

Shine like stars in the world  
Philippians 2:15

# WESTERN Recorder

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## FOR THE RECORD



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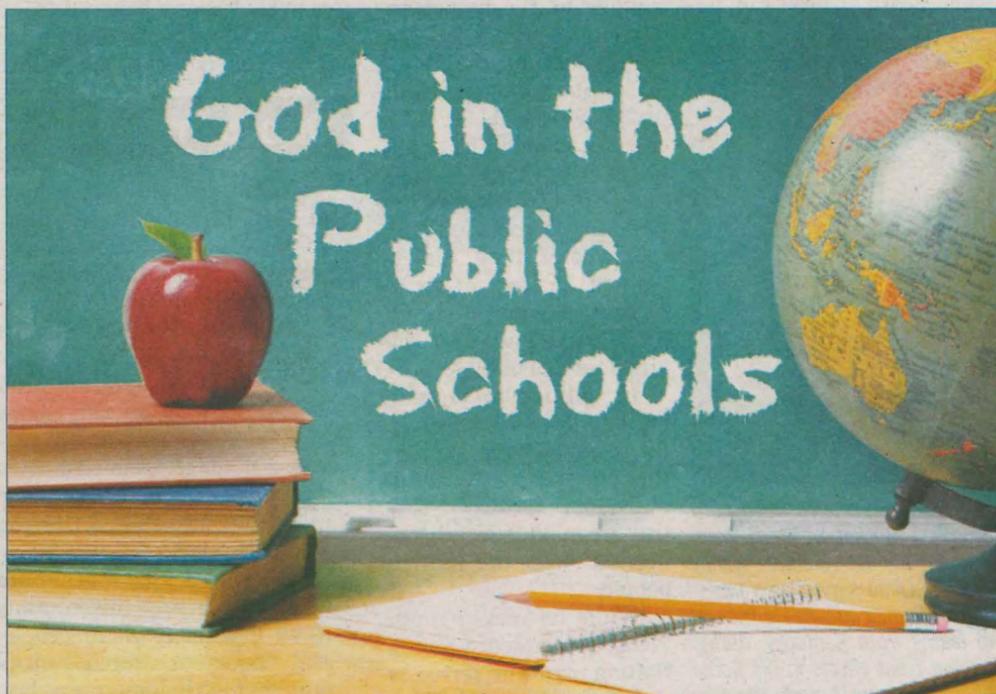
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**Are Christian students allowed to pray in public schools?**



**Can teachers wear religious symbols, such as a cross, to school?**

## Group dispels myths about religious freedoms in the classroom

By Drew Nichter  
News Director

**Ekron**—One teacher raised her hand: "Can a teacher wear clothing that has religious symbols on them?"

Another asked: "Can a principal pray at a staff meeting?"

A student mentioned that she once thought it was inappropriate to pray in school.

Roger Dillon has heard similar questions and stories hundreds of times before. And quite often his answers to queries in the usually tricky area of religious freedoms in public schools are surprising.

"Christians, whether students or teachers and others serving in our public schools, are not required to check their faith at the door when they arrive at school," noted Dillon, who directs the Kentucky chapter of Christian Educators' Association, Inc.

It was a message he recently delivered to teachers, students and parents at Ekron Baptist Church during its annual back-to-school event. Typically, reserved as an evening of food, fun and fellowship, event organizer Belinda Cross said she chose to make this year's event more informative.

When it comes to religious freedoms in public schools, "it's confusing, and teachers are not doing what they are even allowed to do because they're afraid to do anything," said Cross, a Meade County Schools board member.

Dillon agreed. "There is a lot of confusion, fear and intimidation," he said.

So, just where does the confusion stem from?

Groups that champion separation of church and state, such as the American Civil Liberties Union, confuse the public by frequently challenging religious expressions in public schools, Dillon said. The media coverage of those challenges also breeds uncertainty, he added.

But mostly, the confusion is due to a general lack of knowledge and individuals just being too busy to learn the truth, he explained.

For the past couple of years, Dillon has toured the state as a CEAI representative, attempting to "dispel the myths of separation of church and state" as it refers to schools.

"This is a confusing area of law for a lot of people," Dillon acknowledged—but it doesn't have to be.

For its part, CEAI has been representing and informing Christian educators nationally for 57 years. The organization's mission, according to its website, is "to encourage, equip and empower educators according to biblical principles."

The organization boasts about 8,000 members in all 50 states—roughly 225 of those in Kentucky.

Like other teachers' associations, CEAI offers its members professional liability insurance and job-action protection.

How it's different, Dillon explained, is in who the group ultimately seeks to honor.

"The ultimate goal is to help the educator teach professionally, with their Christian faith, obediently honoring God, while blessing the student," he said.

"We are a professional association and a missions organization."

In his presentation at Ekron Baptist, Dillon frequently referred to public school teachers as missionaries. Why?

"The public schools are the largest mission field in the United States and represents the best area to transform our culture," he emphasized.

Of the more

than 738,000 students in Kentucky, nearly 671,500—91 percent—of them attend public schools, he noted. "So, if we were going to devise a strategy to reach students, where would we focus?" he asked.

"In the church body, we spend a lot of money and time ... trying to reach youth," Dillon continued. "Then we strive to get as much time as we can in front of them, and often maybe two, three hours a week is the best we can do."

And that's just for the students who attend church, he said. Those who don't attend may not be reached at all.

That's where Christian public school teachers come in: CEAI has estimated that 75 percent of Kentucky's 43,000 public school teachers are "good-willed Christian men and women." That's more than 30,000 potential "missionaries," Dillon said.

However, public schools often are

□ See Christian educators' ... *Page 8*



## Ky. Baptist churches reach out to schools

By Ken Walker  
State Correspondent

**Rush**—When Teri Wells enters Ponderosa Elementary School near Garner Baptist Church, the Bible club leader gets the same sensations she experienced in El Salvador and Brazil.

"Going into public school feels like going to the mission field," said Wells, church secretary and club leader throughout its 10-year history.

"There are some who go to church, but there's also the children who are unchurched and consider the Bible club their church. It's very touching when children 'get it' and make a profession of faith."

In addition to Ponderosa, during 2010-11 the eastern Kentucky congregation will oversee a Bible club at Summit Elementary near Ashland.

Over the years, the church has sponsored six clubs, although it has turned over some to other churches that are closer to the respective schools.

Garner Baptist started the initiative after a teacher invited them to begin a Bible club at Ponderosa, where

several students had requested one. Pastor Gary Arrington said they patterned theirs after Child Evangelism Fellowship, which helped them avoid legal problems.

The effort has opened doors with parents, too. One time a mother picking up her child told Arrington she wanted more information on his church. That led to a personal visit in her home, where the pastor asked what she thought it would take to go to heaven.

"I don't know," she replied. "Can you tell me?"

"The whole family accepted Christ and is involved at the church," Arrington said.

Other Kentucky Baptists involved in reaching out to students and teachers recommend that churches take advantage of this wide-open opportunity.

For the past five years, Dripping Spring Baptist Church in Olmstead has hosted an annual educators' luncheon just prior to the school year.

Starting with Olmstead, in 2007 it expanded to

□ See Kentucky Baptist churches ... *Page 3*

# Ky. Baptist volunteers needed as Haiti work shifts to rebuilding

By Erin Roach  
Kentucky Baptist Convention

**Louisville**—Teams of volunteers are needed in Haiti as disaster relief transitions to a rebuilding phase, according to Coy Webb, disaster relief associate for the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

"The North American Mission Board, Southern Baptist disaster relief and the Florida Baptist Convention have set a goal of trying to rebuild 5,000 homes in Haiti," Webb said. "With that kind of goal, there's an unlimited number of teams that we would need to make that happen."

Thus far, 18 groups from the KBC have traveled to Haiti. Webb was there in May serving on an incident command team.

"It is still a physically demanding part of the world to go to. We have good living conditions. We have been staying in a combination of places, in some mission houses and hotels," he said. "For that part of the world, the accommodations are good. The food is adequate."

"The biggest problem that we're seeing with volunteers that is so physically demanding is the heat and humidity," he continued. "The heat is extreme there, particularly this time of year, though it should be cooling a bit as the fall goes on."

Haitians are recovering, Webb said, but many people continue to live in tent cities, and as the government urges people to spread out from the capital of Port-au-Prince into the surrounding communities, the burden on the families who take in survivors is growing.

"For a short while, that's OK, but it is very draining in resources for those families who don't have a whole lot to start with," Webb explained.

As the work in Haiti transitions, volunteer teams from Kentucky will be coordinated by the KBC's partnership missions department instead of the disaster relief office, Webb noted. Several people already have contacted the KBC to express interest in the rebuilding effort.

An ideal size for a team would be about 10 people, Webb said, and one team probably could complete two permanent homes in one week. When teams arrive, a concrete foundation already will be laid upon which the 246-square-foot house can be built. The structures are designed in such a way that they can be expanded by the homeowner later.



**CHANGED LIFE** Pierre Obed (left) accepts a Bucket of Hope from Southern Baptist volunteer Nancy Thrailkill. Obed served as a translator for Baptist volunteers, including teams from Kentucky, during ongoing relief efforts in his home country of Haiti. Through the generosity of Kentucky Baptists, Obed, 20, now is enrolled at University of the Cumberlands in Williamsburg. (Photo courtesy of Kentucky Baptist disaster relief)

"Because of the limited resources of Haiti, it probably would be difficult for teams to be much larger than 12 just because of logistics of transportation, translators, lodging, that type of thing," he explained. "A team of six to 12 can accomplish quite a bit of good things for the kingdom in a week."

In addition to supporting Kentucky Baptist disaster relief through gifts to the Cooperative Program, individual Kentucky Baptists are making direct connections with the Haitian people.

While he was in Haiti, Webb befriended a young Haitian man who served as a translator for the group. Now 20-year-old Pierre Obed is scheduled to start classes this month at University of the Cumberlands in Williamsburg.

"The University of the Cumberlands was very gracious and gave him a scholarship, and then the Kentucky Baptist Convention, through one of our sources, was also able to get him connected with a fairly gracious scholarship," Webb said.

A group of 15 Baptist Collegiate Ministry leaders and students recently spent 10 days in Haiti installing water purification systems, conducting vision clinics and providing hygiene education.

Mark Reeves, a junior at Western Kentucky University, was on the team. He came back with a message from some Haitians who want to counter the negative image of their country that sometimes is portrayed in the United States.

"Haiti is not a scary place," he said. "God is the same in Haiti as He is here. He has the same love for the people there, and He is just as much the protector there. So, I don't

think there needs to be any fear of Haiti," Reeves said. "You want to be careful, but that's true anywhere."

To find out more about helping rebuild Haiti, contact the KBC's partnership missions department at Partnership@KyBaptist.org, or (502) 489-3529, or toll free in Kentucky at (866) 489-3529.

Since the Jan. 12 earthquake in Haiti, the 18 teams of Kentucky Baptist disaster relief

workers have provided medical care, clean-up assistance, water purification and food. Kentucky volunteers have shared the gospel more than 2,300 people and know of 168 people who have made professions of faith in Christ. Webb reported that Baptist leaders in Haiti have estimated that 140 churches have been planted in the country and that 140,000 people have accepted Christ as their Savior since the quake.

## Disaster relief efforts wrap in flooded Ky. counties

**Pikeville**—In addition to ongoing work in Haiti, Kentucky Baptist disaster relief volunteers recently served close to home following devastating floods in Pike and Carter counties.

At the close of a 10-day call-out in Pike County, 60 volunteers had completed 23 jobs according to Harold Smith, who along with his wife, Karen, served as a "blue cap" supervisor. Workers assessed damage, cleaned homes of mud and debris and removed damaged sheet-rock. They also shared the gospel with several people.

"I have not seen a community come together the way this community has come together to help people," Smith said. "Different churches up here have brought food in for us every day, and people are just so thrilled that we are here."

Some of the local volunteers were members of Meta Baptist Church in Pikeville, which served as Kentucky Baptists' headquarters during the call-out.

"It has really touched me the way this church and this community has come together to help those in need," Smith added.

The Pike County project was unique in another way, he pointed out. "On this particular trip we have had the opportunity to work with some Mennonites and just got to fellowship with them and have them over for lunch," said Smith, a member of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Shepherdsville. "They have used our shower unit, and we've had a good time fellowshiping with each other."

In Carter County, blue cap Bill Johnson said crews finished working Aug. 4 after completing 30 work orders in re-



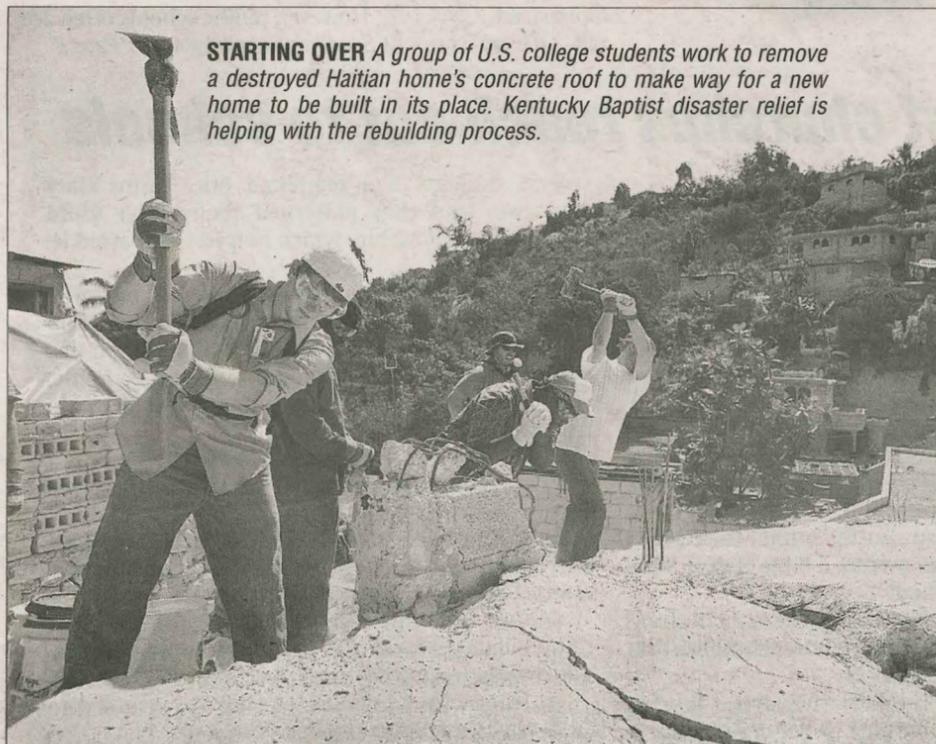
**GOD'S HANDS AND FEET** Bill Johnson of Grayson unloads equipment that Kentucky Baptist disaster relief volunteers used to clear debris from a home in Carter County following recent floods there. Johnson supervised 30 volunteers, helping residents of Olive Hill get back on their feet. (Photos courtesy of Kentucky Baptist disaster relief)

sponse to flooding in the Olive Hill area. Volunteers came from Somerset and Henderson, as well as a crew from Alabama.

