

Shine like stars in the world  
Philippians 2:15

# WESTERN Recorder

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## FOR THE RECORD

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Dated material. Please deliver by Wednesday, July 22

## Unbridled ministry

Louisville church planter serves workers at Churchill Downs' less-glamorous backside

By David Lema Jr.

Louisville—The Run for the Roses is well known at Churchill Downs. But for assistant chaplain Yurian Santiesteban, the roses of the Kentucky Derby come second to seeing faith blossom at the famed racetrack's fruit of ministry.

Santiesteban, a 29-year-old native of Cuba, is a church planting missionary and part-time pastor of Iglesia Bautista Senda de Luz in Louisville.

Serving as a chaplain at the racetrack is yet another of his passions.

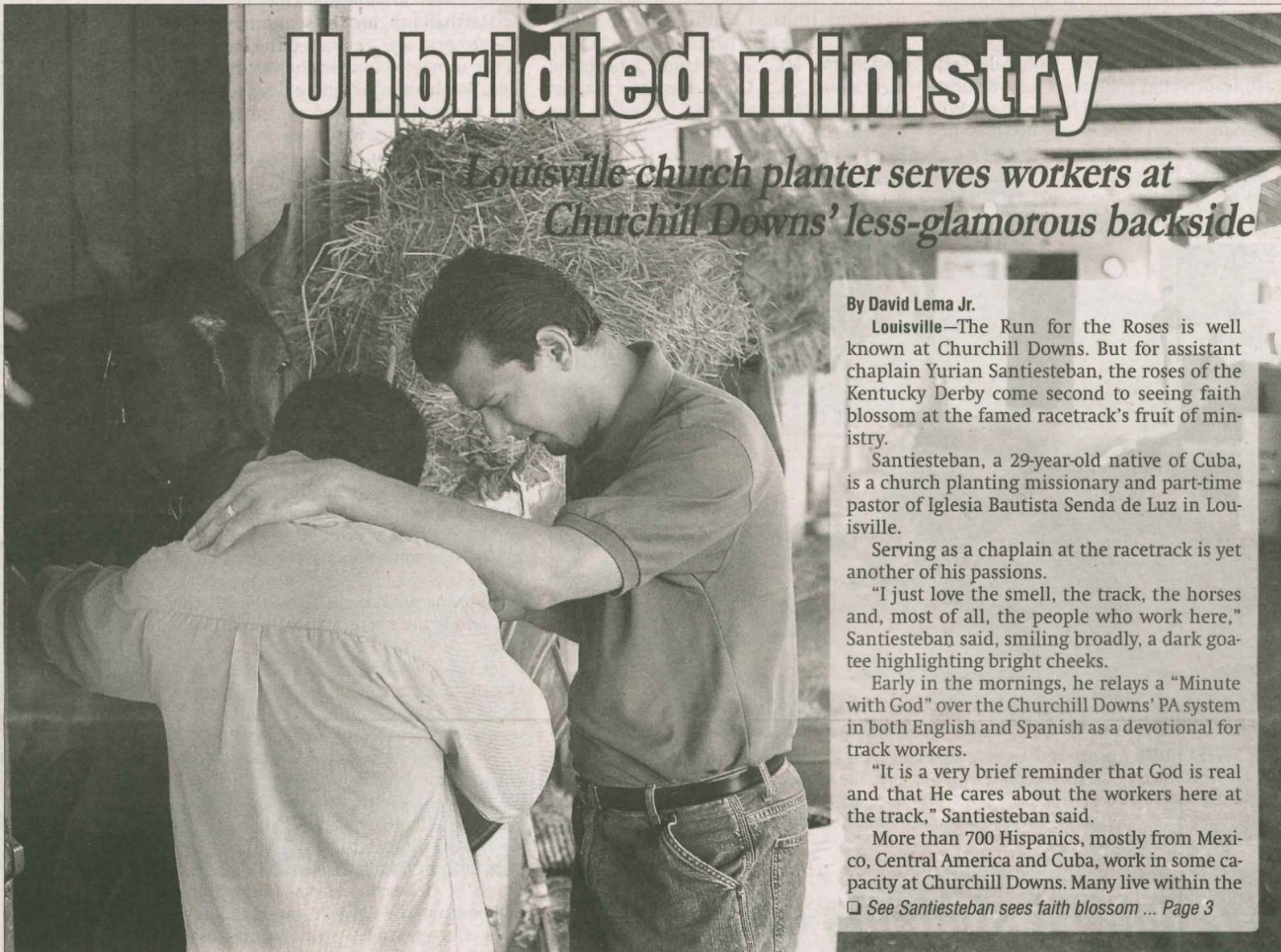
"I just love the smell, the track, the horses and, most of all, the people who work here," Santiesteban said, smiling broadly, a dark goatee highlighting bright cheeks.

Early in the mornings, he relays a "Minute with God" over the Churchill Downs' PA system in both English and Spanish as a devotional for track workers.

"It is a very brief reminder that God is real and that He cares about the workers here at the track," Santiesteban said.

More than 700 Hispanics, mostly from Mexico, Central America and Cuba, work in some capacity at Churchill Downs. Many live within the

See Santiesteban sees faith blossom ... *Page 3*



## Poll: U.S. adults more conservative?

Washington—A new survey suggests the United States may be growing more conservative.

A recent Gallup survey found that 39 percent of American adults say their "views on political issues" have grown more conservative in recent years, compared to 18 percent who say their views have grown more liberal and 42 percent who say their views have not changed.

The survey echoes Gallup data released in June showing that conservatives outnumber liberals by a nearly 2-to-1 margin—40 percent to 21 percent—when Americans are asked to label their political views. Thirty-five percent call themselves moderates.

But it may be too early to call the U.S. a solidly conservative nation. On some issues, including abortion and gun control, Americans have grown more conservative since 2004, while on others—such as immigration—Americans seem to have become more liberal, the Gallup data shows.

In an analysis, Gallup's Lydia Saad said the latest survey results "are conspicuously incongruous" with the 2008 election results.

"Which way do Americans want to be led?" Saad asked. "While the new Gallup Poll finds the public reporting a heightened sense of conservatism in its political outlook, Americans' specific policy positions have not changed much since 2004." (BP)

## NEXT Coaching Networks to help pastors overcome discouragement and isolation

By Scott McConnell  
LifeWay Christian Resources

Nashville—Pastors today feel the weight of responsibility in leading their churches. Amidst the typical leadership pressures of casting vision, setting priorities and managing interpersonal relationships, pastors also must discern God's message for their teaching and provide support for the hurting.

An online survey conducted by LifeWay Research in March 2008 revealed that 67 percent of Southern Baptist pastors agree that it is easy to get discouraged in their personal ministry.

Agreement that their own ministry can be discouraging is true regardless of the size of the church and among most age groups of pastors. Pastors age 60 and older are less likely to be easily discouraged, yet 48 percent of them still agree that discouragement easily enters their ministry.

The weight of leadership can, at times, feel heavier than a pastor can bear.

"Discouragement and loneliness are common among pastors today, but this is not a new phenomenon," said Ed Stetzer, director of LifeWay Research. "The apostle Paul's letters to pastors and church planters in the New Testament are filled with encouragement and exhortation to stand firm and endure.

"In response to this research," Stetzer contin-

ued, "LifeWay sought to find a way to encourage pastors and help them avoid the perception that they are isolated. To deliver this encouragement in the most effective way for pastors, we looked at the methods being used today, and the answer was clearly coaching networks."

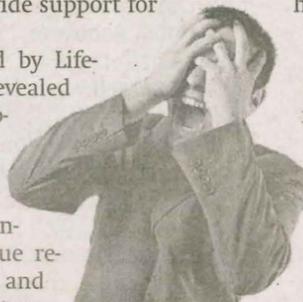
LifeWay, in partnership with NEXT Networks, has launched a coaching network system for lead pastors around the country. Networks consist of 10-12 lead pastors who meet once a month for six months and are led by an experienced pastor-practitioner. Each session is driven by a learning agenda but flexible enough to deal with immediate pressure points all lead pastors experience.

NEXT Networks director and founder Ron Sylvia is lead pastor of Church at The Springs in Ocala, Fla. Several years ago, he attended a meeting with a high-level business owner in his church.

"I observed as 12 Christian men prayed, learned and shared life's burdens with each other," Sylvia recalled. "They counseled and challenged each other in business from a biblical perspective.

"As I sat, a silent visitor, one thought echoed in the halls of my heart: We need this for pastors. We need a network—a safe place—to share and learn. We need coaches who have been where we are in ministry. We need a coaching network."

See NEXT Coaching Networks to help ... *Page 8*



## Mountain Outreach dedicates new homes

Williamsburg—School may be out for the summer, but the University of the Cumberlands campus has been buzzing with activity this summer.

A number of church groups from Kentucky and across the Southeast have been spending weeks at the Williamsburg campus working with Cumberlands' Mountain Outreach program.

In the last few weeks, Mountain Outreach leaders and volunteers have dedicated two newly constructed homes in the Williamsburg area. A third is expected to be finished by the end of July.

All three homes are located in Taylor Meadows on Little Cane Creek, a neighborhood that formed last year, and features

Mountain Outreach-constructed homes.

The first home completed, belonging to the Miracle family, was dedicated June 24. A dedication ceremony for the second home was held July 2.

Hundreds of volunteers from several churches helped build the Miracle home, including Hillcrest Baptist Church in Lexington; College Park Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, N.C.; First Baptist Church of Clemmons, N.C.; Green Meadows Baptist Church in Mocksville, N.C.; Pinelake Baptist Church in Brandon, Miss.; and Trinity-Northbrook Baptist Church in Cincinnati.

Last month, the group from Hillcrest Baptist worked with Mountain Outreach for its fourth consecutive year. During the

week, 25 volunteers installed insulation and hung dry wall in one of the Taylor Meadows homes.

"I've not had a lot in my life and I want to help others who do not have much," said Kim Carpino, 18, a member of the Hillcrest crew. "I want to show God's love to others."

Marshall Langley, the senior member of the group at age 79, praised the hard work of the teenage volunteers he worked alongside. "We have to give more time and attention to our children, and we must give our children credit for what they do."

Last month, Pinelake Baptist from Brandon, Miss., brought one of the largest groups to Williamsburg. More than 230 people from the church spent a week at the campus doing work through Mountain Outreach and hosting a camp for its middle school students.

While there, the Pinelake volunteers helped with painting and organizing at Emergency Christian Ministries, a local homeless shelter; did some painting at one of the Taylor Meadows homes; and organized clothes and food at the Mountain Outreach warehouse.

Some Pinelake teams also were called to work at a home near the Cumberlands campus, where an 87-year-old WWII veteran, who lost his wife of 70 years in February, needed some windows repaired on his home. The students scraped paint off the wood-frame windows, glazed the missing areas and gave them a fresh coat of white paint.

At the dedication of the Miracle home, Mountain Outreach Director Marc Hensley thanked volunteers for their hard work in serving the less fortunate of Appalachia.

"What you carry across to this area does not go unnoticed," he said. "When people ask what you are doing here, you say, 'Building a home for Christ.' Don't forget to always make it about Christ."

Mountain Outreach is a service organization of University of the Cumberlands that began in the 1980s. It started as a grass-roots effort by students who wanted to improve housing for area families.

While volunteer groups help out each summer, students in the program work all year round, making home repairs, building wheelchair ramps and performing many other jobs for individuals and families who, for physical or financial reasons, might not be able to do the work themselves.

Mountain Outreach describes its mission as providing a hand up, not a hand-out. The families who receive homes through the program help with the construction and pay for their homes through interest-free mortgage payments.

Compiled from reports by Daphne Baird, Jennifer Bengel and Robert Floyd of University of the Cumberlands



**HOME SWEET HOME** A group of volunteers work during the early stages of the Miracle family home at Taylor Meadows on Little Cane Creek in Williamsburg. The home was completed in just one week and was dedicated June 24. The project was one of three homes constructed by volunteers through Mountain Outreach, a service organization based at University of the Cumberlands. (Photos courtesy of University of the Cumberlands)

## Ky. Baptist students named as leadership scholars at U of C

Williamsburg—University of the Cumberlands recently announced that more than two dozen Kentucky Baptist students have received Christian Leadership scholarships from the school for the 2009-10 academic year.

