

Shine like stars in the world
Philippians 2:15

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FOR THE RECORD



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Ky. Great Commission Task Force releases report

Recommendations call for across-the-board budget cuts, increased CP giving from churches

By Drew Nichter
News Director

Louisville—After eight months of discussions, the Kentucky Great Commission Task Force released its report late last week.

The report contains four recommendations that will be voted on by Kentucky Baptist Convention messengers at the Nov. 16 annual meeting in Lexington.

Among the recommendations is a call for the KBC Mission Board to move to a reallocation of Cooperative Program funds that results in a 50 percent split of CP receipts (after shared administrative expenses) between the KBC and the Southern Baptist Convention by 2017-18.

Recommendation No. 2, described by task force chairman Hershael York as “the one that’ll certainly

get the most discussion,” calls for the KBC to start by moving to a 53.28/46.72 percentage allocation split between the KBC and SBC, respectively, for the 2011-12 Cooperative Program budget.

By comparison, the 2010-11 fiscal year budget, which begins Sept. 1, includes a 62 percent CP allocation for KBC ministries, while 38 percent goes to the SBC. “That’s a pretty radical cut in the first year,” acknowledged York, pastor of Buck Run Baptist Church in Frankfort.

In order to accomplish this, the KBC and all of its partnering entities will be required to reduce their budgets by at least 6 percent starting

with the 2011-12 fiscal year.

According to the task force’s report, there will be a KBC Mission Board staff reduction of 12 percent and a total Mission Board budget reduction of 9.85 percent.

KBC institutions, Campbellsville University and University of the Cumberlands, will absorb an additional 7 percent budget cut. York said

the colleges’ reductions would total \$192,000, which is nearly equal to the reallocated funds the schools have been receiving since Georgetown College’s departure from the convention last year.

In addition to the required 6 percent cut, Kentucky Woman’s Mis-

sionary Union will reduce its budget 3.85 percent to match the KBC Mission Board’s reduction.

Recommendation No. 2 also calls for eliminating the convention’s annuity contributions for pastors and church staff members—a \$400,000 reduction. York said the task force did not, however, opt to do away with the \$400,000 contribution that goes for ministers’ protection, disability and term life insurance.

The report states that in order to achieve a 50/50 allocation split by 2017-18, the Mission Board would make incremental adjustments in years two through seven of the plan.

According to the CP Distribution Plan document released with the report, the CP allocation at the end of the seven years essentially would be

To read the Kentucky Great Commission Task Force report in its entirety, turn to page 3.

□ See State task force ... *Page 2*



Chuck Lawless (left), dean of the Billy Graham School of Missions and Evangelism at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, brings a word of encouragement to the Super Saturday crowd, while Steve Gray, worship pastor at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington, helps lead a time of worship. Nearly 500 people attended the first of six Super Saturday events in Lexington last weekend. (Photos by Drew Nichter)

Annual Check-up

Lawless tells Super Saturday crowd, ‘Training matters’

Lexington—With the goal of gaining healthier ministries, nearly 500 people showed up last weekend for the annual Super Saturday at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington.

The first of six Super Saturday events statewide, it featured workshops led by Kentucky Baptist church and denominational leaders.

During the opening session, Chuck Lawless commended those in attendance for their willingness to learn and be trained. “Training matters; we must do what we’re doing today,” Lawless stressed.

“This task is bigger than any of us,” he added. “And the task before us is so great that we really cannot do this and make any sense of eternal difference in our own power.”

Lawless pointed out that the shepherd boy David, too, faced a great task—the giant Goliath.

The Philistine warrior’s armor is described in great detail in 1 Samuel 17, frequently pointing out how big Goliath is and just how small David is, Lawless said.

But, he added, “God is reminding us that the battle that is about to take place is not one that is fought with human means.”

With armed only a sling and rocks, David slays Goliath. “The shepherd boy knows how to fight,” Lawless said. “The Lord must fight the battles for him.”

However, as David gets older and becomes king, he begins to rely on his own power, Lawless pointed out.

In 1 Chronicles 21, David takes a census in Israel. □ See Lawless warns Ky. Baptists ... *Page 6*

Study finds prayer aids relationships

Charlottesville, Va.—The old adage “couples who pray together stay together” may be true, especially for African-Americans, a recent study shows.

The survey of religion, race and relationships found that African-Americans attend church more as couples compared to members of other racial and ethnic groups.

Four in 10 African-American respondents said they attended services regularly as a couple, according to a study published in the *Journal of Marriage and Family*. In comparison, 31 percent of Mexican-Americans, and 29 percent of whites, said they regularly shared a pew.

“Without prayer, black couples would be doing significantly worse than white couples,” said W. Bradford Wilcox, a co-author of the study and director of the National Marriage Project at the University of Virginia. “The vitality of African-Americans’ religious lives gives them an advantage over other Americans when it comes to relationships. This advantage puts them on par with other couples.”

In addition to worshipping together, African-Americans were found to be more likely than non-Hispanic whites to participate in prayer and Scripture studies at home.

In general, researchers found that people in same-faith relationships and partners who attended services regularly were more satisfied with their relationships.

But scholars said religion may not always help couples. Those with divergent religious beliefs and worship attendance tend not to be as happy in their relationships. (RNS)

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Ashland pastor Floyd Paris to be KBC presidential nominee

By Drew Nichter
News Director

Pikeville—Floyd Paris, pastor of Unity Baptist Church in Ashland, will be nominated as Kentucky Baptist Convention president when the KBC annual meeting convenes Nov. 16 in Lexington.

Paris, a former Kentucky Baptist Pastors' Conference president, will be nominated by Paul Badgett, pastor of First Baptist Church of Pikeville, who served as KBC president in 2002-03.

Paris is the second announced candidate for the presidential post. Butch Tanner, pastor of Red House Baptist Church in Richmond, also is a nominee.

This year will mark the first since 2006 that two candidates will oppose one another for any KBC office. In the last three years, all KBC officers ran unopposed and were elected by acclamation.

In announcing the nomination, Badgett said Paris is focused on evangelism and "leading people to Christ."

"I think Floyd is a guy that can lead us as a convention to give more for Christ

and reach more people with the gospel," Badgett noted, adding that Paris also can lead state churches to increase Cooperative Program and missions giving.

"He's not a guy that just talks about it, he's a guy that does it," Badgett said of Paris.

Badgett explained that Paris was on the brink of being nominated for KBC president last year, but the sudden death of his wife, Penne, in May 2009 put those plans aside.

This year, Badgett said he wants to nominate Paris and "do what a lot of guys felt like we needed to do last year."

Regarding the loss of his wife, Paris said he chose not to run for KBC president last year out of concern for his daughter, who was a senior in high school at the time.

"I thought it would require too much time for me to be away from her," Paris recalled.

Now that he is a candidate, Paris said he wants to focus on moving Kentucky

Baptists forward per the Southern Baptist Convention Great Commission Resurgence Task Force mandate that was laid out in June—albeit with a caveat.

"We do need to focus on winning the world (for Christ). But we also need to remember that we need to focus on Kentucky as well," he exhorted.

Referring to Jesus' command in Matthew 28:19 to make disciples of all nations, Paris said every church member "ought to be equipped to share the gospel."

"It is imperative that we never take our eyes off ... where the Lord has placed us. And as Kentucky Baptists, He's placed us in Kentucky," Paris noted. "So, yes, we ought to be involved in world evangelization, ... but not to the extent of losing those in our own state. It's not 'either/or'; it's 'both/and.'"

Paris has served as pastor of Unity Baptist Church since 1998. Prior to that, he was the pastor and youth minister at churches in Tennessee and Mississippi.



Floyd Paris

State task force releases report to be voted on at Nov. convention

Continued from page 1

a 48/48 percent split between the KBC and SBC, while factoring in 4 percent of shared expenses—money used by the KBC that simultaneously benefits the state and national convention.

The task force's recommendation complies with a challenge laid out by the SBC's Great Commission Resurgence Task Force in its "Penetrating the Lostness" report, which was adopted by SBC messengers in June.

That challenge calls on state conventions to "return to the historic ideal of a 50/50 Cooperative Program distribution between the state conventions and the SBC."

However, York noted, the national GCR report "really didn't set our agenda at all."

What did drive the group, York explained, was that in the last 12-15 years, Kentucky Baptist churches' total undesignated receipts have gone from \$200 million to more than \$300 million. Conversely, churches' average percentage gifts to the Cooperative Program have dropped from 10 percent to 6.8 percent—nearly one-third.

"Cooperative Program giving has not kept up with the blessings that our churches have received," he said. "We've gotten more money from our people and we've kept more of it at home or used it elsewhere than the CP."

"We must reverse that trend or else we can just mathematically project what year CP dies."

The decline in CP gifts ultimately belies pastors' criticisms that too much money stays with the state convention, York said.

"People can complain that we aren't giving enough to the SBC side (and) we're keeping too much in Kentucky. So, you change the sizes of the slices of the pie," he explained. "But if the pie is shrinking, it really doesn't matter; eventually, you're going to run out of pie."

The task force's "ambitious" third proposal seeks to address that problem, York said.

Recommendation No. 3 sets a goal to increase Kentucky Baptists' overall Cooperative Program receipts by at least 3 percent per year through 2017-18.

To achieve this goal, the task force's report calls for all KBC churches to increase their Cooperative Program giving by 0.25 percent of their undesignated receipts each

year for the next seven years.

"We feel it's wrong for us to merely vote to change the allocation and then not challenge our churches to give more" to the Cooperative Program, York said.

If all churches were to accept the challenge, "the results for missions would be staggering," the report states.

Over seven years, the increase for SBC causes would total more than \$23.7 million, according to the report. With the International Mission Board's soon-to-be share of 51 percent of that money, Kentucky Baptists would contribute more than \$11.8 million more to international missions.

"I'm trying to tell churches that aren't giving anything to give something, and the churches that are giving little to give a little more, and the churches that are doing great to do even better," York said.

Even though York insisted the national GCR report did not factor into the Kentucky group's discussions, recommendation No. 3 does briefly allude to the hot-button issue of the Great Commission Giving category. The report encourages church leaders not to designate missions dollars to other causes at the expense of the Cooperative Program.

"While we encourage multiple missions efforts, we believe in the wisdom and strategic genius of the Cooperative Program which, after all, was born here in Kentucky," the report states.

York said he is sure not all Kentucky Baptist churches will accept the challenge to increase their CP by 0.25 percent per year. However, should all of the churches that participated in the recent Find It Here evangelism campaign—approximately 1,700 of the more than 2,400 KBC churches—meet the CP goal, it would be huge, he noted.

"If we really buy into this and start doing it, what we can accomplish for Christ is just mind boggling," York said.

Realizing the goals laid out in recommendation Nos. 2 and 3 requires all Kentucky Baptists buying into recommendation No. 1, York insisted.

That proposal calls for Kentucky Baptist messengers to adopt a three-year emphasis called "More for Christ." Described as an "intentional time for repentance, renewal and redirection for the future," York explained that the recommendation's goal is to "create a culture of giving and generos-

Campus minister receives nod, Mission Board's venue changed

Louisville—Prestonsburg Community College and other area campuses have a new campus minister and the May meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention Mission Board will move to Louisville next year, following administrative committee action at its Aug. 19 meeting in Louisville.

Norman Marcum, music and youth minister at Fitzpatrick Baptist Church in Prestonsburg and a substitute teacher for the Floyd County school system, was hired as a Baptist Campus Ministry contract employee through August 2011. Marcum, who succeeds Gene Bracken in the position, also is a "regional coach" in the KBC Youth Ministers' Network.

In a recent poll of KBC Mission Board members, 90 of a possible 170 respondents indicated a slight preference—54.4 percent compared to 42.2 percent—for

holding their May meetings at the Kentucky Baptist Building in Louisville, rather than at Cedarmore, where the board has met since 1964.

The administrative committee decided to hold the May Mission Board session in Louisville in 2011 and will review that decision following next year's meeting.

In other action, committee chairman Alan Dodson, pastor of Cornerstone Baptist Church in Lexington, appointed an executive director review committee and named Charles Barnes, member of Hurstbourne Baptist Church in Louisville, as its chairman. Other

members include John Mark Toby, pastor of Beacon Hill Baptist Church in Somerset; Ronnie Raines, pastor of First Baptist Church of Cold Spring; and Mike Stacey, pastor of Buena Vista Baptist Church in Somerset.



Norman Marcum

ity and doing less for ourselves."

"We're praying that adopting this emphasis will become a part of who we are and help us change that culture, that we begin to think 'More for Christ' in all we do," he noted. "If we make it about money, we're totally missing it."

The final recommendation calls for the Great Commission Task Force to remain constituted for the next seven years. The group intends to monitor the plan's progress; report to the KBC Mission Board or convention messengers each year; and make further recommendations as needed.

The task force consists of 15 members, all of whom would remain. New members would only be added as original members rotate off through natural attrition. As that occurs, the KBC president would have the authority to appoint new members.

The Kentucky Great Commission Task Force was approved by messengers to last year's KBC annual meeting. Formed in response to the creation of the SBC's GCR Task Force, the Kentucky committee was charged with the task of studying "how Kentucky Baptists can work more faithfully and effectively together in serving Christ through the Great Commission."

York said he felt the task force's work over the past eight months has been "Holy Spirit-guided."

In its deliberations, the group spoke with leaders of all KBC agencies, institutions and Mission Board teams. "We looked at budgets and charts and team plans—we looked at everything," he added.

"What we found was we were very pleased with the job that so many were doing," York noted. "But for us, the big picture was a spiritual issue."

"We reached a conclusion that what we have here is a spiritual problem," he explained. "It's not about money; it's about Jesus."

York called the task force's report a "bold vision" which he hopes all Kentucky Baptists can rally around. He did admit, however, there likely will be some who think the report goes too far or not far enough—which is OK.

"If everybody's a little unhappy, we've probably done a good job," he said.

Whether Kentucky Baptists are for the report or against it, York urged churches to send their full allotment of messengers to the KBC annual meeting Nov. 16 at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington.