Through Kentucky Baptist disaster relief, more than 7,000 individuals have been trained to respond to natural and man-made crises with an array of services. Feeding units can provide thousands of meals on short notice. Volunteers in other units can move in with chainsaws to remove debris, remove mud from flooded homes and provide other assistance.



**CLEAN-UP EFFORTS** Bonnie Prince, a member of Unity Baptist Church in Ashland, sweeps water from a residence in the Olive Hill area of Carter County.



**STARTING OVER** A group of U.S. college students work to remove a destroyed Haitian home's concrete roof to make way for a new home to be built in its place. Kentucky Baptist disaster relief is helping with the rebuilding process.

## State Baptists, KBC ministry leader, earn NAMB recognition

By Dannah Prather  
Kentucky Baptist Convention

Atlanta—Kentucky Baptists and a ministry leader with the Kentucky Baptist Convention were singled out by the North American Mission Board recently for gospel-sharing efforts.

At NAMB's annual Summer State Leadership Meeting in Atlanta, Kentucky Baptists received the Find It Here Participation Award in recognition for the efforts of approximately 1,700 congregations in sharing Christ with their neighbors.

Eric Allen, director of KBC's mission service and ministries department, accepted the first-ever Charles Roesel Ministry Evangelism Award, a recognition that, according to NAMB leaders, spotlights the recipient's "commitment to expanding the kingdom of God as demonstrated by the multiplication of churches committed to meeting needs and sharing Christ."

The Find It Here award reflects a great investment of time and energy by Kentucky Baptists in the weeks and months leading up to Easter Sunday 2010. More than 1.3 million brochures printed with the gospel message were distributed in Kentucky in March and April. That figure represents 83 percent of all Kentucky households.

Church members also prayerwalked their communities, and shared their personal testimonies of faith and offered intercessory prayer for people they met along the way.

"It was the greatest seed-sowing outreach that Kentucky's ever seen in its history," said Ross Bauscher, leader of the KBC's evangelism growth team. "It was an amazing thing for me to witness what God can do through His people when they cooperate with one another for His glory."

Approximately 41,000 volunteers from



**KBC LEADER HONORED** Eric Allen (second from left) director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's mission service and ministries department, accepts the first-ever Charles Roesel Ministry Evangelism Award from the North American Mission Board and Fellowship of State Ministry Evangelism Directors. Pictured with Allen (second from right) is the award's namesake, former pastor of First Baptist Church of Leesburg, Fla. Also pictured (far left) is Thomas Hammond, NAMB's interim vice president of evangelism; and (far right) Richard Leach, team leader for servant/ministry evangelism at NAMB. (Photo by John Swain/NAMB)

Kentucky Baptist churches participated in Find It Here. A total of 69 of Kentucky's 71 local Baptist associations were involved.

"This is recognition of God's work among us," KBC Executive Director Bill Mackey said. "It is a distinct honor for Kentucky Baptists to be recognized by the North American Mission Board for outstanding service during the Find It Here emphasis."

Through the door-to-door campaign and a media blitz, more than 2,000 Kentuckians returned response cards sharing news of a personal spiritual decision; 405 Kentuckians called NAMB's national Evangelism Response Center for spiritual guidance; 4,000 visited the Find It Here website. Through the response cards, the KBC is aware of 595 people who made professions of faith

in Christ as a result of the gospel-sharing initiative.

"We know many other people responded to the invitation to visit local Baptist churches," noted Larry Baker, leader of the KBC's missions growth team.

From Kentucky Baptists at large to one specific servant, the Roesel Award was presented to Allen by NAMB and the Fellowship of State Ministry Evangelism Directors.

Allen, who has served the KBC since 2000, helps churches reach their communities with the gospel through benevolence ministries, pregnancy care centers, substance abuse ministries, prayer initiatives and other efforts.

"My greatest joy is helping believers find satisfaction and fulfillment by using their gifts and talents in service with God,"

Allen said. "Churches will grow when they reach beyond themselves and minister to the needs of the lost and hurting in their communities."

To that end, Allen developed "The Church Reaching Out," ([www.KyBaptist.org/Reaching](http://www.KyBaptist.org/Reaching)) an initiative to encourage and equip congregations to develop outreach-focused ministries.

The concept was for churches to identify groups of people within their communities that perhaps never had been reached before with the gospel. More than 1,250 KBC churches have received assistance from this initiative through resources, training, consultation or grants.

This most recent recognition is Allen's third in 10 years. In 2008 he accepted the Missionary Mobilization Recognition for recruiting, training and coordinating efforts of more Mission Service Corps missionaries focused on evangelism and church planting than any other state Baptist convention during the previous year. In 2002 he received the Outstanding Leadership award when KBC's missionary growth rose to more than 26 percent of NAMB's total missionary strength.

The award's namesake, Charles Roesel, is the former pastor of First Baptist Church of Leesburg, Fla. Under his leadership, the congregation developed an array of services to its community, including drug and alcohol counseling and job training.

The meeting of the Southern Baptist State Director of Missions Fellowship was held in conjunction with the NAMB meeting in July. Baker, former DOM for Christian County Baptist Association, was elected president of the fellowship. Members of the fellowship are directors of missions, or those with equivalent duties, from the 42 state and regional Baptist conventions.

## Kentucky Baptist churches view area public schools as mission fields

Continued from page 1

Russellville City and Logan County schools.

About 80 administrators and teachers attended this year's event July 27. In addition to a buffet featuring steak sandwiches, the church gave away \$150 worth of gift cards as door prizes.

"It has allowed us to be a more visible witness in the community," Pastor Jeff Noffsinger said. "We've been able to convey to folks we're not just here to have church. We want to assist them whenever we can. The best way to let people know that is to care for the kids."

The luncheons have prompted other activities. Dripping Spring supports a backpack ministry that supplies weekend meals to needy students in the area.

Church members have prayerwalked the schools and leaders soon want to assign each teacher a prayer partner. In addition, the church has allowed public schools to use its auditorium for Christmas programs and other musicals.

Noffsinger has forged a closer personal relationship as well by serving as president of Olmstead's Parent Teacher Organization the past two years. "We look at it as a mission and an opportunity," he said.

After Labor Day, Munfordville Baptist Church will resume its long-standing Team Kid, which attracts about 100 elementary-age children each Monday afternoon.

Pastor John Smith said the sessions started about 14 years ago after members realized they needed to offer unchurched children more than just vacation Bible school.

"It's like a mini-VBS," Smith said of the Bible stories, arts and crafts, recreation and snacks where about 20 volunteers serve each week.

Munfordville Baptist sees about six conversions annually, as well as a number of older students returning to volunteer as aides.

Directed by member Michele Bryant, Team Kid isn't the only time dozens of visitors show up. Each fall the church sponsors a festival with games, food and hay rides; it draws about 250 people.

"Families come by the droves to have an alternative to Halloween and the haunted houses," Smith noted.

The congregation also touches residents through its Upward Basketball league, which spans preschoolers to eighth grade.

"It gets us out in the community," Smith said. "People know us as the church that has Team Kid and Upward. They know where to find us."

Parkland Baptist Church in Louisville used its second annual block party Aug. 6 to distribute free backpacks to 330 elementary school students who were among more than 1,000 people who attended.

The backpacks included folders, notebooks, markers, crayons, pencils and glue sticks. Each one contained a Bible, a letter from Pastor Tom Curry and a prayer card.

The project was dedicated to the memory of Parkland's 8-year-old Cambrey Mudd, who died of leukemia July 17.

Beth Turpin, minister of students and activities, said members decided to distribute school supplies because they sensed there was an economic need in the community.

"Several parents told us how grateful they were—several said it was an answer to prayer," Turpin said. "In addition to that, we found 350 people who don't attend church anywhere, which gives us a chance



**TOUGH DECISION** Josie Flaig, who started kindergarten this week at Blue Lick Elementary School in Louisville, tries to choose one of the 330 backpacks that were given away Aug. 6 at Parkland Baptist Church. Each backpack contained folders, notebooks, markers, crayons, pencils, glue sticks, a Bible, a letter from Parkland Pastor Tom Curry and a prayer card. (Photo by Drew Nichter)

to minister to them."

One fear that may hold some Kentucky Baptists back from involvement with public schools is potential problems crossing church-state lines.

Recognizing that public schools likely would remove Bibles from 50 leftover packs, Parkland Baptist instead donated them to a mission in downtown Louisville.

Some churches could field gripes from parents who don't think it is legal to teach about the Bible, even after school.

That is what happened at Garner Baptist, although Wells said such complaints have dwindled in the past two years.

Since clubs are voluntary and parents must give their permission for their children to enroll, she said today they seldom get such calls.

"Child Evangelism Fellowship got a (court) ruling that, 'Yes, they can do this,'" Wells said. "It's a very rewarding ministry. We feel each time we pray ... that it's a treasured time."

## Kentucky Changers' impact

Youth in Kentucky who serve as Kentucky Changers each summer are used by God to make an awesome impact for the Great Commission. At the same time God makes an awesome impact on their lives for eternity.

### Partners in the Mission



By Bill Mackey

The experience of repairing homes and building relationships with other Christian youth and the homeowners, combined with powerful worship and small group time, result in many decisions for Christ.

This past summer, 999 youth participated in a week of repairing homes in Bullitt County, the city of Princeton and in Crittenden Association. During the three weeks of Kentucky Changers this past summer, the youth repaired 90 homes. The home transformations typically include such projects as new roofs, paint, windows, or a wheelchair ramp.

It is a credit to these youth that they pay for the cost of their trip and room and board for the privilege of doing hard physical labor to help people in need. They usually sleep on the floor in a school.

Local churches also play a significant role by delivering lunch to the job sites and providing funds for materials if the local government does not have the funds or a grant to do so.

It is an incredible experience to be present for the final night when the teams celebrate the accomplishments of the week by viewing the before and after pictures of the homes on a large screen. This past summer, three homeowners and a boy in one home accepted Jesus Christ.

Crew chiefs and assistant crew chiefs play strategic roles in the youths' experience. They assist the young people in learning to work together as a team and learning new home repair skills. They also teach safety in using the equipment. It is a strong development experience for youth who learn new skills and grow spiritually at the same time.

Among the Kentucky Changers themselves this summer, decisions for Christ included 40 professions of faith, 69 rededications and 38 commitments to vocational Christian service. Leaders who accompany the youth groups follow up on decisions after the youth return home.

A number of the youth who have been participants over the past 16 years have gone on to become youth leaders themselves and now bring their youth to participate.

It was exciting to be present at Little Flock Baptist Church for the Bullitt County celebration. It is great to see youth leaders who are excited and grateful to God for the growth and development of their youth.

As executive director, it is a privilege to see the cooperation and leadership of the Kentucky Baptist Convention staff blessed by God for a powerful Great Commission impact. Thank you, Kentucky Baptists, for your generous support of the Cooperative Program which provides funding for staff and these ministries.

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

## Yard sale provides missions opportunity

Imagine a yard sale that spans from Alabama to Michigan and lasts three days, drawing tens of thousands of visitors. No, I'm not making it up. Ask Pastor Wayne Spivey about the Hwy. 127 yard sale, and he gets excited—really excited—about it. But, it's not because of the potential treasures that some hope to find (such as the lost works of an early American photographer worth a hundred million or two) or the wondrous excursion that some travel the first week in August. Rather, it is because he has led the members of Harrodsburg Baptist Church to see the multi-state yard sale as a grand ministry opportunity.



### After Thought

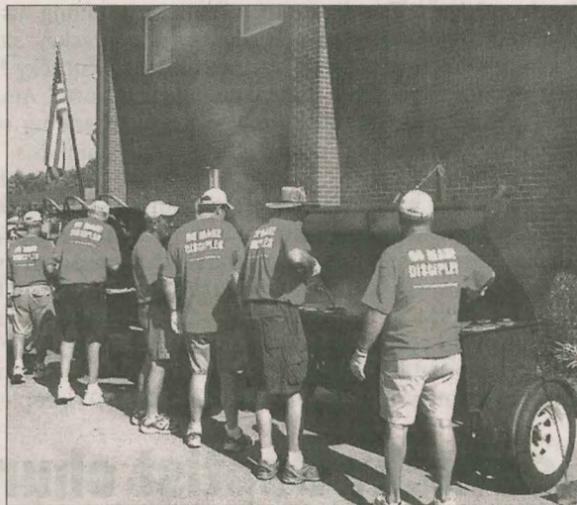
By Todd Deaton

For the second year, members of the church offered those passing through their city, which sits along the largest yard sale route in the Eastern United States, if not the world, a free cookout. An individual donor provided hot dogs and hamburgers. Church members, Sunday school classes and other groups contributed soft drinks. Men from the church towed their barbecue grills to the church yard, and women and youth then served the passers-

by. Some even went so far as to act as car hops, taking orders directly from people in the cars, Spivey said.

But the greatest part, according to Spivey, was the servanthood spirit of the church members and the strong Christian witness they gave. Adult and youth choirs sang and other groups performed for those who took a break from shopping long enough to picnic under a tent on the church grounds. The event's main purpose, Spivey says, was to provide an opportunity for members to interact with the Hwy. 127 travelers, and he knows of at least one salvation decision that resulted, but undoubtedly many others were ministered to that weekend.

The backs of the red t-shirts worn by the more than 75 volunteers displayed these words: "Go make disciples." Their selfless service to weary travelers on a hot weekend in early August reminds other Baptists whose buildings stand near yard sale or market venues, parade routes, art and music festivals sites, or other community-wide activities and celebrations of ready-made opportunities for witnessing and ministry that await.



## Pupils, pencils, paper and prayers

A new school year begins soon. What an opportune time for a church to encourage students and teachers. Need fresh ideas?

