

Shine like stars in the world  
Philippians 2:15

# WESTERN Recorder

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## Hope Amid Tragedy

Devastation in Haiti unfolds as Southern Baptists prepare for extended relief effort



**STILL PRAISING HIM** Churchgoers, including Marie Rose Alcuis (center), attend Sunday morning services at Second Baptist Church in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. The church, which was damaged in the earthquake, lost more than 1,000 parishioners to the disaster. Church leaders, afraid for the church's stability, hold services in the yard nearby. (RNS photo by Matt Rainey/Newark (N.J.) Star-Ledger)

### Prayer is key for Kentucky's Haitian Baptist congregations

By Drew Nichter  
News Director

Lexington—The Sunday following the deadly earthquake in Haiti, Pastor Paul Dumay led his small Haitian congregation in a time of continuous prayer.

Everyone of the 40 or so members of Lexington's Faith Tabernacle was affected, Dumay said, by the Jan. 12 tragedy that took the lives of an estimated 200,000 people on the impoverished island nation.

With communication still spotty on the island, information about family and friends killed or injured in the quake is trickling back to the Haitian communities here in Kentucky.

"Every day you hear new things," Dumay said, adding that updates come primarily via Internet correspondence for brief periods of time.

There are four Haitian churches affiliated with the Kentucky Baptist Convention—two each in Lexington and Louisville. KBC officials said they are doing what they can to help these often small congregations. See State's Haitian Baptist ... Page 2

Port-au-Prince, Haiti—Baptist disaster relief officials, along with assessment teams deployed to Haiti by Southern Baptist Disaster Relief and the Florida Baptist Convention, are scheduled to meet this week in Miami to begin drafting a comprehensive response plan to the Jan. 12 earthquake.

A five-member Southern Baptist team, including Kentucky Baptist Convention's Disaster Relief Associate Coy Webb, and a four-member Florida team recently returned from Haiti.

The assessment teams have been at work "identifying volunteer housing, food supply, logistics, transportation, how we get into the country, how we move about the country, how we move our supplies, how we warehouse," said Mickey Caison, adult volunteer mobilization team leader for the North American Mission Board. "It's a tall responsibility."

Following the day-long debriefing and planning session Jan. 26, Caison said Baptist entities will have a "pretty clear picture" of what's ahead.

"We should be able to say this is what we're going to do, how the state DR teams will plug in and how

we're going to do things," he said. "It will probably be 10-14 days out before we start sending in general teams. Certain specialized teams now on standby may go in earlier."

"The volunteers who ultimately go in will have to be the best of the best," Caison explained. "They'll probably have to be tent dwellers, able to rough it. They'll have to be stand-alone guys, able to survive on their own."

Food and water distribution, recovery and rebuild, water purification, communications, chaplains with cross-cultural training and interpreters who speak Creole likely will be the top priorities, Caison pointed out, noting that traditional DR feeding units probably will not be deployed in Haiti.

"From our experience over the last several years in Florida, we've learned that it's sometimes better to give locals access to a bulk food distribution and let the ladies of the house prepare and cook the food the way they normally do," he said.

"Logistics initiative was worked out in advance" for the Haiti relief initiative, Caison stressed. "We can't have our volunteers go in and get stranded or not have food or lodging or not be safe. We've heard stories from other agencies where that has happened. We want to get started, but we must prepare because we're going to be there a long time. There are a lot of needs."

Caison said many residents of Port-au-Prince, according to reports, are leaving the devastated city and returning to their villages in the countryside, where living conditions are not as grim. Thus, Southern Baptist disaster relief operations probably will not be restricted to the capital city, but also based in a number of outlying locations.

"There are security issues the teams need to be aware of. The situation is still precarious," said Webb of the KBC. "A medical team or a feeding team could be overrun just because the people here have such great needs."

He added that there also were many needs that existed prior to the earthquake. "People are rebounding quickly, but they didn't have a lot to begin with." (BP)



**GOD'S HANDS** International Mission Board missionary Dolores York interprets, consoles and prays with patients at a clinic in Jimani, Dominican Republic, near the Haiti border. In addition to being injured, most patients have lost their homes as well as family and friends.

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# Louisville ministry brings clean water to Haiti quake survivors

By Drew Nichter  
News Director

**Louisville**—For those who survived the devastating earthquake in Haiti, the biggest threat to their survival is that which they need most.

"Water is going to be killing people," said Mark Hogg, executive director of EDGE Outreach.

News reports have estimated that the final death toll from the Jan. 12 quake could exceed 200,000 people, although the exact total may never be known.

Hogg predicted the root cause of the escalated death toll will be tainted water.

"You haven't seen what's going to happen. In a few weeks, there'll be another huge wave of deaths because of the waterborne disease that's contaminating everybody down there," he said.

EDGE Outreach, an international faith-based nonprofit group based in Louisville, is one of the few ministries in the world working to provide clean water through its simplified water filtration and purification systems.

An initial team of eight EDGE Outreach volunteers arrived in Haiti last week, ready to install the water purification systems throughout the devastated region. More teams will follow over the next several weeks.

## Kentucky Baptist partners

The relief effort in Haiti for EDGE and others organizations surely will be long term—and the EDGE teams likely will get help soon from Kentucky Baptist students.

Keith Inman, who directs the Kentucky Baptist Convention's collegiate ministry department, has partnered with EDGE Outreach for student missions efforts for the last six years. The collegiate Acts 1:8 Leadership teams have done water purification work with EDGE in impoverished countries the past two summers.

Inman said there has been talk among

campus ministers at the universities of Kentucky and Louisville to send a team of students to Haiti during spring break in March.

In addition, one of the 2010 Acts 1:8 Leadership teams that was scheduled to do water purification work with EDGE Outreach in Romania this July, instead will travel to Haiti, Inman said.

"We just see it as a great platform to introduce students to ministering in a very practical way in the name of Jesus by providing good water," he added.

The EDGE purification method uses a system of hoses, pipes, a tank, a car battery or solar panel, and a handful of salt. Using an electrolysis process, the salt-water solution is converted into a chlorine gas solution, which is then injected into the water, purifying it.

The EDGE systems can "take care of 99.9 percent of waterborne contaminants," Hogg said, purifying as much as 55 gallons of water per minute.

With so many of the dead around the Haitian capital of Port-au-Prince being buried in mass graves, the water problem will grow even worse, Hogg pointed out.

"In time, the corpses will contaminate the aquifers throughout Port-au-Prince," making the already poor water worse, he said. "It's a nightmare that has incredible longevity."

Initially, EDGE Outreach teams will work to set up clean-water systems for the Salvation Army—with which EDGE works closely—and its five bases around Port-au-Prince. The teams also will work to purify water at the CURE International hospital there, another EDGE partner.

The most difficult aspect of establishing the purification systems in Haiti is tracking down 500-gallon tanks in which to hold the clean water.

EDGE Outreach missionary Bowin Tichenor, who is based in nearby Dominican Republic, arrived in Haiti within two days of the quake and has been scouring the region for the tanks since then.

**"You haven't seen what's going to happen. In a few weeks, there'll be another huge wave of deaths because of the waterborne disease that's contaminating everybody down there."**

Mark Hogg, EDGE Outreach executive director



**PURE WATER, PURE LIFE** Kurtis Daniels, who coordinates training and field operations for EDGE Outreach, gives a demonstration of the ministry's water purification system to members of the initial group of EDGE volunteers who are in Haiti setting up systems similar to the one seen here. As of last weekend, the group had installed three water systems around Haiti's disaster-stricken capital of Port-au-Prince. (Photo by Drew Nichter)

**For those who wish to donate to EDGE Outreach's water purification efforts in Haiti, visit [www.EDGEOutreach.com](http://www.EDGEOutreach.com).**

"Tanks are hard to come by, but he's scarfing what he can," Hogg said.

The other obstacle for EDGE is money. The initial need was \$79,000, Hogg pointed out. To sustain the effort for an anticipated eight weeks, he estimated EDGE would need \$500,000.

Although the group has been quick to respond to the relief effort in Haiti, EDGE Outreach is not a disaster relief organization, Hogg emphasized. The group's first experience in a disaster situation came just more than a year ago when an earthquake struck Costa Rica.

An EDGE water team already was in the country and responded within two days. "The leaders of the Salvation Army and the Costa Rican Red Cross wept when they saw what the equipment could do," Hogg recalled.

"We're not disaster relief professionals, but we have disaster relief experience," Hogg said. "And we have something of value to offer."

## Strong December puts CP ahead of last year's pace

**Louisville**—Kentucky Baptists gave \$2,119,062 through the Cooperative Program in December, the highest amount given in any month so far this fiscal year.

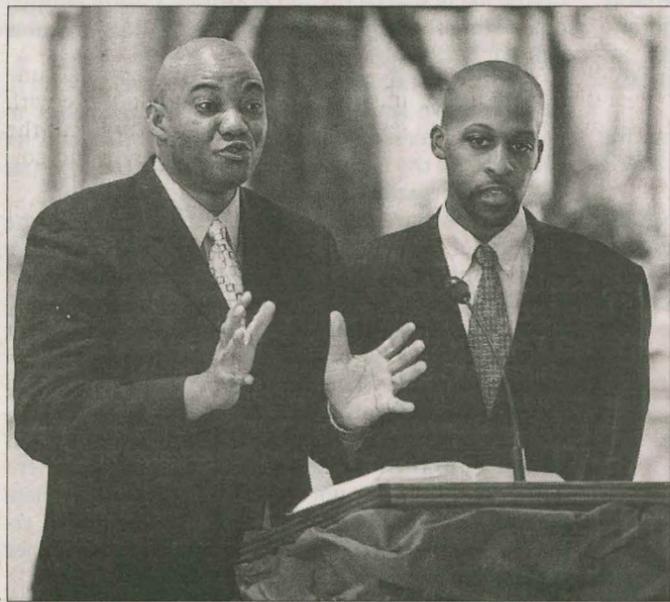
According to Lowell Ashby, Kentucky Baptist Convention's business services team leader, the strong December receipts are keeping CP totals ahead of last year's pace, now by 5.2 percent. However, monthly totals have, on average, been slightly behind what is needed each month to meet the 2009-10 working budget of \$23 million.

Kentucky Baptists have given \$7,564,743 so far this fiscal year, which began last September and will end in August. That amount is \$101,924 (1.33 percent) behind the \$7,666,667 needed through the end of December in order to meet the working budget, Ashby said.

"We're thankful for such a strong month of giving through CP because we know that each of those dollars will be supporting missions and ministries across our state, nation and world," said Billy Compton, KBC's executive associate for Cooperative Program and resources.

According to Ashby, while CP totals have stayed ahead of the 2009-10 working budget, totals technically are \$595,257 (7.29 percent) behind pace for the originally approved fiscal-year budget of \$24.48 million. Because of the ongoing economic recession, the KBC is operating under an approved working budget of \$23 million for the 2009-10 fiscal year, he reminded.

## State's Haitian Baptist communities in need of prayer



**PRAYING FOR THE HOMELAND** Frantz Philippe (left), pastor of the Kentucky Baptist Convention-affiliated Haitian Tabernacle in Louisville, speaks Creole during an interfaith Haitian prayer service held at the city's St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church to promote relief efforts to aid the victims of the earthquake in Haiti. Donald Desgranges (right) interprets Philippe's remarks. (Photo by Sam Upshaw Jr./Louisville Courier-Journal/reprinted with permission)

Continued from page 1

tions cope with the devastation in their homeland.

"We're there beside them," said Larry Baker, KBC's interim missions growth team leader. Baker also oversees many of the state's ethnic congregations through the new work and associational missions department.

He said he has spoken several times to each of the Haitian pastors and has offered any assistance they may need. But there is one thing, Baker said, Haitians everywhere need most of all.