Great Commission Task Force Report

Last year Kentucky Baptist Convention President John Mark Toby appointed a Great Commission Task Force. The 15 Task Force members appointed were:

- Hershael York, pastor, Buck Run Baptist Church, Frankfort, chair.
- Paul Badgett, pastor, First Baptist Church, Pikeville.
- Charles Barnes, member, Hurstbourne Baptist Church, Louisville.
- Joy Bolton, executive director, Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union.
- Jeff Crabtree, director of missions, Warren Baptist Association.
- Rusty Ellison, pastor, Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville.
- Greg Faulks, pastor, Bellevue Baptist Church, Owensboro.
- Chad Fugitt, pastor, First Baptist Church, Monticello.
- John Hale, deacon, First Baptist Church, Mount Vernon.
- Bill Henard, pastor, Porter Memorial Baptist Church, Lexington.
- James Jones, Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Campbellsville.
- Jessica Milburn, member, Union Baptist Church.
- Sam Rainer, pastor, First Baptist Church, Murray.
- Kevin Smith, pastor, Watson Memorial Baptist Church, Louisville.
- Dan Summerlin, pastor, Lone Oak First Baptist Church, Paducah.

Over the course of the past 8 months, the Task Force has met in prayer, deliberation, and commitment. Every member of the Great Commission Task Force agrees that this has been a significant spiritual milestone in our lives as we have seen God work among us and bring us to a unanimous consensus about our recommendations.

In order to reach our conclusions and recommendations, we first reached a consensus about our foundational guiding principles. These include the following:

Principles we believe

We believe that Jesus Christ is worthy of all our praise, honor, worship, and resources.

We believe that Jesus Christ is the only way of salvation, and that explicit faith in Christ as Lord and Savior is necessary for all morally accountable persons to have eternal life.

We believe that faith in Christ comes only through the proclamation of the gospel applied by the Holy Spirit.

We believe that Jesus has commanded us to preach the gospel to every person on earth.

We believe that churches should evangelize the lost, baptize and disciple the saved, plant churches, and reach our nation and the world through commissioning missionaries, participating in missions personally, and giving a significant portion of income and resources to missions, especially through the vehicle of the Cooperative Program.

We believe in the value of Christian education as a means of equipping Christians to serve the Lord through cultural engagement, church membership and participation, and missionary service.

We believe that a new generation of Kentucky Baptists is not willing to settle for business as usual and that the Cooperative Program will diminish and cooperate die if we do not present a bold, sweeping vision for the future and a refocus of our energies.

We believe that we must devote a significantly larger portion of our resources to reach the 1.7 billion people of the last fron-

tier who have never heard the gospel of Jesus Christ.

We believe that to be a faithful steward of all that God has blessed us with, that each Kentucky Baptist should be challenged to provide a legacy gift for the Cooperative Program and Kingdom causes. We believe that churches, assisted by the Kentucky Baptist Foundation and Mission Board, must lead in training and developing this stewardship vision for all Kentucky Baptists.

We believe that renewed vision and ministry will only result from renewed love for Christ and repentance for our selfishness as evidenced by our decline in witnessing, proclaiming the gospel, personal sacrifice, giving, and going.

We believe that our Kentucky Baptist churches must reverse the decline in Cooperative Program giving, even while we engage the lost, go on mission, and plant churches.

We believe that reaching our nation and for Christ will require a continued paradigm shift for Kentucky Baptists. First, our churches must become more outwardly focused than inwardly. Second, the Kentucky Baptist Convention needs to shift to a paradigm based more on outreach, evangelism, and missions and less on advising particular church ministries. To do this would require the KBC over time to become more of a facilitator of shared advice, counsel, and experience among churches, pastors, and laity rather than a provider of those services. We recognize that certain ministries (disaster relief, ministry to pastors in transition, etc.) are more effective when done by the state convention so we affirm the continued significance and need for the KBC. In fact, we believe that this shift will result in a greater connection between the ministry of the KBC and the churches. We furthermore believe that the local associations are going to become key partners in renewed emphasis on shared ministry, missions, and connections.

To that end and after intense study, interviews, deliberation and prayer, we propose that Kentucky Baptists:

Proposal No. 1

Initiate a 3-year emphasis called "**More for Christ,**" an intentional time of repentance, renewal, and redirection for the future. Kentucky Baptists responded to the "Find It Here" campaign in record numbers and with great enthusiasm and excitement. Our prayer is that we might respond in the same way to a call to personal and corporate commitment to Christ and to the Great Commission.

More for Christ means:

- More of myself.
 - Personal surrender.
 - Personal witness.
 - Personal sacrifice.
- More of my family.
- More for the lost.
- More for the needs.
- More for the nations.

We propose that messengers request the KBC Mission Board, staff, agencies and institutions to seek ways that we can implement this theme in every part of Kentucky Baptist life and that it become a clarion call to our churches and individuals.

Explanation: We recognize that we desperately need a recommitment of our lives, our churches, our families, and our resources. Our prayer is that these recommendations will result in a great movement of the Holy Spirit among Kentucky Baptists. We pray that "More for Christ" will be the theme for what Kentucky Bap-

tists do and give for the future. We pray that such an emphasis will be used of God to mobilize us and motivate us to strategize, remind, and give toward that end.

Proposal No. 2

Instruct our Mission Board to move to a **reallocation of Cooperative Program funds** that results in 50% of our annual Cooperative Program receipts (after shared administrative expenses) being given to the Southern Baptist Convention and 50% to KBC within the next 7 years. Beginning with the 2011-12 fiscal year, the Mission Board shall implement the attached GCTF-KY CP Percentage Distribution Plan to achieve this goal (see chart below).

Explanation: To illustrate the differences in this change over the next 7 years and estimating approximately 4% of the KBC budget as shared expenses and 3% growth in CP funds, the division of Cooperative Program receipts after those shared expenses would be:

1st year (2011-12): KBC 53.28%, SBC 46.72%

7th year (2017-18): KBC 50%, SBC 50%

The basis for this change in the first year would include a 6% across the board reduction in the KBC budget; eliminating the KBC's contribution to annuitants by \$400,000; reducing contribution to the colleges an additional 7% (which means that the colleges still receive slightly more than they did prior to Georgetown's departure from the KBC budget); a Mission Board staff reduction of 12%; a total Mission Board budget reduction of 9.85%; an additional WMU reduction of 3.85%, meaning a total of 9.85%.

In years 2-7 the Mission Board would make further adjustments of \$600,000 to achieve incrementally the goal of a 50%-50% allocation between SBC and KBC causes after shared expenses.

Proposal No. 3

Set a goal to **increase overall CP receipts** from Kentucky Baptist churches and individuals at least 3% per year for the next seven years. This growth would be equivalent to each church increasing CP giving by at least 0.25% of undesignated receipts each year for 7 years.

Explanation: It would be wrong simply to reallocate Cooperative Program receipts and ask KBC ministries to sacrifice and cut back without asking more from ourselves. As a tenet of faith, we believe that God has already given His people all the resources we need to do what He has commanded. We cannot deny that in the past 15 years Cooperative Program giving from

Kentucky Baptist churches has declined from approximately 10% of undesignated receipts to less than 7%. We simply must reverse that trend and ask our churches and individuals to respond graciously, generously, and sacrificially.

If Kentucky Baptists respond and if we could reverse that trend by growing our receipts by 3% per year for the next 7 years, the results for the missions would be staggering. Using the new seven-year reallocation with a 3% growth, the increase for SBC causes would be \$23,786,274 meaning that over \$11.8 million more would go to the IMB and put missionaries on the field.

This is attainable in several ways. If every church in the KBC increased their Cooperative Program giving by just 0.25% of their undesignated receipts every year for the next seven years, we could do it. If small churches that usually give a fixed amount rather than a percentage would up that amount, we could do it. If large churches that have tended to decrease CP giving in order to support their own programs, buildings, and missions would understand the global importance of the CP and reverse that trend, we could do it.

While designating missions dollars to the IMB or some other agency or effort may seem attractive, only the CP supports missions in North America and around the world, helps train pastors and missionaries through our seminaries, and speaks on moral and social issues through the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission. While we encourage multiple mission efforts, we believe in the wisdom and strategic genius of the Cooperative Program which, after all, was born here in Kentucky.

Proposal No. 4

Authorize the Great Commission Task Force to remain constituted for the next seven years, monitoring progress and implementation and reporting to the Convention and/or Mission Board each year, making any further recommendations as necessary. Each year the KBC president may appoint members to maintain between 10 and 15 on the Task Force.

Explanation: This work is significant enough that a single entity needs to work closely with the Executive Director and relate to all parts of the KBC to see how we are doing and make reports on our progress. We also believe that continuity is essential, especially after as extensive a study of all KBC entities as this Task Force has conducted. For that reason we ask that the current members remain on the Task Force and new ones be added only as natural attrition occurs.

GCTF - KY CP Percentage Distribution Plan

Fiscal Year (2010-11): KBC: 62%, SBC: 38%

First Year (2011-12) CP Percentages:

KBC: 51.15%, SBC: 44.85%, Shared: 4%

% of CP after Shared Expenses:

KBC: 53.28%, SBC: 46.72%

Basis for Change: 2010-11 Budget = Base Year. Shared Expenses 4% or \$940,000;

Reduction in KBC Budget 6%; Annuity Reduction \$400,000; College Reduction 7% in addition to 6% KBC Budget, Total = 12.58%; Mission Board Staff Reduction 12%; Mission Board Total Budget Reduction of 9.85%, totaling \$750,671; including \$237,000 of the Cooperative Agreements absorbed by the Mission Board; WMU Reduction 3.85% in addition to 6% of KBC Budget, Total = 9.85%; and 3% Growth in CP divided KBC 33.1%/SBC 66.9% in years 1 through 7.

Seventh Year (2017-18) CP Percentages:

KBC: 48%, SBC: 48%, Shared: 4%

% of CP after Shared Expenses:

KBC: 50%, SBC: 50%

Basis for Change in Years 2 through 7:

Mission Board absorbs in years 2 through 7 Cooperative Agreements Totaling \$600,000 by Mission Board Additional Staff Reductions Totaling \$600,000; \$180,000 in NAMB Cooperative Agreements to be terminated; Total Mission Board Funding would be Reduced \$1,350,691 or 17.72% the 7th year.

Gratitude for missions giving

As the Kentucky Baptist Convention nears the end of the 2009-10 fiscal year on Aug. 31, my heart is filled with gratitude for the faithfulness of Kentucky Baptists in giving to support missions.

Partners in the Mission



By Bill Mackey

It has been a great year of missions support by Kentucky Baptists. Kentucky Baptists have set new records through July in giving through the Lottie Moon offering for international missions, \$5,175,549 (up 19.6 percent); the Annie Armstrong offering for North American Missions, \$2,056,568 (up 3.3 percent); and the Eliza Broadus offering for state missions, \$1,251,613 (up 15 percent).

There were two legacy gifts for the Lottie Moon offering and one each for Annie Armstrong offering and Eliza Broadus offering that helped to boost these totals, but new records would have been set even without the legacy gifts. In a year of economic challenge, I am so grateful to Kentucky Baptists for continuing to give faithfully to support missions through these offerings.

I also want to express heartfelt thanks for the gifts of Kentucky Baptist churches through the Cooperative Program for missions across Kentucky and North America and around the world. I believe that the best way to support a holistic Great Commission missions strategy is through CP. The Cooperative Program supports the foundation of Great Commission missions through the ministries of state conventions in strengthening churches and reaching people in communities in every county.

The 14 old-line states provide more than 90 percent of the support for missions nationally and internationally. As one of those states, Kentucky is a vital part of the link for the support of world missions.

Additionally, I want to express gratitude to Kentucky Baptists for their response to the challenge of "Find It Here." I praise God for more than 41,000 Kentucky Baptists who were involved in prayer walking their neighborhoods and distributing the gospel to 1.3 million homes in Kentucky.

A follow-up emphasis has been planned with a goal of having 67,000 Kentucky Baptists involved in prayer and fasting leading up to Easter on April 24, 2011. "Find it Here 2011" will also include scripture distribution to individuals in colleges, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, prisons and jails. As with last year's emphasis, the scripture distribution will be coordinated by local associations.

Begin to pray now for a great harvest and focus on those people that you want to see come to Christ in believing faith.

Also, please remind your church treasurer that if your church would like to receive credit for gifts in the 2009-10 fiscal year, the check needs to be postmarked by Aug. 31 and arrive at the bank by Sept. 2.

For me and my wife, Kay, this is a great time to serve with Kentucky Baptists.

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Creating a generous culture in our churches

Eight months of speculation have come to an end. Last week, when the Great Commission Task Force released its report, two things were readily apparent: their primary objective seems to have been to reach a 50/50 split between Cooperative Program funds going to the Southern Baptist Convention and those kept for Kentucky Baptist Convention ministries as quickly as possible; their other objective was to reverse the steady erosion in CP receipts coming from our churches.

The prevailing assumption seems similar to that espoused in the movie, "Field of Dreams," suggesting that if our state convention adopts a budget that allocates 50 percent for SBC causes, then our churches will reciprocate by contributing more of their undesignated receipts to the Cooperative Program. The accepted imperative is that more money is needed to send more international missionaries and plant churches in our metro areas where vast numbers of people have yet to hear the gospel.

In Task Force Chairman Hershael York's own words: "We believe we've got to reverse the decline in Cooperative Program giving," and "we believe that we're going to have to have a paradigm shift in order to get more resources to reach unreached, unengaged people around the world."

The issue, he and other task force members keenly assessed, is a spiritual one: "It's not about money; it's really about Jesus." Taking a cue from the success of the Find It Here evangelistic emphasis, they envision a spiritual emphasis among Kentucky Baptists called "More for Christ." Indeed, it's an ingenious catchphrase that may easily become a rally cry.

"What we are after is trying to create a culture of giving and generosity and doing less for ourselves. That we're willing to wear old clothes, and we're willing to drive older cars and live in smaller houses and cut out a week's vacation in order to do a mission trip," York advocated. "Everything we do, we want it to be focused on Christ."

Even though the spiritual proposal is "our most significant one," according to York, the task force's recommendations go much further. Up front, they call for a 6 percent across-the-board cut for KBC agencies and institutions, a 9.85 percent reduction for the Mission Board and the Woman's Missionary Union, and nearly a 13 percent cut for the University of the Cumberlands and Campbellsville University, effective with the 2011-2012 budget. The result is roughly a 53/47 split, with a stated seven-year intent to accomplish the remainder. It's a sharp hit, especially for our colleges, which will see an immediate loss of \$192,000 annually, and the hard truth is that Kentucky Baptists' own missions and

ministries will have to learn to do "more for Christ" with less—possibly as much as \$1.35 million less. Yet university and agency leaders and Mission Board staff also understand a call to sacrifice for the Great Commission.

The real key to continued success in accomplishing the Great Commission, however, rests with the third component: Churches are called upon to increase their Cooperative Program gifts by at least a quarter of a percent each year for the next seven years. This should enable the KBC to increase its Cooperative Program budget goal by three percent each year, York calculates.

