



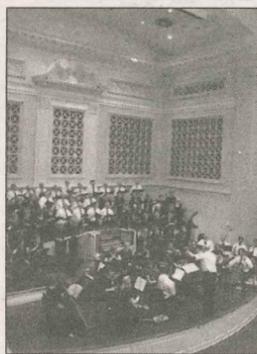
WESTERN RECORDER

May 6, 2008
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Study: Unchurched adults less likely to even visit a church

By Mark Kelly
Baptist Press

Nashville (BP)—Unchurched adults interested in finding a congregation are not nearly as likely to visit one in person as a church member who is shopping for a new congregation, according to several recent LifeWay Research studies.

Effective evangelism, researchers say, must begin in relationships between Christians and unbelievers—beyond church buildings.

A survey of nearly 1,700 unchurched adults found that only 49 percent would visit in person if they were looking for a church. By contrast, 83 percent of church switchers in an earlier survey said they made an in-person visit when they "actively searched for a new church."

More than half would follow a recommendation from family, friends, neighbors or colleagues if they were looking for a church, but 24 percent said they did not really see themselves using any of the typical ways of finding a church.

"The location of our evangelism needs to shift if we want to reach the unchurched and not just move sheep around," noted Ed Stetzer, director of LifeWay Research. "We want to encourage churches to grow through conversion. To do that, they must not rely only on the unchurched visiting our churches. ... The unchurched stay home. So, if you build your outreach on recruiting and reaching church visitors you will often build a church on church switchers."

□ See Relationships, Internet ... *Page 8*

Culture of conformity



Japanese believers pray during a house church service in Osaka. Japanese Baptists and missionaries are using relational evangelism to reach Japan's masses for Christ. (IMB photo)

Tradition diverts Japanese people from message of God's love

By Dea Davidson
SBC International Mission Board

Japan (BP)—Staring out her bedroom window, 49-year-old Michiko did not have much to live for in the spring of 2005. Ravaged by a critical illness and depression, her only source for answers—a 10-year membership in Shinnyo-en, a Buddhist-derived

cult—even threatened to punish her if she quit the group over her disillusionment.

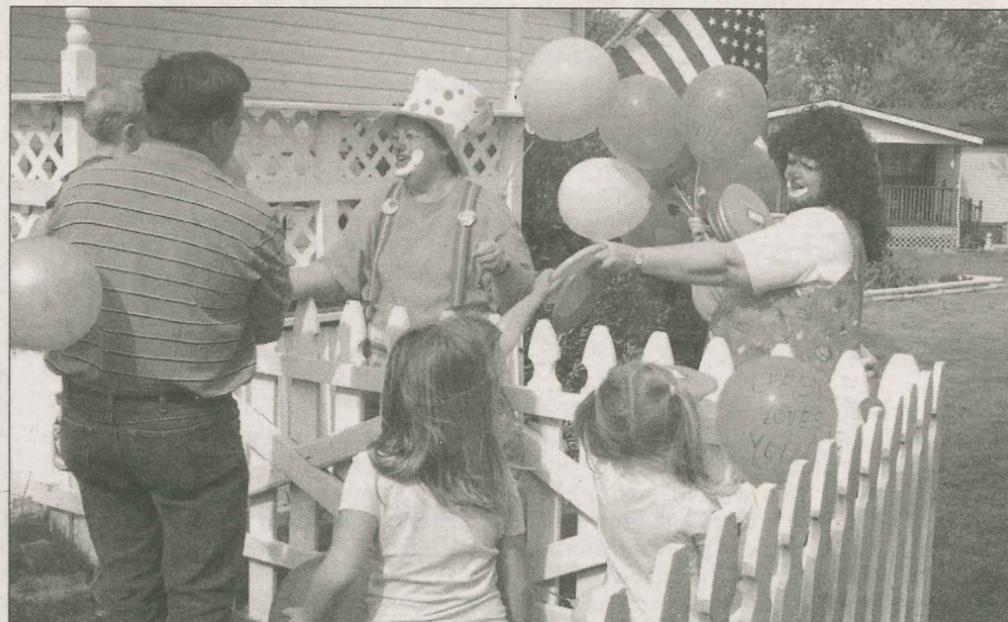
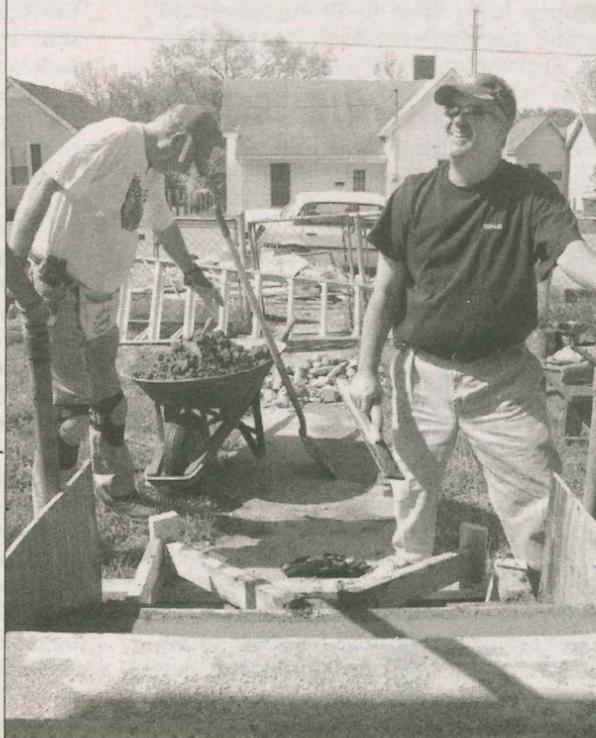
In vain hope, she began attending a fitness club to lift her spirits. Finding friendship with a Japanese believer, Michiko heard the Holy Spirit's call on her life. During a house church meeting, singing the Korean worship

song, "You're Born to be Loved," Michiko's heart opened to God.

"As I heard that song, I could not stop my tears," she recalled. "The first thing the pastor said is, 'The reason you're born is that you're loved by God.' I realized the reason I'm here is because God made me and loved me."

□ See Missionaries battle ... *Page 6*

MissionsFEST



Baptist volunteers from around the country converged on Boones Creek Baptist Association last week as part of MissionsFEST, a ministry opportunity organized, in part, by national Woman's Missionary Union. In addition to out-of-state workers Kentuckians from outside the association pitched in to assist local churches in a variety of outreach efforts. **Above:** Clowns Peggy Leach (left) and Cathy Chinn (right) of Hartford give balloons and frisbees to children at a mobile home park in Winchester. The frisbees are labeled with the plan for salvation. **Left:** Michael Ray (left) of Lawrenceburg and Lee Kerr (right) of Central Baptist Church in Winchester stop to chat with another volunteer while replacing the front-porch steps of a local resident. Central Baptist Church coordinated 11 work projects during the week. **Look for more coverage of MissionsFEST in next week's Western Recorder.** (Photos by Dannah Prather)

Dated material. Please deliver by Wednesday, May 7.

Ten Kentucky Baptists tapped for SBC roles

Louisville—Ten Kentucky Baptists have been selected to serve on Southern Baptist Convention boards and committees.

SBC President Frank Page, pastor of First Baptist Church of Taylors, S.C., appointed four Kentucky Baptists to serve on committees during the SBC annual meeting June 10-11 in Indianapolis. The Kentuckians named to the committees are:

Skip Alexander, pastor of Campbellsville Baptist Church, Committee on Committees.

Delton Beall, pastor of Southside Baptist Church in Princeton, Credentials Committee.

Bob Ehr, pastor of First Baptist

Church of Lawrenceburg, Tellers Committee.

Ronnie Mayes, pastor of Rose Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Ashland, Committee on Committees.

Members of the 2007-2008 Committee on Committees, including **Todd Linn**, pastor of First Baptist Church of Henderson, and **Dan Summerlin**, pastor of Lone Oak First Baptist Church in Paducah, nominated six Kentucky Baptists to serve on various SBC boards, including Linn, who was nominated to serve a second term on the board of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. Other Kentuckians nominated for a second term are:

Norman Coe, a member of Highview Baptist Church in Louisville, International Mission Board.

Scott Kilgore, executive pastor of Living Hope Baptist Church in Bowling Green, SBC Executive Committee.

Larry Lewis, pastor of Reidland Baptist Church in Paducah, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Kentucky Baptists nominated to a first term of service are:

Peggy Ballou, a member of Central Baptist Church in Corbin, North American Mission Board.

Will Langford, pastor of Hickory Grove Baptist Church in Independence, Comm. on Order of Business.

Connell, Fossett to be nominated for SBC VP posts

Roanoke, Texas (BP)—John Connell, senior pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Savannah, Ga., and Brian Fossett, a vocational evangelist from Dalton, Ga., will be nominated respectively for first and second vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Bruce Barber, pastor of First Baptist Church of Roanoke, Texas, said April 29 that he will nominate Connell for the first vice president post during the SBC's June 10-11 meeting in Indianapolis. He is the first announced candidate for the post. Rusty Newman, pastor of First Baptist Church of Snellville, Ga., announced Fossett's nomination April 28. He joins Jim Hamilton, executive director of the Dakota Baptist Convention, as the two nominees for the second VP position.

Connell has served as pastor of Calvary since 2003. He previously served churches in Muscle Shoals, Ala.; Hammond and Ferriday, La.; Atlanta; and Brunswick, Ga.

In the Georgia Baptist Convention, Connell has served as chairman of the Committee on Order of



John Connell



Brian Fossett

Business, Resolutions Committee and the strategy team for Cooperative Missions Champions. He holds master's and doctoral degrees from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

"Dr. Connell is a man who first and foremost has a deep love of God," Barber said. "He has a passion to preach the holy Scripture, a dedication to fulfilling the Great Commission in the local body of Christ, and a commitment to the Southern Baptist Convention—the greatest evangelical, missionary-sending denomination in the history of the world."

According to the 2007 Southern Baptist Annual Church Profile, Calvary Baptist Church reported 52 baptisms and \$232,795 (12.6 percent) of undesignated receipts given through the Cooperative Program from total undesignated receipts of \$1,842,098.

Connell and his wife, Donna, have two sons, a daughter and three grandchildren.

Second vice presidential nominee Fossett is president of the Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists and immediate past president of the Conference of Georgia Baptist Evangelists. He also has served as a member of the North American Mission Board's National Evangelism Strategy Task force.