"The most important thing both ways—for what's going on there right now and what we're doing with our Haitian pastors and their congregations—is to pray for them," Baker explained.

In Louisville, Haitian church leaders, including Frantz Philippe, pastor of the KBC-affiliated Haitian Tabernacle, recently took part in an interfaith prayer service at a Catholic parish.

A day after the earthquake struck,

members of Philippe's congregation held a prayer service of its own at their church building near Louisville's Churchill Downs.

"We are outside of our country, but it's very important to be together to pray for our country," Philippe told the Louisville Courier-Journal.

Dumay said the earthquake—the largest in Haiti in more than 200 years—was a wake-up call for his countrymen.

"My message to them is to be ready for the Son of God," he said.

"What happened in Haiti is not anybody's fault because it was a natural disaster—but we have to learn something from it," Dumay stressed. "God wants to tell us that Jesus is very near. We need to get ready."

Dumay and the other Haitian Baptist pastors have been offered the opportunity to travel to Haiti with the KBC's disaster relief teams, Baker said. Those teams are on hold while all state conventions await word from the Southern Baptist assessment team's report that is due this week.

## 'Shepherds' reaffirm being encourager to spouses

By Todd Deaton  
Editor

Lexington—While every minister knows one should be, "the reality is it's not easy to be an encourager," Donnie Fox, president of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, confided to participants at the 12th annual "Shepherding the Shepherd" conference.

In the midst of all the seasons that God brings into our lives, "it means so much when you learn how to encourage one another," Fox affirmed. "And, I'll just be honest, it makes the journey bearable sometimes," he said, while finding reassurance in Jeremiah 29:11, which affirms that "God has a plan for our lives."

Fox, who shared the platform with his wife, Penny, was one of four presenters at the January 14-16 conference for Kentucky Baptist church leaders and their spouses in Lexington, which focused on the theme, "Be an Encourager." Other speakers included Paul Chitwood of Mount Washington; H.B. London of Colorado Springs, Colo.; and Jay Wolf of Montgomery, Ala.

Chitwood, pastor of First Baptist Church of Mount Washington, urged pastors and their spouses to sign up for graduate classes in encouragement. The curriculum proposed by the assistant professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary included choices between history and home economics, physical education and chemistry, and art or art of war.

"Be forewarned that history—living in the past and recalling ancient conflicts—isn't helpful," Chitwood cautioned. "In fact, it may be counterproductive talking about the same old hurts and picking up weapons you have used for so long," he added, citing Isaiah 43:18. Instead, he commended home economics, the science and art of home management, which provides couples with crucial lessons on how to create a successful, healthy home life.

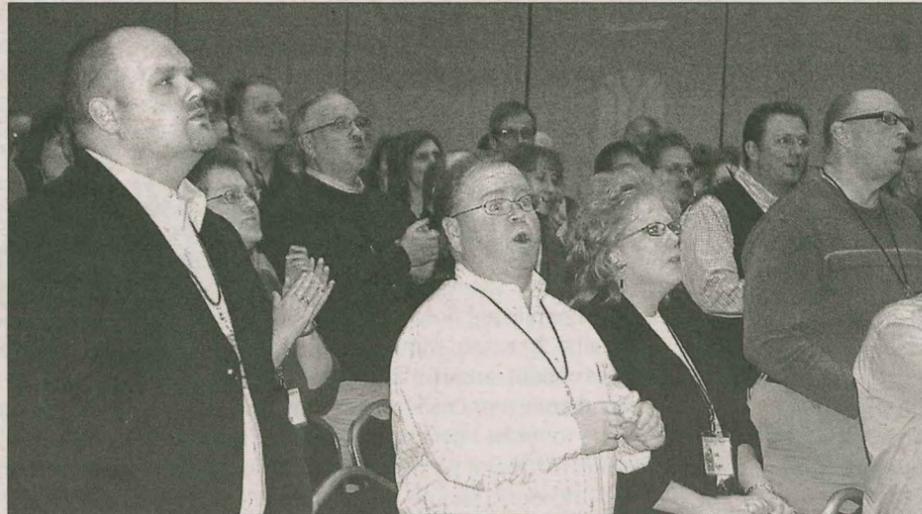
Recommending chemistry over physical education, he advocated, "Be more interested in her as a person and take time" to be with her. While most men would probably prefer physical education, Chitwood counseled, "For her, physical education has a lot more to do with chemistry."

Studying art is preferable to acquiring the art of war, where one learns how to defend one's territory, advance a cause, and to keep one's guard up, Chitwood asserted. "What good is taking the ground if in the end, the war has left it burned and salted to the point that it's no good anymore?" he asked. "Beat your swords into plowshares," he urged. "Make your marriage into a work of art."

Marriage is a sacred task that has eternal ramifications, Chitwood concluded, describing it as "a dress rehearsal for the greatest relationship you will ever know." As far as a final course grade, he said, "My prayer for you is that you all get an 'A' in encouragement."



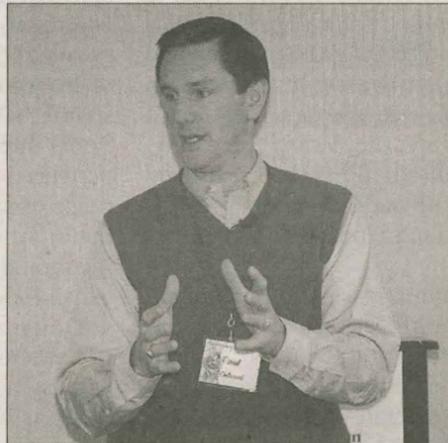
Penny and Donnie Fox provide a transparent look at encouraging each other during different seasons of ministry.



Ministers and their wives participate in praise and worship led by Erik Kerr and the Network Band during the "Shepherding the Shepherd" retreat.

In a message spiced with wit, London, vice president of church and clergy outreach for Focus on the Family, reminded ministers that the most important members in their churches are the ones who reside under their roofs.

As he faced a critical illness, London said, "It dawned on me that the most important people in life were standing at the end of my hospital bed, and nobody loved me and cared for me more than they did." Choked by emotion, he added, "I felt the



Paul Chitwood advises students on the core curriculum for earning a graduate degree in encouragement.

power of the love of God in a way that I can't even express to you: my family!"

"As successful as you want to be and as powerful as you might become—with all the prestige and notoriety that comes along with whatever you do—it pales in comparison with the knowledge and reality that you and the one who you call your husband or your wife love each other unconditionally; those kids that God has given you to raise and nurture become the most important project that you will ever have," he asserted.

Claiming that every church has its "joy suckers" who "like Ghostbusters ... have a hose that they hook up to your heart and in three seconds all your joy is gone," London urged spouses to "be part of the solution and not part of the problem" by encouraging each other.

"If you allow negativity to define your ministry," he warned, "not only do you serve with your head down, but you begin to develop a callousness, you don't love people the way you should, ... and you are not as effective as a shepherd or leader."

Wolf, pastor of First Baptist Church of Montgomery, Ala., told conference participants about a major crisis his family faced when their 26-year-old daughter-in-law suffered an unexpected, massive brain hemorrhage while cooking one evening. Though she miraculously survived, it was the begin-

ning of a dark, treacherous ordeal through which the Wolf family has learned of God's grace and experienced the kindness of fellow Christians.

"Remember, the church is not a hiding place, where hurting people cower in a corner," he began. "It should be a place of intimacy," he maintained, observing that the word sounds like "in to me see."

Through observing his son's courageous and faithful response to his wife's heart-wrenching ordeal and her continued struggles dealing with partial paralysis and a speech impediment, Wolf gleaned some powerful lessons on encouragement and facing adversity: We need Jesus and each other (Mark 5:41; Galatians 6:2); translate your pain into spiritual gain (Romans 8:28-29); God grows miracles and waters them with our prayers (Luke 11:9); and run your race with faithfulness, endurance and grace (Hebrews 12:13).

"We live in a fallen world where people suffer great tragedy. It doesn't matter who you are; that's the world we live in," Wolf declared. "Build on the rock, because storms are coming. Be prepared because when the rains come, if you are building it upon the shifting sands of our culture, you will fail," he warned.

"The bottom line is, 'Jesus wins!'" he affirmed. "That's what I'm banking on."

In the last session, Penny Fox joined her husband, Donnie, for a transparent dialogue about the importance of being an encourager in what he described as "my perspective of what my best friend has meant to me over the seasons of my life." They each reflected on four seasons in ministry together: pre-calling years, preparation period, pastoral ministry, and transition times.

"As a man, encouragement did not come naturally to me, and I didn't always see things the way I do now," Fox acknowledged. But through these different seasons in their lives, "God has shown me some new ways to be an encourager," he said.

Fox pointed to three key lessons: "I need to be a better looker at my wife," watching closely for things that bother her or bring her joy; "I need to be a better listener," hearing what she is saying, rather than interrupting or rushing to fix things; "I need to be a better lover" by nurturing and being considerate of her feelings and viewpoints.

Declaring God's faithfulness in "giving us what we need when we need it," Penny Fox observed that at different times, one or the other has stepped up to be the greater encourager, uplifting the other partner through hardships they were facing.

"I truly feel in my heart, if we ever hope to be an encourager in whatever ministry God has called us to, we first have to learn to be an encourager to each other as husband and wife," she said.

## Ky. Baptists among critics of Beshear's budget proposal

Frankfort—Some Kentucky Baptists said they are disappointed in the budget proposal laid out last week by Kentucky Gov. Steve Beshear that is counting on millions of dollars from expanded gambling revenue.

The governor's Jan. 19 proposal included \$780 million in revenue from an expanded gambling bill that has yet to pass—and which many lawmakers reportedly do not support.

"I'm highly disappointed that the governor has chosen to pursue this (budget) when there obviously is an uphill battle, even among his Democratic legislators," said Chip Hutcheson, chairman of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Committee on Public Affairs.

The backlash even within Beshear's own party became evident shortly after the announcement. The next day, House Speaker Greg Stumbo, D-Prentissburg, ordered a new budget proposal drawn up.

The Louisville Courier-Journal quoted Stumbo as saying that no House Democrats had spoken to Gov. Beshear about the spending plan, nor that there was much support for it.

The expanded gambling bill in question would bring video lottery terminals to the state's horse racing tracks. The budget—which runs from July 1 to June 30, 2012—estimates \$295 million from gambling tax receipts and around \$485 million from gambling licenses sold to the tracks.

Without the gambling revenue, Gov. Beshear said last week that the state would need to make more than \$850 million in cuts.

"Gaming revenue is the only practical option to begin funding long-term priorities with recurring revenue," Beshear told the state General Assembly.

Hutcheson disagreed with that assessment, saying that government is facing what private businesses have been dealing with for the past couple of years.

"We're in an economic downturn, and every company I know of has had to re-evaluate where they spend their money," said Hutcheson, who operates the Princeton Times-Leader newspaper in Western Kentucky.

"Every business still has the same mission, but you try to do more with less," he explained. "You try to cut the fat out of your operations, ... and government has not wanted to do that."

James Jones, pastor of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church in Campbellsville, who also is a member of the KBC's public-affairs committee, said state government should adopt the widely used mantra: "Live within your means."

"When you start realizing you've got more going out than you've got coming in, you're going to have to cut somewhere," Jones advised.

Both Jones and Hutcheson said they are confident Gov. Beshear's expanded gambling bill ultimately will fail—but are concerned the governor is going about addressing the commonwealth's budget woes all wrong.

"I am afraid the governor's using scare tactics ... rather than getting in and doing what he was elected to do, which was to study (and) find ways to streamline state government and still be productive," Hutcheson said.

## Responding to the disaster in Haiti

We all have been shocked and saddened as the reports of devastation continue to flood the airwaves from Haiti. It is difficult to see the graphic pictures and hear the heart-rending stories of tragic loss, rampant infections, and lack of medical supplies, personnel, water and nourishment to sustain life.