Pray for students and teachers. An adult Bible class can adopt a youth class to pray for them by name. During worship, a pastor could invite students to kneel at the altar as he or the youth minister prays for them. Or he could invite teachers and school staff (elementary, secondary, college, home school) to stand, then pray and challenge the entire church to pray for them faithfully. After taking children to school the first day, moms can gather for coffee, fellowship and prayer for the kids and teachers.

Make it easy for kids to invite friends to church. Print a book-mark-size schedule of weekly and special events for kids at your church. Order book covers or pencils with scripture, youth schedule or website. Our church teens redecorate their Sunday school classrooms annually, painting murals and scripture art. Plan a back-to-school party or Christian concert. Work hard to provide top-quality Bible classes and activities for kids.

Adopt a school. Your church or adult Bible class could intention-

ally help a nearby school. Visit the principal to offer assistance, such as mentoring, office help, reading, crossing guards, scholarship application aid or providing clothes for a child in need. Send encouraging prayer notes to the principal. Deliver a huge basket of snacks for the teacher's break room with a note. Be flexible, and joyfully show God's love as you respond to requests.

Prepare for guests. In Sunday's bulletin, print names of the children's and youth's Bible teachers, choir leaders, missions teachers, and so on. Church members can pray for them, and guests will see your commitment to disciple kids. Since families often relocate during summer, purchase a newcomer list for your town, and deliver church invitations before school begins.

As our children, youth and teachers return to school as ambassadors for Christ, will you assure them of your church's love and prayers?

"I pray for you constantly"  
—Ephesians 1:16b.

Diana Davis writes about "Fresh Ideas" in her books and at [www.keeponshining.com](http://www.keeponshining.com). Her husband, Stephen is executive director of the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana.

### Fresh Ideas



Diana Davis

## Missed the point

The "Tea Party" article missed the point. The movement is not about how much and how people give to charities, but about our relationship to government. Are we its servants, or is it our servant? Will we serve Christ, or Antichrist?

In the Bible, governments are likened to rapacious beasts. Have we forgotten that God freed the Israelites? Shall we then turn back to the leeks and onions of Egypt. Have we, too, a slave mentality?

Equality is not Christian, nor is it possible. Jesus did not teach it. God does not treat everyone the same, nor does He give everyone equal "talents." The preamble to the Constitution is not scripture!

Moreover, God is not just! The God of justice is the Old Testament view of God. The cross was not just and fair, was it? There will be no justice in heaven. The love of Christ will abound everywhere. Not justice, not equality, but God's love, grace, mercy, forgiveness, these all define the gospel, and reveal the nature of God. Aren't you glad?

John C'de Baca  
pastor, First Baptist Church  
Lexington

## WESTERN Recorder

Box 43969  
Louisville, KY 40253

**DR. TODD DEATON**  
Editor

**DREW NICHTER**  
News Director

**THOMAS C. TOWNSEND**  
Marketing & Business Manager

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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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## Mission field arrives this week on campus

By Daniel Berry

Friday, Aug. 20, beginning very early in the morning, a small army of people will begin arriving on the campus of the University of Kentucky. They will be coming from towns like Madisonville, Pikeville, Somerset, Berea and Louisville. As they converge on the campus, parents and other loved ones will be making a round trip back to their homes, but they will be leaving at least one of the members of their family.

Dressed in maroon shirts, a group of students will be there to meet them as they pull onto campus. They are not getting paid. For the most part, they will not know the names of the people they are meeting. They will be giving up their time and energy to help the students move into their new homes and invite them to come to the Baptist Campus Ministry.

For many years the BCM, in cooperation with several of the local churches, has tried to be some of the first people that all the UK students engage as they move into their new home. Our goal on that day is to help the students connect immediately to a group of people who can help them understand who Christ is, get them immediately involved in a local church, and offer them a place to grow during the week while on campus.

Why is this so important?

■ It is estimated that 80 percent of a college student's habits for their entire college career will be established in the first two weeks of their time in

college. The decisions they make in this time are vital for the direction of their adult life.

■ Depending on the source one reads, between 70 and 92 percent of all students who were active in church as high school seniors will abandon their faith by the time they are 25.

■ Based on the statistics that several of the local campus ministers have put together, on the campus of the University of Kentucky, on any given Sunday you will find around 2,000 to 2,500 students active in a local evangelical congregation. However, you will also find approximately 25,000 who will not be connected with a local body of believers.

The mission field is here. The Baptist Campus Ministry exists to be an extension of the local church, reaching the campus for Christ. We passionately desire for every student to come to a personal relationship with Christ. Your students are sharing their faith with their friends. Many are choosing to follow Him.

We also exist to strengthen the local church. With the BCM's status as a student organization we are able to help local congregations and students assist with things like move-in. We are able to help the students know about the local churches through a progressive supper, which feeds the students with wonderful food while exposing them to a group of multi-generational believers who can help them grow in their walk. The churches receive the benefit of having the college students'

enthusiasm and energy as they passionately assist the local congregation by helping in the nursery, doing community projects, and participating in Disciple Nows and the many other areas where the college students serve in a local body.

Finally, the BCM seeks to invest in the leadership development of the college students, knowing that they will be the leaders of the church of tomorrow. Activities of the UKBCM include one-on-one discipleship, community groups, mission trips, retreats, evangelism training, community projects and weekly Bible studies. While the students are involved in many local churches, they continually come back together to accomplish one goal: that the name of Jesus would radically change lives on this campus.

Please continue to pray for the BCM ministry across the state. Pray for the local churches that are in the college towns as they prepare for the students to come as well. Let us know if you know of someone coming so that we can help them feel welcome. Challenge the students moving away to be very intentional in the development of their walk with Christ. If you would like to know some other ways to pray for this ministry feel free to follow us through Facebook through the UK-BCM parent/alumni group.

Thank you, Kentucky Baptists, for your support. We desire for every college student to know the love of our Savior.

*Daniel Berry is the Baptist campus minister at the University of Kentucky.*

## How can I encourage my children as the new school year begins

By David Garrard

Ron Oliver serves as vice president of mission and outreach for Norton Healthcare. Ron and his family are good friends and faithful members of my church. Earlier this summer, Ron's wife, Joyce, shared with me some words of encouragement that Ron sends their two boys off to school with each day. They deserve passing along as a new school year begins.

**Make it a good day!** We often hear folks say, "Have a nice day!" In contrast, make it a good day reminds children (and the rest of us, too) that we bear major responsibility for how the day will go. It shifts the emphasis from passive to active. With the right attitude and the right outlook, children can make every school day a good one.

**Get brilliant!** These words encourage children to make the most of the opportunity school affords to learn. Note the difference between "be" brilliant and "get" brilliant. The latter reminds children that learning requires effort, and encourages them to work hard and do their best in school—something every parent and teacher wants to see happen.

**Make good choices!** When it comes to behavior and conduct, there may be no better advice than these three little words. The choices we make determine the kind of people we are. Encourage children to make good choices regarding their friends, schoolwork and the ways in which they treat others, including authority figures.

**Be yourself!** Ron added this last one as a way of encouraging his boys to affirm and celebrate their uniqueness while at the same time remaining true to the important values, standards and beliefs that define them and make up their character. In other words, don't give in just to fit in. Being yourself will usually make it much easier to relate to others and build friendships.

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



### FAITH ON CAMPUS

## Avoiding dumb 401(k) mistakes

By Don Spencer

A 401(k) plan is a valuable tool for retirement planning. Too often people make dumb mistakes in the way they use their plans. Here are a few:

**1. Missing the match**—Many companies provide a percentage of pay in matching retirement contributions. Many employees don't take advantage of this "free money." Always contribute enough to get all matching funds.

**2. Betting on the company**—If your company issues stock for your retirement, be careful. No company is invulnerable to problems. If your company collapses so will the value of your retirement. Invest about 5 percent or less of your retirement in your own company.

**3. Freezing contributions**—As pay increases be sure to increase personal retirement contributions. Otherwise, inflation will erode the value of your contribution.

**4. Cashing out**—If you leave a company, don't withdraw 401(k) money. If necessary roll it over to another 401(k) or an IRA. If you take the cash, you're robbing from your retirement and having to pay taxes on the money. If you're under 59½, you'll also pay an added tax.

**5. Misusing target-date funds**—Target date funds can be an excellent way to invest 401(k) money. People often mix their funds in several target date funds or combine them with other funds. This can defeat the purpose.

**6. Taking too much risk**—This often happens as people get older. They use the same higher risk investments that were appropriate in their 30s and 40s. As you get older, your allocation should generally change gradually to a less volatile investment.

**7. Ducking out**—In market declines, many people move their money out of more aggressive investments. They often miss out when the market moves back up, as it has always eventually done. They moved out based on fear. Emotional investing decisions are almost always bad. A good investor knows that you cannot make short-term decision for long-term money.

**8. Borrowing from your future**—While an attractive option for many, numerous potential problems exist.

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



## Planting ideas or messing with our minds

By Erich Bridges

Suppose you could plant an idea in someone else's mind—and make them think it was their own.

That's the premise of "Inception" (PG-13), one of the most interesting summer blockbusters of recent years. The sci-fi movie stars Leonardo DiCaprio as Dom Cobb, a mental thief-for-hire who specializes in "extraction" of ideas from people's brains via their dreams. When a high-powered corporate chief offers him an irresistible payoff to do the reverse—to sneak an idea into a competitor's mind—Cobb organizes an elite team of dream commandos and springs into action. Lots of cool special effects ensue.

But the film isn't just another collection of digital gimmicks. It raises serious questions about the nature of reality. Are there different levels of reality, or different realities altogether, in our minds? Are they so "real" that we can become trapped in them? If consciousness and reality are malleable, what about truth? These questions have been asked for ages by mystics, theologians and philosophers—not to mention computer gamers.

Postmodernism questions the existence of all absolutes. So "Inception" plays to popular culture's ambivalent relationship with truth. My beef with the movie, however, is its suggestion that planting an idea in someone's mind is more difficult than removing one. In the real world, the opposite is true.

Getting an idea, especially a false one, out of some minds is almost impossible. Ignorance often plays a role.

But plenty of well-informed people don't let facts interfere with their views, as several recent studies confirm. One such study, by University of California researcher Jonas Kaplan, analyzed the centers of the brain that stimulate emotion. He found that people tend to form political opinions first, then invest all their mental and emotional energy "making themselves feel good about their decision"—regardless of the conflicting data presented to them.

Two Stony Brook (N.Y.) University scholars discovered that highly educated people are even less open than others to new facts that challenge their existing perceptions. Their factual knowledge in some areas "makes it nearly impossible to correct (other areas) on which they're totally wrong," according to an article on the findings in *The Boston Globe*.

You can see this phenomenon demonstrated daily (and loudly) by TV talking heads, political bloggers and the like. You probably see it around your kitchen table or the office water cooler.

Planting an idea in someone's mind, on the other hand, is relatively easy—for good or ill. Good parents and teachers use methods as old as Socrates to encourage young people to "discover" the right answers for themselves. Advertisers convince people every day that they can't live without things they don't even need. Propagandists and gossips entice people into believing lies by constant repetition.

The unsurpassed master of mental manipulation has been at it for a

very long time. He convinced Adam and Eve that they didn't need to heed God's tiresome commands, that they could become "like God, knowing good and evil" (Genesis 3:5). Humankind's long history of self-deception and self-destruction began with an insidious idea planted in our minds: If we can be like God, we can be God. Then we don't need to obey or worship Him. As a practical matter, He no longer exists.

The devil plants plenty of bad ideas, but this might be the worst: "The fool has said in his heart, 'There is no God'" (Psalm 14:1a). A lot of really smart people believe that one. If there is no God, the saying goes, all things are permissible—murder, genocide, you name it. Recent history gives many blood-soaked examples of godlessness as state policy.

Sin, the process of rebellion against God and worship of self, is an act of the will. But it begins in the mind. Only one idea is more powerful: the gospel.

That an all-powerful God would enter our reality, live among us, die at our hands and rise again—all to express His love and mercy to those who rejected Him—is the most revolutionary idea in history. If it is believed, if it is accepted and acted upon, it changes everything. God uses it to renew our darkened minds so we can worship Him in spirit and truth. Then we can transmit this great idea to others, which is the mission of the church in the world.

Plant the gospel idea in a few minds—and see what happens. (BP)

*Erich Bridges is global correspondent for the International Mission Board.*

### COMMENTARY

## BAPTIST DIGEST

**Crashes claim lives of college personnel**—A pair of car accidents last week claimed the lives of a Baptist university professor and a cheerleading coach. A Liberty University professor and her teenage son were killed Aug. 8 when their car was struck by an SUV driven by a man police said appeared to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Jill Jones, 41, and Nicholas Jones, 16, were pronounced dead at the scene of a crash in Roanoke, Va. Jill Jones had been an associate professor in Liberty's department of graduate education since the fall of 2007. Also last week, California Baptist University head cheerleading coach Wendy Rice was killed and a dozen members of the school's cross-country team were injured Aug. 9 when the van they were traveling in was struck near Bishop, Calif., by an oncoming SUV that reportedly lost control and flipped. Five people in the SUV also were killed in the wreck. Rice, 35, had been in her position since 2007.

**Rwanda crash kills California missions volunteer**—Kim Foreman, a pastor's wife from San Lorenzo, Calif., died of injuries sustained in an Aug. 3 automobile crash in Rwanda, where she was serving as a missions volunteer. Foreman, 59, and her husband Chris, pastor of First Southern Baptist Church of San Lorenzo, direct Come & See Africa International, which they established in 2005 to promote missions interest in Rwanda. She had been engaged in Africa missions efforts since 1998 and was on her 10th trip to Rwanda. A native of South Korea, Foreman was a professor of instructional technology at San Francisco State University. In June 2008, she and her husband broke ground on a center promoting Christian education for students of the University of Rwanda in Butare.

**Exhibit honors Cliff Barrows**—A special two-month exhibit at the Billy Graham Library in Charlotte, N.C., now is open to honor longtime music and program director Cliff Barrows. Through the end of September, "Cliff Barrows Tribute: A Singing Faith" will provide a glimpse into the life of one of evangelist Billy Graham's closest friends and ministry partners, a news release from the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association said. Barrows, 87, first worked with Graham in 1945 at a Youth for Christ rally in North Carolina and was responsible for music at Billy Graham crusades two years later. Among the items in the exhibit are Barrows' trombone, which he played at Youth for Christ meetings in the 1940s; his old microphone from radio broadcasts of "The Hour of Decision"; a set of comic books that were given out at youth meetings in 1951; and several campaign and crusade songbooks, as well as albums, awards, photos and letters.