According to the 2007 ACP statistics, Liberty Baptist Church in Dalton, Ga., of which Fossett is a member, reported 21 baptisms and \$57,405 (10 percent) of undesignated receipts given through the Cooperative Program from total undesignated receipts of \$575,760.

Fossett and his wife, Amy, have four children.

Byler, former SBC disaster relief leader, dies at 79

San Antonio (BP)—Cameron Byler, a pioneer in Southern Baptist disaster relief work and



Cameron Byler

men's missions, died April 28 at a hospital near his home in San Antonio. He was 79.

Byler was director of Baptist Men and national coordinator of disaster relief for the former Southern Baptist Convention Brotherhood Commission from 1985-89. Byler joined the staff of the Tennessee Baptist Convention in 1989 as brotherhood and state disaster relief director and served until his retirement in 1995.

Mickey Caison, adult volunteer mobilization team leader for the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board and one of Byler's successors, noted that Byler "helped lay the foundation for disaster relief as we know it today."

Byler also was a pioneer in leading relief workers to move from the "fish cooker" style of mass feeding to the more industrial equipment that volunteers use today, Caison added.

Byler began his ministry career in 1956 at Buckner Baptist Boy's Ranch in central Texas. He later moved on to serve as Royal Ambassadors director on the staff of Texas Baptist Men and as manager of Zephyr Baptist Encampment near Corpus Christi, Texas.

When Hurricane Beulah struck Texas in 1967, Byler and fellow Texas Baptist Bob Dixon became the SBC's first-ever disaster relief team, serving food prepared on "buddy-burners" from the back of a pickup truck.

In 1981, Byler and his first wife, Joyce (who died in 1988), moved to Anchorage, Alaska, where he served four years on the Alaska Baptist Convention's staff in church planting and Baptist Men's ministry.

When Byler was tapped by the Brotherhood Commission to develop and execute a national strategy on how the Southern Baptist Convention would respond to disasters nationwide, NAMB staffer Jim Burton noted, "Cameron's mark was to create a national umbrella that gave us the congruency we have today—providing disaster relief with one voice, with coordination and integrity in catastrophic and multi-state disaster responses." Today, Southern Baptist Disaster Relief is a national network of more than 70,000 volunteers and 1,300 units.

In addition to his first wife, Byler was preceded in death by his second wife, Andrea. He is survived by three children, three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

BAPTIST DIGEST

Illness infects 100 IMB staff. The Southern Baptist International Mission Board is working closely with local health officials following a norovirus outbreak that infected more than 100 people following the IMB's annual staff retreat April 22-23. The IMB's International Learning Center, where health officials believe the outbreak started, has voluntarily suspended programs and conferences until May 12 while the facility is cleaned and sanitized. The IMB also voluntarily closed its Richmond offices April 28-29 for cleaning. A total of 109 people became ill, including 100 staff members and nine visitors.

Union tornado recapped in new book. A forthcoming book tells the story of the tornado that hit Union University Feb. 5 and includes stories from students and others who point to God's care and protection that night. "God in the Whirlwind: Stories of Grace from the Tornado at Union University" by Tim Ellsworth, Union's director of news and media relations, is set for a June 1 release. The book consists of 20 chapters, each a different story about a student or employee at the Jackson, Tenn., campus or one of their family members. Also included are 16-pages of color photographs by Union photographer Morris Abernathy. Proceeds from "God in the Whirlwind" will benefit the Union University disaster relief fund.

Southern plans 150th anniversary. The 150th anniversary of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville will be celebrated with an array of events and \$6 million in campus improvements. The seminary's board of trustees voted April 22 to approve a sesquicentennial construction project that will include a 14,000-square-foot pavilion, development of the main campus entrance and a new student, alumni and faculty area named. Groundbreaking is set for mid-May and is expected to be completed next year. The Southern Baptist Convention will hold its annual meeting in Louisville in June 2009 to mark the seminary's beginning.

Glorieta launches summer camps in Rockies. Expanding on the success of Ridgecrest summer camps near Asheville, N.C., which are running at nearly 100 percent capacity, LifeWay's Glorieta Conference Center is preparing to hold its first summer camps in New Mexico's Rocky Mountains. As with the Ridgecrest camps, Glorieta will host Camp Glorieta for Boys and Camp Glorieta for Girls, for youth ages 7-16. Starter camp, introduced two summers ago at Ridgecrest, will kick off the Glorieta camps June 15-20. A second session runs from July 20-25. Two-week camp sessions are June 22-July 4 and July 6-18. A four-week session is June 22-July 18.

Wellness Walk/Run slated for June 10. GuideStone Financial Resources will sponsor its annual Wellness Walk/Run June 10 in conjunction with the Southern Baptist Convention's annual meeting. The Wellness Walk/Run, held at White River State Park in Indianapolis, is open to all messengers to the SBC meeting, attendees and their families. Registration is free and is available online at www.GuideStone.org/walk, or by calling (888) 98-GUIDE. The theme for this year's walk/run is "Mission Milestone: 90 Years of Great Strides" in celebration of GuideStone's 90th anniversary.

Black workers' journal focuses on evangelism. The sixth volume of The Journal of African-American Southern Baptist History will be presented during the 13th annual meeting of the Black Southern Baptist Denominational Servants Network June 8. The network's meeting, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, will be held at Gabriel Baptist Church in Indianapolis. The theme for the network's meeting will be "Pioneering in Progress" while the theme for the 2008 journal is "Evangelism in the Black Community." Included among the articles is "Effective Evangelism: Things I Learned in my Ministry," written by Lincoln Bingham, pastor of St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church in Louisville.

'Sweet' sounds of praise

Southern prof offers musical testimony for senior adults with 'A Sweet Suite'

By Drew Nichter
News Director

Louisville—Musical inspiration comes in many forms. Phillip Landgrave found his last Christmas amid the "giving idea that surrounds" the holiday season, he noted.

Landgrave, who has taught music composition at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville for more than 43 years, had just the spark he needed to begin work on his next opus, the latest in a long line of works throughout his career.

The result: "A Sweet Suite."

"I started searching the hymnal for different songs that use the word 'sweet' as ... part of the niceness, the goodness (and) the warmth that 'sweet' implies," Landgrave said.

Once finished, he discovered more than 100 hymns in the 1991 Baptist Hymnal containing the word "sweet," which Landgrave then whittled down to a collection of 16 songs, adding entirely new tunes to many of them.

"A Sweet Suite" was introduced to the public April 25 at Alumni Chapel on the Southern Seminary campus, performed by a senior adult choir and orchestra with Landgrave at the conductor's stand. The choir consisted of members from six Louisville-area churches—Baptist Tabernacle, Hurstbourne Baptist, Lakewood Baptist, Parkland Baptist, Walnut Street Baptist and Lyndon Baptist, where Landgrave serves as part-time music minister.

In the musical's program, Landgrave described "A Sweet Suite" as "a musical testimony of hymns ... with the word 'sweet' in various forms, used to describe the nature of God and our relationship to Him. ... For senior adults, it is an affirma-

tion of our lifetime relationship of the abundant, beautiful, 'sweet' lives we have had and will forever have in Jesus Christ our Lord."

Beginning with the hymn, "Every Day With Jesus," and ending with "Sweet, Sweet Spirit" and "Lead on, O King Eternal," Landgrave called the hymns "bookends of where we (as senior adults, which he described as anyone 50 years old or older) came from and where we are that contain the songs between."

Hymns "have something to say"

Although Landgrave, 72, said he considers himself as being "on both sides" of the traditional and contemporary worship aisle, he acknowledged that his goal in writing "A Sweet Suite" was to compose a musical that appealed to the senior adult generation. That meant using the traditional hymns.

"Senior adults are, by far, more tuned to the music of the hymnal than they are to music of praise and worship," he noted. "If I'm trying to communicate to people ... who are in that area of their thinking and their memory, then it needs to be using materials that have some attachment to them. Hymns do."

In his role as music minister at Lyndon Baptist—a congregation where a majority of the members are senior adults—Landgrave said he writes a new song for the congregation each Sunday, most of which are based on hymns or Scriptures since that is what the church is more likely to respond to.

"Ministry to me is ministering to the people where they are, in ways which can meet their needs for expression in praise and worship," he added.

With the church music land-



scape "strongly leaning toward the praise and worship," Landgrave noted that it is important to not ignore the traditional hymns which "have something to say to every generation." He also acknowledged that in 50 years, a similar musical composed for senior adults may consist of all praise and worship songs.

"We know we will always have a senior adult generation and I don't see them fading out in terms of their musical preference," Landgrave said. "They will always be most attached to the music that was meaningful to them growing up."

For those who missed the premiere presentation of "A Sweet Suite," there will be a special encore performance of Landgrave's latest musical May 18 at 6 p.m., at Lyndon Baptist Church in Louisville.



THE MUSIC MAN Above and left: Phillip Landgrave conducts the "Sweet Suite" Senior Adult Choir and Orchestra during the group's April 25 performance of his latest musical at Alumni Chapel on the campus of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. Landgrave, who has taught church music composition at Southern for more than 43 years, has written at least 30 or 40 "major works," he noted. (Photos by Drew Nichter)

KBC, WMU to collect care kits for African HIV/AIDS victims

Louisville—In response to growing numbers of Africans infected with the HIV virus and AIDS, the Kentucky Baptist Convention and Kentucky's Woman's Missionary Union are organizing a statewide collection of health care items as part of a relief effort.

Beginning May 11, the project's goal is to supply the Southern Baptist Convention's international missionaries with essential health care items that will be distributed to caregivers and disease victims in Zambia, Zimbabwe and South Africa.

"This is a way for us to respond to a critical need in Africa by helping to stop the spread of the disease to caregivers," noted Coy Webb, KBC's disaster relief associate. "It also gives our missionaries the opportunity to share the gospel and give hope to the hopeless."

The KBC's Baptist Men on Mission, along with WMU, are coordinating the statewide effort in conjunction with Baptist Global Response, the SBC's international disaster relief organization.

"We know that Kentucky Bap-

tists really like hands-on mission projects, and this is an opportunity to literally pack the bucket and send it," said Joy Bolton, executive director of Kentucky WMU. "It's especially effective when we know our IMB missionaries will be the ones distributing the goods to those in need."

Individuals and churches can participate in the effort by purchasing items from a detailed list of household health products, including soaps, vitamins, healing ointments, creams and more. Items should be collected through participating Kentucky Baptist churches from May 11-June 15.