### Partners in the Mission



By Bill Mackey

Reports of the deaths of tens of thousands are too staggering to comprehend. They are parents, grandparents, children, brothers and sisters. Due to the large scale of the disaster, it has been difficult to get help to people quickly but I am encouraged to see that the flow of aid is now increasing rapidly.

I am also grateful to God for those who have been working in Haiti for years to meet needs and provide schools, orphanages and churches. Evangelist Joe Mobley of London is just one who has invested years of ministry and leadership to involve others in developing schools and orphanages there.

John Sullivan, executive director of the Florida Baptist Convention, has led Florida churches to launch and develop 892 churches in Haiti. The Florida Convention has been working in Haiti for more than 15 years and has felt the impact of the disaster in a very personal way.

Coy Webb, our own convention's disaster relief associate, went to Haiti last week as a part of the Southern Baptist assessment team to pave the way for disaster relief teams to get into the country. Please pray for Webb and all those who are bringing relief in the midst of this great crisis.

In addition to praying for the people of Haiti and those who are seeking to relieve the suffering there, I encourage you to give financially for Haiti disaster relief. You can give through your church, donate directly online at [www.kybaptist.org/dr](http://www.kybaptist.org/dr) or send funds directly to KBC at PO Box 856300, Dept. 124, Louisville, KY 40285-9900. Please note "Haiti Earthquake" on the memo line of your check.

Because the Cooperative Program already covers the administrative costs, you can have confidence that 100 percent of your gift will be used for disaster relief in Haiti.

You might also want to consider becoming a trained disaster relief volunteer by participating in training that is provided regularly around the state. Southern Baptists will need to be sending teams for months and even years to come to help this nation recover. The KBC Missions Growth Team will be developing strategic plans for associations and churches to be involved in the long term rebuilding phase as well as the immediate relief stage.

God has blessed Kentucky Baptists and I know that we will respond generously to this incredible humanitarian crisis and to provide resources for those who can go.

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

## 'God has given me a heart for Haiti'

What if in the next 60 seconds everything in your life crumbled around you? Your home, the place where you work, the market where you find food, the school where your children study, the hospital where you go when sick or injured—all left in ruins. Even more devastating: loved ones—your mother or father, husband or wife, brother or sister, friend or neighbor—to whom you were speaking or with whom you were playing only minutes ago lie buried beneath mounds of rubble. Cries of pain, anguish and loss reverberate from every crack and cranny. Yet, you are scarcely able to assist anyone. The gnarled masses of concrete, sheetrock and plywood are too heavy. Dazed, gashed and bleeding, people stagger about still grappling to understand what has happened. Bones are broken; bodies mangled; spirits crushed. It's a terror so inconceivable, so incomprehensible: a world gone awry.



### After Thought

By Todd Deaton

Stories coming out of Port-au-Prince these past few days have been horrifying and heart-wrenching. The 7.0-magnitude earthquake killed an estimated 200,000 people, injured another 250,000, and left 1.5 million homeless. A strong, 6.1-magnitude aftershock rocked Port-au-Prince again, sending traumatized residents—many of whom have been sleeping outside in open areas—scrambling as rubble from earlier-damaged buildings tumbled to the ground.

In the midst of this devastation and human suffering, however, it is a tremendous relief to find Southern Baptists already are there offering words and deeds of comfort and hope. Gordon Fort, IMB vice president for Global Strategy, observed: "People in the places where our personnel are serving are dealing in a very harsh reality. Some have lost their loved ones. They don't know where their families are. They've lost everything, their homes destroyed. But sometimes their reality intersects with hope...." In the midst of a harsh reality, God sends His people to extend a message of hope, Fort explained.

For example, a bivocational pastor in Mississippi, who has been ministering in Haiti for 15 years, was moved by compassion after hearing about 150 children at two orphanages who were desperate for food, medical supplies and fuel for generators. Through prayer, Tim Dortch was convicted: "God has given me a heart for Haiti." The pastor contacted the International Mission Board, offered a compound he had built in the Dominican Republic to a team of volunteers, and traveled with them to do relief work. Once there, he filled two trucks with water, food and fuel to deliver to the orphanages.

Another IMB worker, Mark Rutledge, unable to give food to so many desperate people around him, took out pen and paper and jotted down contact information to alert other disaster relief teams that would be arriving soon. The Haitians flocked around him, five to 10 people deep, and even chased after his truck as he departed. Still, in such a small act of Christian charity, he gave a sign of hope.

Though many of us may not be able to go ourselves, we have been similarly moved. By midweek Southern Baptists already had given more than \$500,000 to Haiti

relief work through International Mission Board channels. More will be coming through state convention disaster relief channels to feed hundreds of thousands of hungry Haitians. Southern Baptist officials anticipate spending \$2 million or more on relief and rebuilding projects.

Coy Webb, director of disaster relief for Kentucky Baptists, was part of the first assessment team that heroically ventured with Bruce Poss, disaster relief coordinator for the North American Mission Board, to Haiti only days after the earthquake.

The five-man team flew into the Dominican Republic and made an arduous, seven-hour trip through rugged mountains to Port-au-Prince. The team, which is meeting this week to map out Southern Baptists' response to the crisis, reported Jan. 21: "It is clear that medical, emotional, and spiritual care are priorities, along with food and shelter. One medical team has been deployed, more teams are expected to be mobilized in a few days, communication equipment is being prepared, and chaplains are on alert. Staff in Haiti and here at home are working to get plans in place to provide for teams once they arrive."

Southern Baptists again will make a long-term commitment to minister to disaster victims. "We're not going to go in, do a few things, cook a few meals, take a few pictures and come back out," Poss assured. Short-range plans will provide food, water, medicine and other supplies; midrange plans will involve relief aid and spiritual help, such as counseling survivors and ministering to approximately 900 Haitian Baptist congregations. "This is a huge disaster that will require years of attention," agreed Jeff Palmer of Baptist Global Response. "Our heart is for the long-term, transformational impact after basic needs are met." For now, experienced and well-trained volunteers are needed because of safety hazards and harsh living conditions, but in the months ahead those interested in volunteering should contact the Kentucky Baptist Convention or e-mail [HaitiResponse@IMB.org](mailto:HaitiResponse@IMB.org).

On my way home from work last week, I listened to news reports from Haiti on the radio. In one eyewitness account, I heard a surprising sound: The Haitians were ... singing. They were lifting up their voices in praising God. Though most likely a separate incident, our front-page photo depicts this striking phenomenon. What a stirring testimony! Believers in Haiti—in the midst of their own pain and loss—are pointing their friends and fellow citizens to where they can find real hope amid tragedy.

It is indeed a blessing to know that Southern Baptists are a caring people who are willing to go and become personally involved in the lives of those who have been affected by this tragedy and who are willing to commit to being there long-term to assist them in recovering. God has given us a heart for ministering to both their physical needs and the spiritual needs that arise. Certainly, in despairing times like these, compassion should be a hallmark of every believer, as we are spurred on by the words of our Lord in Matthew 25:40: "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of Mine, you did for Me."

## Organize pockets of prayer warriors

Because the need is so great, it is far beyond any of us. Will you help to organize pockets of prayer warriors across our nation?

Just think what 100,000 groups of four or five people meeting once a week to pray specifically for revival could accomplish.

The one weapon that we have against Satan is serious, God-anointed prayer. Every great revival was birthed in the prayer closet. If you will help, please orga-

nize a prayer group of four or five in your church to pray together once a week.



We meet at our church on Tuesday morning each week to pray for revival. This has been going on for about four years. We have from four to eight come each week.

Please pray that God will lay it on the hearts of a group in your church to meet once a week to pray for revival. Please let me know by writing to 8494 Pleasant

Hill Rd., Olive Branch, MS 28654.

Vaughn Denton  
Olive Branch, Miss.

**Forum Disclaimer:** Baptist Forum is provided as an opportunity for Kentucky Baptists to express their viewpoints on a variety of subjects. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Western Recorder's editorial staff, its Board of Directors, or the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Letters should be no more than 300 words in length and will be edited for style, clarity and space. Letters must reflect a spirit of Christian charity and civility.

## WESTERN Recorder

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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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## What can we learn from Jeter?

By David Garrard

Don't misunderstand. As an Atlanta native and die-hard Braves fan, I am not a New York Yankee fan (see 1996 World Series—I'm still in therapy). However, I most certainly am a Derek Jeter fan, and I was delighted when Sports Illustrated named the Yankee shortstop as their 2009 Sportsman of the Year.



Our children need heroes, and Jeter is a good one. He passes what Erik Kuselias calls the "poster test"—you wouldn't mind having his poster hanging in your child's room. The story that accompanied the award details traits that deserve pointing out.

"Jeter is an anachronism ... free of tattoos, piercings, cussing, posess and the other clichés of the big-time-jock starter kit." Jeter displays manners and humility that stand out sharply in the larger context of today's self-absorbed celebrity culture. He always gives 100 percent, whether his team is winning or losing. He never makes excuses, can't stand negativity and says that when he was young, he was not allowed to use the word "can't."

Jeter respects himself and those around him. His mother explains this way: "When you like who you are, you are going to respect others." He does not boast about his achievements or show up other players. Jeter says, "If you're accomplished and have done things, people will talk about it for you." How refreshing ... and Christlike.

Jeter appreciates his family and credits them with teaching him important values when he was young. "And all the time, I thought they were just teaching me to play baseball."

We don't know anything about Jeter's faith, although two of his closest friends on the Yankees are Mariano Rivera and Andy Pettitte—both strong Christians. Still, our kids can learn a lot from Jeter's attitude and example. A better role model may be hard to find.

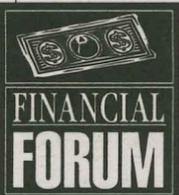
David Garrard is minister to children at St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville.

## Three greatest financial risks

By Don Spencer

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

**Dying too soon.** No one likes the thought, but some do die sooner than expected. The least one can do is make sure there is adequate life insurance to take care of the needs of their family and other heirs. Life insurance is basic to every sound financial plan. If you still have dependent children, adequate life insurance is even more critical.



The amount should be adequate to cover any final illness expenses, burial, family living needs, education, etc. Most people have insufficient coverage but some coverage is at least better than none.

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

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

**Living too long.** Most people understand the consequences of dying too soon, but most probably do not adequately foresee the danger in outliving their incomes. People are tending to live longer. But with inflation, more and more elderly folks find they can't afford those things they consider necessities. Sound financial planning includes saving adequate amounts to fund your retirement years, no matter how long you live.

Former First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt said, "It takes as much energy to wish as it does to plan." Set concrete, attainable goals for retirement, commit to those goals, and set aside funds needed to reach the goals.

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

## It's time for a visit from the Great Physician

By Richard Harris

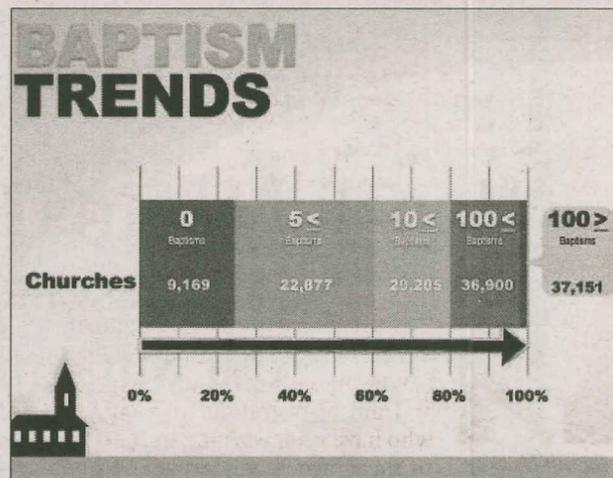
I have been asking myself a question over and over since the Southern Baptist Convention met in Louisville last year, voting to form the Great Commission Resurgence Task Force. My question is this: Is our convention's main problem primarily organizational, structural, systemic, faulty processes or partnerships—or is it spiritual?