In the past 12 years, total undesignated receipts of KBC churches have increased by \$100 million, yet Cooperative Program support has not kept pace. "We've gotten more money from our people, and we've kept more of it at home or used it elsewhere," he assessed. York rightly appealed, "We feel it's wrong for us to merely vote to change the allocation and then not challenge our churches to give more." He continued, "... it's wrong to ask the KBC to make cuts and then our churches just go on keeping more at home for ourselves. We think everybody needs to do more for Christ in order to reach more for Christ."

Certainly, the messengers who will raise their ballots in support of the Great Commission Task Force's ambitious call and the ensuing stringent cuts required of the KBC's agencies and institutions should also willingly commit themselves to lead their churches to incrementally increase their CP support. "So if anybody thinks this is just about voting to change the slices of the pie, they are missing the point entirely," York corrected. "We must reverse the trend and get churches to say, 'We're going to spend less on us in order to do more for Christ.'" York is commendably leading his own church, Buck Run in Frankfort, to up its CP giving by one percent for the next two years.

Only if KBC churches do, in fact, follow suit and step up CP giving, will the plan work. According to York, nearly \$24 million more would go to SBC causes, and with 51 percent set aside for the International Mission Board that would mean \$11.8 million more annually to put missionaries on the field. "If we really buy in to this and start doing it, what we can accomplish for Christ is just mind-boggling," York challenged.

In the "Field of Dreams," Ray built the ball field and not only did some legendary ball players come, but he had an opportunity to play a game of catch with his father. If the task force's recommendations are adopted, our greatest hope is that Kentucky Baptists will, indeed, "play ball," and our Heavenly Father will smile approvingly on our Great Commission efforts.

After Thought

By Todd Deaton



Increasing CP giving is good faith effort on our part

As a pastor of a small church in Frankfort, I take seriously the command of Christ to his church to take the gospel to all nations. The Great Commission

VIEWPOINT

is both a tremendous privilege and a weighty responsibility. For this reason, I've always encouraged the churches that I've served to increase their missions giving.

I've always struggled, however, with the reality that most of the money given through the Cooperative Program stays in the state. When church members discover how small a percentage actually goes to international missions, they are surprised and sometimes outraged. If the Great Commission is as important as we say, our financial support should reflect this.

I was very encouraged by the Great Commission Task Force Report at this year's annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention. I voted in favor of all the recommendations because I believed

change was needed that would cause the convention to be better stewards of the monies entrusted to them by the thousands of churches of the SBC. These

changes will be virtually meaningless, however, unless the state conventions follow suit in implementing changes in the way resources are allocated. As long as more than 50 percent of our Cooperative Program giving stays in the Bible Belt, we cannot call ourselves a Great Commission people.

As a pastor, I urge that the Kentucky Baptists seriously evaluate where our resources are predominately being used. May we make it our goal to progressively move toward at least a 50/50 split between what stays in the Commonwealth and what is sent on to the budget of the Southern Baptist Convention. I further urge other Kentucky Baptist congregations to increase their mission's giving, both to the Annie Armstrong and Lottie Moon

offerings, and through the CP.

In our budget at Farmdale Baptist Church, we are not only increasing our designated giving to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering (from \$1,000 to \$1,500) and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering (from \$2,500 to \$3,000), but we're also increasing our Cooperative Program giving by over 17 percent (from \$8,500 to \$10,000). I know this is small potatoes, but if churches across the KBC respond correspondingly, then great things can be accomplished for the cause of Christ.

Increasing our CP giving is a good faith effort on our part intended to demonstrate both our commitment to this proven method of funding the work of Southern Baptists and our support for the adjustments that may be made at this year's annual meeting. If you give Kentucky Baptists a compelling vision for the nations and a budget that reflects that vision, we will give to make that vision a reality for the good of the nations and the glory of Christ.

Steve Weaver
Frankfort

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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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Three keys to finding your calling in life

By Chuck Bentley

If I were to say to you, "Tell me what it is that you do best," what would be your response? Now, if I asked, "What is it that you like to do most?" would your answer be the same? Different? Not sure?

God, our Creator, has a unique purpose for us to fulfill, something often referred to as our "calling" or "vocation," and He has "wired" you and me with what we need to accomplish it.

In Psalm 139, David affirms this when he says: "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb."

Have you discovered what your "calling" is in life and work?

If you're not sure, that's OK. I find that the majority of people are unsure of their calling. But the same people often find that they are doing work that just doesn't suit them, and that can lead to job dissatisfaction, conflicts, stress or boredom. And those can lead to poor performance, being overlooked for advancement, or, even worse—unemployment.

So, how is it that so many people are mismatched in their work? Let me give you a couple of primary reasons:

1. They haven't yet discovered their true calling, and
2. When seeking what type of work to pursue, they allow the salary or earning potential to become the primary factor in their work decisions.

But it doesn't have to be that way. You can discover your purpose and calling, and you can embark on a path doing the work that God has "wired" you to do. And, when you're in the center of your purpose and calling, you can confidently rely on God to meet your financial needs no matter what He's gifted you to do.

Your personality

The first step is to learn about your personality. There are several good tools available to assess your personality, including our free Crown Money Map Personality I.D. It only takes a few minutes to complete this online profile, but the personal report you receive will pinpoint your personality style and give you a snapshot of your strengths, stress factors, as well as how you tend to view money and money decisions.

COMMENTARY

I hope you're beginning to see how discovering your purpose and calling can directly impact your money life. Actually, every area of life is affected to some degree or other by money, whether it involves interpersonal relationships, spending habits, being generous to others—you name it.

Your work and money

I believe it's helpful to think of our jobs—the day-to-day work that we do, our employment—as a subset of our broader calling or vocation. In other words, our jobs should complement our other roles in life, use our strengths and talents, give us personal fulfillment, and allow us to make a living.

So often people get that turned around. They major on building wealth in order to spend it, but usually end up with major frustration instead. Income and lifestyle considerations should not be the primary driver of our work goals. I'm not saying that income isn't important—we all need money to live. But, the mistake comes when we make money the primary consideration.

Your contentment

Whether you work full-time, part-time, at home, or away from home, and whether you are a business owner, an employee, or a volunteer, your God-inspired goals that drive you toward your life purpose are really what are most important. When you are happily fulfilling your calling, the way you make and use money can become activities filled with contentment and joy.

If you are currently unemployed or in a work situation that is a bad match for you, I encourage you to recommit to discovering and following God's purpose for you first and foremost. Investigate and pursue His calling on your life, and trust Him to meet your financial needs as you walk in obedience to His will.

Remember, discovering and living out God's design for your life is a process—part of a lifelong journey. Jesus assures us that we should "not worry, saying 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ... your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well"—Matthew 6:31, 33. (BP)

Chuck Bentley is CEO of Crown Financial Ministries and host of Crown's MoneyLife radio broadcast.

Ministry to visually impaired

By James Stillwell

Q: Our church wants to reach the world for the gospel. How does a person best reach out to a person who is blind or visually impaired who visits our church?

A: Here are some suggestions from the Cincinnati Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired:

- Identify yourself. Ask if assistance is needed.
- Speak in a normal, comfortable tone. Most visually impaired people can hear well.
- Do not avoid the words "blind," "look" and "see." They are a part of everyday conversation.
- Feel free to discuss movies, sporting events, etc. Blind persons enjoy normal events like everyone else.
- Let the person take your arm just above your elbow with the thumb on one side and fingers on the other pointing straight ahead. You can guide with either the right or the left arm.
- The person follows a half step behind you at a pace that is comfortable for both of you.
- To sit, bring the person into contact with the chair. Describe which way the chair faces.
- Say "right" and "left" when giving directions based on the way the person is facing.
- Identify steps, curbs or other obstacles.
- Inform the person if you need to leave. Put the person in contact with an object such as a wall or piece of furniture.
- Do not pet, feed or distract a guide dog.
- Keep in mind if the room gets dark in order to show words on a screen, it can be very frightening to the visually impaired.

The apostle Paul said, "I become all things to all people in order that I might save some" (1 Corinthians 9:22). This should be no less true for the four percent of our population who are blind or visually impaired. The light of the gospel and the warmth of our hospitality ought to be there for them, too.

James Stillwell is minister to singles at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington.



Budget planning'

By Doug Strader

This is the time of the calendar year when many church budget-planning committees begin their work on the budget for the new church year. This article is presented as a challenge to all budget planning committees to take the time and make the effort to present a budget that would be pleasing to God.

The most important aspect of any church budget preparation is the spiritual aspect. I cannot emphasize enough the importance of praying and seeking the will of God for your new budget. Call upon your entire church to begin praying for the hand of the Lord to be upon your committee as you prepare the proposed budget.

The new budget should be designed to assist the church to accomplish its vision and purpose for the new year. Every line item should be evaluated in terms of the church's mission and purpose. No item should be left in the budget because it has always been in the budget.

Every staff member, department head and committee chairperson should be given an opportunity to submit a proposed budget for their specific area of the church's work. They should also justify how their budget requests are consistent with the church's mission.

The personnel committee and/or the budget planning committee need to take a serious look at the compensation packages of all staff members. Cost of living increases should be included in the new budget, even if there is no money for merit increases. How long has it been since your staff received merit increases?

When you complete the proposed budget, you should invite the church members to a question and answer session related to the proposed budget. When church members feel that they have had a part in the process, they will be more likely to support the proposed budget.

Doug Strader, retired director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's stewardship department, is pastor of Farmdale Baptist Church in Louisville.



Getting your life out of park and into gear

By Barry Howard

I learned how to drive in my grandfather's 1966 Volkswagen Fastback—a straight shift. Learning to change gears while simultaneously pressing the clutch proved to be quite a challenge. However, once I mastered the art of driving a manual transmission, moving to an automatic was a piece of cake.

Rather than shifting from first to second and then third or grinding around looking for reverse, the options on the column of our 1976 Falcon were PNRDL: "P" for Park, "N" for Neutral, "R" for Reverse, "D" for Drive, and "L" for Low, a gear usually used for towing.

As we come to the end of the summer and as I am preparing to challenge our congregation to "gear up" for the upcoming season of mission opportunities, I am reminded of how easy it is for our lives to get stuck in the wrong gear. In our commitments to Christ, to our church and to our daily responsibilities, we can become lethargic, passive, inactive, and at times, even backslide into old habits, living as if we have not given our hearts and lives to Jesus.

If you are sitting still, seemingly not going anywhere, your life may be stuck in Park. If you are committed to preserving the status quo, content to let others carry the bulk of responsibility, and have no interest in growing, your life is probably in Park. If you have grown comfortable sitting behind the steering wheel but you never leave the drive-

way, perhaps you need to find a way to get your life out of Park and into a forward gear.

A life that is stuck in Park is not going anywhere, but a life stuck in Neutral can be even more detrimental.

When you put a car in Neutral and let off the brake, it is likely to

roll one way or the other. Perhaps it will roll whichever way the wind is blowing. Or maybe it will move one direction or the other based on the tug of gravity, which is usually downhill. The danger of putting your life in Neutral is that you live without conviction, you go the way of the crowd or you choose the path of least resistance. And those options are seldom the right way.

If you are continually going backward, or preoccupied with the past, your life might be stuck in Reverse. But it's hard to go forward while looking backward. Back in the 1990s, the church I served in Alabama had a faithful custodian named Ralph. Ralph was a retired chemist who came to work at the church as a retirement project. Ralph was a loyal soul-good-hearted and highly punctual.

Ralph and I both typically arrived at the church early, often driving into the parking lot simultaneously. One morning, as I pulled into my parking space, I heard a few horns honking at the nearby intersection. I looked up to investigate the commotion and was stunned to see Ralph's 1972 Dodge Ram approaching the church ... backward. Ralph was driv-

FIRST PERSON

ing toward the church in a line of traffic tailgate first. He was advancing forward in Reverse. As he pulled up beside me, he quickly explained that his transmission had locked up and Reverse was the only gear that worked. He didn't want to miss work, so he drove all the way from home-looking backward over his shoulder.

To this day, Ralph is the only guy I know who has ever advanced forward by going backward. But as a minister serving in Baptist churches for more than 30 years, I've seen a lot of others try to move forward by looking backward, and it just doesn't work.

To get your life in gear and move forward, you have to move out of Park, resist the temptation to settle for Neutral and avoid Reverse in order to put life into Drive.

Maybe that is why Paul wrote to the Philippians, "Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus" (3:13-14 NIV).

God intends for us to grow forward in our walk with Christ, our fellowship with one another, and our participation in the work of the Kingdom. One analyst put it this way: "There comes a moment when you have to stop revving up the car and shove it into gear."

Now is the time. (ABP)
Barry Howard serves as senior minister of First Baptist Church of Pensacola, Fla.

Kentucky Baptists mobilize to help Iowans affected by record floods

Ames, Iowa—Kentucky Baptist disaster relief volunteers are working to assist Iowans affected by recent floods.

According to the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Disaster Relief Associate Coy Webb, a team of "mud-out" volunteers and a chaplain arrived in the Hawkeye State earlier this week to help residents clean out their flooded homes. Leaders in Ames have said the flooding is the worst in the history of that central Iowa community. About nine inches of rain fell in three days.

Webb said more volunteers could be needed in Iowa, as well as Tennessee and Illinois, states also hit by recent flooding.

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.

Leading small group requires connection to God

By Drew Nichter
News Director

Lexington—When it comes to justifying the need for a small-group ministry, church leaders need to look no further than Jesus Christ, according to a Tennessee minister.

"Jesus gathered a group of people to do ministry with. It only makes sense that we do the same," Scott Shoopman noted.

A connections pastor at The Bridge Church in Spring Hill, Tenn., Shoopman led a workshop on "How to Be a Great Small-Group Leader" at last weekend's Super Saturday event in Lexington.

Shoopman said his primary role is to coordinate the church's small-group ministry. He cut his teeth on the concept years earlier as an associate pastor at Living Hope Baptist Church in Bowling Green.

There, he worked with Rick Howerton, who now is the small "groupologist" at LifeWay Christian Resources.

The first lesson in leading a small group: Stay connected to God, Shoopman said.

As an example, Shoopman shared about a leader of a married couples' group who starts off the evening with the "icebreaker" question: How is your marriage, really?

As the question came around to one couple, it was revealed that they were hurting and possibly seeking a divorce, Shoopman explained.

As the leader, "if you're not connected to God, you're going to blow it," he warned. "For that couple, as well as for the group (and) pos-

sibly for the ministry within your church."

Being a small-group leader is "a heavy calling," Shoopman added.

