through the OfficeMax Advantage Program.

"We are always looking for new ways to provide churches with the resources they need while respecting the stewardship of their tithes and gifts from church members," LifeWay Christian Stores Vice President Mark Scott said. "This agreement allows churches to save money on everyday office supplies so that more funds can be allocated for Kingdom purposes."

For churches affiliated with LifeWay, the OfficeMax Advantage Program benefits include discounts on more than 12,000 office supplies; free overnight shipping on orders of \$50 or more (with exceptions for furniture, special orders or back orders); a "no-hassle" return policy; and a personal account manager assigned to assist churches.

Churches can take part in the LifeWay discount with OfficeMax by phone, online or in person at more than 900 OfficeMax retail locations. For free registration, churches can call (877) 633-2MAX, select option 4 and mention the LifeWay affiliation.

Products available at discounted prices range from highlighters and coffee filters to copy paper and toner, Scott noted.

More information about LifeWay's discount options is available at [www.LifeWayStores.com/SpecialServices](http://www.LifeWayStores.com/SpecialServices).

## Super Saturday leader urges effective lesson preparation

By Dannah Prather  
Partnerships Editor

**Lexington**—An ill-prepared Sunday school or Bible study lesson is similar to a lame goat, according to Tim Gibson, minister of Russellville at First Baptist Church of Russellville.

Old Testament saints were instructed to offer God the best of their herds in ritual sacrifices. Instead, some placed sick, injured or defective animals on the altars.

Whenever today's Bible teachers come before their classes without adequate planning, they give God a substandard offering, Gibson said.

"Don't offer God blemished sacrifices," Gibson told Kentucky Baptists attending a session at this year's Super Saturday event in Lexington.

Time is the most meaningful sacrifice teachers make, he said. "The key to great teaching is great preparation."

Digging into Scripture to discern the content of a lesson is step one, but Gibson said equally important is the method a teacher to present the lesson to students.

"Most teachers give the majority of their attention to content with little thought on the presentation," he said. Teachers of adults might think object lessons are just for children's Sunday school, but Gibson reminded those attending his workshop that everyone learns differently, a fact that does not change with the person's age.

Visual aids, storytelling, Power Point presentations and other methods help illustrate concepts and serve as reminders of scriptural truths long after class has ended.

"Mix it up," Gibson recommended. Teachers should want to use a couple of methods per lesson; then use others the following week.

"The worst method a teacher can use is the same one," he emphasized.

Supplying scriptural support for each point, Gibson noted five disciplines of proper lesson preparation:

- Study (2 Timothy 2:15).
- Prayer (Psalm 119:33-40).
- Meditation (Psalm 119:15, 97, 99, 148).
- Excellence (Ecclesiastes 9:10).
- Longevity (Isaiah 28:9-10, 13).

Procrastinators deny themselves the benefits of praying about and meditating on a lesson's scriptural foundation, Gibson noted.

"Pray that God will teach you through the lesson and that you will think about the class, their needs and situations," he said, adding that the next step is equally important.

"Spend time listening and thinking... (Sometimes) we do a lot of asking (but not much listening.)"

Through prayer and meditation teachers can find new ways to illustrate a lesson or facilitate class involvement.

"Effective class discussion requires a safe environment," Gibson said, encouraging teachers to talk about their own spiritual journeys and challenges.

"You don't have to air your dirty laundry," he said, "but if I'm honest with people about my struggles, it seems to be received well. ... (Teachers) don't have to have all the answers."

Gibson added that injecting humor in lessons or classroom discussion also helps build relationships. "It's OK to have fun and laugh in class."

Asking students questions that do not have "yes" or "no" answers sparks conversation. Gibson encouraged his fellow teachers not to be intimidated by silence. "Just stand there and wait until someone answers," he said. "Put expectations on them."

New teachers might weather some awkward silences but as relationships develop, students will become more comfortable expressing their opinion, reading the Bible or praying aloud, or participating in other ways. Gibson said that is one reason he emphasizes longevity.

"I'm convinced that if (teachers) get before God and want what He wants—to reach people—He's going to give us a passion for His Word and teaching," Gibson said. "If the Word comes alive in our teaching, (stu-

dents) will be motivated to study the Scriptures."

One way teachers convey passion about the Bible is by making it applicable to today's world, he said, noting that this especially is important when teaching adults.

Teachers should strive to hone in on one point or truth from the lesson they especially want their class to retain. When that point is identified, present it in different ways through Scripture, a story, testimony, object lesson, or other method.

"Tell them; then tell them what you told them," he said. "People don't always get it the first time."

Gibson said he also gives students a challenge or "assignment" for the week as a way to reinforce the key point.

E-mail, voice mail and text messaging provide avenues for teachers to send a brief mid-week reminder about the previous lesson.

Super Saturday, coordinated by the Kentucky Baptist Convention church development team, seeks to provide practical ministry training for Kentucky Baptists through scores of workshops held at six locations throughout the state.

In addition to Lexington, recent conferences have been held at Paducah, Pikeville, Owensboro and Somerset. This year's final Super Saturday conference will be held Sept. 15 at Severns Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown.



**NO LAME GOATS** Tim Gibson, minister of education at First Baptist Church of Russellville, told a Super Saturday group that lesson preparation is a love offering to God. (Photo by Dannah Prather)

## Legendary evangelist's grandson to preach revival in western Ky.

By Keith Todd  
State Correspondent

**Paducah**—What started as an idea supported by more than three years of prayer has led to more than 2,400 volunteers from 175 churches working on the Will Graham Celebration set for Sept. 14-16 in Paducah. The event features Billy Graham's grandson, Will, as the featured evangelist.

"Will Graham joined the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association in 2006," noted event chairman Ron Beaton. "He's done a lot of preaching outside the U.S., but this is only his second event in the U.S. So, we're pretty excited about being among the first areas to host a Will Graham Celebration."

Local organizers initially started planning for Franklin Graham to preach in Western Kentucky, but a scheduling conflict would have delayed the event until 2009. When Will Graham joined the BGEA, it created an opportunity for plans to move ahead.

Beaton noted that Billy Graham events use the term "crusade." Franklin Graham events are called "festivals" and Will Graham events are called "celebrations" to help distinguish among the evangelists. Beaton said the planning team believes the younger Graham, at age 32, will appeal to a broad spectrum of people.

"We think his young age will draw a different demographic to

this event. We believe many of the 50 and above age group will still be drawn to the event by the Graham name and an opportunity to hear a new voice of evangelism," Beaton said. "Billy Graham Crusade regulars George Beverly Shea and Cliff Barrows will be a part of the Friday and Sunday sessions."

"Paducah has been praying for this event, and people around the world are praying for Paducah," Graham said. "As I prepare to bring a message of hope and salvation in Jesus Christ to the Four Rivers region, I have faith that the Holy Spirit is moving in that area and I'm excited to see what God is going to do."

The celebration will be in the Expo Center at Paducah's Executive Inn. Musical guests include Nicole C. Mullen on Friday night, Tait on Saturday night and Paducah native Steven Curtis Chapman on Sunday afternoon.

In addition to preaching services at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and a 4 p.m. service on Sunday, the event will include a Saturday morning KidzFest featuring music by Go Fish.

"We have about 1,000 volunteers trained and qualified as counselors," Beaton noted. "We've had people praying for almost three years for this event and we're having concerted prayer from Graham supporters all over the world."



Will Graham

## Pastor Gordon Holland dies at age 62

**Princeton**—Gordon Holland, pastor of Crooked Creek Baptist Church in Marion, died Aug. 26 of a brain aneurysm. He was 62.

Holland, who served as bivocational pastor of Crooked Creek since 2004, was in his second tenure at the western Kentucky church. He had previously served there from 1997-98.

Holland also served as pastor of Dycus Baptist Church; Sugar Creek Baptist Church in Grand Rivers; Mint Springs Baptist Church in Tiline; Mount Haven Baptist Church in Mayfield; and New Hopewell Baptist Church in Webster County.

Jerry in Thurman, director of missions for Ohio River Baptist Association, described Holland as a "faithful servant of the Lord."

"Gordon was the kind of friend that no matter how long you'd been away from him, it was just like we were picking up a conversation from yesterday," Thurman recalled. "It was just one of those friendships."

Holland spent most of his pastoral ministry in a bivocational role, operating construction equipment, Thurman noted.

But whether he was in the pulpit or at a job site, Thurman said, Holland had only one goal. "He had a heart for Christ trying to grow the church where he was."

Holland is survived by his wife, Brenda, and son, Eddie.

His funeral service will be held Aug. 29 in Princeton. Memorial gifts may be made to Gideons International in Princeton or Sunrise Children's Services in Louisville.

## Hess, retired pastor, dies at age 57

**Louisville**—Carl Hess, a retired Kentucky Baptist pastor, died Sept. 2 at age 57.

Hess, former pastor of First Baptist Church of Forest Hills, previously was pastor of Mouthcard Baptist Church, New Harmony Baptist Church and Friendship Baptist Church in Irvine.

Hess "loved the Lord and the local church and wanted to do everything he could to help the church to grow and develop in Christ," said Kentucky Baptist Convention Executive Director Bill Mackey. "Carl was determined to do all he could while he could although his struggles with multiple sclerosis had placed serious limitations on him."

