

Shine like stars in the world  
Philippians 2:15

# WESTERN Recorder

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ELIZA BROADUS  
INSERT

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## 'Enlarge my territory'



A Kentucky missions volunteer teaches Bible stories to a group of children at last year's Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union MissionsFEST in Boone's Creek Baptist Association. Kentucky Baptist Convention missions mobilization coordinator Teresa Parrett is responsible for pairing volunteers with missions opportunities all across the state. A portion of her work is supported financially by the Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions. (Photo by Teresa Parrett)

## Jabez's prayer captures call of Kentucky Baptist Convention's missions mobilizer

By Todd Deaton  
Editor

**Somerset**—More than 85 percent of First Baptist Church of Salyersville's new facility was built by volunteer labor. By the pastor's account, thousands of volunteers have worked on various stages of the building.

Since completion, attendance has tripled, with many of the newcomers making professions of faith. Having experienced firsthand the benefits and joys of missions volunteerism, members now are participating on mission trips themselves, including two this summer that involved 80 people.

First Baptist, Salyersville, which celebrates its 100th anniversary next month, is just one of the success stories of volunteerism, according to the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Missions Mobilization Coordinator Teresa Parrett.

This summer alone, more than 1,000 volunteers worked in the Salyersville community assisting other area churches in doing outreach and home repairs. Teams came from as far away as Washington, California, Florida and Massachusetts, and some volunteers were from China and South Africa.

This year the goal for the Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions—which has as its theme, "It's Harvest Time!"—is \$1.1 million. A portion of Kentucky Baptists' gifts to the Eliza Broadus Offering goes to support Parrett's work in helping coordinate some 25,000 short-term missions volunteers each year who come to assist churches, associations and ministries across the state.

Volunteers do church construction, home repairs, construction on ministry buildings, vacation Bible schools, backyard Bible clubs, medical missions, door-to-door evangelis-

tic efforts, nursing home ministries, back-to-school bashes, food and clothing ministries, children and youth programs, sports camps, Bible studies, Christian job corps, camps and work at Baptist schools. Many groups also donate school supplies, food, hygiene products, Bibles, clothing, household cleaning supplies, paper products and office supplies.

While Parrett works closely with Appalachian Regional Ministry and Mississippi River Ministry in pairing volunteers with specific needs, she also gives direction to the Missions on Short Term and Mission Service Corps programs in Kentucky. Approximately 130 MSC missionaries, assigned by the

North American Mission Board, are serving various outreach ministries across the state for a minimum of two years. Six MOST personnel, also assigned by NAMB, are serving in missions support roles, ranging from three weeks to two years.

This month, Parrett will celebrate a significant anniversary in ministry: 10 years of serving in Eastern Kentucky through the KBC. Since 1999, she has coordinated short-term volunteerism for 47 counties and served as the MSC consultant for the region.

"My call to ministry is very much like the 'Prayer of Jabez': God just kept 'enlarging my territory,'" Parrett said.

Having grown up in a small country church, Pine Hill Baptist in Mount Vernon, Parrett said, "My whole life has been one of having the Christian faith taught and lived out before me, both in my home environment and through the church."

Both of her parents and both sets of grandparents were active at Pine Hill. "Read-  
See Parrett realizes calling ... *Page 2*

Open your eyes...  
the fields are ripe.  
*It's Harvest Time!*

## Louisville church reaches out to member, son who struggled with serious nerve condition

By Ken Walker  
State Correspondent

**Louisville**—To Sandra Flaherty, Hunsinger Lane Baptist Church has always felt like a family. But after members rallied to help when a rare disease struck her son, she feels like she has seen God in action.

Among the numerous tasks the congregation handled this summer were mowing her yard, trimming her bushes, power washing her deck, installing light fixtures and stocking her refrigerator.

They also bought her gasoline and food cards and offered other financial assistance.

"I thought, 'This is the way God works,'" said Flaherty, a member of the suburban Louisville church for 10 years.

"This is how He uses people to solve problems. My church family has gone above and beyond the norm."

A single mother of three boys, Flaherty's ordeal started last March when she took 12-year-old Michael to a Louisville hospital for treatment of strep throat and a stomach virus.

She said the nurse who administered a penicillin shot for strep throat put it in the wrong place and nicked a vein, causing a blood clot to lay on the sciatic nerve.

That triggered a central nervous system condition known as CRPS (complex regional pain syndrome), which short-circuits the nervous system and causes it to misfire.

As a result, the brain perceives every sensation as severe pain, Flaherty explained.

Following intense pain the night of the shot, Michael was unable to walk the next morning. He continued to limp for a week and complained of a burning leg and a knot at the injection site.

The following week a pediatrician told him the disorder would clear up on its own. It didn't.

Such symptoms as sharp, hot pains in his leg, swelling in his foot and discoloration of the skin followed. That led to the use of crutches, then a walker and in May confinement to a wheelchair. As the pain intensified, Michael would spend hours a day screaming.

What hurt worse was the reaction of doctors in Louisville, Flaherty said.

"Many of them told him there was nothing wrong with him and that he was 'making it up,'" she recalled. "That only traumatized Michael and made the whole situation much worse."

Unable to find help locally, Flaherty did extensive Internet research, trying to learn more about her son's ailment. One night around 1 a.m., she said, "God, I don't know what else to do."

Just then, a pop-up ad appeared on her screen. When she closed out the ad, she found herself looking at the site of a special children's clinic at a Boston hospital that opened last year.

She called the next morning, telling them she didn't have a doctor's reference since she had been unable to find any help for her son. Though the clinic was full, the hospital agreed to see Michael for an evaluation on May 13.

Then God intervened again. Before the trip to Boston,  
See Mother, son grateful for help ... *Page 3*



**GOD IN ACTION** Sandra Flaherty and her son, Michael, received huge support from their church, Hunsinger Lane Baptist in Louisville, during Michael's frightening battle with CRPS, a painful nerve disorder. (Photo courtesy of Sandra Flaherty)

Dated material. Please deliver by Wednesday, Sept. 9

## Kentucky Baptists Connect extension underway

By Kristie Randolph  
Kentucky Baptist Convention

Louisville—Following the Aug. 31 conclusion of the original Kentucky Baptists Connect strategic emphasis, Kentucky Baptists now are working toward ministry goals outlined in the plan's extension, Kentucky Baptists Connect '09-'12.

The Connect emphasis originally began in 2004 as a five-year strategic plan for evangelism and ministry support across Kentucky. Previously scheduled to conclude in 2009, the Kentucky Baptist Convention Mission Board approved the extension last December in order to reach goals yet to be fulfilled and address new opportunities. Connect '09-'12 began Sept. 1 and will run through Aug. 31, 2012.

"One of the strong values for the Kentucky Baptists Connect emphasis is that it gives direction and priorities for the KBC staff based on objectives and goals that have been developed in a thoughtful, researched and prayerful process to assist local churches," said KBC Executive Director Bill Mackey.

The Connect strategy was developed as a plan to guide the work of all Kentucky Baptist churches, supported by the work and leadership of the KBC Mission Board staff.

"The effort has born great fruit in the form of changed lives, healthier churches, new ministries begun and new churches started," Mackey noted.

Reflecting on the outcomes of the first five years, Mackey said that "most goals have been reached except the baptism goals. This has been a disappointment, but I am grateful that we had a big goal, 25,000 baptisms per year, that only God could have enabled us to reach."

The 2004-09 Connect emphasis outlined 16 goals related to five objectives: evange-

lism; missions; leader training; networking; and strengthening churches. Final reporting on the original objectives will be available in early 2010.

While some goals from the 2004-09 plan again are reflected in the extension, Mackey said the new plan incorporates additional ministry areas. The 2009-12 plan outlines 22 new goals related to three streamlined objectives: developing leaders; strengthening churches; and reaching people.

Goals being carried over from the original plan include baptisms; discipleship and assimilation; church planting; evangelistic ministries; networking; new Sunday school and small group units; and on-line resources.

Additional goals outlined in the extension plan expand the focus to include youth and campus student ministry; stewardship; visionary leadership; prayer; congregational relationships; missions involvement; and disaster relief.

"The most effective goals from the current plan were refined for continuation, and new goals were developed based on research and needs that have surfaced," Mackey pointed out.

### Committee recommends extension

The extension was based on recommendations from the Mission Advisory Committee, a group comprised of Kentucky Baptists who are providing guidance for the Connect emphasis until Jan. 1, 2010. Earlier this year, KBC President John Mark Toby appointed a new Mission Advisory Committee to maintain the same function throughout the three-year extension.

While the Connect '09-'12 emphasis officially began Sept. 1, a more formal launch will take place at the KBC annual meeting on Nov. 10 in Elizabethtown, Mackey said.

## Parrett realizes calling to coordinate state missions

Continued from page 1

ing our church history is reading my family history as well," she said.

Music always has been one of her loves. While she enjoyed singing and was active in the youth choir, her greatest desire was to play the piano. "At vacation Bible school, when all of the other children wanted to carry the flags, my desire was to play the 'stand up' and 'sit down' chords on the piano," she recalled.

Encouraged by the church pianist of 45 years, Lela Mae Turner, Parrett began playing for Wednesday evening services. At age 16, she became the church's pianist and also played for revival services at other area churches.

"I was always happy to do so," she said. "In fact, I had a passion for doing anything in the church."

After graduating from Eastern Kentucky University, Parrett became an elementary school music teacher for the Rockcastle County school system. Because of her music background, she was asked to serve as music director for Rockcastle Baptist Association, which involved working with about 20 churches. "God was 'enlarging my tent,'" Parrett observed.

Parrett attended several associational meetings and was named to the ASSISTeam to help train Sunday school workers. Parrett later was asked to be the association's consultant of discipleship for children and youth. After only a few months, when the discipleship director moved to a pastorate in another association, Parrett assumed that role—a position she still holds.

In 1986, after teaching school for nine

years, she sensed that God was leading her to leave teaching. "That year, on a profile I had written for the school, I was asked to state my secret goal or desire. Mine was to be in full-time church work," Parrett recalled. "When I was involved in the work of the church and association, I was at my happiest and most fulfilled. Any other work just did not measure up."



Teresa Parrett

Parrett began teaching private flute and piano lessons, and later went to work as an insurance agent. Though sales was seemingly a long way from ministry, she said she felt it was an important step in God's plan for her life.

"My personality literally began to change before my very eyes. I was gaining more confidence every day and was becoming much more outgoing," she said. "Again, God had a plan."

But she knew something still was missing. "A few years later, God began to speak again, this time much stronger. He was definitely calling me to some type of ministry," she recollected.

In 1999, she spoke with David Aker, then the KBC's mountain missions director, who shared her resumé with convention personnel, and Parrett soon was invited to become a mountain missions consultant for Eastern Kentucky. After sharing her call to missions with her home church, she also became an MSC missionary, and started helping to place long-term missionaries across the region.

Last year, God broadened Parrett's territory yet again. When Aker stepped down after 11 years with the KBC, her role expanded to missions mobilization coordinator for the entire state.

"I am grateful to David (Aker) for connect-

"The big focus at the annual meeting will be 'Find it Here,' which is a part of 'God's Plan for Sharing,' a 10-year evangelism emphasis from the North American Mission Board. 'God's Plan for Sharing' has been written into Kentucky Baptists Connect '09-'12 as the primary evangelism strategy," he noted.

"'Find it Here' will be the primary emphasis the first year for Kentucky Baptists Connect '09-'12," Mackey said. "The effort is providing an opportunity for churches to mobilize people to reach all age groups at Easter, when people are most open to spiritual conversation and church attendance."

Find it Here also will include prayer-walking and follow-up efforts, which relate to the new Connect goals.

Another important resource to help Kentucky Baptists fulfill the Connect goals will be introduced at the annual meeting, Mackey indicated. The resource will "enable churches to survey their needs in 12 key areas and utilize a 'Ministry Toolbox' that has potential objectives and projects with action steps," he said.

KBC staff will provide leadership in executing each Connect goal and in measuring progress, but Connect will continue to rely on the ministries and outreach efforts of local KBC churches, Mackey suggested.

Connect '09-'12 also reaffirms partnerships between Kentucky Baptists and Kentucky Baptist entities; continues to acknowledge the major impact factors stated in the original plan; and authorizes Mackey to lead in implementing the emphasis.

A detailed list of the Connect '09-'12 goals can be requested from the KBC by calling (502) 489-3578, or toll free in Kentucky at (866) 489-3578. Additional information about Kentucky Baptists Connect can be found at [www.KyBaptist.org/KBC](http://www.KyBaptist.org/KBC).

ing me to the KBC and helping me to find my place in ministry," Parrett said then. "He taught me so much and involved me in many ministry experiences."

Now, through the support provided by the Eliza Broadus Offering, Parrett is putting her many ministry experiences to work, leading other Baptists to allow God to "broaden their territory" by serving as missions volunteers in Kentucky.



**HANDS AND FEET** A missions volunteer paints the side of a house during last year's WMU Missions-FEST in Boone's Creek Baptist Association, one of the thousands of short-term missions workers mobilized in 2008 by the KBC's Teresa Parrett. (Photo by Teresa Parrett)

## SBTS professor to be nominated as KBC first VP

Lexington—Adam Greenway, a professor and administrator at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, will be nominated as Kentucky Baptist



Adam Greenway

Convention first vice president when the KBC annual meeting convenes Nov. 10 in Elizabethtown.

Greenway, 31, is assistant professor of evangelism and applied apologetics at Southern's

Billy Graham School of Missions and Evangelism, and associate vice president for extension education and applied ministries. He will be nominated by Bill Henard, pastor of Porter Memorial Baptist Church in Lexington.

Henard described Greenway as "one of our up-and-coming young leaders," adding that "his talents and potential as a leader are being recognized by others in the convention."

"Adam has a servant's heart and has been willing to serve Kentucky Baptists regardless of the position," noted Henard, who served as KBC president in 2007-08. He and Greenway co-edited the book "Evangelicals Engaging Emergent: A Discussion of the Emergent Church Movement" which was released earlier this year.

As a self-proclaimed member of the "younger pastor" group in Kentucky, Greenway said he wants "to reach out to younger leaders and show that the KBC really is trying to bridge the generations in seeking what we can do together to reach our state with the gospel."

His role as a seminary professor, he said, allows him the opportunity to encourage students "to understand the role of the state convention, to get involved in the state convention (and) to see the state convention as a viable and valuable partner for the sake of the gospel."

Prior to joining Southern Seminary in 2007, Greenway was pastor of The Baptist Church at Andover in Lexington for five years. He currently is a member of the KBC's Committee on Constitution and Bylaws, and recently was named chairman of the ad hoc committee that will study the size of the convention's Mission Board. He is a graduate of Southern Seminary, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas, and Samford University in Birmingham, Ala.

Greenway is a member of First Baptist Church of Mount Washington. The church gave 8 percent of undesignated receipts to the Cooperative Program and reported 66 baptisms in 2007-08, according to the KBC's 2008 Annual Church Profile statistics.

## Court rules challenge of Sunrise funding can move forward

**Cincinnati**—A federal appeals court has revived a case involving a Kentucky Baptist children's home accused of using taxpayer dollars to indoctrinate children with religious beliefs.

The 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled Aug. 31 that a lawsuit filed by taxpayers to end state funding of Sunrise Children's Services—formerly known as Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children—can move forward.

It overturned a decision by a lower court last year to dismiss the case following a Supreme Court ruling that narrowed taxpayers' rights to sue over allegations of state-sponsored religion.