But as small groups continue to meet and grow closer together, a great leader should want these types of emotions to come to the surface, he said, so those who are hurting can be loved on and prayed for by the rest of the group.

One way that cannot happen is if the small group is too large, Shoopman pointed out.

The ideal size of a small group is four to 12 people, he said. In groups larger than 12, only those who are extroverted will speak up and there also may be several conversations going on at once.

"The thing about a small group is you want dialogue about scripture; you want people to share about their lives," Shoopman said.

"When you sit down and you begin to open up dialogue and discussion, it radiates Christ because that's what He did with His disciples."

That does not mean, however, that small groups should not be looking to add people, Shoopman said. But as they grow to more than 12 people, groups should then look to split, or "multiply," he noted.

"The purpose of your group is not for the group to stay together forever. The purpose of that group is to do well together and after about 12-18 months, ... you're going to multiply," he advised.

The multiplication factor re-



THREE'S COMPANY Renna Owen (center), a member of First Baptist Church of Winchester, shares a little bit about herself with Larry Griffin (left) of Crittenden Baptist Church and James Gillian from First Missionary Baptist Church of Wurtland. The three were part of an impromptu small group during the "Be a Great Small Group Leader" workshop at last weekend's Super Saturday event at Lexington's Immanuel Baptist Church. (Photos by Drew Nichter)

quires a small-group leader to surround him or herself with a strong team. "The last thing you want to do as a group leader is to do it all," Shoopman noted. "You'll burn out really quick."

No. 1 on the team list is an apprentice or co-leader, Shoopman said. "You've got to have another leader who can take that part of the group and go."

Shoopman also recommended utilizing six small-group practices that create Christian community:

- Level the playing field—do this by sitting everyone, including the leader, in a circle facing each other and ask questions that everyone can answer.

- Share your spiritual story.

- Ask open-ended questions—be-

cause in an open-ended discussion, "oftentimes people will open their hearts up a little bit more," Shoopman said.

- Keep a three-part agenda.

- Subdivide into subgroups of three to six—"You'll cut your discussion time by at least a third by doing smaller groups, because they're both getting to discuss," Shoopman noted.

- Affirm one another.

Shoopman compared a small group to irises. If irises are allowed to grow without being split and cut back, they will grow out of control and eventually die.

"Groups are the same way," he said. "This is an organism, not an organization. ... And it will be just like a family unit."

Lawless warns Ky. Baptists of ways Satan tries to stifle church growth

Continued from page 1

el to determine how many warriors he has on his side. Lawless said the problem is that David should know he needs only God on his side.

"David the shepherd boy trusts God; David the king relies on his armor," Lawless said. "See the problem?"

Lawless further explored the topic of warfare, this time of the spiritual variety, during an afternoon workshop.

He warned that Christians will lose such battles when they rely on their own strength instead of taking on God's armor. "If you read a book about spiritual warfare and you learn more about the devil than God, (the author) has reversed the scriptures. From beginning to end, the story is about God."

Lawless outlined three primary attacks Satan uses to keep churches from growing:

- Contextual, such as community growth or decline, which is outside the church's control.

- Institutional, which include a church's people, leadership, history and conflicts.

- Spiritual, which involves unseen forces.

Among the spiritual attacks the enemy levels against churches, Lawless noted, are false teachings, which usually enter through subtle means. Many leaders don't know what is being taught in classes but need to hold teachers accountable, he said.

Another is division. Satan still is working to turn believers against one another, but Paul wrote that our struggle is not against flesh and

blood, Lawless pointed out.

Despite those words in Ephesians 6, some people are so angry with other church members that they won't even sit near them—and yet they worship God, Lawless said. "The enemy is all over that."

Satan also loves to attack families. If he can split up homes he can ruin ministries, Lawless explained. He added that when the devil wins in one generation, the scars come in the next.

Satan also encourages leaders to do church in their own power, since many people in the congregation won't notice the difference, Lawless said. "We don't have a lot of disciplined people in our churches anymore," he noted. "If the enemy can get us to do what we do in our own strength, it lacks the power of God, and the enemy will let it go on."

Temptation is another tool the devil likes to use, which can easily defeat believers when they don't know enough about the Bible to recognize lies and distortions of the truth, Lawless said.

Starting with the same tool he used against Eve—conversation—Lawless said Satan tries to persuade Christians that God didn't say what He outlined in scripture.

"The longer you talk to the enemy the more likely you'll fall," Lawless assured. "The minute our mind starts wandering in the wrong direction, we need to run to God."

Compiled from reporting by News Director Drew Nichter and State Correspondent Ken Walker

Cumberlands' Mountain Outreach presses forward with mission

Williamsburg—Although the Mountain Outreach team has ended its work for the summer, their impact still lingers in the community.

With the help of 790 volunteers from M-Fuge and seven individual church groups, Mountain Outreach completed a long list of tasks during the 10-week summer session, including three homes now occupied and 43 individual improvement projects.

"There was a tremendous boost to our community, our program and our campus. This campus was abuzz with students," said Marc Hensley, Mountain Outreach director.

Partnering with M-Fuge enabled the Mountain Outreach summer team to reach more people than ever before. Team members supervised groups of M-Fuge volunteers in 30 projects, including roofing, painting, mowing yards and building sheds. "Community impact-wise, M-Fuge was absolutely the biggest impact I've ever seen," Hensley said.

Each year, Mountain Outreach goes through changes with the volunteers who participate and the projects they complete. Planning to do things just as they were done five years, or even one year ago, is simply not possible, Hensley noted.

He explained that some groups

that traditionally have been involved with Mountain Outreach projects are reaching senior-adult age. Therefore, the team is striving to train younger generations to help carry the load of MO summer work.

"We will continue to reach out to churches that have a heart for missions," Hensley said. "It is only natural that as we age, we bring up somebody behind us. That is why we've lasted 28 years."

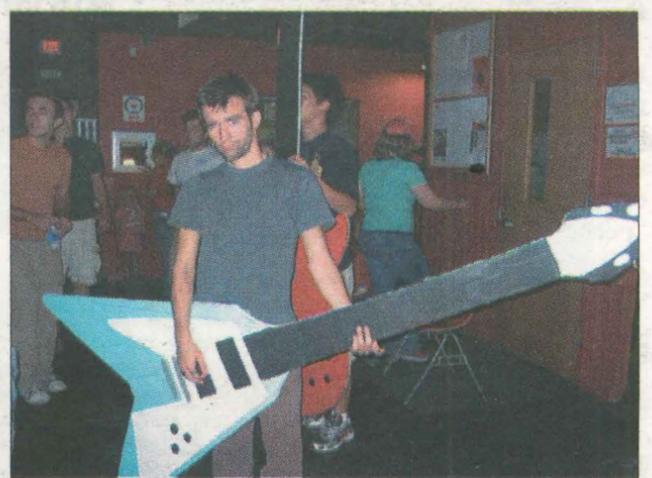
"It is God's plan that everything grows," he added. "God's plan for the church is growth, and God's plan for us as Christians is growth."

Since Mountain Outreach began in 1982, the program has been going strong. Despite changes in the economy, gift income and material costs, the ministry's focus has remained fixed on the mission in Whitley County, Hensley insisted.

"Whether we build one home or three, we're going to keep on keeping on," he assured. "There is no change in need, no matter how good or stable our community is. There will always be need. It is our Christian obligation to serve them."

"We will always allow God to direct our program. There is no plan whatsoever to scale back. If we scale back one aspect, we are enhancing another," he added. "However God leads, that is what we will do."

Baptist Campus Ministry ...



Inside ...

- What are the 4Ps in 3D?
- 2011 destinations for "1:8 Leadership Experience"
- Find Baptist Campus Ministry near you!



Kentucky BCM at a glance ...

In one year, Baptist campus ministers, missionaries and students ministry leaders reported:

- 33,765 collegians reached through various campus ministry activities.
- 303 students preparing for church vocational service.
- 780 professions of faith by students and others attending BCM-led revivals and other ministry events.
- 1,277 collegians learned how to share their faith in Christ with others.
- 2,647 students involved in Bible study groups.
- 1,154 international students participated in collegiate ministry

- 1,708 collegians served in missions.
- 945 collegians participated in leadership training.
- \$312,244 was contributed by the students themselves in obedience to the Great Commission to share Christ on campus, in other parts of Kentucky, North America and the world.

Kentucky Baptists support BCM through their prayers and gifts to the Cooperative Program and Eliza Broadus State Missions Offering.

During the school year, churches around the commonwealth provide weekly fellowship meals for students and welcome them to their congregations for Bible study and worship each week. Thank you for your ongoing support.



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Find us on Facebook: "KentuckyBCM"

What happened in that room?

Baptist Campus Ministry helps Kentucky college students discover answer

A message from Keith Inman, director of the Collegiate/Youth Adult Department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention

Dear Kentucky Baptist family,

Our ministry team is excited about launching two initiatives for the current year. Both will give heavy emphasis to Great Commission and Great Commandment living. Under the leadership of your Baptist Campus Ministry campus ministers and missionaries, students will be encouraged to live out and share the Good News of Jesus Christ.



This year, the Evangelism Emphasis of BCM is entitled "The 4Ps in 3D." This emphasis encourages students to become followers of Christ that can live and present an authentic Christian witness on the university campus and beyond.

The foundational text for the theme is found in John 20:19-29. It is here we find Jesus appearing to His followers who have locked themselves away in a room out of fear. It is obvious something radical happened in that room, for from that experience these disciples gave their lives as martyrs for the cause of Christ. What happened in that room?!

Jesus gave them **PEACE**: Students today are experiencing life dynamics that are leaving them harassed, helpless, downcast and distressed (Matthew 9:36). In the middle of this chaos, hurt and confusion, Jesus speaks "peace." While this generation may

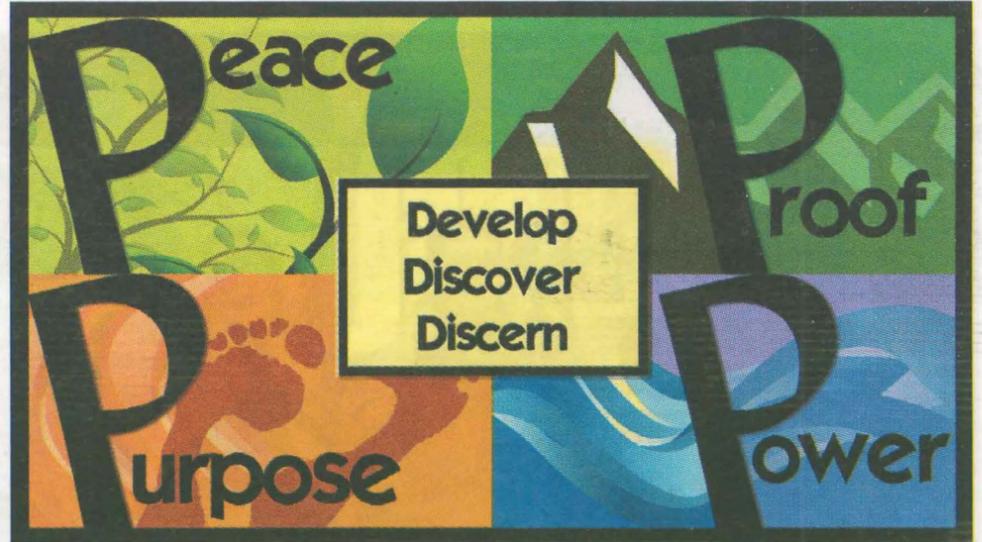
put on their best "game face" to present otherwise, there is actually a great deal of pain they are trying to navigate as they seek to make sense of life.

PROOF: In the culture of an unbelieving world, it is good to know that we can know we have a reasonable faith. The university campus is a mixture of beliefs that dares one belief system to claim superiority over another.

It is our desire to equip our students to "always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you" (1 Peter 3:15). Jesus is alive. What better explanation could there be for the confidence that came after that encounter? The disciples were in a locked room, cowering in fear from an uncertain future, but suddenly, Jesus was there with them.

PURPOSE: Jesus said, "As the Father has sent me, so send I you." We are encouraging our students to be the "268 Generation," referencing Isaiah 26:8: "In the path of your judgments, O Lord, we wait for you; your name and your renown are our souls' desire. My soul yearns for you in the night; my spirit within me earnestly seeks you." Regardless of vocation, our desire is to send students to the world as Great Commandment, Great Commission Christians.

POWER: The disciples came out of that locked room and spoke with boldness. With their blood they proclaimed Christ through martyrdom. They had the power of the Holy Spirit to say "yes" to the will of Christ and "no" to anything that would distract or hinder them as obedient followers.



The love displayed by these "fishers of men" truly turned the world upside down.

The 3D's come from the book "Just Walk Across the Room" by Bill Hybels.

Develop New Relationships. Rather than shying away from those who do not know Christ, we are seeking to empower our students to make new relationships with a generation that many demographers characterize as being overwhelmed by loneliness.

Discover Their Story: We encourage students to come to peace with their own personal stories as a result of the forgiveness and redemption of Christ. Out of humility, we will share authentically our stories of shame and peace, listening to the pain and struggles they are experiencing.

Discern from the Holy Spirit what to do next: It may be a verbal presentation of the gospel or a display of compassionate love. As Christian

students live in tune with the Spirit, we believe a listening heart and ear will lead us to appropriate action.

BCM's emphasis on discipleship and missions goes a step further with the **1:8 Leadership Experience: Four Teams, One Mission.** This past year, 32 students on two teams experienced living in community in an intense environment of discipleship and being "on mission."

Both teams received instruction from seminary presidents, professors and campus ministers. One on one and group discussions took place with mentors throughout the summer.

Team East served in Louisville, Salyersville, Shelbyville—and the epicenter of pain, Haiti. Practical ministries of water purification, vision clinics and service provided the platform for the verbal sharing of the gospel.

Team West lived at Colorado Christian University in Denver and Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley, Calif. They served in church planting, multi-housing and urban ministry, exposed to some of life's hardest realities of human trafficking, AIDS/HIV patients, and teenagers living on the streets of San Francisco. Both teams served under the leadership and vision of the local church.

It is with excitement and anticipation we await the summer of 2011. Believing that God has shown His favor in expanding the 1:8 Leadership adventure, we are adding two teams. We are recruiting students to "Join the Adventure" and ask you will support them in an experience that could change their lives!

The **East Team** will serve at First Baptist Church of Shelbyville and Mexico. The **West Team** will be on mission in Denver and San Francisco. The **East Asia Team** will serve in China and Thailand. The **Central Asia Team** will be on mission in Kentucky and a Last Frontier nation.