"Carl was a tremendous inspiration to me personally and to all who knew him due to his determi-

nation to serve the Lord and His church," Mackey added. A graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Hess was a former moderator of Pike Baptist Association.

Reflecting on Hess' ministry, Director of Missions Robert Finch noted, "When he took on a task, he did it wholeheartedly."

Citing a recent example, Finch said Hess was instrumental in arranging for Henry and Richard Ralnkaby to lead an association leadership conference last fall.

Hess "stretched across all economic barriers," Finch added. "He ministered to anybody regardless of their economic status."

Hess is survived by his wife, Carolyn, three children and two grandchildren.

## WESTERN RECORDER

Box 43969  
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TRENNIS HENDERSON  
Editor

DREW NICHTER  
News Director

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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## Christ-phobia in the movies

By Phil Boatwright

Kansas City, Kan. (BP)—In the comic musical "Hairspray," a hypocritical, churchgoing mother becomes the caricature of narrow-mindedness.

"Joshua," a thriller about a bad seed who systematically destroys his own family, depicts an over-zealous churchgoing grandmother. In "I Now Pronounce You Chuck and Larry," a scene features a bigoted minister calling one of the leads a slur referring to homosexuals. "Jesus Camp" warns unbelievers that evangelicals have a powerful voice in the political world, one that threatens proponents of homosexuality, abortion and other secular liberal agendas.

Okay, Hollywood, you think the Christian community is populated by hypocritical, overzealous, politically conniving bigots. We get it, already.

The word "phobic" has crept into our vernacular, attaching itself to any perspective that seems intolerant to the lifestyles or agendas of others. And every group is now defended by watchdogs determined to retool America's mindset. They want to make sure every group with a persuasion is portrayed justly in the movies. If the story contains a Muslim terrorist, for example, then oth-

er Muslims must be represented as good guys, thereby eliminating the conclusion that all Muslims are villainous anarchists.

Everybody is protected by the Hollywood elite against the villainy of perspective. Everybody but Christians. Is this belligerent attitude toward Christianity a sign of more unsettling things to come?

Why does this attack on Christianity go unchallenged by most studios and movie critics? Doesn't it occur to them that their ignoring of the offenses comes across as, ahem, phobic?

While moviemakers have always thrown spitballs at the followers of the Christian faith, intolerance of said faith has lately become the percussion of their profession. Yes, the spotlighting of wrongdoing (such as pedophilia) in churches should be continued, but to portray such characters in movies without offering any positive depictions of followers of Christ is akin to stereotyping any minority group.

But the truly tragic flaw with focusing only on faulty followers of Christ in films is that the unchurched are not given an honest revelation of Christ Himself. It wasn't always this way, but today religious figures serve little purpose in

movies other than to show hypocrisy and subtly to denounce religion as an archaic myth.

So what's the answer? How do we followers of Christ cling on to the America that was? How do we defend ourselves against the erosion of our liberties? Well, if those are the foremost questions, then we've already lost. We have a more important obligation, that of relaying the true nature of our Savior to those whose only understanding of Him is from what they see in the movies.

Hell for many is so unfathomable they can only snicker at its conception. The atheist is wrong and, apart from a work of Christ, will spend eternity where hope and God cannot be found. Would that be an I-told-you-so moment for us? If we feel that way, we really need to pay more attention to the commands Christ said were most important, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment great than these" (Mark 12:30).

Hollywood isn't going to portray the need for Christ. Are we? Speak up for your beliefs. But do so with the Holy Spirit's guidance and with a touch of our Heavenly Father's unfathomable love.

Phil Boatwright reviews films for [previewsionline.org](http://previewsionline.org)

## FIRST PERSON

## Ministry connections

1 John 4:18 states, "There is no fear in love; perfect love casts out all fear." As Christ followers, we love because Christ has set the pace for us. "We love because He first loved us." (1 John 4:19).

In Matthew we read, "He was moved with compassion for them." When we see people God loves, are we moved with compassion? When do we see people God loves? Every day? Some of them are up close while others are far away.

Christ brings people He loves up close to us. Are your spiritual eyes

open? In Kentucky, there are people of every race, tongue and tribe whom God has brought to our doorsteps. Do we try to make a connection?

1 Peter 3:15 gives us both the what and the how: "In your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect." Do you know what you believe—and why? What difference does God make in your life? Do you share it with gentleness and respect?

Christ also brings people He loves



who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect? Christ also brings people He loves

## State Missions Offering and Week of Prayer

This is the Week of Prayer for State Missions and the Eliza Broadus Offering in Kentucky Baptist Convention churches. I encourage everyone to pray for missions in Kentucky and for God to move mightily among His people.

On behalf of all state missions ministries that benefit from the Eliza Broadus Offering, I want to say "thank you" to Kentucky Baptists for your commitment to funding state missions.

One of the vital missions causes you are supporting is the planting of Hispanic churches and the development of Hispanic church leadership, including pastors. The Eliza Broadus Offering helps support the Hispanic Baptist Bible Institute, which has four branches and 50 students. Sixteen new Hispanic churches will be started this year.

The offering also provides funds for other Hispanic ministries. With the addition of KBC Ethnic Associ-

ate Carlos De la Barra, the opportunities are expanding and resources are needed.

International student work is another vital missions ministry being funded by the offering. Did you know there are now 7,000 international students studying at Kentucky colleges and universities? All of our campus ministers, along with four Mission Service Corps missionaries, are providing ministry and witness to these students because of your commitment to ministry on 32 campuses.

Significant offering funds will also be provided to about 25 associations to enable them to have an associational missionary.

A number of Christian ministries in Eastern Kentucky also receive support from the offering as do Woman's Missionary Union missions education efforts and WMU mission projects through associations.

One value of the Eliza Broadus

into our lives who are far away. He does this through the faces you see on the news, people in far-away places you may never visit, whose lives are ravaged by war, pestilence and plague.

If you are sensitive, aware and filled with compassion, you will hear the Spirit speak. These also are people Jesus loves. When you see those faces on the news, pray for them. Ask God how you are to let Jesus love them through you: sometimes through your prayers, sometimes through sacrificial giving, sometimes by going yourself. Listen for the answer. Be prepared to obey.

James Stillwell  
Lexington

Offering is its role in helping provide the KBC with funds that can be matched with funds available through the North American Mission Board. The KBC provides 60 percent of the funds in the jointly sponsored ministries we conduct with NAMB. Without the matching funds supplied through EBO, the Cooperative Program and Restricted Kentucky Only gifts, we could not access available funds from NAMB.

We are so grateful that the Eliza Broadus Offering giving reached a new record level in 2006-07 of \$991,052.92. This giving makes us all understand how achievable this year's \$1 million goal is.

We are also grateful to last year's KBC president, Paul Chitwood, and this year's president, Darren Gaddis, who have put a special emphasis on encouraging Mission Board members and KBC staff to take the lead in state missions giving and to lead their churches to do the same. Both groups have responded well, along with WMU staff, to set the example for all.

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention

## STEWARDSHIP

## The 3 greatest financial risks you face today

By Don Spencer

Good financial planning can help you avoid or reduce the risk of these three financial disasters:



**Dying too soon.** No one likes the idea, but some people do die sooner than expected.

The least one can do is make sure there is adequate life insurance to take care of the needs of their family and other heirs.

Life insurance is basic to every sound financial plan. If you still have dependent children, adequate life insurance is even more critical. The amount should be adequate to cover any final illness expenses, burial, family living needs, education, etc. Most people have insufficient coverage but some coverage is at least better than none.

**Becoming disabled.** Have you ever considered what would happen to your family if you became disabled—no longer able to provide family financial support? Protecting yourself and your family from the financial effects of disability is essential and can be done by having adequate disability insurance.

Otherwise, your disability could cause drastic changes in your family's lifestyle. This is true whether the disability is temporary or permanent. Think of disability insurance as "income insurance" in the event of your disability.

**Living too long.** Most people understand the consequences of dying too soon, but most probably do not adequately foresee the danger in outliving their incomes.

People are tending to live longer. But with inflation, more and more elderly folks find that they can't afford those things they consider necessities.

Sound financial planning includes saving adequate amounts to fund your retirement years, no matter how long you live. Former First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt said, "It takes as much energy to wish as it does to plan."

Set concrete, attainable goals for retirement, commit to those goals and then set aside the funds needed to reach your goals. Just do it.

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

## Careful reflection can help indicate if guy is 'Mr. Right'

**Q: How do I know if the guy I'm dating is right for me? He has started talking about marriage, but I'm not sure.**

There are several things you might consider:

**Length of time you have been together.** The more time you have been together, the more likely you have seen and experienced who he really is.

### SINGLES

**How well do you know his family and friends?** Those who have known him the longest have the most information about who he really is.

**How do your family and friends feel about him?** Seek honest answers from the people who know you best. They can be helpful guides to alert you to concerns or potential problems. Pay attention.

**Check the alignment of your faith and belief system with his.** If they are not closely aligned and you are guessing his love for you will bring them into alignment, better guess again.

**Watch closely how he treats others, especially women.** This will let you know how he will treat you. If you do not like what you see, look somewhere else.