The lead plaintiff in the lawsuit is Alicia Pedreira, specialist at Spring Meadows Children's Home in Louisville after the agency found out she was a lesbian. Her termination notice said she was fired because her lifestyle was contrary to the agency's Christian values.

Six Kentucky taxpayers, including Paul Simmons, chairman of the board of Amer-

icans United for Separation of Church and State and a former Southern Baptist Theological Seminary professor, joined the case alleging that the children's home is a "pervasively sectarian" religious institution using tax dollars to indoctrinate children with religion, and claimed the \$12.5 million a year the organization receives in state funding violates the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment.

A federal district court last year that the Supreme Court's 2007 opinion in *Hein v. Freedom From Religion* narrowed taxpayers' ability to sue over violations of the First Amendment's Establishment Clause—which bars government support for religion—and dismissed the lawsuit. The appeals court disagreed with that interpretation, however, and ordered the case sent back to the lower court for further proceedings.

In a statement e-mailed to the Western Recorder last week, Bill Smithwick, president of Sunrise Children's Services, called the appeals court's reversal, called the decision "confusing," adding the ruling "is

inconsistent with related case law." He said the agency is planning an appeal.

Smithwick denied the plaintiffs' claims that Sunrise coerces children to become Baptists, calling the accusations "more of a strategy to harm us primarily because of our traditional family values than perceived religious indoctrination."

"Our mission to help victimized children heal from obscene abuse and neglect is driven by our faith and tradition," Smithwick said in the e-mail. "That some children come to faith in Christ is their choice, not our coercion."

"We provide the kids in our care the choice to embrace faith or refuse it," he continued. "The children's faith choices is not the real issue here, our values are."

Although Pedreira was the lead plaintiff in the lawsuit, the three-judge panel ultimately dismissed the former KBHC employee's discrimination claim that was included in the complaint.

Pedreira's lawyers argued that her dismissal was in violation of the Kentucky Civil Rights Act, not based on her sexual ori-

entation, but rather "discrimination on account of religion."

"Pedreira claims that she was terminated because she does not hold KBHC's religious belief that homosexuality is sinful," the panel's opinion stated.

While it was undisputed that Pedreira was fired because of her sexual orientation, the court ruled that she failed to show how the agency discriminated against her based on religion alone.

"Pedreira has not alleged any particulars about her religion that would even allow an inference that she was discriminated against on account of her religion, or more particularly, her religious differences with KBHC," the panel wrote.

Smithwick said that at least 80 percent of Sunrise Children's Services' estimated \$24 million budget for this year is provided by state funds in the form of reimbursements. Sunrise serves approximately 2,000 children each year through its residential treatment and foster care programs.

*Compiled from reporting by Associated Baptist Press and News Director Drew Nichter.*

## Mother, son grateful for help, prayers from Louisville church family

*Continued from page 1*

Flaherty took Michael to see a specialist. He wound up being examined by the doctor's partner, who recognized CRPS.

"I thought, 'How cool of God to send in a different doctor,'" she said. "When we flew to Boston it was on a private medical jet owned by the hospital here. I wouldn't have even known an advocate. She also made multiple calls to Boston."

Michael was admitted to the hospital on May 24, two weeks before space opened in the clinic. After staying in a special parents' room for the first 18 days, Sandra needed a vehicle and a place to live.

Instead of having to pay \$900 a month for a vehicle, Flaherty received the use of a van for free from a single mother at the Boston church a Hunsinger Lane member used to attend.

In addition, a couple from a Methodist church in a Boston suburb offered the use of their home for a month.

Flaherty said while in Massachusetts she felt like she was along for a ride arranged by the Lord.

"Michael's doctor was one of the leading specialists on CRPS in the country," she noted. "He does seminars, has written articles and parts of books. God did all that; I didn't. All I did was try to take care of my child."

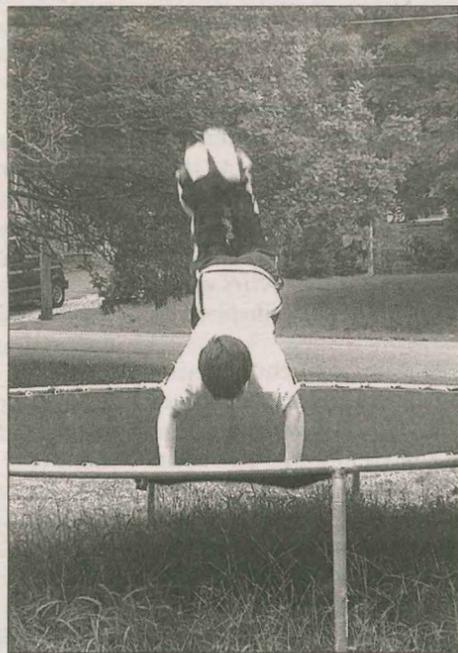
Meanwhile, back in Louisville, God was moving hearts at her church, according to senior pastor Charlie Davis.

After learning about Flaherty—who works as a baby photographer at Baptist Hospital East—one member presented Davis a check for \$2,000, insisting his gift remain anonymous.

Other financial help came from a special fund initiated last February, where members put spare change into plates at the end of Sunday services, which raises up to \$300 a week.

"The dedication involved with this has been a blessing," Davis said. "The deacons and Sunday school classes feel like they've done some valuable ministry. With those classes that helped, it helped foster a unity. "We talk a lot in church about finding ways to express our Christian faith and what we're learning, so this created ways to do that," the pastor added.

Paul Bruce, who teaches the Sunday school class that Flaherty attends, called the assistance one of the most meaningful activities he's been involved in over the past



**JUMPING FOR JOY** After dealing with a very painful nerve disorder that left him immobile only a few months earlier, Michael Flaherty now does back flips on his trampoline. (Photo courtesy of Sandra Flaherty)

eight years of teaching.

"We really felt needed," Bruce said. "The need was way bigger than us. You know the Lord would have to do that, but we could help. That's how each one of us felt."

After a painful first week in which Michael gradually learned to wiggle a toe, followed by a foot and an ankle, he slowly improved.

By the time they returned home the second week of July, he could walk, run and do back flips on a trampoline.

The battles aren't over, however. Flaherty has consulted an attorney after a dispute with the hospital over responsibility for the misguided injection.

In August, her paternal grandfather and a friend from the church died.

Yet, she wants everyone at Hunsinger Lane and across Kentucky to know how grateful she is for everything that happened.

"I want to thank God," Flaherty said. "We want everyone to know who helped us how appreciative we are. Every little thing that Michael can do now—he's like a kid in a candy store. He says, 'I don't know how God will use this, but He will.'"

### Son is 'little missionary' at Boston hospital

By Ken Walker  
State Correspondent

**Louisville**—Sandra Flaherty's son, Michael, was about halfway into a seven-week-long rehabilitation regimen at a Boston hospital when he received a surprise present from fellow church members: a Nintendo Wii.

The popular game system included an exercise module designed to make his daily routine easier and more fun.

The Louisville seventh grader called the gift from Hunsinger Lane Baptist Church "over and beyond a million percent."

"I couldn't put it into words," he said of the support that included more than 150 get-well cards and other expressions of encouragement for him and his family.

"My Sunday school class did stuff for me, or their parents, or their parents' friends. People across the country were praying for me—people I didn't even know."

#### Disease shook faith

Michael admitted that when his battle with CRPS (complex regional pain syndrome) began, it shook his faith. Not only did his condition keep getting worse, he kept praying without seeing any answers.

"When I got to Boston and met some nice doctors, they knew I wasn't faking it," Michael said of the frustration of originally being told there was nothing wrong with him. "I met other people, too, and we cheered each other on."

Still, he had a painful first week there, screaming regularly because of pain and continuing to suffer numerous symptoms. Doctors told him that was normal for the first week, which proved to be true.

At the end of that week, he was able to twitch a toe and an ankle. That was followed by a foot and an ankle.

"I couldn't believe it," Michael said of his first pain-free movements in months. "It was the most awesome miracle I had ever seen."

His mother is proudest of the way her son regularly asked doctors and

other hospital personnel if they were Christians.

One of those encounters was with a clinical assistant who regularly visited to spend time with Michael and handle tasks that his condition prevented him from completing.

Michael asked if the man's Baptist church had Awanas, which later led to a visit from a missionary with the popular children's Bible-based program. The church plans to start Awanas this fall.

"I felt so good," Michael said when he learned of the church's decision. "I was so happy. I saw how God was using this and how He can turn something bad into something good. It shows how good He is."

"My little missionary," added Flaherty, who has taught 3 and 4 year olds in Hunsinger Lane's Awanas program for 10 years. "There are hardly any Awanas churches in Massachusetts."

She said Michael also shared about Christ with four teenage girls who were in the same rehabilitation wing.

A booklet of about 30 Bible verses about healing and other topics that she prepared for Michael to use during therapy proved so popular she wound up making copies for all the girls, Flaherty recalled.

#### "He's always with you"

Those verses and his faith helped keep Michael going after he had lost hope of ever walking again.

Today, he plans to soon try out for his middle school's soccer team and is overjoyed that he is able to run and do back flips on his trampoline.

Reflecting on the most important lesson he's learned during the past six months, Michael said he sees that when life is rough and it feels like nothing will get better, God is always there beside him.

"There is light at the end of the tunnel," he said. "He's always waiting for you and He's always with you."

"That's huge. God does everything for a reason. We can't always see it but we've got to trust Him."

## Lawrenceburg's 175th celebration

First Baptist Church of Lawrenceburg celebrated its 175th anniversary with an event that featured former pastors and staff on a Saturday night, which was followed by a celebration worship service on Sunday. The celebration included the burial of a time capsule—scheduled to be opened on the 200th anniversary of the church in 2034—and the release of a commemorative directory and history of the church.

One of the highlights of the celebration was the presentation of a master plan for further developing the church building and grounds. The church is located on a five-acre site and the master plan calls for an additional family life center and educational space to accommodate 850 in Sunday school and 1,000 in worship.

The first phase will focus on the family life center to provide space for the Upward basketball ministry and numerous ministries for children and youth: AWANA, Teens on Missions, Kids on Missions, Kid Style Worship, E-Line for Teens, and Children's Creative Ministry. There are also ministries for adults.

Pastor Bob Ehr is very excited about these long range plans. During the three years that Ehr has been pastor, the church has grown by about 15 percent in worship and Sunday school average attendance, and by 14 percent in undesignated receipts.

First Baptist is outstanding in support of missions through the Cooperative Program. The congregation gave \$146,506 (20 percent of undesignated receipts) in 2007-2008 and has given a total of \$2.95 million to missions through CP since 1925.

This strong giving pattern is a continuation of a long and strong missions heritage. In fact, the church sent its first missionary to China as long ago as 1887.

It began its strong support of missions giving in the 1890s when the church organized a missions committee and began taking regular missions offerings. Strong missions education programs for women, men and children were then formed in the first part of the 20th century.

This past December, the church exceeded \$50,000 in giving through the Lottie Moon Christmas offering to support the International Mission Board.

Pastor Ehr credits the missionaries-in-residence program for this outstanding increase in missions support. The church has provided a home for missionaries on state-side assignment since 1977. Two of these families have moved their church membership to FBC. The missionaries have been involved in the life of the church and that has helped the congregation to put a face on missions.

First Baptist Church of Lawrenceburg is a body of believers that has overcome many challenges over its long history. It is gratifying to learn how God has enabled FBC Lawrenceburg to grow through these challenges and become such an outstanding missions congregation.

*Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.*

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*"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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## Why does my church send me this paper?

"Why do I receive this newspaper in the mail each week?" a member of a Sunday school class asked his teacher one day. The young man, a relatively new church member, held up an issue of the state Baptist newspaper for everyone in the class to see.

The other members looked at each other uneasily, uncertain exactly how their teacher would respond. Several longtime members began to squirm and chuckle. What was so amusing? Who do you think the Sunday school teacher was? Me.

At the time, I was serving as the associate editor of the Baptist state paper in a neighboring state. Naturally, some of the class members wondered that morning if the young man's question was a set up. No, it was an honest question. Yet, I couldn't have hoped for a better opportunity to explain the importance of his reading the newspaper he was holding:

■ Do you believe church members should know how their tithes and missions offerings are being used around the world to reach people for Christ?

■ Do you believe it is important to affirm those who are showing God's love and care to others, and to encourage fellow church members to do likewise?

■ Do you believe it would be beneficial for your church members to see real-life examples of how other Baptists are putting their faith into action, sometimes in unique, but very practical ways?

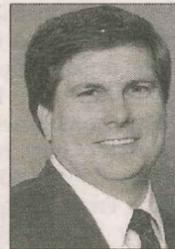
■ Do you believe it would be great for the students in your church to learn more about Christian universities where dedicated faculty members are committed to help them grow stronger in their faith and use their vocational skills and talents to serve God?

■ Do you believe church members should read stories about the sacrificial work being done in the name of Christ by Baptist missionaries, disaster relief volunteers and church mission teams and be inspired to serve, too?

■ Do you believe the youth in your church need to be encouraged to attend camps and participate in summer retreats where they not only will have fun, but also the gospel will be shared and many of them may come to trust Christ as their Savior?

■ Do you believe it is important for your church members to examine the social issues that are affecting their daily lives from a biblical perspective and be urged to seek ways to change the culture for God?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then you realize the significance of the ministry that your state Baptist newspaper provides. All of these benefits, and many more, are good reasons Baptist churches choose to send this paper to every member.



## After Thought

By Todd Deaton

This news is different from any other secular newspaper you will read. It's devoted to telling Good News. Your church understands the importance of not only keeping its members informed about what Baptists in our state and across our nation are doing, but also it wants to inspire you with real life stories that illustrate how God is at work in people's lives. In short, this paper helps you to see a world of missions opportunities waiting just beyond the church's steps.

For many years, various convention leaders have touted that an informed Baptist is a better Baptist. That fact hasn't changed. Why? Because he or she is aware of a myriad of ministry opportunities in which one can be involved across their state, nation and world. An informed Baptist is more likely to become inspired by the news reports of the many good works being done by fellow Baptists and the eyewitness accounts of people whose lives are being transformed by the gospel. As church members read these news articles and features about Baptist work, they often are led to become more active in their church's ministries and to give more freely of their time, talents and resources to further God's work.

So, how do your church members receive the paper?

Preferably, they receive it in their mailbox each week. Pastors and church leaders are encouraged to send the paper to the home of every active family. That way, every member receives weekly encouragement from their church, helping them to stay informed about Baptist news and events and to participate in some form of ministry.

Many churches also have realized significant savings by publishing their newsletters—every week or once or twice each month—on the back page of the Western Recorder, providing their church members with a single source for local, associational, state, national and international Baptist news. It's quite a deal!

Individuals and small groups also may subscribe to their state Baptist newspaper. They know it helps them stay connected to other Baptists and become more aware of how God is at work in their nation and around the world. The paper also provides practical family and financial resources from a biblical perspective, and offers contemporary illustrations and insights for Christian living to augment their Bible studies and daily devotions.

No matter how you receive your state Baptist paper, the intent is always the same: to encourage your church's members to "shine like the stars," lighting their world for Jesus Christ.

## Baptizing a new Christian: Oh, happy day!

It's time to celebrate! The ordinance of baptizing a brand new Christian is a most joyous occasion for a church. Small touches can make a baptism even more unforgettable. As a pastor's wife, I've enjoyed seeing my husband incorporate these baptismal traditions in our church. Can some of these fresh ideas work for your church?

**Invitations:** When a person accepts Jesus as their Savior at your church, give them printed invitations to the baptismal service for their friends and relatives. They will be excited to invite many friends—both Christians and lost people—to attend.

