

Shine like stars in the world  
Philippians 2:15

# WESTERN Recorder

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## 'The eyes have it!'

### Louisville pastor, Ezell, elected to lead North American missions

By Mike Ebert  
North American Mission Board

Atlanta—Kevin Ezell, pastor of Highview Baptist Church in Louisville, Ky., was elected president of the North American Mission Board in a special called meeting of NAMB trustees Sept. 14 at an Atlanta hotel.

Ezell's nomination was announced Aug. 31 after NAMB's seven-member presidential search committee voted unanimously to recommend him as president. The meeting in Atlanta began at 8 a.m. and ended at noon with the announcement Ezell had been elected.

"I am honored and humbled that the trustees put this confidence in me," Ezell said immediately following the meeting. "I will do everything I possibly can to honor the Lord in this and to lead the board to a place where it is as effective as it possibly can be."

Ezell said he sensed God's call to the role partly because of what can be accomplished through the North

American Mission Board.

"I see the potential NAMB has if its energies and resources are focused in the right direction," Ezell said. "I am looking forward to being able to give a very clear vision for it. You rarely have the opportunity to have this big of a Kingdom impact."

Tim Dowdy, chairman of the entity's board of trustees, said the vote was the culmination of a 10-month process. "It has at times been discouraging and at times encouraging, but along the way God has been faithful to give us guidance," Dowdy said. "When He introduced us to Kevin, it was evident through the interview process that this was the man."

Dowdy, pastor of Eagle's Landing First Baptist Church in McDonough, Ga., said Ezell's leadership abilities, integrity and passion for church planting and missions are what led trustees to him.

"He has demonstrated faithful leadership and character and he has



**VOTE** Kevin Ezell (left), pastor of Highview Baptist Church in Louisville, and his wife, Lynette, talk with NAMB trustee chairman Tim Dowdy, pastor of Eagle's Landing First Baptist Church in McDonough, Ga., during the Sept. 14 trustee meeting. (Photo by John Swain)

a passion for reaching the world," Dowdy said. "One banner he will consistently wave is that our greatest resource in the SBC is not money, but people. We want to help mobilize our people and partner with them to reach North America for Christ."

Ezell has served as pastor of Highview Baptist Church since 1996 and was president of the Southern Baptist Convention Pastors' Conference in Orlando this past June. He and his

wife Lynette met with NAMB trustees in a closed session for about an hour last Tuesday morning to discuss his nomination.

NAMB's presidential search committee was appointed in October 2009. The committee was headed by Ted Traylor, pastor of Olive Baptist Church in Pensacola, Fla. (BP)

**Editor's note:** Though NAMB did not release an official count, sources close to the trustees' action are reporting that Ezell was elected by a 37-12 vote.

### Baptist men to gather for prayer, 'Bigger Breakfast'

By Tobin Perry  
North American Mission Board

**Morning View**—Tony Robinson knows how important men are to the church he pastors. That's why, for the second year in a row, he plans to gather the men of Piner Baptist Church to pray, learn and fellowship during "The Bigger Breakfast 2010" on Sept. 25.

This Saturday, they also will kick off 40 days of prayer for the men of church and the nation. The period of prayer at the Morning View, Ky., congregation will conclude with a church-wide revival.

"If we're going to do anything to begin to reverse the trends in America, it will have to begin with men and the home," Robinson said. "Anything we can do to jumpstart that, I believe, will be crucial to the future of America."

The North American Mission Board once again is encouraging Southern Baptist churches to participate in The Bigger Breakfast 2010, which organizers hope will be the largest simultaneous breakfast in history.

The men of Lincoln Heights Baptist Church in Mansfield, Ohio, used The Bigger Breakfast 2009 to launch a "Baptist Men On Mission" group in their church. The men already were meeting weekly for Bible study and monthly for breakfast, but the op-

See Men gathering ... *Page 6*

### Harris, Wheelwright centers see needs met through Eliza Broadus offering

By Ken Walker  
State Correspondent

**Lookout**—It may be difficult to equate a new roof with ministry, but when Greg Whitetree looks at the fading shingles on the parsonage at the Freda Harris Baptist Center, the connection becomes clearer.