**Consider pre-marital counseling and be sure to ask for an assessment tool such as FOCUS or Prepare/Enrich.** Tools like these can offer guidance about potential areas for concern in the relationship. Be prepared to postpone a wedding or cancel it. This is not the worst thing to happen.

**Pray for discernment.** Also ask fellow believers to pray for discernment about this relationship.

**Look seriously at Scripture.** See if the standards set for loving God and loving others are being followed by the two of you. If not, you need to make some changes.

**Talk about any confessed or unconfessed sin in your lives.** If not destroyed, your relationship could be harmed, if not destroyed. Make plans for how such sin will be dealt with because it will not magically disappear on its own.

If you seriously consider these items listed, you can gain helpful insight into the strength of your relationship. Once you do, you will have to decide what you will choose based on that information.—Valerie Vincent

**Q: In many ways our teenage son is a model for others. He is committed in his Christian faith, bright, athletic and has a real affection for his friends and family. Our biggest frustration about him is that he is lazy and has a negative attitude about being asked to work at school, home or athletically. How can we help him overcome this?**

Laziness, or sloth, was characterized by the early church as one of the "seven deadly sins." Your son needs to understand the impact of his decision on every area of his life. He will habitually underachieve mentally, physically, vocationally and financially. His laziness ultimately will cause others to lose respect for him and damage his Christian witness. Most importantly, he must realize that in his laziness he is effectively wasting the talents and abilities God has given him.

### PARENTING

Be specific with your son in helping him realize where you see evidence of his laziness. Assist him in identifying daily opportunities to practice diligence in developing a healthy work ethic. While being careful to remind him that his worth before God is not based on performance, target the behaviors you want him to change and make this a matter of prayer with him and for him. Catch your son doing something right on a daily basis and verbally praise him. Occasionally surprise him with a card, small gift or special treat to reinforce his efforts.

Encourage your son to read through the book of Proverbs, noticing verses such as Proverbs 10:4: "Lazy hands make a man poor, but diligent hands bring wealth." This issue ultimately is about bringing a great spiritual offering to God as Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 10:31, "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God."—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**, director of counseling at Hardy Associates in Louisville. E-mail: dr.vincent@insightbb.com.

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

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



## Associations mark 300 years of ministry

Local Baptist associations, historically among the most significant and influential organizations in Baptist life, are celebrating a monumental milestone this fall. The first Baptist association in America was founded in September of 1707 in Philadelphia—300 years ago this month.

The Baptist association's impact in local church life is heightened by the fact that it involves a group of congregations that voluntarily agree to cooperate together to strengthen missions and ministry in their region and beyond. It embodies the long-held Baptist principle that churches can accomplish more together than they can individually.

Philadelphia Baptist Association, now associated with the American Baptist Churches (USA), has helped countless churches start, grow and spread the gospel through a unified message and effort, according to a Baptist Press article by Gregory Tomlin.

Originally established with just five churches, the Philadelphia association grew to include churches from Connecticut to Virginia, Tomlin noted. It also helped form associations in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey and New York as well as the Charleston Baptist Association in South Carolina which strengthened Baptist work in the South, eventually leading to the formation of the Southern Baptist Convention.

James McJunkin Jr., the association's executive minister, said today's Philadelphia Baptist Association has "congregations in the inner city and some in more wealthy areas. The congregations speak 13 different languages as the demographics shift in America and people come from around the world. The makeup of the association today reflects that—from the Haitian churches to the Russian, Lithuanian, Chinese, Latino, Liberian and African-American."

Philadelphia Baptist Association currently includes 128 churches, but its descendants include more than 1,200 Southern Baptist associations representing more than 43,000 churches with 16.5 million members across the nation, according to Tomlin. Here in Ken-

tucky, there are 71 Baptist associations throughout the state, ranging from rural associations with a handful of churches to larger associations with scores of congregations in the state's more heavily populated areas.

Directors of missions play pivotal roles in each association's ministry efforts as they coordinate the work of dozens of volunteers who chair committees, lead training efforts, plant churches, participate in hands-on mission projects and much more. Directors of missions also work with staff members on the state convention level as well as the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board and other Baptist entities.

Tom Biles, director of missions for Tampa Bay Baptist Association in Florida, is the immediate past president of the Southern Baptist Conference of Associational Directors of

Missions. Citing associations' influence today, Biles said, "Associations are missionary to the core. They are a channel for missions service, education, information, fellowship and strategy. God has used associations to serve as a vital tool in planting new churches, raising up new leaders and giving further support of His work in the churches locally and globally."

Kentucky Baptist associations continue to play key roles throughout the commonwealth. Associational leaders throughout the commonwealth have been involved in such ministry efforts as Kentucky Baptists Connect, Cooperative Program support, partnership mission projects around the world and this week's "With One Voice" simultaneous prayer emphasis.

As Baptist churches celebrate the history and continuing impact of associations this month, "perhaps the most important lesson to be learned from the Philadelphia association is the dedication to cooperation for the fulfillment of the Great Commission," Thomas White, a professor of Baptist and free church studies at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, told Tomlin. "If Baptists can continue to demonstrate the same passion and cooperative spirit as early Baptists did, then our future will be as bright as our past."

### STRAIGHT FROM THE EDITOR



Trennis Henderson

## Revival, or merely a call for revival?

By Henry Blackaby

Atlanta (BP)—I've heard many "calls" for revival recently and with very little teaching and exposition on revival. It seems that in these urgent days there are too few leaders who actually are leading God's people corporately to repent, pray, seek holiness and return to God.

Do we not realize that spiritually it is impossible to have a call for revival without a call for repentance? This always has been God's requirement for His people. The passionate, unceasing corporate prayer that is always present in revival is desperately lacking as well. In short, I see little evidence of sincere brokenness among God's people for our current condition or the condition of our nation.

We call for revival without actually crying with tears and brokenness for revival. The "call for revival" seems almost like a spiritual fad, with no true passion or sincerity of heart. Many will say "amen" when they hear mention of the need for revival. But the "call" is fleeting and soon passes away. And then we quickly move on to other activities and return to our business as usual with no follow-through by the leaders of God's people.

We must understand that a true call for revival is first and foremost a recognition that we have departed from God. It demands a radical response from God's leaders and His people. Revival always has been,

and remains to this day, God dealing with the sin of His own people—not the world.

Therefore, if we never recognize our need for repentance of sin, then

our "call" for revival is in vain. Isaiah warned

God's people: "Behold,

the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; nor His ear heavy, that it cannot hear. But your iniquities have separated you from God; and your sins have hidden His face from you; so that He will not hear" (Isaiah 59:1-2).

This lack of recognition among God's people to see their current spiritual condition frightens me. The continued neglect of dealing with the sin of God's people is both obvious and appalling. Have we moved so far from God that we remain content in our sin? Do we not fear the judgment of God? Week after week, wherever I go, I hear no mention of our desperate need of God. There's no spontaneous concern or cry to God. It's simply not on the minds and hearts of God's people.

Let me draw your attention to several things that God's people must do immediately:

■ First, we must seek God to grant us broken and contrite hearts. "For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: 'I dwell in the high and holy place, with him who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the

heart of the contrite ones'" (Isaiah 57:15). And again, "On him will I look: on him who is poor and of a contrite spirit, and who trembles at My word" (Isaiah 66:2).

■ Next, spiritual leaders must "return to the Lord"—and stay there (Zechariah 1:3; Malachi 3:1-7; Acts 6:1-4).

■ Third, the people of God must pray corporately with one heart and one mind, (Acts 1:14; 2:1; 4:31).

■ Fourth, God's people must be immediately obedient to all God reveals to them (1 Samuel 15:22-23).

■ Then, continually bear witness to God's people of all that God is doing (Acts 1:8; 14:21-22, 26-27).

■ Finally, we should expect and experience Christ's fullness of joy. Jesus said: "As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. These things I have spoken to you that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full" (John 15:9-11).

The immediate need for revival among God's people is "life and death" for our nation. Apparently, there are too many of us who simply don't believe that God's people are far too few who sense the awful judgment that is to come if we do not see revival. Believe Christ's warning: "Unless you repent you will all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3). Let us, therefore, repent and return quickly to the Lord.

Henry Blackaby is the founder of Blackaby Ministries International in Atlanta

## Church does 'whatever we can' to reach Lincoln County

### THECHURCH @CEDARCREEK AT A GLANCE

**Location:**  
Stanford

**Pastor:**  
Jefferson Calico

**Launch Date:**  
Sept. 2005

**Sponsoring  
Association:**  
Lincoln County  
Baptist Association

*Continued from page 1*  
ment of Fish and Wildlife set aside nearly 800 acres of land in Lincoln County to create a lake that would come to be known as Cedar Creek Lake. The lake construction was part of a larger road project designed to redirect U.S. Highway 150 through the county.

Leaders of Lincoln County Baptist Association saw the potential of the new lake and its surrounding area and sprang into action, purchasing land at the north end. According to Director of Missions Gary King, he and his predecessor, Harry Hunter, began to plant the seeds for a new church at Cedar Creek Lake.