**Read a testimony:** Ask each new Christian to write out a very brief, clear testimony about how God saved him or her. We used these three prompts: Before I was saved;

how I was saved; now that I'm saved. The pastor reads the candidate's testimony from the baptistry as a public testimony. It also explains to guests exactly how to accept Christ.

### Fresh Ideas



Diana Davis

**Ask friends to stand:** Encourage friends and relatives of this new Christian to stand as he is baptized. This can be printed in the bulletin or announced during baptism.

**Confirming question:** "Jake, is it your testimony that you have asked Jesus Christ into your heart to be your Lord and Savior?" can be answered, "Yes, I have!"

**All together now:** If immediate family members are being baptized during the same service, another minister can join the pastor in the baptistry. Individually introduce, read their testimonies, then baptize them at the same time.

**Photograph:** Take a photo from the side of the baptistry during the baptism. The photograph and laminated hand-written testimony can be mailed afterward.

**Sunday morning baptism:** If you usually observe baptism during the evening worship, consider celebrating it occasionally on Sunday morning. Most unsaved people attend that service, and God can use those testimonies to touch lives.

**A traditional song:** Choose a favorite appropriate chorus and conclude every baptismal service by singing it joyfully.

**Annual montage:** Create a cumulative video or still-photo montage of each person baptized this year. Capture celebration and joy, and use it in conjunction with a sermon or end of year party.

I remember well that very happy day when I was baptized as a new believer. Do you?

*Diana and Steve Davis will lead the annual Kentucky Baptist Pastor/Deacon/Wives Retreat in January.*

## What is the difference between a principle and a preference?

By David Garrard

In her 2009 book, "30 Ways in 30 Days to Save Your Family," Rebecca Hagelin describes the difference between principles and preferences.



Principles are the foundational beliefs that you live by and are willing to fight and sacrifice for; preferences are what you prefer in a given moment. Hagelin offers an example. "My preference is that my daughter will make all A's; my principle is that she will always do her best."

Parents often struggle to know when to take a stand and when to let something slide—especially when it comes to music, clothes and other aspects of culture where kids and parents are apt to differ. Sometimes it can be hard to distinguish what is truly important from what could almost be considered trivial in light of the big picture.

Thinking about the values and beliefs that really matter can help parents know when to compromise and when to stand firm. Hagelin advises sitting down and making a list of important principles and then pairing each one with a preference that might relate. Be sure to let faith and Christian teaching guide your thinking. When conflicts arise in your home and with your children, ask God to help you see whether or not a principle is at stake. If so, hold the line. If not, be willing to bend.

Ephesians 6:4 reminds parents not to intentionally do anything to exasperate or frustrate their children. Understanding the difference between principles and preferences can help parents follow this scriptural command and make decisions that are fair and respectful.

David Garrard is minister to children at St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville.

## You've got the light: Green means go!

By Neal Ledbetter

Have you ever been in your car behind someone at a stoplight when the light turns green and the person just sits there? The driver has a green light to go, but he goes nowhere.

Somehow I always tend to find these people when I come to a light. In my observation, it usually happens because of one or all of the following reasons:

- The driver misunderstood the signal. As impossible as it seems to misunderstand a simple green signal, it happens. He sees a green signal, but something in his brain doesn't connect, and the driver just sits there.

- The driver became distracted. She wasn't paying attention. She was talking to passengers, talking on the phone, texting a friend, shuffling songs on her iPod, looking at a map, applying make-up. She was focused on less important things and didn't know the signal changed.

- The driver became frozen. He froze in fear. Maybe someone just ran the light in the opposite direction or he didn't know which way to go. He sits at a green light because of fear and over-cautiousness.

- The driver forgot. She forgot what she was doing, where she was going. She just zoned out. It happens to the best of us. I've driven from my office to my home without any real recollection of how I got there. I was just going through the daily routine, not really paying attention.

Ironically, these reasons for sitting at a green light are very similar to what you and I experience when it comes to responding to the command to share our faith and join the mission of God.

- Many of us have misunderstood the signal. We have

a false view of missions, thinking it is limited to a location or limited to a specific time in our lives after we have accomplished our own goals. Or it is limited to a 10-day mission trip, or it is just for the "professionals" such as pastors or career missionaries.

### FIRST PERSON

- Some of us have become distracted. We stop paying attention to the mission of God and our part in it because of a number of concerns that are ultimately trivial when compared to the compelling command of the Great Commission.

- Some of us are frozen. Many of us are afraid to tell of our faith because of fear, uncertainty, or the belief that we have failed too much in our own lives to be used by God.

- Some of us have forgotten. Many of us have forgotten our purpose, forgotten what it was like to be transformed, forgotten what it was like to have our sins forgiven, forgotten there are still millions who don't know.

*God has given each of us a green light to go, to tell, to live our faith.*

God has given each of us a green light to go, to tell, to live our faith. Whatever the reason, many of us are still sitting at the light, and there's a danger many of us will still be sitting

there years from now.

I spoke recently with a student who had just returned from an African nation where she witnessed nearly 20,000 people confess Christ as Savior and King. God is at work. He's not asleep and on the move. The beauty of God is here and now and on the wheel. The beauty is that He has invited us to join Him in His mission to rescue the hearts of people everywhere.

The Great Commission is our green light. Will you join Him or sit at the crossroad staring at the light? Green means go.

Neal Ledbetter is director of spiritual life and campus ministries at the University of Mobile.

## Keys to improving our youth programs

Programs may be the one area that youth ministers are evaluated on the most. For many people, programming means numbers, and numbers equals success. Whether we like it or not, we are judged by the success of our Wednesday night meetings, Disciple Now weekends, camps, how many we took to the amusement park, or how many participated in the chubby-bunny contest. So, if we are going to be evaluated on the strength of our programs, then we need to make sure that we pay attention to them.

**Purpose.** Every program ought to have a purpose. That purpose should be tied to the process for developing students. We need to ask ourselves as youth leaders and to ask the parents of our students, what is it that we want our students to "look like" when they graduate from the youth ministry? We are not talking about how they look physically, but what do they look like spiritually.

If our goal is to develop young adults that are in love with Jesus, or well-informed, responsible followers of Christ, then our programs should be geared toward reaching that goal. It may require taking a hard look at what we are doing and asking tough questions related to why. It also may give us freedom to tweak or toss programs that do not help accomplish that purpose.

**Age appropriate.** Not everything we do has to be for the entire group. State law says you have to be 16 to drive; Fuge says you have to have finished the sixth grade to go to camp; and the U.S. Constitution says you have to be 35 to be president. Whether I agree with those laws or not, there isn't a whole lot I can do to change them. Somewhere along the way we decided that every event we offer has to be something for our entire group. There are times when we need to all be together, that is what families do. But there are things that

our juniors and seniors can experience, lead and discuss for which our middle-school children aren't ready.

**Quality.** There are very few reasons for our programs to be ill planned. I know many youth pastors like to wing it. Hey, I've even been referred to as "the king of wing." And there are times where winging it is necessary. But our students deserve programs—Bible studies, retreats, hayrides or whatever—that are quality. Our students will come to the events that we offer, but we also need to make sure that these events are of enough quality that they won't be embarrassed to invite their friends.

**Relational.** One of the beautiful things about youth ministry programs is that they offer a plethora of opportunities for us to build relationships with students. They also provide those same opportunities for the adults in our church. Chaperoning or helping with the meeting should not only be about crowd control. They provide excellent opportunities for relationship building.

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

### Youth Ministry Corner



Joe Ball

## Youth needed to correspond with overseas pen pals

Over the past 17 years, the Fellowship of Baptist Educators has sponsored a missions activity among high school and middle school students known as "Christian Corresponders" under the direction of John Carter. He is retiring but will work with the new director, Kellie Ziesemer for at least this school year.

The name of the project also is changing. The name "Universal Pen Pal Project" has been selected to be more acceptable in countries where mission work is restricted. Although the name has changed, the

mission remains the same.

Through the years, thousands of Christian young people have become pen pals with foreign students who are taking English. For many students it provides a way to be a Christian influence in the lives of young people overseas who otherwise might never be exposed to the gospel.

The project has been adopted by Sunday school classes and other Christian groups as a missions outreach. While most correspondence is now done by e-mail, students overseas who do not have access to computers will be able to correspond by letters.

Any Christian group or individual in grades 7-12 who would like to participate may contact Kellie Ziesemer by e-mail at [universalspenpalproject@yahoo.com](mailto:universalspenpalproject@yahoo.com) and provide the following information: Name of church or group; postal address, e-mail address, and phone number of leader. For each student participating, give name, gender, grade level and e-mail address.

Information should be sent by October 15. For more information, contact Ziesemer at the above e-mail address or by phone at (513) 732-2111.

## Flexible life income gift

by Laurie Valentine

Are the "minimum distribution rules" requiring you to take more from your IRA than you currently need for living expenses? Are you interested in establishing a charitable gift plan that will ultimately provide a significant gift to one or more charitable causes, while allowing you to "tap in" to an income stream at a later age?

A "flexible deferred charitable gift annuity" may solve your problem and accomplish your charitable giving objective. A deferred charitable gift annuity is gift plan in which a charity agrees, in exchange for a gift of cash, appreciated securities or real estate, to make fixed payments to the giver and/or one other person for their lifetime(s) beginning at least one year and one day after the gift is made. While the annuity payments don't start for a year or more, the giver is entitled to a charitable income tax deduction in the year the gift is made to the charity.

A "flexible deferred charitable gift annuity" offers an additional benefit. Instead of designating a particular, unchangeable start date for the annuity payments, the flexible gift annuity contract reserves to the giver the right to postpone the decision about the actual annuity payment start date until later.

Here's an example: George Brown, age 71, is required to take \$10,000 a year from his IRA. He currently has no need for that income. He withdraws the required \$10,000, plus another \$2,000 from the IRA to cover taxes. He gives \$10,000 to charity and signs a flexible deferred gift annuity contract that provides annuity payments will begin at age 75, unless he elects to begin payments earlier or later. Results? George has made a deductible charitable contribution of \$4,300—his tax deduction plus the \$1,750 additional IRA withdrawal should cover the taxes on the IRA distribution, and he has set up a \$10,000 irrevocable fund with charity from which he can begin to take annuity payments whenever he chooses.

The annuity payout rates available to George at various ages and the payment amounts are: 7.4% (\$740 per year) if payments start at age 75; 8.9% (\$890 per year) if payments start at age 78; 10.2% (\$1,020 per year) if payments start at age 80. Assuming Georges lives out his full 15-year life expectancy, there will be \$9,900 left for charity if the fund earns an average annual return of 6.3%.

Laurie Valentine is trust counsel for the Kentucky Baptist Foundation.



## Pastor: Disciples move from study to become servants and soldiers

By Todd Deaton  
Editor

Lexington—At a church where bats once occupied its steeple, when the pastor was asked how he had gotten rid of them, he retorted, “We baptized them, put them on our church roll and we haven’t seen them since,” joked Doug Davis, pastor of Perryville Baptist Church, in introducing a workshop on becoming a disciple-making church.

In the seminar, one of many offered during the first of the recent Super Saturday sessions across the state, Davis suggested some practical steps to help church leaders make discipleship a church-wide, spiritual priority.

“Disciplemaking has to become an overwhelming mandate of the entire church body,” Davis began. “It has to be a whole church effort. If everyone is not involved in the process, you are going to have some real challenges. You have to have a passion for it in your heart.”

Observing that some members are reluctant to move out into the community to minister, Davis shared a story about some Pilgrims who did not want to build a road to help their settlement expand and to grow crops. “These are the same people who crossed the ocean. Now they won’t go five miles,” he quipped.

Observing that the Great Commission’s goal is to make disciples, Davis asserted, “The thing we count is baptisms, and baptisms are good, but it’s not what we are really after. Jesus told us to go make disciples. That’s what we are about.”

“John the Baptist baptized; Jesus taught disciples,” Davis explained. “John the Baptist had followers, but Jesus’ followers turned the world upside down.”

Being a disciple is not the same as being a church member or being a clone of another follower, he clarified. Being a disciple means “we live like Jesus, talk like Jesus and love like Jesus,” Davis said.

“It means to be like Jesus—nothing short of

that will do,” he declared.

Becoming a disciple is a lifelong process, he reminded seminar participants. In describing a five-step progression, Davis explained: “We start as seekers of God; we enter as saved saints; we continue the journey as students of God’s Word; we expand as servants in the Kingdom; and then, we live the gospel as soldiers on the front line.”

The final three stages overlap like interlocking circles, Davis said. The disciple advances from being a student studying God’s Word, from studying to serving others, and from serving others to making a difference in the

world, he pointed out.

“What is the No. 1 reason our churches are empty?” Davis asked. “People say that it’s boring,” he replied. “That’s because we are not making a difference. We’re building buildings and collecting money, but we’re not busy changing the world.”

A church’s mission statement, Davis maintained, should reflect the five main characteristics of a disciple: love for others, evangelism to the lost, holiness in lifestyle, worship in private and corporate, and ministry to those in need.

“Church happens when the body of Christ becomes salt and light in the world,” Davis declared.

To illustrate the point, Davis told about a 12-year-old boy who went to stay on his uncle’s farm. The lad was awakened by his uncle at 4:30 in the morning to help slop hogs, feed chickens, milk cows and chop firewood all before breakfast. After a hearty meal, the boy headed upstairs to lie down, complaining about doing all that work.

“That’s not work. That’s chores around the house,” the uncle replied. “We haven’t started work yet. The work is out there in the field.”

Four more Super Saturday events are scheduled in September: Sept. 12, First Baptist Church of Paducah, and First Baptist Church of Somerset; Sept. 19, First Baptist Church of Pikeville, and Zion Baptist Church in Henderson.



## ‘Great Commission Kentucky’ blog keeps Kentucky Baptists apprised of ‘resurgence’

Louisville—The Kentucky Baptist Convention has launched “Great Commission Kentucky,” a blog about how Kentucky Baptists are involved in fulfilling the Great Commission locally, nationally and around the world.

According to KBC Communications Director Robert Reeves, the blog was developed in connection with Southern Baptist Convention President Johnny Hunt’s call for a renewed focus on fulfilling the Great Commission during the SBC annual meeting in Louisville back in June. The blog can be accessed at [www.GreatCommissionKentucky.com](http://www.GreatCommissionKentucky.com).

“We wanted to create conversation space regarding the Great Commission Resurgence as it applies to Kentucky Baptist life,” Reeves said. “The purpose of the blog is to provide clear and accurate information that will help readers think through various issues.”

Reeves will serve as the primary blogger, but Great Commission Kentucky also will include guest posts from other Kentucky Baptists and Southern Baptists.

Great Commission Kentucky will examine “how Kentucky Baptists are currently working together to share the gospel, explore ways to do things better, and to see what the Lord might show us all as we focus on our mission,” Reeves noted.

“This is a great opportunity for Kentucky Baptists and Southern Baptists to discuss the issues that have always been at the heart of our cooperation together,” he said. “We believe this will be a very profitable discussion and invite everyone to

join the dialogue.”

Hunt’s call is referred to as the “Great Commission Resurgence.” The central ideas of GCR were outlined in a declaration he authored along with Daniel Akin, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C. The GCR document is available online at [www.GreatCommissionResurgence.com](http://www.GreatCommissionResurgence.com).

The document and the ensuing discussion resulted in approval of a motion at the SBC meeting June 23, calling for Hunt to appoint a task force to closely examine the work of all SBC entities to study how Southern Baptists can work “more faithfully and effectively together in serving Christ through the Great Commission.”

The motion called for the task force to study the issues and bring their report, along with any recommendations, to the 2010 SBC annual meeting, June 15-16 in Orlando, Fla.