This year's recipients are:

**Hannah Adkisson**, Brodhead Baptist Church.

**Kelly Allen**, East Barbourville Baptist Church in Barbourville.

**Brandi Bingham**, Kelly Street Baptist Church in Harlan.

**Lauren Branstutter**, Piner Baptist Church in Morning View.

**Phillip Brewer**, Robinson Creek Baptist Church in London.

**Garth Bustle**, New Salem Baptist Church in London.

**Samantha Clark**, Monterey Baptist Church in Owenton.

**Kris Craig**, Frankfort Baptist Church in Corbin.

**Kelsey Day**, Dione Baptist Church in Cumberland.

**Chris Degler**, Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington.

**Amy Dunn**, Vicco Missionary Baptist Church.

**Brooke Estep**, Dione Baptist Church in Cumberland.

**Rebecca Hawkins**, First Baptist Church of East Bernstadt.

**Lindsey Helton**, Corinth Baptist Church in London.

**Cody Kirby**, Lick Fork Missionary Baptist Church in London.

**Kerri McCarthy**, Harlan Baptist Church.

**Shelby Miles**, Cane Run Missionary Baptist Church in Lexington.

**Stephen Mize**, St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville.

**Kevin Morgan**, Hawk Creek Baptist Church in London.

**Ashley Partin**, Mountain Ash Baptist Church in Williamsburg.

**Hannah Robinson**, Central Baptist Church in Corbin.

**Alex Russell**, Central Baptist Church in Paris.

**Brandon Smith**, Mountain Ash Baptist Church in Williamsburg.

**Gabby Spencer**, First Baptist Church of Hazard.

**Elizabeth Thomas**, First Baptist Church of East Bernstadt.

**Rachel Thomas**, Poplar Grove Baptist Church in Corbin.

**Mark Watts**, Porter Memorial Baptist Church in Lexington.

**Madison Wesley**, First Baptist Church of Somerset.

**Jonathan Wyatt**, Main Street Baptist Church in Williamsburg.

To be eligible for the scholarship, an incoming student must demonstrate exceptional Christian service and leadership, and be an active member of their church.

## KBC relief teams serve in Ashland

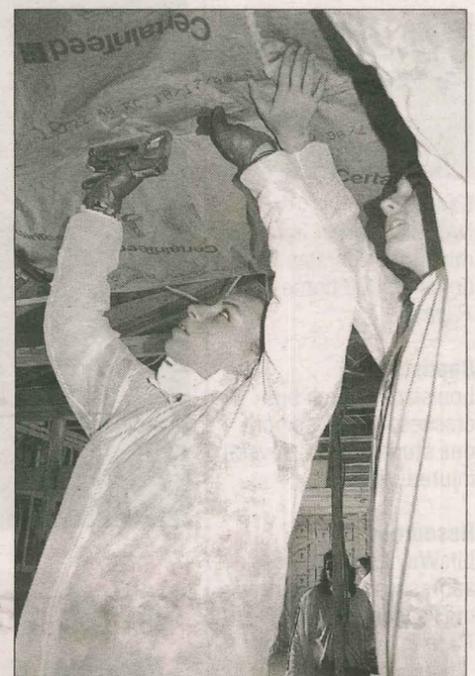
Ashland—Kentucky Baptist disaster relief volunteers worked last week to help residents in the Ashland area recover from flooding during the previous weekend.

KBC Disaster Relief Associate Coy Webb said the 12 local volunteers from Ashland, California and Greenup helped with mud-out and clean-up work there. The group was stationed at the Greenup Baptist Association office in Ashland.

The effort wrapped up July 19, Webb said.

Kentucky Baptists are part of a larger network of Southern Baptist volunteers trained to respond to disasters by manning mass feeding operations, using chainsaws to clear downed trees and limbs, clearing mud out of flooded homes and more. Together, Southern Baptists comprise the third largest relief organization in the United States.

To learn more about Kentucky Baptist disaster relief, visit [www.KyBaptist.org/DR](http://www.KyBaptist.org/DR).



**SERVING** ■ Above: Kim Carpino and Lucas Morgan from Hillcrest Baptist Church in Lexington install insulation in the ceiling of a Mountain Outreach home in Williamsburg. ■ Below: Before beginning their day of work, members of the green team from Pinelake Baptist Church in Brandon, Miss., circled up for a prayer. In addition to working with Mountain Outreach, the Pinelake group of 230 held a week of camp at the Cumberlands campus.



## Campbellsville students experience missions, touch lives

**Campbellsville**—Dozens of Campbellsville students experiencing missions at a number of different locations.

This summer, students will be doing a wide range of missions work, such as helping out at vacation Bible schools; as counselors at youth and sports camps; working in orphanages; as church staff interns, along with many other types of servant leadership, noted Ed Pavy, director of campus ministries at Campbellsville.

Students are serving in a broad range of locations including several Kentucky cities, California, North Carolina, Wisconsin, South Dakota, as well as overseas in Africa, Japan, Eastern Europe, South Korea, Indonesia and Central America.

The summer missionaries join the ranks of Campbellsville student missionaries who served during the school's spring break earlier this year on a variety of mis-

sion endeavors.

A total of eight teams and 60 students and staff members traveled to New Orleans, Houston, Washington, Dearborn, Mich., Panama City Beach, Fla.; Mexico and Costa Rica. Money raised at the annual Baptist Campus Ministry dinner theater helped the teams' travel expenses.

### New Orleans

The New Orleans group helped to rebuild homes in the city that were destroyed by Hurricane Katrina in 2005. They worked through Samaritan's Purse, an organization that provides international relief during crises.

"I couldn't be more proud of our group of eight," said Robert Bender, the group's leader. "Everyone pulled his or her own weight and together the team accomplished so much. I really feel we made a lasting impression on the city of New Or-

leans. I can't wait for the opportunity to go back."

### Houston

Meanwhile, student André Tomaz was part of the group that traveled to Houston to help the less fortunate in that city.

"Going to Houston really changed my perspective on the lifestyles of various minority groups," he noted. "After working with them, I developed a love for the people and a driven passion to help them understand the love God has for everyone. It was truly a heart-opening experience."

### Florida

Several CU students hit the beach during spring break—with only missions in mind. A team spent the week at Panama City Beach, Fla., to participate in Beach Reach, a North American Mission Board-sponsored program where college students share Christ through servant evangelism to spring breakers.

Team leader Michael McDanel said he was grateful for the opportunity to minister to the lost in Panama City.

"There were one or two nights where we prayed constantly for the people that we were reaching and it was awesome to see how God answered our prayers and used us as a vessel," he recalled.

Also in Florida, several CU athletes participated with the Sports Reach program, which takes the gospel behind prison walls using the sport of softball.

"We played in six prisons over a six-day period," said Jim Hardy, an assistant CU football coach who led the team. "The greatest wins, though, were in the lives of the inmates. Eighty-five men accepted Christ as their personal Savior and countless others re-dedicated their life to Christ. It was a truly powerful week."

### Mexico & Costa Rica

Student Tori Baker spent her second straight spring break in Mexico as part of a team that taught English, built a playground, assisted at a local health clinic and other various ministries.

"Stepping away from the comforts of America and viewing poverty in other parts of the world is so important because it reminds us Christians that not everyone is as fortunate as us," Baker said.

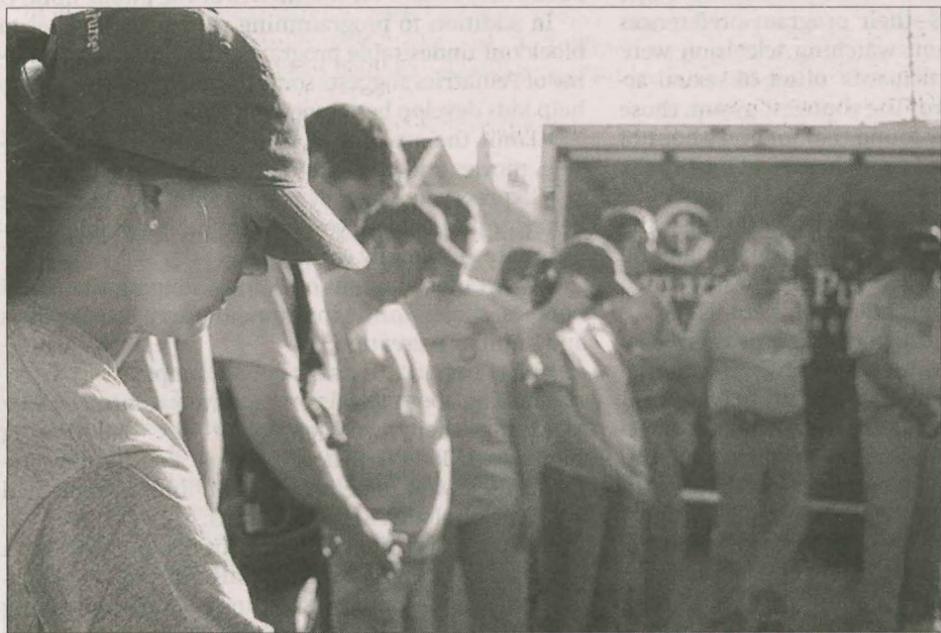
"The trip reminded me that it is our responsibility to bring aid to the poor while illustrating God's love. The faces of the people I met in Mexico will never leave me and I will always be in a constant state of prayer for their salvation."

Meanwhile, Pavy led a team to Costa Rica to work with missionaries Bill and Linda Egbert and Brent Hippler. The Egberts are the only International Mission Board missionaries working with the Ngabe people group in that country. Hippler is serving a two-year term as a Journeyman working alongside the Egberts.

"The Costa Rica team had a great experience," Pavy said. "We were able to share our testimonies on numerous occasions in multiple houses. We were also involved with showing Christian movies to the Ngabe in their own language."

"A part of our goal is to come alongside those folks we work with on trips like this and support their ministry," he added.

"The missionaries were very pleased with the effort. So it's good to hear them saying we accomplished just what they were hoping. This trip was another link in what continues to be a growing partnership between the Egberts, CU campus ministries and Campbellsville Baptist Church."



**IN PRAYER** Jenna Bender (left) prays with the Campbellsville University spring break mission team and members of Samaritan's Purse before helping tear down homes in New Orleans destroyed by Hurricane Katrina in 2005. (Campbellsville photos by Rachel Crenshaw)



**MISSIONS EFFORT** Student Kyle Hester help rip apart studs from a home destroyed by Hurricane Katrina.

## Santiesteban sees faith blossom at Churchill's less-glamorous side

Continued from page 1

stable area, or "backside," of the track, with others in, near apartment buildings.

The on-site Chapel at Churchill Downs provides a place for Santiesteban to hold services in Spanish on Monday evenings. Local churches and ministries provide supper, while worship and praise music is provided by local musicians and church groups.

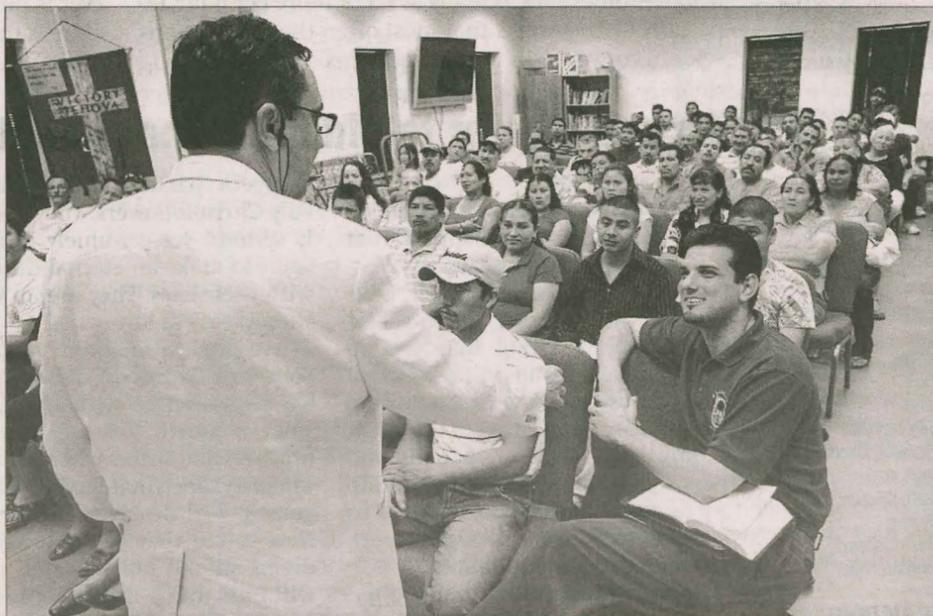
Kentucky Derby-winning jockey Pat Day supports the ministry and is a frequent guest speaker at Christ Chapel. He told Baptist Press he became a believer after experiencing the emptiness of worldly success and coming completely to Christ.