We are so grateful for the prayers, Christian hospitality and other support of Kentucky Baptists. As the fall semester begins, I hope you will join me in interceding for our campus ministers/missionaries and students.

More 1:8 Leadership Experience teams on mission in 2011

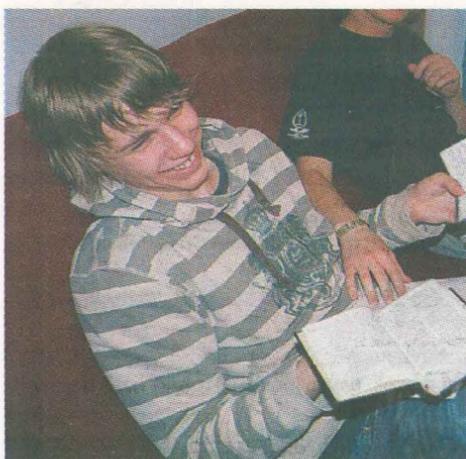


The 1:8 Leadership Experience provides college students the opportunity to live out the Great Commandment of Acts 1:8 to take the gospel to local, regional, national and international mission fields. Previous 1:8 teams have served in Louisville (top left) at the Jefferson Street Baptist Center, a ministry that provides a variety of services to people facing homelessness and other crises. This summer 15 BCM students and leaders traveled to Haiti (bottom left) to provide free vision clinics to people in need. They also installed water purification systems in villages devastated by the Jan. 12 earthquake. A team also served in Eastern Kentucky, giving children there the opportunity to participate in Bible school.



In 2011 a total of four 1:8 teams will be out in force, sharing the gospel in our Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and "to the ends of the earth."





Alice Lloyd College

Campus Minister: Matt Stewart
100 Purpose Rd., Pippa Passes 41844
606-634-2311 (BCM), matthewstewart@alc.edu
Weekly Schedule:

- "The Attic" BCM-led worship, prayer and devotional service for grades 6-12 of the June Buchanan School, ALC's prep school.
- "DV8" Thursdays, 12:30 p.m. in Ralph Edwards Auditorium, prayer and worship
- "CAFE 180" Tuesdays, 8 p.m., Cushing Hall, meal provided by local church or organization.
- "AMPED" (high-energy worship) follows "CAFE 180" Tuesdays, 8:30 p.m., Cushing Hall
- "FUZE" Small-group meetings in dorms on Monday nights. Times posted.
- "BRIC" Monthly outreach events

Berea College

Campus Minister: Kimberly Moynahan
CPO 2108, Berea 40404, 859-353-2321 (BCM)
kimberly.moynahan@kybaptist.org
Weekly Schedule: • Community Meal & Bible Study Mondays, 7 p.m. starting Aug. 30, BCM located behind Berea Baptist Church
Special Events:

- "Pancakes With Purpose" Aug. 27, 10 p.m.,

Make the campus connection!

A study from LifeWay Research found that two-thirds of young adults who attend a Protestant church for at least a year in high school will stop attending church regularly for at least a year when they are between the ages of 18 and 22. If you want to help students hang onto their faith legacy, connect them with the Baptist Campus Ministry at their college or university. From special events and small groups just for incoming freshmen, to weekly worship, fellowship and small-group Bible study for everyone, there is a place for students to make friends, have fun ... and most importantly, learn about Christ and grow in their faith.

location TBA. Unlimited pancakes \$1. Money provides "microfinance" loan for an entrepreneur in Rwanda.

- "Survival Saturday" Aug. 28, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Celebrate your survival of the first week of classes!
- "Family Groups" Sept. 3, 7 p.m., first-year halls. Support for students just starting at Berea.

Big Sandy Community & Technical College

Campus Minister: Norman Marcum
Mailing address c/o Enterprise Baptist Association, PO Box 1436, Prestonsburg 41653, attn: Norman Marcum, 606-424-3876 (BCM), normmarcum989@suddenlink.net
• Wednesday lunch & Bible study, 11:15 a.m.

Centre College

Campus Minister: Lori Akers
335 Streamland Dr., Danville 40422
859-236-5672 (BCM), lori_akers@hotmail.com
Weekly Schedule: • "Oasis" Thursdays, 9 p.m. at student center. New this year: We are inviting students from Danville campuses of Bluegrass Community Technical College and EKV.

- Special Events:
- "Church Tasting" Sept. 23, 5:30 p.m. Visit four local Baptist churches.
 - "Night of Homelessness" Nov. 5. Be part of community Thanksgiving food drive.

University of the Cumberland

Campus Minister: Dean Whitaker
7521 College Station Dr., Williamsburg 40769
606-539-4343 (BCM)

Dean.Whitaker@kybaptist.org

- Weekly Schedule:
- Outreach to Campus Team, Mondays, 4 p.m.
 - "Appalachian Ministries," Mondays, Tuesdays & Wednesdays, 4:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.
 - Prayer Team, Tuesdays, 4 p.m.
 - "Gatorade Ministry," Tuesdays, 3 p.m.
 - Nursing Home Ministry, Wednesdays, 2 p.m.
 - "Fuse Worship, Freshman Fire & Family Groups," Thursdays, 8 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Main Street Baptist Church
 - "GAMMA Team," local ministries, Fridays, 2 p.m.
- Special Events:
- "Drive-In Movie," Aug.28, Soccer Field
 - "BCM Explosion," Aug.30, Angel-Dale House & Lawn
 - "24-Hour Prayer," Sept.9-10, Gatliff Chapel
 - "Fall Awakening" Revival, Sept. 13-15, Gatliff Chapel
 - Men's Ministry Event, Sept.18, Angel-Dale House
 - "Concert of Prayer," Oct.5, Gatliff Chapel
 - "Freshman Fear Factor," Oct.25, Gatliff Lawn
 - Winter Break Mission, Jan. 2-9, 2011, Naco, Mexico

Campbellsville University

Campus Minister: Ed Pavy
UPO 850, Campbellsville 42718
270-789-5227 (BCM), Ed.Pavy@kybaptist.org
Facebook: *BCM @ CU*
www.campbellsville.edu/campus-ministries
Weekly Schedule:

- "C-Units" small-groups, times/locations vary

- "Oasis" campus worship, Thursdays, 9 p.m., Ransdell Chapel
 - Creative ministry teams, times/locations vary
 - "Commuter Lunch" (every other week) provided by local churches. Ransdell Chapel lobby.
 - "Freshman Family Groups" times/locations vary
- Special Events:
- Fall Retreat Sept.10-12, Camp JOY
 - Fall Revival with Brian Jennings, Sept.13-16
 - Mission trip to Manchester, Oct. 14-17
 - Christmas break mission trips to Texas, Florida, China, Costa Rica and Haiti

Elizabethtown Community & Technical College

Campus Minister: Michael Coogle
Mailing address c/o Severns Valley Baptist Association, PO Box 1434, Elizabethtown 42702, attn: Michael Coogle
270-268-5190 (home)
michaelcoogle@gmail.com
Weekly Schedule: • Free lunch and Bible study, Tuesdays, noon. Special Events • local mission projects, Spring Break mission trip, D-Now leaders

Eastern Kentucky University

Campus Minister: Jon Barron
325 University Dr. Richmond 40475
859-623-3294 (BCM)
jonathan.barron@kybaptist.org
Weekly Schedule:

- Worship service @ BCM, Tuesdays, 8 p.m.
- "The Well" free dinner followed by Bible study @

Continued next page

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- Weekly discipleship groups, times/locations vary

Georgetown College

Campus Minister: Bryan Langlands, interim
400 East College St., Georgetown 40324
502-863-8154 (BCM), bryan_langlands@georgetowncollege.edu
Weekly Schedule:

- "Common Ground" (student-led weekly worship gathering) Tuesdays, 7 p.m., Chapel
- "Freshmen Family Groups" (weekly small-group Bible study & fellowship) Wednesdays, 8 p.m.

- Tutoring children at Scroggins Park, Tuesdays & Wednesdays, 4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Special Events:

- Small Group Kickoff Retreat, Sept. 10-11, Cedarmore. Bagdad
- Fall Break Mountaineering & White-Water Rafting, Oct. 6-8

Hopkinsville Community College

Campus Minister: Chuck Poe
2512 Cox Mill Road Hopkinsville 42240
270-985-3072 (work), cpoe72@bellsouth.net

Weekly Schedule: • Lunch, Thursdays at noon

- Bible study, Thursdays 7 p.m. on campus

Special Events: Details coming!

Kentucky State University

Campus Minister: Curtis Woods
495 E Main St. Frankfort 40601
502-597-6480 (BCM), curtis.woods@kybaptist.org

Weekly Schedule:

- "Life Together" worship and fellowship, Mondays, 8 p.m. - 11 p.m.
- "Fit To Serve" Bible study centered on Wisdom Literature and exercise as a community of believers. Wednesday mornings, 7 a.m. - 8 a.m. (tentative)
- Small groups at BCM and elsewhere on campus.

Thursday evenings. Details coming.

Morehead State University

Campus Minister: Gene Parr
342 University Street Morehead 40351
606-784-4490 (BCM), Gene.Parr@kybaptist.org

Weekly Schedule:

- "Tuesday Night Live!" Comedy, live band, relevant message. Come as you are! 9 p.m.
- Praise and Bible Study Live band, worship and group Bible study, Thursdays, 9 p.m.
- Discipleship Groups TBA
- In house Coffee Shop open weekdays

Special Events:

- Fall and Spring Break Mission Trips
- Community Service Opportunities
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes
- Ministry with Greeks

Murray State University

Campus Minister: Mark Whitt
800 Waldrop Drive Murray 42071
270-753-5771 (BCM), Mark.Whitt@kybaptist.org

www.attheb.com, Twitter: murraystateBCM

Facebook: "Baptist Campus Ministry at Murray State University"

Weekly Schedule:

- "The Blend," An event for Freshman, Tuesdays through September, 6 p.m.
- Wednesday Luncheons, provided by local churches, 12:20 p.m., BCM
- "7.07 Worship" Thursdays, 7 p.m., BCM

Special Events:

- Fall Break Mission Trip & FOCUS Retreat, Sept. 30-Oct 3, Louisville & Cedarmore, Bagdad
- Spring Break Mission Trips (tentative) Beach Reach, Panama City Beach, Fla.; Ecuador; Denver

Northern Kentucky University

Campus Minister: Brian Combs
Nunn Drive, Highland Heights 41099
859-572-5955 (BCM), Brian.Combs@kybaptist.org

www.nkubcm.org

Weekly Schedule:

- Cookout and first "Engage" worship service, Aug. 24, 6 p.m., BCM
- "Thursday Night Together" fellowship and Bible study, Aug. 26, 6 p.m., BCM

Special Events:

- Fall Fellowship Retreat at Pigeon Forge, Sept. 17-19

Owensboro Area Colleges

- Brescia University
- Henderson Community College
- Kentucky Wesleyan College
- Madisonville Community College
- Owensboro Community & Technical College

Campus Minister: Cindy Pelphrey

203 W. 17th Street Owensboro 42303

270-925-4779 (BCM),
cindy.pelphrey@kybaptist.org

Weekly Schedule:

- "Mondays at HCC," lunch and Bible study, 12:30 p.m., Joe's Place
- Tutoring Ministry, Mondays, 5:30 p.m., Curdsville Baptist Church
- IMPACT creative ministries team, Mondays, 8 p.m., Daviess

McLean Baptist Association

- "C.R.O.S.S." worship and dinner for all Owensboro students, Tuesdays, 5 p.m., Daviess McLean Baptist Association
- "Wednesdays at MCC," lunch and Bible study, 12:15 p.m., Room 202, John H. Gray Bldg.
- "F.R.O.G. Freshmen Discipleship Small Group," Wednesdays, 6 p.m., Campus Ministry Center, KWC

- "Thursdays at OCTC," lunch and Bible study, noon, location TBA
- Small-group Bible studies times/locations vary

Special Events:

- KWC Campus Ministry Kickoff, Aug. 29 outside student center
- Welcome Dinner, Aug. 31, Daviess McLean Baptist Association
- Fall Retreat, September, Camp Lucon, details coming

- Welcome Lunch at MCC, Aug. 25, 12:15 p.m., John H. Gray Bldg.
- Welcome Lunch at HCC - TBD
- Spring Break Mission Trip for all Owensboro-area schools. March 14-18, Denver

Pikeville College

Campus Minister: Anna Hammond
610 Cedar Creek Rd., Pikeville 41501
606-437-1057 (BCM), apcc@setel.com

Weekly Schedule:

- Bible study and worship, Wednesdays, 5 p.m., chapel
- Volunteer at the Appalachian Pregnancy Center
- Visit residents at assisted living home
- Special Events: Details coming!

Somerset Community College

Campus Minister: Dusty Phelps
116 Ford Street, Somerset 42501
606-679-6406 (BCM), dusty.phelps@pulaski.kyschools.us

Weekly Schedule:

- BCM center is open to students Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. when classes are in session. Free WiFi!
- Free lunches held throughout the semester on Thursdays and select Mondays. Special Events: Details coming!

University of Kentucky

Campus Minister: Daniel Berry
429 Columbia Ave. Lexington 40508
859-257-3989 (BCM), Daniel.Berry@kybaptist.org

Facebook: UKBCM, Twitter: UKBCM

Podcast on Itunes: UKYBCM

Weekly Schedule:

- Weekend mission experiences
- Weekly Worship Tuesday nights
- Small Group Discipleship
- Community service projects
- Big-Brother/Big-Sister

Special Events:

- Oct 1-3 Focus at Jonathan Creek
- Oct 29-31 Fall Retreat
- March 12-20, 2011 "Freshman Road Rules," a mission trip just for freshman!