### State GCR task force

On the state level, the KBC’s administrative committee last month approved a recommendation to create a Great Commission Task Force for the state convention.

The recommendation will go before the full KBC Mission Board at its Nov. 9 meeting prior to the annual meeting in Elizabethtown. If approved, the plan would be voted on by KBC messengers the next day.

Like the national task force, the state group, too, would bring its report and any recommendations to the 2010 KBC annual meeting at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington.

## KBC’s public affairs group urges respect for life in health debate

By Robert Reeves  
Kentucky Baptist Convention

Louisville—Emphasizing that it is not taking a position on the issue of health care reform itself, the Kentucky Baptist Convention’s Committee on Public Affairs is urging Kentucky’s congressional delegation to respect the sanctity of life in any legislation that is approved.

In its meeting Aug. 27, the committee voted unanimously to write all U.S. House and Senate members from Kentucky, as well as the candidates in the race for U.S. Sen. Jim Bunning’s seat, to encourage them to work to exclude any language that would allow abortion in a government-funded health care plan or that failed to support life in end-of-life decisions.

Part of the national health care debate has centered on whether the plan being considered would provide abortion coverage. President Obama has said the plan does not change the federal government’s current prohibition on funding abortion but pro-life groups are disputing that claim.

Likewise, the health care discussion has sparked fears among

some that a national insurance program might not provide adequate coverage or would discourage spending on elderly or terminally-ill patients. The president has called these claims unfounded “myths” that are being used to scare people.

The committee also voted to ask KBC Mission Board staff to provide educational resources on the issue of gambling to churches in parts of the state facing special elections for House and Senate seats.

Although expanded gambling was defeated once again in this summer’s special legislative session, the potential for approval of a future gambling bill took one step closer Aug. 25 when state Rep. Robin Webb, an expanded gambling supporter, narrowly won a vacant Senate District 18 seat previously held by an expanded gambling opponent.

The most recent expanded gambling push has centered on placing video lottery terminals at the state’s horse racing tracks. Track and horse owners statewide claim the slot machine-like games are necessary to save the horse racing industry in Kentucky.

Be still and know that I am God...

Dear Linda and Jim,  
This year our group is staying at Smoky Mountain Christian Village. The rates are as spectacular as their fall foliage! Our chalet is perfect and queen double rooms start at just \$50 per night! \* You should come join us!

Mary Sue  
the gang

Smoky Mountain Christian Village  
Serving Through Hospitality

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[www.tsmcv.org](http://www.tsmcv.org)  
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Pigeon Forge, Tn. 37863

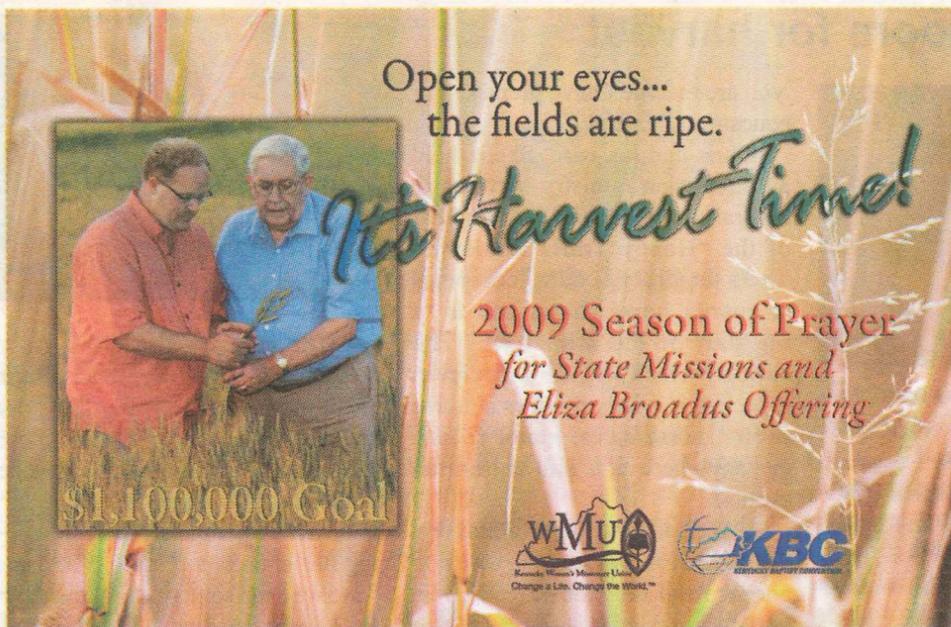
\*subject to availability restrictions may apply

Christian Camp and Conference Association

# 2009 Season of Prayer for State Missions

and

## Eliza Broadus Offering Goal: \$1,100,000



Across Kentucky farmers are harvesting crops of corn and vegetables. Since mid-summer we have enjoyed fresh tomatoes, zucchini, cucumbers, asparagus, and other crops grown right here in our state. Soon we will see orange pumpkins and other fall crops ready for harvest because seeds were planted

months ago. A gospel harvest is no different.

"My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to finish His work," Jesus told them. "Don't you say, 'There are still four more months, then comes the harvest'? Listen to what I'm telling you: Open your eyes and look at the fields

for they are ready for harvest" (John 4:34-35 HCSB).

During the 2009 Season of Prayer for State Missions these words of Jesus challenge Kentucky Baptists to be actively involved in the harvest. As we look to the fields, we are further challenged by many exciting new

opportunities for ministry across our state.

Join us in looking at the fields of lost people in Kentucky. Learn how the soil is being prepared and seeds are being planted through missions ministries across our state. Then open your eyes to see that *It's Harvest Time* in Kentucky.

### Find It Here - There is something for every Kentucky Baptist to do!

Kentucky Baptists will have an unprecedented opportunity to share their faith in 2010 during "Find It Here," a statewide gospel "sowing" event to deliver the gospel to 1.5 million in households across Kentucky.

"This is important because it's a biblical mandate Christ has given every believer," said Ross Bauscher, Evangelism Growth Team Leader for the Kentucky Baptist Convention. "According to North American Mission Board and Global Focus surveys, 3 out of 4 people in North America are lost. We estimate there are 1.5 million households in Kentucky. We are seeking to involve every association, every church in reaching their community with the gospel of Jesus Christ."

"Find It Here" is part of an overall 10-year strategy of the North American Mission Board, *Every Believer Sharing, Every Person Hearing*. Prior to the actual "sowing" event, which will take place during the weeks of March 6-21, 2010, there will be times of witnessing and prayerwalking training coordinated by the churches, associations and the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Prayerwalking is encouraged this fall to prepare the spiritual soil for the gospel distribution in the spring.

A "Find It Here" Pastor/Church Preparation Guide written by Larry Baker, KBC New Work Department Director, has been distributed throughout the state. In addition, prayerwalking materials have been developed by Eric Allen, KBC Missions Services and Ministries Department Director. The materials include a video, powerpoint, and a reprint of the booklet "Prayerwalking Made Simple" by Dr. J. Chris Schofield. These materials are included on the 2009 State Missions DVD (computer files section). *A Pocket Guide to Prayerwalking* is also available for purchase

from the KBC to assist prayerwalkers as they go out this fall.

Churches are encouraged to prayerwalk their neighborhood this fall in preparation for the delivery of the gospel presentation bags next spring. Associations are mapping out their area to be sure every street is covered by a participating church.

"Every Kentucky Baptist can be involved in praying, engaging, sowing and in celebrating the harvest," Bauscher said. "Senior Adults are encouraged to prayerwalk their neighborhoods or do community surveys or ride with someone in a car and pray the area. Young people can be involved by taking the bags door-to-door."

If a person completes the response section on the Gospel presentation brochure and sends it to the Kentucky Baptist Convention, the Evangelism Growth Team will notify churches and associations of those names and their decisions. A free copy of the book, *Your New Beginning* (or a Gospel of John in Spanish) will be mailed to each respondent.

The "Find It Here" sowing effort will also be supported by media ads and the web site: [www.FindItHere.com](http://www.FindItHere.com).

As volunteers leave the packets, Bauscher encourages them to be sensitive to divine appointments along the way and opportunities to share the gospel. "For example, if a person is in the yard," he said, "you may have the privilege of sharing the gospel personally with them."

Bauscher still remembers a divine appointment he encountered one afternoon after he and another pastor had been witnessing door-to-door for several hours without any response. When they arrived back at the church, a young pregnant girl was outside the office, shooting a basketball through the hoop. "It was as if the Holy Spirit

quickened my heart," he said. "I told my friend, 'That's our divine appointment. Let's go!'"

When they talked with her, she began telling her life story. She had been raped by a family relative and had left home because her parents would not believe her. She was living with a young man.

"She asked me two questions," Bauscher said. "Can God love someone like me and can God forgive someone like me?" Those two questions have stayed with me and that's what gives me a passion for sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ."

After the "sowing" event, churches across the state will participate in a "Harvest Sunday" Celebration on April 4, 2010. Following the celebration, churches will focus on the assimilation of new members and follow-up of prospects.

"John 4:37 says one sows and one reaps," says Bauscher. "Our Lord told us to look unto the fields, they are ripe for harvest and I believe we need to be seeking to engage our communities. I firmly believe we are in an age of grace and it's harvest time."



Volunteers may have "divine appointments" as they distribute "Find It Here" packets.



[www.kybaptist.org/findithere](http://www.kybaptist.org/findithere)  
[www.findithere.org](http://www.findithere.org)

*A Pocket Guide to Prayerwalking* is available from the KBC for \$3.50 per package of 50. Order online at [www.kybaptist.org/prayer](http://www.kybaptist.org/prayer).

Bags and materials for distribution in March 2010 will be available from the KBC.



## Equestrian ministries open doors for harvest

### Bluegrass Cowboy Church

Dressed in jeans, western boots and cowboy hats, folks are gathering for worship at fairgrounds, campgrounds and stockyards. Flanked by leather saddles and bridles, they sing familiar songs, listen to simple Bible-based messages and pray. Baptisms are usually in horse troughs. This is Cowboy Church—a growing movement in America.

"We have 20 equestrian ministries in Kentucky," said Dr. Larry Martin, Missions Consultant for the Kentucky Baptist Convention and Executive Director of Equestrian Ministries International (EMI). "Cowboy Church is just one of many ways to reach others for Christ through equestrian ministry."

Designed to reach persons traditional churches do not reach, Cowboy Church typically meets on Monday, Tuesday or Thursday. Weekend services are for people involved in equestrian events away from home.

Bluegrass Cowboy Church in Paris held its first service at the United Producers Stockyard in November 2007. Of the 24 people present, four accepted Christ during the service. Dewayne Waldrup and his wife, Donna, heard God's call to plant a Cowboy Church in Kentucky while they were living in North Carolina and attending a Cowboy Church there. After attending a seminar for starting Cowboy Churches, Dewayne realized God was leading him to pastor a church plant.

Through God's leading, the Waldrups came to Kentucky and Bluegrass Cowboy Church now holds services at the Bourbon County Fairgrounds in Paris which has a large riding arena. "Cowboy Church is different," Waldrup said, "but the message is the same. In the past 10 months, we've seen 51 people



accept Christ. We don't own property or a building but God has provided everything we need."

Additionally, Dewayne and Donna take the ministry to horse sales, horse shows and rodeos. Dewayne also organizes trail rides and "fun days" at the fairgrounds to involve the community. When "Horse Whisperer" Paul Daily gave a demonstration at the fairgrounds in September 2008, 11 people accepted Christ.

"Christ was out among the multitudes of people," Waldrup said. "He was talked about, scorned and run down but He had a purpose. So if I can wear blue jeans and a cowboy hat, and mingle with somebody that will accept Christ, I'm comfortable in that position."

### Happy Trails Ministry

Another equestrian ministry that is making an impact is the "Happy Trails Ministry" based in Salem, Kentucky. Mission Service Corps missionary Chris Clarke had served 22 years as a minister of music and youth when he attended his first Cowboy Church service at a quarter horse show in 2002.

Later, when Clarke heard a challenge to reach out—to be an Acts 1:8 church—during an "On Mission Celebration," he asked God if he was in the center of His will. "That prayer, Friday, October 3, 2003, literally changed my life," he said. "God called me out of the blue and said, 'Chris,

you are the one I have prepared for equestrian ministry.'"

Chris and his wife, Shelia held 34 equestrian ministry services in several states in 2008, the fifth year of the "Happy Trails Ministry." Their daughter, Laura, competes at quarter horse shows and is "a big part of the ministry." The ministry which partners with eleven churches provides services at horse shows, horse sales, junior rodeos or "anywhere you find equestrian events."

"We set up a table with New Testaments and witnessing tracts on one side and a big tub of iced-down bottled water with scripture verses on the other," Chris said. "Paul talks about becoming all things to all people so we have totally embraced the equestrian culture."

Cowboy Church begins around



7:00 a.m. with Chris singing and playing his guitar for 20-40 people. "One of my favorite things is to

preach from horseback and use the horse to illustrate what it means to have faith and trust in God," he said.

"When we get to the surrender part, I tie the reins and ride with no hands. The horse trusts me enough he's willing to surrender his will to mine and that's exactly what God wants from us."



AIM has launched "Reading, Riding and Relating," a literacy project that encourages children to read books about horses, to ride horses and relate to children from other cultures. AIM has also developed Youth Leadership Training, a series of one-day training events for thirty young people, primarily high school sophomores and juniors, from different cultural backgrounds. "We believe these young people will build lifelong relationships and their lives will be changed," Martin said.

However, he emphasized the most powerful involvement of Kentucky Baptists in the 2010 WEG will be through prayer. A 24/7 Prayer Guide will be distributed to unite prayer efforts nationally and internationally during the games. "Even now, we are praying and encouraging others to prayerwalk the Kentucky Horse Park area," Martin said, "praying for the WEG and other annual events at the park which draw nearly a million people."

Kentucky will earn its title, "Horse Capitol of the World," when 600,000-1,000,000 spectators, vendors and competitors from more than 100 nations attend the World Equestrian Games (WEG) at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, September 25-October 10, 2010. The games will mark the largest international event in Kentucky history and will be the first WEG to be held outside Europe since its inception in 1990. Competition in eight disciplines will include dressage, competitive driving, a day-long 100-mile endurance race and western reining, an American sport recently added to the competition.

To minister to the people attending the games, Dr. Larry Martin, KBC Missions Consultant, and others have formed Affiliated International Ministries (AIM). The group, which includes 40 colleges, community organizations and churches, plans to provide several hundred volunteers for the WEG.



Because of quarantine requirements, horse trainers and handlers will bring teams into Kentucky several weeks or even months early which will provide Kentuckians many opportunities to extend hospitality and reach out to the world. Ways for individuals and churches to be involved include:

- Providing accommodations and hospitality in homes.
- Becoming an official volunteer under the supervision of the WEG.
- Offering evening events by churches or associations.
- Offering camper hookups.
- Traveling to the games a few days early to volunteer in equestrian ministries in Kentucky.



Flanked by leather saddles and bridles, they sing familiar songs, listen to simple Bible-based messages and pray. Baptisms are usually in horse troughs. This is Cowboy Church—a growing movement in America.

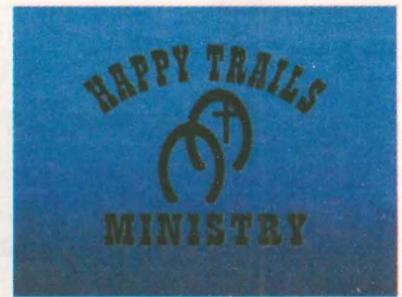
Open your eyes...  
the fields are ripe.