"God changed the mirrors of my life into windows," Day recalled. "God is doing a wonderful work in this place."

On Thursday nights at the chapel, Santiesteban shares a practical Bible study followed by a family-friendly movie in Spanish, with plenty of time also provided for fellowship and one-on-one ministry.

The chaplaincy program provides for the workers' material needs through an on-site clothes closet ministry which also supplies basic care needs. Additionally, the outreach offers counseling; workshops on legal issues; counseling; and family and children's activities.

Renier Rosales, 23, one of the workers who walks and trains horses at the track, recently left Cuba where his family still



**IN THE CHAPEL** Churchill Downs chaplain Yurian Cabrera (front right) laughs at a joke told by Eloy Rodriguez, a pastor from Orlando, Fla., during a worship service at the racetrack. The chaplaincy ministry hosts a joint English-Spanish worship service every Monday evening before breaking into two fellowships. (BP photo by Bob Carey)

lives. Rosales counts on Santiesteban and the church family at Iglesia Bautista Senda de Luz to help fill the void.

"I like the church meetings here since I can do my work and minister to my co-workers at the same time," Rosales said. "I

ways there to help me."

But Santiesteban's ministry is not limited to the walls of Christ Chapel. He visits the workers on a daily basis and knows them by name. He keeps up with the

names of the horses they train and follows some of their records.

"One of the men we shared Christ with used to be a big-time drug dealer and user in Guatemala who came here running from the law," Santiesteban said. "Today that man is currently coming to all of our services and activities here at the track."

On weekends, workers are encouraged to worship at one of several local Hispanic Baptist churches. Since most of the workers do not drive, Santiesteban led his church to start a new work across the street from one of the back entrances of Churchill Downs.

Pastor Ernesto Font, one of the ministers at Iglesia Bautista Senda de Luz, started Iglesia Bautista Victoria last February with 15 people. As a result of last month's Crossover evangelistic efforts prior to the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in Louisville, nine new converts have asked for baptism into this growing fellowship of believers.

"It is very easy for the workers at the track to cross the street and visit our church," Font noted.

Santiesteban said he is optimistic about the future of the Good News in a place where the thoroughbreds run.

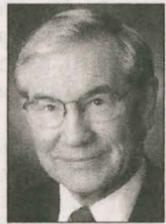
"I want to continue what was started," Santiesteban said. "Our church is fasting and praying for God to start a revival in our city." (BP)

## Fairview supports missions

Fairview Baptist Church in Ashland is an exciting Kentucky Baptist Convention church that is involved in supporting church plants and missions in an outstanding way.

Michael Rice has been pastor for 15 years, and during those years the church has experienced significant growth in membership, baptisms, worship and Sunday school attendance and giving. During 2004 and 2005 baptisms exceeded 100 each year and have averaged 47 since then. Worship attendance has grown to an average of 347 and resident church membership to 1,006. Discipleship training has reached 252, and WMU has an enrollment of 55.

### Partners in the Mission



By Bill Mackey

Under Rice's leadership, receipts have increased 142 percent to a total of \$502,734 in 2008. Since 1994, Fairview has given \$441,000 to missions through the Cooperative Program. In 2007-2008 the church gave \$58,500 to support missions through the Cooperative Program (11 percent of undesignated gifts).

Fairview has also been very intentional and unselfish in sponsoring new churches. The congregation has helped to sponsor Living Water Church in Mt. Sterling; Lifesong Church in Ashland; and Crosspoint Church in Morehead.

Fairview has also been a friend to Hillside Church in Ashland, giving up its music minister and 30 members to assist that church. When I asked Mike if the loss of members was a problem, he replied that God had given Fairview a wonderful new music director and was meeting all the church's needs.

He also shared joyfully that Lifesong Church has now exceeded 300 in attendance and that he had predicted they would exceed Fairview in attendance.

Fairview recently had the pastors of these four church plants to speak on four consecutive Sunday nights. The congregation then took a special offering for these pastors to use as needed. Mike said he knows that church planting is hard work and that he wanted to encourage the pastors.

Most recently, Fairview has encouraged the Crossroad church plant in Olive Hill. Rice serves on the High Impact Church Plant Advisory Committee which considers and recommends High Impact church plants to the KBC.

In addition to Kentucky church plants, Fairview also sponsors Fairview Baptist Church in Uganda, which has an attendance of 800. The Fairview vacation Bible school offering of \$700 went to help the Uganda church with a new building. Fairview has also done mission work in Kenya and Sudan.

Fairview youth have conducted mission trips the last four years instead of going to camp. Thirty youth conducted mission work in Philadelphia this summer.

I praise God for a pastor and congregation who have demonstrated such an unselfish missionary spirit locally, across Kentucky and North America and around the world. I am inspired and encouraged by the example of missions by this congregation.

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention

## Oh, be careful, little eyes, what you see ...

We sang the words in preschool Sunday school and missions friends: "Oh, be careful little eyes what you see." Now, a recent study linking teen sex with television viewing suggests the wisdom of this adage.

A longitudinal study conducted by researchers at Children's Hospital Boston, which tracked children from ages 6 to 18, found that the sooner children began to view sexual content on television and in movies, the earlier they became sexually active.

"Children learn from media, and when they watch media with sexual references and innuendos, our research suggests they are more likely to engage in sexual activity earlier in life," warned David Bickham, staff scientist in the Center of Media and Child Health, in a Baptist Press news release.

Researchers observed the viewing preferences of 754 children and the time they spent watching television programs and movies on a weekday and on a weekend day. Five years later—when the children's ages were between 12 and 18—their program preferences and amount of time spent watching television were again recorded. The participants' onset of sexual activity was then tracked. For the youngest group, those who were ages 6 to 8, they found that for every hour of exposure to adult content, their chances of having sex during early adolescence increased by 33 percent.

While not necessarily a surprising finding, the study is certainly a renewed cause for alarm among Christians, and a reminder to all parents to stay tuned to what the little eyes in our households are seeing.

"It's a proven fact that the unchecked, prurient content on television and in movie theaters is a primary factor in the coarsening of the culture," asserted Dwayne Hastings of the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission. "We should not be surprised then to discover that what we watch on television shapes attitudes toward sexuality while perverting God's design."

A recent federal study by RAND Health similarly concluded that teens who watch a lot of television programs with sexual content are more likely to initiate sexual relations in the next year. Even shows in which characters only talked about sex affected the teens just as much, the researchers found. Yet shows that portrayed the risks of sex were helpful in educating teens.

Teenager reportedly watch three hours of television daily, subjecting them to heavy doses of sexual content, ranging from kissing, off-color jokes and suggestive conversations to outright portrayals of sexual behavior—sometimes as many as six or more per hour. Especially distressing is that most often these depictions seldom convey risks or consequences.



### After Thought

By Todd Deaton

In a November 2008 article, USA Today reported on a study in the "Pediatrics" journal, which singled out 23 popular shows. It, too, found a direct link between the amount of sex seen on the screen and whether they will become a teen mother or father. These researchers found: "By age 16, teens who watched a lot of sexually charged TV were more than twice as likely to be pregnant or father an out-of-wed-lock baby as teens who watched very little: 12% to 5%. The gap holds steady through age 20."

Is there any wonder that a majority of parents say they have become "very concerned" about what their kids are watching? Yet, this is just one area of where countercultural Christian values are colliding with those portrayed by popular media. Parents also have to be concerned about the amount of violence and bad language children are exposed to in movies at theatres, video games they play, music they hear, and, even, books they choose off the shelves at the public library.

In addition to programming your television set to block out undesirable programs, the American Academy of Pediatrics suggests some of the following ways to help kids develop better viewing habits:

- Limit the amount of time children watch television, movies and videos and play computer games.
- Express your views by talking with your kids about behavior and choices you feel are unacceptable, inappropriate, or morally wrong.
- Give entertainment options by helping them find hobbies, sports, music instruments, arts, board games and outdoor recreation.
- Most importantly, set a good example.

"Talking about television can give parents a chance to express their own views about sex, and viewing shows with kids will help parents identify any programs they want to designate as off-limits," explained RAND psychologist Rebecca Collins.

Indeed, as Hastings noted, "Parents, not television actors and actresses, should be introducing—in age appropriate steps—an understanding of human sexuality as God intended." By the same token, youth ministers and pastors also should be equipping parents to handle effectively such discussions with their teenagers.

All the while, it is imperative for Christian parents, who wish to shield their children from perilous role models presented on television programs and in movies, follow the advice of the Apostle Paul: "Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable—if there is any moral excellence and if there is any praise—dwell on these things" (Philippians 4:8).

## An open letter to older Southern Baptist leaders

By Charles Lawless Jr.

One year ago, I wrote an open letter to young Southern Baptists. That letter ended with these words:

"Young Southern Baptist, I believe in you. I want you involved in SBC life, trusting that you affirm our clear stand on the Word of God, choose to live a God-honoring life, and are committed to the Great Commission. Be both patient and persistent with us, modeling humility for us in all that you do. All of us want to see God do a mighty work through this denomination."

Young leaders did show up at the Southern Baptist Convention, and their passion brought a renewed sense of excitement. In light of that, here is my follow-up letter—this time, written to older Southern Baptists (a group to which I belong).

Older leaders, we must first love younger Southern Baptists. As a seminary dean, I have the privilege of working with young men and women whose Great Commission focus puts mine to shame. Most are

energetic, passionate, and unashamedly Christ-followers. They are deeply serious, yet genuinely fun. They want to make an eternal difference with their lives. They are, to state it simply, easy to love.

We must also listen to younger Southern Baptists. Whether or not we always agree with them, their voice is worth hearing. These are brothers and sisters whose Christian integrity, doctrinal fervor and evangelistic zeal deserve our attention. New voices that critique old paradigms should not threaten us. We will miss much if we choose not to hear their thoughts simply because they are young or inexperienced.

As we love and listen to younger leaders, we must be willing to learn from them. There is no question that young leaders sometimes wrongly assume that they have the answers to whatever ails us. We have all thought that way at some point, and we recall with embarrassment our youthful pride. But let's be honest: If we assume that we have noth-

ing to learn from younger leaders, then we, too, are gripped by arrogance.

We must also labor in prayer on behalf of our younger leaders. The enemy aims his arrows at young leaders, knowing that their youthfulness makes them vulnerable. Hence, our most important work on their behalf might well be what we do in our prayer closets.

Finally, we must still lead younger leaders. That's the way it ought to be—older leaders leading younger leaders, who then are better prepared to lead on their own. Young leaders may stretch us, challenge us, and even dislodge us from our comfort zones, but we must not abdicate our responsibility to help guide them. They still need us, and we still need them—and a dying world needs all of us working together for the sake of the Great Commission.

Charles Lawless Jr. is dean of the Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism and Church Growth at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

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Wayne Spivey, Harrodsburg;  
Rodney Travis, Hopkinsville.

"Therefore let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another." Romans 14:19

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## Saving for the new retirement

By Don Spencer

A century ago, retirement was virtually unknown to most people. One continued to work until death. Of course, very few lived to their 70s and 80s. A half century ago, retirement was becoming a regular part of American culture, but it was generally viewed as a relatively short period of years marked by reduced activity and significantly less financial need.

Modern retirement has different characteristics and temperaments. Here are six ways your retirement will differ from previous generations:

1. Many retirees will live a long and active life in retirement that may be as much as a third of one's total life span.
2. Retirement will be divided into several phases: a retirement earnings phase with continued work; an active "go-go" phase marked by pursuit of the "good life"; a passive "slow-go" phase; and final phases characterized by failing health.
3. The cost of retirement lifestyle will be similar to the cost of pre-retirement lifestyle. Increased activity, added interests and new technologies mean the costs of living in retirement will be much higher in proportion to one's working years than in the past. With longer life expectancy, increased medical cost will be an important factor.
4. Inflation will increase the need for income by two or three times during retirement.
5. Taxes, estate planning and insurance have become vital parts of the retirement planning process. Recent changes in tax laws increase the need for awareness of these issues. A few years ago, long-term care insurance was virtually unheard of for most folks. Now, many have purchased or are considering the need for long term care insurance.
6. More people are "retiring" early. This compounds all the factors listed above—longer retirement, increased cost, more impact by inflation.

Ask yourself these questions: Have you applied these factors to your own retirement planning? Are you saving enough for the new retirement?

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

## What can Southern Baptists learn from Mark Driscoll?

By Page Brooks

Recently Seattle-area pastor Mark Driscoll has come under a great deal of scrutiny for his foul language and controversial sermon series on sex. I need not repeat here some of the phrases and words he has used as they are readily accessible on the Internet.