### Sharing the dream

In 2004, King, who was pastor of Fairview Baptist Church in Waynesburg at the time, said he and Hunter began discussions with the churches in the association about helping out with a church plant.

"We asked our churches to give one or two people who had a vision to start a new work, to come and get this started," King said, "then in a year or two, go back to their church.

"Well, that didn't happen."

In fact, only three families from two churches responded to the association's call.

"I don't know if we didn't do a good enough job selling the concept," King speculated.

Calico and his family were one of the three to answer the call.

Calico, 36, was serving as a youth pastor at Watts Chapel Baptist Church in Crab Orchard. While there, he said he began to feel that the area needed a church that offered something different.

"There are great churches in Lincoln County, but traditional churches," Calico noted. "I started to feel like some sort of contemporary work would fill a niche in the county."

Through the early part of 2005, Hunter discussed the new work with Calico and the other families. The new work seemed to be on the fast track with Hunter leading the way, before things took an unexpected turn.

Hunter, the man with the vision for the church by the lake, died of cancer in May of 2005. With Hunter gone, Calico found himself thrust into a leadership role for the new church.

"We took a blow there," Calico said. "We lost his leadership and the vision he had."

King said Hunter's death certainly "set the church back" and in the year without a director of missions before King took over, "they were just on their own," he said.

Calico and the rest of the team forged ahead in the time following Hunter's death.

"We spent three or four months just doing small group meetings, trying to build the leadership team a little bit," Calico noted. "We were saying, 'Who are we? What are we trying to do? How are we going to do it?'"

### Associational challenges

The answers to those questions eventually became a prospectus for the High Impact program. With Lincoln County Baptist Association as the sponsor, the KBC approved thechurch@cedarcreek and it officially launched in September of 2005. But life did not get any easier for the young congregation.

While Lincoln County Association has provided plenty of assistance, being a church supported by an association has been "a challenging thing," Calico acknowledged. He pointed out that there is a distinct difference between a church planted by another church and one plant-

ed by an association of churches.

"If a church is a sponsor, a lot of times, the planter may come out of that church," Calico said. "There are strong relationships already established. The church can identify very strongly with the church plant and funnel a lot of help to it."

With an association, he said, "the whole identification process is much harder to pull off. What you have to do ... is convince a lot of other churches to identify with this (church plant) and, in a sense, make it their own. That can be a hard sell if that work isn't done ahead of time."

But Calico said despite the early setbacks, "relationships of trust" are beginning to be built between thechurch@cedarcreek and the other churches in the association.

King agreed.

"People are beginning to see what we saw way back then, now that the road and lake are there," King noted. "I think thechurch@cedarcreek is going to start seeing some folks giving them a hand."

However, Calico offered advice to other associations wanting to plant a church.

"Think about it like a mission trip," he said. "They need to ... assemble mission teams that would go and help the church to establish itself and reach the people they're trying to reach."

"Draw on the strengths of all the different churches to assemble short-term mission trips, even in their own county, to help establish the church" plant.

Another challenge thechurch@cedarcreek has faced early on is its location. The congregation currently meets at the Lincoln County

Baptist Center in Stanford. With no building expected to be finished at the church's lakeside property until next year, Calico said he is finding it difficult to get people to attend.

"People want to identify you with a place," he said. "If they see you are established, it's easier for them to trust you."

### Working hard

Even with the speed bumps along the way, Calico is determined to reach the unchurched in Lincoln County.

"We are definitely being called to do a work here and we're going to do whatever we can to make it work," Calico declared. "God is continually refreshing our energy when we feel frustrated or disappointed."

With only about 40 members in the congregation, thechurch@cedarcreek likely is among the hardest-working 40-member churches around.

The church is doing everything from "fresh and engaging" worship experiences to tireless family outreach to adventure recreation for youth small groups, Calico noted. He has even formed an archery team at the church and coaches another one at a local elementary school.

"We're hoping to transition some of these people into the church," he added.

Calico said he hoped to do the same with the Freedom Experience event. So far, he said he has not seen an impact on church attendance, but believes there will be soon.

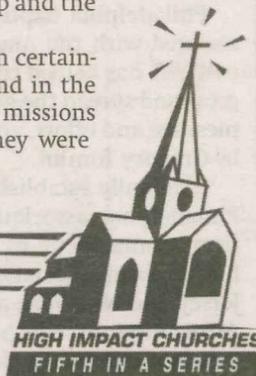
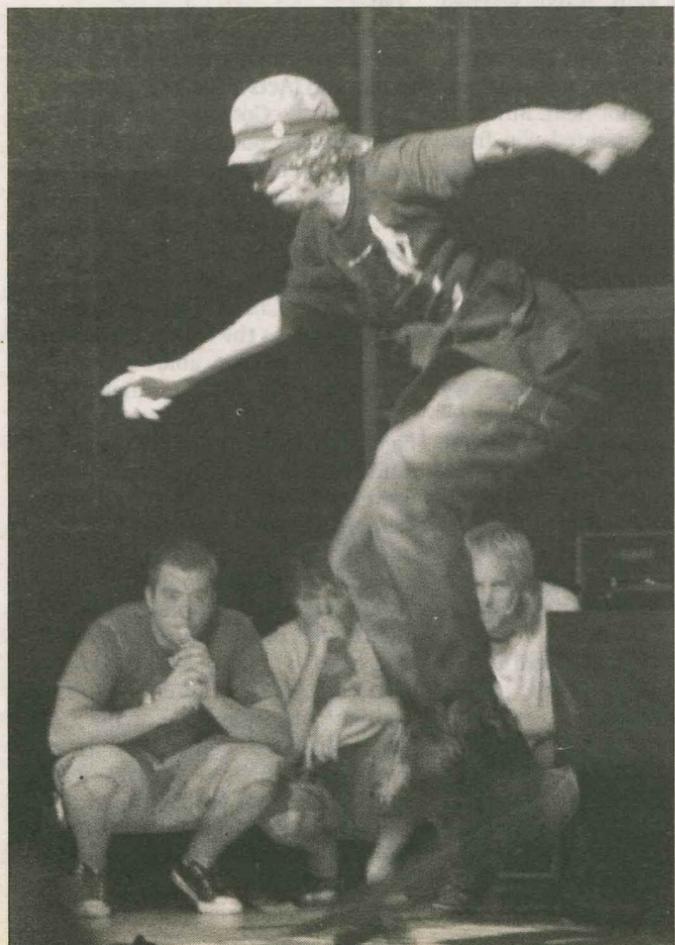
"Every week, we've seen new visitors even when we don't think we're supposed to ... and that is a really encouraging thing," Calico said.

King also hinted at greater things in store for thechurch@cedarcreek.

"Down the road, it's probably going to be one of the largest churches in the county," King said. "I think in three to five years, we're going to see a major work going on there."

### TRY, TRY AGAIN

Professional freestyle skateboarder Tim Byrne attempts to land a one-of-a-kind trick during Freedom Experience last month while his friends look on. Although he tried and failed several times, Byrne never gave up and finally nailed the trick. Thechurch@cedarcreek, a KBC High Impact church, helped sponsor the county-wide event. (Photo by Drew Nichter)



LESS IS MORE >>>

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### Planning ahead for 2008

#### End of summer is time to evaluate, recruit and build

The last few weeks have been quite exciting in camp ministry. Once summer ends we have a narrow window in which to complete summer evaluations, set up recruiting schedules for the fall, get our property improvements under way so they can be at the appropriate stage prior to winter, and continue to serve hundreds of guests each weekend.

Summer evaluations have been insightful this year as we continue to seek ways to make camp more effective in reaching students. As we examine the information, we have noticed several trends in youth culture that our churches have identified that must be addressed next year.

You might not realize this, but we begin recruiting and seeking to place our summer staff for 2008 very early. Even during August we began with returning staff and our recruiting efforts will be in full swing later this month. We need your prayers concerning the selection of the program staff as they are such a critical part of Crossings.

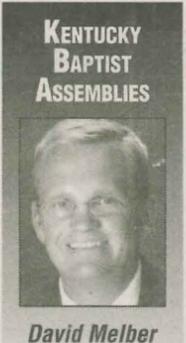
Property improvements are in full swing at each property with

some noticeable and needed additions. At Cedarmore, we again are in the midst of many improvements. New for 2008, guests will see a new lake for fishing, new turf-covered recreation fields (that are actually level), and a new conference center replacing the FJ complex.

At Jonathan Creek we are adding a new welcome center that includes new offices and six guest suites. We also are constructing a new lake to be used for water sport recreation. Why would we build a lake since we are on a lake? There are many reasons due to the limitations of what type recreation we can provide while being on Kentucky Lake. This new lake will offer many fun and exciting events that our campers will greatly enjoy which we simply cannot offer on public-access water.

We are excited about all that is coming for Crossings 2008. Our desire is to provide the very best in facilities and programming that effectively reaches this generation for Christ. Thank you for your continued support and prayers.