"These buckets could certainly be put together by individuals or families, but we foresee the majority being put together by groups, such as Sunday school classes, women's or men's groups, Royal Ambassadors or Girls in Action groups as a mission project," Webb said.

Churches will then pack the supplies in five-gallon buckets and take them to one of 16 drop-off locations across the state between June 16-19.

KBC disaster relief trucks will

Africa care kit drop-off locations

Kentucky Baptist churches that wish to participate in collecting health care items to be delivered to caregivers and victims of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Africa should begin assembling care kits between now and June 15. From June 16-19, those churches will be responsible for transporting those items (packed in five-gallon buckets) to the nearest designated drop-off location. Individuals also may bring packed items to any one of these sites:

Warren Association office, 6448 Scottsville Road, Bowling Green. (270) 842-4160.

Severns Valley Association office, 500 College St., Elizabethtown. (270) 765-4023.

Blood River Association office, 47 Aurora Highway, Hardin. (270) 437-4203.

Elkhorn Association office, 1161 Red Mile, Lexington. (859) 254-7747.

First Baptist Church of London, 804 W. Fifth St., London. (606) 864-4194.

Highland Park First Baptist Church, 7321 Billtown Road, Louisville. (502) 231-3917.

Little Bethel Association office, 445 Thompson Ave., Madisonville. (270) 821-6400.

First Baptist Church of Mayfield, 118 W. South St., Mayfield. (270) 247-2992.

First Baptist Church of Morehead, 123 E. Main St., Morehead. (606) 784-5768.

Daviess-McLean Association office, 1003 Scherm Road, Owensboro. (270) 684-2377.

Pike Association office, 79 Ratliff St., Pikeville. (606) 432-2660.

First Baptist Church of Pineville, 405 Kentucky Ave., Pineville. (606) 337-2040.

First Baptist Church of Princeton, 300 W. Main St., Princeton. (270) 365-5591.

Pulaski Association office, 116 Mill St., Somerset. (606) 678-4465.

Lincoln Association office, 4160 U.S. Highway 27 S., Stanford. (606) 365-7123.

Crittenden Association office, 305 N. Main St., Williamstown. (859) 824-7755.

pick up the buckets from the specified locations beginning June 20 and will deliver them to the SBC's International Mission Board in Richmond, Va.

More information and a com-

plete list of needed items are available at www.kybaptist.org/africap-projects, or by contacting KBC's Baptist Men on Mission department at (502) 489-3527, or toll free in Kentucky at (866) 489-3527.

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

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Finger pointing & the SBC decline

By Trevin Wax

Shelbyville, Tenn. (BP)—The Thirty Years' War over religion devastated much of Europe in the mid 1600s. By 1648, the war had degenerated into skirmishes and local battles. War had become so entrenched in the national psyche that the fights continued, often without anyone remembering why.

We should not miss the parallels between the Southern Baptist Convention and the Thirty Years' War. As we approach the 30th anniversary of the official beginning of the conservative shift (a battle for the Bible that the conservatives fought and won), we continue to fight one another, often over non-essential matters that threaten our cooperation.

Few were surprised at the recent news from LifeWay showing the SBC in decline. In recent years, many have warned about the falling number of baptisms, but now our membership numbers reflect the decline.

How will we react to this news? I fear that the already-battling factions of the SBC will now point the finger at one another. The younger generation will blame the older leaders for being stuck in a time warp; the older generation will blame the younger leaders for deserting the convention and expecting unearned places at the table.

COMMENTARY

Some will point the finger at the Calvinists who are "killing evangelism," while some Calvinists will blame the non-Calvinists for unfettered revivalism.

The traditionalists will speak out against the seeker-friendly churches for watering down the gospel, while the contemporary church leaders will blame the traditionalists for clinging to old methods. Throw in the resentment of some small churches toward the mega-church pastors, and we have a veritable stew of angry bitterness that could result in even more bickering, back-biting and personal attacks.

But what if our convention is declining at least partly because of our tendency to point the finger? If it is true that the world will know we are disciples by our love, we should look intently into the mirror and ask ourselves if we truly love one another. Our lack of love at the local level has become fodder for church jokes about the "successful" church plants that come from our many splits. Magnify the tension in local churches and we find warring factions at the associational level, in our state conventions and on the national scene.

It almost sounds like a cliché to call one another to love. Perhaps that is part of the problem. We find it easy to love the people who agree

with us, who pat us on the back and who have caught our vision for the SBC. But do Calvinists and non-Calvinists truly love one another? Do old and young truly care for each other's good?

What good is it if we only love those who are easy to love? We are called to do more than tolerate each other under the big tent that is the SBC. What about loving our Southern Baptist brothers and sisters with whom we disagree? Our blame game must stop if the Southern Baptist Convention is to continue to have a role to play in God's Kingdom. We must all repent. We have turned against one another. We are warring against each other over non-essentials and are losing our unity in the gospel we are called to proclaim.

What happened to Europe after the Thirty Years' War? The way was prepared for liberalism and secularism. The populations grew so weary of the religious fighting that many in Europe abandoned religion altogether.

Let's end the fighting, reunite around the gospel, love those with whom we disagree and continue to cooperate. May the world look to the Southern Baptist Convention, be drawn to Christ and say as the pagans did of the early Christians, "Look how they love one another."

Trevin Wax is minister of education and missions at First Baptist Church of Shelbyville, Tenn.

Known by God

By Henry Blackaby

Atlanta (BP)—Every believer should read and reread Psalm 139 on a regular basis. It is David's beautiful description of God's perfect and divine knowledge of Him and His ways:

"O Lord, You have searched me and known me. ... You understand my thought afar off ... and are acquainted with all my ways."

The rest of David's Psalm describes every aspect of his life as being in the hand of his loving God. To know this is wonderful. But to live by this truth is even more wonderful. David says his thoughts, words, paths, physical makeup and

enemies are all known to God and carefully guided by God. He thus concludes, "Such knowledge is too wonderful for me."

How secure our life really is when we choose to believe and trust in such a relationship with God. And what a witness to a watching world when we live out this love relationship, releasing our life to God and letting Him express His goodness to us—and through us.

Many in the world today desperately are searching for God so they can experience Him in this way. They do not know how to find Him and know Him even though He has promised:

"Ask, and it shall be given to you;

seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened" (Matthew 7:7-8).

It is therefore all the more imperative that we live out our lives for God. His desire is to place us alongside those who are seeking Him diligently that they will find Him in us. For Christ said, "He who receives you receives Me, and He who receives Me receives Him who sent Me" (Matthew 10:40).

Let us live lives completely released to God. May they be filled with His love and His wonders that a lost world can find and experience.

Henry Blackaby is founder of Blackaby Ministries International in Atlanta

Praise the Lord

As I begin moving back into a limited work schedule after an extended illness, it is a privilege for me to praise the Lord for your prayers, cards, calls and concern. Please convey my thanks to fellow church members and Sunday school classes because so many have prayed for my healing and recovery.

The four weeks of my stay at Baptist Hospital East provided me with some challenging days. But God has been gracious in giving me a new lease on life and a new perspective for living my life.

Presently, my doctors are phasing out the medications used to treat the bacterial infection in my colon and the blood clots that developed in my calves. They have given me permission to return to activities as appropriate and last week, I returned to the office part time.

While my illness was very difficult, the hospital time provided me

many opportunities to experience God. He was my constant companion and I spent much time talking with Him.

As I focused on His marvelous creation of the universe, world and human body, I came to understand that it is a privilege for me to praise the Lord. It is a privilege to praise Him for forgiveness through the atoning death of Jesus who suffered an agonizing death on the cross for my sins.

I praise God that I am forgiven and that Jesus is alive at the right hand of the Father interceding for you and me. It is a privilege to praise Him for the Holy Spirit who lives within us and guides us to the truth. It is a privilege to praise Him for family and Kentucky Baptists.

It also is a privilege for me to praise God for your gracious support of missions through the Cooperative Program and the Eliza Broadus Offering for state missions, which recently exceeded the \$1 million

goal. Please continue to pray and encourage one another for increased support of CP through your local church.

It also is a privilege to praise God for the Kentucky Baptist Convention staff. We exist primarily to serve the churches and consider it a privilege under God to do so. I thank God for their faithfulness during my hospitalization and since. Assistant Executive Director Steve Thompson has provided excellent direction and communication with staff and me.

Please continue to pray for my recovery and for my daughter, Anonda, who is being tested for a liver/thyroid disorder. Also, please continue to pray for Virginia Bauscher, the wife of evangelism growth team leader Ross Bauscher, as she deals with cancer, and for missions growth team leader Randy Jones as he provides support for his wife, Lanna, and his parents.

Let's all pray for one another. We are family and family members care for each other.

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention

FAMILY

'In God We Trust' is well-placed on our national currency

By Jeremy White

Congress passed a bill in 1865 to inscribe "In God We Trust" on all U.S. coins. It was one of the last acts that President Lincoln signed into law.



A spark igniting this eventual

legislation was a letter from a pastor to the Treasury Secretary, Salmon Chase. The pastor appealed to Secretary Chase—who also was a Christian—to provide "for the recognition of the Almighty God in some form on our coins."

Secretary Chase then wrote to the director of the U.S. Mint in Philadelphia: "Dear Sir, No nation can be strong except in the strength of God, or safe except in His defense. The trust of our people in God should be declared on our national coins."

President Eisenhower later signed the law making "In God We Trust" our national motto. This new motto, replacing the original motto, "E Pluribus Unum," was then placed on paper currency.

The political environment may have affected the desire to proclaim publicly a trust in God. In the 1860s, the Union believed God was on its side in its fight to end slavery. In the 1950s era of the Cold War, a statement of belief in God was in stark contrast to the atheistic communists.

I find it interesting that the most prominent place that we see our national motto is on our money. Our country survived the divisive Civil War and ended the horrible practice of slavery. Our country and its allies later outlasted the menacing threat of the Soviet Union and communism.

The nemesis opposing us now may be our own prosperity and the gradual slide toward materialism. There is perhaps no better reminder and no better placement than the words, "In God We Trust," on our national currency.

We are often prone to find our security, our satisfaction and our motivation in money. Our self worth too often comes directly from our net worth. We feel happy or sad based on changes in the stock market, gas prices or interest rates.

Money is a tool; it can be a testimony; it is a test; and it is not inherently sinful. Paul tells us the root of the problem is the love of money.