Let me say the following at the outset: I believe our speech and behavior should be above reproach. To be fair to him, Driscoll has repented and asked forgiveness for his cussing.

I by no means intend to defend him, but I believe we have to ask this question: What can we learn from people like Mark Driscoll? I think we do need to pay attention not because of the answers he is providing but because of the culture that he is addressing look like? It is a culture that has little biblical worldview. It is a culture that does not feel confined by the "church culture" of which most Christians are a part. It is a culture that is still asking the same questions as generations before: Why am I here? What is the meaning of life? How can I have happiness?

In asking such questions, the culture crosses into such controversial subjects as sex, alcohol, relationships, career and family. With no church background or biblical worldview, the world really is asking questions about such topics as sex, but not perhaps in the way we would ask in a more reserved way in the "church culture."

For example, I serve as a National Guard chaplain and just spent three weeks on annual training with several hundred young men and women. As I was going about my ministry of presence with these fine young men and women in the military, they would often pull me to the side and ask me very direct questions. Admittedly there is a great difference between my private conversations with these young soldiers and the way Driscoll has decided to answer such questions publicly. Nevertheless, my point is that the questions are being asked, but is the church willing to answer them?

We live in a culture that is no longer a predominantly Christian culture. The culture is not the same as the one in which my godly grandmother grew up. Neither will the answers from my godly grandmother's Sunday School class answer their questions. In other words, today's generation is not as reserved as previous generations with regards to topics like sexuality. They talk about it as openly

as any other topic during an average day.

So, how can we answer the questions the culture is asking while still maintaining our biblical witness without compromising our speech or actions?

First of all, the church needs to listen. Many of our programmatic and felt-needs sermons are actually not answering the questions of the culture. The answer does not need to just know an answer—they want to know biblical answers to those tough questions. And yes, some of those questions may make some of our church people blush when they are asked.

Second, I believe the church needs seriously to examine the language it uses to communicate the gospel. On the one hand, we do not need to compromise our own language, just as Paul commanded for all of our language to be above reproach. Nevertheless, we do not have to violate this principle when we try to be culturally relevant.

For example, I had a great, godly man who taught the youth Sunday School class at my home church where I grew up. But, every time he would get up to pray, he would start out by saying, "Our dearly beloved heavenly Father, we thank thee for this day that thou hast given to us thy children." While I understand his deep respect for God, his words did not communicate to those who were new Christians because they were seen as archaic. We need to be willing to examine our own language to make sure we are speaking in ways that can allow someone from today's culture—not yesterday's society—to understand.

Last, we must be willing to move out of our comfort zone in order to reach today's generation. We have developed too much of a "church culture" which has become culturally irrelevant. We have developed so much of our own ways of speaking and acting that we have become disconnected from the world. In other words, we have become so accustomed to our own church culture that we are not only shocked but also embarrassed when the culture asks questions, such as those dealing with sex.

Yes, the Bible has plenty to say on hard topics, as well as the hardest topic of all: the eternal destiny of our souls. The hard question for the church at this time is if we are willing to do what it takes to answer them in a way that is relevant but also above reproach. (BP)

*Page Brooks is assistant professor of theology and Islamic studies at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.*



### FIRST PERSON



## Is your Sunday school a strategy or a program?

By David Francis

The new Sunday school year will be here before you know it. Leadership positions are being filled, training is taking place and new curriculum is on its way. But have you taken time to think about your Sunday school strategy?

Do you consider Sunday school just a program (a once-a-week Bible study group), or do you consider it a 24/7 strategy of reaching, teaching, ministry and communication?

Originally, Sunday school was a program conducted on Sundays to teach English children, who labored in factories six days a week, how to read using the Bible as a text.

But Sunday school has grown into a movement that is neither restricted to Sunday nor just a school. Churches that discover this dynamic have leveraged Sunday school to be their primary strategy for helping people connect, discover and invite.

### ■ A connection strategy

In the 1920s, a Sunday school could be recognized as "excellent" by the Sunday School Board (now LifeWay Christian Resources) if 70 percent of those attending the Sunday school hour stayed for the worship service. How that has changed! Sunday school was once the front door for most churches—now worship is.

So Sunday school, meeting in conjunction with the primary weekend worship experience in most churches, is ideally positioned to be the primary strategy for connecting worship attendees to smaller groups of peers for the purposes of fellowship and ministry.

Is your Sunday school operating strategically and intentionally to connect people to the church, to each other and to Christ? Organizationally, you should have at least one person in each class—typically an "inreach" leader or group leaders—responsible for executing this part of the strategy.

### ■ A discovery strategy

"Are you suggesting that the Bible study element of Sunday school is unimportant?" you may ask.

Absolutely not! In fact, it is ideally suited to be a church's foundational discipleship strategy. What makes Sunday school different than a high accountability small group discipleship ministry is that it is intentionally made up of "open groups."

That means that anyone can attend and enroll any time. That person doesn't have to be a church member. Actually, that person doesn't even have to be a Christian. In the context of a strategically open group like a Sunday school class, boys and girls, men and women, can discover the truths of the Bible. They can discover the life stories of other people and how Christ has impacted those stories. They can discover opportunities for ministry.

Is your Sunday school operating strategically to help members and non-members discover? Most classes have a teacher who functions as the learning/discovery leader; do your teachers understand the strategic nature of their roles?

### ■ An invitation strategy

Taking care of the first two strategic elements of Sunday school makes accomplishing this one much easier, but it still must be intentional. When people feel connected and are having regular discovery experiences, they are intrinsically inclined to invite their unchurched friends, relatives, associates and neighbors to attend also. But they must be reminded. Usually an outreach leader is assigned the responsibility of helping the class make "inspire, invest and invite" an intentional, ongoing part of the group's strategy.

As you look forward to the coming Sunday school year, I encourage you to take some time to examine your Sunday school strategy. (BP)

*David Francis is director of Sunday school at LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention.*

## A summer camp for couples?

By Valerie Vincent

What if you could send you and your spouse away for the summer to "Marriage Makeover Camp?" The cabins might be named for the fruits of the Spirit. You and your spouse might be assigned to Cabin Gentleness while your friends will be staying in Cabin Peace. The theme for camp is "Making Your Marriage Over-God's Style!"

Camp creates an atmosphere of anticipation and excitement. It is an intensive experience because there is a set schedule of focused activities. Imagine.

8 a.m.—Breakfast together talking about the day's schedule and anticipated activities.

9 a.m.—The Reading Hour: Educational time about marriage skills, marriage dynamics, marriage challenges.

10 a.m.—Group Energy: Discussion time for couples to talk about marriage strengths and problem-solve marriage difficulties.

11 a.m.—Play time for couples: Choose from activities such as playground, hiking, kickball, cooking, games, music, etc.

12 p.m.—Lunch with mentoring couple who will check on your experience and offer encouragement and prayer.

1 p.m.—Rest time together at the Hammock pavilion, lounge chairs at the pool, or two-person floats on the lake.

2:30 p.m.—Reflection time: Individual time to journal, pray, reflect on your marriage and God's plan for your relationship.

3:15 p.m.—Share time: Share with your spouse thoughts, ideas, prayers from your reflection time.

5:15 p.m.—Dinner for two celebrating the best parts of married life.

6:30 p.m.—Marriage rally with dynamic speakers to get everyone pumped up about God's vision for Christian marriage.

8:00 p.m.—Date time: Options include movie time, bowling, Wii games, arcade, concert, book club, etc.

It is fun to imagine the possibilities for dynamic changes in marriage if we spent such focused and intentional time on this relationship. Perhaps you could create your own marriage camp this summer, and pray God would pour blessings upon your relationship.

*Valerie Vincent is a Christian counselor with Hardy Associates in Louisville.*

# NAMB's World Changers celebrates work on 20,000th home

By Mike Ebert

North American Mission Board

Savannah, Ga.—There's something special about Eleanor Williams' home.

Earlier this month, it became the 20,000th home World Changers has worked on since the Southern Baptist ministry began as a pilot project in 1990.

Word has spread through Savannah, Ga., over the years as more than 12,000 students since 1992 have given a week of their summers to help replace roofs, apply a fresh coat of paint and renovate homes while sharing Christ with homeowners and residents in that city.

"I had the World Changers come in 2005 and paint my house," Williams recalled. "It's been like a fence of love surrounding me this week."

"We have mobilized more than a quarter of a million students and adult leaders since 1990," said John Bailey, student volunteer mobilization team leader with the North American Mission Board.

"We're here as a response to our faith," Bailey said during a brief ceremony in Williams' backyard July 3. "We're answering God's call to go and serve."

This summer more than 23,000 middle and high school students will participate in 98 World Changers projects in 91 cities throughout the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico. World Changers provides the tools and volunteer labor while local governments provide the funding, often utilizing federal government housing dollars.

In addition to working on homes, World Changers participants share their faith

with homeowners and others in surrounding neighborhoods. In 2008, participants in World Changers and PowerPlant, a sister ministry geared toward assisting in church planting efforts, made 14,757 presentations of the gospel resulting in 997 recorded professions of faith.

While World Changers is impacting homeowners and other residents, participating students say World Changers is changing their lives at the same time.

Meredith Johnson, a high schooler who attends Florence Baptist Church, said the week reconfirmed her call to missions.

"It's been a good experience. I want to do missions when I grow up. I would like to go to Africa or a place like that. This is good practice," she said. "God has shown me I can do whatever I can put my mind to with

His help. I didn't really think I could come out here and shingle a roof. I've never been on a roof before."

Johnson said she may want to go on an international World Changers mission trip next year.

To the students who made up the construction crew working on Williams' home, Bailey said, "This is just the beginning for you. You can be a part of the next 20,000 homeowners we're going to minister to.

"As I look around today, I might be looking at the next Geoff Hammond who will lead (NAMB) or the next Jerry Rankin who will lead the International Mission Board," Bailey noted. "That's one of the things World Changers is about: a beginning point to serve and to minister because of what God has done in our lives." (BP)

## BAPTIST DIGEST

**GCR task force to meet in August**—The Southern Baptist Convention's Great Commission Task Force will meet twice in August, once in Atlanta and once in Arkansas. SBC President Johnny Hunt confirmed July 15 that the task force will meet Aug. 11-12 in Atlanta and again Aug. 26-27 in Rogers, Ark. Task force chairman Ronnie Floyd, pastor of First Baptist Church of Springdale, Ark., and the Church at Pinnacle Hills in Rogers, said the Arkansas meeting will be preceded by a luncheon for area pastors and staff, laypersons serving on SBC entities, and "anyone who wants to come." Hunt appointed the 19-member task force during the SBC annual meeting in Louisville last month. He added four more members July 8.

**Baptist peace activist Robert Broome dies**—A pioneer in the Baptist peacemaking movement died July 11, ending a long battle with cancer. Robert Broome, 66, of Louisville, is credited with coming up with the idea for a journal on peace issues written from a Baptist perspective. The Baptist Peacemaker now is in its 29th year and is published by the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America. Broome was a member of Deer Park Baptist Church in Louisville when that congregation was host for a landmark peace convocation in 1979. In a subsequent meeting of leaders talking about next steps, Broome suggested launching a publication patterned after another magazine on hunger issues. The first issue was published in December 1980. Broome is survived by his wife, Rosanne, two daughters and four grandchildren.

**Africa missions pioneer John Mills dies**—Missionary pioneer John Mills, who personally opened missions work in Ivory Coast and later led Southern Baptists to nearly triple the number of mission fields in West Africa, died July 10. He was 87. Mills and his wife, Virginia, were appointed missionaries to West Africa in 1947. He taught at the Baptist Academy in Lagos, Nigeria, and advised churches in the area until 1953. He later served as the secretary of missions and evangelism for the Nigerian Baptist Convention, and also was executive secretary of the Nigerian convention's home and foreign mission boards. The Millses pioneered work in Ivory Coast in 1966 as the first Southern Baptist missionaries sent to the former French colony. During the time Mills served as field associate and area director, Southern Baptist work expanded from five countries in West Africa in 1969 to 14 countries in 1988. Today the number of West African Baptists tops 3 million.