"The shingles have been there for 25 years and are starting to curl up and look funny," said Whitetree, longtime co-director of the eastern Kentucky ministry center. "I think

that's the thing that's going to hit us hard this year or next."

Thanks to the Eliza Broadus Offering, maintenance at Freda Harris and the Wheelwright Baptist Center is handled on an as-needed basis through the Eastern Kentucky Ministries Buildings Fund.

The fund was established two years ago to create a way to handle repairs at the two Kentucky Baptist-owned facilities. It is scheduled to receive \$40,000 if this year's offering reaches its \$1.2 million goal.

That would boost its reserves to \$70,000—money that will come in handy when the Freda Harris parsonage needs a new roof. Or, if stream erosion affects the buildings at Wheelwright.

Joy Bolton, executive director of Kentucky's Woman's Missionary Union, said the same kind of planning created a transportation fund about 10 years ago.

Money for this designated account goes into savings so when either ministry center needs a new van the money is there to purchase it. The Kentucky Baptist Convention has allocated \$15,000 for transportation from this year's offering.

"When it comes time they are pricey," said Bolton, noting that many people don't grasp how keeping vans running and buildings repaired helps fulfill the Great Commission. However, she added, "Without that foundation being there, that other frontline ministry won't happen."

The creation of the building fund originated with a coal mining company. In 2008 the company notified Pike County property owners that it planned to dig a mine access tunnel that would come within 300 feet of the Freda Harris Center.

See Harris, Wheelwright ... *Page 9*



**RECREATION** Community children attend a weekly drop-in program at the Freda Harris Center that offers Bible stories, games and refreshments. Transportation and building funds are provided through the annual Eliza Broadus Offering.

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*"... the supplies are only secondary—the relationships we are building with the children and their parents give us the opportunity to share the truth of God's love and saving grace."*

## New shoes provide ready-made illustration

By Shirley Cox  
Kentucky Baptist Convention

**McDowell**—Providing backpacks filled with school supplies to children in need has been part of God's Appalachian Partnership in McDowell for several years. Recently GAP took the effort a step further, adding clothing and shoes—and with the shoes a ready-made gospel illustration.

During a two-day back-to-school event, hundreds of children and parents watched a skit that explained the gospel. As the players shared the story of how Christ came to serve others, they re-told the account of how Jesus washed His disciples' feet. Volunteers then invited the children to have their feet washed before being fitted with new shoes.

"The foot washing was a great display of God's love," said Kenny Hogston, youth pastor for Gano Baptist Church in Georgetown. Hogston and several members of the youth group devoted a Saturday to the back-to-school event in McDowell.

"We witnessed several youth sharing their faith with the children while their parents listened," said Angie Wagoner, who with her hus-

band, Lynn, directs GAP. The Wagoners are Mission Service Corps missionaries with the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Wagoner said she knows of an adult and a 10-year-old girl who accepted Christ because of the back-to-school ministry.

Jeanie Mitchell, a member of Forks of Elkhorn Baptist Church in Midway, knows of another. "One young adult asked me at the conclusion of the skit, 'How do I get saved?' What an awesome privilege it was to lead this young man to the Lord," Mitchell said.

Wagoner is confident that more lives will be changed because of the Christian witness demonstrated to the people served at GAP during the two-day event. "We know seeds are being sown and watered and we trust God to continue to work in those lives," she said.

As children waited to receive their school supplies and other gifts, students from Gano kept them entertained with face painting, balloon animals, manicures and crafts that illustrated the 'gospel. Volunteers also served more than 300 bags of popcorn and 450 snow cones.

"This was our third time helping

out with GAP and every time, the teenagers come back with a sense of humility and appreciation for what they have," Hogston said. In all, 458 children received assistance. Volunteers donated enough supplies to fill 500 backpacks, allowing GAP to continue to provide for families unable to attend.

"The back-to-school distribution was especially needed this year as we see more families losing jobs and having financial problems," Wagoner said. "It was amazing to see how God provided an abundance of shoes, school supplies and clothing and all the people to accomplish the event," she continued. "Even so, the supplies are only secondary—the relationships we are building with the children and their parents give us the opportunity to share the truth of God's love and saving grace."