When we love someone or something, we usually trust in them. Squint to see the reminder on our money of where our trust and love belong.

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

Goodness & virtue are better sources for child's happiness

Q: Does your child know how to be happy?

Ellen Charry of Princeton Theological Seminary in New Jersey reminds us that contemporary culture offers numerous versions of happiness. Definitions cluster around the basic idea that happiness comes to us when things are going well. We have plenty of money; we are healthy; we feel good about ourselves and our lives; our circumstances are such that we feel buffered from any ill fortune.

Charry points Christians to a different definition—one with foundations in the thinking of 13th-century philosopher, Thomas Aquinas. Understanding Aquinas requires discarding the idea of happiness as a feeling of euphoria and linking it instead to virtue, or “doing good well.” It requires understanding that God is good, that all creation is an expression of God's goodness, and that we are at our best—and thus happiest—when we are helping any part of creation become the very best it can.

According to Charry, “Happiness is a life nourished by the love and goodness of God that contributes to the flourishing of creation.” Parents can help shape such an understanding of happiness in their children by teaching them to love and serve others and to do so no matter what their own circumstances may be. Parents can teach their children that every person and every part of creation has value because it is an expression of God's goodness. When that goodness takes up residence in a child's life, they will eventually realize that they are the living image of God and that will make them happy in a way nothing else can.—David Garrard

Q: I'm single and don't love it. What's keeping me from being loved? Low self-esteem? Lack of faith? Poor appearance?

You are loved by God. To be loved by friends comes from following the scripture that says, “To have a friend, be a friend.” Find someone in need of friendship and reach out beyond yourself.

SINGLES

Remember the words of philosopher Willie Nelson, “There's worse things than being alone.” Marriage and singleness can be like flies on a screen door—those inside wanting out and those outside wanting in. A tolerable singleness is better than a miserable marriage.

To pursue your question, “What's keeping me from being loved?” let's examine your three suggestions.

Low self-esteem? Possibly a contributing factor. Remember, you are a unique, unrepeatable miracle of God; be the best you that you can be. Try interest and personality inventories to get a sense of you. Ask friends and advisors about your strong points. Write out your “acceptance levels,” those accomplishments you can feel good about, and let that soak in.

Lack of faith? Philosopher Lynne Anderson sang, “I beg your pardon, I never promised you a rose garden.” Some of the greatest Christians in history were single adults (e.g., Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Mother Teresa). The Apostle Paul talked about singleness being an advantage for ministry. Look at your “season of singleness” as a calling for now and be open to change.

Poor appearance? What can you do to make the best presentation, then shape up to be the best “you” that you can possibly be? Do you need good hygiene? Good clothing choices? These things contribute to attractiveness by showing that you are a person worth taking care of.

In the mean time, relax. Someone who likes himself or herself in a healthy way will likely attract folks with similar characteristics.

A popular picture shows a little kitten looking into a mirror and seeing a mighty lion. Choose to view your self positively. When Jesus said, “Love your neighbor as you love yourself,” he was assuming that you can find a “self” that even you can love.—James Stillwell

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



Western Recorder is all about Ky. Baptists

I recently found a copy of the Western Recorder dated March 11, 1926. In this 32-page issue, the annual Southern Baptist Convention was a topic of conversation and the train trip from Louisville to the meeting place in Houston was carefully detailed like a modern travel guide. A stopover in New Orleans and Galveston en route to Houston was the highlight of the excursion.

The ad stated: “The trip itself will be one of the most alluring. Cutting through 1,200 miles of the fertile valley of the Mississippi, or down through the broad expanse of Western plains, it will teem with beauty and interest.”

The Western Recorder offered this trip of a lifetime to its readers: “For 55 new yearly subscriptions, the Western Recorder will pay your railroad transportation over the most direct route to Houston, Texas, and return, for the meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, May 12, 1926.”

What an offer and no, we will not match it this year or, for that matter, make any other similar travel offers to Indianapolis for this year's convention. The point is this: Those of us who read the Western Recorder are impressed with its contents and we desire to put it in the hands of all Christians throughout Kentucky and beyond. There is no other publication that highlights the activity of God among Kentucky Baptists the way we do on a weekly basis.

Where else will you learn about the Kentucky Baptist Convention, its churches and the people in our commonwealth? What other publication informs you about the many conferences, concerts and related activities in Kentucky and its surrounding area? And we provide this to you for a mere 20 cents a week. What a deal!

We also take the burden of a church newsletter off your shoulders by offering our back page for you to

publicize your church's announcements and activities. Consider these factors about your church newsletter and the benefits of using our back page to send the Western Recorder to your membership:

- The amount of time, effort and money your assistants or volunteers spend on layouts, printing, folding, stapling, sorting, attaching labels and mailing. An electronic file is sent by the church to us on Monday morning and we take it from there. It's that simple. With the increases in postage and postal requirements, we can send your newsletter for less than what you would pay to mail a weekly postcard to every church family.

- The information that gets into the households of your congregation. In addition to our news, our large pages allow you to include more news and photos. You can send one page or as many as four, depending on your needs.

- The satisfaction of knowing that your partnership with the Western Recorder is one of stewardship as well as communication

You may never know which of our award-winning stories have impacted our readers and influenced their commitment to the Lord. You can only imagine the national and international missionaries' delight in receiving this publication and the news from home.

There is no downside. We exist to report the movement of the Lord throughout the state, nation and world and “to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints” (Jude 3). I will be glad to speak to you about the many advantages of the Western Recorder. I will also come to your church or organization to personally discuss our subscription plans. Please give me a call toll free at (866) 489-3535 and let me know how I might be of assistance to you.

Tom Townsend is marketing and business manager for the Western Recorder

GUEST EDITORIAL



Tom Townsend

Tips for connecting with schools, part 2

Last month, I began a series on ways to connect with schools. This month, I want to continue that theme. The list presented this month and last are by no means exhaustive. My hope is that these ideas act as catalysts to begin looking at the schools around you, then pray and ask God how you can impact them.

Faculty lunches. Several times throughout the year, schools have professional development days. Students love these days because they get to stay home while the teachers have to go to school. Why not use this time to do something for the faculty? Beforehand, arrange to provide a meal for the school staff. It can be as simple as sandwiches from a local vendor or as homey as a potluck meal. As Baptists, we are known for our meals, so why not share one of our spiritual gifts with others.

Tuesdays at 10. For several years now, members of Hillcrest Baptist Church in Hopkinsville have shown up at Hopkinsville High School every Tuesday morning at 10. What began as an aside at a faculty luncheon has grown into a vibrant ministry to the school. Each week they show up, get a punch list from the school office and go to work. Some of the work includes painting handrails and classrooms, pulling weeds, slinging mulch, scraping gum off lunch room tables and dusting trophies. The possibilities are endless.

Do you want fries with that? It seems some club or organization is working the concession stand at every high school sporting event. Take a Friday night during football season, or a night or two during basketball or softball season, and work the concession stand for the band or the booster club. Let those parents who normally are “stuck” working concessions have a chance to actually see their student play ball. I don't know how many nights I have heard par-

ents of band members say at half-time of the football game that they wish they could see the band perform. Instead, they were in the concession stand raising money. Go run concessions and give the profits to the group you are subbing for.

Parking lots and crossing guards. As I have traveled the state, I have seen countless churches that are next to or across the street from a school. Henderson Memorial Church in Hopkinsville is one of these. They use their parking lot as the central point for parents who drop off and pick up their kids from school. It keeps the parents and students out of the bus traffic. In another part of the state, one high school is in the middle of a building expansion and parking for students who drive is at a premium. Not all students who want to drive can because there simply aren't enough parking spots. But every day, the church parking lot

directly across from the school sits empty. Every time I pass by there I wonder, “Why?” How helpful would it be to open up the empty church parking lot to students and provide a crossing guard as they cross the two-lane road to school?

Advertise. Take an ad out in the yearbook, school paper or sports programs. The advertising rates for these are usually inexpensive, compared to other advertising opportunities. Buy miniature footballs or T-shirts with the school name on one side and your church's name on the other. Give them away during a time out; work with the cheerleaders to toss them into the stands. The National Guard and some area businesses do this. We can as well.

Campus missionaries. Commission your church's students, teachers and staff as missionaries to their school. Provide training for them to develop a strategy to reach their campus, clubs and friends. Hold a commissioning service for them before the school year. Meet with them regularly during the year for prayer support, accountability to their assignments and praise times. Give them opportunities to report during church meetings on how they are reaching their goals and how the church can pray for them.

There are a plethora of other ideas that churches can use to reach the local campus with the gospel. The simplest mantras may be: “Find a need and meet it,” and, “Share Christ while you are doing it.”

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

YOUTH MINISTRY CORNER



Joe Ball

Gospel gradually blooms in hearts of Japanese people

By Dea Davidson
SBC International Mission Board

Osaka, Japan (BP)—He is truly a carpenter following a carpenter. "At first, you clean it," the Japanese woodcarver explained about treating the rough surface of his favorite wood—American pine.

"As it's treated, I rub it with water," he continued. "If you add water, it gets darker and then it becomes the color of its maturity. In the same way, God treated my heart and is working on it. In the same way, it will mature just like these tables."

Tables, cabinets and clocks have been fashioned by Ima Oka's hands for 33 years. For more than a year now, the 57-year-old has submitted to the crafting of another woodcarver, although the seed of the gospel took root in his heart more than 10 years earlier.

Last year, missionaries Bob and Gloria Gellerstedt, natives of Atlanta and Cambridge, Mass., respectively, were prayerwalking the streets of Osaka when they spotted Oka's woodcarving shop.

As they met him and silently prayed for God's direction, the strains of "Amazing Grace" began pouring from a loudspeaker. Seizing the opportunity, Gellerstedt asked, "Do you know anything about this song?" That led to a discussion of the hymn and Bob was amazed when Oka said, "Actually, I have an interest in studying the Bible."

A rare moment

Only months later, after meeting Gellerstedt each week for Bible study in his Osaka showroom, Oka accepted Jesus Christ and was baptized. Oka's response to the gospel is unusual for the Japanese, a people whose adherence to native Shintoism and Buddhism, as well as rejection of any religion they consid-

er "foreign" are strong deterrents to Christianity.

Yet many Japanese who come to faith in Christ do so 10, 20 and even 40 years after they have had initial contact with the gospel. In Oka's case, he had an interest in God, read the entire Old Testament and had several Christian clients and friends.