**Adrian Rogers' son resigns as IMB missionary**—David Rogers, son of the legendary preacher and Southern Baptist Convention president Adrian Rogers, has resigned after 19 years as an International Mission Board missionary to Spain. Rogers, a blogger who has written extensively about his disagreement with IMB policies against praying in tongues, said Baptist politics had nothing to do with the decision, which is based solely on health issues involving a family member. Rogers said he will remain in the Memphis, Tenn., area to work full time with the Adrian Rogers Pastor Training Institute. Rogers and his wife, Kelly, have been on stateside appointment and leave of absence for two years. He said they had planned to return to Spain a year ago but decided to remain in the United States for family reasons. He described the decision to leave the IMB as "painful" and said he would continue to support and pray for missionary colleagues still on the field.

## La. pastor: Bus crash could have been worse

By Bob Allen

Shreveport, La.—A church-bus crash that killed one teenager and critically injured another July 12 could have been much worse if a transport bus carrying National Guard soldiers had not come upon the accident scene almost immediately, according to the church's pastor.

Greg Hunt, senior pastor of First Baptist Church of Shreveport, La., described rescue efforts by the Alabama National Guard's 2101st Transportation Company, Detachment 1, as "amazing." "Every story for people of faith has these subplots where God sends his angels," he said.

Hunt said the soldiers were traveling right behind the church bus, which was carrying 17 teenagers and six adults when it blew a tire on Interstate 20 near Meridian, Miss. The blowout caused the driver to lose control, and the bus flipped three times before landing on its side.

He said guardsmen literally lifted the bus off the ground to remove two victims trapped underneath. Unit members trained in triage immediately started treating the most

seriously injured until emergency crews arrived.

Hunt said "there are kids and adults who are alive today" because of their response.

### Victims identified

One youth died on the way to the hospital. Hunt identified the teenager as Brandon Ugarte. Hunt described Ugarte, 14, as "a lovely young man" who, while not a church member, was involved both with the youth group and First Baptist's Chinese mission.

Ugarte was one of three crash victims airlifted from the crash site to the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, Miss.

Another victim taken to the Jackson hospital was Maggie Lee Henson, the daughter of John Henson, the church's associate pastor for emerging ministries. As of July 17, she remained in critical condition with severe head injuries.

A third victim, Lauren Murchison, had surgery July 13 to repair a broken femur. She suffered multiple fractures, a punctured lung and cuts

and bruises.

The group had left the church's campus in Shreveport about 4:45 a.m. on July 12. They were headed toward a weeklong camp operated by Passport, a Christian organization formed in 1993 that combines camping with a hands-on mission project.

The crash occurred shortly after 10 a.m. Back in Shreveport, church members began hearing about it just minutes later, while gathering for First Baptist's 10:30 a.m. worship service.

Hunt said as soon as word of the tragedy was received, the church immediately altered plans for its two morning services, focusing on prayer and immediate action.

"Our church was the church yesterday," he said, describing the experience as "just absolutely an extraordinary story of love and grace."

Hunt said support for the congregation was flooding in from all over the world. Several prayer groups also had cropped up on social-networking Web sites, such as Facebook. (ABP)

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## Authentic biblical preaching

### An endowment is one way to honor a beloved preacher

Biblical preaching is very important to us Baptists, and it is central to developing healthy churches and advancing Christ's Kingdom. We expect the pastoral ministry of our pastors to be characterized by authentic preaching that applies biblical truths in ways that make these unchanging truths relevant to contemporary believers, and pleads with unbelievers to be reconciled with God. We expect preaching that "exalts the Savior, equips the saints and evangelizes the sinners" in the best sense of 2 Timothy 4:1-5.

The Kentucky Baptist Foundation is honored to be the fiduciary of the Eugene and Culley Enlow Excellence in Preaching Endowment Fund, which has as its purpose to inspire and assist pastors toward a continuum of excellence in the preaching ministry. The endowment was established several years ago by the beloved pastor and gifted preacher of the gospel Eugene Enlow. It stands as a lasting legacy to him and his late wife, Culley.

Earnings from the endowment are channeled to the Marshall Center for Christian Ministry at Georgetown College for its

annual preaching workshop, which will be held Sept. 28 in Louisville. This year's theme is "The Changing Face of Preaching, Fragile: Handle With Care." The workshop will feature Chuck Bugg, himself a gifted preacher and professor at the School of Divinity at Gardner-Webb University in Boiling Springs, N.C. For more information or to register for the workshop call Marshall Center Director Ken Holden at (502) 863-8391, or e-mail [angela.allen@georgetowncollege.edu](mailto:angela.allen@georgetowncollege.edu).

Perhaps you would be interested in establishing an endowment to assist pastors in the ongoing development of their preaching ministries. Perhaps you would want to name it in honor of a gifted pastor/preacher who has impacted your life and whose preaching legacy you want to perpetuate. An endowment can be established during life or at death. You could establish it with a modest gift, continue to make gifts during your lifetime, then make the final gift by a bequest in your will or revocable living trust.

Call Laurie Valentine or me toll free to discover how to do this.

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

Ky. Baptist Foundation



Barry Allen

## For Heaven's Sake

Mike Morgan



## Preacher's Kids

David Ayers



## Bible Crosswords

By Evelyn Boyington

### Across

- 1 Holiday symbol
- 4 "The \_\_\_\_ of the wicked shall be put out" (Proverbs 13:9)
- 8 Not as much
- 12 \_\_\_\_ reliever
- 13 Object of worship
- 14 Press
- 15 "\_\_\_\_ far from me vanity and lies" (Proverbs 30:8)
- 17 Linking verb
- 19 KJV exclamation
- 20 Reverence
- 21 Pantry pest
- 22 What Nebuchadnezzar was washed with, in the wilderness
- 23 As thin as a \_\_\_\_
- 25 Fitting
- 26 "For my yoke is \_\_\_\_, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:30)
- 27 Vase
- 28 Take in a little at a time, literally
- 29 Low island
- 30 State of the Southwest (abbr.)
- 31 "Thou \_\_\_\_ my wanderings" (Psalm 56:8)
- 33 "Look!" to King James
- 35 Cow sound
- 36 Gershwin
- 37 "Man that is born of a woman is of \_\_\_\_ days" (Job 14:1)
- 38 Pump
- 40 Understand
- 41 "Then shall the \_\_\_\_ man leap as an hart" (Isaiah 35:6)
- 42 SRO show
- 43 Like a basset hound's expression
- 44 \_\_\_\_ hen
- 45 Of Middle Eastern ancestry (abbr.)
- 46 "Make thee an \_\_\_\_ of gopher wood" (Genesis 6:14)

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
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45			46				47				48	49
50		51			52	53				54		
55					56						57	

- 47 "Such \_\_\_\_ works are wrought by his hands" (Mark 6:2)
- 50 Very special
- 52 "Thou hast been in \_\_\_\_ the garden of God" (Ezekiel 28:13)
- 54 Kind of lamb in Nathan's symbolic story to David
- 55 Redact
- 56 "The Lord is my strength and \_\_\_\_" (Psalm 118:14)
- 57 Become soft
- 23 "Ye did \_\_\_\_ well; who did hinder you" (Galatians 5:7)
- 24 Get equipped
- 25 Be in distress
- 26 Take a nibble
- 28 Baste
- 29 Jeff Davis's org.
- 31 Digit
- 32 Before
- 33 Haw's partner
- 34 Be in debt
- 35 "The \_\_\_\_ fell on Matthias; and he was numbered" (Acts 1:26)

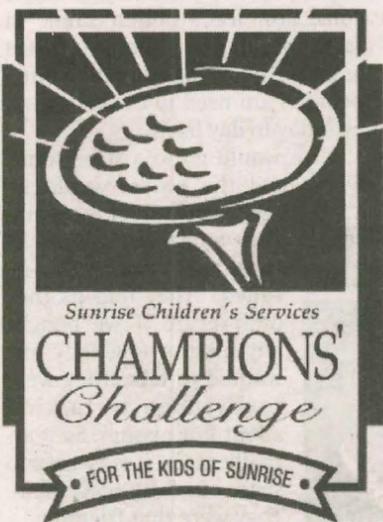
### Down

- 1 "The Son of man is as a man taking a \_\_\_\_ journey" (Mark 13:34)
- 2 Put on \_\_\_\_
- 3 "That my joy might \_\_\_\_ in you" (John 15:11)
- 4 Animate
- 5 Summer drink
- 6 Detective's quest (abbr.)
- 7 Put down roots
- 8 Fabrication
- 9 Sound of hesitation
- 10 Shoe parts
- 11 Unsoiled; spotless
- 16 "I am like an \_\_\_\_ of the desert" (Psalm 102:6)
- 18 Not left (abbr.)
- 21 "I \_\_\_\_ mine heart to know" (Ecclesiastes 7:25)
- 22 "To proclaim ... the \_\_\_\_ of vengeance of our God" (Isaiah 61:2)
- 37 God is our \_\_\_\_
- 38 "The Lord is thy \_\_\_\_ upon thy right hand" (Psalm 121:5)
- 39 "Paul dwelt two years in his own \_\_\_\_ house" (Acts 28:30)
- 40 "All things are for your \_\_\_\_" (2 Corinthians 4:15)
- 41 Journey jaunt
- 43 Dad might be one (abbr.)
- 44 Annex
- 46 "\_\_\_\_ thou he that should come?" (Luke 7:19)
- 47 Fathers and uncles, for example
- 48 "\_\_\_\_ of every sort shalt thou bring" (Genesis 6:19)
- 49 "Though he slay me, \_\_\_\_ will I trust in him" (Job 13:15)
- 51 "Gibeon ... was greater than \_\_\_\_" (Joshua 10:2)
- 53 Act

### Last week's solution

1	J	A	S	4	A	S	6	7	H	E	M	
10	O	W	E	11	N	E	T	12	E	N	O	13
14	Y	E	L	15	L	O	W	16	D	I	D	17
18	P	I	N	19	M	A	R	20	S	O	S	
22	L	A	S	23	M	A	N	24	B	A	T	H
26	O	G		27	B	E	D	28	P	E	N	
29	G	O	L	30	D	E	N	31	D	I	G	32
33	E	Y	E	34	H	O	T	35			36	37
38	D	I	N	39	E	W	A	40	G	41	D	42
43	A	R	T	44	T	A	P	45	S	I	P	
46	M	A	47	F	I	R	48	T	E	M	P	49
50	M	E	A	51	N	B	E	52	N	E	L	53
54	D	R	Y	55	E	N	D	56	R	I	D	57

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## NEXT Coaching Networks to help pastors overcome discouragement and isolation

Continued from page 1

The next year Sylvia piloted a coaching network for pastors at Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, Calif. Since then, the ministry has expanded to include many experienced leaders who have coached more than 350 pastors.

"We designed the curriculum to develop leadership in pastors," Sylvia explained, "but the added benefit is these networks became deep relationships."

The survey conducted by LifeWay Research, which polled 801 Southern Baptist pastors, revealed that as pastors face ministry challenges, they often feel as if they are doing so alone.

"Ministry can feel like a thankless profession," said Paul Castelli, pastor of Crosspoint Church in Spring Hill, Fla. "People are constantly in need. (They) always let you know when they are unhappy and when you've let them or their family down. But they seldom encourage, uplift or minister to pastors."

Castelli explained that being involved in a NEXT Coaching Network gave him "fresh per-

spective and insight" into his ministry, as well as provided much-needed support.

"Knowing that I had a group of pastors who shared the burden I carried and could relate to where I was at the moment was refreshing," he noted. "NEXT Coaching Networks gave me the outlet to be open and honest with where I was and what I was dealing with. If I needed advice, I got it. If I needed to be lifted up, I was prayed for. If I needed an attitude check, I got that too."

Three types of networks are offered: one designed for those launching new churches; one for pastors ready to advance their churches; and one for strategic leadership.

"Healthy pastors lead healthy churches," Sylvia said. "Our goal is simple: No pastor should be left behind. It's time to wipe out the isolation epidemic."

Several networks launched in the spring, and new networks will continue to launch near major cities. Find more information at [www.NextCoachingNetworks.com](http://www.NextCoachingNetworks.com).

## LifeWay Español addresses Hispanic churches' needs

**Miami**—The Hispanic population in the United States, presently at 48 million, is expected to triple by 2050, and many members of that population are placing an emphasis on their spiritual lives.

According to the Pew Hispanic Center, 70 percent of Hispanic evangelicals attend church weekly, as opposed to 61 percent of non-Hispanic white evangelicals. Additionally, 68 percent of all Hispanics say religion is "very important" to them, while only 57 percent of non-Hispanic whites say the same.

Statistics such as those led pastors, leaders and about 60 book distributors from the U.S., Latin America and Spain to Miami for LifeWay Español's annual International Seminar of Hispanic Consultants.

"Being able to understand the characteristics and virtues of the newest resources will help us in our ministry of distributing these works in Mexico," said seminar participant Eleazar Ortiz Reyes.