University of Louisville

Campus Minister: Bill Noe
Belknap Campus, Louisville 40292
502-852-6595 (BCM), Bill.No@kybaptist.org

Weekly Schedule:

- TNT Worship," weekly service, Tuesdays, 7 p.m. BCM
- FLT: Freshman Leadership Team," meeting for all Freshmen, Thursdays, 5:30 p.m., BCM

- Friday Noon Lunch, free food provided by local churches, BCM
- Small-group Bible studies, various times and locations

Special Events:

- Welcome Dinner," Sept. 2, 6:30 p.m., BCM, FREE food for all students, preceded by first FLT meeting, 5:30 p.m.
- Fall Break Mission Trip, Oct. 8-Oct. 11, Cincinnati

- BCM Hayride, Oct. 22, 5:30 p.m., BCM
- Freshman Retreat, Oct. 29 - Oct. 30

Western Kentucky University

Campus Minister: Tommy Johnson
1574 Normal Dr. Bowling Green 42101, 270-781-3185 (BCM)
Tommy.Johnson@kybaptist.org

www.wkubcm.com

Weekly Schedule:

- "Freshmen Family Groups," Mondays, 8:30 p.m.
- "180 Worship Service," Tuesdays, 8:30 p.m., Grise Hall Auditorium (Rm. 235)
- Conversational English for International Students, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m.
- Dollar Lunch, Thursdays, noon
- Weekly discipleship groups, times/locations vary

Special Events:

- Outdoor Worship, Aug. 27, 8 p.m. BCM
- Welcome Picnic, Aug. 30, 5:30 p.m.
- Welcome Retreat, Sept. 17-18
- Honduras Mission Trip, Dec. 26-Jan. 2, 2011

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IMB, NAMB request day of prayer for presidential searches

Richmond, Va.—As the Southern Baptist Convention's two mission boards continue their respective searches for presidents, they are asking Southern Baptists to set aside Aug. 28 as a day of prayer and fasting to ask God to direct the entities' paths.

Officials with the International Mission Board and North American Mission Board said they are making progress in their searches for the two men who will oversee their organizations. Each has interim presidents in place—Clyde Meador at the IMB and Richard Harris at NAMB.

Spokesmen for the organizations declined to pinpoint any timetable for their presidential selections but noted they are entering important phases in the process.

"This is a critical moment for these two organizations," said IMB presidential search committee chairman Jimmy Pritchard. "It is a critical time for our convention as we find God's man for IMB and (the right man for) NAMB."

Pritchard said there's nothing special about Aug. 28 other than it is "always a good time to ask God to speak clearly about who is His choice."

"The search has gone well, and we're making some good progress. ... We've met with a number of quality men," added Pritchard, senior pastor at First Baptist Church of Forney, Texas, who oversees IMB's 15-member search committee.

"Of course our timetable would have

been to already have made that selection, but we'd rather be correct than quick," he noted.

Mike Ebert, communications team leader for NAMB, added that its search committee is "getting close" and hopes to have a decision in the near future.

IMB trustees will meet Sept. 14-15 in Tampa, Fla., while NAMB's next full board meeting will be Oct. 19-20 in Los Angeles.

"We are excited about joining with our IMB brothers and sisters for a much needed and timely prayer emphasis," Ebert said.

"There's no better way to demonstrate cooperation and partnership with IMB than to join our hearts in prayer in this way." (BP)



FILLING IN Richard Harris (left) and Clyde Meador are serving as interim presidents at the North American Mission Board and International Mission Board, respectively. The search committees for both entities have asked Southern Baptists to set aside Aug. 28 as a day of prayer.

BAPTIST DIGEST

Controversial theologian Pinnock dies—Clark Pinnock, an influential theologian whose spiritual pilgrimage led him from a fiery fundamentalism as a young professor to an openness that caused some to brand him a heretic, died Aug. 15. He was 73. Pinnock, longtime professor of systematic theology at McMaster Divinity College in Hamilton, Ontario, taught at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary from 1965-69, where he became an influential figure in the Southern Baptist Convention's disputes over biblical inerrancy. Among his students was Paige Patterson, president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and co-architect of the SBC's conservative shift. He later became an early proponent of "open theism," which focuses on God's self-imposed limitations in dealing with humanity. Those views nearly got Pinnock kicked out of the Evangelical Theological Society in 2002.

Stats show need for background checks—In 2008 LifeWay's direct marketing department began working with BackgroundChecks.com to offer background screenings to LifeWay customers at discounted prices. Since that launch, more than 900 churches or organizations have conducted 11,277 background checks. Of those, 40 percent returned a criminal hit, meaning any kind of incident, ranging from minor traffic violations to felony convictions. Excluding traffic and non-traffic infractions, about 21 percent returned records with misdemeanor or felony results. More than 600 of those 2,320 searches returned felony offenses.

Georgia Baptist church fire ruled arson—Officials have offered a reward of up to \$10,000 for information about a fire that destroyed a Baptist church in Dublin, Ga. An Aug. 13 blaze destroyed the 50-year-old sanctuary of Dublin's Central Baptist Church. Pastor Ellis Carswell told local media he suspected arson from the beginning, because someone previously broke a window at the church and tried to set a curtain on fire. Authorities determined the cause of the fire was arson, after specially trained dogs discovered traces of accelerant. Carswell, an African-American community leader who in the past chaired the Laurens County Board of Education, told the Macon Telegraph he didn't know why anyone would want to burn the 6,000-square-foot church building.

Missouri Baptist Foundation head to lead CBF Foundation—James Smith, president and treasurer of the Missouri Baptist Foundation, will retire from his position and assume a similar post with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Foundation. CBF officials announced the hire Aug. 19. Smith, who has headed the Missouri foundation since 1993, announced the decision to the institution's executive committee Aug. 13. He will begin duties with the CBF Foundation Oct. 1. In addition to his work with the foundation, Smith, an ordained Baptist minister, has served as interim pastor of several Missouri churches. At the CBF Foundation, Smith will replace Don Durham, who departed his position in late June.

Former American Idol contestant and fellow bandmates minister in Chile

By Tristan Taylor
International Mission Board

Santiago, Chile—Sean Michel smiled through his distinctive, foot-long beard as he slid the guitar strap over his shoulder and greeted the crowd at El Huevo nightclub with what little Spanish he knows. The former American Idol contestant and his band then erupted into the sounds of Mississippi Delta blues-rock.

But unlike other musicians who played that night, Sean Michel's band sang about every person's need for God and the salvation that comes only through faith in Jesus Christ.

"We came down (to Chile) to open doors that other ministries couldn't," said Jay Newman, Michel's manager. "To get in places that only a rock band could—to create a vision for new church planting movements among the underground, disenfranchised subcultures of Chile."

Sean Michel and his band recently traveled through central Chile playing more than 15 shows in bars, churches, schools and parks. The group consists of Southern Baptists Michel, who is the lead singer; Alvin Rapien, lead guitarist; Seth Atchley, bassist; and Tyler Groves, drummer.

"Although we're a blues rock 'n' roll band, we're an extension of the church," Michel said. "We're kind of like 'musicianaries,' if you will."

The band formed after Michel and Newman met as students at Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Ark. While there, the two began recording and selling Michel's music as a way to raise money for mission trips to Africa and Asia.

"We were just trying to raise money for a mission trip, but we'd also seen God speaking to people through the music," Michel recalled. "So we were like, 'Well, maybe we need to do something with this,' and we became a music ministry. But it's always been rooted in missions and ... in the Great Commission."

Michel graduated from Ouachita in 2001; Newman in 2004. In 2007, Newman talked Michel into auditioning for American Idol. The exposure he received through the television show gained a wider audience for the ministry.

"The whole American Idol thing was so weird," Michel said. "We just kind of went on a whim. But the Lord used it in a big way."

During his tryout, Michel belted out a soulful rendition of Johnny Cash's "God's Gonna Cut You Down." The video of the audition went viral on the Internet.

Soon he was doing radio interviews in which he identified himself as a Christian and directed listeners to the band's gospel-laden MySpace page. On their next mission trip to Asia, Michel and Newman found that being recognizable gave them access to venues they couldn't have entered before.

The band now is an official extension of First Southern Baptist Church of Bryant, Ark., where the musicians have long been active members serving in the music and youth ministries. Every mission trip they have taken has involved working with International Mission Board missionaries.

"We're Southern Baptist," Michel said. "That's who we roll with."

"With short-term mission trips, you can plan, but you just got to be willing for your plans to change," he noted.

When they arrived in Chile, they found their schedule wasn't nearly as full as expected. Almost no public venues had booked shows, and many rock-wary churches had declined to host the band.

"The biggest barrier we had was the pastors," said Cliff Case, an IMB missionary in Santiago, Chile. "The older pastors on two or three different occasions gave excuses for not doing it. It was a real frustration in that sense."

Disappointed by the lack of interest, the band prayed for God's help. They met Jose Campos, or Pépe, as the band came to know him. Campos works with music and youth for the Ministry of the Down and Out, an independent Christian ministry that seeks to reach the often-overlooked demographics of Santiago.

Campos was able to use his connections to book shows for the band in venues they wouldn't have known about otherwise.

"Had we met Pépe two or three weeks before the group came, there's no telling how many shows we might have done," Case said.

Campos booked the show at El Huevo, possibly Chile's most popular club. Playing there has given the band musical credibility among Chilean rockers. And, one Chilean church reported that a youth accepted Christ after hearing Newman talk before a show. The band already is contemplating a return tour next year. (BP)



CHRISTIAN ROCKER Sean Michel (right) performs for a small audience at a park in Santiago, Chile. Band member Seth Atchley (left) supports on bass. Michel's band visited Chile to help open doors for missionaries to reach the young, musical subculture of Chilean society.

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Fight over Ground Zero mosque becomes partisan wedge issue

Land: Mosque too close for comfort

Nashville, Tenn.—When it comes to religious freedom, people of the Muslim faith have the right to build mosques in the U.S. that are convenient to their communities under local standards, Richard Land recently told Warren Olney, host of Public Radio International's "To the Point" radio show.

Land, president of the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, said he believes building a Muslim mosque next to Ground Zero would be equivalent to building a Japanese Shinto shrine next to the U.S.S. Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor.

"I defend the right for Muslims to have places of worship in lower Manhattan, but not at Ground Zero," Land said on the syndicated program on National Public Radio. "Polls show that 61 percent of people in New York don't want a mosque built there. The right to religious freedom doesn't include the right to have a religious worship place wherever you want it."

When asked if his stance was prompting expressions of bigotry toward those of the Islamic faith, Land said the Southern Baptist Convention has consistently defended religious freedom.

Aziz Poonawalla, a Muslim and author of BeliefNet's City of Brass blog, argued on the program that prejudice against Islam was behind the perspective that a Muslim worship center should not be built near Ground Zero, a bias that would not exist if it were any other religion at the center of the discussion.

In response to Poonawalla's "prejudice" comment, Land referred to the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

"The people who attacked the towers were not doing so in the name of another faith," Land said. "Let's deal with historical reality. These people claimed to be doing this in the name of Islam."

Land said he realizes that most of the people killed by Islamic death cults are fellow Muslims, but the idea of building a mosque that close to Ground Zero is painful to those who lost loved ones in the Sept. 11 attacks. Recent press reports indicate human remains still are being found at the site where construction work now has made some areas accessible. (BP)

By Adelle Banks

Washington—What started as a local zoning debate about an Islamic center near Ground Zero, and then morphed into a fight over religious expression, now has turned into an election-year political brawl.

Caught in the middle of the rancorous partisan fight are American Muslims, whose own voices have been drowned out by politicians on both the left and the right.

President Obama waded into the debate Aug. 13 when he hailed America's "unshakeable" commitment to religious freedom during a White House dinner to celebrate the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

"As a citizen, and as president, I believe that Muslims have the same right to practice their religion as everyone else in this country," Obama said. "And that includes the right to build a place of worship and a community center on private property in lower Manhattan, in accordance with local laws and ordinances."

Perhaps sensing the political storm clouds that were gathering, Obama later said he would not "comment on the wisdom" of whether to build near Ground Zero, which previously he had called "hallowed ground."

Republicans, however, pounced. Sen. John Cornyn, the Texas Republican responsible for adding GOP Senate seats in the November elections, said Obama "seems to be disconnected from the mainstream of America" and called his remarks "unwise." The top Republican in the House, Minority Leader John Boehner, called them "deeply troubling."

Rep. Jerrold Nadler, the New York

Democrat whose district includes the site of the proposed Cordoba House in lower Manhattan, fired back on CNN's "State of the Union."

"It is only insensitive if you regard Islam as the culprit as opposed to al-Qaida," Nadler said. "We were not attacked by all Muslims."

GOP luminaries like former vice presidential nominee Sarah Palin and former House Speaker Newt Gingrich already have promised to make the issue one for the voting booths in November, with Gingrich telling The New York Times that Obama was "pandering to radical Islam."

"Fatal blow" for Obama?

According to a recent CNN/Opinion Research Corp. poll, 54 percent of Democrats and 82 percent of Republicans oppose the New York mosque project. The Christian Broadcasting Network's David Brody predicted the issue will have legs in 2010 and beyond.

"This situation all by itself has the potential to make President Obama a one-term president," he wrote Aug. 16 on his "Brody File" blog. "This latest mosque move may be the fatal blow."

Shahed Amanullah, founder of altMuslim.com, a popular Muslim website, agreed that the fight could influence some voters this fall—"people are still going to be drunk on this issue," he said—but probably not beyond that.

"We're definitely far enough from 2012 where the dust will have settled," Amanullah predicted.

Lost in the debate, Amanullah said, is the interfaith bridge-building that the Cordoba House once hoped

to foster, in part because of anti-Muslim vitriol that he said is worse now than immediately after 9/11.

"The people that are being ostracized, I think, right now are the people that are in the middle, who feel that Muslims belong in America but have misgivings" about the proposed center, he said. "Those people are ... caught in the crossfire because the opposition is being led by people who, in my personal opinion, really don't believe that Muslims belong in America."

Melissa Rogers, an expert on church-state relations who has praised New York officials for supporting "a linchpin of the American tradition of religious liberty," said the overall debate could send the wrong message to Muslims, both at home and abroad.

A planned protest at a Florida church to burn copies of the Quran on the 9/11 anniversary only can make things worse, she said.

"I do think that there's a real danger that Muslims receive the message that they are second-class citizens and that their rights have an asterisk beside them, if you will," said Rogers, director of Wake Forest University Divinity School's Center for Religion and Public Affairs.

Rogers said she hopes grassroots Americans, including religious leaders, can help lead the discussion above the political fray.

"Americans have an important role in this debate," she said. "It goes to our core values and we should talk about it and we should definitely try to bring more light than heat to the issue, no matter what the politicians are doing." (RNS)

'Hi'

Young international student makes hectic first journey to U.S., Oneida

Over the years, Kay and I have made many trips to the airport in Lexington to pick up our international students. Since my wife is the admissions director for these students, many of the parents feel much more comfortable knowing that one or both of us will meet their children at the airport. In the past two weeks, nearly 30 international students have arrived at all hours of the day and night. Many were new students who had never before traveled to the U.S.

A few days ago, it fell my lot to make a trip to the airport to pick up two students. One was a returning student; the other was new. This was one of many trips that my grandson Adam went with me. Many of his best friends are international students he has met over the years as he has attended Oneida all of his life.