In the same way:

■ Nobuko in Nagoya spent a semester living with a Christian family in California as an exchange student which helped her see the signs of God working in her life almost 20 years later.

■ A Brazilian-Japanese man, Tetuo, who grew up hearing about Jesus in predominantly Catholic Brazil, returned to Japan—after the loss of his job and healing of his daughter-in-law from breast cancer after missionaries prayed for her—which led him to accept Christ.

"We hear all kinds of things that have happened in the past to lead them to that point," said missionary Cindy Reynolds, a native of Fort Lauderdale, Fla. "It's like they were ready for us to meet them. ... God's been preparing them all along."

God's love is making inroads into Japanese lives. Through Sunday school classes started in the 1950s and '60s, relationships built with missionaries or through experiences abroad, the Japanese people are hearing about Jesus. That knowledge eventually blooms into belief—though it may take years for the gospel seed to come to fruition.

"You just encourage people, and be patient with people," noted Carlton Walker, a 25-year missionary in Japan. "We call them 'yet-to-be believers.' When we say, 'nonbeliever,' we're making a judgment call.

"Yet-to-be believers" is a statement of faith that they can be someone who believes along the way."

Missionaries battle tradition in sharing gospel with Japanese

Continued from page 1

Today, not only Michiko but also her husband, Naoyuki, believe in Jesus Christ. It is fruit from seeds planted more than 40 years ago while Michiko attended a missions school.

Like the manmade island known as "Rokko" where she lives, God has taken the life Michiko once felt was wasted and turned it into something beautiful, even as He rebuilds her marriage on the foundation of Christ.

Tradition vs. technology

Outwardly, Japan has adopted a Western lifestyle and accumulated wealth and technology. Yet Japanese are a traditional people who have everything they need except the one thing they fear or resist accepting: a relationship with Jesus Christ. As ijime, or peer pressure, of family and society expectations continues to drive the Japanese, they turn to materialism, humanism and cults to provide answers for their lives.

Japan is a nation of contradictions, from ancient Shinto shrines to futuristic cities; powerful sumo wrestlers to gothic teenagers; and ceremonial tea houses to Starbucks. More than 127 million people live in the island nation which is about the size of California. It is one of the most densely populated countries on earth, with approximately 800 inhabitants per square mile.

The Japanese, with their hospitable nature and quiet smiles, live by cultural rules handed down through generations. A Japanese proverb sums up expectations: "The nail that sticks its head up is the one that gets hit." The codes of conformity, as well as adher-

ence to traditional animistic religions, are two significant barriers to the gospel.

Japan is called the "land of 8 million gods," although many Japanese experience apathy rather than adherence to faith. Most claim belief in combined Shinto-Buddhist religions. Native Shinto religion emphasizes ancestor worship and fear of gods and involves various prayers and superstitious practices. Buddhism, introduced in the sixth century, eventually became mixed with Shinto.

Missionary Buddy Brents, formerly of Odessa, Texas, explained, "There are so many spiritual strongholds. ... (The Japanese people) are so locked up in fear of what other people will think about them if they become a Christian."

Building relationships

Less than one-half of 1 percent of the Japanese profess faith in Jesus Christ. With so few entering a traditional church, missionaries seek lost people through relational evangelism. The approach involves joining existing groups—including sports clubs, quilting and cooking classes and business groups—to build relationships and share the gospel.

The going is tough, but God is producing a harvest of Japanese souls. And as the Lord moves in cities across Japan, missionary Carlton Walker said he feels like his father did when he had a particularly good catch of fish.

"One day we got an awesome catch," recalled Walker, a native of Lynchburg, Va. "I said, 'Dad, isn't this a great day?' He said, 'Yeah, but I can't help thinking about the fish still down there.'"

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■ Does your church have a scholarship fund?

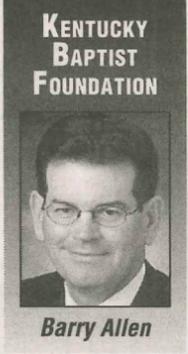
■ Does your church have one or more purposes for which it is accumulating designated funds for some future uses?

■ Are all of your church's designated funds invested in short-term low interest bearing accounts and certificates of deposit?

■ Would any of your church members benefit from a seminar on estate and charitable gift planning from a Christian perspective?

Please call Laurie Valentine, our trust counsel, or me toll free to discover how the Kentucky Baptist Foundation can assist your church in these aspects of stewardship education and in the stewardship management of the financial resources entrusted to it by its members.

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



Barry Allen

■ Would you and your fellow church members be interested in receiving private, individual Christian estate planning consultation from a competent Christian attorney at no cost or obligation?

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For Heaven's Sake

Mike Morgan



Church of the Covered Dish

Thom Tapp



Bible Crosswords

By Beverley Barnes

Across

- 1 "We have seen his ____ in the east" (Matthew 2:2)
- 5 Accepts, in a way
- 9 Atlantic seaboard state (abbr.)
- 11 "My ____ is in thee" (Psalm 39:7)
- 12 Warehouse
- 13 "Keep me as the ____ of the eye" (Psalm 17:8)
- 15 ____ de France
- 17 "My ____ shall praise thee" (Psalm 63:3)
- 19 Addiction to (suffix)
- 22 Affirmative (colloq.)
- 23 "Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a ____" (Numbers 21:8)
- 24 Printer's measure
- 26 Secondborn of Adam
- 30 Cambridge college (abbr.)
- 31 "At thy word I will let down the ____" (Luke 5:5)
- 33 One source of evil
- 35 "The Lord is thy ____ upon thy right hand" (Psalm 121:5)
- 38 Soloist
- 39 Peter or Paul (abbr.)
- 41 Book or teller
- 42 "The sceptre shall not depart from ____" (Genesis 49:10)
- 44 "As light of foot as a wild ____" (2 Samuel 2:18)
- 45 Oft-used abbr.
- 46 "Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ____" (Joel 3:13)
- 48 Stay ____
- 50 "Thou hast been a ____ for me, and a strong tower" (Psalm 61:3)

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10
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48	49				50		51				
52					53			54			
55					56					57	

- 52 ____ is condition
- 53 Unit of dry measure (abbr.)
- 54 Complete set of events
- 55 "Our word ... was not yea and ____" (2 Corinthians 1:18)
- 56 Sauce made with fresh basil
- 57 Duly noted at a yearly physical (abbr.)

- 21 "A city that is ____ on a hill" (Matthew 5:14)
- 25 "As an eagle stirreth up her ____" (Deuteronomy 32:11)
- 27 One who takes to the rails (colloq.)
- 28 "Bread ____ and to spare" (Luke 15:17)
- 29 What a bank may do
- 32 Paul's ____ in the flesh
- 34 "For there is a ____ sacrifice there for all the family" (1 Samuel 20:6)
- 36 City on the banks of the Arnon River (Joshua 13:16)
- 37 Changed hues
- 40 "Over ____" (wartime favorite)
- 41 "Get thee behind me, ____" (Luke 4:8)
- 42 Prince of Peace
- 43 Wed, in Dogpatch
- 47 Throw things at
- 49 "Land of the free" (abbr.)
- 51 System or sphere
- 53 "____ of good cheer; I have overcome the world" (John 16:33)

Down

- 1 Hone
- 2 Hat or heavy
- 3 "____ thine heart to understanding" (Proverbs 2:2)
- 4 Depended upon
- 5 Second letter of the Hebrew alphabet (var.)
- 6 "They that wait ____ the Lord shall renew their strength" (Isaiah 40:31)
- 7 Thou, to a non-Quaker
- 8 Dismantle
- 10 Masculine nickname
- 14 Gov't. agency
- 16 "Consider the ____ of the field" (Matthew 6:28)
- 18 "Endured the cross, despising the ____" (Hebrews 12:2)
- 20 ____ cat

Last week's solution

1	M	I	R	A	C	L	E		7	A	R	K		9	M
10	I	A	C	H	A	R		11	B	E		12	V	A	
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39	S	H	E	L	O	M	I		41	S	O		42	H	I
43	E	D	I	T		43	R	I		44	T	E	L		
47	A	M		47	V	E	X		50	S	I		51	P	H
52	S		52	R	E	S	I	D		54	E	N			

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Relationships, Internet are key to reaching unchurched

"Should we invite our friends to church? Sure. But should we be, do and tell the gospel to people in culture? You bet. It is not only biblical, but it is even more essential today as our culture grows increasingly resistant to the church."

Ed Stetzer, director of LifeWay Research

Continued from page 1

"This will compel us to embrace a go and tell—or incarnational—approach," he predicted. "Should we invite our friends to church? Sure. But should we be, do and tell the gospel to people in culture? You bet. It is not only biblical, but it is even more essential today as our culture grows increasingly resistant to the church."

Scott McConnell, associate director of LifeWay Research, said many churches use visitation effectively, "but all churches must learn to equip individuals to reach those who have never had contact with the church."

The situation is compounded by the fact that more than half the 1,402 respondents in a 2007 study of unchurched adults said they never wonder whether they would go to heaven if they died, McConnell noted.

"Our evangelistic efforts must acknowledge that we no longer live in a culture in which people are simply putting off coming to the church to find truth," he emphasized. "Many people today either don't believe truth exists or that the church is the place to find it."

Developing relationships with people who do not believe in Jesus Christ is what earns a church member the right to invite them to church, McConnell added.

While unchurched people are open to relationships, few church members are intentionally investing time developing relationships with non-Christians. A soon-to-be

published 2007 survey of more than 2,500 adult church members found only 25 percent agreed that they "spend time building friendships with non-Christians for the purpose of sharing Christ with them." A full 38 percent actually disagreed with the statement and 36 percent were noncommittal about it.

"Too often the way our churches measure success revolves around what happens at church," McConnell acknowledged, "when we ought to be focusing on what happens in building intentional relationships with those far from Christ. Some of the activities on our church calendars may actually be preventing effective evangelism by keeping believers away from the people they need to reach."

In addition to developing relationships with unchurched people, churches also ought to put significant effort into creating an effective Internet site, McConnell added.

"The 2008 study revealed that 25 percent of unchurched adults would use a church Web site or an Internet search tool to find a congregation to visit," he said. "For one out of four unchurched people, the first visit to your church may be on the Internet. Churches need a Web site that favorably represents who they are and, more importantly, who Jesus Christ is."

"Believers must resolve to step into their world to share the Good News with them," Stetzer emphasized. "If we are waiting for them to someday walk into our churches, that someday may never come."