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



David Melber

### For Heaven's Sake

Mike Morgan



### Church of the Covered Dish

Thom Tapp



### Bible Crosswords

By Mary Louise DeMott

#### Across

- 1 "Seeking goodly \_\_\_\_" (Matthew 13:45)
- 6 This Bible treasure is the last stone inserted in the High Priest's breastplate (Exodus 28:17-20)
- 12 Be
- 14 People or things close at hand
- 15 Department of Defense, abbr.
- 16 Seventeenth letter of the Greek alphabet
- 18 American Kennel Club, abbr.
- 19 Commercials, in other words, for short
- 20 These Bible treasures are plants with leaves or seeds used for food
- 22 A statement the speaker knows to be untrue
- 23 Thirteenth letter of the Greek alphabet
- 24 Rather gray
- 26 Doctor's degree
- 27 Emperor of Russia
- 29 Woodwind instrument of treble pitch
- 31 Woman church leader
- 32 A coagulated mass
- 34 Every one
- 37 Abbreviation of 34 Across
- 38 This Bible treasure is a rich green color, the first stone in the second row of the High Priest's breastplate (Exodus 28:17-20)
- 43 Old English, abbr.
- 44 Ribonucleic acid, abbr.
- 46 Iridescent gems
- 47 Opposite of nay
- 48 Yards, abbr.

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11
12						13		14			
15					16		17			18	
19				20			21		22		
23			24					25		26	
27		28						29	30		
			31								
32	33							34		35	36
37			38	39	40		41	42			43
44		45		46						47	
48					49					50	
51			52	53				54	55		
56								57			

- 49 "And \_\_\_\_ did that which was right" (1 Kings 15:11)
- 50 Creator and ruler of the uNIVERse
- 51 A rope with a running noose
- 54 This Bible treasure is beautifully veined, semi-transparent, a variety of quartz (Exodus 28:17-20)
- 56 A guarantee
- 57 Trapped

- 21 Religious education, in other words, abbr.
- 24 A diving bird
- 25 Watered or sprayed
- 28 Fuss, trouble, excitement
- 30 Boy Scouts of America, abbr.
- 32 These Bible treasures, found in the High Priest's breastplate, are identical to the emerald except in color, a light or bluish green (Exodus 28:17-20)
- 33 A four wheeled carriage with a folding top
- 35 North American prairie wolf
- 36 Paid careful attention to
- 39 Central state whose capital is Jefferson City, abbr.
- 40 Environmental Protection Agency, abbr.
- 41 Montgomery's state, abbr.
- 42 Left side, abbr.
- 45 Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic, abbr.
- 47 A gelatinous substance, from seaweed, used as a laxative
- 52 Selenium, chem. symbol
- 53 Writings that belong to both Jews and Christians, abbr.
- 54 Article used before a vowel
- 55 Peach state, abbr.

#### Last week's solution

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
I	S	R	A	E	L	S	E
9	M	L	R	I	G	H	T
13	P	U	A	H	B	R	I
18	O	M	R	I	N	E	W
21	S	B	G	R	I	E	V
26	S	E	C	H	U	T	A
30	I	R	P	E	E	L	A
37	L	O	F	T	Y	E	S
44	E	V	E	G	Y	P	T
48	E	A	R	R	E	F	U
52	I	R	R	E	F	U	T
57	D	E	B	A	T	E	W



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## Conservative religious leader D. James Kennedy dies at 76

Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (RNS)—D. James Kennedy, a Florida minister who took to the airwaves and became a force in leading conservative Christians to the polls and into the public square, died Sept. 5 after months of serious illness.

Kennedy, 76, died after suffering complications from a cardiac arrest in late December. He preached his last sermon on Christmas Eve at Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church in Fort Lauderdale and retired Aug. 26 from his pulpit of 48 years.

The Augusta, Ga., native and former ballroom dance instructor converted to Christianity after hearing a radio preacher share the gospel in 1953. Six years later, he founded his congregation, which grew to almost 10,000 members and became affiliated with the Presbyterian Church in America.

"For decades, Dr. Kennedy has been a passionate defender of biblical truth in a culture that increasingly forgot it," said James Dobson, founder and chairman of Focus on the Family. "He was a giant in the battle to restore traditional values in our nation."

Beyond his megachurch, Kennedy's voice and image were carried on radio and television stations across the globe. "Truths That Transform" has aired daily on radio stations across the country and "The Coral Ridge Hour" has aired weekly on more than 400 television stations and reached 165 nations via the Armed Forces Network.

Kennedy founded Evangelism Explosion International, originally known as Lay Evangelism Inc., in 1970 to encourage laypeople to share their Christian faith.

## Dayton leaves Crown Financial post

Gainesville, Ga. (BP)—Crown Financial Ministries announced Sept. 5 that Chuck Bentley has taken over as CEO for Howard Dayton, who will continue to host the ministry's "Money Matters" radio program and also to write about financial concerns for Christians. The transition took place Sept. 1 and has been in the works for years, Dayton said.

Crown is a Christian ministry that teaches believers biblical principles about money. In recent months, the company has teamed up with the SBC Executive Committee to sponsor the "It's a New Day" initiative, which seeks to help church members get out of debt and better manage their

money with a Kingdom focus.

Bentley formerly served as senior vice president of Crown's global impact group and, prior to that, as vice president of Crown's U.S. field operations. He also is the co-creator of the Money Map, which is used to teach people how to budget their money.

Ron Blue, chairman of Crown's board, acknowledged a "great sense of gratitude to Howard Dayton for his leadership, integrity, character, and his passion for teaching biblical financial principles."

"Howard led and presided over one of the most significant ministry mergers ever ... and his mark will always be on Crown," Blue said.

## 108 years later

### Author provides vivid account of first snowy day of classes on OBI campus

When our students returned to our campus for the fall term, it is likely no one gave much thought to the students who came to our campus on our very first day of school 108 years ago.

It was a cold January morning and it had snowed the night before. Darrell Richardson, author of "Mountain Rising," wrote this description of the event: "It was still early in the day but already a large number of people had arrived in the little community of Oneida. Excitement was in the air. The snow during the night had been a wet one which made it difficult to pass under the drooping branches along the trails and the mud roads. Wagons loaded with people jolted into town. People, young and old, on foot and on horseback streamed into the village. Many of the boys and girls carried books in their arms. Others had all their extra clothing packed into meal bags or gunnysacks carried over their shoulders. An occasional, old-fashioned carpet-bag was in evidence. Others carried hand-woven baskets with the handles looped over their arms. ... The mountain people ignored the discomfort and hardship. They were lifted by the excitement and atmosphere of optimism, which seemed to prevail. ... They wanted their children to have an education. They hoped the truce in the feuds would last. The terrible roads, a mixture of mud and slush, the damp, cold air and the extreme difficulty of travel were all forgotten in the feeling that a bright new day had dawned. Old-timers marveled as they watched feudists from the various clans mix and mingle together. For the first time, some of the illiterate, isolated hill folk were

taking an interest in the mental and moral welfare of their own and their neighbors' children.

... As the bell began to peel out its booming tones, the restless, bashful and backward boys and girls moved forward through the melting snow. The school building would have seemed crude and unfinished to an outsider but to the people who were gathering between its walls, it seemed almost a miracle. Some of the people who were filing in the door that morning had already walked more than 20 miles across the hills from their cabin homes.

"As the powerful figure James Anderson Burns walked out on the platform, dressed in his black, scissor-tailored coat, he took hold of the bell rope which extended down through the rough ceiling, every eye watched his body sway back and forth as he rang the bell. Over 100 boys and girls crowded into the building with the intention of applying as students. Burns picked up the Bible and read, 'Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it; except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain. It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows; for so He giveth His beloved sleep. Lo, children are an heritage of the Lord, and the fruit of the womb is his reward.' After he had finished reading the Scriptures, Burns very quietly laid his Bible aside and said, 'Let us pray.'"

As we welcome the opportunities of the 108th year ahead, we are mindful that our efforts are in vain if God is not pleased with our work. We believe God has been pleased with us and has given us a host of friends to support our work.

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



W.F. Underwood

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## Keeping us looking good

### Student 'workshop' program maintains campus' beauty

A frequent comment I hear from visitors to our campus is how clean and nice everything looks. Comments like those can be attributed to the efforts of students such as Chris Allison who works on the campus cleaning crew.

His student "workshop" job involves cleaning our administrative building, business office, classroom building, library and student lounge. During the summer months he also cleans houses recently vacated by the graduating class. Chris makes sure these homes are ready for incoming students arriving for the fall semester.

"When I first moved to campus, I worked in some fast-food restaurants in the area," Allison said. "It is a blessing to have a job on campus as opposed to off-campus work. With my job here on the campus I can schedule my hours around my class schedule. I didn't always have that opportunity working off campus."

Our student workshop program provides employment for students such as Chris, helping them meet living expenses while preparing for their ministry calling.

A native of Bowling Green, Chris

is like every student who comes to Clear Creek; he followed God's call. "I grew up in church," he said. "But I did not accept Christ as my personal Savior until I was 23 years old. Shortly after that I felt God calling me to the ministry."

Chris said he heard about Clear Creek from alumnus Tom Cummings and his wife, Karla. "We visited the campus and enjoyed it very much," Allison recalled. "After much prayer, God showed us this is where we needed to be. I like Clear Creek; it's a good place to be."

Chris is starting his third year at Clear Creek. "I know God has called me to be a pastor to serve in a local church," he said. "My wife feels a calling to serve in a crisis center somewhere. I know God will provide the place for us to serve after our training here is finished."