Richard Blackaby, author of "7 Truths from Experiencing God," and Chuck Lawless, author of "Putting on the Armor" and "Spiritual Warfare," were on hand to talk about the recently released discipleship materials.

Blackaby's study is a summary of his father, Henry Blackaby's, best-seller "Experiencing God," which the younger Blackaby said still is impacting lives around the world 15 years after its release.

"My father and I were recently in Angola maximum security prison" in Louisiana, Blackaby said. "Many of the

inmates are studying 'Experiencing God,' becoming Christians and are feeling the call to ministry."

He told the group that although many of Angola's prisoners are on death row or serving life sentences, God's transforming work in their lives compels them to minister to their fellow prisoners.

LifeWay Español Director Luis López is well aware of the impact "Experiencing God" has had in the Spanish-speaking world. "All over Latin America, Spain and the United States, I hear of pastors and leaders who have been called into the ministry by studying 'Experiencing God,'" he said.

Lawless, dean of the Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism and Church Growth at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, also spoke to participants about his recently released studies, both of which address the topic of spiritual warfare.

"The Bible is very clear about the reality of spiritual warfare, regardless of what culture we are in," Lawless stressed. "We face the enemy every day, even if we do not realize it. However, we are already on the winning side. When believers realize the power and authority we have when wearing the full armor of God, we best stand ready to take on the enemy."

Lawless expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to minister to key Spanish-speaking leaders.

"Help those of us who are non-Hispanic to know how best to reach out," he requested. "Let's work together to make a difference for the Lord."

## Security group forms church violence division

**Anaheim, Calif.**—The world's largest security training organization has opened a new church-security division and will instruct churches on how to prevent and respond to violent crimes at its annual conference in September.

ASIS International's new church-security division will lead a seminar at its convention in Anaheim, Calif., to address threats and vulnerabilities that leave faith-based organizations at risk for violence.

"They don't think that it can happen (to them). That's the biggest issue we have to overcome," said Donald Knox, chairman of ASIS's Houses of Worship Security Working Group.

A separate organization, the Christian Se-

curity Network, which tracks violence against churches, recently reported that six of the 17 violent crimes reported by Christian churches in the first half of 2009 resulted in homicides. The report also claims that faith-based organizations suffered \$6.3 million in property loss due to burglary, theft, robbery, arson and vandalism.

ASIS plans to release a free resource guide for churches in August that pools resources from other security task forces. It will urge faith-based organizations to form safety teams, assess risks of high-profile attendees and outspoken religious leaders, and be honest with members about potential dangers in their congregations. (RNS)

## Finding Christ in everyday life

### Girls' dormitory devotion has provided a positive experience for OBI students

Written by Jamie Jory, OBI houseparent

Working in the girls' dorm at Oneida Baptist Institute is a ministry in itself. We have been entrusted with these girls, and we seek to help them grow into the women God wants them to be.

Some girls come to us having never been in a church. Some are believers when they enroll, while most are not.

This opens up many doors as a houseparent to plant seeds in their lives. We as houseparents get the opportunity every day to share God's love with the girls here at OBI.

We can share in our attitudes, our actions, or in answering questions they may have (and they do come up with some off-the-wall questions). Sometimes we may just sit and talk. God always knows what is needed in every situation.

When I came to OBI three years ago, I had no idea what God had in store for me. I soon realized that God had brought me here to minister to these girls. Soon God laid it on my heart to start a girls' dorm devotion group.

Our students, both boys and girls, have had dormitory devotions off and on through the years in different formats and with different leaders. I started the current girls' group in November 2006 at the prompting of some students.

We have devotions once a week. The first week we had two girls, but it has grown to about 15 on a weekly basis. We have had as many as 40 participants at one meeting.

Attendance varies depending on the sports

season and other activities going on around campus. One of our middle school teachers, Emily Kelley, helps me with the devotions. We take turns teaching topical studies on teen issues based on questions the girls ask. We're constantly asking the girls for ideas.

This past year, the girls' dormitory devotion group had two retreats, one during the non-required break over Thanksgiving; the other during the non-required April break. This is a time for the girls to get out of the dorm for two days and one night. We have lots of fun and we grow closer as a group. Most importantly, we grow spiritually. It helps girls through their everyday struggles and helps them find Christ in their lives.

Another highlight has been "Main Events," which is designed to draw in dormitory girls who don't usually come to devotions, as well as girls who are faculty/staff children and day students.

Main Events generally involve a staff member sharing a devotion or a testimony, games or other activities—and of course, food.

Emily and I pray for the girls and for the group. Our goal is to see girls grow in Christ and to plant seeds. We don't know what God's call in their lives may be. They might be future missionaries or pastors' wives.

We've noticed a difference in the dormitory as a result of the devotions. It's a joy to walk through the dorm lobby and see girls praying. I've seen many positive things come out of it.

### This is Oneida



W.F. Underwood

W.F. Underwood is president of Oneida Baptist Institute, Box 67, Oneida, KY 40972; [www.oneidaschool.org](http://www.oneidaschool.org); e-mail: [president@oneidaschool.org](mailto:president@oneidaschool.org)

## Lessons learned

### Clear Creek student shares about mission experience

One of the aspects about Clear Creek Baptist Bible College that I am most proud of is the emphasis placed on practical ministry training for our students. One of the ways we offer this is through opportunities for summer mission trips. These trips are great opportunities for our students to experience other parts of the world and learn about other people and their cultures. It's always a joy to talk with some of our students after they return from a mission trip to another country and listen to them tell about things God has taught them.

Third-year student Cliff Cullen recently traveled on one of these mission trips and shared about some surprising lessons he learned.

"The most surprising thing to me was the fact that it's really not all that different when it comes to meeting people of other countries," Cullen explained. "I was expecting a lot more of a culture shock, a lot more of a change, as far as the people who I was going to meet were concerned."

"I guess the most surprising thing that God showed me is

that people are friendly in other countries, too," Cullen said. "In fact, the people I met were just as friendly, if not friendlier, than people I am used to being around on a day-to-day basis."

"We would go to a store somewhere and the people would invite us in and serve tea and they would just want to sit there and talk to us," he recalled. "They told us they didn't care if we bought anything or not, they just wanted to talk. They were really open to talking about faith issues. So it actually made it very easy to share our faith with them. They were that friendly."

"God also taught me how much He has a hand in just the little things we do and the places we go as we serve Him," Cullen said. "Our guide wanted to find a friend he hadn't seen in a long time to give him a Bible. We were in a city with a population of millions of people. When we stopped to get some ice cream at a store, our guide's friend walked in and we were able to give him a Bible."

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.cccb.edu](http://www.cccb.edu); e-mail: [dfox@ccb.edu](mailto:dfox@ccb.edu)

### Clear Creek Chronicle



Donnie Fox

## Former SBC president speaks out against same-sex benefits bill

By Tom Strode

Washington—Extending marriage-like benefits to same-sex couples will give such unions an elite status and will promote a social agenda largely opposed by evangelical Christians, a former Southern Baptist Convention president told members of Congress.

Testifying July 8 with seven other witnesses before a House of Representatives subcommittee, Frank Page, SBC president from 2006-08, was the only one who opposed a bill to extend benefits now reserved for the spouses of federal employees to the same-sex, domestic partners of such workers.

Among the benefits the Domestic Partnership Benefits and Obligations Act would bestow on homosexual partners of federal employees are health insurance, retirement and disability benefits, group life insurance, and family and medical leave.

"I do believe that it has been the perennial role of the government to support the institutions of society, such as marriage," Page said before the Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, Postal Service and the District of Columbia. This bill "is taking a direct role in opposition to a traditional definition and support of that which marriage has traditionally been.

"The government should be in the process of encouraging the traditional marriage that has stood for many, many hundreds of years as that way that culture is best protected," Page noted, adding that "government ought to be encouraging, not discouraging, (marriage). And I think this act discourages."

The pastor of First Baptist Church of Taylors, S.C., said he believes in "moral absolutes."

"Those are words we have not heard today," Page said as the last witness in a lengthy hearing. "Those are words that are not popular in our culture today.

"We also—as unpopular as it is

today—believe that this is a part of a social agenda that continues to seek normalization of a homosexual lifestyle that I and, I believe, many other evangelicals—not all—certainly oppose," he declared.

"We care for people. We do love people, but we're painted as if we are hateful, caricatured as mean-spirited. We're not. But we do believe there are absolutes, and we stand by them."

Page said he opposes the bill for financial reasons, as well as moral ones. In written testimony submitted before the hearing, he expressed concern about the possibility of widespread fraud and waste.

"I do believe that this creates an opportunity for abuse," Page told Rep. Stephen Lynch, D-Mass., the subcommittee chairman and the only member in attendance when Page testified. "I've heard the promises today of supposed safeguards, but I've got to tell you, Mr. Chairman, that I am like many Americans. We don't trust the government's ability to guard itself and its policies real well."

The bill is intentionally discriminatory in its legalization of benefits for homosexual couples but not unmarried, heterosexual couples, Page pointed out.

"This bill promises equal treatment, but I believe that it has created an elitism," he said. "There are same-sex couples that do not wish to get married. There are opposite-sex couples that do not wish to get married for many reasons. This sets aside same-sex couples as an elite class, and those same benefits would be denied to opposite-sex couples who choose not to marry."

Page was scheduled as the last witness to appear before the House subcommittee. By the time he was allowed to testify, only Lynch was present. Also, Lynch acted deferentially to the other witnesses, all supporters of the bill. (BP)



Frank Page

## SBC's ERLC opposes Sotomayor, says she will 'redefine the law'

By Michael Foust

Washington—As the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee considered Sonia Sotomayor's nomination to the Supreme Court last week, the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission voiced its opposition, saying she is an "unpredictable wildcard" who will work to "redefine the law."

The commission announced its position in an e-mail from ERLC President Richard Land that linked to detailed information about the nominee. Sotomayor was nominated by President Obama to replace former Supreme Court Justice David Souter, who retired in May.

The ERLC urged constituents who agree with its position to call their senators and urge a "no" vote.

"After carefully examining her record as a lower court judge, we believe that Sotomayor should not be confirmed to serve on the nation's highest court," Land said in the e-mail. "Sonia Sotomayor's record reveals that she is perfectly willing to lift the blindfold of justice to achieve her desired result. ... She is the type of justice who instead of applying the law neutrally will redefine the law to conform to her policy preferences."

The ERLC's "fact sheet" on Sotomayor acknowledges that she has not ruled directly on abortion as an appeals court nominee but that there nevertheless is "tangential evidence" that she does support *Roe v. Wade*.

"The bottom line is that Sonia Sotomayor is an unpredictable wildcard," Land said. "Across the issues her record is either far too thin or hidden behind non-published orders and per curiam opinions. Simply put, placing Sonia Sotomayor on the highest court in the land jeopardizes our nation's commitment to equal treatment under the law."

In last week's questioning, Sotomayor was critiqued on a number of fronts, including a comment she made in 2005 when she said, "All of the legal defense funds out there, they're looking for people with court of appeals experience because

... court of appeals is where policy is made. And I know this is on tape and I should never say that because we don't make law—I know. ... I'm not promoting it and I'm not advocating it."

She also received tough questions about a case, *Ricci v. DeStefano*, in which the Supreme Court recently overturned a decision she and her colleagues on the U.S. Second Circuit Court of Appeals had made. In that case, a group of white and Hispanic firefighters sued New Haven, Conn., after the city tossed out a promotional test that the firefighters had scored high on. No African-American firefighter scored high enough to be promoted. The Supreme Court ruled that the city had wrongly discriminated against the group of white and Hispanic firefighters; Sotomayor had sided with the city.



Sonia Sotomayor

Last week's opening statements generally split along party lines, with Republicans expressing strong concerns and Democrats applauding the pick. Two Republicans, Orrin Hatch (Utah) and Lindsey Graham (S.C.), noted that while they may have reservations about this particular nominee, it had nothing to do with race.

"The task before us is to determine whether Judge Sonia Sotomayor is qualified by legal experience and especially by judicial philosophy to sit on the Supreme Court of the United States of America," Hatch emphasized.

Democratic Sen. Charles Schumer (N.Y.) argued that Sotomayor was the type of justice Republicans long have defended.