*It's Harvest Time!*

**The Writer:** Shirley Cox is a Mission Service Corps missionary and free-lance writer from Mt. Vernon, Kentucky. Shirley writes regularly for *Missions Mosaic*.

Please note: The 2009 *It's Harvest Time!* DVD complements this article. A copy of the DVD has been sent to each pastor and WMU director.

This insert is made possible by the gifts of your church through the Cooperative Program and the Eliza Broadus Offering. It was adapted from the Master Article included in the 2009 *It's Harvest Time* State Missions Packet.



The ministry also offers riding lessons. Children receive an activity sheet with Bible activities and horse trivia. If they bring the completed sheet back the next week, their names go in a hat for a door prize.

"These people are not going to a regular church service," Chris said, "and we need someone to show God's love in a way that will effectively reach them and bring them into a harvest in God's Kingdom."

### Equestrian Ministries International

Since its formation in 1995, Equestrian Ministries International has grown to 500 members in 16 states. EMI also works with Race-track Chaplaincy of America (RTCA) which has ministries at five tracks in Kentucky, including Churchill Downs, Keeneland and Turfway in Northern Kentucky. Nationally, EMI and RTCA have more than 100 equestrian ministries.

"Any individual or church can use equestrian materials to share with others," said Dr. Larry Martin, one of eight principal founders of EMI. "Almost every community has a festival and that's a great time to have a booth and give away free water and an EMI New Testament at the same time. This can be a basis for beginning a Bible study, starting a new equestrian fellowship or leading someone to Christ. And anyone can share the love of Christ through equestrian ministries by volunteering with one of our ministries in Kentucky."

In addition to New Testaments with the EMI logo, EMI distributes witnessing tracts. "The Simple Plan of the Master Horseman" is available in English and Spanish, and the "HORSE" tract is based on the acrostic "He Offers Redemption, Salvation and Eternal Life."

Pray for the expansion of equestrian ministries in Kentucky. Ask God to prepare hearts to be receptive to His message. For more information, contact Dr. Larry Martin (502-489-3400).

[www.equestrianministries.org](http://www.equestrianministries.org)



Baptism service at the Bluegrass Cowboy Church.



## Churches and mentors are vital to R/6 ministry

Every day, men and women are released from jails or prisons in Kentucky. According to statistics, 75-80% of them will return to prison. Most return to serve the remaining years of their sentences for violating parole.

"Approximately 35,000 people will be released from prisons or jails in Kentucky this year and 28,000 will be going back to prison," said Randy Foster, Director of Baptist Men on Mission for the Kentucky Baptist Convention (KBC). A request from the Kentucky Department of Corrections asking the KBC to develop a program to help break the recidivism rate has resulted in the R/6 Mentoring Program—a Christ-based program that nurtures released offenders six weeks to six months.

Specific goals of the R/6 Mentoring Program are:

- **Release**-mentoring begins prior to release from incarceration.
- **Re-entering**-counsel and assistance helps the former offender establish a new life.
- **Re-adjustment**-focus is placed on building family relationships and dealing with everyday issues.
- **Relationships**-a sense of belonging develops through involvement in small groups and church fellowships.
- **Responsibility**-mentors provide aid but the individual must accept responsibility for his/her actions.
- **Reward**-the individual can now enjoy new relationships, a solid foundation, family, friends and hope.

When an individual submits an application to R/6 (obtained from a prison chaplain or directly from the program) two or three people visit the applicant in prison. "We pray about it and consider if they would make a good candidate," Foster said. "We want to make sure they understand this is a Christian-based program for building life—not just a home placement which all folks need in order to get out."

Statistics show the first 30-60 days after release are critical for developing new patterns of behavior. "The original contract is six weeks but we hope it turns out to be a lot longer," said Gary King, R/6 Director. "We feel if ex-offenders find they can build relationships and are getting the assistance they need, they are not going to bail out."

The R/6 Mentoring Program needs churches to participate in the program by sponsoring an ex-offender. After being assigned to a

sponsoring church, the participant signs a contract to attend the church every Sunday and Wednesday for six weeks. Each participant is assigned three mentors who spend time with him/her during the week in activities such as Bible study, eating out, fishing, ballgame, etc. The sponsoring church must give an address where the participant will live that can be verified.

When a sponsoring church is not available, R/6 provides a transitional house—a temporary place to live. "The utilization of the transitional house gives them a strong base for building relationships and a good work ethic and for spiritual growth," Foster said. Michael Bingham also works with the R/6 residents in a transitional house setting.

For a period of time, R/6 operated a transitional facility in Willisburg. The cost of transporting the men to work outside the rural area was too expensive, so plans were made for a facility in Louisville. Zoning restrictions, however, prohibited the project.

R/6 acquired a house in Mayfield and opened it in July 2009. The only cost for the Mayfield house is utilities and upkeep. Due to the low overhead, this facility can house 5-8 men.

The R/6 program does not currently have its own transitional house in Louisville but has retained Louisville presence by creating partnerships with other facilities.

"We have been real successful finding employment for all our ex-offenders in Louisville," King said, "but a church must be willing to provide three mentors that will work consistently with them."

Working with the men and women provides many opportunities for sharing the gospel. Gary King remembers an evening when he was leading a Bible study at a transitional facility. Breaking the men into groups, he asked them to assemble three jigsaw puzzles. Then he began sharing how life is a puzzle and that many of their lives had been broken and torn apart.

As he shared, he looked at a man named Charlie. "Our eyes kept connecting so in the middle of the conversation, I stopped and said, 'Charlie, do you need a relationship with Jesus Christ?' Charlie said, 'Yes, I do' and dropped to his knees. The men gathered around and laid hands on Charlie and he prayed to receive Jesus. He had never been in a church in his life."

"Sometimes we as individuals and churches get so wrapped up in

busyness and our daily routines," King said, "we miss opportunities to tell folks what Christ can do in their lives and how He can change their lives. I've witnessed men who have spent their entire lives in drugs, alcohol, and crime and when they find a relationship with Christ, their appearance changes, their demeanor changes and they are eager to tell somebody else what has happened in their lives. These men will tell you, 'If somebody had not been there to help me in the early days, I would have been in that 80% revolving door and right back in the institution.'"

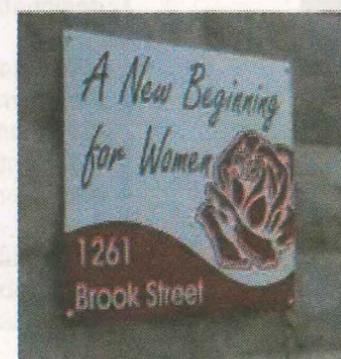
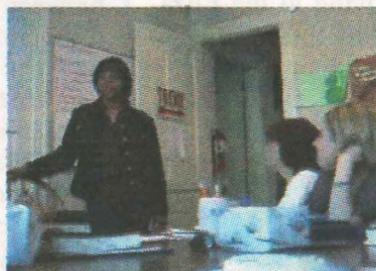
"The church simply must intercede," said Randy Foster who works in prison ministry on Thursday evenings and one Monday night a month. "We can train mentors and help a church understand how they can have an R/6 program on a small scale without a transitional house. When you help these people find jobs, celebrate their promotions and when their families begin to mend and make communication, it's such a blessing."

Needs at R/6 include: clothing, household supplies, hygiene kits, towels, washcloths, razors, Walmart gift cards, financial support or volunteers to give transitional house directors a break and time to be with their families.

For more information and/or to become a sponsoring church or mentor contact Gary King (606-365-7123) or Randy Foster (866-489-3398).

Pray for persons incarcerated, for their families and for churches to adjust their vision for reaching these people with real needs and see the tremendous transformation take place.

As you pray, give to the Eliza Broadus Offering which supports this ministry.



### Betty Stringer, Volunteer Mentor

A retired teacher, Betty Stringer was searching for new purpose for her life when she went to an open house at the McCauley House in Crestwood, a transitional house operated by Prodigal Ministries for women on parole. For the past five years, she has volunteered in the ministry.

Betty grew up in a family with substance abuse. "Eight of 12 members of my family could have ended up in prison themselves and I had two siblings who were heavily addicted," she says. "I knew my sister was a beautiful person and the addiction and drugs were taking that away from her."

Today, Betty goes into prison to interview women for the program for ex-offenders and works with them one-on-one at the transitional house. "The women may need transportation to work or to a doctor or to pick up food stamps," Betty says. "Other times their needs are as simple as a pair of black shoes or khaki pants or a cup of coffee and someone to listen to what is going on in their lives. They are so appreciative of anything you do."

Her first priority is letting the women know someone cares for them. "Most of them have felt unloved most of their lives. They have taught me to listen, become more sensitive of their needs and just to zero in on what really matters in life. Some have become my close friends."

Betty has also worked with Randy Foster and Gary King to help design the R/6 Mentoring Program for ex-offenders. "Right now R/6 is working strongest in Oldham County and Louisville but we would like to spread that help to other areas of Kentucky," she says. "Any church can be involved by contacting the Kentucky Baptist Convention."

"In working with released offenders, I find all of them are in a different stage in their walk," she observes, "so we are planting and cultivating seeds that have been planted. We hope to reap the harvest as we did a few weeks ago when two of the girls were baptized into the church."



A New Beginning for Women is a residential substance abuse facility serving homeless women and those who are coming out of prison. This Christ-centered program helps women understand why their lives are chaotic and points them in a new direction. Alice Brooks is the founder and director of this ministry.

Approximately 35,000 people will be released from prisons or jails in Kentucky this year and 28,000 will be going back to prison.

Statistics show the first 30-60 days after release are critical for developing new patterns of behavior.

These men will tell you, "If somebody had not been there to help me in the early days, I would have been in that 80% revolving door and right back in the institution."

For more information and/or to become a sponsoring church or mentor contact Gary King (606-365-7123) or Randy Foster (866-489-3398).

*It's Harvest Time!*

## A New Beginning for Women, Cultivating a Rose

Alice Brooks, director of *A New Beginning for Women, Cultivating a Rose*, understands the devastating effects drug and alcohol abuse can have on an individual or a family. Her own daughter has been incarcerated since 2002. Yet, Alice Brooks, a former juvenile detective, is not defeated. Instead, she founded a residential substance abuse facility in Louisville for homeless women or women coming out of prison.

"Women come through referrals by drug courts or by the Kentucky Correctional Institution for Women (KCIW) at Peewee Valley or by word of mouth," Alice said. "Some just call saying, 'Hey, I'm struggling and I need a place to go.'" Women from West Virginia, Indiana, Florida and Kentucky have participated in the program.

To overcome the women's tendencies toward substance abuse, *A New Beginning* is divided into four phases. The first thirty days are for orientation and evaluation. The program is non-medical so people with psychiatric problems or behavior issues are referred to other agencies.

- **Phase 1**-The woman is out of orientation and has turned in all recovery work and appointments for counseling is scheduled. She is allowed a two-hour pass with a sponsor for a doctor's appointment, etc. with supervision.
- **Phase 2**-The woman may have a 4-hour pass with supervision.
- **Phase 3 & 4**- The woman may attend an AA meeting alone with a 10 p.m. curfew. "What we're trying to see," Alice said, "is 'Can we trust you to go one block unattended?'"

Although the residential house is licensed to accept 12 women, Alice only accepts eight. "These women have slept on bunks or mattresses in the streets so we want this to be like a home," she said. Our purpose is to help women understand why their lives have been chaotic and why they lost their kids and help them regain all that. No one wakes up and says, 'Oh, I think I'm going to be an alcoholic or drug addict today.' The women have to know themselves and know God and the rest will fall in place."

In addition to AA sponsors, the women have church mentors and attend church on Sunday. "We had a Muslim lady come to *New Beginnings* who had been in prison four years," Alice said. "When we had Bible study, she would go read the Koran. She attended church with us because she couldn't be left alone. After two months, she accepted Christ."

Please pray for the women to know God loves them beyond their faults and that He will bring them through the storm. Pray for strength for Alice and the volunteers.

For the past two years, the Eliza Broadus Offering has purchased program materials, Recovery Bibles, workbooks and jail ministry materials for the *New Beginnings* program.

For more information, contact Alice Brooks (502-634-4252). *A New Beginning for Women* is located at 1261 South Brook St., Louisville, KY 40203.



## ELIZA BROADUS OFFERING for Kentucky State Missions, Special Ministries, and Missions Education 2009-10 OFFERING ALLOCATIONS

The Eliza Broadus Offering is sponsored by Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union in partnership with the Kentucky Baptist Convention. All Eliza Broadus Offering funds are used for missions ministries and missions education in Kentucky.

<b>Kentucky Baptist Convention</b> .....	<b>\$745,000</b>
Missions Growth/State Missionaries .....	285,000
New Work/Language Missions .....	105,000
Church & Community Missions .....	180,000
Evangelism .....	37,000
Student Work .....	103,000
Baptist Men on Mission Special Projects .....	30,000
Partnership Missions .....	5,000

### **Kentucky Special Ministries** ..... **\$95,000**

Requests for Special Ministries Funds are made through an application process.

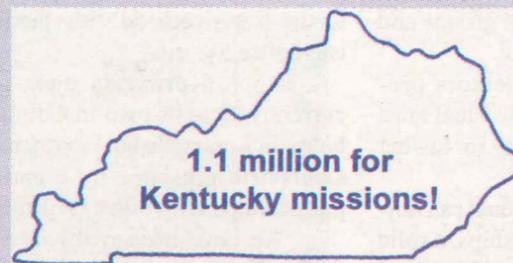
These funds are used to grant requests for mission project assistance with associations, churches, and MSC missionary projects.

The deadline for submitting an EBO allocation request for the 2009-10 offering is December 15, 2009. Contact Kentucky WMU for an allocation request form.

### **Kentucky WMU**..... **\$260,000**

Missions Education, Leader Training, Missions Events, Resource Materials .....	105,537
Missions Camps & Overnights .....	67,613
Promotion & Season of Prayer .....	84,650
Missions Education Scholarships & Internships .....	2,200

## OFFERING GOAL..... **\$1,100,000**



A packet of materials has been sent to the WMU director in every KBC church. It includes a DVD and teaching plans for all ages as well as suggestions for churchwide promotion of the Season of Prayer for State Missions and the Eliza Broadus Offering. Contact Kentucky WMU to order posters, prayer guides, and offering envelopes. You may request a state missions packet by calling Kentucky WMU at 502-489-3534 or toll free, 1-866-489-3534; or by email: [kywmu@kybaptist.org](mailto:kywmu@kybaptist.org). These materials are provided by the gifts of your church to the Eliza Broadus Offering and the Cooperative Program.

Church contributions to the Eliza Broadus Offering should be mailed to: Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions, Kentucky Baptist Convention, PO Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433. Checks should be made payable to Kentucky Baptist Convention and designated "EBO." Church Treasurers may also include EBO contributions with other contributions through the Kentucky Baptist Convention using the KBC church contribution form and designating the amount for the Eliza Broadus Offering.

Individuals or groups may contribute directly to the Eliza Broadus Offering. Please make checks payable to the Kentucky Baptist Convention and notate "EBO" on the check memo line. Mail these checks to: Eliza Broadus Offering, Kentucky WMU, PO Box 436569, Louisville, KY 40253-6569. Please enclose name and address for an acknowledgement of your gift.

Contributions for the 2009-10 Eliza Broadus Offering will be received from September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2010.

Open your eyes...  
the fields are ripe.  
*It's Harvest Time!*

As you pray, ask God to allow you to see the ripe harvest fields in Kentucky! Will you be involved in the harvest? Will you pray for God to help you plant new seeds that will bear fruit? Will you water seeds that have already been planted? Will you cultivate soil that seems unfertile and pray for a miracle?