All of us at Clear Creek are thankful for the student workshop program that provides financial support for Chris and other students as they prepare for their ministry calling.

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



Donnie Fox

## From Louisiana to India, utility clerk expands mission field

Continued from page 1

Christmas Child, a ministry of Samaritan's Purse. The ministry sends shoeboxes with toiletries, a toy and the gospel in the child's language to children around the world.

The first year, Corkern made two boxes and included her name and address. She received a heartfelt letter of thanks and was so blessed that she was determined to do it every year.

The fourth year, Corkern sent 438 boxes. Her project had spread through word of mouth, and some people fixed boxes and brought them to her. Others gave her money to purchase needed items.

### Life-changing letter

She received hundreds of letters and e-mails from grateful recipients. One e-mail in particular tugged at her heart. She wasn't sure why, but God seemed to be telling her that this one was different.

The letter from Pastor Tata of Andhra Pradesh, India, which thanked her for a box, prompted a year and a half worth of correspondence.

Corkern learned of Tata's compassion for the hungry and homeless as he told of buying 50-pound bags of rice to feed the elderly, widows and orphans. Corkern said God began to create in her a concern for the children of poverty that the Indian pastor told her about.

One day during her prayer time, Corkern said she felt God leading her to start an orphanage in Tata's village. She argued with God, telling Him that she was uneducated, poor and distant. Finally she tried a compromise by telling God that she would discuss the idea of Tata opening an orphanage.

"When he wrote back, his excitement was so great the words almost leapt off the computer screen. He said he and his wife had been praying for years about starting an orphanage," Corkern said.

That letter served as her confirmation, she noted. God really did want her to start an orphanage half way around the world.

Corkern used her limited knowledge of orphans as a model, asking Tata to send pictures and basic information on prospective children to offer for sponsorship. She also asked him to figure the monthly cost of feeding, clothing and educating a child in India.

Tata sent 17 photos and estimated it would cost \$20 per child. They would live in his home with him, his wife and his two small children. Corkern began talking to people at work about her mission. In the first month, they had sponsors for all 17 children. Two years later, the orphanage served more than 160 children.

When the number of children outgrew Tata's modest home, they

had to split them up. The boys spend each night in Tata's church building while the girls sleep in the village community center.

Construction on a two-story building designed to house 250 orphans started last year with an estimated price tag of \$38,000. During construction, though, the price of materials escalated. When the money ran out, the building was left incomplete. An additional \$12,000 is needed to finish the project. While they await God's provision, Tata and Corkern continue to serve the children in temporary quarters.

### Meeting spiritual needs

While the ministry is called Corkern Christian Orphanage, many of the children served are not literally orphaned. They are children from homes where a single parent—or in some cases both parents—are unable to support them.

Corkern calls them semi-orphans. The home serves as a free boarding school, with parents retaining visitation rights to see their children once a month on a strict schedule. The visits cannot interfere with school, church or hygiene.

"The most important thing is their spiritual education," Corkern said. "The first thing they are given is a Bible." The Bible is in Telugu, the language the children speak. They are taught English in school as well, but Telugu is their spoken language.

The children get their main spiritual training by attending Sunday school and worship at Tata's church. The older children, though, enjoy reading Bible stories to the younger ones at home. One of their favorite activities is acting out the stories of their Bible heroes.

In October 2005, Corkern decided to visit India to see the ministry firsthand. She and her mother made the trip, and Corkern was appalled by the poverty she saw, but encouraged by the thriving chil-



dren in the orphanage. Even though they were crammed into tight quarters and sleeping on thin straw mats on cement floors, the children were blessed. They never went hungry or without clothes, and they got to go to school.

When Corkern visited India, Tata shared with her his vision to expand the ministry of the church. His proposal included providing rice for the widows and elderly of the village; opening a medical clinic with free medicine; feeding residents of a nearby leprosy colony; opening a sewing center to teach older orphan girls and village women a trade; and paying the salary of 12 pastors so they can devote themselves to evangelism.

Corkern returned to the United States and shared Tata's vision with people she encountered, and she was able to raise enough money to fund all of the ministries for six months.

Corkern's challenge is for every Christian to find their mission.

"It doesn't have to be India," she said. "That's where God put me. A mission is a mission, regardless of where you are. Every Christian is a missionary. You just have to sit still long enough to listen to God's call."

**MOTHERLY MISSION**  
Deb Corkern traveled to India in 2005 to visit the children she had helped sponsor from half a world away. "The most important thing is their spiritual education," Corkern said. "The first thing they are given is a Bible." (BP photo)

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Registration is \$150 (Scholarships are available to cover 50% of registration fee).  
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## PRAYER PARTNERS

Please pray for the following Kentucky Baptist ministries and missionaries:

**New Life Center, Bardstown.** The ministry center began as an outreach effort by local churches to help keep teenage moms and dads in school, but has developed into a crisis pregnancy care center. Director Bridget Farrell shares that the ministry provides counseling, childcare, G.E.D. assistance, resources for expectant and new mothers, and abstinence education for teens. Pray for additional finances to provide for the expenses of the ministry. Pray for the safety and protection of center staff, volunteers and families as they seek to battle spiritual darkness.

**Angel Food Ministry of First Baptist Church of Murray.** Coordinator Marcy Snodgrass shares that the ministry assists families with grocery relief each month through affordable food packages distributed to the community. This outreach effort allows workers to share the gospel of Christ while meeting the physical needs of families. Pray that volunteers will minister effectively to both the spiritual and physical needs of individuals and families. Pray that God will provide resources and volunteers for this rapidly growing ministry.

If you would like Kentucky Baptists to join in praying for a ministry of your church or association, please send the information to Eric Allen at [Eric.Allen@kybaptist.org](mailto:Eric.Allen@kybaptist.org) or call (866) 489-3530.

## MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

■ **BENTON**—Ferguson Springs Church will hold revival services Sept. 17-21, 7 p.m., with **William Lee Gray** as evangelist and special music by **The Messengers**. **James Keeling** is pastor.

New Zion Church ordained **Terry Powell** as a deacon July 15.

■ **BEREA**—**Greg Lakes** recently resigned as pastor of Valley Church to pursue missions service.

■ **ERLANGER**—Erlanger Deaf Mission will hold revival services Sept. 14-16 with **Henry Deller** as evangelist. For

more information, call (859) 727-2588.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Green Acres Church honored former pastor **Don Randolph** as pastor emeritus Sept. 9.

Korean First Church recently called **Minsu Kim** as pastor.

■ **MAYSVILLE**—Calvary Church recently called **Robert Wooten** as pastor.

■ **MIDDLESBORO**—Southside Church will celebrate its 50th anniversary Sept. 15, 7 p.m., with music by **New Road** and **Alastair Walker** as guest speaker, and Sept. 16, 10 a.m., with

morning services and a noon meal. For more information, call (606) 248-4094. **Jay Sulfridge** is pastor.

■ **SANDERS**—Jordan Church will celebrate 140 years of ministry Sept. 16 with morning services, a meal and an afternoon of celebration, music and history. For more information, call (859) 428-9396. **John Collett** is pastor.

■ **SIDNEY**—Sidney Church will hold revival services Sept. 16-19 with **Mike Caudill** as evangelist. For more information, call (606) 353-6919. **Jamie Fugate** is pastor.

■ **WILLISBURG**—Rockbridge Church will mark its 200th anniversary with a homecoming celebration Sept. 16, 10:30 a.m. **Bob Gray** is pastor.

## Spotlight on ...

### Hodgenville



South Fork Church is celebrating its 225th anniversary throughout September. Guest speakers include **Clyde Allen** and **George Smith**, Sept. 16; **Gordon McDowell**, Sept. 23; and **Bill Mackey**, Sept. 30. **Sammy Gilbreath** spoke Jan. 9. **Norm Brock** is pastor.

## 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](http://www.reunionhouse.org).

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister of music for Bruner's Chapel Baptist Church, a conservative Southern Baptist church that utilizes traditional/blended music style during worship. Responsibilities include helping with the weekly services and choir, and preparing the worship slides with MediaShout. Competitive wages based on experience. For more information, visit [www.brunerschapel.com](http://www.brunerschapel.com). Resumes, DVDs and VHS tapes may be sent to: Music Committee, Bruner's Chapel Baptist Church, 2672 Mackville Road, Harrodsburg, KY 40330. E-mail resumés to: [bcbcmusicsearch@yahoo.com](mailto:bcbcmusicsearch@yahoo.com).

**SEEKING:** Child development center director for weekday preschool program. Applicant should be an experienced educator and administrator and must exemplify strong spiritual maturity. Send resumés to: Personnel Committee, Fern Creek Baptist Church, PO Box 91146, Louisville, KY 40291; or e-mail to [Linda@ferncreekbaptist.org](mailto:Linda@ferncreekbaptist.org). Resumés will be received through Sept. 28. Questions: call (502) 239-0316. Linda Barnes Popham, pastor.

**SEEKING:** Progressive church celebrating 115 years seeks full-time youth pastor (grades 6-12) who leads by example while helping youth develop personal relationships with Christ through Bible study, missions, service and fellowship. Candidate must be creative and possess excellent leadership, organizational and communication skills. Bachelor's degree required—Master of Divinity preferred. Send resumés by Sept. 30, 2007, to Vinton Baptist Church, PO Box 306, Vinton, VA 24179.