Anyone who has picked up someone at the airport automatically checks the electronic board to see if the flight is on time. Few things are more frustrating than to see that your flight has been delayed. One of my students arrived on time, but the second, a new seventh grader, was not on her flight. I honestly don't know if I could put my seventh-grade daughter, traveling alone, on a flight from Seoul, South Korea, to travel halfway around the world to the United States.

The new student—"Jane" is her American name—arrived in Chicago where she had to change planes. Her cousin, a 2010 OBI graduate and now a University of Kentucky student, had agreed to meet us at the Lexington airport. When we discovered that Jane was not on the

flight, he began to make phone calls to see if he could locate her. We finally were told she had missed her flight in Chicago because she was at the wrong gate. Actually, she was at the correct original gate, but there was a last-minute change to another gate.

Jane, who spoke no English except for the word "hi" did not realize the departure gate had been changed. When the airport personnel in Chicago realized what had happened, they escorted her to the proper gate to catch a later flight to Lexington.

Finally, nearly three hours after her original flight was due to arrive, Jane's plane landed in Lexington. Her cousin was the first to greet her. Though I could not understand what he was saying to her, I sensed from his tone that he was chastising her for missing her original flight. I asked him several times what he was saying but he wouldn't tell me.

Then it happened. Jane burst into tears, sobbing uncontrollably. At that point I felt like I had to intervene. Though she is his cousin, she is my student! He never would tell me what he said to make her cry. When I asked Jane to tell me, her cousin politely said that she did not speak English, except for "hi."

I still don't know what he said to her, but I trust her adjustment to Oneida will not be as stressful as her trip from Chicago. I know I live in a different world than the one in which I grew up, but I am still not sure I could send my seventh-grade daughter so far from home—especially knowing that she didn't speak any English.

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

Go and make disciples

Clear Creek grad follows call to serve in foreign country

I recently attended the ordination service of one of our 2010 graduates, Tim Christopher. He is a member of Ephesus Baptist Church in Winchester. Todd Rader is the pastor of this missions-minded church.

I was encouraged as I heard Tim's testimony of how people from his family, Ephesus Baptist and former pastors had invested in his life. Next to God, he was thankful for how all these people had been an encouragement to him.

By the time you read this article, Tim already will be on his way to another part of the world to follow God's call on his life. Tim will be living in another country for an extended period of time to establish a house church and disciple new believers who have been led to the Lord on earlier mission trips to that area.

I asked Tim how his time at Clear Creek helped encourage and prepare him for this journey:

"I now realize there are many ways my time (at Clear Creek) prepared me for this journey," Christopher said. "It was when we would bow our heads in prayer before each class and request that those already on the mission field and those soon

headed to serve be granted strength and encouragement through the Holy Spirit. It was in a class with Dr. Bob Hughes on missions and evangelism which illustrated to me the reason why reaching out to the whole world and spreading the whole truth was so important in doing kingdom work.

"It was in a biblical geography class with Dr. Roy Lucas explaining in vivid detail the way the ancient world looked and worked, and how if we traveled to some of these far off places I, too, could see and witness the amazing wonders of the ancient world," Tim continued.

"It was also professors Dan and Elli Gillum's burning desire to show me their passion for reaching out to another culture in a foreign land thousands of miles away from the safety of home," he said.

You, too, can be encouraged through Tim's call. Your support of Clear Creek continues to provide a place for those called of God to be equipped to go and make disciples.

Clear Creek Chronicle



Donnie Fox

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

Another record summer

More students than ever 'go beyond' at summer camp

Looking back, May seems so long ago considering what all has taken place. The summer certainly has flown by very quickly. Crossings 2010 is officially done, but the effects of camp are continuing in communities far and wide. This year represents another record year of attendance. More importantly, it represents another record year of spiritual decisions.

Number of first time decisions to accept Christ: **478.**

Number of campers surrendering to a call to full-time ministry: **490.**

Total dollars given to missions: **\$105,946.**

While we are amazed at what took place with students at camp this summer, what is equally important is what continues to take place once they return home to their respective communities. Our goal is that students will embrace what we call "The Beyond Effect."

The Beyond Effect is a challenge for students to go beyond themselves—beyond even camp—to effect change for the least of these

in their communities, country and the entire world. This movement started at Crossings in 2009 and is rapidly gaining momentum. We are getting reports from students that are engaging and motivating their churches and fellow believers to action to impact the world. In the coming weeks, this article will be devoted to telling stories of what is taking place that will amaze you.

Our belief is that God can and does incredible acts through His people—that includes students. If we as older believers will simply come alongside them with encouragement and faith in them, students will step out and allow God to accomplish great things through them.

You can begin to see some of these stories by visiting www.TheBeyondEffect.org. Don't miss the opportunity to see how God is raising up a generation of youth that is impacting the world.

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

Ky. Baptist Assemblies



David Melber

Sunrise Food Round-Up

Churches can help feed Ky.'s abused and neglected kids

When we think about the necessities of life, our minds often come up with a short list that includes food, shelter and clothing. We probably could come up with many additions to that list when we think about what young people need to grow into mature, stable and contributing adults, but these basic human needs are universal.

The children cared for by Sunrise Children's Services arrive with other needs as well. Most have been abused or neglected, and their needs go beyond just the physical. Many have been scarred emotionally and wounded spiritually. Our staff and foster parents who deal daily with these young people have the training and compassion needed to help mend these wounds.

However, all the training and compassion in the world have little impact if the physical needs of the young people are not met. Imagine trying to get a teenager to open up about abuse when they have no place to sleep, no clean clothes to wear and no food to eat. How difficult would it be to convince a 4-year-old child they are in a safe place if they are dirty and hungry?

The physical needs of these children must be met, and that's why Sunrise holds our annual Food Round-Up. Churches across Kentucky are invited to participate in this initiative to help us provide good, nutritious meals to the approximately 500 children who are

in our care each day.

Years ago this meant mostly collecting canned-food items, but today monetary donations and gift cards to grocery stores are much more useful in our residential programs and foster homes.

Sunrise spends about \$6.50 per child per day to provide meals. With 400 children to care for, that adds up to more than \$78,000 per month. It's a significant expense but one that can be greatly lessened through the generosity of churches.

Here's how your contributions will help:

If your church were to contribute \$3,510, it would feed 18 children for an entire month. Most of our residential programs have a capacity of around 18 children.

A church that contributed \$585 in cash or gift cards would be feeding one child for a month. A gift of \$1,170 will feed a child for six months, and a contribution of \$2,372 would feed one child for an entire year.

Christ's example to the early church was to care for a person's physical needs in order to prepare his or her heart for spiritual nourishment. Your church has an opportunity to model Christ by helping to feed the children we serve.

Ask your church if it has received the Food Round-Up packet from Sunrise. If you need more information, call us at (800) 456-1386 or visit us online at www.Sunrise.org.

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

Sunrise Children's Services



Bill Smithwick

Polls show one in four Americans thinks President Obama is a Muslim

By Adelle Banks

Washington—Two new polls say as many as one in four Americans mistakenly believe President Obama is a Muslim, presenting the White House with the unique challenge of defining a central element of the president's life story.

Asked in a Time magazine poll whether the president is a Muslim or a Christian, 24 percent of respondents said Muslim, and 47 percent said Christian.

A separate Pew poll released last week found that 18 percent of Americans think President Obama is a Muslim. A full 43 percent of Americans—across lines of race, political party and religion—don't know what faith he follows.

Perhaps most strikingly, the number of Americans who believe Obama is a Muslim has increased over the last 18 months, while fewer believe he's a Christian. The percentage of Americans who could identify Obama as a Christian has dropped from 48 percent to 34 percent, according to Pew.

Experts pointed to a number of possible explanations, but one quickly rose to the top: The candidate who discovered Christian faith in a Chicago black church has rarely been seen leaving the White House for Sunday services.

"Possibly this reflects the degree to which this president is less public about his religion, especially than his predecessor was," said Alan Cooperman, associate director for research at the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life.

Whatever the reason, White House spokesman Shin Inouye described Obama last week as a man of "strong Christian faith" even though "he doesn't wear it on his sleeve."

"He prays every day, he seeks a small circle of Christian pastors to give him spiritual advice and counseling, he even receives a daily devotional that he uses each morning," Inouye said.

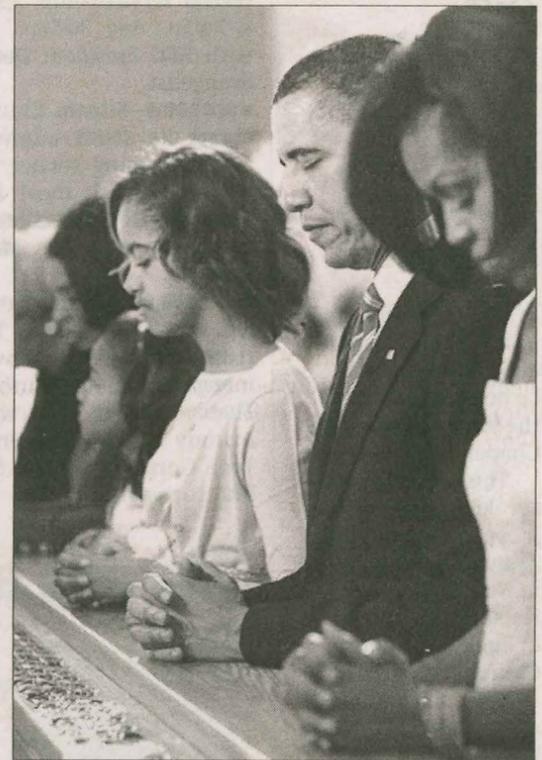
Shaun Casey, an ethics professor at Wesley Theological Seminary and a former adviser to the Obama campaign, said the poll findings indicate a "communications problem" in the White House, but also continuing opposition to the president.

John Green, director of the Bliss Institute of Applied Politics at the University of Akron, said the findings refute the "reasonable expectation" that as Americans come to know Obama better, they would have a more accurate picture of his faith.

"The fact that we don't see a lot of pictures of him attending a house of worship ... might have some kind of effect," Green said.

As president, Obama has addressed his faith occasionally, telling how he and other Christians "glory in the promise of redemption in the resurrection" at an Easter prayer breakfast last April, or telling the National Prayer Breakfast in February, "I assure you I'm praying a lot these days."

Obama had planned to attend "a number of different churches" in Washington, but the Obamas have visited only a few, including St. John's Episco-



A MATTER OF FAITH? President Obama and his family pray during Easter services at Allen Chapel AME Church in Washington on April 4. As many as one in four Americans believes Obama is actually a Muslim, according to new polls released last week. (File photo)

pal Church near the White House, two historically black Baptist congregations in Washington, and the Washington National Cathedral for an inauguration prayer service.

The Pew poll of some 3,000 respondents was taken between July 21 and Aug. 5, before the president waded into the controversy over a proposed Islamic center near Ground Zero. After telling a Ramadan dinner at the White House that the U.S. has an "unshakeable" commitment to religious freedom, the next day he said he would not "comment on the wisdom" of placing the Islamic center near the site of the 9/11 attacks.

The Time poll of some 1,000 adults was taken just after he made his comments.

Observers said the findings may have less to do with Obama and more to do with opponents who skillfully use the media—especially the Internet—to spread misinformation about the president.

Sally Steenland, a senior policy adviser to the Faith and Public Policy Initiative at the Center for American Progress think tank, said it's important for people of all parties to be responsible about telling the truth.

"Do any of us want to live in a country, or do we want to be voting, on the basis of made-up reality?" she asked. (RNS)

SBC, others push for action on prison rape

Washington—Six months before she was scheduled to be released on drug charges, Marilyn Shirley was raped in 2000 by a guard at the Texas prison where she was serving time.

Religious leaders and civil rights advocates say Shirley is far from the only one and are pressing the Department of Justice to implement national standards to help prevent an estimated 60,000 cases of prison rape each year.

"What we are witnessing is justice denied," said Tim Goeglein, vice president of external relations at Focus on the Family and one of the signers of a letter to Attorney General Eric Holder.

Other signers included representatives from the Southern Baptist Convention, the National Association of Evangelicals, Sojourners, as well as the United Methodist Church, United Church of Christ, American Civil Liberties Union and the National Immigrant Justice Center.

Focus on the Family officials worry that the scars of rape could persist once prisoners return

home. "Millions of young people in America have one or two parents in prison," Goeglein said.

The standards, proposed last year, would subject correctional facilities to audits and establish a protocol for handling rape in their facilities. According to the 2003 Prison Rape Elimination Act, they were supposed to be enacted by Holder by June of this year.

The standards already have been adopted by California and Oregon without significant additional costs, according to Pat Nolan, vice president of Prison Fellowship.

Many of the same groups who now are pushing Holder worked to pass the act, which pushed for better data on prison rapes and established the National Prison Rape Elimination Commission, an independent oversight body.

Department of Justice spokeswoman Hannah August said the department is working diligently and plans to send the approved standards to the Office of Management and Budget this fall. (RNS)

Campbellsville to host church leadership conference Sept. 23-24

Campbellsville—“Characteristics of Effective Church Leaders” will be the theme at next month’s 2010 Pastors and Church Leaders Conference at Campbellsville University.

The conference for pastors, church staff and laypersons will be held Sept. 23-24 at the school’s Ransdell Chapel.

This year’s keynote speakers are Fred Luter Jr., pastor of Franklin Avenue Baptist Church in New Orleans, and Hershael York, pastor of Buck Run Baptist Church in Frankfort.

“We read and hear a lot about leadership, but often we miss a needed emphasis on some basics,” noted John Chowning, Campbellsville’s vice president for church and external relations. “Family, integrity, transparency and loving the people are basic characteristics, but vitally important and absolutely essential in effective church leaders—both for those who are ordained and for the laity.”

Breakout sessions will focus on the theme with an emphasis on family, integrity, transparency and loving the people. Sessions include: “Making Family a Priority,” led by Luter; “Three Pillars of Credibility,” led by York; “Leadership Across the Generations” led by Campbellsville professors Ted Taylor and Shane Garrison; “Ha Ha & Aha: Healing Humor in Ministry,” led by Scott Wigginton, associate professor of pastoral ministries and counseling at CU.

Tony Cunha, associate dean and assistant professor of music at the school, will lead a session for worship ministers and leaders. He also will serve as worship leader for the conference.

The cost to register for the conference is \$30. For more information or to register, contact Sheila Douglas at (270) 789-5520 or SDDouglas@Campbellsville.edu.

MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

■ **CORBIN**—Central Church will hold revival services Aug. 29, 10:30 a.m. & 7 p.m.; Aug. 30-Sept. 1, 6:30 p.m., with KBC President **Don Mathis** as evangelist.