As you pray, ask for the Holy Spirit to guide you in giving to the Eliza Broadus Offering, then, accept Christ's challenge to step boldly into the fields and take the gospel to a suffering world.

***It's Harvest Time!***



## The fruit of missions partnership

### Former camp staffer, family are missionaries to Moldova

We have just celebrated a first for Crossings. Our family recently attended a commissioning service for Josh and Stacy Leigh Hutchens that took place at Hardin Baptist Church a few miles from Jonathan Creek. The significance of this service is that Josh and Stacy Leigh soon will be leaving to serve in Moldova with the camp ministry that Crossings has supported since 2004. Stacy Leigh served on Jonathan Creek's summer staff during the first year of this partnership, and her response to Moldova was typical of most: "Where is Moldova?"

### Ky. Baptist Assemblies



David Melber

Since 2004, we have been collecting offerings that support multiple Christian camps in Moldova, a small country located between Romania and the Ukraine. This former Soviet Union country is considered the poorest in all of Europe; eight out of 10 men are unemployed. By all worldly standards this country is without much hope. Since 2004, our offerings have helped send more than 22,000 children to camp. More importantly, more than 9,000 have accepted Christ as their Lord and Savior.

This fall, one of the camps will begin a Bible institute that will provide training for past campers who have a desire to serve as pastors and church planters. This institute will provide a seminary-type education that will help prepare these young men for gospel service. Josh will be serving at the camp teaching New Testament classes.

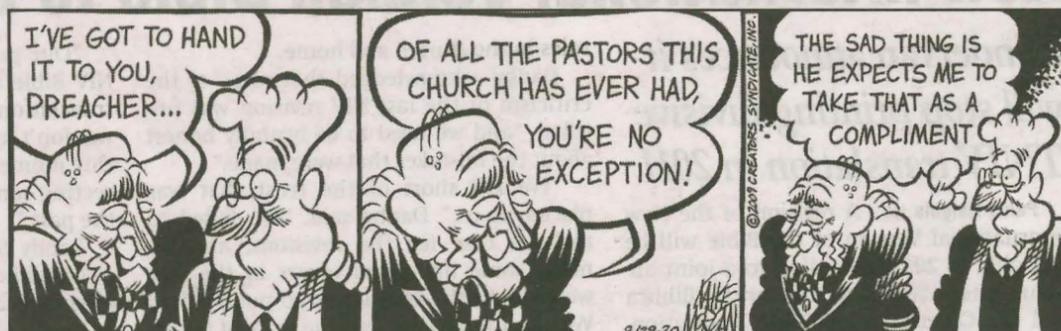
In 2004, Stacy Leigh had never heard of Moldova. Since that time she and Josh married and their family grew with the birth of their son, Jude. We are excited to see how the Lord will use them in Moldova. We serve a sovereign God that orchestrates events together for His glory and His purposes. I am so thankful that we have been privileged to participate in a small way with the Hutchens as God sends them to the nations.

This past summer, more than 350 students who attended Crossings felt God's call to commit their lives to full-time Christian ministry. I cannot help but wonder where these students will be serving in the coming years.

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

## For Heaven's Sake

Mike Morgan



## Preacher's Kids

David Ayers



## Bible Crosswords

By Evelyn Boyington

### Across

- 1 White, for one
- 5 "For I have no man ... who will naturally \_\_\_ for your state" (Philippians 2:20)
- 9 Kind of truck
- 12 Minor prophet
- 13 So be it
- 14 Female lea dweller
- 15 3.1416
- 16 Sixties-style dress
- 18 "They compassed me about like \_\_\_" (Psalm 118:12)
- 19 "She shall shave her head and \_\_\_ her nails" (Deuteronomy 21:12)
- 20 Greek letter
- 22 NY or CA
- 23 Greek isle
- 25 "Do ye think that the scripture \_\_\_ in vain" (James 4:5)
- 27 Definitely pink
- 28 Nick Charles, aka The \_\_\_ Man
- 29 Exclamation of discovery
- 32 \_\_\_ on parle francais
- 33 "For if ye love them which love you, what \_\_\_ have ye?" (Luke 6:32)
- 34 \_\_\_ fried
- 35 Barbara \_\_\_ Geddes
- 36 Baby and bath, to name two
- 37 "And he \_\_\_ and touched his tongue" (Mark 7:33)
- 38 "Is the Lord's hand waxed \_\_\_?" (Numbers 11:23)
- 40 Prophets
- 41 Athens is here (abbr.)
- 43 "Joseph ... was the son of his \_\_\_ age" (Genesis 37:3)
- 44 \_\_\_ there, done that
- 45 "The workman is worthy of his \_\_\_" (Matthew 10:10)
- 47 Come together; touch
- 48 "Arise, go up to \_\_\_" (Joshua 8:1)
- 50 Mess up
- 51 Shut's partner
- 53 Apparent one
- 55 Asiatic deer
- 56 Accustomed
- 57 "I'm all \_\_\_"

### Down

- 1 "The trees of the Lord are full of \_\_\_" (Psalm 104:16)
- 2 French friend
- 3 Biblical exclamation

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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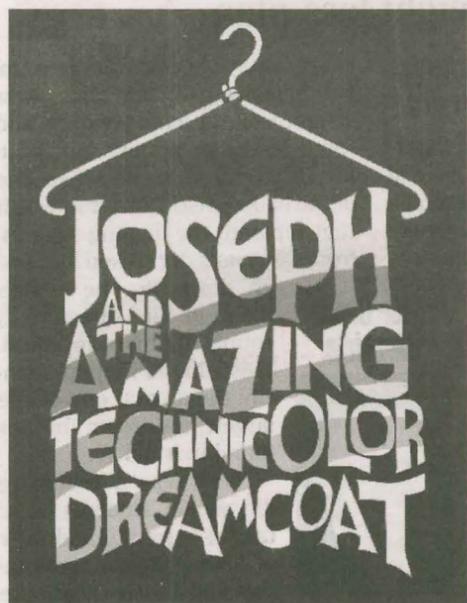
- 4 "He hath regarded the low \_\_\_ of his handmaiden" (Luke 1:48)
- 5 Hawaiian product, for short
- 6 Quantity (abbr.)
- 7 Concerning
- 8 \_\_\_-gedi (where David dwelt for a time)
- 9 To a \_\_\_
- 10 Is beholden to
- 11 Author Nathanael
- 17 Before
- 18 Bridle part
- 19 Pauline's adventures of filmdom
- 20 "Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the \_\_\_ of death" (Acts 2:24)
- 21 Kind of hole
- 23 "Where no oxen are, the \_\_\_ is clean" (Proverbs 14:4)
- 24 3 K or 5 K, for example
- 25 "Thou \_\_\_ love thy neighbor" (Romans 13:9)
- 26 "He ... began to tell them what things should \_\_\_ unto him" (Mark 10:32)
- 28 "The Lord called Samuel again the \_\_\_ time" (1 Samuel 3:8)
- 30 Absalom's stunning feature
- 31 "The \_\_\_ are a people not strong" (Proverbs 30:25)
- 33 Hand or power
- 37 Rage inside
- 39 Salsa choice
- 40 Jurisdiction of a bishop
- 41 Ancient Hebrew dry measure
- 42 Deli order
- 44 "He hath \_\_\_ his bow, and made it ready" (Psalm 7:12)
- 46 Linking verb
- 47 "I will ... that \_\_\_ pray everywhere" (1 Timothy 2:8)
- 48 Broadcast
- 49 Government agency (abbr.)
- 51 Ouch!
- 52 River in Italy
- 54 Per person (abbr.)

### Last week's solution

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
B	A	R	A	S	H	E	R	A	S	A
A	R	T	S	T	A	T	E	D	E	L
B	E	F	L	E	S	H	L	I	E	A
E	A	G	L	E	S	I	R	O	N	S
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26	D	A	N	P	L	E	A	D	H	E
A	R	E		34	A	R	M		N	O
M	A	R	T	I	R	E	S	I	N	N
		40	A	N	O	N	S	I	D	E
44	B	A	L	A	K		46	R	O	L
A	M		50	P	E	O	P	L	E	S
55	T	O	W	N	I	S	A	N	P	I
59	S	K	Y	S	L	I	P	S	A	R

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## 35th Anniversary Derby Dinner PLAYHOUSE



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## New International Version Bible to be revised

### Zondervan announces it will stop printing divisive TNIV translation in 2011

**Palos Heights, Ill.**—A revision of the New International Version of the Bible will be available in 2011, according to a joint announcement Sept. 1 by Zondervan, Biblica and the Committee on Bible Translation. The revision will mark the first complete update of the NIV since 1984.

It also was announced that the new translation's publication will mark the end of the Today's New International Version, the controversial translation that included gender-neutral language.

"As time passes and English changes, the NIV is becoming increasingly dated," said Keith Danby, global president of Biblica, the new name for a company created when the International Bible Society and Send the Light publishers merged in 2007.

The CBT, a 15-member independent panel of translators from various denominations and different parts of the world, was formed in 1965 for the purpose of creating and revising the NIV.

The first edition of the NIV was released in 1978, and since then it has become the most popular modern English Bible translation in the world, with more than 300 million copies sold.

In 1987, the IBS announced plans to forgo all plans to publish an updated NIV, following criticism of an edition released in the United Kingdom that substituted gender-neutral language for masculine pronouns in many texts.

In 2002, Zondervan marketed the gender-neutral TNIV translation. Some evangelicals panned the TNIV as catering to a feminist agenda and promoting the view that men and women are equipped for identical

roles in the church and home.

Danby acknowledged that some of the criticism of the last NIV revision was justified, "and we need to be brutally honest about the mistakes that were made."

"We fell short of the trust that was placed in us," Danby said. "We failed to make a case for the revisions, and we made some important errors in the way we brought the translation to publication. We also underestimated the scale of public affection for the NIV and failed to communicate the rationale for change in a manner that reflected that affection."

But Danby noted "freezing the NIV" also was a mistake. By not publishing revisions, he said the IBS "fundamentally undermined the obligations of the original NIV charter" and "shackled the NIV to a language and scholarship of a quarter a century ago."

CBT chairman Douglas Moo said translators would conduct a year-long review of every gender reference changed since publication of the 1984 edition of the NIV.

Moo said translators would consider input not only from scholars, but from ordinary readers as well.

"We have to be as careful as we can, while recognizing those influences, to do our work in a sincere and open way so that we honestly reflect what we think God's unchanging Word is saying to the English-speaking world in our day," Moo said.

Zondervan President Moe Girkens said after launch of the new NIV in 2011 there would be no future TNIV products.

"Whatever its strengths were, the TNIV divided the evangelical Christian community," she said.

"Our goal with this edition is for the NIV Bible to be back to being a unifying translation," Girkens added. "Although we don't know what the translation is at this moment, we believe that we are correcting some of the mistakes we made in the past."

Randy Stinson, president of the Council on Biblical Manhood and Womanhood—an organization critical of the TNIV changes—applauded the move to discontinue the controversial translation.

"It is very humble of Zondervan and Biblica to admit mistakes and acknowledge the controversy that they brought to the evangelical community over the past several years," Stinson said in a news release. "We are grateful for the godly approach to try to reconcile this. We are hopeful for the new product."

Stinson said he has been in conversation with Moo and believes that the concerns over the accuracy of gender-neutral language will be taken seriously.

Thom Rainer, president of LifeWay Christian Resources, also expressed optimism about the updated NIV translation. LifeWay's subsidiary, B&H, publishes the Holman Christian Standard Bible.

"Focusing efforts in this direction, rather than continuing efforts on the TNIV, will be received positively by many in the evangelical world," Rainer noted in a press release.

The 2011 release date coincides with the 400th anniversary of the King James Version of the Bible, first translated in 1611 by the Church of England.

Compiled from reports by Associated Baptist Press and Baptist Press.



### Technicality allows judge to dismiss marriage act suit

**Washington**—A federal judge dismissed a lawsuit late last month against the Defense of Marriage Act on a technicality, saying the suit by two homosexual men had been improperly filed. The challenge was filed initially in state court before being transferred to federal court. But it should have first been filed in federal court, U.S. District Judge David Carter wrote in a seven-page opinion.

The lawsuit had put the Obama Justice Department in a difficult situation since the president has publicly stated that he opposes the 1996 law. In an Aug. 17 brief, the department offered a tepid defense of the law, acknowledging the administration wants to see Congress repeal it.

DOMA gives states the option of banning same-sex marriage and prevents the federal government from recognizing such relationships. Its reversal could lead to every state being forced to recognize homosexual marriages.

The Alliance Defense Fund—an intervenor in the case—applauded Judge Carter's ruling.

"Marriage is not just any two people in a committed relationship," ADF attorney Brian Raum said in a statement. "Americans understand and believe that there's more to a marriage than that. Therefore we are pleased that this challenge to the federal law defining marriage as the union of one man and one woman has been dismissed. If another lawsuit is filed against the federal DOMA, we are confident that it will be found to be constitutional." (BP)

### The first week of school

#### During Oneida's first weeks, students are challenged to learn responsibility

I cannot think of any experience in my life that compares to the first week of school at Oneida. Working with boys and girls in grades 6-12 can be challenging. God made each of us so wonderfully different. You often cannot tell much about a student just by his or her size or age. Some 11 year olds are much more mature and work harder than some 15 or 16 year olds.

Over the years I have worked with some really small and/or young boys who could work with the best of our students. Because of their maturity, they often get along better with the other boys in their work group and perform their job assignments much better.

On the other hand, I have worked with some 15- and 16-year-old boys who had the maturity of a much younger student. They often have trouble getting to work on time, don't like their job assignments, don't take instructions from the supervisor, and generally are a source of irritation to the others in the work group. Often a student supervisor will bring a student to the adult in charge and say, "You can have this one back; we can get the job done better and quicker without him or her." It is a big temptation to remove the student from that work group, but they will never learn responsibility or develop character that way. As much as it hurts, you have to tell the student supervisor that the boy or girl is their responsibility.

It's often difficult to tell the difference between just being lazy and simply lacking maturity. I often have told parents that I would rather deal with a 6-foot-6-inch, 250-pound boy with

an attitude than a 5-foot, 130-pound immature boy any day. When push comes to shove, the 250-pound boy and I may get nose to nose, but when it's over, he knows who is in charge and what is expected. If I do the same with an immature boy, the next day, I'm right back where I started.

So, this week many students are learning for the first time how to work and what is expected of them. I know they don't understand the concept that their work responsibilities help make our school affordable. They usually are not interested in building character, either. Some young boys could care less if they ever "grow up." We are not the Marines, and we are not trying to make men out of boys. But we are Christ-like in our responsibilities by trying to help every boy and girl reach his or her full potential. We want them to succeed in their work and also to do their best academically, to understand the importance of making correct decisions, and hopefully to learn that a personal relationship with Christ can help them become happy and successful people.

There is another aspect of the first week or two of school where age and size are not always a good indicator of what to expect. The 11 year old is rarely embarrassed to let you know he or she is homesick. But you will usually have a difficult time getting the 250 pounder to admit that part of his problem is a simple case of homesickness. It is just plain hard for a big boy to admit that he misses home and his family.

Please pray for our faculty and staff as they face the challenging days of the next few weeks.

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

#### This is Oneida



W.F. Underwood

### A guaranteed weight-loss plan

#### Clear Creek professor sheds some pounds at ancient dig

By Roy Lucas, New Testament professor

Have you ever wanted or needed to lose weight? I can recommend a guaranteed five-week plan where you can lose 15 pounds. This was my experience this summer when Clear Creek student Dan Haggerty, my son, Jon, and I went to Israel to dig at Tel Gezer under co-directors Steve Ortiz of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and Sam Wolff of the Israeli Antiquities Authority.