I have a great deal of respect for Chairman Ronnie Floyd and all the work being accomplished by the GCR Task Force. It is impossible for most of us to realize the excruciating hours of analysis they are spending as they examine mountains of material and information. Their assigned task is huge and so few months remain for them to reach conclusions and make recommendations to the convention in Orlando as to how Southern Baptists can more effectively and efficiently fulfill the Great Commission.

Since I was asked in August to serve as interim president at the North American Mission Board, I have often repeated that NAMB's leadership and staff welcome any recommendations that will make us more effective or more efficient. Time is too short and the needs in the culture of our day are too many for us to settle for anything less. With 255 million lost people in North America—three out of four individuals—the hour is urgent for Southern Baptists to be doing all we can to fulfill the Great Commission given to us by our Lord.

I would suggest the greatest need of Southern Baptists is spiritual. Two minutes of Pentecost would do us more good than 20 years of reorganizing or restructuring. This is not to say that some restructuring or reorganizing could not make us more effective or efficient. It certainly can. But allow me to share just some of the rationale as to why I believe our need is spiritual.

### FIRST PERSON



cent in 2005 and 2006 and 24 percent in 2007. With each year that passes, a larger percentage of our churches baptize no one.

Since 2001, the sad fact is an increasing number of our churches are baptizing no one, fewer of our churches are baptizing 10 or more people annually, and an increasing number of our churches are baptizing no teenagers.

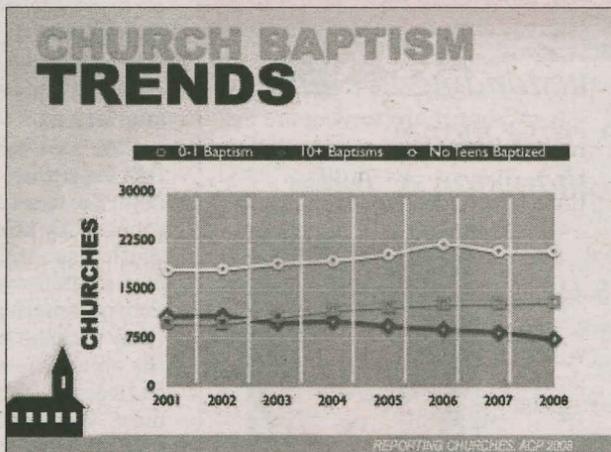
I believe these statistics bear out that our primary problem is spiritual. It is reflected in plateaued and declining churches, in decreasing baptisms, conflict in churches, dissension among church leaders, moral failure on the part of pastors and church staff, and a diminished or total loss of a burden for lost, unchurched and/or unreached peoples. The church in North America increasingly is too much of the world and the world's ways are too much in the church.

In 2 Chronicles 7:14, God makes it plain when a nation or a people move away from God, the Father looks first and foremost to His people, the church. First Peter 4:17 says, "For it is time for judgment to begin with the family of God..."

Where do we begin? The leaders of God's churches and this denomination must evaluate anew our passion and commitment to the Great Commission by the personal sharing of the gospel. As leaders, we must lead our members to do likewise. We must begin to believe, as never before, that anyone without a personal relationship with Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord has no hope of heaven.

But this renewed passion and commitment will only flow out of each of us taking a spiritual inventory, evaluating if we are as close to the Lord and as committed to His agenda as we once were. In many of our lives, this will result in profound repentance, revival of our walk with the Lord, commitment to living holy and pure lives, and seeing with new eyes our world as the Lord sees it.

Then the empowering of the Holy Spirit will enable us to fulfill the Great Commission. When we have His power, we will operate on His agenda, not man's. Whether we act individually, as church leaders, as members, or as denominational leaders, we will enthusiastically cooperate to do



Research completed in 2009 by Richie Stanley of NAMB's Missional Research Center found that from 2003 through 2008, 29 percent of SBC churches were growing, 43 percent were plateaued and 28 percent of SBC churches were declining. This means 71 percent of SBC churches are plateaued or declining.

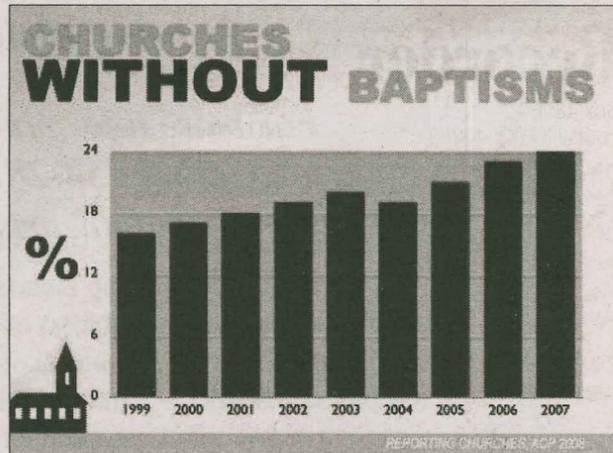
Why is this happening? For some it is a shift in population. For others it is a change in community demographics or economics. For others it is the secularization of our society. But I believe for the majority of our churches, it is a loss of passion to reach lost people with the gospel and a drifting away from a sincere commitment to fulfill the Great Commission.

Data from the Annual Church Profile gathered by LifeWay Christian Resources reveals some alarming information in 2008. Twenty-five percent, or 9,169 of Southern Baptist churches, reported no baptisms. Sixty-two percent—that's 22,877 churches—reported no baptisms. Another 22 percent—or 7,946 SBC churches—baptized more than 10, and 251 churches—less than 1 percent—baptized more than 100.

In 2008, there were officially 44,848 churches in the SBC, not including the 5,267 church-type missions. There were 37,151 churches that reported on the ACP, and 7,691 churches did not report. The numbers above reflect only the 82 percent of churches that reported.

Part of the issue of declining baptisms and other growth measurements on the ACP is that fewer churches are reporting, but this certainly is not the main problem. The average number of baptisms for all reporting churches in 2008 was 8.75. If the 7,691 non-reporting churches would have maintained this average, we would have reported 50,409 more baptisms (392,607 instead of 342,198).

When we look at year-to-year trends, unfortunately the news gets worse. In 2008, 25 percent of reporting churches indicated zero baptisms. In 1999 that percentage was 18. It has grown steadily since then to 19 percent in 2000, 20 percent in 2001 and 2002, 21 percent in 2003 and 2004, 23 per-



our part to reduce lostness, make disciples, build His Kingdom—not ours, and be truly focused on fulfilling the Great Commission. We will be on mission Christians.

Almost any organizational structure will work for the SBC if our people, our churches and our denominational leaders are renewed spiritually and our people and church leaders are renewed spiritually and become more concerned about pleasing the Lord rather than man, then we will see an increase in baptisms, disciples, resources, growth, unity, passion, cooperation and commitment to fulfilling the Great Commission.

Richard Harris is interim president of the North American Mission Board.

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### Giving to help Haiti

When you give to Haiti relief through the IMB or Baptist Global Response (BGR), 100 percent of your gift is used to help Haitians in need. Southern Baptists have an extensive network for disaster response including missionaries already on the scene with language and cultural skills. The IMB partners with BGR because it is led by Southern Baptists who have decades of experience in disaster assessment and relief projects. Southern Baptist churches, associations, state conventions and the North American Mission Board also work closely with BGR to plan and carry out international disaster relief projects conducted in cooperation with local Baptist churches overseas.

## Missionaries, Dominican Baptists aid Haiti survivors

By Maria Elena Baseler  
International Mission Board

**Jimani, Dominican Republic**—As Southern Baptist disaster relief officials were in Haiti last week assessing needs, International Mission Board missionaries in neighboring Dominican Republic were providing immediate relief supplies, medical aid and spiritual counseling to survivors of the 7.0-magnitude earthquake that rocked the island nation.

"We have asked almost all of our IMB missionaries in the Dominican Republic to set the majority of their other work aside and focus on the Haiti response," said Adam Hammond, IMB's strategy leader for Central America and the Caribbean. "Pray that the Lord would lead us to the areas where we can be most effective, where we can be used the most. We don't want to go in and spin our wheels in a hundred different directions. We want to go in and do what God is calling us to do."

After initial relief efforts, teams of IMB missionaries and Dominican Baptists traveled to the disaster zone last week to deliver more relief supplies and offer counseling to quake victims and relief workers. Several IMB missionary counselors in the Americas traveled to the Dominican Republic to train teams in post-trauma counseling Jan. 19-20 and have accompanied the teams to Haiti.

Hammond asked Southern Baptists to pray for the teams' safety as security concerns worsen in Haiti.

As teams provide relief in Haiti, IMB missionaries and their Dominican Baptist partners are delivering water, food and medicine to help injured Haitians streaming across the border into the Dominican Republic. They also are providing water and food to exhausted relief workers there.

After hearing of an urgent medical need at a clinic in the Dominican border town of Jimani, IMB missionaries Sam and Delores York traveled there Jan. 17. Delores, a nurse, immediately began caring for patients who had undergone amputations. Sam provided logistical and spiritual support for patients and workers.

Less than 48 hours earlier, the Yorks had received news that the

quake claimed the life of Alexandre Alincy, a Haitian immigrant church planter they were training in Santiago, Dominican Republic. Alincy had been visiting family in Port-au-Prince when the earthquake struck.

"He was like a son to us," Delores said.

### Volunteer efforts

While ministry at the clinic continued, IMB leaders worked with Dominican Baptist physicians to secure permission for U.S. medical volunteers to help with overwhelming needs along the border.

"There's going to be a vast need" for short-term volunteers involved in many forms of ministry, Hammond noted.

Hammond urged Southern Baptists interested in volunteering in the Haiti relief effort—in medical care or other ways—to send an e-mail to [HaitiResponse@IMB.org](mailto:HaitiResponse@IMB.org). In that e-mail, potential volunteers should indicate their name and contact information, what skills they have and when they are available.

IMB officials in the Americas will form short-, mid- and long-range plans for helping Haitians based on the determinations made this week by the disaster relief assessment team in Haiti, he indicated.

Hammond noted that the IMB currently has five missionaries assigned to work with Haitians—Mark and Peggy Rutledge, Sam and Delores York and Dawn Goodwin. Collectively, these missionary families have more than 50 years of experience living and working in Haiti. The Yorks and Goodwins work with Haitian immigrants in the Dominican Republic but maintain relationships with Baptists in Haiti. The Rutledges are on stateside assignment.

Hammond stressed that because of these missionaries' experience and contacts in Haiti, the IMB has been "uniquely positioned" for this relief effort in the country.

All of these missionaries still are "focused on reaching Haiti and continue to relate to and work with Baptist conventions in Haiti," Hammond said. Although the IMB had no personnel living in Haiti at the time of the quake, "we've never stopped working in Haiti." (BP)

## 'We cannot cross our hands' Orphanage refuses to turn people away

By Joni Hannigan  
Florida Baptist Witness

**Cabaret, Haiti**—"When people come to us we cannot cross our hands" at the Cabaret Children's Home, 30 miles north of Port-au-Prince, a Haitian worker there told Florida's Jacksonville Baptist Association.

What Haitian worker Pierre Prinvil was saying, as interpreted by the association's church and community director David Garrett was, "When people come to us, we cannot cross our arms, meaning, we cannot turn them away. I got the visual of that. And he's right."

Despite the upheaval and aftershocks of the Jan. 12 earthquake, a newly built coastal highway route is clear all the way from Port-au-Prince, and communications and electricity at the children's home are intact thanks to a satellite dish and solar panels.