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Meet the class of 2008, part 3

With little intention of staying, "Joel" finds home at Oneida Baptist Institute

I often write about the life-changing experiences some students have while attending Oneida. It would be easy to get the impression that nearly all of our students are dealing with personal issues. But many come for other reasons. When "Joel" (not his real name) came to us, we were told that he had "a tender heart," was "laid back" and wanted "to be in a Christian environment." We were also told that he was not "high energy," he loved computers, was studious and compliant, and was good about doing chores but was distracted at times.

Joel came to us in October of his sophomore year. His grades were average and he had a very high desire to be here. When we asked him what he most wanted to accomplish by coming to Oneida, he told us he wanted to work on the farm. That is a common interest of many of our students, even though I don't believe Joel was ever a part of our agriculture program. Here is part of his senior essay:

"I honestly didn't plan on staying at Oneida past my sophomore year ... but I ended up staying a lot longer. ... The first week I decided that I didn't like study hall so I (would) work hard to get on the honor roll. (Honor roll students are excused from study hall.) The hardest class I remember taking was U.S. History. ... In the middle of the first quarter of my junior year, I had a 32. Somehow I brought my grade up and I passed. But going through that ... class and getting an 'A' during the fourth quarter taught me that I could do anything. ... The smaller classes and quiet dorms when most students were at study hall helped me

concentrate on what I needed to get done.

"When I first came to Oneida I thought that daily chapel and Sunday worship were both pointless. But ... God has changed my mind about that. I started to take a deep interest in chapel and Sunday worship. These have all helped me grow as a man and as a Christian. I still have struggles breaking the ... bad habits of sin. Sometimes I feel that because I can't completely break those chains, I am worthless to God. But time and time again God has shown me that He loves me. ... I remember in Mr. Scull's Bible class, he said that forming those bad habits ... didn't occur overnight. ... You can't break them overnight; it is going to take time.

"The reason I chose to stay at Oneida is because I knew that Oneida was different from any other school. Oneida has helped me mature as a man. ... focus on the things that are important ... and put my priorities in order because I have learned to put God first. I have also learned to balance my time with schoolwork, my girlfriend and my friends, and to not segregate people by their color, attitude towards life or just by the way they act. Being at Oneida has helped me open myself to try and get to know different types of people. That is why I have such a diverse set of friends and why I wouldn't trade them for anything."

As Joel stated, he quickly went to work to become an honor-roll student. He is ranked eighth in his class and has earned an advanced diploma. Even though he had the ability, I am not sure Joel would have done as well academically or spiritually if he had not come to Oneida.

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

THIS IS ONEIDA



W.F. Underwood

Looking back on the past year

President reflects on his first year at Clear Creek

The phrase, "My how time flies," has taken on a new meaning for me these last 12 months. As I write this article, a full year has come and gone since my election as president of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College last April. Although this first year has been a blur for my wife, Penny, and me, it has truly been an exciting and wonderful time for us.

I want to thank you for all the encouragement I have received as I travel around sharing about the ministry of Clear Creek. Everywhere I go, people always tell me how much they enjoy reading the articles each week in this paper. We are so appreciative of the Western Recorder for providing this avenue of sharing about Clear Creek's ministry.

I also want to thank many of you for the opportunity you have provided me to come and speak to your church or group about Clear Creek. I always enjoy sharing about the mission God has given us to equip students specifically for ministry. That's all we do and we are honored to serve the Lord and Kentucky Baptists in preparing students to serve in the local church and on the mission field.

Thank you for your support of this ministry. I continually feel the strength of your prayers as you lift this ministry up before the Lord. I witness the result of your financial support each day. We praise the Lord for the many churches and individuals that support this ministry. We are so thankful for the Cooperative Program dollars given

by Kentucky Baptists to Christian education that support us as the Bible college of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

It has been a wonderful experience this past year to watch God take what people are willing to give, put that all together and see Him use it to enable us to do what we do. Friends, we could not do it without each of you and the support you provide.

Penny and I look forward to this next year and beyond. It is always exciting to watch God work and we know He has great things planned for Clear Creek. We are honored to be a part of His work in this place. I am always available to share about Clear Creek's ministry with your church or group.

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

CLEAR CREEK
CHRONICLE



Donnie Fox

Pres. Bush marks National Day of Prayer amid controversy

By Adelle Banks
Religion News Service

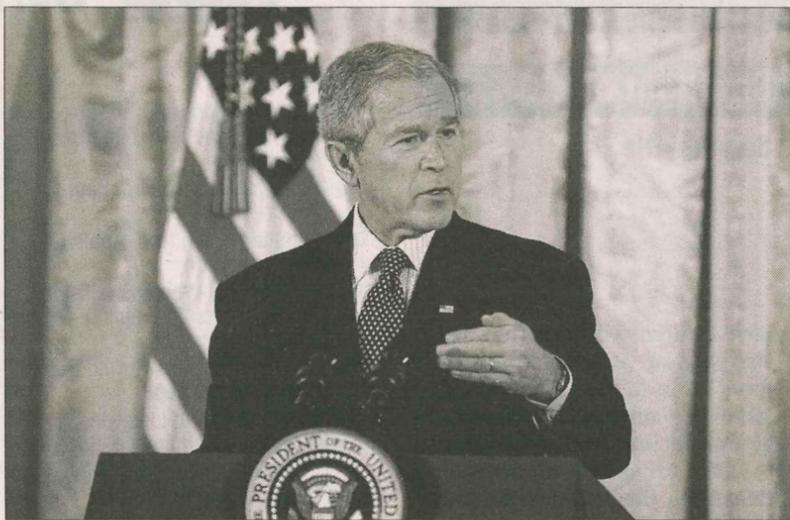
Washington (RNS)—President Bush marked the National Day of Prayer at the White House on May 1, noting Americans' equality across their diverse faiths even as critics charged that the widespread prayer observances have been "hijacked" by evangelicals.

"On this day, we celebrate our freedoms, particularly the freedom to pray in public and the great diversity of faith found in America," Bush said in remarks to about 230 religious, political and military leaders in the East Room.

"I love being the president of a country where people feel free to worship as they see fit. And I remind our fellow citizens, if you choose to worship or not worship, and no matter how you worship, we're all equally American."

The National Day of Prayer was signed into law in 1952 by President Harry Truman. In 1988, President Ronald Reagan amended the law to state that observances would be held the first Thursday in May. Official nationwide observances are coordinated by a task force led by Shirley Dobson, wife of Focus on the Family founder James Dobson.

But the group's work has been criticized recently by the online community Jews on First, which claims events have been "hijacked" by evangelical Christians. Critics say organizers must affirm a state-



NATION PRAYS TOGETHER President Bush marks the National Day of Prayer May 1 in the East Room of the White House. It was the eighth consecutive year that Bush has spoken at the White House in observance of the day. (RNS photo courtesy Joyce Boghosian/White House photo)

ment of faith that declares the Bible is "the inerrant Word of the Living God."

Some groups planned "alternate inclusive interfaith events," such as prayer gatherings and counter-demonstrations. The Council on American-Islamic Affairs and Americans United for Separation of Church and State joined in the campaign spearheaded by Jews on First.

A task force spokeswoman responded by saying its events "reflect its Christian perspective on prayer," but all Americans are free to observe the day in a way that demonstrates

their own religious viewpoints.

Shirley Dobson, in remarks at the White House, focused on the range of events organized by her group, including observances at more than 100 prisons; one at a memorial chapel in Shanksville, Pa., where United Flight 93 crashed during the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks; and pilots flying and praying over all 50 state capitols.

"This is the eighth year that our National Day of Prayer Task Force has had the honor of calling Americans to prayer from the White House," she said, thanking Bush for

holding ceremonies there. "By making prayer a priority in your life, you have set a powerful example."

Other participants in the White House ceremony included Catholic, Protestant and Jewish leaders who recited prayers or read from Scriptures. Conservative Christian leader Paul Weyrich, who co-founded the now-defunct Moral Majority with the late Jerry Falwell, welcomed Bush's remarks.

"I personally am pleased that we have a president that values prayer," he noted. "I fear the day when we have a president who doesn't. I think, whether you agree with his policies or not, clearly, he has relied upon guidance from above and I commend him for that."

National Day of Prayer Task Force officials estimated that several million people gathered at more than 35,000 events across the nation as part of the observance. This year's theme was "Prayer! America's Strength and Shield," based on Psalm 28:7, "The Lord is my strength and shield; my heart trusts in Him and I am helped."

The task force also reported that the governors of all 50 states issued proclamations regarding the day of prayer this year. Bush, in his proclamation April 22, asked Americans to thank God for the freedoms and blessings they have received and to ask for His continued guidance, comfort and protection.

With additional reporting by Baptist Press

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Wis. couple charged in daughter's death

Weston, Wis. (RNS)—A Wisconsin mother and father have been charged with second-degree reckless homicide after their 11-year-old daughter died of untreated diabetes. The couple prayed for her but did not take the young girl to a doctor.

Dale and Leilani Neumann of Weston, Wis., were charged April 28 in the March 23 death of their daughter, Madeline, according to a report by the Associated Press. The couple faces 25 years each in prison if convicted.

"It was very surprising, shocking that she wasn't allowed medical intervention," said Jill Falstad, district attorney of Marathon County, Wis. "Her death could have been prevented."

Although friends and family had urged the

couple to get medical assistance for their daughter, her mother did not consider it because she thought the child was under a "spiritual attack" and the father called the illness "a test of faith," according to the criminal complaint filed.

Madeline, who was called Kara by her parents, died on Easter Sunday in their rural Wisconsin home. Her parents were told her body would be taken the next day to Madison for an autopsy.

"They responded, 'You won't need to do that. She will be alive by then,'" the medical examiner wrote in a report.

The parents did not immediately respond to a request for comment from the Associated Press.

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HOW TO BECOME A CHRISTIAN

By Daniel Lucas

What does it mean to become a Christian? Today, some people believe they are Christians because they go to church or because they walked an aisle or even because they said a prayer. Well, I have been to church, walked aisles and said prayers before and never met Jesus.

Therefore, you may ask the question, "How do I become a Christian?" What is amazing is when we look at the teachings of Jesus, He never told us to go to church, walk an aisle or say a prayer in order to be saved. In fact, Jesus clearly taught that if you want to be "Christ like" then you must follow Him. I would maintain that a true Christian is one who:

- Has repented of their sins (Luke 13:3, Acts 3:19).