**Hymn Society honors Baptists for contributions**—A group dedicated to hymnology and hymnody in North America has honored three Baptist musicians for their lifetime achievements in the field of church music. The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada named David Music, Paul Richardson and Paul Powell as fellows of the organization during the group's recent annual in Birmingham, Ala. Music is a professor of church music at Baylor University in Waco, Texas, and the author of numerous books on hymns and church music. Richardson is a professor of music at Samford University in Birmingham. Powell is the author of "Wherever He Leads I'll Go," which the Hymn Society called "a groundbreaking study" of the life and work of famed Baptist hymn author B.B. McKinney. He also spent a decade making the Dictionary of North American Hymnology available online at Hymnary.org.

**Johnny Hunt, wife extend leave of absence**—Johnny Hunt, pastor of First Baptist Church of Woodstock, Ga., and immediate past president of the Southern Baptist Convention, has extended his leave of absence from the church through mid-September, citing physical and emotional exhaustion. Hunt had been expected to return to the Woodstock pulpit Aug. 8 following his annual July sabbatical. However, Jim Law, senior associate pastor and administrator of the church, announced Hunt and Hunt's wife, Janet, will extend their leave by another six weeks. The decision came on the counsel of a professional who encouraged the couple to extend their time away from ministerial responsibilities, Law explained. He said Hunt is expected to return to the pulpit Sept. 19. Hunt was sidelined earlier this year, in the middle of his second term as SBC president, as he underwent successful prostate surgery Jan. 7. His presidency was consumed by the creation of the Great Commission Resurgence Task Force, which called for spiritual renewal and a partial restructuring of the denomination with greater emphasis on missions. Hunt completed his two one-year terms in June at the SBC annual meeting in Orlando, Fla.

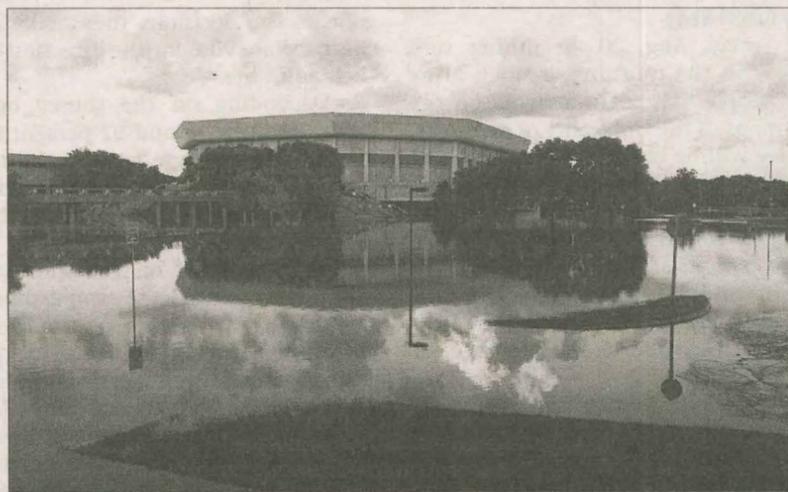
## Flooding puts Iowa Baptist DR on alert

By Richard Nations  
Iowa Baptist

**Ames, Iowa**—Volunteers were mobilized from five Southern Baptist Churches Aug. 12 to assist with water distribution in Ames, Iowa, where flooding in the city has caused a major disruption.

Streets and businesses were flooded and a mobile home park was submerged in the south part of the city. Athletic facilities on the campus of Iowa State University were flooded, including the football and basketball stadiums. The water system was polluted by flood waters after several key water mains broke during street flooding.

Baptist Convention of Iowa officials worked with the city of Ames to arrange for volunteers from area Southern Baptist churches to help provide some relief for those city officials and employees who were staffing the water distribution sites. As of last Thursday, the volunteers were lined up to assist and officials expected a need for further volunteers until this week when the wa-



**FLOOD DAMAGE** Hilton Coliseum, on the campus of Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa, was under water Aug. 12 due to flooding from nearby Squaw Creek. Iowa Baptist disaster relief teams were placed on alert last week, awaiting a call-out.

ter system was expected to be operating again.

Roads were closed in several areas of the town, making travel difficult. Interstate 35 was closed south of Ames, between the city and Des Moines 30 miles away. Some flood-

ing also occurred there and in nearby Colfax, Iowa.

As of last Thursday, the Baptist Convention of Iowa disaster relief unit had not been activated, but officials were asking volunteers to be on alert in case a call-up is needed. (BP)

## Texas convention to eliminate 13 staff positions

**Dallas**—Six Baptist General Convention of Texas Executive Board employees are losing their jobs, seven unfilled posts are being eliminated and a dozen positions are being reduced from full time to part time due to the state convention's current financial situation and the 2011 forecast.

Savings resulting from the staff cuts total more than \$1 million in salary and benefits for 2011, said Jill Larsen, BGCT treasurer and chief financial officer. The layoffs and cutbacks bring the total BGCT Executive Board staff to two-thirds the size it was just four years ago.

Effective dates of job termination or reduction vary, Larsen noted.

In addition, seven vacant positions are being eliminated. They

range from interns to clerical positions to managerial posts.

"As we finish out this year and plan for next year, your leadership team has spent many hours looking at various options to determine our direction both strategically and financially," BGCT Executive Director Randel Everett said in an e-mail to staff. "Unfortunately, any of the options considered required that we reduce our expenses. This requires the elimination of some positions."

In an interview, Everett emphasized budget considerations and income projections made the cuts necessary, and none were based on job performance.

As of July 31, Texas Cooperative Program receipts totaled \$19,825,159—88.6 percent of bud-

get and 90.1 percent of year-to-date 2009 receipts.

The latest round of layoffs and cutbacks continues a trend dating back seven years.

In 2003, the BGCT eliminated 20 staff positions—laying off 13 people and eliminating seven vacant posts—but some positions were added later in an organizational restructuring.

In a major round of layoffs four years later, 29 staff positions were eliminated. Staff reductions continued incrementally since then, primarily by not filling vacant positions.

In 2006, the BGCT employed 406 staff, with 315 in full-time positions. After the latest cuts take effect, staff will number 268, with 213 full-time positions. (ABP)

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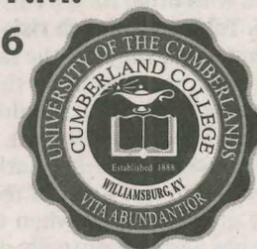
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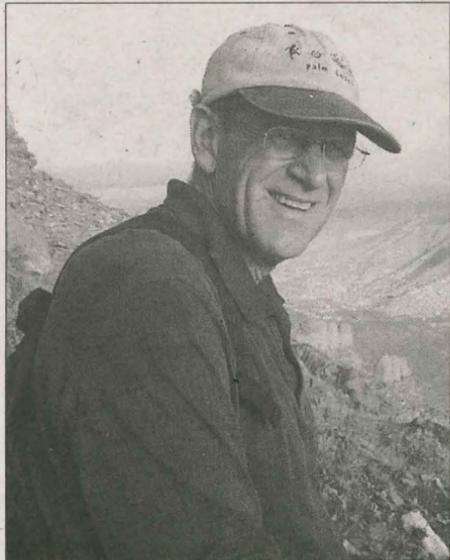
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# Former captive: Slain Afghan aid workers were 'unwavering'

By Erin Roach

Kabul, Afghanistan—Heather Mercer, who along with Dayna Curry was held captive nine years ago by the Taliban for 105 days, said the aid workers who were killed recently in Afghanistan were an example of what it means to love a forgotten people.

Mercer told Baptist Press when she learned that 10 aid workers had been murdered in the mountains of Afghanistan, possibly by the Taliban, she was shocked



**INSPIRATION** Tom Little, leader of the mission team that was ambushed by gunmen in the mountains of Afghanistan, inspired people to work in the region. Heather Mercer, a former Taliban prisoner, said Little's message made her want to live among the Afghan people. (Photo courtesy of International Assistance Mission)

and immediately thought they could have been some of her friends from her own time there.

Indeed, Mercer did know Tom Little and Dan Terry, two of the men who were killed when a group of gunmen surrounded the team after they had trekked days in the mountains to provide medical care to Afghans living in a remote region.

"They were unwavering. They were not afraid to give their lives," Mercer said of Little and Terry. "Their hope was in Jesus. Their hope was in the promise of heaven. ... I hope when my life is through that I can have lived the same way, wholeheartedly and fearlessly for the gospel."

Mercer said Little was the first person she ever met who worked in Afghanistan. She was a 20-year-old sophomore at Baylor University in Waco, Texas, when she was inspired by his message.

"Hearing his stories of Afghanistan riveted me and all the more made me want to go and live among them," she recalled.

Mercer and Curry had been working with the interdenominational Shelter Now ministry in Afghanistan in 2001 when they were among eight westerners arrested by the Taliban and held in prison. They later were rescued by U.S. Special Forces.

"There are so, so few in the world that would do what they did, so few that would literally give their entire lives to serve in a place like Afghanistan," Mercer said of the aid workers. "They are heroes of the faith."

"Whether they were ever sharing the gospel directly or if they were sharing indirectly, they were displaying who Christ

is in a place that is desperately in need of the tangible witness of Christ," she noted.

Mercer said she was moved by the news that five of the eight foreign-aid workers in the group will be buried in Afghanistan.

"I think that's such a testimony of where their hearts were. These people weren't just foreigners serving in a foreign land. They were Afghans," she said. "These were foreigners who so loved the Afghan people that they became Afghan themselves. And even in their deaths, they will stay there. It's a picture of how much they have given their lives for these people."

The aid workers are a testimony for the Christian world of what it looks like to follow Christ to the world's hardest places, Mercer said, and she urged believers to pray for their families.

"They will be very missed, but we know that what they've done for the land of Afghanistan will not go unremembered," she said. "There will be an inheritance in that country because of what they've given their lives for."

After they were rescued from prison, Mercer and Curry spent the next two years traveling the United States talking about God's love for the Afghan people. When the war on terror expanded to Iraq, Mercer moved back overseas to work with the Kurds of northern Iraq.

"It's more commonly known today than it was 10 years ago, but the Kurdish people in many ways are similar to the Afghans,"

Mercer explained. "For many years under (Saddam Hussein's) regime they were oppressed. They were fleeing for the mountains because of chemical warfare and the destruction of their towns and villages, and they were really a forgotten people, a lot like the Afghans have been."

"They even have kind of a proverb in their culture that says, 'We're the orphans of the universe and those who have no friends but the mountains.' In many ways there is a connection between the Kurds of Iraq and the Afghans."

Opportunities for service abound as the Kurds slowly embrace democracy and establish their society, Mercer noted. In 2006, she helped start the Freedom Center, which addresses physical needs in a community of about 100,000 people.

In 2008, she began Global Hope, an organization with a goal of mobilizing the church to invest in and engage the Islamic world so Muslims on the front lines will have an opportunity to hear the gospel.

Not a day goes by, Mercer said, that her experience as a Taliban captive doesn't cross her mind as inspiration to continue the work in the Middle East.

"I've often thought Afghanistan is the place that Jesus would live," she said. "I've been to about 50 countries, many of them in the Muslim world, and Afghanistan by far is the darkest place I have ever been. Those are the places that Jesus loves to move." (BP)



Heather Mercer

## 173rd KBC Annual Meeting Tuesday, November 16

Immanuel Baptist Church • Lexington, Kentucky

The Pastors' Conference, Mission Board meeting, and other affiliated conferences meet on Monday, November 15.

### Lexington Accommodations

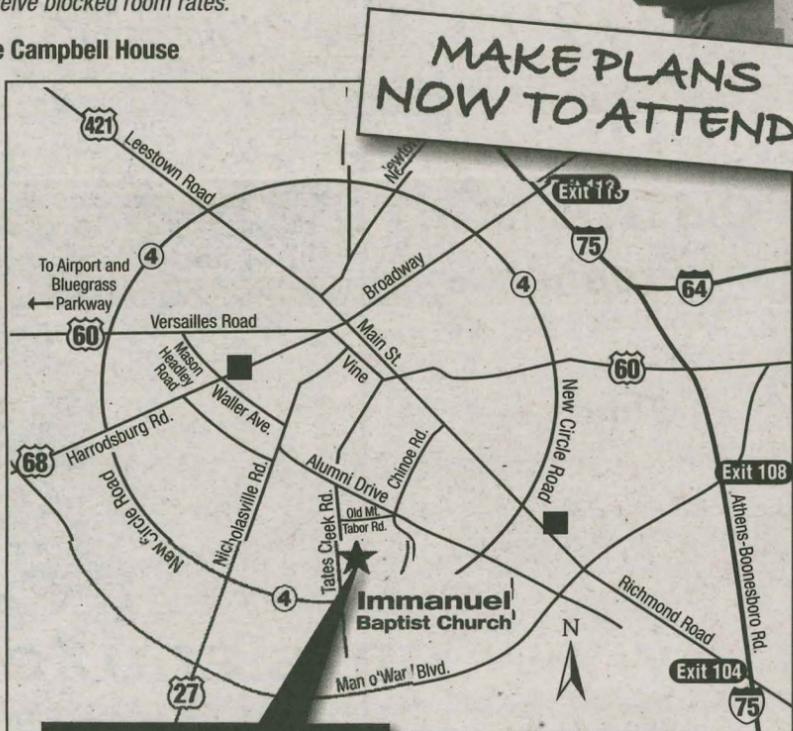
Rates do not include the current Lexington 13.42% hotel tax. Messengers are responsible for making their own reservations. Kentucky Baptist Convention must be mentioned and reservation deadlines met to receive blocked room rates.