But the only visitors to the compound—who are arriving with their hands outstretched in need—are hundreds from surrounding communities who lost their homes in the earthquake.

"Obviously feeding is going on for displaced folks" at the compound, Garrett told the Florida Baptist Witness. "They are sharing their food with people who have nowhere else to be."

Garrett said he initially told Prinvil, who works as the Jacksonville association's on-site coordinator at the Cabaret compound, to "take it slow and budget" funds he had there for purchasing food. "I don't know how soon I can get stuff to you," Garrett told Prinvil in an e-mail.

Then came Prinvil's response. Many of the older students at the school on the children's home compound, for example, left classes Jan. 19 to feed 160 young orphans gathered in a nearby town about a



**FEEDING THE HUNGRY** Older children at the Cabaret Children's Home near Port-au-Prince prepare peanut butter and pita sandwiches for 160 orphans which they fed later in a nearby community.

mile away that the earthquake had turned to rubble. The students made sandwiches of pita bread and peanut butter and cut them in pieces to distribute to the hungry younger children. This was likely their only meal of the day, Garrett noted.

Members of nearby Bercy Baptist Church, meanwhile, have helped provide supplies for the orphanage and school. Garrett said he is not surprised by their response, yet he realizes that many could be giving away all they have.

"They are such a resilient people," Garrett said. "They really do respond and recover and move on. ... These are things that would make Americans throw up their hands and give up and say, 'I can't.'"

### Clinging to hope, faith

Even immediately after the earthquake, Garrett recalled stories of churches getting together and singing, lifting the sounds of believers' voices throughout the countryside, praising God.

In an answer to a query about food supply at the compound, Garrett said, "They haven't mentioned the food today. I know the church pooled their money and bought more food supplies. I assume that

won't last long."

Garrett said Prinvil, who served 23 years in the United States, has pulled together a seven-person team to prioritize the needs in the community. "And he's never had a single class in disaster relief," Garrett quipped.

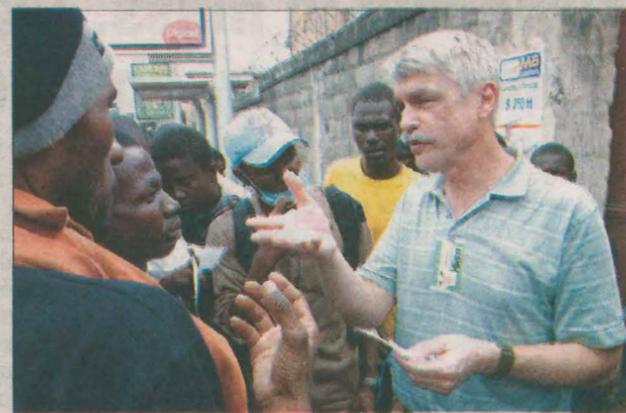
Joking aside, Garrett said he is hopeful help can be provided to the Cabaret community soon. He plans to leave this week, along with his wife, Donnie, and two others to assess what needs future teams can meet at the compound and in the community. Garrett said he believes the compound might prove a valuable site for teams needing shelter and communications facilities from which to stage operations for ongoing work in Haiti.

There are a number of reasons there are so many orphans and orphanages in Haiti, Garrett explained. Citing AIDS, a high mortality rate, health conditions, large families, sex trafficking and abandonment, Garrett said some families simply cannot care for children, therefore orphanages take them in.

The Jan. 12 earthquake tore up a perimeter fence at the Cabaret compound and knocked over everything on the property that wasn't fastened down. The compound's buildings, however, were reported to be only superficially damaged.

The rolling boil of the 7.0-magnitude earthquake and its dozens of aftershocks sent screaming children and panicked adults running out of the three steel-reinforced buildings that comprise the compound's orphanage, school and church.

A week after the quake, the 16 teachers at the school resumed classes last week. However, everyone at the compound will continue to sleep outside, as advised by the government, Garrett noted. (BP)



**NOTES OF HOPE** International Mission Board missionary Mark Rutledge talks to a group of men who walk the streets of Port-au-Prince looking for supplies. Rutledge told the men he would give their names and contact information to a Southern Baptist team that was assessing needs in the country.

## Missionary offers quake victims small ray of hope

By Alan James  
International Mission Board

**Port-au-Prince, Haiti**—As people in and around Port-au-Prince, Haiti, continue to clamor for food, water and shelter, one International Mission Board missionary tried last week to offer a little hope by simply providing a pen, paper and a listening ear.

While walking along some of the hardest hit streets in Port-au-Prince, Mark Rutledge and an IMB media team found thousands of people searching for someone to help them. The team stopped to talk with a small group of men about the crisis. Before long, the conversation turned to what Rutledge and the team could provide right then.

"We have no food, we have no water," pleaded one man. "We need help now."

Another man showed the team a gash in his head from where he was hit by debris.

With only a couple of bottles of water and a bag or two of trail mix, Rutledge considered the risks of giving someone a handout in a crowded street when he didn't have enough to go around. The situation easily could become dangerous.

Rutledge decided to help another way. He told the men he would give their names and contact information to a Southern Baptist disaster relief team that was assessing needs in the city.

As the men jotted their information on scraps of paper, more people came running to see what was going on. Within 30 minutes, a group of four had turned into more than 50 gathered around Rutledge. Some were on their cell phones spreading the word.

People passed out pens. Some tore off pieces of a nearby flier to write down a name, phone number and street address of where they were staying. An envelope soon surfaced and the notes were stuffed inside.

One man spoke passionately about his needs to Rutledge. As the missionary stood surrounded by a crowd five-to-10-people deep, he calmly wrote down information and offered consolation.

"It's overwhelming how many need help," Rutledge said later. "It's frustrating seeing so many people in the U.S. and other countries wanting to help, but the people here need help now."

"The only thing I can do is encourage them to hold on," he added.

"They don't see anything happening. They want to talk to someone who can make something happen."

"I had no idea it was going to escalate," Rutledge said. "I knew I had to give people an opportunity to hand me a piece of paper—a sign of hope for them ... that something positive would happen in the near future."

Before Rutledge drove away, he took the envelope filled with the dozens and dozens of scraps of paper—some with long lists of names. One man ran to catch the truck after it left, stopping the team about a mile down the road to hand them his information.

Rutledge delivered the envelope to a Southern Baptist disaster relief assessment team the next day in the Dominican Republic, where he and the IMB media team were staying.

The assessment team, with a caravan of three trucks, then headed toward Port-au-Prince to deliver supplies to an orphanage near the city and assess needs. (BP)

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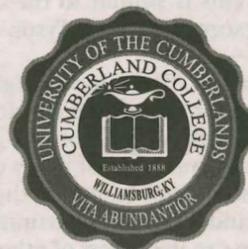
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## Brown win in Mass. likely is setback for health care, abortion, gay rights

Boston—When Massachusetts citizens surprisingly elected Republican Scott Brown to the U.S. Senate last week, they not only delivered a blow to health care reform, it also may prove to be a setback for homosexual and abortion rights groups.

Brown, who upset Democrat Martha Coakley, is not considered a social conservative on every issue, but was backed by Massachusetts Citizens for Life and is pro-choice but sides with pro-life advocates on a host of issues, including supporting parental notification laws and opposing partial-birth abortion, taxpayer funding of abortion and the Freedom of Choice Act.

Brown also opposes same-sex marriage and the Employment Non-Discrimination Act and supports the military's Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy and the federal Defense of Marriage Act.

As Massachusetts attorney general, Coakley's office filed a federal lawsuit last year seeking to overturn much of the Defense of Marriage Act and force the federal government to recognize same-sex marriages from Massachusetts. Brown, by contrast, as a state senator voted for a constitutional amendment defining marriage as between one man and one woman—which was defeated.

Brown replaces former Sen. Edward Kennedy,

who died last August after battling a brain tumor for more than a year. Kennedy was a well-known supporter of abortion rights and homosexual issues during his 46-year Senate career. Brown is the first Republican to win a Senate seat in Massachusetts since 1972.

Richard Land, president of the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, called Brown's victory "the biggest (political) upset I can think of in my lifetime."

Health care was at the heart of the Massachusetts campaign, with Coakley promising to vote for the current health care bill and Brown pledging to oppose it. Brown repeatedly said the bill would lead to higher taxes. After he is sworn in, Democrats will have 59 senators in their caucus, preventing them from breaking filibusters—60 votes is required—without GOP support. No Senate Republican backs the current bill.

"It is a three-alarm wake-up call to the Democratic leadership in the Senate, House and the White House," Land said. "If they refuse to heed this call and try to continue to jam this (health care bill) down the throat of the American people, they're going to provoke a catastrophe on steroids for their electoral prospects in November." (BP)

## Military contractor to pull verses from guns

Wixom, Mich.—A Michigan military contractor said last week it will remove encoded Scripture references on weapons it builds for U.S. military after a firestorm of complaints arose.

ABC News' "Nightline" reported Jan. 18 on the biblical references on weapons used by soldiers in Afghanistan and Iraq after learning about them from the Military Religious Freedom Foundation.

One rifle sight included the code "JN8:12," a reference to the Gospel of John in which Jesus says, "He who follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Mikey Weinstein, founder of the military

watchdog group, hailed the company's decision.

"Trijicon's outrageous practice of placing Bible verse citations on military-issued gunsights for weapons was an unconstitutional disgrace of the highest magnitude to our military and an action that clearly gave additional incentive and emboldenment to recruiters for our nation's enemies," he said.

Welton Gaddy, president of the Interfaith Alliance, urged President Obama on Jan. 21 to launch a thorough investigation "aimed at creating guidelines that ensure that religion no longer plays an inappropriate role in our armed forces." (RNS)

## A new year ... and a good time to start

### There are a number of ways churches and individuals can help out Oneida

Nearly every week I receive a call or letter from someone wanting to know how they can help support our efforts. That question often is followed with: "I know the most important thing would be cash, but is there anything else we can do to help Oneida?" There are several things individuals and churches can do. You may want to consider these as we begin a new year.

For many years now, Oneida Baptist Institute has been collecting Campbell's "Labels for Education." Many Campbell's products have labels which can be redeemed for a wide variety of items available in the Campbell's "Labels for Education" catalog.

From the catalog's art section, there are 38 different items that could be used in our art department. It also includes 14 different musical items ranging from a digital electronic piano to handbells. There also is a wide variety of physical education equipment, including 50 different items for all age groups. Those items include playground balls, tug-o-war ropes, horseshoe sets, aerobic steps, jump batons and much more. There are 27 different items in the sports equipment and wellness section.

One of the most popular sections of the catalog is the computer and electronics section. Computers, projectors, LCD TVs, cameras, PA systems, recording devices, printers and a lot of other very nice items are available. There also is a library and reference section in the catalog, in addition to a very large academic, teacher and classroom resources section.

### This is Oneida



W.F. Underwood

The biggest problem we have with the Campbell's labels is that our friends, in trying to help us, often trim the labels improperly and they cannot be used. So if you would like to make saving the Campbell's labels a project, please send us the entire label and we will do the trimming. If you need a list of the Campbell's labels we can use, just give Peggy a call at (606) 847-4111, ext. 200.

Another wonderful product is the General Mills "Box Tops for Education" labels which are worth 10 cents cash—that's right, cash. Each box top you send us from a General Mills product is worth 10 cents. Last year General Mills wrote us checks for more than \$10,000. Many school supplies and other items were purchased with the money we received from those box tops. The General Mills box tops are not nearly as confusing to cut and save as the soup labels.