- Has put their faith in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ (Romans 10:9).

- Follows Jesus (Luke 9:23-24).

Our goal should be to help people fall in love with Jesus, obey Him and follow Him. Ultimately, if you are not following Jesus, it's because you have an obedience problem. If you have an obedience problem, then you have a love problem. Jesus said, "If you love me then you will obey" (John 15:14). If you love Jesus then you will obey Him and if you obey Him, you can't help but to follow Him.

Are you a Christ follower?

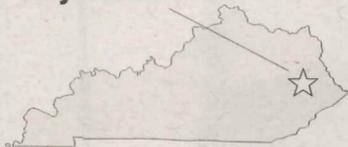
Daniel Lucas is pastor of Crosspoint Church in Morehead

MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

Spotlight on ...

Salyersville



First Church will join the Mississippi Nail Benders ministry June 1-6 in Muncie, Ind., to assist in the construction of a new church facility, and would like to invite other churches to participate in the project. The cost is \$50 per person. For more information, call Pastor Matthew Gullion at (606) 434-3418.

pastor of Piner Church in Morning View, as evangelist. **Brian Stephens** is pastor.

- **RICHMOND**—Peytontown Church recently called **Sean Daniels** as pastor.

- **RUSSELLVILLE**—Post Oak Church recently called **Nicholas Stamps** as pastor.

- **ASHLAND**—Rose Hill Church will host the Eastern Kentucky Bible Conference May 16-18, featuring Christian apologist and author **Norman Geisler**. For more information, call (606) 329-2821.

- **BEREA**—Middletown Church will hold revival services May 16-17, 7 p.m.; May 18, 11 a.m., with **Randy McPheron**, pastor of Crosspoint Church in Richmond as evangelist. **Bill Woods** is pastor.

- **ELKHORN CITY**—Marrowbone Missionary Church will hold revival services May 16-18, 7 p.m., with **Bud Culbertson** as evangelist. **Roger Johnson** is pastor.

- **EUBANK**—Bethel Church ordained **Allen Anderson** and **Jon Anderson** as deacons April 27. **Philip Fisher** is pastor.

- **LOUISVILLE**—Woodland Church recently called **John Abel** as pastor.

- **NANCY**—Oak Grove Church #1 recently called **Robert Collins** as pastor.

- **PETERSBURG**—Petersburg Church will hold tent revival services May 14-17, with **Richard Collins**, former

Casting Crowns, TobyMac are big winners at annual Dove awards

Nashville—Lead singer Mark Hall and his group Casting Crowns reaped a total of seven awards at the 39th annual Gospel Music Association Dove Awards ceremony April 23.

Among his four individual awards, Hall was honored for co-writing the Song of the Year, "East to West." Casting Crowns was honored three times, including as Group of the Year, nabbing the award for the fourth year in a row.

Hal and his Casting Crowns bandmates also won for best pop/

contemporary song, "East to West," and best pop/contemporary album, "The Altar and the Door." In addition to his Song of the Year award, Hall was honored individually again for "East to West," which was named best pop/contemporary recorded song. He also was honored for writing "By His Wounds," which took home the Inspirational Recorded Song of the Year award, as well as his work on the multi-artist album, "Glory Revealed," which won Special Event Album of the Year.

TobyMac was named Artist of the

Year, a title he also claimed in 1996 as a member of dcTalk. His latest solo album, "Portable Sounds," which debuted at No. 10 on Billboard's Top 200 Albums Chart, was voted rock/contemporary Album of the Year. He also received an award for the video of his single, "Boomin."

Chris Tomlin was named Male Vocalist of the Year, while Natalie Grant took home the Dove Award on the female side, marking the third straight win for each performer. Brandon Heath won New Artist of the Year, Cindy Morgan took home

best songwriter honors, and Ian Eskelin was honored as top producer.

"The parade of artists taking the Dove Awards' stage this year as award recipients and performers once again displays the depth and breadth of Christian and gospel music," said John Styll, president and CEO of the association and executive producer of the awards ceremony. "It was a joy to see so many different artists recognized for their creative contributions."

Based on reporting by Baptist Press and Religion News Service

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SEEKING: Full-time pastor for Sand Run Baptist Church, Hebron, Ky. Established in 1819, we are a rural congregation of 170 members with great potential in a rapidly growing community. We are located on 10 acres, and have a budget of \$130,000 with no debt. To reach this community for Christ, pastor needs skills in biblical teaching, evangelism and leadership; seminary degree is preferred. Deadline for resumés is June 30, 2008. Submit resumés, cover letters and references to Linda Mitchell, 1055 Thornwilde Drive, Hebron, KY 41048; mitchell2@insightbb.com.

SEEKING: Full-time senior pastor, First Baptist Church, Hopkinsville, Ky. Graduate of seminary required; minimum 10 years pastoral experience preferred. Provide both spiritual and administrative leadership for a growing congregation. For more information about our church and community, please visit us at www.fbchopkinsville.com. Send resumé to Pastor Search Committee, c/o Andrew Self, 712 Kensington Court, Hopkinsville, KY 42240; or e-mail to andrewcself@yahoo.com.

SEEKING: Full-time pastor for growing traditional and contemporary church—a diverse congregation of dedicated families reaching our community for Jesus. Submit resumé to: Search Committee, Evergreen Baptist, 2698 Evergreen Road, Frankfort, KY 40601. Office@evergreenbaptistchurch.us. Fax: (502) 223-8364.

SEEKING: Fern Creek Child Development Center is now accepting resumés from energetic, enthusiastic, committed Christians who are interested in teaching preschool beginning with the 2008-2009 school year. For more information, please contact Dorothy Black at (502) 239-8952; or dorothy@ferncreekbaptist.org. Resumés must be received by May 30.

SEEKING: Full-time minister of worship and outreach for a growing church in western Kentucky. We are currently constructing a new worship facility and have two morning services (one traditional and one contemporary) with a combined Sunday morning attendance of 400-plus. Experience preferred; salary negotiable. Send resumés to: Edgewood Baptist Church, 676 North Drive, Hopkinsville, KY 42240; or e-mail to edbc@bellsouth.net. For more information, please call (270) 886-4461.

SEEKING: Part-time student minister (grades 7-12) for a conservative congregation standing on God's Word, with a strong emphasis on youth. Located in Pulaski County, we seek a minister who is energetic and equipped to teach and reach youth for Christ. Send resumé to: Ferguson Baptist Church, PO Box 247, Ferguson, KY 42533.

SEEKING: Part-time minister of youth (15-20 hours/week). Responsible for planning and providing direction and personal leadership of the youth ministry. Seminary training preferred, but not required. Please send a cover letter and resumé by May 15 to: Youth Ministry Search Committee, Audubon Baptist Church, 1046 Hess Lane, Louisville, KY 40217; or e-mail to audubonbaptist@netzero.com.

SEEKING: Full-time minister of music and worship for Macedonia Baptist Church in Owensboro, Ky. We are a conservative congregation with blended worship and an average attendance of 300. Responsibilities will include worship preparation using Media Shout; adult choir; small praise band; coordinating special music, special programs and children's choirs; and staff responsibilities. Please send resumés by May 15 to revdean1@bellsouth.net.

SEEKING: Full-time minister of students/recreation for Red House Baptist Church in Richmond, Ky. Forward your resumé via e-mail to dawn@redhousebc.com.

SEEKING: Part-time (30 hours/week) ministry associate for college and young singles for Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington, Ky. Located near UK, but desiring to serve other campuses nearby, we are looking for individual to vision-cast, develop programs and lead in the general administration of college and young singles ministry (21-30). Objective is to follow Jesus' mandate to "Go and make disciples of all nations" Please respond to: Immanuel Baptist Church, 3100 Tates Creek Road, Lexington, KY 40502; ibc@ibclex.org; (859) 685-3200.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May

8 Iron Sharpening Iron, DuPont Lodge at Cumberland Falls State Resort Park, Corbin.

13 Assimilation Tour, First Baptist Church, Danville.

14 Iron Sharpening Iron, Applebee's Park, Lexington.

17 Associational Womens Mission Union Leadership Training, Baptist Building, Louisville.

19-21 Youth Ministers Spring Retreat, Georgetown College.

19 Women of Worth Lifestyle Evangelism Conference, Beacon Hill Baptist Church, Somerset.

20 Women of Worth Lifestyle Evangelism Conference, Northside Baptist Church, Princeton.

29 Iron Sharpening Iron, Champion Window Field, Florence.

June

1-4 Girls in Action Camp, Cedar Crest.

4-7 Girls in Action Camp, Cedar Crest.

7 Church Weekday Education Seminar, Crestwood Baptist Church, Crestwood.

7-14 Kentucky Changers, Monticello.

9-12 Girls in Action Camp, Cedar Crest.

12-14 Express Mission Adventure Camp for Girls & Boys, Cedar Crest.

15-17 Express Mission Adventure Camp for Girls & Boys, Cedar Crest.

18-20 Acteens Camp, Cedar Crest.

20-21 Acteens Splash, Girls in Action Overnight, Mother/Daughter Overnight, Jonathan Creek.

20-21 Mother/Daughter Overnight, Cedar Crest.

21-28 Kentucky Changers, Maysville.

22-29 All-State Youth Choir/Orchestra Tour, Murray.

23-26 Girls in Action Camp, Cedar Crest.

27-28 Mother/Daughter Overnight, Cedar Crest.

28 Baptist Nursing Fellowship Summer Luncheon, Baptist Building, Louisville.

30-7/3 Girls in Action Camp, Cedar Crest.

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



HELPING HAND Brandon Heath (second from right) backstage at his benefit concert for tornado victims in Macon County, Tenn. With him are (from left) Nathan and Christy Nockels, Bebo Norman, Michael W. Smith and Jason Ingram. (BP photo)

Singer Brandon Heath lives life outside of comfort zone

By Leann Callaway
Baptist Press

Houston (BP)—For singer/songwriter Brandon Heath, “Don’t Get Comfortable” is more than just the title of his latest CD—it is also his life motto. And as he continues to step out of his comfort zone, Heath is using unique opportunities to lead others to Jesus.

It all began a few years ago, when Heath and some fellow musicians left the comforts of their suburban neighborhood in Nashville and moved into a low-income area as a way to better minister to others living in the community.

“My roommates and I asked each other what our purpose was,” Heath recalled. “Did we want to coexist ... or should we really be intentional with each other? ... So the three of us as roommates decided to be brothers, to be like Jesus and the disciples and to really pour out our lives and our hearts. It has really made a big difference in our lives.