"Her record shows that she is in the mainstream," he said. "She has agreed with Republican colleagues (on the bench) 95 percent of the time. She has ruled for the government in 83 percent of immigration cases. ... She has ruled for the government in 92 percent of criminal cases. She has denied race claims in 83 percent of the cases and has split evenly on employment cases between employer and employee." (BP)

### NATIONAL NOTES

**Atheists sue to stop U.S. official motto**—The nation's largest group of atheists and agnostics filed a federal lawsuit July 14 to stop the engraving of "In God We Trust" and "one nation under God" from the Pledge of Allegiance in the new Capitol Visitor Center. The Freedom From Religion Foundation, a Wisconsin-based church-state watchdog group, claimed the engravings are unconstitutional and would exclude the 15 percent of Americans who identify themselves as non-religious. The House and Senate passed resolutions this month approving the inscription of the mottos in prominent areas of Capitol Visitor Center, which serves as the entrance and security screening for tourists. Sen. Jim DeMint, R-S.C., who sponsored the bill in the Senate, said historical references to God should not be censored for political correctness.

**ACLU wins inmate access to Catholic Mass**—Many convicted killers seek solace in the Lord in their final days, and Donald Lee Leger is among them, only he wanted a Catholic Mass, not the Baptist services aired on the TV sets at the Louisiana State Penitentiary at Angola. Under a settlement reached with the help of the American Civil Liberties Union, Leger and other death-row inmates will have access to broadcasts of Catholic Mass, private confessions with a priest and the ability to receive Communion. Under the agreement, other inmates will be given earphones to listen to Baptist services; the television's speakers will be silenced. It is the second time in the past year that ACLU lawyers alleged deprivation of religious rights by the prison, which includes seven churches and a Bible College that offers degrees for 19 denominations.

**Economy forces closure, cuts at relief groups**—A Michigan-based Christian relief group, International Aid, has closed its doors amid financial struggles while World Vision, one of the largest evangelical relief agencies, has eliminated about 75 positions. International Aid needed to collect about \$1.5 million in the past two months to balance its \$70 million budget, but only gathered between \$150,000 and \$200,000, according to CEO Gordon Loux. The Christian nonprofit has offered health and humanitarian support worldwide since 1980. Meanwhile, about 50 members of World Vision's 1,200-member staff were laid off and about 25 open positions will not be filled, said spokesman Dean Owen. Among other cost-cutting measures, the organization is canceling merit raises for the second year in a row and increasing employees' premiums for health benefits. Owen said the layoffs were the organization's first since 1995.

**Poll: Iowans want to vote on marriage amendment**—In the first statewide survey since the Iowa Supreme Court's same-sex marriage ruling, a new poll shows that just more than two-thirds of the state's voters support placing a constitutional marriage amendment on the ballot. In the poll, 67 percent of voters said they want to vote on a marriage amendment while 27 percent believe the issue of same-sex marriage is best decided by the state Supreme Court. Bryan English, a spokesman for the Iowa Family Policy Center, said the poll numbers should open eyes. "Public opinion on marriage is consistently a 65-70 percent issue, and the numbers tell us that Iowans want the right to vote on the Iowa marriage amendment."

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

Pray for the staff of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's partnership missions department:

**Scott Pittman**, director.

**Mary Livingston**, ministry assistant.

**George Chinn**, state consultant.

**Angela Cornett**, summer intern working with the Delaware Baptist Association.

For more information about partnership missions opportunities, contact the KBC partnership missions department at (502) 489-3529, toll free in Kentucky at (866) 489-3529, or visit [www.KyBaptist.org/Partnership](http://www.KyBaptist.org/Partnership).

**MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI**

COMPILED BY STAFF

- **CADIZ**—Oak Grove Church recently called **Jack Studie** as interim pastor.
- **CATLETTSBURG**—Burnaugh Church recently ordained **Ryan Zones** to the gospel ministry, and **Charles Butcher**, **Michael Miller**, **Ron Nolte** and **Don Yates** as deacons. **Edgar Miller** is pastor.
- **LONDON**—Pilgrim's Rest Church recently ordained **Brian Burkart** and **Jakie Hurley** as deacons. **Carl Allen** is pastor.
- **LOUISVILLE**—Hazelwood Church recently called **Nathan Mayfield** as pastor.

Meadow Hill Church recently called **Andy Moore** as pastor.

■ **MAYFIELD**—First Church recently called **Scott Wilkins** as pastor.

■ **MILTON**—Aaron O'Kelley recently resigned as pastor of Corn Creek Church.

■ **MORGANTOWN**—First Church recently called **Tim Leadingham** as pastor.

■ **MOUNT VERNON**—Freedom Church ordained **Slade Moore** to the gos-

pel ministry July 12. **David Sargent** is pastor.

■ **MOUNT WASHINGTON**—Kings Church recently called **Keith Joseph** as pastor.

■ **MOUTHCARD**—Mouthcard Church recently called **Ben Martin** as pastor.

■ **MURRAY**—First Church recently ordained **Eric Bourne** as a deacon.

■ **PENDLETON**—Sligo Church ordained Student Minister **John Park** to the gospel ministry June 28. **Bradford Laubinger** is pastor.

■ **PRINCETON**—Pleasant Grove Church recently called **Jonathan Arvin** as pastor.

Southside Church recently called **Bruce Hodge** as transitional pastor.

■ **RICHMOND**—Unity Church recently called **John Smoot** as minister of youth. **D.L. Brewer** is pastor.

■ **TAYLORSVILLE**—First Church recently called **Gary Mills** as pastor.

■ **WURLAND**—First Church recently called **Richard Kiger** as pastor.

**Campbellsville to offer free tuition at Louisville campus**

**Louisville**—Campbellsville University is stepping forward and helping those who have recently lost their jobs by offering free tuition at its Louisville campus.

The university will provide free tuition—and waive fees not covered by state and federal financial aid or other publicly funded programs—for up to two three-hour classes for any recently dislocated or unemployed adult student who enrolls in any of the undergraduate programs at CU's Louisville campus. Students are required to pay for textbooks.

"We have spoken to many potential students about their need to start new careers which requires further education," said Keith Spears, the school's vice president for regional and professional education.

"The initiative that Campbellsville University has put into place is part of our mission. We want to help the displaced worker get started back into school and the Louisville campus of Campbellsville University is proud to take this opportunity to extend to those who are in need of a helping hand to education."

The Louisville campus provides adult learners the opportunity to earn a degree in a convenient and accelerated manner at a significant tuition discount.

In addition, all adult students at the Louisville campus are eligible to receive a significantly discounted rate of \$275 per credit hour.

"We want to provide those who have lost their jobs with renewed hope and opportunity," said Campbellsville President Michael Carter.

He said the free tuition for two classes will be provided for those who have become unemployed since Sept. 1, 2008.

"We are very much committed to responding to the current economic crisis in every manner possible, and reaching out to those who have lost their jobs during this very serious recessionary period," Carter noted.

In the past, Campbellsville University provided education to those who lost their jobs due to the closing of Campbellsville's Fruit of the Loom factory and Batesville Casket Company in the late 1990s which resulted in the loss of around 3,500 jobs in the local economy.

Campbellsville University's Technology Training Center also was developed during the region's economic recovery period to provide affordable short-term workforce development training for non-traditional learners.

Since its opening, the center has trained more than 8,500 people in the region.

Carter said the Tech Center's programs are available at a low-cost and ongoing basis and include a number of areas focusing on employable skills and certifications.

CU also has provided similar educational opportunities to numerous dislocated and unemployed workers, Carter noted, including those in Clinton County following the closure of a couple of textile plants a few years ago.

Carter said CU's overall commitment to providing an affordable education is further illustrated by the more than \$10.2 million in institutional and financial aid provided to the school's more than 2,600 students during the 2008-09 academic year. Students also secured an additional \$19 million in state, federal and private financial aid money.

For more information about the tuition discount, contact the Louisville campus' office of admissions by calling (502) 753-0264, or toll free at (800) 753-0610, or via e-mail at [Louisville@Campbellsville.edu](mailto:Louisville@Campbellsville.edu).

Campbellsville's financial aid staff can provide information regarding the financial aid application process or answer any other questions. That office can be reached at (270) 789-5013, or via e-mail at [FinAid@Campbellsville.edu](mailto:FinAid@Campbellsville.edu).



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**July**

23-24 Quarterly Prayer Meeting for Spiritual Awakening, Haven of Rest, Inez.

24-25 World Missions Unlimited, First Baptist Church, Madisonville.

**August**

22 Super Saturday, Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington.

29 Super Saturday, Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown.

**September**

5-7 Wrangler Trail Ride, Land Between the Lakes.

10 Church Retirement Plan "Reality Check" Conference, First Baptist Church, Leitchfield.

12 Super Saturday, First Baptist Church, Paducah, and First Baptist Church, Somerset.

14 Church Retirement Plan "Reality Check" Conference, Buck Run Baptist Church, Frankfort; First Baptist Church, Murray; Marion Baptist Church; and Piner Baptist Church, Morning View.

15 Church Retirement Plan "Reality Check" Conference, Second Baptist Church, Greenville; Unity Baptist Church, Ashland; and Walnut Memorial Baptist Church, Owensboro.

16 Church Retirement Plan "Reality Check" Conference, Berea Baptist Church and Calvary Baptist Church, Lexington.

18 Church Retirement Plan "Reality Check" Conference, First Baptist Church, Shelbyville, and Parkland Baptist Church, Louisville.

19 Children in Action Missions Day Camp.

19 Super Saturday, First Baptist Church, Pikeville, and Zion Baptist Church, Henderson.

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

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**SEEKING:** Part-time nursery and preschool coordinator for a young, growing church in Hickory, Ky. For more information, call (270) 856-4463; or e-mail [communityfbc@yahoo.com](mailto:communityfbc@yahoo.com). For more info on the church itself: [www.cfwithpurpose.org](http://www.cfwithpurpose.org).

**SEEKING:** Full-time associate pastor of students and education for First Baptist Church of Live Oak, Fla. Send resumés to [apsearch@fbcliveoak.org](mailto:apsearch@fbcliveoak.org); or visit [www.fbcliveoak.org](http://www.fbcliveoak.org) for contact information.

**SEEKING:** Pastor, First Baptist, Walton, Ky.—a fast-growing area of N.Ky. Must be seminary graduate with prior pastoral experience. We are a friendly, conservative Southern Baptist church. Send resumé to: Pastor Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 47 S Main St., Walton, KY 41094; or e-mail to [crownvick@aol.com](mailto:crownvick@aol.com). Send DVD, tape or CD if available.

**SEEKING:** Full-time pastor for Clayvillage Baptist. Send resumés and sermon tape to 548 Birchwood Circle, Shelbyville, KY 40065; or e-mail [jim.morris1@insightbb.com](mailto:jim.morris1@insightbb.com). Contact person: Jim Morris, (502) 419-5584.

**SEEKING:** Director of children's ministries (30 hours per week). Salary plus benefits. Submit resumé to [herb@richpond.org](mailto:herb@richpond.org). Rich Pond Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Ky.

**SEEKING:** Motivated, Christ-centered individual to work with adult and youth church choirs. Primarily traditional with some contemporary music. Some experience required. Send resumé to Bro. Greg Wallace at [mtownfbc@bellsouth.net](mailto:mtownfbc@bellsouth.net); or mail to PO Box 444, Morgantown, KY 42261; or call (270) 526-4711.

**SEEKING:** Part-time music minister. Traditional/contemporary music for growing church. Please send resumés to 8200 Owenton Road, Frankfort, KY 40601; or contact Pastor Jeff Sargent, (502) 227-7278.

**SEEKING:** Shiloh Baptist is a family-oriented church with an active congregation of approximately 200 people located in rural Virginia. We are actively seeking the person whom God has chosen to lead us as we reach, build and serve our church and community in the 21st century. For more information, please see [www.kgshiloh.org/about/pastor\\_search.htm](http://www.kgshiloh.org/about/pastor_search.htm) or contact the church office at (540) 469-4646.

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister of music and worship (25 hours/week) for Woodland Baptist Church, Louisville. Undergraduate music degree preferred, experience required. Submit resumés to [mmayabb1@yahoo.com](mailto:mmayabb1@yahoo.com).

**SEEKING:** Calvary Baptist Church is accepting written resumés for pastoral position. Send to 750 Dover Road, Grand Rivers, KY 42045.

**SEEKING:** Full-time minister of children and youth for Central Baptist Church, Paris, Ky. Responsible for overseeing the planning, coordinating and implementing of programs for the children and youth (K-12). Prefer bachelor's degree and/or experience working with children and youth; talent in music and sports an asset. Applicants may apply by sending resumé to: [cbministersearch@bellsouth.net](mailto:cbministersearch@bellsouth.net); or, by mail: Minister of Children and Youth Search Committee, c/o Doug Bechanan, chairman, 829 High Street, Paris, KY 40361.