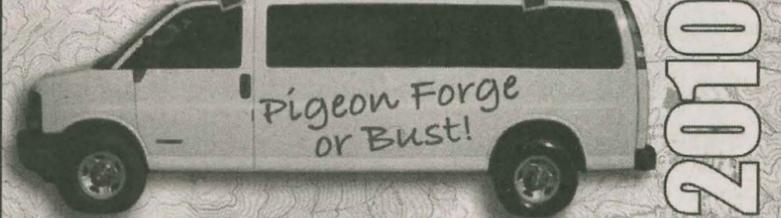
Another promotion is Tyson's "Project A+" program. This is similar to the General Mills promotion except that each Tyson label is worth 24 cents.

So there you have it. If you have a tight budget but are looking for something children and adults can do, all of these promotions provide several thousand dollars worth of items our students use daily. Just remember to send the entire Campbell's labels and let us do the trimming.

Additionally, we can use a host of other items from cars, trucks and vans to furniture, clothing and farm equipment. You name it, we can use just about anything. Thanks for thinking about Oneida and have a great 2010.

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

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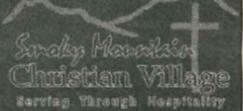
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## A Macedonian call

### Bowers following God's dramatic call on his life

One of the unique aspects about Clear Creek is the many different testimonies of God's call on our students' lives. Sophomore Bruce Bowers, from New Paris, Ohio, shares what he terms his "Macedonian"-type call from God on his life.

"Prior to my salvation I was heavily involved in drugs and alcohol," Bowers recalled. "I was totally consumed in this type of lifestyle even though I had grown up in church."

"It was Valentine's Day in 2004; I had literally hit rock bottom in my life," he

continued. "Because I had grown up in church, I knew that the only hope I truly had was in Jesus Christ. I literally called out to God that day and asked Him to forgive me of my sins and save me. From that next day on, God has changed me. The desire I previously had for the drugs and alcohol was gone. I had a desire to learn about Christ and follow Him with all my heart."

"I got involved in a church and began sitting under a pastor just trying to learn all I could," Bowers said. "I had a good job and I was thinking about settling down in the area and starting a family.

So, I began to make some plans and started looking at some houses. But at the very beginning God closed the door to the process and told me that was not what I was supposed to do with my life.

"One night God literally gave me a dream where I was in a plane

flying west getting ready to head out over the Pacific Ocean," Bowers recalled. "And just like in Acts 16 when God shut the door on Paul going into Asia and gave him the vision to go into Macedonia, the Lord spoke to me and told me to turn around and head in the other direction. So in my dream, the plane turned around and headed east out over

the Atlantic Ocean in the direction of Africa.

"God continued to put Africa on my heart since that time," Bowers said. "I went on a mission trip to Rwanda and God affirmed that Africa was where He was calling me to go. I am now here at Clear Creek to prepare for my own Macedonian call."

### Clear Creek Chronicle



Donnie Fox

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

## Seeing God at work

### Moving to Crossings office reveals God's work at camps

By Whitney Hopperton

Crossings guest services coordinator

As a college staffer with Crossings Camps in 2006-07, I never would have guessed that the Lord would provide an opportunity for me to serve Him through a full-time job with Crossings Ministries. In April 2009, I was hired as a guest services coordinator. I was honored to become part of a ministry that I had grown to love.

Through the transition from summer staffer to full-time employee, I have continued to see the Lord work in my life and through the ministry of Crossings.

After the 2009 camp season, I was humbled by seeing God at work in the lives of so many people. With 409 salvations, 358 people called to ministry and more than \$91,396 given to missions, I couldn't help but sit in admiration at the supremacy of God.

Through this I realized that the same God who worked in my life while I was a staffer is the powerful God who still changes lives and draws many near to Him today.

While on summer staff with Crossings, I was able to build rela-

tionships with other staffers, campers and youth ministers. Through intentional conversations, concentrated Bible studies and common interests, the Lord revealed to me the beauty of the body of Christ. 1 Corinthians 12:12 says: "The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ."

Now that I'm working for Crossings, that verse has manifested itself in my life. I have gained a greater understanding of what it means to be a body and to work together for a common cause. At Crossings, this means seeing people cross over from death to life (John 5:24).

My journey from a summer staffer to a full-time employee with Crossings has been nothing short of a work from God. Through daily tasks and preparation for camp and retreats, I am being refined as an individual, learning to stand in awe of the Lord's power and gaining a greater appreciation for the blessing of the body of Christ.

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

### Ky. Baptist Assemblies



David Melber

## Helping your church

### For foster care & adoptions, Sunrise serves Ky. Baptists

We often ask churches to help us care for Kentucky's victimized and suffering children. Caring for abused and neglected kids across the Bluegrass State is our mission, but we simply cannot do it alone. We need the support of individuals and churches. However, Sunrise Children's Services seldom is asked to help you. How can we help your church?

Our primary mission for many years was providing residential care for children who had no place to live. Residential programs still are a major part of our ministry. However, along with the residential care of years ago, we also provided adoption services. Many of you reading this article were either adopted through Sunrise or you adopted a child through us. We continue to provide adoption services both domestically and internationally.

I always am a bit disappointed to talk with Baptist couples invested in adopting to find out they used another agency to help them. We can help couples with adoption services even if we do not provide the ultimate placement. Our staff can provide Baptist couples with home studies for either domestic or international adoptions.

Another service we provide—and are promoting constantly—is foster care. Again, I am saddened to visit our Baptist churches and find

foster families who foster for other non-Baptist agencies. The problem is our people do not know all the services Sunrise provides. We desperately need more foster families to serve as what we like to call "in-home missionaries." We see fostering as missions, kingdom work and part of fulfilling the Great Commission. Yet, most in our churches are not aware that we provide foster care and need foster families.

We employ a cadre of child-welfare professionals. The staff and I are ready to assist churches in any way we can to serve the at-risk kids in their communities. We are ready to help your pastor understand and communicate the epidemic and rising instances of child abuse and neglect to your congregation and how you can become the Christian response to their pain and suffering.

You ask: "Smithwick, why didn't you tell us about these services?"

I did, we do—and have for years. If communication was only so simple that all we need to do is say something one time and everyone hears it. So, I am saying it again: Don't forget about Sunrise Children's Services when you think of adoptions, foster care or any need in your church or community regarding victimized children. We want to work with you. You can call us at (800) 456-1386, or visit our Web site, [www.sunrise.org](http://www.sunrise.org). We can do it together!

Bill Smithwick is president of Sunrise Children's Services. Contact Sunrise at (502) 538-1000 or [www.sunrise.org](http://www.sunrise.org).

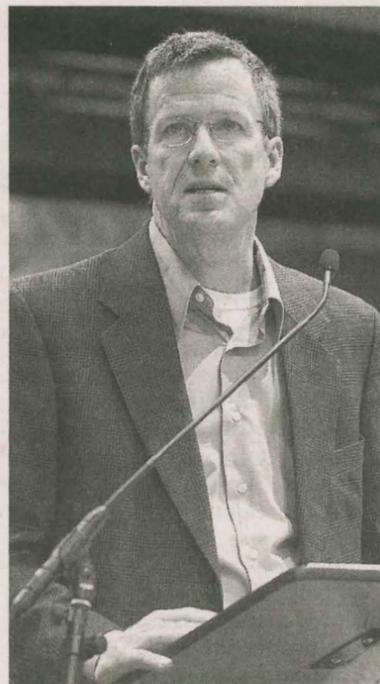
### Sunrise Children's Services



Bill Smithwick

## IMB trustees' meeting

# Haiti response may need \$2 million



HAITI RELIEF FUNDING International Mission Board strategist Scott Holste reports to IMB trustees on Southern Baptist response to the Haiti earthquake crisis during the trustees' meeting Jan. 18-19 in Rockville, Va. (IMB photo)

Rockville, Va.—Southern Baptist workers anticipate spending at least \$2 million on relief and rebuilding projects in earthquake-ravaged Haiti over the coming months, International Mission Board trustees were told during their Jan. 18-19 meeting in Rockville, Va.

A joint disaster assessment team is in Haiti, comprised of personnel from the IMB, North American Mission Board, Baptist Global Response and the Florida Baptist Convention, which has longtime ministry ties to Haiti.

"We've already released an initial \$150,000, but anticipate over the coming months appropriating at least \$2 million for projects in Haiti," Scott Holste, associate vice president for global strategy, told trustees last week.

"Establishing supply lines for water, food and temporary housing will be an integral part of our response. Anticipated needs over the coming months will include clean-up, distribution of food, temporary and permanent construction projects, counseling and medical care."

As relief projects get underway, Southern Baptist volunteers will be recruited to work alongside Haitian Baptists and others, Holste said. Longer-term education and microenterprise efforts also are being planned to help Haitians get back to work.

Recovery will take years for the impoverished Caribbean nation, where authorities estimate as many as 200,000 people died from the Jan. 12 quake. Hundreds of thousands more suffered injuries, lost their homes and lack food, water and medicine.

"Southern Baptists are a people who care," Holste said. "They want to be personally involved in the lives of those affected by this disaster."

Churches and individuals already have given nearly \$500,000 to Haiti relief via IMB funding channels. Money can be donated online at [www.IMB.org/HaitiFund](http://www.IMB.org/HaitiFund). (BP)

## GCR chairman: 'Difficult decisions ahead'

Rogers, Ark.—The chairman of the Great Commission Resurgence Task Force is asking Southern Baptists to be in a "concentrated" time of prayer as members of the task force meet this week to make "many difficult decisions" regarding its report to the Southern Baptist Convention.

Task Force Chairman Ronnie Floyd sent an e-mail Jan. 21, saying the "pressure is on" as task force members prepare a preliminary report to present to the SBC's Executive Committee next

month. The task force's final report will be presented at the SBC annual meeting in Orlando, Fla., in June and will be voted on by messengers.

"While additions or revisions to this report (to the Executive Committee) are probable before the final report is made in June at the Orlando Southern Baptist Convention, the release of it in February will give Southern Baptists four months to gain clarity and have their questions addressed," Floyd wrote. (BP)

## Southern Seminary to host adoption conference in Feb.

Louisville—Russell Moore, David Platt and Jedd Medefind will be the featured speakers at the Adopting for Life conference at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Feb. 26-27.

"You may be wondering whether this will be a conference about the doctrine of adoption or 'real' adoption," said Moore, senior vice president for academic administration at Southern Seminary. "Well, one of the things that we'll be discussing is the fact that you can't talk about the one without talking about the other."

Platt is pastor of The Church at Brook Hills in Birmingham, Ala., and Medefind is president of the Christian Alliance for Orphans, a ministry that unites churches and orphans.

"We've invited a number of great speakers to Adopting for Life who will seek to equip us to create a culture of adoption in our families and churches," Moore said.

Registration before Feb. 15 is \$140 per person or \$225 per couple, with a discount for Southern Seminary students. The rates include meals during the conference; a list of lodging options with discounted rates is available at [www.SBTS.edu](http://www.SBTS.edu). (BP)

## NATIONAL NOTES

**SBC President Hunt cancer-free**—Follow-up tests for Johnny Hunt show him clear of cancer, according to a spokesman for the president of the Southern Baptist Convention. Jim Law, executive pastor of the Atlanta-area First Baptist Church of Woodstock, Ga., where Hunt is pastor, shared Hunt's doctor's report that there was "no trace of cancer" and he "could not be more pleased" with Hunt's prognosis. Hunt underwent surgery to remove his prostate Jan. 7.

**Mohler appointed to Schaeffer chair**—Albert Mohler, president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, has been appointed to the Francis Schaeffer Chair of Cultural Apologetics at the World Journalism Institute at The King's College in New York. As the holder of the Francis Schaeffer chair, Mohler will give a series of lectures to World Journalism Institute students at its multi-week course on convergence journalism in May. Prior to being elected president of Southern Seminary in 1993, Mohler served as editor for The Christian Index, newsjournal of the Georgia Baptist Convention. Schaeffer, who died in 1984, helped ignite an apologetics movement and spur biblical philosophical thinking among evangelicals in the 20th century, warning the church to guard against the increasing influence of secular humanism and the deterioration of discipleship.