**SEEKING:** Senior pastor for High Street Baptist Church, Somerset, Ky. Located in south-central Kentucky, 30 miles west of I-75, HSBC is a thriving congregation with a healthy mix of age groups that work well together. We average 200 in two morning services, and have several full- and part-time staff members. Resumés will be received through Oct. 15 and should be sent to: HSBC Pastor Search Committee, 102 Bourne Ave., Somerset, KY 42501. Submissions via e-mail should be addressed to: [HSBC@windstream.net](mailto:HSBC@windstream.net).

**SEEKING:** Pastor for Highland Baptist Church in Tullahoma, Tenn. E-mail resumés to [dkatum@charter.net](mailto:dkatum@charter.net); or mail resumés to PSC, 808 West Hickory St., Tullahoma, TN 37388.

**SEEKING:** Part-time children's minister for growing conservative church, average attendance: 250. Send resumés or call for appointment. Some experience desired. Pleasant Grove BC, Shepherdsville, Ky. (502) 543-7336.

**SEEKING:** Student pastor for Florence Baptist Church, located in the fastest growing county in Kentucky. We run 800-plus in worship and are in the process of relocating to 67 acres. Looking for energetic person to build the student ministry of our church. Please send resumés to [peggy.romes@florencechurch.org](mailto:peggy.romes@florencechurch.org).

**SEEKING:** Part-time children's minister for Ballardville Baptist Church. E-mail resumés to [richardmarcello@medpro.com](mailto:richardmarcello@medpro.com); or mail to 4300 S. Highway 53, Crestwood, KY 40014. [www.ballardvillebaptistchurch.com](http://www.ballardvillebaptistchurch.com).

**SEEKING:** Candidates for director of missions for Ozark Prairie Baptist Association in Lockwood, Mo. Send resumés to DOM Search Committee, Drawer S, Lockwood, MO 65682.

**SEEKING:** Part-time children and family pastor for Rosemont Baptist Church, Lexington, Ky. Candidate will lead creative ministry for children ages birth through 6th grade and their families. For application information, please contact the church: (859) 277-6147.

**SEEKING:** Part-time interim minister of worship and music for First Baptist Church, Williamsburg, Ky. If interested, e-mail resumés to [fbcoffice@bellsouth.net](mailto:fbcoffice@bellsouth.net), or to Kirby Clark at [klclark@ucumberlands.edu](mailto:klclark@ucumberlands.edu); send hard copy to First Baptist Church, 230 S 5th St., Williamsburg, KY 40769; or call (606) 549-0280.

**SEEKING:** Full-time pastor with skills to lead, mentor and teach God's divine Word for Adairville Baptist Church in Adairville, Ky. ABC is an SBC church in a small, rural, farming community in south-central Kentucky, just north of Nashville, Tenn. We have an average attendance of 150-200 in Sunday morning worship, a tradition of outstanding music and a growing youth program. Our desire is to spread God's Word to our community and around the world. If interested, please submit your resumés to: Pastor Search Committee, Adairville Baptist Church, PO Box 36, Adairville, KY 42202; or e-mail to [abc42202@yahoo.com](mailto:abc42202@yahoo.com).

**SEEKING:** Full-time youth and children's pastor for First Baptist Church of Prestonsburg. Please submit resumés to search committee at [jcw8855@bellsouth.net](mailto:jcw8855@bellsouth.net), or PO Box 756, Prestonsburg, KY 41653.

**SEEKING:** Part-time music minister. Formal music training/experience is preferred. Submit resumés to Olivet Baptist Church, 13741 Palmyra Road, Herndon, KY 42236-8133. For a full position description, please call the church at (270) 439-4155.

**SEEKING:** Part-time children's minister (preschool-6th grade). Send resumés by Sept. 30 to: First Baptist Church, Hodgenville, c/o Katie Sandidge, 730 Tonieville Road, Hodgenville, KY 42748; or call Sandidge, (270) 766-8970, or Dawn Conner, (270) 234-3977.

**SEEKING:** Full-time pastor to lead a mission-minded congregation (average worship attendance over 100). Smithsboro BC is in a rural area of southeast Kentucky near Hazard. Inquirers should send resumés and sermon tape or video to: Pastor Search Committee, Smithsboro Baptist Church, PO Box 279, Vicco, KY 41773.

**SEEKING:** Part-time music minister for Morgantown First Baptist Church. Motivated, Christ-centered individual to work with adult and youth choirs. Traditional and contemporary styles of music. Seminary students welcome. Send resumés to Bro. Greg Wallace at [mtownfbc@logantele.com](mailto:mtownfbc@logantele.com), or call (270) 526-4711. Resumés may be sent to PO Box 444, Morgantown, KY 42261.

**SEEKING:** Worship pastor at Victory Baptist Church (Lexington, Ky.) to equip disciples to grow as passionate worshippers of God. We are a 15-year-old church family pursuing a vision for blended worship that is doctrinally rich and affection-strong, using many elements, including music from hymns and songs from Passion & Tomlin, Sovereign Grace, Hillsong, Getty & Townend, Brewster and others. Since worship is led by a band and praise team, experience and ability to lead with guitar or keyboard is preferred. The worship pastor also is responsible for other aspects of an arts ministry, a choir that sings regularly, the technical and media team, and for developing the next generation of worshippers among our children and youth. Pastor also will take on aspects of the pastoral team duties. To apply, send resumés (including worship philosophy) and several orders of worship to: [wpsearch@vbclex.org](mailto:wpsearch@vbclex.org).

**SEEKING:** Senior pastor for Lynn Camp Baptist Church of Corbin, Ky. If interested, please send resumés to [faithlooksups@gmail.com](mailto:faithlooksups@gmail.com).

**SEEKING:** Bivocational pastor. Send resumés to St. John Baptist Church, 1775 St. John Road, Frankfort, KY 40601.

**SEEKING:** Part-time youth minister for a conservative Baptist church in a growing area. Send resumés to Hedgeville Baptist Church, 4700 Lancaster Road, Danville, KY 40422, Attn: Youth Minister Search Committee.

**SEEKING:** Full-time senior pastor for First Baptist Church, Hodgenville. Please send resumés to: First Baptist Church, 730 Tonieville Road, Hodgenville, KY 42748; or e-mail to [sally@fbchodgenville.org](mailto:sally@fbchodgenville.org).

**SEEKING:** Part-time music director for a conservative Baptist church in a growing area. Must be able to work with adult choir (30 members). Send resumés to Hedgeville Baptist Church, 4700 Lancaster Road, Danville, KY 40422, Attn: Music Director Search Committee.

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister of music for First Baptist Church of Shepherdsville (20 miles south of Louisville). We are a growing moderate Baptist church transitioning from a traditional worship style to a more blended service. Please send resumés to [drewprince@gmail.com](mailto:drewprince@gmail.com).

**SEEKING:** Full-time secretary/administrative assistant. Successful candidate will use personal gifts of communication, organization and technical skills for efficient and effective church office business. Send resumés to: John Bloomer, Melbourne Heights Baptist Church, 3728 Taylorsville Road, Louisville, KY 40220.

**SEEKING:** Full-time minister of youth for First Baptist Church, Richmond, Ky. Responsibilities include proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ through biblical teachings; facilitating ministry opportunities and assisting with pastoral care; developing, managing and evaluating a comprehensive program for middle school and high school students and their families. Ability to build and maintain effective working relationships and rapport with members, prospects and staff is required. Compensation includes salary, vacation, insurance, SECA and retirement. Send cover letter, resumés, salary history and available starting date to: Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 425 Eastern Bypass, Richmond, KY 40475; or via e-mail to [richard.landiers@firstbaptistnet.com](mailto:richard.landiers@firstbaptistnet.com).

# Struggle for equality

*Baptists played key roles on both sides of historic Arkansas school integration battle*

By Robert Marus  
Associated Baptist Press

**Little Rock, Ark. (ABP)**—The story of Lakeshore Drive Baptist Church in Little Rock, Ark., encapsulates the little-recounted role that white Baptists played in many episodes of the civil rights movement—both for good and for ill.

The church owes its existence to the infamous 1957-59 struggle to integrate Little Rock Central High School, when pro-integration members were kicked out of another congregation led by an outspoken segregationist. Dignitaries will gather in Little Rock on Sept. 25 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Central High's desegregation.

"It's a unique church," said Doyme Elder, Lakeshore Drive's church historian. The kicked-out members founded University Baptist Church, named because the congregation is located across the street from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. The church changed its name to Lakeshore Drive years later.

The pastor of the congregation from which University Baptist's founding members were ejected—Broadmoor Baptist—was Wesley Pruden. He became one of the most vocal segregationist leaders in Little Rock during the month-long integration crisis in 1957. Pruden remained in the news through the ensuing turmoil of the 1958-59 school year when Gov. Orval Faubus, himself a Baptist, ordered the city's high schools closed in order to prevent them from operating on an integrated basis.