“There weren’t many people like us in the area—not the same race, not the same demographic, not the same age and it was very uncomfortable for me for the first couple of months that I lived there, but it’s changed me,” Heath continued. “I’ve learned to live with people who don’t have much. I’ve learned a lot from listening to their stories and finding out who I am in contrast to who they are.”

One memorable moment occurred during a Christmas Eve dinner. While Heath was eating with his family and friends, he spotted a woman looking for food around the front of his house. “I opened the door and asked if she was hungry.”

As Heath’s family and friends befriended the woman, they began to share the love of Christ with her. The experience inspired him to write the song, “Red Sky.”

“I took it from the sailor’s myth, a red sky at night signifies that the next day would be smooth sailing for a ship, but a red sky in the morning signaled a day of stormy seas,” he noted. “I thought it could also be a metaphor for the Christian faith. What

a cool way to say, ‘God, show me that tomorrow’s going to be a better day because this one is scary. If You’ll give me a red sky, at least I’ll know that tomorrow’s going to be a better day.’”

Last year, Heath continued stepping out of his comfort zone by taking a mission trip to Kenya and Uganda with Blood:Water Mission, a nonprofit organization started by the band Jars of Clay. The efforts of Blood:Water Mission include building clean water wells, supporting medical facilities and tangibly reducing the impact of the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

“It’s definitely taught me to completely rely on Christ,” Heath said. “I have to completely trust that Christ is with me in what I’m doing—living in a high crime area, going to Africa. ... I’m definitely not comfortable, but I like life better this way.”

Heath’s message and his music have been well received. He garnered New Artist of the Year honors at the 2008 Gospel Music Association Dove Awards in Nashville last month.

In March, Heath assembled Nashville’s Christian music community for a free concert benefiting nearby Macon County, Tenn., which was hit hard by a tornado in February. The event raised more than \$18,000 and committed 85 volunteers to join in clean-up and rebuilding efforts.

“I am blown away by the response of the community,” Heath said. “To see people wanting to reach out to their neighbors, not only responding financially, but wanting to give of themselves physically by signing up to go into the destruction and help rebuild was amazing.”

At Heath’s concerts, he shares the lessons he has learned in hopes of inspiring others to step out of their own comfort zone.

“What I am learning, what I am finding and what I am observing—those are the things I am putting into songs,” he noted. “And if I can lead people into the spirit of the Lord and maybe reveal some things in their life that God wants to be a part of as well, that’s the ultimate goal.”

Super Bowl punter Smith adds ‘Christian rocker’ to resumé

By Dena Ross
Beliefnet

Indianapolis (RNS)—Not too many rock bands include Super Bowl champions in their ranks. But Hunter Smith, punter for the Indianapolis Colts, is finding much success with his Christian rock/worship band, *Connersvine*.

Smith, whom Beliefnet recently named one of the “Top Evangelicals in Sports Today,” along with longtime friend Chris Wilson, co-wrote all of the music on their self-titled debut album.

Smith, 30, recently talked about songwriting as an act of worship and the importance of faith among the Colts.

In the liner notes of the new *Connersvine* album, you thank Mac Powell, lead singer for Third Day. Are there Christian bands that influence you that you are inspired by?

There are a lot of great bands out there right now. We think that Third Day is a great band. We enjoy the songwriting of MercyMe.

There have been a ton of influences that are both Christian and mainstream. I think U2 has been a huge influence on me just as a band, their songwriting. In Christian music there are a lot of people who we think are pretty special and like them as people and their music.

Do you ever feel the presence of God with you when you’re out on the football field or on stage playing a show?

For sure. I really do. I think one of the things that we’re prone to do as human beings is seek the presence of God more in the pressure situations—up on the stage or out on the field.

But what God has taught me is not to be anointed in those moments, but just to be anointed and just to be full of His presence and surrounded by Him and allowing Him to live out His life through me, whether that’s changing my son’s diaper or playing in front of 15,000 people on a stage in one of these venues or playing in front of the masses on the football field. Regardless of how grand or how mainline your activity may be, we want to be anointed and full of His presence.

Do you ever feel strengthened by prayer when you’re doing those things?

Absolutely. I can feel the prayers of my wife and the people around me that are praying for me. I can feel the grace that comes from that. There’s no question about it.

It is fairly well known that the Colts, and coach Tony Dungy in particular, hold onto their faith very strongly. Do you feel that faith is an important part of the Colts?

Yes, I do. What I was talking about earlier, just being anointed and not just in the extreme moments, but just in the everyday, ho-hum details of life—I think Coach Dungy absolutely exemplifies that, models it, does a great job with it.

He’s changed the culture at the Colts. It’s not that we’re some religious organization that prays all the time and has Bible studies all the time. It’s just that the way people live their lives—not all together—but



DOUBLE DUTY Hunter Smith (left) is a punter with the Indianapolis Colts and one-half of the Christian rock/worship band *Connersvine* with friend, Chris Wilson. (RNS photo courtesy Ino Records)

certainly to a large degree, does honor and love God.

In what ways is playing football similar to your new music career?

I consider both of them ministries. It’s strange how it all works. Everyone thinks that the platform of a football player is such a huge thing and such a strategic thing in the Kingdom of God. And while I don’t downplay that God can use me, I don’t necessarily think my platform is any larger than anybody else’s platform. God can use people in very normal professions to glorify Himself and I see my job on the Colts being to influence the many men who come in the organization and leave the organization who play for the Colts.

They’re two very similar things. They’re both ministries, but they’re both very different. Music is a ministry where you’re put up on a platform and you can minister through a microphone to the people who are out there—talk, share, sing your songs.

Do you find the act of songwriting itself is actually a form of worship?

No question about it. I find that every part of life is worship and for sure, songwriting. The longer I write songs when I really get into a groove with a song, I just sense the presence of God around me.

It’s something not many people probably experience because of songwriting, but in other aspects of their lives, I’m sure they do. Being near to God and hearing His voice and sensing His inspiration giving you lyrics and ideas, that’s awesome. There’s nothing like that.

Will there ever be a time when you will need to choose between a football career and your music career, or do you think you can balance them both?

I think we’re doing a good job of balancing them right now. Obviously, I can’t go full bore for music right now in terms of playing year-round, but I am still able to be fully into football because music does not take away from that.

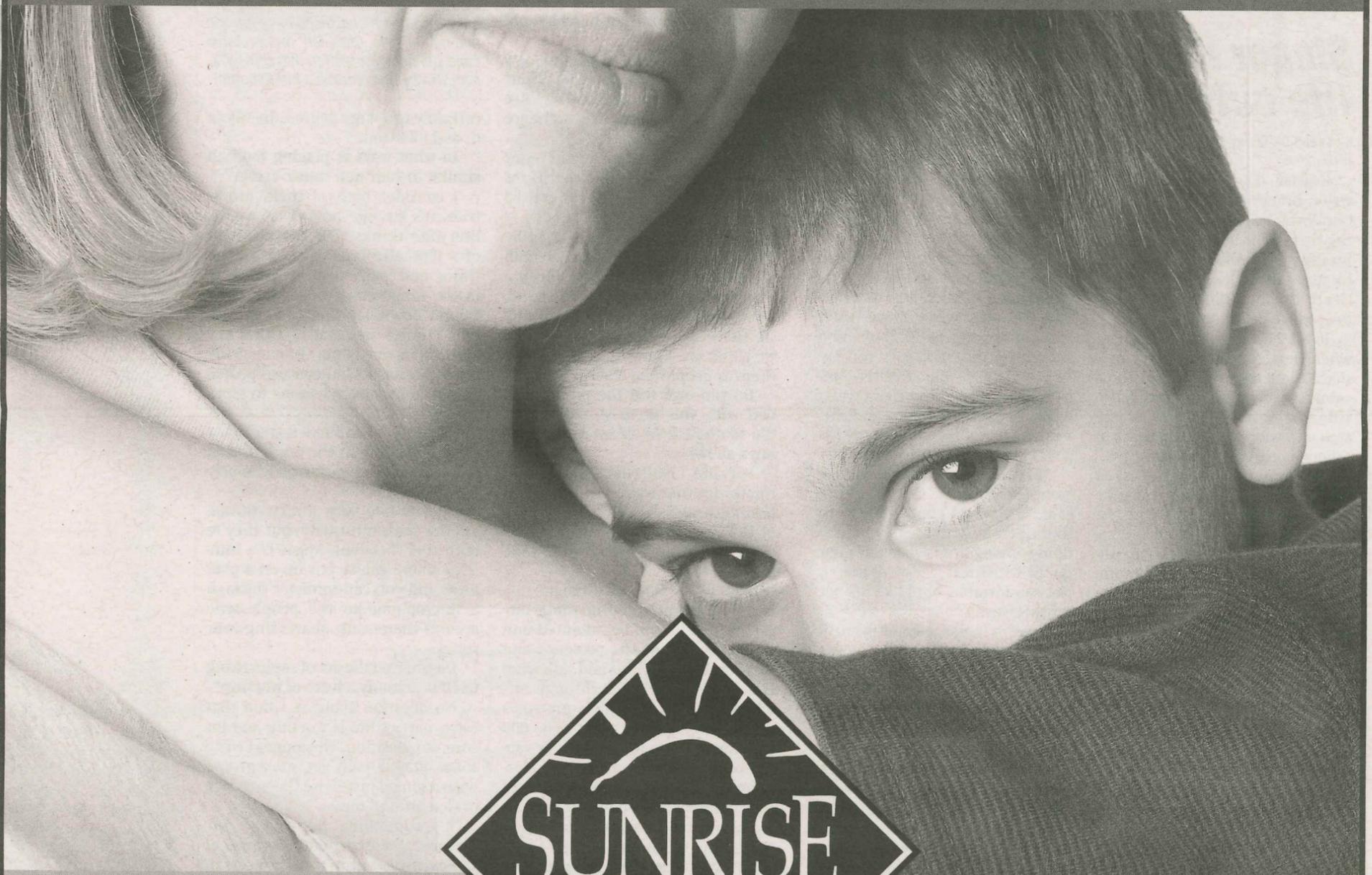
The thing about football is that at some point, (it) ends for everybody who plays. It won’t be a matter of if—it’s just a matter of when. Who knows when that’ll happen? There’s only one thing that’s for sure about every NFL football career—that it will end.

10
Minutes
With ...
Hunter
Smith

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