**British Baptist dies in Afghanistan**—Officials have confirmed the death of a 24-year-old aid worker affiliated with the British Baptist missions agency BMS World Mission in Afghanistan. Foul play is not suspected in the death. Fay Martin, who hailed from Surrey, England, was found dead Jan. 17 on a partner agency's property in Kabul, according to a BMS press release. She had worked in the country since October 2008 and just returned to Afghanistan earlier that day to renew her work after a routine furlough in the United Kingdom. Martin's work was concentrated in northwestern Pakistan, where she assessed agricultural needs.

## Cumberlands students celebrate new year on mission in Mexico

By Laura Silvers  
University of the Cumberlands

**Naco, Mexico**—While most college students spent Christmas break relaxing with family, a group of University of the Cumberlands students chose to spend the first week of the new year in a foreign country on a mission sharing the gospel of Christ.

Along with campus minister Dean Whitaker, the seven students met up with 11 college students from Versailles Baptist Church and traveled to Casa Hogar Emmanuel, an orphanage in Naco, Mexico, a small, poverty-stricken town on the U.S. border. The group was accompanied by Michael Cabell, minister of evangelism and discipleship at Versailles Baptist, and his wife, Kristy.

The orphanage, fully supported by Southern Baptist churches, was established to provide a safe haven for abused, abandoned and orphaned children. It houses about 28 children between the ages of 2 and 17 from across the Mexican state of Sonora.

"Here they find refuge and shelter, love and respect, education and spiritual guidance and an opportunity to appreciate who they are and all they are worth," Cabell said. "Casa Hogar Emmanuel is a home with peace and promise for the children of Mexico."

Each morning the team worked either at the orphanage; CRREDA, a local drug rehabilitation center; Naco Baptist Church just across the border in Arizona; or they distributed food in poor communities.

In the afternoons, the students led a children's club at the orphanage, while the evenings brought different activities such as leading worship at CRREDA and Naco Baptist and spending time with the children at the orphanage.

The mission trip was the second visit to Casa Hogar Emmanuel for Allie England, a junior at Cumberlands and member of Versailles Baptist.

"Serving these children who had come from the most unimaginable situation was the biggest blessing I received this time in Naco," she said.

While serving at the orphanage, the mission team witnessed the unexpected arrival of four new siblings who were victims of abuse. The students worked to help the children bathe, fix their hair, dress them in clean clothes and arrange their bedding.

Cumberlands students often have mission-trip opportunities through Baptist Campus Ministries, Mountain Outreach or Appalachian Ministries. But the Mexico trip allowed the Cumberlands group to serve alongside students from other universities.

Cabell said the students joined together as ambassadors for Christ to the people of Mexico. The group learned how blessed they really are as they witnessed how little the Mexican people possess.

"The people there have so many needs, yet are so grateful for what they have," England noted. "So many people we served in the food distribution ministry and at the drug rehab center give God all the glory for the few needs that are met in their lives."

The students said the greatest impact on them was the gratitude of the suffering people in Mexico. They said they were reminded to find joy in the small things and be thankful for what God has provided for them.

By the week's end, the student group had distributed more than 150 bags of food to needy families, repaired basketball backboards, cleaned and painted rooms and played with the children for hours.



**CARING FOR ORPHANS** Allie England, a junior at University of the Cumberlands and member of Versailles Baptist Church, hugs a young boy at the Casa Hogar Emmanuel orphanage in Naco, Mexico.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### February

**5-6** Region 4 Disaster Relief Recertification and Training, Ninth & O Baptist Church, Louisville.

**15** Regional Church Financial Benefits Conference, First Baptist Church, Calvert City, and Oakland Baptist Church.

**16** Regional Church Financial Benefits Conference, CrossPointe Baptist Church, Owensboro, and Versailles Baptist Church.

**17** Regional Church Financial Benefits Conference, Baptist Building, Louisville.

**20** Kentucky Changers Crew Chief Training, Baptist Building, Louisville.

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

## MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

■ **CAMPBELLSVILLE**—Campbellsville University will host pianist **Andrea Anderson** for a guest recital Jan. 28, 8 p.m. at the Gheens Recital Hall on campus. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call music professor **Wesley Roberts** at (270) 789-5287.

■ **HENDERSON**—First Church recently affirmed the commissioning of **Doug and Barb Musgrave**, who are serving as missionaries with the

International Mission Board.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Forest Park Church will host a men's dinner Feb. 2, 6:30 p.m. with **Roy Coleman**, pastor of Victory Christian Center in Louisville, as guest speaker. The cost is \$10. For more information, e-mail Pastor **Ronnie Caswell** at [foreat@aol.com](mailto:foreat@aol.com).

■ **RICHMOND**—Peytontown Church recently called **Michael Barnes** as pastor. He previously was pastor at Oaklawn Church in Paducah.

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**SEEKING:** Interim pastor for Friendship Baptist Church, Campbellsville, Ky. For additional information, contact Barry Blevins, (270) 789-1673; or [barryblevins@windstream.net](mailto:barryblevins@windstream.net).

**SEEKING:** Youth pastor. Youth group seeks awesome youth pastor: Do you love Jesus? Could you love us; disciple us; lead us in serving Him? Located in rural community 45 minutes north of Louisville, we are a great mission field and your ministry potential is unlimited. We can offer only a part-time opportunity, but if you feel led to contact us, please send a resumé to Bedford Baptist Church, 1425 Hwy. 42 East, PO Box 277, Bedford, KY 40006, Attn: Youth Pastor Search Committee; or e-mail [dawn.haney@trimble.kyschools.us](mailto:dawn.haney@trimble.kyschools.us).

**SEEKING:** Part-time youth minister for Ghent Baptist Church. Youth minister will be responsible for leading middle- and high-school-age youth. Formal religious training is preferred, but not mandatory. Experience working with youth is important. A parsonage is available for housing. If interested, submit a resumé to Ghent Baptist Church, PO Box 457, Ghent, KY 41045, Attn: Pastor Graham Reynolds.

**SEEKING:** The search committee of the Tennessee Baptist Foundation in Brentwood, Tenn., is soliciting resumé for the position of president-treasurer. College degree and five years experience in finance-related work required. Supervisory experience. Must be a committed Christian active in a church affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention. Energetic self-starter a must. Interested individuals contact: George Gibson, 100 Coventry Wynde, Kingsport, TN 37664; (423) 288-8982; or [gandsgibs@charter.net](mailto:gandsgibs@charter.net).

**SEEKING:** Full-time pastor of worship. Applicant must be a worship leader experienced in working with various styles of music. Zion is a dynamic, growing church that currently averages a total of 750 in two blended Sunday morning services. Candidate must have strong spiritual maturity and leadership skills, must be able to lead all aspects of worship ministry including congregational worship, praise team and band, choir of all ages, and creative arts ministries. Requires a seminary degree with at least five years experience. Send resumé, references and letter of interest to: Zion Baptist Church, 8158 Hwy 351, Henderson, KY 42420, Attn: Worship Pastor Search Committee.

**SEEKING:** Full-time minister of music for Red House Baptist Church, Richmond, Ky. Bachelor's and seminary degrees preferred, as well as prior experience in music ministry; must be able to work with choirs as well as worship teams. E-mail [Alex.Poulter@insightbb.com](mailto:Alex.Poulter@insightbb.com).

**SEEKING:** Part-time children's minister for Beechmont Baptist Church in south Louisville. Contact Derek Yelton at (502) 368-5806.

**SEEKING:** Full-time pastor. Send resumé to Fulton First Baptist Church, Box 1140, Fulton, KY 42041; or e-mail [swright@fbcfulton.org](mailto:swright@fbcfulton.org).

**SEEKING:** Pastor for First Baptist Church, Williamsburg, Ky. Beautiful, small town setting located near University of the Cumberlands. Diverse membership with an average Sunday attendance of 140 and active youth group. Must be able to work with both SBC and CBF. Parsonage available. Seeking someone with a minimum of M.Div. degree and pastoral experience. Send resumé to First Baptist Church, 230 S 5th Street, Williamsburg, KY 40769.

**SEEKING:** Part-time worship pastor for Victory Baptist, Lexington, Ky. Send inquiries to [worshippastorsearch@vbclex.org](mailto:worshippastorsearch@vbclex.org).

**SEEKING:** Senior pastor. Hickory Grove Baptist Church, Independence, Ky. ([www.HickoryGrove.net](http://www.HickoryGrove.net)) is seeking an educated and experienced minister with SBC background. Candidates should demonstrate strong leadership, communication, follow-through and evangelism. Send resumé to: Pastor Search Committee, HGBC, PO Box 640, Independence, KY 41051. No phone calls or e-mails please. Applications will be accepted through 2-27-2010.

**SEEKING:** Part-time student minister for Dripping Spring Baptist Church in Olmstead, Ky. For more information, see [www.drippingspring.com](http://www.drippingspring.com).

**SEEKING:** Bivocational minister of children and bivocational minister of music for CBF church in Western Kentucky. Positions can be combined or fulfilled separately. Contact Chris Hopgood, 311 Rudy Ave., Henderson, KY 42420.

**SEEKING:** Part-time director of missions for Red River Baptist Association in rural Eastern Kentucky. Send resumé to Red River Baptist Association, PO Box 130, Hazel Green, KY 41332. Questions: Lewis Faulkenberry, (606) 568-6817.

**SEEKING:** Full-time Southern Baptist pastor for Grace Baptist Church, Pikeville, Ky., a member of Pike Association of Southern Baptists. Submit resumé to PO Box 1485, Pikeville, KY 41502.

**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.

**SEEKING:** Full-time activities pastor to minister to our church family and community through sports and recreation. Please send resumé to Search Committee, Campbellsville Baptist Church, PO Box 530, Campbellsville, KY 42719; or [bradl@cvillebaptist.com](mailto:bradl@cvillebaptist.com).

**TOURS:** 10-day trip to Austria, Germany and the Oberammergau Passion Play, July 17-26, 2010. See Vienna, Salzburg, Innsbruck and Oberammergau. Attend the once-a-decade play, a tradition since 1634. Call Jerry Wright, First Baptist Church, London, (606) 864-4194.



## New squid on the block

By Todd and Michelle Deaton

One morning at Reedy Bottom School in Sand Dollar Cove, Mrs. Tuna Tidewater began, "Class, we have a new student. Her name is Sydney Squid. But she likes to be called Syd. Her family moved here from Coral Bay. Please make her feel welcome."

In the back of the room, Lenny Lobster leaned over to Craig Crab and said, "How many legs does she have?"

"Her mother must spend a ton of money on tennis shoes," Craig laughed.

"Are they all legs, or are some of them arms?" Lenny asked.

"Let's hope they're not all arms. If she raises all 10 of her long, dangly hands when Mrs. Tidewater asks a question, we'll never be called on again."

"Come to think of it, that wouldn't be so bad," Lenny said, and they all laughed.

Syd pulled her legs in underneath her and sank lower in her desk. "I wonder if they are laughing at me," she thought.

The bell rang. It was time for recess.

Out on the playground, Sunny Starfish was the first to try to make friends with Syd.

"Would you like to come play with us?" she invited.

Syd moved slowly toward the group.

"Hey, she may be handy to have around. Get it?" Craig laughed.

"Stop it, Craig," Sunny said. "Syd is nice. Just because she looks different from you is no reason to pick on her."

Craig crawled off toward the basketball court. "Come on, Lenny. Let's play some ball," he sulked.

Sunny Starfish and Clarice Clam wanted to swing. "Syd, would you push us?" Sunny asked.