**SEEKING:** Instrumentalist for east end congregation—contemporary and traditional music. Send resumé to Melbourne Heights Baptist Church, 3728 Taylorsville Road, Louisville, KY 40220, Attn: Personnel Dept. You may call the church at (502) 454-4681 to set a time for an interview; hours and pay will be discussed at the interview.

## Fuge camps are 'on the move'

By Sue Sprenkle  
LifeWay Christian Resources

Glorieta, N.M.—A lingering note from the worship song wafted reverently over those gathered at the foot of the stage and faded back through the rest of the chapel. No one dared to breathe—it was as if God walked among them.

The pastor stepped onstage. Seemingly on cue, hundreds of teenagers silently got up and moved back to their seats.

"Boy, the pastor gets up here and everyone turns their back and walks away," camp pastor Tony Merida of Hattiesburg, Miss., said as laughter erupted, filling the chapel with yet another powerful emotion.

That's how it is at Centrifuge. It goes from serious to fun and back again at the drop of a hat.

More than 600 students from throughout the Western United States were gathered at LifeWay's Glorieta Conference Center near Santa Fe, N.M., for a week of Fuge Combo Camp. The combination camp brought together M-Fuge, Centrifuge,

X-Fuge and X-Fuge on Mission campers on the same campus.

The stories of Moses came to life through recreation, fellowship, Bible studies and worship as students learned about having "faith to move." Alicia Claxton, director for Glorieta's Fuge camps, said that while the stories were familiar to most students, she saw the teenagers take them to heart in a new way.

"The students see that the stories of Moses relate to life right now, not just back then," Claxton said. "We ask the kids all week, 'Are you ready to move?'"

"This is a generation that wants to make an impact. I think they are ready to move—in more ways than one," Claxton said gesturing to the activity-filled recreation area.

### Constant motion

Students in one corner ran flailing their hands wildly in the air as a Fuge staffer took chase in a game of "plagues of Egypt" freeze tag. Seventh graders quickly named a plague before getting tagged. Some even acted out the plague of choice for greater effect.

In the opposite corner, 12th graders formed a human ladder, learning it takes teamwork and support to reach each rung. In the middle of the field, ninth graders ran through an obstacle course blindfolded. They learned that like the children of Israel, you may not know where you are going, but God has a purpose and a destination.

Games like these were Liz Chavarria's favorite part of camp. "The games all teach about God and to take courage in Jesus," the 10th-grader from First Baptist Church of Sonora, Texas, said. "We get to have fun while learning about spiritual applications. It's amazing how everything we do here relates back to our spiritual life. Even the adventure recreation and track times teach God's principles."



**PRAISE TIME** Christian pop-rock band Downhere performs during evening worship at a Glorieta Fuge camp in New Mexico. (LifeWay photos by Tara Patty)

### X-Fuge on Mission aids retirees

By Sue Sprenkle

Santa Fe, N.M.—Laughter erupted as a Frisbee flew through the hands of a teenage girl. She made a funny face and bounded after the brightly colored disc. An older, grandfatherly man smiled patiently and waited for her to return. He was happy to find someone willing to play.

Teens from Calvary Baptist Church in Fairfield, Texas, spent the week working and playing at a low-income retirement village in Santa Fe, N.M., as part of X-Fuge on Mission, a mission trip for students built into the Fuge camp experience. The youth group did everything from digging a new walkway to sharing Christ's love.

"It's good having young people around," said an 80-year-old retired teacher, watching them play Frisbee with her 67-year-old neighbor. "They bring so much energy to this place. All I've done since they arrived is smile."

The Frisbee game quickly broke up when Matthew Prather, Calvary Baptist's youth minister, came out with work assignments for the day. One group headed off to paint trim while another repaired window screens. A few boys remained behind to carry a new refrigerator into an apartment. Alex Ezell stopped briefly to watch a resident walk up the new stone path the youth group put in the day before. The high school se-

nior then chatted with the resident before beginning the coming day's work.

Ezell said his favorite part of X-Fuge on Mission was applying the sermon and Bible study from camp at the ministry site. "There's a deeper level of working and serving with this style of camp," the three-time Centrifuge veteran said. "You apply what you learn immediately. After you serve people, you can talk on a totally different level."

Prather said this camp experience went beyond his expectations. He chose X-Fuge from the Fuge Combo Camp options in the hopes of helping his youth bond together in service.

"I've really seen our youth take what they learn in worship and apply it," he said. "We are learning that just because you are in the United States doesn't mean there's a church on every corner. You have to be willing to share your faith everywhere you go."

Glenice Simmons, director of the housing project, glowed with admiration for the Texas youth group. She said they were the only visitors many of the residents have had.

"These young adults are bringing more life here than we see all year long," Simmons said. "Not only are you being helpful by physically fixing things, but you're changing the spirit of the property. You are sharing God's love in everything you do." (BP)



**ON THE MOVE** Laiken Britt, from Grandbury, Texas, works her way across a row of dowel rods held by fellow students during a trust building exercise at a Glorieta Fuge camp in New Mexico.

Adventure recreation and track times kept students busy in the afternoons. Students chose activities from creative arts to horseback riding to laser tag. Joseph Mercier, a recent high school graduate, and Ricky Barrilleaux, a ninth-grader, agreed that hiking a mountain trail was their favorite afternoon activity. The teens from Immanuel Baptist Church in Morgan City, La., hiked to Pulpit Point.

"The view is amazing," Barrilleaux said. "It really shows the beauty of God and how it surrounds us at all times. I could really feel God close to me up there."

### Time with God

Growing closer to God is what keeps 10th-grader Katie Burgett coming back to Centrifuge year after year. The teenager from First Baptist Church of Granbury, Texas, said when she comes to camp she feels God fill her up, and her commitment grows stronger.

Morgan Smith, an 11th-grader from First Baptist Church of Sonora, Texas, agreed with Burgett. Smith said it is easy to feel God's presence and leading in the camp setting.

"My favorite thing to do at camp is quiet time devotion," Smith said. "It's just you and the Lord spending time together. You can say whatever you want to Him. It's just the greatest time—you and God hanging

out together.

"One moment you are all serious with God," Smith continued, comparing her relationship to God with that of a close friend. "Then, the next minute you are smiling, laughing and making a lot of noise together at Mega Relay. It's just awesome feeling Him so close in everything we do."

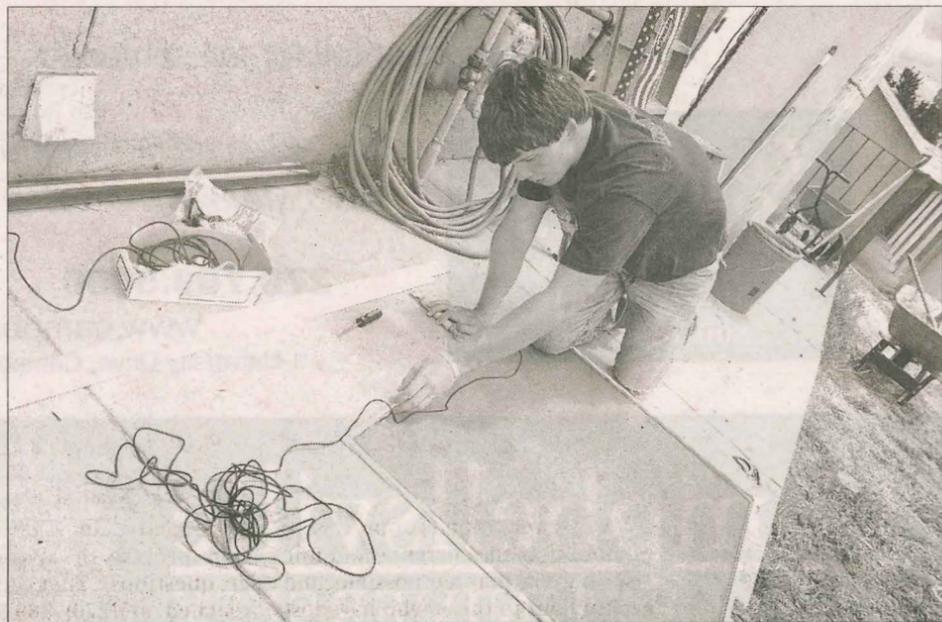
Mega Relay was the final recreational event of the week. Bible study groups competed in a timed relay pulling together more than seven individual and team activities. The louder the decibel level, the faster the teams maneuvered.

After cutting loose at the loud, raucous and fun Mega Relay, everyone settled in for the final worship service. A spiritual high radiated from the chapel as the worship band, Downhere, led the group in a series of praise songs.

Before the praise service wound down, a girl near the back approached her Bible study leader. She wanted to ask Jesus into her life. A group of new Centrifuge friends circled around her, hugging and praying.

As students in the chapel raised their voices to heaven singing the final praise song of the week, the words washed over the small, huddled group—ringing truer than ever before for one camper.

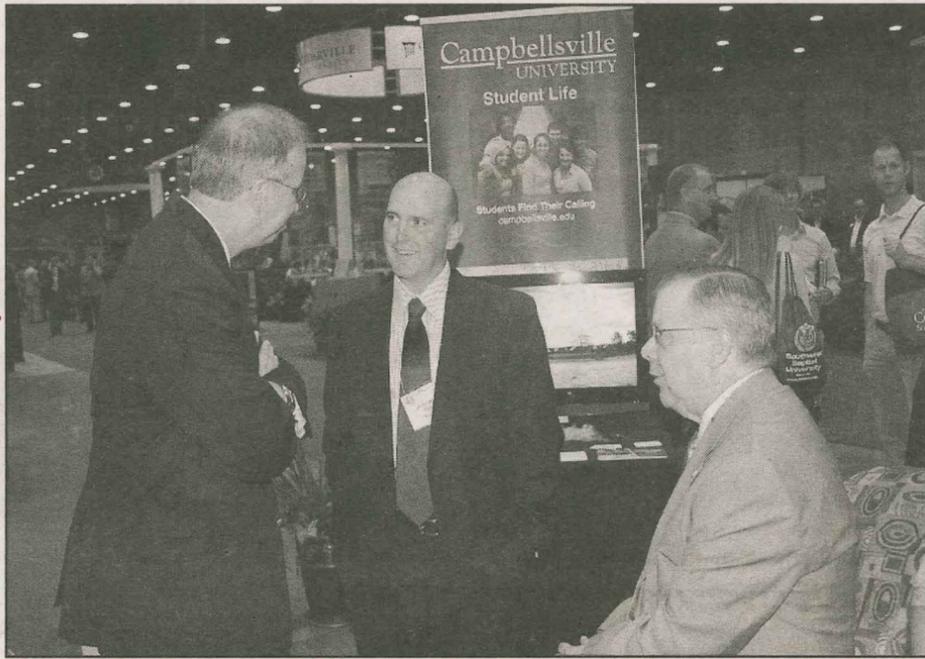
"God is mighty to save ... mighty to save." (BP)



**MOVED TO MISSIONS** Alex Ezell from Calvary Baptist Church in Fairfield, Texas, helps repair a screen at a retirement village in Santa Fe, N.M., as part of an X-Fuge on Mission camp service project.

# Campbellsville UNIVERSITY

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## *The CU booth at the Southern Baptist Convention in Louisville was a busy place...*

< CU leaders participated in the Southern Baptist Convention held recently in Louisville for the first time in 50 years. At CU's booth, Dr. John Mark Toby, center, pastor of Beacon Hill Baptist Church, member of CU's Church Relations Council, current president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and the new First Vice President of the SBC, took time to visit with Dr. Michael V. Carter, CU president at left, and John Chowning, CU vice president for church and external relations and executive assistant to the president, at right.



## *CU Baseball Tigers went to the NAIA World Series...*

< In addition to the SBC coming to Louisville this summer, big news at CU centered around the CU Baseball Team qualifying for first-ever play in the NAIA World Series. U.S. Senator Mitch McConnell and U.S. Congressman Brett Guthrie honored the team by placing all their names in the Congressional Record on June 11, 2009.



## *Decisions for Christ at Summer Camps...*

< More than 200 decisions for Christ (including 105 professions of faith) were made among the nearly 3,000 campers on the CU campus through June. At the half-way point of summer activity, young people have come to campus from 14 states.

Groups have included Crosspoint, Kentucky Heartland Outreach (KHO), KBC All-State Youth Choir & Orchestra, FCA Leadership Camp, Lifeway's Centri-Kid Program and the GoTell Ministry pictured at left.

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