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## Religious Freedoms & Restrictions Quiz

- 1 Students can pray before and after the school day, at recess and lunch, but not at other times. TRUE FALSE
  - 2 A teacher is allowed to use the Bible as a reference source in the classroom. TRUE FALSE
  - 3 The school board may pray before or after the school board meeting. TRUE FALSE
  - 4 Students may leave the classroom and school grounds during the school day instructional time for religious/moral training. TRUE FALSE
  - 5 A music teacher does not have to include religious music if he or she doesn't want to. TRUE FALSE
  - 6 The school may decide to allow non-curriculum clubs to meet after school on school grounds and not allow a religious club to meet on school grounds after school. TRUE FALSE
  - 7 In 1963, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that prayer was not allowed in public schools. TRUE FALSE
  - 8 Science teachers can teach evolution, but are not allowed to discuss the biblical account of creation. TRUE FALSE
  - 9 It is illegal for students or teachers to evangelize their peers during school hours. TRUE FALSE
  - 10 A teacher may withhold the portion of his or her union dues that funds a union's political stances that are in conflict with the teacher's religious views. TRUE FALSE
- ANSWERS: 1) False 2) True 3) True 4) True 5) False 6) False 7) False 8) False 9) True 10) True

## Bible class popular in public schools

By Drew Nichter  
News Director

**Williamsburg**—Since the 1990s, Bible classes have popped up all throughout U.S. public schools. In them, students learn about the Bible's influence on culture in literature, art, music and so on.

"It helps the students basically become educated people," argued Bernie Harrington, an English teacher at Williamsburg High School, who recently started his second semester of teaching a Bible literacy course at the eastern Kentucky school.

"If (students) don't know about the Bible, it really just hurts them when they're asked to have an intelligent conversation with someone and they don't even know where (a biblical) reference came from," he noted.

The textbook Harrington's class uses, "The Bible and Its Influence," has become an increasingly popular resource for public school Bible classes.

According to the Bible Literacy Project, which publishes the text, more than 400 schools in 43 states are using it. As many as 19 of those schools are in Kentucky.

Included in that group is Hart County High School which created the Bible class in 2008 at the behest of Superintendent Ricky Line.

Despite some early uncertainty from the school principal, the class was approved, mostly due to the textbook's broad range of endorsements, from evangelical groups to liberal watchdogs.

"We study Chaucer and we study Shakespeare," said Line, a member of Munfordville Baptist Church. "Surely we can spend a little bit of time on something that's a lot more important than that." (In fact, scholars estimate Shakespeare refers to Scripture more than 1,300 times.)

Harrington said his class has attracted an eclectic group of students, even at a small school like Williamsburg High.

"I'll have some students who come from church homes," said Harrington, who attends nearby Main Street Baptist Church. "But I have other students who come in and they just really have no background at all about the Bible—but they're not against learning more about it."

## Christian educators' group aims to cut through confusion of religious freedom

Continued from page 1

not perceived as mission fields, he noted.

But churches like Ekron Baptist are catching on, sending their educators out into the schools to be Christ-like examples.

Before Dillon's presentation, Ekron Baptist's associate pastor Matt Stevens led a "commissioning service" for teachers, students and staff at the schools in Meade County and the surrounding areas. Many of the "missionaries" stood as their schools were shown on a screen.

One of those who stood was Steve Butler, a math teacher at Meade County High School who also is the youth minister at First Baptist Church of Brandenburg, which joined in Ekron's back-to-school event.

He said Christian public school teachers should live their lives just as history's greatest teacher, Jesus Christ, lived His.

"When you saw Him, you knew He was different," Butler said. And as teachers who follow Christ's lead, "we've got to be better teachers."

"Then when you're in the community, they're going to see that you go to church," Butler added. "They're going to see those kinds of things, and the life that you live is going to speak volumes."

Following Dillon's presentation, elementary school teacher Vesta Smith joined Christian Educators



**MYTH-BUSTER** Roger Dillon, director of Christian Educators' Association's Kentucky chapter, speaks to a group of teachers and students at Ekron Baptist Church. He does presentations like this at churches all across Kentucky in an attempt to dispel myths about what teachers and students can and cannot do in public schools in regard to their Christian faith. (Photo by Drew Nichter)

Association, a group she hadn't even heard of before that evening.

Smith, who posed the question about wearing Christian imagery on her clothes, said she had never been quite sure about where the line was regarding her faith and her profession.

"When I wore a shirt ... or a cross or something, I wondered, 'Am I stepping over the boundary or not?'" noted Smith, who teaches kindergarten at Payneville Elementary School. "After tonight, I don't feel like I am. I feel like I do have that right as a citizen."

Why teachers—especially Christian educators—have such a difficult time knowing where that line is likely comes from the churches they at-

tend, Dillon suggested.

In 1963, the U.S. Supreme Court handed down its landmark decision in the Abington School District v. Schempp case that ruled school-sponsored Bible reading and prayer to be unconstitutional. Many church leaders today point to that case as the day prayer was removed from schools.

"You'll hear it from the pulpit," Dillon said. "And what does that do? That reinforces people thinking they can't pray in schools."

"Prayer was not taken out of schools; people stopped praying in schools."

In his presentation, Dillon points to several examples, including U.S. Department of Education guidelines, that show public schools are required to constitutionally protect, not restrict, a student's right to express his or her religious beliefs in school.

"There is no legal basis to suggest, much less require, that our schools be religion-free zones," Dillon pointed out.

Dillon said he believes every teacher, regardless of his or her religious beliefs, should say to his or her classes: "My classroom is a safe place for you to freely express your religious beliefs."

"What if 30,000 Christian teachers (in Kentucky) said that at the beginning of the school year?" Dillon asked.

He said the key is to get teachers to first understand the facts about religious freedoms in public schools, which then will help students.

"If (teachers) understand their faith inside the classroom, they can honor God with they exercise that," Dillon said. "That benefits the students and frees them up to exercise their freedoms inside the classroom also."

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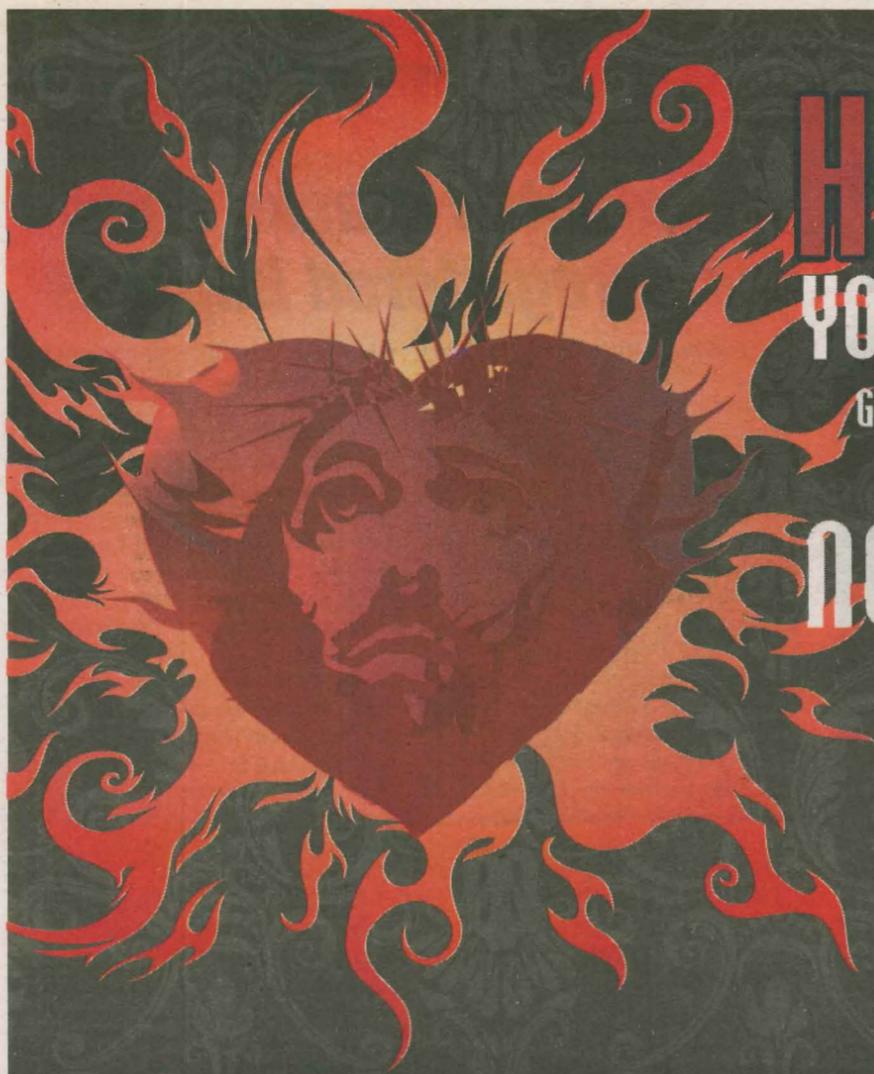
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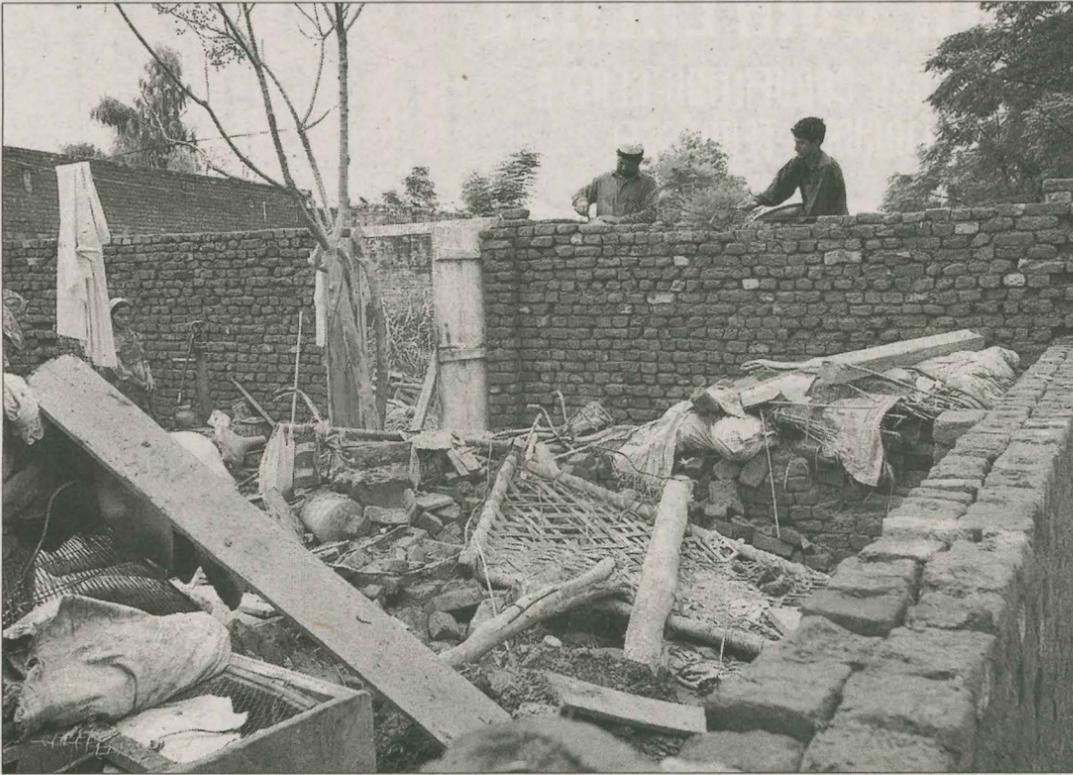
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## Epic Pakistan flooding is worst in 'living memory,' Baptists at work



**AFTERMATH** Two Pakistani men repair their flood-damaged home following devastating floods that swept through parts of the Middle Eastern nation. Reports say as many as 1.8 million people in the country are homeless as a result of the widespread flooding.

By Marlene Martin  
Baptist Global Response

**Islamabad, Pakistan**—Unprecedented flooding in an area of Pakistan where people already struggle with great tragedy and hardship has prompted a Southern Baptist disaster relief response.

As many as 1,600 people are reported dead and another 14 million have been affected, the United Nations has reported. As the heavy rains fell, devastation and despair once again seemed to have taken hold of the people of Pakistan. Stranded by floodwaters, many are grieving loved ones who have died while worrying about how they will care for survivors.

Roads are blocked and bridges are destroyed. Landslides continue to threaten homes. In at least one area, residents do not expect electricity to return for weeks, according to reports. Cooking oil is scarce. Diesel for trucks and generators is gone, and hope that a new supply will arrive soon is slim.

The Karakoram Highway is expected to be closed for at least six weeks, according to one international Christian.

"This is major. All supplies come up this road. The flooding affected several thousands of people; the KKH being blocked affects over 1 million—the entire area, every family," he noted. "Diesel, gas cylinders, food, phone recharge cards, everything is limited and running out. The military is bringing in (flour), but it disappears quickly."

This year's monsoon rains, which began July 22, have been vicious, relief officials said.

"The floods are the worst in Pakistan's living memory," according to an Aug. 8 report of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

"These are unprecedented floods in a country whose people can ill afford more tragedy and hardship in their lives. Many of those affected by the flooding are still reeling from Taliban fighting in their ar-

reas," said Francis Horton, who with his wife, Angie, directs Baptist Global Response work in Central and South Asia.

As many as 1,600 people are reported dead. Torrential rains have affected another 14 million, 1.4 million of whom are children, according to an Aug. 9 U.N. report. About 1.8 million of those 14 million are homeless.

Pakistan has a population of 177 million, according to the U.S. State Department. The United Nations World Food Program estimated in an Aug. 10 report that as many as 6 million Pakistanis will require assistance in obtaining food during the weeks and months ahead because of the current flooding.

Southern Baptists gave generously at the time of the 2005 Pakistan earthquake, helping to rebuild homes and livelihoods. Their giving again is blessing the people of Pakistan, Horton said. More than \$80,000 in emergency funds has been released for Pakistan and \$10,000 has been allocated to help flood victims in neighboring India.

"BGR is partnering with local and international partners to put world hunger funds to work from the north to the south" in Pakistan, Horton said. "This is an incredible opportunity for the church of Pakistan to rise and help those affected and show God's love to them."

In addition to providing transportation costs for rescuers and evacuations, Southern Baptist funds have purchased tents for temporary shelters, hot meals, and food staples. Pakistani Christians are distributing rice, flour, lentils, chickpeas, sugar, tea, condensed milk and matches.

"Projects being funded by Southern Baptists stretch from the north to the south. Feeding is taking place everywhere, as well as some provision of temporary shelter," Horton said. "Pakistani people all along the Indus River are being helped by Southern Baptists' funds. Thousands of people are being fed."

## Uzbekistan cracks down on unregistered Baptists

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan**—Authorities in Uzbekistan continue to repress worship in unregistered churches, according to a new report by an international news service that monitors religious freedom.