"Sure," Syd said, stretching out two of her arms to push Sunny and Clarice.

Seamore Seahorse walked over to the merry-go-round. "Hey, I need someone to push me," he said.

Before he finished his sentence, Syd already had stretched out another arm to give him a push.

Ollie Oyster was busy playing in the sand with the cars and trucks. "Will someone come play with me?" Ollie asked.

"I will," Syd offered as she reached out two more arms to take a car and a truck.

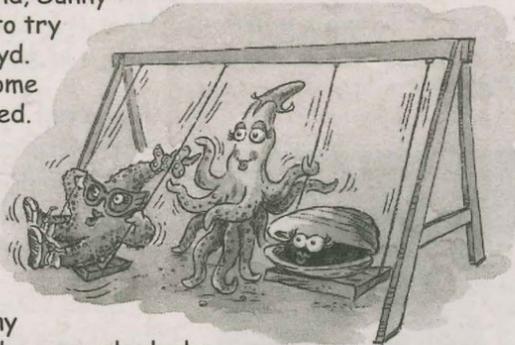
A huge smile stretched across Ollie's face.

At that moment, the basketball that Lenny and Craig were playing with bounced into some thick seaweed where neither of them could reach it.

"Aw, now we can't play basketball," Craig whined.

"Yes, you can," said Syd. "I can reach it."

"Wow! That's cool. You can do so many neat things with all those arms," Craig said.



## Treasure Hunt

How did the Cove kids make fun of Syd Squid?

How was Sunny Starfish a friend to Syd?

What did Syd do that showed she wanted to be their friend?

How could you be a friend to others? Read Ephesians 4:32 together.

"All at the same time," Lenny added.

"I still have four arms left," Syd laughed.

When recess was over, Mrs. Tidewater stood at the door as the Cove kids came inside.

"Well, it looks like you all have made a new friend, today," said Mrs. Tidewater.

"Yes, we did," said Seamore. "Syd is amazing."

"She sure is," the Cove kids agreed.

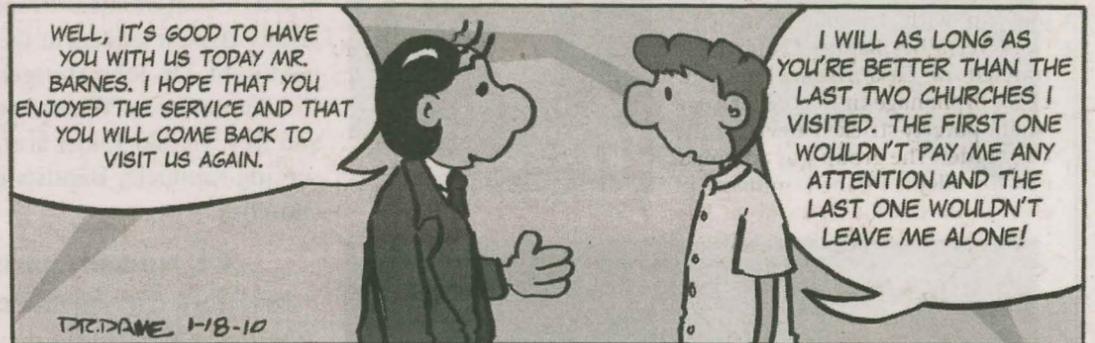
## For Heaven's Sake

Mike Morgan



## Preacher's Kids

David Ayers



## Bible Crosswords

By Evelyn Boyington

### Across

- 1 Mentor to Samuel
- 4 "Sir, we would see \_\_\_\_" (John 12:21)
- 9 Judicial sentence
- 12 Benign skin tumor
- 13 City of Hadad (Genesis 36:35)
- 14 "Out of whose womb came the \_\_\_\_?" (Job 38:29)
- 15 Apiece (abbr.)
- 16 Sign
- 17 \_\_\_\_ of Melchisedec (Hebrews 7:11)
- 19 "I was \_\_\_\_ in iniquity" (Psalm 51:5)
- 21 Ask what might have been
- 22 French possessive pronoun
- 23 Said goodnight
- 27 Without a nom or a nom de plumé (abbr.)
- 29 "Simon Peter ... went into the sepulchre, and seeth the \_\_\_\_ clothes" (John 20:6)
- 30 Bible language (abbr.)
- 31 \_\_\_\_-oni (Rachel's son)
- 32 Grace
- 33 Function
- 34 Son of Judah (Genesis 38:6)
- 35 Already sold
- 36 Played a tuba?
- 37 "Men of low degree ... and men of high degree ... are altogether \_\_\_\_ than vanity" (Psalm 62:9)
- 39 One one-thousandth of an inch
- 40 Ancient Hebrew liquid measure
- 41 "Dost thou still \_\_\_\_ thine integrity?" (Job 2:9)
- 44 "I lay in Sion a chief corner \_\_\_\_" (1 Peter 2:6)
- 46 "Ye \_\_\_\_ men with burdens grievous" (Luke 11:46)
- 47 Concerning

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

- 48 French possessive pronoun
- 49 "A man's wisdom maketh his face to \_\_\_\_" (Ecclesiastes 8:1)
- 51 Parts of a yr.
- 52 Actor Morita
- 53 Pursues, as the truth
- 54 "Go to the \_\_\_\_, thou sluggard" (Proverbs 6:6)
- 23 Ohio, for one
- 24 "John also was baptizing in \_\_\_\_" (John 3:23)
- 25 "Woe to them that are at \_\_\_\_ in Zion" (Amos 6:1)
- 26 Popular female fictional detective
- 27 Brother of Seth
- 28 Father of Salathiel (Luke 3:27)
- 29 Gennesaret, for one
- 32 "Let your soul delight itself in \_\_\_\_" (Isaiah 55:2)
- 33 Father of Arah (1 Chronicles 7:39)
- 35 Willow
- 36 "If ye \_\_\_\_ and devour one another, take heed" (Galatians 5:15)
- 38 Holy \_\_\_\_
- 39 Overtakers of Babylon
- 41 Sergeant, for example
- 42 \_\_\_\_ horse
- 43 Aerie
- 44 Brand of automobile oil
- 45 Orange Pekoe, for example
- 46 "The highways \_\_\_\_ waste, the wayfaring man ceaseth" (Isaiah 33:8)
- 50 Pronoun
- 51 Sturbridge state (abbr.)

### Down

- 1 Jacob gave Esau 200 \_\_\_\_ and 20 rams (Genesis 32:13-14)
- 2 Mother of Dinah
- 3 Hoosier state (abbr.)
- 4 Son of Zebedee, and disciple of Jesus
- 5 Tied
- 6 "Be ye angry, and \_\_\_\_ not" (Ephesians 4:26)
- 7 State of Salt Lake (abbr.)
- 8 "For the bed is \_\_\_\_ than that a man can stretch himself on it" (Isaiah 28:20)
- 9 New Jersey college
- 10 Fast point, in tennis
- 11 \_\_\_\_ your instructions
- 16 \_\_\_\_ sesame
- 18 "The \_\_\_\_ of that house was great" (Luke 6:49)
- 20 Son of Manasseh, king of Judah (2 Kings 21:18)

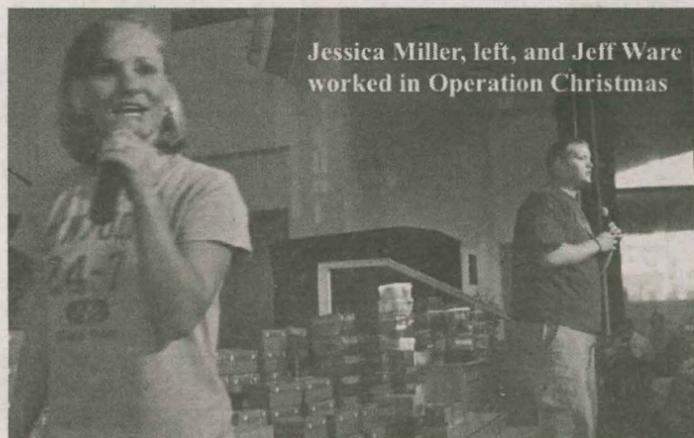
### Last week's solution

T	I	M	E	P	U	R	C	E	N	T	
A	N	O	N	A	T	E	O	S	A	Y	
U	N	B	E	L	I	E	F	P	A	I	R
R	I	D	I	M	P	U	R	E			
B	A	R	G	E	A	L	E	E			
O	B	E	Y	E	N	L	A	R	G	E	D
R	E	S	A	N	G	E	L	O	D	E	
A	T	T	E	N	D	E	D	A	R	E	A
A	D	E	S	S	P	E	N	D			
P	E	R	S	I	A	A	S	P			
S	L	I	T	V	I	G	I	L	A	N	T
I	S	L	E	O	R	E	S	V	E	S	
S	E	E	R	E	D	S	A	T	E		



### Campbellsville University leaders active in Baptist life

< CU Church Relations Chair and Board of Trustees Member, Anna Mary Byrdwell, center in the photo at left, took a moment to speak with fellow Baptist leaders at the KBC.  
> At right, Dr. John Hurtgen greeted CU alumni Brent Witten, center, and Rev. Gerald Joiner at right, both serving Kentucky Baptists in local churches.



Jessica Miller, left, and Jeff Ware worked in Operation Christmas

### ~ CU students participate in Missions ~

- New York City homeless • Texas underprivileged families • Nicaragua orphans • Ireland evangelism • Operation Christmas Child

< Christmas present boxes were stacked high in Ransdell Chapel, at left, after CU's **FIRST CLASS** students teamed up with Adair County's Columbia Baptist Church membership for the largest delivery of Operation Christmas Child boxes for either of the institutions. This was under the direction of Rev. Ted Taylor, transitional pastor at CBC, who is a CU School of Theology professor and leader of **FIRST CLASS**.

CU's Spring Church Relations Council will meet March 25-26, 2010 with registration at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 25 in the Ransdell Chapel.

Dr. Dan Yeary, pastor of the North Phoenix Baptist Church, is the featured speaker.

#### Schedule:

- Thursday, March 25 – Ransdell Chapel
  - 2:00 p.m. Registration
  - 2:15 p.m. General Session
  - 3:30 p.m. Committee Meetings
  - 6:00 p.m. CRC Banquet in the Banquet Hall
- Friday, March 26
  - 7:30 a.m. Breakfast
  - 9:00 a.m. Committee Meetings
  - 10:00 a.m. General Session in Ransdell Chapel
  - Noon Adjourn Session

To register, contact Sheila Douglas in the Office of Church and External Relations:  
270-789-5520  
sddouglas@campbellsville.edu  
jchowning@campbellsville.edu



The Campbellsville University School of Theology was proud to help sponsor the **Festival of Young Preachers** held January 7-9 at St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville. CU had the most participants of any institutions with six students (although Jamie Bennett, sponsored by Campbellsville Baptist Church, was unable to attend due to illness). From left are: Rev. Skip Alexander, Campbellsville Baptist Church; John Hurtgen, CU dean, School of Theology; student Andre Morton, sponsored by New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, Radcliff, Ky.; student Micah Spicer, sponsored by Wingo Baptist Church, Wingo, Ky.; student Sean Stengl, sponsored by Life Church, Buckner, Ky.; student Joshua Hardesty, sponsored by Wing Avenue Baptist Church, Owensboro, Ky.; student Willis Deitz, sponsored by Campbellsville Baptist Church; Scott Wigginton, CU professor of Pastoral Ministries & Counseling; and Dwight Moody, Executive Director, Academy of Preachers.

### Note to Prospective Students:

We hope to see you soon at **Campbellsville University!** Let us show you the campus and answer your questions about college life.

Next Preview Days are **February 27th and April 10th**

More details at: [www.campbellsville.edu/previewday](http://www.campbellsville.edu/previewday)

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