■ **GLASGOW**—Siloam Church will celebrate its 150th anniversary with a homecoming service Aug. 29, 10 a.m. A potluck meal and concert featuring **New Direction** will follow the morning service. **Mark Graham** is pastor.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Jeffersontown Church will host guest speaker **Thomas Schreiner**, professor of New Testament interpretation at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, who will lead a study titled “Galatians: The One True Gospel” Aug. 29, 5 p.m. **Luke Bray** is pastor.

Spotlight on ...

Bardstown



The People’s Church will hold Friends Day Aug. 29 and revival services Aug. 29-Sept. 1, 7 p.m., with **Tom and Kay Cox** as evangelists. **Doug Bunch** is pastor.

■ **WINCHESTER**—Ephesus Church recently ordained **Timothy Christopher** to the gospel ministry. **Todd Rader** is pastor.

Making a Difference



U.S. Congressman Hal Rogers (right) presents a “Difference Maker” award to University of the Cumberlands President Jim Taylor Aug. 11 at the Williamsburg campus. The award was in recognition of the “many years of hard work, dedication and commitment to Operation Unite and the Center for Rural Development,” according to the certificate presented to Taylor. During a brief ceremony at the school, Rogers praised Taylor for his work transforming “a sleepy little college in southeast Kentucky into this dynamic university that we see today. ... He’s an educator, he’s an entrepreneur, he’s a public servant, he’s a leader, and certainly, he is a difference maker.”

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SEEKING: Office volunteer for West End Boys School—ministers to inner-city boys. Professional setting. (502) 899-5353.

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

SEEKING: Highly motivated and called student minister (part-time) to lead and grow outstanding youth group. Details at drippingspring.com. Submit resumés to jkwilson@hhsheetmetal.com.

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 resumés to personnel@greatbridgebaptist.org.

KBC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August

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.

October

1-3 FOCUS 2010, Cedarmore Camp & Conference Center, Bagdad.

7-9 Ministers in Transition, Louisville.

8-9 A Parent Privilege Conference, Gardendale Baptist Church, Lexington.

15-16 Kentucky Baptist Nursing Fellowship Retreat, Cedarmore Camp & Conference Center, Bagdad.

20-22 Joshua Project Event, Holiday Inn University Plaza, Bowling Green.

21-22 Quarterly Prayer Meeting for Spiritual Awakening, Northside Baptist Church, Mount Vernon.

23 Disaster Relief Blue Hat Training, Baptist Building, Louisville.

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

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CLASSIFIED ADS

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

SEEKING: Energetic leader to develop youth ministry at Parkway Baptist Church, Lexington. Seeking part-time minister with vision of growing a full-time ministry that evangelizes and disciples youth and leads them to participate in the ongoing life of the church. Some Bible college of seminary required. (859) 299-8445.

SEEKING: Full-time director/minister for established preschool ministry at Scottsville Road Baptist Church in Warren County. Competitive salary and benefits. Must meet Kentucky state requirements for a Type 1 facility director. Please send resumé to PO Box 50916, Bowling Green, KY 42102; or by e-mail to wcorym@gmail.com.

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 pastorsearch@highlandhills.org. Our website is www.highlandhills.org.

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. Resumés should be sent to Zion Baptist Church, 8158 Hwy. 351, Henderson, KY 42420.

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



The contest

By Todd and Michelle Deaton

"Once upon a time ...," Lenny Lobster began writing.
"No, no, no. Every story I read begins with that sentence," Craig Crab complained.
"We'll never win with that first line," Syd Squid added. "Can't you be more creative?"
"Just clam up, and let's get this done!" Clarice Clam exclaimed.
At school, Mrs. Tuna Tidewater had divided the class into two teams for a writing contest. "Write about anything you choose," she said. "The only rule is that everyone must help in writing the story."
On the other team were Seamore Seahorse, Sunny Starfish and Ollie Oyster. They were busy coming up with ideas.
"I like stories about knights and dragons," said Seamore.
"Should we put a princess in the story?" asked Sunny.
"Ooh, this sounds good," agreed Ollie. "But we need some action. How about if the dragon was guarding a key to a cave that holds the treasure of a thousand kingdoms?"
"Cool!" exclaimed Sunny. "Who's going to write all this down?" she asked.
"I think Ollie should. He has a new computer," Seamore suggested.
"Sunny, you're such a good artist. Would you draw some pictures?" Ollie added.



Meanwhile, the first team was still having trouble agreeing on an idea.
"Syd, your ideas are so lame," Craig whined.
"Fine, Craig, why don't you and Lenny write your own story?" Syd pouted. "Come on, Claire, we'll write our own story."
Mrs. Tidewater said we were to write one story together, Clarice objected.
"So, we'll just put the two halves together," Syd shrugged.
"I will write our half. No one will be able to read it if you write it," Craig told Lenny. "You have the worst handwriting in the world."
"If we want an 'A', I'd better write our half," Syd said, snatching the paper out of Clarice's hand.
Each group chose who would be read it to the class.
"This story stinks. I'm not going to do it," Craig protested.
"It doesn't make any sense," Clarice agreed. "What do a pirate and an astronaut flying to a deserted island and fighting aliens have to do with a talking doll playing dress-up at a tea party?"
"I guess I'll read it, if no one else will," Lenny winced.
"Now we'll lose for sure," Syd frowned.
The other group, however, couldn't wait to share their story. "Let's all read our favorite part," said Seamore.

Seamore told about a fierce battle between a knight and a dragon. Sunny told how a princess saved the day by helping the dragon when he got hurt during the battle. Ollie told how the dragon was so grateful that he gave the knight the key to a cave filled with treasure.

"Those were certainly very interesting," Mrs. Tidewater remarked. "What grade do you think you deserve?"



Treasure Hunt

What was the only rule for the writing contest?
Why was it easier for Seamore Seahorse's team to write its story?
What are some helpful words to encourage others?
Read Ephesians 4:29 together.

For Heaven's Sake

Mike Morgan



Preacher's Kids

David Ayers



Bible Crosswords

Across

- 1 Thrives
- 8 Boy's name, var. form
- 11 Played again
- 12 Set in
- 14 Two, Romans number
- 15 God told Moses His name was I _____
- 16 Overdose, abbr.
- 17 Milligram, abbr.
- 18 "Destroy ... the _____" (Deuteronomy 20:17)
- 20 Carrot family herb
- 23 Public transportation
- 24 Number of lepers that Christ healed
- 25 Charged particle
- 27 Christ is the Alpha and _____
- 29 And, Lat.
- 30 By the grace of God, Lat. abbr.
- 31 Preposition
- 32 Pull
- 33 Long walk
- 36 Tin container
- 37 Mr., Sp. abbr.
- 39 "The Lord will not _____ his people" (1 Samuel 12:22)
- 41 The self, according to Freud
- 43 "_____, every one that thirsteth" (Isaiah 55:1)
- 45 Sixteenth letter of Greek alphabet (plural)
- 47 Preposition
- 48 Aaron's son (Exodus 6:25)

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53					54	55			
		56				57			58

- 51 Childrens Bible club
- 53 Potato state
- 54 "____ my steps in thy word" (Psalms 119:133)
- 56 Russian ruler
- 57 "Take up thy _____, and go" (Matthew 9:6)
- 58 Church education, abbr.

- 21 Not out
- 22 Sea duck with soft feathers
- 26 King of Bashan (1 Kings 4:19)
- 28 Mythological snake-haired woman
- 31 "Howl, O ye _____ of Bashan" (Zechariah 11:2)
- 34 "____ it be thou, bid me come" (Matthew 14:28)

Down

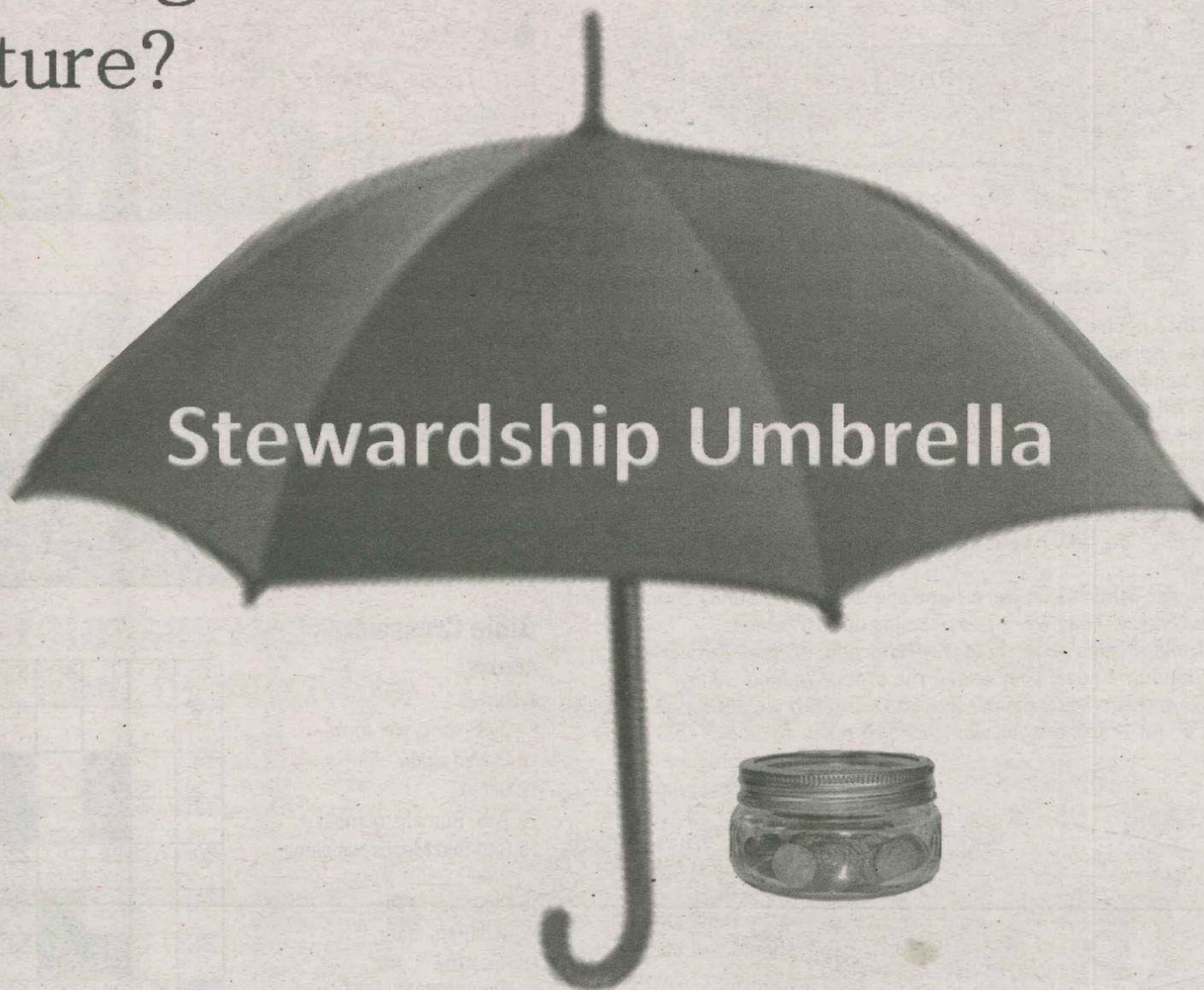
- 1 Monkey, for example
- 2 "Thy God _____!" (Isaiah 52:7)
- 3 Either
- 4 Bags
- 5 IOU, in other words, abbr.
- 6 City in Zebulun (1 Chronicles 6:77)
- 7 Tin, chemical symbol
- 8 Middle
- 9 Preposition
- 10 Feline's foot (2 words)
- 13 Paris university
- 15 Support organization for addicts, abbr.
- 19 African fly that spreads disease

- 25 Charged particle
- 27 Christ is the Alpha and _____
- 29 And, Lat.
- 30 By the grace of God, Lat. abbr.
- 31 Preposition
- 32 Pull
- 33 Long walk
- 36 Tin container
- 37 Mr., Sp. abbr.
- 39 "The Lord will not _____ his people" (1 Samuel 12:22)
- 41 The self, according to Freud
- 43 "_____, every one that thirsteth" (Isaiah 55:1)
- 45 Sixteenth letter of Greek alphabet (plural)
- 47 Preposition
- 48 Aaron's son (Exodus 6:25)
- 51 Childrens Bible club
- 53 Potato state
- 54 "____ my steps in thy word" (Psalms 119:133)
- 56 Russian ruler
- 57 "Take up thy _____, and go" (Matthew 9:6)
- 58 Church education, abbr.
- 21 Not out
- 22 Sea duck with soft feathers
- 26 King of Bashan (1 Kings 4:19)
- 28 Mythological snake-haired woman
- 31 "Howl, O ye _____ of Bashan" (Zechariah 11:2)
- 34 "____ it be thou, bid me come" (Matthew 14:28)
- 35 Belonging to the leader of a rebellion against Moses (Numbers 16)
- 36 Egyptian city
- 38 Arab chief
- 40 Fashionable resort
- 42 Belonging to one of the sons of Judah (Numbers 26:19)
- 44 "The dragon, that _____ serpent" (Revelation 20:2)
- 46 Filled with wonder
- 49 "Let us _____, and be merry" (Luke 15:23)
- 50 Animals, scientific suffix
- 51 Lemon beverage
- 52 Clinton's state, abbr.
- 55 Rubidium, chem. symbol

Last week's solution

1	C	H	U	R	C	H	6	M	O	R	8	S	9	E	L
11	R	A	R	E	I	12	W	I	13	A	M	N	O		
14	A	R	N	O	L	D	L	15	O	D	D				
16	S	P	D	17	H	E	18	R	U	G					
19	H	S	T	20	M	E	21	E	22	E	R	E			
23	F	I	N	E	D	24	W	E							
25	G	26	O	G	N	27	W	28	R	S	E	29			
30	R	E	32	H	O	S	T	34	T	E	R	35	B	E	X
36	E	V	E	37	T	R	E	E	39	M	A	P			
40	A	I	D	41	Y	42	A	D	43	I	N	44	R		
44	T	L	C	45	S	E	P	A	R	A	T	E			
46	I	47	O	48	N	A	N	S							
49	Y	O	U	N	G	E	S	T	50	N	T	H	S		

What's Wrong With
This Picture?



To find out "What's Wrong With This Picture" we encourage **church leaders** to contact Barry Allen or Laurie Valentine at the Kentucky Baptist Foundation office.



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