Police in the Mirzo-Ulugbek District of the capital province of Tashkent raided a gathering of Baptists from an unregistered church in a private home July 28, Norwegian-based Forum 18 reported Aug. 5. They were celebrating the "spiritual birthday" of a church member.

Twenty-three people—some of them young children—were taken to district police headquarters and detained. Ten were released the following evening.

Yuriy Garmashev, whose home was used for the meeting, was sentenced to five days in jail. Nine others received three-day sentences. The other three received fines equivalent to \$1,860 in U.S. dollars—80 times the minimum monthly salary in Uzbekistan.

The Baptists were charged with "failure to carry out the lawful demands of a police officer or other persons carrying out duties to guard public order" and "violation of the procedure for orga-

nizing and conducting meetings, street processions or demonstrations."

The Baptists claimed they were drinking tea and singing spiritual songs and doing nothing illegal. Their church belongs to the Uzbek Council of Churches-Baptists, which refuse on principle to seek state registration. They regard themselves as "prisoners of conscience."

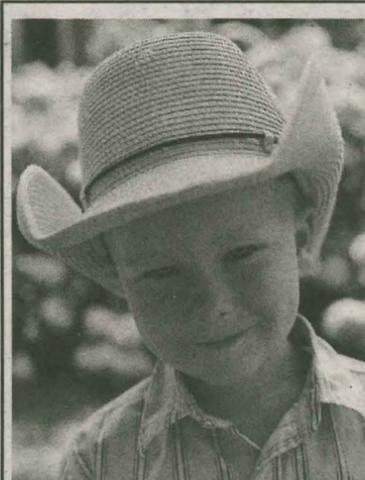
They said officers treated members of the group rudely and pushed them roughly into cars waiting outside. Some reportedly were kicked and hit as they were dragged out of the house. One of those grabbed and pushed was a 10-year-old girl.

Baptists and other religious minorities in Uzbekistan, including unregistered Muslims, have had a series of run-ins with the law in recent months. Last year a judge removed three leaders of the Baptist Union of Uzbekistan, which is registered, after they were convicted of illegal religious instruction at a summer youth camp. Their defense was that the camp had been held several years without interruption and parents knew they were sending their children to a Christian camp. (ABP)

### How your gifts are helping

Gifts to the Southern Baptist World Hunger Fund and the General Relief Fund are helping survivors of the devastating floods in Pakistan.

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  - \$18.41 offers a tent that will give a family temporary shelter.
  - \$25.00 rents a bulldozer for one hour to help redirect floodwaters.
  - \$103 provides a family of 10 with a large tent in which to live.
- In the future, funds may be used to help provide seeds to replant crops that the flooding ruined and to help replace livestock that were killed.



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# California judge lifts stay, permits same-sex couples to marry this week

San Francisco—Same-sex couples can begin marrying in California again this week after a federal judge lifted a stay on his recent ruling that struck down California's voter-approved ban on same-sex marriage.

"Based on the trial record, which establishes that Proposition 8 violates plaintiffs' equal protection and due process rights, the court cannot conclude that proponents have shown a likelihood of success on appeal," wrote U.S. District Judge Vaughn Walker Aug. 12.

The Alliance Defense Fund, which had argued for keeping the stay that was issued with Walker's original Aug. 4 decision, said it would appeal on behalf of ProtectMarriage.com.

"This case has just begun, and ADF and the rest of the legal team are confident that the right of Americans to protect marriage in their state constitutions will ultimately be upheld," said Jim Campbell, an ADF lawyer.

"It makes no sense to impose a radical change in marriage on the people of California before all appeals on their behalf are heard."

Equality California, the largest gay rights organization in the state, praised the decision to lift the stay.

"This case has definitively proven that extending the freedom to marry to same-sex couples causes no

harm and is in line with our country's core values of equality and liberty," said Geoff Kors, the group's executive director.

"This is just one more example of the judicial arrogance of this particular judge," said Richard Land, president of the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission. "One hopes the Ninth Circuit Court of the Appeals or the Supreme Court will rectify this reckless decision and put a stay in place until after the people have had a chance to have the case adjudicated by the proper courts."

Prop 8 was passed in 2008 after supporters gathered approximately 1.1 million signatures to place it on the ballot.

### Unusual procedure

Walker's latest ruling is out of the ordinary, at least when compared to other same-sex marriage cases. For instance, lower courts in Maryland and New York in recent years issued pro-gay marriage rulings but stayed their decisions until higher courts could consider them. In both instances, the rulings were overturned. When a federal judge struck down Nebraska's marriage amendment several years ago, it was stayed and eventually overturned by the Eighth Circuit.

"We will promptly seek from the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals a stay pending the final resolution of the case," Charles Cooper, lead counsel for ProtectMarriage.com, said in a statement. "On appeal, we look forward with confidence to a decision vindicating the democratic process and the basic constitutional authority of the 7 million Californians who voted to retain the traditional definition of marriage."

"The decision whether to redefine the institution of marriage is for the people themselves to make, not a single district court judge, especially without appellate scrutiny."

Said Brian Brown, president of the National Organization for Marriage, another pro-Prop 8 supporter, "When a lower judge makes an unprecedented ruling that totally overturns existing Supreme Court precedent, the normal thing for that judge to do is to stay his decision and let the higher courts decide in an orderly fashion that respects the rule of law whether he's right or way off base. Judge Walker's ruling is more evidence that he is not a neutral referee, but an activist on this issue."

**For more about the perceived role of religion in Proposition 8, see the story on page 12.**

Compiled from reporting by Religion News Service and Baptist Press

## Analysis: Most conservative states also most religious

Washington—States with the highest percentage of self-identifying political conservatives also are more likely to have a higher percentage of citizens who say religion is important to them, according to an analysis of two Gallup surveys.

Additionally, the most politically liberal states are least likely to be religious.

Gallup released results of a poll earlier this month showing Wyoming and Mississippi as tied for first in having the highest percentage of self-identifying political conservatives (53 percent). They are followed by Utah (51 percent), South Dakota (50 percent), Alabama and North Dakota (tied at 49 percent) and Idaho (48 percent). Rounding out the top 10 are four states tied at 46 percent: South Carolina, Oklahoma, Nebraska and Louisiana.

Among those, five—Mississippi, Alabama, South Carolina, Oklahoma and Louisiana—were in the top 10 of Gallup's January 2009 survey of the most religious states in America. In fact, of the 11 most conservative states, only Idaho and Wyoming are not in the Top 20 of the most religious states.

The highest percentage of self-identifying liberals was found largely in the Northeast, where Rhode Island was first (32 percent), followed by Connecticut and Vermont (tied at 29 percent), Massachusetts (28 percent), Colorado and New York (tied at 27 percent), Oregon (26 percent), Washington and New Jersey (tied at 25 percent), and New Hampshire and Maryland (tied at 24 percent).

Among that group, seven—Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont, Massachusetts, Oregon, Washington and New Hampshire—were listed in the top 10 of Gallup's least religious states.

The most/least religious poll asked those interviewed: "Is religion an important part of your daily life?" The survey released Aug. 2 asked if people identified themselves as politically conservative, moderate or liberal. (BP)

## Recent church conferences come up short as U.S. denies delegates' visas

By Alfredo Garcia

Honolulu—When the Baptist World Alliance held its global conference in Hawaii earlier this month, it was missing about 1,000 attendees from around the world.

In June, the inaugural meeting of the World Communion of Reformed Churches in Grand Rapids, Mich., was missing 74, and the Seventh-day Adventists' General Conference in Atlanta was missing about 200.

The three church groups said foreign delegates' visas were denied by U.S. officials, meaning some nations lacked representation at the global assemblies that occur only once every several years.

"People want to come to the United States. It's a wonderful place," said Neville Callam, BWA general secretary. "But it's difficult when general secretaries and presidents (of national Baptist conventions and unions) have saved to come to a conference and they are denied a visa. And there's nothing anyone can do."

"I was deeply saddened" by the visa problems, said Clifton Kirkpatrick, the former president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, which merged with another group to form the World Communion of Reformed Churches.

"I don't think you hear of government events or corporate events that have this percentage of people denied visas."

A lot of it had to do with money, he believes, saying "the criteria (for securing visas) are so skewed to the financial status of people involved."

Church officials said they fully complied with State Department rules on international visas for visiting delegates—particularly providing evidence visitors would return to their countries of origin once the meetings ended.

"We registered our session with the U.S. State Department, and they put it on their internal intranet site," said Rosa Banks, associate secretary of the Adventists' General Conference. "And we updated it on a weekly basis when we got into the process."

Like the Reformed gathering, Adventists said they found many of the rejected visas came from poverty-stricken areas of the world.

"The countries where we had the most problems were in West Africa, particularly Nigeria, and districts in India," Banks noted. "We have to assure that our delegates are going to return."

In an Aug. 3 letter to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and other officials, the Reformed leaders said "the decisions (to grant or deny visas) seem arbitrary."

The letter acknowledged concerns about illegal immigration, subversive activities and the need to present evidence of funding while in the U.S.

"What we do not understand, and cannot accept," the letter said, "is the fact that the 74 who were denied visas provided evidence that should have convinced the U.S. consuls in all these areas."

A State Department spokesperson said the U.S. holds a high standard when considering visa applicants that, unfortunately, often leads to denials for those who cannot provide sufficient evidence of returning to their homelands.

"It's not about the conference, it's about the applicant. And each one has to demonstrate that they qualify for the visa in accordance with the law," said Rosemary Macray, spokeswoman for the Bureau of Consular Affairs with the U.S. State Department.

Applicants must show "a wealth of information and need to show strong ties to their home country and convince the adjudicating officer beyond a shadow of a doubt that they will return to their home country after their stay in the U.S." she said.

Ongoing visa problems, however, could prompt some leaders to rethink holding future conferences in the U.S.

"Of course, states have to protect themselves," Callam said. "We must take that into account. But it would be very unfortunate if the U.S. had to be eliminated from the list of places to hold meetings." (RNS)

With additional reporting by Associated Baptist Press

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## Religion & the Prop 8 ruling

*Is judge's decision an attempt to eliminate faith from public square?*

By Daniel Burke

San Francisco—When U.S. District Judge Vaughn Walker struck down California's Proposition 8 Aug. 4, he said voters' motivation for outlawing same-sex marriage was clear.

"The evidence shows conclusively that moral and religious views form the only basis for a belief that same-sex couples are different from opposite-sex couples," Walker wrote in his sweeping, 136-page decision.

"These interests do not provide a rational basis for supporting Proposition 8."

Religion, in Walker's reasoning, amounts to a "private moral view," which should not infringe upon the constitutional rights of others.

While some legal scholars say Walker's decision lands on firm legal ground—a law must advance a secular purpose to pass constitutional muster—some religious leaders accuse the judge of trying to scrub faith from the public square.

"Judge Walker claimed to read the minds of California's voters, arguing that the majority voted for Proposition 8 based on religious opposition to homosexuality, which he then rejected as an illegitimate state interest," Southern Baptist Theological Seminary President Albert Mohler wrote in an online column.

"In essence, this establishes secularism as the only acceptable basis for moral judgment on the part of voters," he added.

On Aug. 5, Prop 8's supporters filed an appeal of Walker's decision. Jim Campbell, an attorney with the Alliance Defense Fund, a conservative Christian law firm involved in the litigation, said the religious freedom argument will play an important role as the case moves up the federal judicial ladder—including, potentially, the Supreme Court.

"At bottom, our strategy here is, and has always been, that in this country we should respect the rights of the people when they do what they have always done: vote based on their religious and moral convictions," Campbell noted.

Abolitionists, anti-abortion activists and civ-

il rights activists all have been motivated by personal faith, Campbell argued. "To be blunt, we felt (Walker's decision) was an all-out attack on religion."

Walker did note, however, that no religion will be forced to perform same-sex weddings.

Walker devoted several pages in his ruling to identifying religion as a prime source of anti-gay animus, listing examples from the Southern Baptist Convention and the Vatican, and noting that 84 percent of weekly churchgoers voted in favor of Prop 8, according to a CNN exit poll.

As if to prove Walker's point, Los Angeles Cardinal Roger Mahony released a statement after the ruling that said, "Those of us who supported Prop 8 and worked for its passage did so for one reason: We truly believe that marriage was instituted by God for the specific purpose of carrying out God's plan for the world and human society. Period."

Still, some religious leaders take issue with Walker's conclusion that "religious beliefs that gay and lesbian relationships are sinful or inferior to heterosexual relationships harm gays and lesbians."

"If religion is considered the chief obstacle to gay and lesbian political progress, then it would seem to follow that the state has an obligation to remove that obstacle," said R.R. Reno, a senior editor at First Things, a Catholic journal based in New York.

"That's not going to happen, because the First Amendment protects religious expression," but it could lead to a sidelining of faith in political debate, Reno noted.

Sister Mary Ann Walsh, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, said Walker is wrong on the law and the church's theology. The Roman Catholic Church holds that homosexuality is not sinful in itself, but that homosexual acts are.

"Freedom of religion and freedom of speech allow us to speak without his deeming us harmful," Walsh said. "Our teaching is our teaching." (RNS)

### I miss them already!

**Oneida president enjoys a break from students, but soon longs for their return**

There is a commercial on TV you likely have seen where the mother is standing in the kitchen apparently preparing a meal. Her son is standing next to her and a daughter walks in. The conversation is about Dad, who has just left on a business trip. At first they talk about how they are not going to miss fighting over the remote or the corny jokes, and they won't miss his snoring and so on. There is a slight pause, then they all agree that they miss him already.

That's the way it is here when our students are gone. When they are here, they command our attention 24/7. We are responsible for them night and day. When they oversleep, we wake them up. When they don't do their homework, we encourage them, and when they misbehave—they do that, you know—we correct them. Having that responsibility 24 hours a day can be a little draining.

When the students left last week for a short break before returning for the fall term, it was nice to get up the next morning and think, "Today I can think about things without the responsibility of having the students here to keep an eye on." It was nice the first day or two and then, as it always happens, I began to think about how many days before they return—another whole week!

I first began to miss them when a severe wind and rain storm passed right over this part of the county the day after they left. The weather service issued a warning of winds up to 60 miles per hour. A few minutes later the warning was amended to winds up to 70 miles per hour. I

was outside when the storm hit. I guess I've seen stronger winds, but I don't remember when. A "pop" here and a "crack" there told me that large limbs and even some trees were breaking under the stress. About an hour later, the rain stopped and I walked around the campus to survey the damage.