Wake up was at 4 a.m. and first breakfast (peanut butter and jelly) was at 4:30. We arrived at Tel Gezer at 5:30 a.m. Digging continued until 8:30 a.m. when second breakfast (cereals, sandwich meat and cheese, yogurt, etc.) was served. At 9 a.m., the digging continued. We looked forward to 11 a.m. when the green orb with a red center was served—watermelon!

By 12:30 p.m., we headed down the Tel to catch the bus back to camp where lunch was served and supper was put out at 6:30 p.m. You might think that with eating that much, you would gain weight. Don't count on it.

At the dig, we found several items of interest: Roman glass, some

rings, several beads, a large number of sling balls, an olive press weight, several loom weights, and some pieces of pottery. An exciting discovery occurred when one of the balks (areas 1 meter in width that separate the digging squares) from last year's dig season was taken down. To the amazement of the directors, a couple of pillars appeared. This allowed them to identify the area as one of the largest four-room houses found in Israel.

This was a teaching dig where students were taught basic methodology of archaeological exploration and how to record the results that were found in the field. Students were

taught to draw the balks and top plans. Some were allowed to tag and mark the pottery which was kept and stored for later study. The co-directors read the pottery that students dug up and had a couple of workshops to teach students how to determine the period when a piece of pottery existed.

The next Tel Gezer dig will be in summer of 2011. Why not come dig up some history with us?

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.ccbcc.edu; e-mail: dfox@ccbbc.edu

#### Clear Creek Chronicle



Donnie Fox

## Baptist colleges, students, families cope with financial crisis

By Greg Warner

**Birmingham, Ala.**—For thousands of students at Baptist colleges, the excitement of the start of fall classes is being muted by a harsh reality this year: Economic hardship is making the already high cost of private college almost untenable for many families.

"I can't imagine how my father feels knowing there are \$60,000 in school bills coming in the next two years," said Kley Sippel, whose father lost his job just before Kley enrolled as a freshman at Samford University in Birmingham, Ala., two years ago. The family has been on a financial roller coaster ever since, making the 19 year old's dream of graduating from a private—and hence more costly—Christian school increasingly tenuous.

Across the country, families and schools alike are digging deep to keep their students enrolled in Baptist and other Christian colleges and universities, which account for three percent of all college students in the United States.

Conspiring against their efforts is a litany of sobering trends—rising unemployment, tanking family assets, increased college costs, shrinking college endowments and a stingy loan market. The number of families denied federal school loans has increased more than 250 percent in the past two years—from 10 percent of applicants to 25 percent.

As a result, as students geared up to return to campuses this year, an unprecedented number resorted to the previously little-known strategy of appealing their financial-aid packages—asking their colleges to reconsider that all-important aid determination because of family hardship.

Because families of college students file financial aid requests using their tax returns from the previous year, many may have drastically different incomes by the time their students actually get to campus in the fall. The federal government, which determines how much a family should be able to pay for school, allows those students to appeal based on "special circumstances," such as when a parent loses a job after the paperwork is filed.

Nationwide, the number of appeals has skyrocketed since last year. More than 100,000 students already have filed special-circumstances reviews, and that number is expected to top 140,000 this year, according to the Washington Post.

That trend was confirmed by officials at several Baptist institutions.

### Reviews up at Campbellsville

"At Campbellsville, we have experienced a 50 percent increase in the number of families requesting our review of their financial circumstances," said Chris Tolson, director of financial aid at Campbellsville University. "The majority of requests were due to parents becoming unemployed or under-employed."

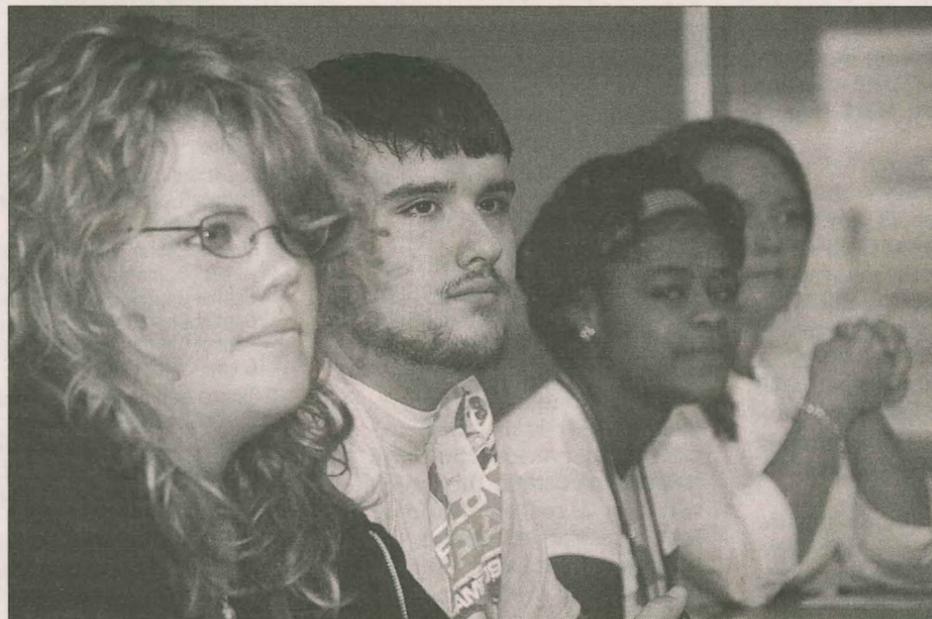
By Mickey Noah

North American Mission Board

**Alpharetta, Ga.**—Spinning off the slogan of a well-known credit card's TV ad campaign, "Who's in Your Wallet?" again will be the theme of Soul-Winning Commitment Day, observed throughout the Southern Baptist Convention Oct. 4.

The annual day is sponsored by the North American Mission Board and is part of NAMB's GPS national evangelism initiative—"God's Plan for Sharing."

The board has developed a "3-1-6" prayer card on which Southern Baptists can write



**FINANCIAL STRUGGLES** Campbellsville University incoming freshmen listen to announcements before lunch during the recent student orientation. Financial aid amounts this year are up 20 percent at the Kentucky Baptist institution, administrators report. (Campbellsville photo by André Tomaz)

Financial aid amounts are up 20 percent this year at Campbellsville, in part because the Obama administration pumped millions more into federal Pell Grants, Tolson said in an e-mail.

This time of year, all colleges are trying to minimize "summer melt," the inevitable annual attrition of students who decide over summer vacation to stay home or attend a cheaper school in the fall. In addition to holding down costs, Baptist colleges say getting personally involved with each student's situation has allowed them to hang onto most.

Samford's personal approach worked for Kley Sippel. "The financial aid department is very relational," he said. "They take the time to understand your personal circumstances. They look at the family, the job, where other siblings are in school, and they make every effort to make it work. ... If they see that you're willing to sacrifice, they are willing to step up to the plate."

Only about 20 of the 750 new students accepted for the fall term at Samford were unable to enroll because of unresolved financial issues, said Lane Smith, the school's director of financial aid. "In this environment, it probably is a pretty good number."

Smith has been reviewing each special-circumstances appeal personally since March. "In most cases, we were able to find additional help, whether in terms of additional institutional aid or a federal grant that they qualified for or a subsidized loan," he noted. "But if there was something like a \$7,000 gap, we couldn't make that up."

Smith said that Samford started preparing a year and a half ago for the economic crunch they knew would hit this fall. Everyone from the university president and

administrators to faculty joined a "concerted effort" to hold onto their new students, he explained.

### Worst yet to come?

Samford officials are happy about the low fall attrition figures, but the worst may yet be ahead, Smith acknowledged. "A lot of schools are worried about next year. A lot of kids already had their minds made up about this year."

Other Baptist schools are similarly worried, so officials are taking extraordinary steps to try to hang onto every student who is accepted for enrollment—from calling each prospective student's household to signing tuition cap pledges with four-year students.

Almost all of the schools contacted for this article said they have put more money into student aid. Several schools said their tuition increases this year were the smallest in two decades. The same was true for about half of all private colleges, according to a national survey.

Ouachita Baptist University, like most schools, saw the endowment funds that support scholarships shrink in the past year, said Brett Powell, vice president of administrative services at the Arkadelphia, Ark.-based school. He noted that they were not able to award as many scholarships as last year, and that overall financial aid is "down just a little bit."

The number of new students will be down slightly, he estimated, but Ouachita's retention rate for returning students "is going to be a little bit of improvement." Final numbers are not yet available, he noted, but "it looks like less than a 1 percent decline" in total enrollment for the 1,500-student school.

At Union University in Jackson, Tenn.,

financial aid appeals quadrupled this year, said Rich Grimm, vice president for enrollment. "We had over 130 special-circumstances requests," he said. "To a great degree we were able to manage those circumstances for those families."

"Only four students couldn't get their financial circumstances worked out," Grimm added. A total of 545 freshmen showed up for classes this fall, he said, up from 460 last year.

Financial counselors start talking to parents "very early in the process," he explained. And then, after bills for the fall semester are sent out, "every one of our new students gets a call from an enrollment counselor," he said, "because up to that point, until you get a bill, it doesn't register."

It appears the efforts to combat "summer melt" are working. A recent survey of 300 private colleges, conducted by the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, indicates a tiny increase in average undergraduate enrollment—up about 0.2 percent over fall 2008.

### Making it worth the money

Christian families pay a high price to send their kids to private colleges. School administrators say that, in tough times, they have to make sure the Christian educational experience is worth the extra cost.

"You have to focus on the unique value of a Christian school," Grimm said. "We remind students, 'You chose Union because of these benefits. ... We admit we're more expensive, but here's why.'"

Still, Grimm and others pointed out, the cost of Christian colleges has to be competitive. "The only way schools like Union can do well is through price sensitivity and holding down tuition," Grimm said, noting Union costs "\$5,000 less than the average private school."

Kley Sippel said his decision to return to Samford for his junior year, despite his family's financial hardship, has challenged their faith and their finances. After his father lost a well-paying job, the South Carolina family had to sell a house it owned in order to pay for Kley's freshman year.

"For my family, our faith has made the difference," he said, recalling the Sippels' two-year financial struggle. "I can't imagine what a family would do if they didn't have that."

So far, with financial aid from Samford and the federal government, he has been able to complete two years toward his degree in economics and marketing.

The Sippel family's hardship qualified Kley for additional financial aid this year, which kept him in school. His father has since found a job. It doesn't pay as much, but it helps.

But that also means the family will qualify for less financial aid for Kley's final two years. (ABP)

## NAMB soul-winning campaign, set for Oct. 4, asks 'Who's in your wallet?'

the names of three friends or relatives who need Christ. Keeping the card in their wallets or purses as a reminder, Baptists are asked to pray for these three people once a day for six days.

"Sunday, Oct. 4 is the day designated for Soul-Winning Commitment Day, but of course the goal is for Southern Baptists to emphasize evangelism throughout the year," said Dick Church, NAMB's church evangelism resource coordinator.

"If not on Oct. 4, we hope SBC churches will schedule and hold an evangelism emphasis on another Sunday during the

year," Church noted. "Whenever it's held, the day should be a time of inspiration, motivation, communication, celebration, instruction, commitment and prayer."

Believers also will be encouraged to participate in an evangelistic activity each day throughout the month of October, Church said. This includes sharing the gospel with one person, sharing one's testimony or distributing gospel tracts. Each believer also will be asked to take a personal evangelism training class.

"Personal evangelism has always defined Southern Baptists," Church said.

"This main focus constantly challenges us to build bridges to reach out to people with the good news of Jesus Christ. It is our great privilege and personal responsibility to share the gospel with unbelievers."

In addition to the "Who's in Your Wallet?" 3-1-6 prayer cards, other downloadable resources are available online at [www.TheBigDay.org](http://www.TheBigDay.org), Church noted. Resources include an implementation guide, sermon outlines and videos, posters, Sunday school/small group lessons and instructions on how to use the prayer and commitment cards. (BP)

**PRAYER PARTNERS**

Please pray for the following Kentucky Baptist missionaries and ministries:

**Prodigal Ministries in Crestwood.** Prodigal is an after-care ministry that helps men and women after prison return to society through life transformation and the renewal of their minds in Christ. With three transitional houses, program director Jennifer Partin shares that the ministry's goal is to help ex-offenders have a seamless, gradual and healthy re-entry into society. Pray that more believers will volunteer to help in Prodigal's role-modeling and mentoring programs. Pray that God will provide for their financial needs as they receive donations and income from fundraisers.

**Mission Service Corps missionaries Doug and Joli Cullen of Pineville.** The Cullens are national missionaries serving through Choose Life Ministries. They visit churches, sharing the gospel and promoting the sanctity of life through preaching, teaching, music and creative arts. Pray for opportunities across the United States to share the gospel concerning the sanctity of life. Pray for the unborn and for the safety of the Cullens as they travel nationwide with their children.

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

**MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI**

COMPILED BY STAFF

■ **BOWLING GREEN**—First Church will hold revival services Sept. 13, 11 a.m. & 7 p.m.; Sept. 14-16, 7 p.m. with **Don Mathis** as evangelist. **Mark Hopper** is pastor.

Jackson Grove Church will celebrate 125th anniversary with homecoming services Sept. 13. **Roy Lucas**, professor of theology at Clear Creek Bible College will be the guest speaker at the 11 a.m. service. **Bill Whitaker**, pastor of Glasgow Church will speak during the 2 p.m. service. A potluck meal will be served at 12:30 p.m. **The McCubbins Family** will provide special music at 3 p.m. For more information, call (270) 843-1556. **Chad Fultz** is pastor.

■ **CAMPBELLSVILLE**—Campbellsville University will host a blood drive Sept. 10, 11 a.m. at the Student Activities Center on campus. For more information, call **Roger Foster** at (270) 789-5171.

■ **GREENVILLE**—Second Church will hold revival services Sept. 13-16, 7 p.m. with **Ray Hayes**, pastor of Maple Grove Church in Louisville, as evangelist. **Ray England** is pastor.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—South Jefferson Church will hold homecoming services Sept. 13, 10:40 a.m. with **Greg Nimmo**, director of missions for Crit-

**Spotlight on ...**

**Sonora**



Barren Run Church will celebrate its 150th anniversary Sept. 11, 7 p.m.; Sept. 12, 4 p.m.; Sept. 13, 11 a.m. **John Walker**, former director of missions for Severns Valley Association will serve as guest speaker Friday, with special music provided by **David and Deanna Catlett**. The church will host a cookout Saturday. Former pastor **Jeff Pound** will be the guest speaker for Sunday services, with a meal and special music afterward. **Mike Williams** is pastor.

tenden Association, as guest speaker. A meal will follow the morning service. **T.J. Francis** is pastor.

■ **MAYFIELD**—High Point Church will hold revival services Sept. 13-16, 6:30 p.m. with **Ronnie Sivells**, KBC church development strategist, as evangelist. **Rick Hatley** is pastor.

**KBC expands online connections through Facebook & Twitter**

Louisville—Kentucky Baptists are now connecting online through Facebook and Twitter, two social networking sites that continue to grow in popularity worldwide.

KBC Electronic Media Specialist Brenda Smith said the Kentucky Baptist Convention is using the networking sites as a way "to have a conversation with those we serve and open a dialogue about what's important to them."

To follow the KBC on Facebook or Twitter, go to [www.KyBaptist.org](http://www.KyBaptist.org) and click the icons on the left side of the page.