Ironically, Pruden's church eventually folded as members became disgusted with their pastor and left. "Not only was he a staunch segregationist, but there was a lot of other pretty bad publicity about him," Elder said. The University Baptist congregation then took over the old Broadmoor Baptist building. It continues to use the same property today.

## Outspoken leaders

Unlike many other desegregation battles of the era, the Little Rock crisis didn't prominently feature African-American Baptist ministers. Instead, its driving personalities were school board officials, a segregationist governor and a local NAACP official. But white Baptists are found throughout the history of the event.

The pastors of Little Rock's wealthiest and most prominent churches—including two of the city's three largest Southern Baptist congregations—spoke in favor of obeying federal court orders and maintaining law and order. But many pastors of smaller, more blue-collar Southern Baptist churches and independent, fundamentalist Baptist congregations were far more outspoken in defense of segregation.

One example was Pruden himself. In an October 1957 advertisement he bought in the Arkansas Democrat—the more conservative of the city's two daily newspapers—Pruden said Jesus never spoke

up against segregation even though He "was born into the most segregated (sic) race the world has ever known." On the basis of that and other biblical evidence, he concluded, "segregation has Christian sanction, integration is communistic."

The segregationists' rhetoric was suffused with evangelical jargon. In archival news photos from a pro-segregation demonstration on the steps of the Arkansas State Capitol, protesters hold signs that read, "Stop the race-mixing march of the Anti-Christ."

Berean Baptist Church, a congregation in North Little Rock, took out an advertisement in the Sept. 27, 1957, edition of the Democrat that reprinted the text of a telegram from the congregation to President Dwight Eisenhower. Eisenhower's order to send troops from the 101st Airborne into Little Rock days before had enabled the integration to proceed, breaking the stalemate he had with Faubus.

"If we have the privilege of freedom of speech left, we wish to lift our voice in strong protest against the unholy invasion of the customs, rights and privileges of the citizens of Arkansas by federal troops," the church's telegram read. "It is our sincere conviction that if you had been spending as much time on your knees in prayer as spent on the golf course, you never would have sent troops into Arkansas."

## Lack of courage?

According to historians and Baptists who were in Little Rock at the time, courage in the face of committed segregationists was hard to find among many white leaders, including Christian ministers.

"There were segregationist preachers, and they were very outspoken and in the press, and in the news often. Unfortunately, on the other side, I don't think I could point to that many examples of strong, courageous white pastoral leadership, at least in Baptist circles," said Larry Taylor, who recently retired after serving for two decades as pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church in Alexandria, La.

Taylor was a junior at Central during the 1957-58 school year. He was there when nine African-American students, shepherded by local civil rights activist Daisy Bates, successfully integrated the campus on Sept. 25, 1957.

"I have immense respect for the 'Little Rock nine' and for Daisy Bates. I think they were courageous, courageous people made of cactus and steel, otherwise they couldn't have gotten through that," Taylor said. "I wish I could have pointed to equally courageous people in the white community."

But Taylor and others have pointed to a handful of Baptist leaders as prominent exceptions. One was Dale Cowling, pastor of Little Rock's Second Baptist Church.

"The three largest Southern Baptist churches were within a couple of miles of the Central High area," said



Fred Williams, a University of Arkansas at Little Rock professor and one of the most prominent chroniclers of Arkansas history. Williams is also a longtime member of Calvary Baptist Church in Little Rock.

"But of those three churches, only Second made an effort ... to get the congregation to go along with the idea" of integration, Williams said.

One of the most prominent members of Second Baptist at the time was Rep. Brooks Hays, who had represented Little Rock for eight terms in the U.S. House of Representatives. In the early days of the crisis, he worked as a mediator to end the standoff between Faubus and Eisenhower. After Faubus closed the schools, Hays continued to work to re-open them on an integrated basis.

Hays' support for integration eventually cost him his job. In the 1958 election, a segregationist write-in candidate, Dale Alford, barely beat Hays in his bid for a ninth term in Congress. Although Democratic Party officials pushed Hays to contest the results, he chose not to.

During the crisis, Hays also served as president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

In his address at the SBC annual meeting in 1959, Hays noted his recently unemployed status and asked his fellow Southern Baptists to consider living up to the denomination's commitment to support integration. He said it was especially important for SBC missionaries to demonstrate that they represent a denomination that believes all people are created equal by God.

"We must continue to examine, with keen sensitivity, the aspirations of our minority people for a status free from all discrimination and injustice," Hays said. "This is a part of the Christian gospel, and we must demonstrate that we believe it. We cannot export what we do not have, and if our Christian devotions here are not adequate, our missionaries cannot transmit the Christian message to unsaved masses abroad."

## Small but effective

Other Baptists played minor but crucial roles in the crisis. Margaret Kolb, a longtime member of Pulaski Heights Baptist Church in Little Rock, served with the Women's Emergency Committee to Open Our

Schools. In 1958, the women's group stepped in when many white male business leaders would not, working fearlessly to re-open Little Rock's high schools on an integrated basis after the Faubus-ordered shutdown.

One of the places the Women's Emergency Committee met was in the Baptist Student Center at the University of Arkansas Medical School. It was a safe meeting place for the controversial organization because Tom Logue, the Arkansas Baptist State Convention's campus ministry director, was an ardent integrationist.

In the fall of 1957, Logue led the students who came to the state's Baptist Student Union annual convention to pass a resolution favoring integration—a subject the ABSC had conspicuously avoided during its annual meeting a few weeks prior.

"At the convention the kids made these wonderful statements, and it passed with one student objecting," said Logue, who served as the coordinator of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Arkansas after retiring from state convention work. He is a longtime member of Lakeshore Drive Baptist Church.

The church continued to be a pace-setting congregation after the crisis. It disbanded as University Baptist and reorganized as Lakeshore Drive in 1970 in a bid to regain membership in the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. The state group had previously voted to unseat University Baptist's messengers at convention meetings because the church practiced open communion.

But congregations like Lakeshore and leaders like Hays and Cowling were the exceptions in white Baptist life during the civil rights era, even in a surprisingly moderate Southern city like Little Rock.

"I have found myself for 50 years wishing that Baptists could get in on the front end of something significant instead of the back end," said Taylor. "I'm still hoping and wishing for it. But my impression is that Baptists have come from such a culturally conservative background, historically, that it's very hard for them to do anything but catch up after the issues are already decided in the broader society. And that seems to be, for the most part, what happened with most of the white Baptist churches in Little Rock in the 50s. They caught up later."

**TURNED AWAY Teenager Elizabeth Eckford (center) is followed by a group of snarling white parents and students after not being allowed to enter Little Rock Central High School by Arkansas National Guardsmen. (Photo by Francis Miller/Time Life Pictures/Getty Images)**

# Anti-Gambling Sunday

SEPTEMBER 16, 2007

## Kentucky League On Alcohol & Gambling Problems

2722 Crittenden Drive Louisville, KY 40209

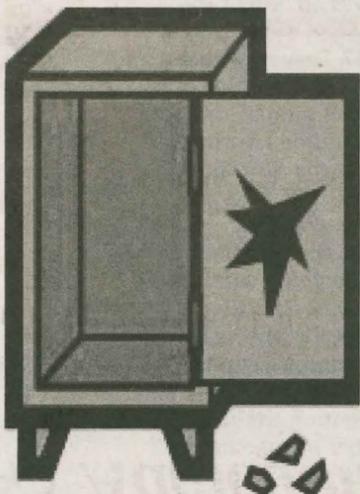
(502) 635-0002

Website: [www.kentuckyleague.org](http://www.kentuckyleague.org)

### ABC's of Gambling:

**A.) *Addiction*** Even the gambling industry admits that this is true.

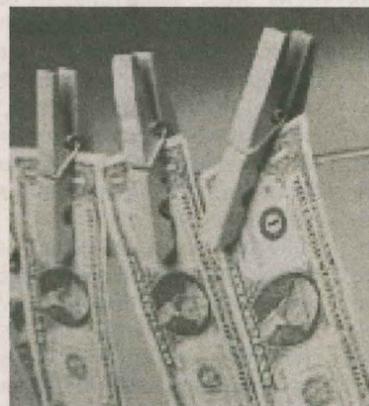
There are 40,000 plus compulsive gamblers in Ky already. The number of classes that Gamblers Anonymous hold have doubled in the last 5 years on both the local level and national level.



**B.) *Bankruptcies***

Addiction leads to people losing their job, home, family and self respect. Families suffer, Children are at risk. Ky is the 40th. worst state in the nation in caring for children. *AP* A direct Quote. "There is no question, in sites where gambling is introduced, there is an increase in crime." Maryland Attorney General Joseph Curran.

**C.) *Crime*** People embezzle money to pay their gambling debts. Each Compulsive gambler costs the economy between \$14,006 to \$22,077 per year.



**Call your Legislators: Ask them to say no to expanding gambling in any form.**

**1-800-372-7181**

Our office is pouring in with calls from Gamblers begging for help . The most heart wrenching are those of the wives with children that are crying and expressing to me that they love their spouse but that their families are being destroyed and they are in need of money or food to feed their children. They cry begging for help. Asking questions on were to get help for their loved one. ***Gambling is destroying American Families everyday.*** Natica Drexler, Administrative Assistant KLAG