Leaves were everywhere! In the center of our campus there were about a dozen rather large limbs. Hundreds of smaller twigs and limbs were scattered all over. It was a mess! I knew I had several new students scheduled for an interview in two days and my staff was on vacation while our students were not here. It would have taken me hours, possibly days, to clean up the mess. If my students had been here, I could have assigned six or eight of them to pick up the limbs.

When I took my orientation tour with our prospective students I had to apologize at nearly every turn for the clutter scattered everywhere. Then I had to explain that we had just had a severe wind storm and that normally our students would have been here to help clean up the mess. But they were not here and, therefore, the mess would have to remain until their return.

I am sure that most of our friends know Oneida has never employed a janitor or custodian. We entrust the cleaning of our buildings and grounds to our students, who learn important work ethics from their Oneida experiences.

Yes, I was glad the students were gone for a few days, but I miss them already—just like in the commercial!

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

#### This is Oneida



W.F. Underwood

### Back to school

**Clear Creek's fall semester brings new crop of students**

It's back-to-school time at Clear Creek. Orientation week is over and our fall semester is underway.

This time of year always brings excitement back to our campus after the long summer break.

It is exciting to meet the new students and hear them share how God is working in their lives. They always are excited about getting started with their studies that first week. That is, until they get those first syllabi; then it's syllabus shock for a few days.

This fall we praise the Lord for 44 new degree-seeking students who have affirmed to us they are following God's call to Clear Creek. We count it an honor to be used of God to provide training for them.

God continues to call Clear Creek students from all walks of life, from all over the country and to different avenues of study. Nearly 30 of these students will live on campus and study full time. Sixteen of our new students will study online, taking advantage of our bachelor's degree now being offered on the Internet.

The average age of our new students is 30 years old. Twenty-seven of our students are married and 17 are single. These new students come

to us from 11 states. We have 21 students from Kentucky; 10 from Tennessee; four from Ohio; two from Virginia; and one each from Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, New York, North Carolina and Wisconsin. More than 20 of these new students have previous college experience.

The students' previous professions and fields of business include: pastor; student pastor; missionary; sales; health care; registered nurse; homemaker; carpenter; machinist; mail carrier; production worker; teacher; cosmetologist; restaurant worker; phlebotomist; clerical worker; and radio host.

We are proud to be "the" Bible college of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Thank you for your support that enables us to fulfill our mission to equip these God-called students for ministry. Your support is an investment in kingdom work that God uses all over the world. Please pray for these students as they continue to follow God's call in their lives.

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

#### Clear Creek Chronicle



Donnie Fox

## Mission:Dignity

### KBF works with GuideStone to assist retired ministers

Many of you may not realize how many men and women there are who served God's people faithfully across the years and now find themselves struggling to meet even their basic needs. Most of these served as pastors in small, rural churches that paid them very modest salaries and could not afford to contribute to their retirements. In many instances they had to work extra jobs just to make ends meet.

Mission:Dignity is the name GuideStone Financial Resources—formerly the Annuity Board, SBC—has given that part of its mission which provides “relief” assistance to these needy retired ministers and their widows. GuideStone currently pays out \$6 million per year to assist 2,000 retired ministers and spouses across the U.S. with extra money for housing, food and medications while seeking to ensure a well-deserved dignity and independence.

You will be pleased to know your Kentucky Baptist Foundation partners with GuideStone in supplementing those Mission:Dignity recipients living in Kentucky. This supplement is provided from the

earnings of the Baptist Ministers' Aid Endowment Fund which was established 122 years ago. Currently we are providing \$275,000 per year to 91 Kentucky recipients ranging from \$200 to \$530 per month.

You can participate in this important ministry by sending a designated gift directly to GuideStone and/or the KBF. Your gift can be in the form of a check, appreciated assets, a beneficiary designation of life insurance or retirement account, and/or a bequest in your will.

For more information about this ministry and how you can support it, visit [MissionDignitySBC.org](http://MissionDignitySBC.org), call toll free (888) 984-8433, or call me toll free at (866) 489-3421.

What an opportunity to assist a generation of God-called servants, who loved their churches, and their churches loved them, but for whom planning for the future was not emphasized when they began serving. They went into the ministry with no turning back. They trusted the Lord to provide, and they put the needs of their churches first. Now they need and deserve our help.

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

### KENTUCKY BAPTIST FOUNDATION



Barry Allen

## Hospital stay sparked unique, more intentional small group

By Polly House  
LifeWay Christian Resources

Ridgecrest, N.C.—Bruce Raley was lying in a hospital bed, hooked up to a heart monitor on a Sunday morning when he heard God tell him, “Bruce, you are glad there are people who are not in church today.”

Raley had noticed the clock in his hospital room: 11:00 a.m.

“I began to pray for the morning worship service at church when, during my prayer, God told me I was a hypocrite. I was glad people weren't in Sunday school and church,” Raley recalled.

That startled Raley, who was a minister of education in Panama City, Fla., at the time.

“He continued to impress upon me that I really was glad the nurses were at the hospital, ready to rush in if my monitor indicated a problem,” he said. “I was glad my doctor was there, ready to rush in if I had a problem. I was even glad that the hospital food staff was there to cook my breakfast. Then worst of all, I was really, really glad the waitresses at Applebee's restaurant didn't go to church so they could be there ready to serve me since I went there for lunch just about every Sunday.”

That started Raley thinking, he said: What if their church could start a small-group Bible study at the hospital? He found out the people least likely to be able to go to church were those working the 11 p.m.-7 a.m. shift.

“We started a Bible study that met at 10 p.m. on Saturday night for the staff that couldn't manage get-



**GREAT GROUPS** Bruce Raley, director of LifeWay's leadership and evangelism area, compares traditional Sunday school with small-group ministry during the Build Great Groups 4G Panel focusing on Sunday school and small groups.

ting to church on Sunday morning,” Raley said. “We had about 30 people involved.”

From that encounter with God, Raley said he realized churches were going to have to become intentional about offering people times other than Sunday morning for Bible studies, prayer, discipleship and fellowship. Since that time, he said he has kept that in his heart.

“We don't have the ‘blue laws’ anymore,” he pointed out. “Our culture doesn't stop on Sunday morning and give people the time to go to church. Since so many of them can't come to us, we have to figure out a way to go to them.”

## LifeWay's 4G Conference

# Groups can change people, churches

By Polly House  
LifeWay Christian Resources

Ridgecrest, N.C.—Genuine personal transformation best takes place in a small-group setting. People rarely change in large groups because large groups don't offer opportunities for intimate relationships with others.

That was the message of the inaugural 4G conference sponsored by LifeWay Christian Resources at the Ridgecrest Conference Center last month.

The conference focused on four groups in the local church—Sunday school, small groups, discipleship groups and missional groups—and how each of them offers something different to its members. One person might belong to any or all of these groups at any given time.

David Francis, LifeWay's director of Sunday school and discipleship; Bruce Raley, LifeWay's director of leadership and evangelism; and Rick Howerton, LifeWay's small groupologist, each described these groups (see descriptions below). Conference participants also had the opportunity to learn from several experts specializing in each of the group types.

Willmore native **Lyman Coleman** is considered the father of small groups as they are known today. For 50 years his philosophy of small groups has been that they should be places of safety and healing, as well as intimacy and relationships.

Throughout the event, Coleman led participants in exercises designed to demonstrate in a few hours—rather than a few weeks or months—the path for leading people into community and deep relationship with a small group of people. Developing these intimate human relationships, Coleman stressed, will lead individual small-group members into deeper relationships with Christ.

**Claude King**, a LifeWay discipleship specialist, co-author of “Experiencing God” and author of “The Call to Follow Christ” series, led a workshop on discipleship ministry.

“In the Great Commission, Christ told us that He had the authority and He was giving us a command,” King said. “He didn't say to go make decisions. He said to go make disciples. He told us to go teach people to do all that He had commanded. That is a big order.”

King offered examples of what he considers ex-

cellent discipleship resources, including “Experiencing God,” “MasterLife,” “The Mind of Christ” and others.

“But if people don't want to be a disciple,” King cautioned, “we can't force it. We can't make it happen. Only God can turn hearts back to Him.”

**Jim Putman**, pastor of Real Life Ministries in Post Falls, Idaho, served as both a conference leader and a keynote speaker. The church he leads was planted in 1998 by four families and has grown to an average attendance of more than 8,000.

“Our goal is to create biblical disciples in relational environments,” he said. “I believe we have moved past the post-Christian culture and have moved into a pre-Christian culture. People in my area have moved so far away from the Bible and Christianity that they don't even have a context for sin. They don't even know they are sinners. They just figure they're as good as anyone else.”

The church offers hundreds of small groups. Rather than grouping by affinity, the groups tend to be geographical. “It just seems to make a lot of sense to us to have people involved in a group near where they live.”

**Dennis Pethers**, founder of Viz-A-Viz Ministries and author of “More to Life,” discussed how to incorporate evangelism into everyday life.

Pethers said that in early 1900, 94 percent of people in England attended church on a regular basis. Just 100 years later, it's a mere 4 percent.

“What happened was people stopped sending their children to Sunday school,” he said, explaining that in the United Kingdom, where he's from, Sunday school is just for children.

“As a result, it took only four generations until children had no one in their lives or families that had ever attended church,” he noted. “They ceased to have anyone in their sphere of influence who went to church or knew anything about it.”

Pethers said that's why personal one-on-one evangelism is the most effective means of sharing the gospel. He defined evangelism as “leaving the person I met with a better understanding of God than they would have had if they'd never met me.”

Today, he said, people are meeting all over England in coffeehouses to talk about the Bible and to share their Christ experiences with other people.



**BUILDING SMALL GROUPS** From left rear, clockwise: Arnette Rhein, Penny Bradburg, Hal Howard and Sam Galloway share information about themselves during the first “Experiencing It with Lyman Coleman” session during the 4G Conference. (Photos by Kent Harville/LifeWay)

## 4G: The four groups defined

### Sunday school

The strategy most American churches utilize as “step two” in their disciple-making process (worship attendance being step one), it is designed to be made up of open groups that expect new people every week. Effective classes in the modern Sunday school movement strive to remain open by striking a careful balance between experiencing deep biblical community—a key promise of the small-group movement—and applying deep biblical content—the hallmark of the discipleship movement. Unlike groups in those movements, which often meet at various occasions and locations, Sunday school classes typically meet before or after a church's primary weekend worship experience at or near the church campus.

### Small groups

It is the area of the church where community and relationships are more important than what is being taught. In many churches today, these small groups are taking the place of tra-

ditional discipleship groups. Small groups usually are closed groups where a few people (generally 12 or fewer) develop close, meaningful relationships.

### Discipleship groups

These groups are defined as the places where people are transformed into Christ-likeness so that they think and act like Christ. These groups traditionally come together to study a biblically based curriculum that leads members to a deeper understanding of a spiritual concept. These groups can be open or closed.

### Missional groups

These groups generally are formed around a specific task that takes members outside the church walls to impact others. Examples of missional groups could include a mission team on a specific mission trip or a ministry such as English as a Second Language classes. These groups can be open or closed, short-term or ongoing, depending on the activity.

**House churches growing in popularity**

Ventura, Calif.— In what is called a throwback to the early Christian church, more Americans are choosing house churches over traditional worship centers.

The Barna Group estimates that 6 million to 12 million Americans attend house churches, and the Pew Forum says 9 percent of American Protestants attend only home services, the Associated Press reported July 21.

House churches are part of what experts say is “a fundamental shift in the way U.S. Christians think about church. Skip the sermons, costly church buildings and large, faceless crowds, they say. House church is about relationships forged in small faith communities,” AP reported.

Ed Stetzer of LifeWay Research was quoted as saying part of the appeal of the house church movement is a desire to “return to a simpler expression of church,” and for many, “they just want to live like the Bible.”

House churches, AP said, emphasize shared leadership and lack hierarchy, and some see it as an alternative to paying an educated pastor during tough economic times. (BP)

**MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI**

COMPILED BY STAFF

■ **CAMPBELLSVILLE**—Saloma Church will celebrate its 59th anniversary with homecoming services Aug. 22, 10 a.m. A potluck meal and concert featuring **The Crossroads Quartet** will follow the morning services. **John Chowning** is pastor.

■ **COX'S CREEK**—New Salem Church recently called **Jon Gann** as youth pastor. **Richard McPheeters** is pastor.

■ **FRANKFORT**—Buck Run Church will host **Allison Durham Speer** in concert Aug. 23, 6:30 p.m. For more information, call (502) 695-4050. **Her-shael York** is pastor.

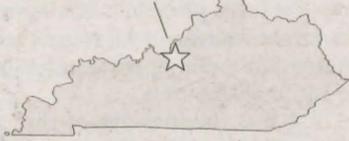
■ **LEXINGTON**—**Donna Bonner** recently resigned as minister of music at Grace Church.

■ **OWENSBORO**—Wing Avenue Church will host **Berdena Carpenter** in concert Aug. 22, 6 p.m. For more information, call (270) 683-9679. **Anthony Cobb** is pastor.

■ **PRESTONSBURG**—First Church ordained **Chris Kazee** to the gospel ministry Aug. 8. **Jerry Workman** is pastor.

**Spotlight on ...**

**Shepherdsville**



Mount Zion Church will hold Family and Friends Day Aug. 22, 11 a.m., with special music at 2 p.m. **Billy Jenkins** is pastor.

■ **PRINCETON**—Sugar Creek Church recently called **Danny Sherrill** as pastor. He previously was youth and children's minister at Walnut Grove Church in Fredonia.

■ **SHELBYVILLE**—First Church recently called **David Menser** as minister of children and family life. **Steve Rice** is pastor.

■ **WINGO**—Wingo Church ordained **Micah Spicer** to the gospel ministry Aug. 15. **Scott Soloway** is pastor.

**Ministers urged to get more rest**

Durham, N.C.—Research indicates that church leaders now suffer from obesity, hypertension and depression at higher rates than most Americans, according to The New York Times.

Just in the past decade, the newspaper said, clergy's use of antidepressants has risen and their life expectancy has fallen. A simple solution, some say, is for ministers to take more time off.