On Facebook, Kentucky Baptists can connect to each other and to

the convention by joining the KBC's "fan" page. Facebook is free and open to everyone, but only registered users can establish profiles.

"We want to encourage Kentucky Baptists to share with us about what God is doing in their ministries, and how we can help support them in that work," Smith said. "It's also a great way for them to connect with each other and the KBC at large."

A fan page works much like a personal profile, Smith explained. Facebook users can post messages on the KBC's "wall" and identify other KBC fans. Messages and links are regularly posted to the fan page and are simultaneously sent out to everyone

**KBC CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**September**

- 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.
- 18-19 Team Leader Training, Baptist Building, Louisville.
- 19 Children in Action Missions Day Camp, Corinth Baptist Church, London.
- 19 Super Saturday, First Baptist Church, Pikeville, and Zion Baptist Church, Henderson.
- 21-22 Kentucky Baptist Ministers' Golf Tournament, Cherry Blossom Golf & Country Club, Georgetown.
- 24 Church Retirement Plan "Reality Check" Conference, Northside Baptist Church, Elizabethtown.
- 24-25 Men's Chorale Fall Retreat, Hurstbourne Baptist Church, Louisville.

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

■ **OWENSBORO**—Sorgho Church will celebrate its 125th anniversary Sept. 12, noon, with a meal, guest speakers, former pastors and special music, and Sept. 13 with **Carson Bevil** as guest speaker. **Allen Shouse** is pastor.

■ **WILLIAMSBURG**—University of the

Cumberlands will hold commemorative ceremony for victims of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks Sept. 11, noon at Patriot Park on campus. It will pay tribute to the sacrifices of American troops and include a military retreat and flag-folding ceremony.

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**SEEKING:** Full-time minister of youth (grades 6-12). Prefer four-year college and seminary degrees with two years experience. See job description, [www.fbcmtsterling.com](http://www.fbcmtsterling.com). Submit resumé: Search Committee, First Baptist Church, PO Box 324, Mt. Sterling, KY 40353; or e-mail [fbcmtsterling@bellsouth.net](mailto:fbcmtsterling@bellsouth.net).

**SEEKING:** Worship pastor to work with our senior pastoral team to lead our church to the "next level." Responsibilities include: comprehensive worship ministry and another area of ministry unique to the candidate's passion and gifting. Visit our website (staff page) for additional information: [www.newworkfellowship.com](http://www.newworkfellowship.com). Send resumé to [nikkiheiserman@newworkfellowship.com](mailto:nikkiheiserman@newworkfellowship.com).

**SEEKING:** Full-time minister of worship and outreach. Send resumé to Journey Baptist Fellowship at [journeylexington@gmail.com](mailto:journeylexington@gmail.com).

**SEEKING:** Part-time director of senior adult ministries for large, growing senior adult ministry at First Baptist Church, Richmond Ky. Successful candidate will be friendly and outgoing, with a strong calling to work with senior adults and lead them in ministry. Must be organized, knowledgeable in trip planning, and able to plan, organize and carry out special events. A successful track record of working alongside senior adults in ministry is a must. Send resumé to: Personnel Committee, First Baptist Church, 425 Eastern Bypass, Richmond KY 40475; or e-mail [resumes@firstbaptistnet.com](mailto:resumes@firstbaptistnet.com).

**SEEKING:** Part-time director of youth ministries (approx. 60 youth) for East Barbourville Baptist Church. Mail resumé to East Barbourville Baptist Church, PO Box 66, Barbourville, KY 40906.

**SEEKING:** Full-time youth/children's minister for Munfordville Baptist Church, Munfordville, Ky. Interested individuals should contact John Smith at [mbc@scrtc.com](mailto:mbc@scrtc.com); or call (270) 766-7811. Deadline for applications is Sept. 27.

**SEEKING:** Enthusiastic part-time youth pastor who is mission-minded and desires to make disciples. If you feel led, please contact Bedford Baptist Church, 1425 Hwy 421E, Bedford, KY 40006. (502) 255-3240.

**SEEKING:** Full-time (preferable) or bivocational pastor for Glens Creek Baptist Church in Versailles. Please send resumé to Search Committee, Glens Creek Baptist Church, 4678 Steele Road, Versailles, KY 40383.

**SEEKING:** Children's director for newborns through 5th grade for Alton Baptist ([www.altonbaptist.org](http://www.altonbaptist.org)). Send to Monty Stratton, 1900 Waddy Road, Lawrenceburg, KY 40342; or e-mail to [mjstratton@gmail.com](mailto:mjstratton@gmail.com).

**SEEKING:** Part-time youth director. Please send resumé to Eaton Memorial Baptist Church, 1225 West Third St., Owensboro, KY 42301.

**SEEKING:** Full-time associate pastor/minister of education for First Baptist Church, Whitesburg, Ky. Seminary graduate is preferred. Send resumé to Frazier, PO Box 57, Whitesburg, KY 41858; or e-mail [janiedoug@bellsouth.net](mailto:janiedoug@bellsouth.net).

**SEEKING:** Youth minister for Forks of Elkhorn Baptist Church, Frankfort area. Interested individuals should contact Mark Toothaker at [forkspersonnel@yahoo.com](mailto:forkspersonnel@yahoo.com); or call (859) 873-1967 for an application packet. Deadline for applications is Sept. 15, 2009.

**SEEKING:** Part-time music minister for Audubon Baptist Church. Responsible for blended-style congregational worship and choir direction. Only mailed resumé will be accepted. Mail to Linda Owen, 3205 Broeck Pointe Circle, Louisville, KY 40241.

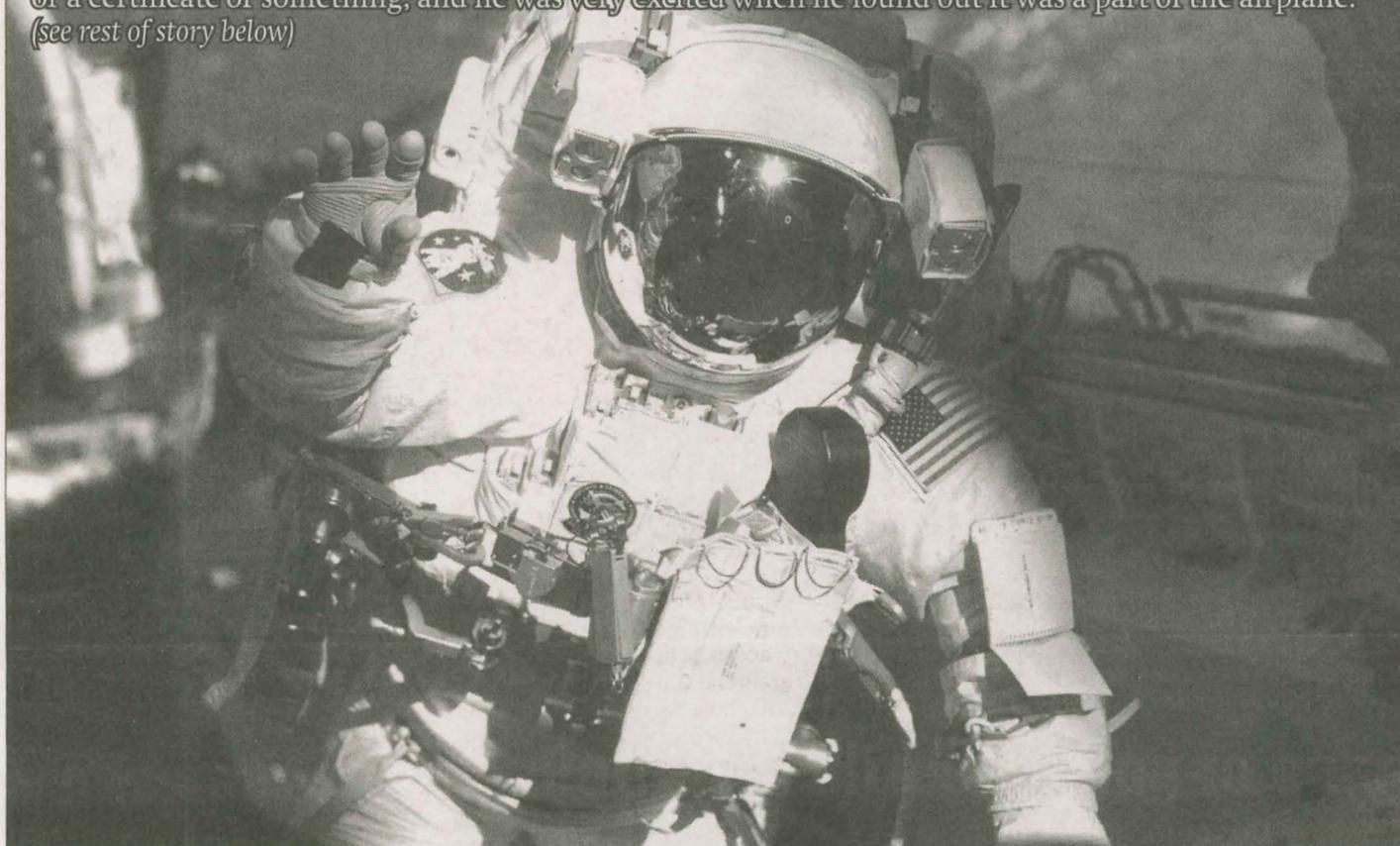
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## Emissary in space

*Astronaut, Baptist deacon Patrick Forrester takes piece of missions history on Space Shuttle Discovery*

By Erin Roach

Houston—Astronaut and Baptist layman Patrick Forrester, a member of the crew of Space Shuttle Discovery set to return to earth Sept. 10, carried with him into space a piece of martyred missionary pilot Nate Saint's airplane. Prior to the Aug. 29 launch Forrester, a deacon at University Baptist Church in Houston, wrote to Mission Aviation Fellowship asking if they had anything he could take on the trip. He was given a piece of the battery box from Saint's Piper PA-14. "Sometimes the astronauts carry small pieces of something," Forrester's pastor, Robert Creech, said. "He thought he might get a patch or a certificate or something, and he was very excited when he found out it was a part of the airplane." (See rest of story below)



Saint was among five missionaries to Ecuador murdered in 1956 on a sandbar by Waodani Indians. Forrester said he learned about the story at a Steven Curtis Chapman concert.

"That story just fascinated me, and through that I heard of the book, 'Through Gates of Splendor.' That's when I really first understood about MAF," Forrester said in a news release from the missions organization.

This is the third space shuttle flight for the 52-year-old retired Army colonel and aviator who became an astronaut in 1996. He performed spacewalks on his first two missions in 2001 and 2007. On this trip, Forrester supervised a series of walks outside the International Space Station.

When the 13-day mission to the space station is complete, Forrester will return the plane part to Mission Aviation Fellowship along with a certificate confirming its presence on Discovery's flight. MAF plans to display the part and the certificate at its headquarters in Nampa, Idaho.

"Bringing attention to and renewing interest in missions would be a great result of this experience," Forrester told MAF. "My deepest intent is to honor Nate Saint, the Saint family and all missionaries around the world."

Founded in 1945, Mission Aviation Fellowship teams serve in 55 countries, transporting missionaries, medical personnel, medicines and relief supplies into remote areas. They also provide telecommunications services, such as satellite Internet access, high-frequency radios, e-mail and other wireless systems for missionaries.

Creech, who has known Forrester about

15 years, told Baptist Press the astronaut is a favorite Sunday school teacher among University Baptist's high school students.

"He's one of my heroes. He's an incredible person," Creech said. "He has a servant's heart, and when we've gone to Africa he's tried to conceal his identity. He doesn't go around being an astronaut; he's just Patrick."

"We worked with a pastors' school there, providing some training, and Patrick was one of our small-group leaders and got in and loved the pastors and continued to have connections with them later and helped along the way with their kids' schooling and things like that. He's got a great heart."

Last year, during a service marking the 50th anniversary of NASA at University Baptist, Forrester gave a six-minute testimony, relaying how he became interested in missions.

"It was August 2001, and I had just completed my second spacewalk on my first mission. And I looked back at earth, ... I thought to myself after all the effort and all the work it had taken to get there, 'Is this all there is? Is this all that God has planned for my life?'" Forrester said.

When he returned home, his wife, Diana, urged him to speak with Creech, and soon he was headed to Uganda on his first mission trip. They spent a week with about 30 pastors from across that country, training them and developing relationships.

At the end of the week, the International Mission Board worker there asked Forrester to tell the pastors about his work with NASA. Forrester, trying to downplay that part of his life, said he would rather not.

But the missionary was persistent, so Forrester complied.

The next day, he asked one of the pastors whether he slept well that night. The man, named Joseph, said he did not. Instead, he lay awake all night looking at the sky, pondering the photographs of earth from space that he had seen in Forrester's presentation. Until then, Joseph had not known the earth was round. He said he stayed awake

marveling at the vastness of God.

During his testimony at University Baptist, Forrester quoted a David Crowder song with the line, "My eyes are small but they have seen the beauty of enormous things."

"I had seen that with my own eyes and yet I did not see the enormity of God the way that Joseph did just by looking at those pictures," the astronaut recalled. "I thought, 'Where else am I walking around day to day and missing the enormity of God just in what He has placed before me?'"

Forrester planned to return to Uganda the following summer, but launch delays prevented him from going on the trip. Instead he was in space the week the University Baptist group went to Africa.

Joseph had given Forrester a picture of his family standing in front of their tent on his visit to Uganda, and he took it into orbit with him on that mission. Forrester had a crewmate take a picture of him holding the photograph with the earth in the distance, and he e-mailed it to the IMB worker in Uganda. The missionary printed the picture and gave it to Joseph.

"A year ago this man did not know the earth was round, and he's holding a picture of his family as it floats in space," Forrester said.

God used the experience with Joseph to show Forrester that his accomplishments as an astronaut are tools for Kingdom purposes.

"God spoke very clearly to me that day and said, 'I want you to use the things that I've given you, the person that I've made you. I'll work through those. I don't want you to look at gifts that I've given to other people, for you to want those,'" Forrester said.

Creech said Forrester and his wife, a neonatal nurse, are considering a transition to full-time missionary service.

"When I visualize what I might do after I end my career at NASA, always in the back of my mind is going into the mission field in some way," Forrester was quoted as saying in the Mission Aviation Fellowship news release. "If I could go tomorrow and be a pilot with an organization like MAF, I think that's what I'd do." (BP)

**WALK OF A LIFETIME** Above In this NASA photo, astronaut Patrick Forrester waves at a crew member inside the cabin of Space Shuttle Discovery during one of two spacewalks he performed on a shuttle mission in 2001. He also was a member of the Discovery crew in 2007 and on its most recent mission that began Aug. 29. Discovery is set to return to earth this week.



**MARTYRED** In this 1955 photo, Mission Aviation Fellowship pilot Nate Saint shows gifts he received from Waodani Indians of Ecuador. Saint was killed the next year, along with fellow missionaries Jim Elliot, Peter Fleming, Ed McCully and Roger Youderian. Their story, and the subsequent stories of their families, the Waodani and other missionaries to the tribe, were told in the book and documentary film, "Through the Gates of Splendor," the follow-up documentary, "Beyond the Gates of Splendor," and the feature film, "End of the Spear." Astronaut Patrick Forrester of Houston carried a piece of Saint's Piper PA-14 airplane to the International Space Station in his current mission aboard Space Shuttle Discovery. Forrester, who is a deacon and teaches youth in Sunday school, also served on a short-term mission trip to Uganda. He requested an artifact from MAF to take with him on Discovery in recognition of his support of Christian missions.



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