“We had a pastor in our study group who hadn't taken a vacation in 18 years,” Rae Jean Proeschold-Bell, an assistant professor of health research at Duke University, told the newspaper. “These people tend to be driven by a sense of duty to God to answer every call for help from anybody, and they are virtually called upon all the time, 24/7.”

Cell phones and social media have added new levels of stress, The

New York Times noted, and soaring health care costs have prompted some denominations to launch wellness campaigns urging ministers to get some rest.

“Time away can bring renewal and help prevent burnout,” a 2006 directive from the United Methodist Church said. Other denominations have placed a special emphasis on the importance of “Sabbath days,” weekdays off in place of Sundays.

The Rabbinical Assembly, an international association of conservative rabbis, now recommends three or four months off every three or four years.

“There is a deep concern about stress,” Rabbi Joel Meyers told The Times. “Rabbis today are expected to be the CEO of the congregation and the spiritual guide, and never be out of town if somebody dies. And reply instantly to every e-mail.” (BP)

**KBC CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**August**

21 Super Saturday, Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington.

28 Super Saturday, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

**September**

4-6 Wrangler Trail Ride, Land Between the Lakes.

11 Super Saturday, Lone Oak First Baptist Church, Paducah; University of the Cumberlands, Williamsburg.

18 Children in Action Missions Day Camp, Pleasant View Baptist Church, Waynesburg.

18 Super Saturday, First Baptist Church, Bowling Green; First Baptist Church, Russell.

20-21 Kentucky Baptist Ministers' Golf Tournament, Cherry Blossom Golf & Country Club, Georgetown.

21 Understanding Other Beliefs, Unity Baptist Church, Richmond.

23-24 Kentucky Baptist Men's Chorale Fall Retreat, First Baptist Church, Owensboro.

24-25 Kentucky Baptist Women's Chorale Fall Retreat, First Baptist Church, Owensboro.

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

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**FREE** (for church): Yamaha Electone organ, Model E-3. Two, 5-octave keyboards and one, 2-octave pedalboard, internal speaker. Looks sharp, fair condition. Call (606) 678-4159, ask for Marvin Reynolds.

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**OPPORTUNITY:** If you are interested in becoming a lay-led revival leader or in preaching in a lay-led revival, call Jerry at (502) 531-0396.

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**SEEKING:** Bivocational pastor for Oneida Baptist Church. Send resumé to Ruth Ann Powell, 578 Newfound Road, Oneida, KY 40972.

**SEEKING:** Full-time minister of family and community outreach for Great Bridge Baptist Church, located in Chesapeake, Va. This is a new and exciting opportunity for our church and community. Great Bridge Baptist is a family and mission-oriented church with an average attendance of 700-900. To learn more about our church and this ministry position, please visit our website at www.greatbridgebaptist.org. Prospective candidates should have a postgraduate degree from a reputable seminary and practical experience in the ministry field. Strong administrative and supervisory skills are required. Candidates should be capable of recruiting and training leaders; must be family and community focused and possess strong interpersonal skills. The ideal candidate should be creative and passionate about teaching and be able to participate in staffing the pulpit when needed. Interested candidates should submit their resúmes to personnel@greatbridgebaptist.org.

**SEEKING:** Liberty Avenue Baptist Church is seeking God's man who is called to be our youth pastor. The position will begin as part time and by the grace and power of God will grow into a full-time position as God grows His youth group and church. We have been and are praying for you; please pray, listen and obey. Send resumé: Liberty Avenue Baptist Church, 273 Mt. Vernon Road, Berea, KY 40403; or labc@windstream.net.

**SEEKING:** Full-time teaching pastor for contemporary, elder-led SBC church. Primary responsibilities include teaching during the weekly Sunday worship service, serving as an active member of the Elder Board, coordinating Christian education and discipleship, and supervising ministerial and office staff. Salary commensurate with education and experience. Send resumé to Teaching Pastor Search Committee, Highland Hills Baptist Church, 638 Highland Ave., Fort Thomas, KY 41075-1747; or e-mail to pastor search@highlandhills.org. Our website is www.highlandhills.org.

**SEEKING:** Western Recorder is currently receiving resúmes for the position of partnership editions editor, which provides editing and layout services to assist our six partnering conventions in producing state Baptist newspapers. Resúmes may be sent to Western Recorder, PO Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253; or e-mail to Todd Deaton@WesternRecorder.org. Resúmes will be accepted through Aug. 15.

**SEEKING:** Full-time pastor of students for Zion Baptist Church in Henderson. Candidate must have 5 years leadership experience, be visionary in student ministries, a team player, highly relational with students and families, and passionate about reaching youth and families for Christ. Responsible for development and leadership of all student ministries, middle school through collegiate. Resúmes should be sent to Zion Baptist Church, 8158 Hwy. 351, Henderson, KY 42420.

**SEEKING:** Highly motivated and called student minister (part-time) to lead and grow outstanding youth group. Details at drippingspring.com. Submit resúmes to jk wilson@hhsheet metal.com.

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister of music at Bruners Chapel Baptist Church in Harrodsburg, Ky. Send resumé to: hedgespethsmith@hotmail.com.

**TOURS:** “Footsteps of Jesus” Tour, departing Nashville, March 14, only \$2,689. Contact Pastor Jack Studie, (270) 889-7604; or jstodie@aol.com.

**COSBE officers elected**



The Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists recently elected its new officers for 2010-11. The new officers (from left to right) are Braxton Hunter, Trinity Crusades for Christ, president; Dean Forrest, Forrest Ministries, Inc., vice president; Reggie Lafaye, Mr. Gospel Sax, music leader; Russ Johnson, RK Praise Music, Inc., recording secretary; Cindy Hogue, Randy Hogue Ministries, secretary/treasurer; Sid Peterson, Sid Peterson Evangelistic Association, parliamentarian; Eric Ramsey, Tom Cox World Ministries, assistant music leader; Neal Hughes, coordinator for mass evangelism and pilot projects, North American Mission Board, NAMB liaison. Now in its 52nd year, COSBE is a Southern Baptist Convention-endorsed organization of some 200 certified, full-time vocational evangelists. For more information, visit www.SBCEvangelist.org.

Mike Morgan



### Craig's fun

By Todd and Michelle Deaton

"Oh, come on. It will be funny," Craig Crab said, holding a spider crab over Syd Squid's backpack.

"No way! Syd won't like being pinched," said Sunny Starfish.

"You'll get in trouble," warned Seamore Seahorse.

"Aw, you're such a goody two-shoes," replied Craig. "You don't know how to have fun."

"Yow!" Syd yelled when she reached into her backpack to get her math book. Craig burst out laughing.

"That's not funny," Syd said, glaring at Craig.

During recess, Eve Eel slithered over to Craig. "S-s-some may not have thought your trick was funny, but I s-s-sure liked it," she told him. "S-s-stick with me, and I'll s-s-show you how to have s-s-some real fun," Eve coaxed.

Craig and Eve began looking for ways to play tricks on the other Cove Kids. At first, it seemed like harmless pranks. But soon, they were getting into more trouble.

In gym class, Eve gave chewing gum to Craig. "S-s-stick this on the bottom of their s-s-shoes," she instructed. Craig tried hard to keep from laughing.

"Yuk! This is so gross!" cried Clarice Clam.

"Craig, that's not funny!" Seamore exclaimed.

In science class, Craig hid the chalk. Eve then whispered, "You s-s-should erase all of the homework assignments. No one will s-s-suspect that you did it."

But while he erased the board, Eve played a trick of her own. She slipped the eraser into Craig's desk.

When it was time to go to the library, Mrs. Tidewater pointed to where she had written the assignments on the board. "Who erased the board?" she demanded.

Everyone looked at Craig, who was trying hard not to laugh.

"Since no one will admit to it, we will do twice as much homework tomorrow to make up the missed work," she said.

But as Craig was putting his science book into his desk, the eraser fell out. Everyone saw it.

"Craig, that's not funny," Sunny glared.

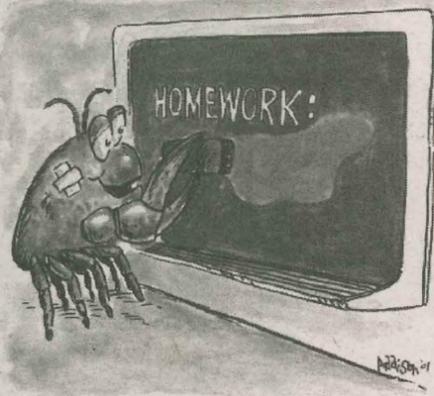
"Yeah," Lenny Lobster added, "because of you, we will have more homework tomorrow."

But Craig still had not learned his lesson.

"Are we having fun yet?" Eve asked, sneaking up on Craig from behind in the library. "I've got another s-s-suggestion for you. If you s-s-switch all the books around on the library s-s-shelves, no one will be able to find the books they want," she snickered.

Eve spied an open glue bottle on a craft table, and she purposely knocked it over. "Oops," she giggled, as glue spilled on some books. "S-s-shut the books s-s-so no one will s-s-see," she told Craig.

As he did, Eve secretly slipped the glue bottle into Craig's pocket. When the librarian asked who spilled the glue, the Cove Kids looked at each other and shrugged. Craig shrugged, too. But Ollie Oyster saw the bottle sticking out of Craig's pocket.



### Treasure Hunt

What were some of the tricks that Craig Crab played on the other Cove Kids? How did they feel about his kind of fun?

How did following Eve Eel get Craig into trouble? How would you answer Craig's last question?

Read 3 John 11 together.

"Craig, that's not funny," Ollie said.

"No, it isn't," agreed Mrs. Tidewater. "Now some of the pages are stuck together."

As a punishment, Craig had to work in the library for three weeks during recess. He didn't have any fun at all.

"I just wanted to have some fun," he whined. "What's so wrong with that?"

### For Heaven's Sake



### Preacher's Kids

David Ayers



### Bible Crosswords

Cheryl Keiser

#### Across

- 1 "They had ordained them elders in every \_\_\_\_" (Acts 14:23)
- 6 "Better is a dry \_\_\_\_, and quietness therewith, than an house full of sacrifices with strife" (Proverbs 17:1)
- 11 "It is a \_\_\_\_ thing that the king requireth" (Daniel 2:11)
- 12 North central state whose capital is Madison, abbr.
- 13 J, K, L, \_\_, \_\_, \_\_
- 14 American traitor, Benedict \_\_\_\_
- 15 Strange
- 16 South American language, abbr.
- 17 Do, \_\_\_\_, mi
- 18 Carpet
- 19 Hawaiian standard time, abbr.
- 20 "\_\_\_\_ out heaven with the span" (Isaiah 40:12)
- 22 "How long ... \_\_\_\_ thou be quiet?" (Jeremiah 47:6)
- 23 Assigned a monetary punishment
- 24 "They make a noise like a \_\_\_\_" (Psalms 59:6)
- 27 Curt
- 30 Do over, prefix
- 32 "Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the \_\_\_\_" (Matthew 27:50)
- 35 Exist
- 36 Adam's wife
- 38 "To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the \_\_\_\_ of life" (Revelation 2:7)
- 39 To arrange or plan
- 40 Help
- 41 This man had 454 descendents who escaped captivity in Babylon (Ezra 2:15)

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

- 44 Tender loving care, abbr.
- 45 "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye \_\_\_\_" (2 Corinthians 6:17)
- 46 Note of debt
- 48 Son of Judah (Genesis 38:4)
- 49 "And David was the \_\_\_\_ (son of Jesse)" (1 Samuel 17:14)
- 50 Degrees, suffix

- 20 "According to the working of his \_\_\_\_ power" (Ephesians 1:19)
- 21 Nervous
- 23 Haze
- 24 What a spider spins
- 25 "I rejoiced \_\_\_\_" (3 John 3)
- 28 "A \_\_\_\_ shall be saved" (Romans 9:27)
- 29 "The brightness of his glory, and the \_\_\_\_ image of his person" (Hebrews 1:3)
- 31 "The tree of knowledge of good and \_\_\_\_" (Genesis 2:9)
- 33 Either
- 34 Kettle
- 37 European Defense Community, abbr.
- 42 "Sons of \_\_\_\_" (Genesis 46:23)
- 43 Modern Persia
- 45 "If any man will \_\_\_\_ thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have thy cloke also" (Matthew 5:40)
- 46 The opposite of out
- 47 King of Bashan (Joshua 13:12)

#### Down

- 1 Smash
- 2 "\_\_\_\_ and psalteries for singers" (2 Chronicles 9:11)
- 3 Vase
- 4 Unidentified virus, prefix
- 5 "None of these things are \_\_\_\_ from him" (Acts 26:26)
- 6 Megawatts, abbr.
- 7 Kind of bread that Moses put in Aaron's hands for a wave offering to the Lord (Leviticus 8:26-27)
- 8 Campfire treat made from graham cracker, marshmallow, and chocolate
- 9 Lasts
- 10 "We have both straw and provender enough, and room to \_\_\_\_ in" (Genesis 24:25)
- 17 "Though (your sins) be \_\_\_\_ like crimson, they shall be as wool" (Isaiah 1:18)

#### Last week's solution

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11			
C	H	A	P	S	M	I	D	C	H	A	S		
A	E	R	O	E	T	E	O	O	L	A			
L	E	W	R	E	S	V	A	I	N				
S	I	D	E	P	E	R	P	L	E	X	E	D	
		21	R	I	D	22	I	A	N				
23	24	25	E	D	S	26	S	T	P	A	U	L	S
N	A	S	O	D	I	E	32	N	S	A	S		
S	T	A	M	E	R	35	S	T	A	B	S		
		36	I	A	L	37	S	O	B				
38	39	40	N	D	A	N	T	G	R	42	43	44	
A	B	U	N	D	A	N	T	G	R	A	C	E	
45	R	O	N	I	46	Y	E	A	47	A	L	A	S
A	N	N	O	E	R	I	50	K	I	S	S		
51	M	E	I	N	52	D	I	N	53	E	T	T	E

# It's back to school in Kentucky.



## Do they dread coming home?

Kentucky kids will be back in school this month but for thousands, the school day provides only a few hours of escape from a home filled with abuse and neglect.

Sunrise Children's Services is committed to ministering to these children by giving them a safe, stable refuge through our network of foster homes, residential programs or counseling services.

Your continued prayers and support are vital to keeping these Kentucky children safe.

**SUNRISE CHILDREN'S SERVICES**  
(800) 456-1386  
[www.SUNRISE.org](http://www.SUNRISE.org)