In addition to Gano Baptist and Forks of Elkhorn Baptist, other congregations partnering with GAP in the back-to-school ministry were CrossRidge Baptist Church in McDowell, Prestonsburg First Baptist Church, McDowell First Baptist Church and Jasper Springs Baptist Church in Garden City, Ga.

## Crittenden DOM, Nimmo, nominee for KBC 2nd VP

**Williamstown**—Greg Nimmo, director of missions for Crittenden Baptist Association in Williamstown, will be nominated as second vice president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention when the KBC annual meeting convenes Nov. 16 in Lexington.

Nimmo, who will be nominated by T.J. Francis, pastor of First Baptist Church in Walton, is the second announced candidate. Jim Clontz, director of missions for South District Baptist Association, also will be nominated.

In a Sept. 13 e-mail, Francis pointed to Nimmo's commitment to missions and to Kentucky Baptist causes as an example to laymen, pastors and denominational workers.

"Greg Nimmo is a man who has a heart for God, a vision for reaching the lost, and the unique ability to lead churches to carry out the Great Commission," Francis added in a statement to the Western Recorder. "Furthermore, Greg is a man of God who is committed to living out the gospel in his daily life."

Nimmo has served Crittenden Baptists since 2005, after serving as pastor of Hustonville Baptist Church in Hustonville for 11 years. Prior to that, he was pastor of Beechridge Baptist Church in Bagdad and Oakridge Baptist Church in Williamstown. A member of the KBC's Committee on Nominations and the KBC Mission Board's business and finance committee, Nimmo also has been secretary of the state Pastors' Conference.

"I believe that the Kentucky Baptist Convention's greatest days are ahead, and I would consider it a privilege to be able to serve Kentucky Baptists in this capacity," Nimmo told the Western Recorder.

Nimmo expressed appreciation to the KBC Great Commission Task Force for the long hours they spent gathering information and putting together a vision for Kentucky Baptists.

"If we choose not to take the task force's recommendations, then we must answer the question of how we intend on reaching the world with the gospel," Nimmo said. "I believe that Kentucky Baptists can and will meet the challenge that is before us."

Nimmo is a member of Williamstown Baptist Church, where Darrell Morgan is pastor. According to the KBC's 2009-2010 ACP statistics, the church gave 7.8 percent to the Cooperative Program and reported 18 baptisms.



Greg Nimmo

## Cumberlands volleyball team serves in Kenya

**Williamsburg**—While most college athletes were taking some time to rest or train for the upcoming season this summer, members from the University of the Cumberlands volleyball team had something much different in mind.

Coach Kara Clemenz and players Tommie Thompson, Katie Johnson, Amanda Hensley and Courtney Fout spent two weeks of their summer serving at the Tumaini Miles of

Smiles Children's Home in Kenya.

Over the past few years, the team has gained many connections with the orphanage. After former volleyball head coach and Cumberlands admissions counselor Amanda Walton visited Tumaini, she arranged for the team to begin sponsoring a young girl there, Aileen Nescha. Since that time, Walton has moved to the orphanage to serve for two years, and the volleyball team has continued to sponsor Aileen.

"The opportunity to make a summer trip presented itself, and those who were considering it spent time praying," said Coach Clemenz about the team's decision.

The team members met in Acworth, Ga. with the rest of the International Sports Federation team they would be serving with. There, they participated in a training camp, including exercises in cultural exchange and praying.

"It was such a blessing to have the volleyball girls and Coach K in Kenya. When I first began coaching at UC, God laid on my heart a vision for the young ladies on the team to have a heart for something so much bigger than themselves," Walton said.

"One of my concerns when I left

coaching was that I would never really get to see that vision fulfilled. So, when I saw these amazing ladies standing on Kenya soil with a heart yearning to make a difference, all I could think was how faithful God is to make His vision for the hearts of man a reality, on His time and for His glory," Walton added.

At Tumaini, each morning consisted of vacation Bible school activities including games, crafts, story time, dancing and singing. In the afternoons, the team did manual labor, including moving and laying bricks for a new security house on the orphanage grounds, cleaning and planting in the field. Most importantly, the team always took time to love on the kids.

Though the team served in many ways, they stayed focused on the main goal of sharing the love of Christ with every person they encountered. Senior Tommie Thompson explained however, that it was much different than she expected.

"So many people think that we as a team were going to love on the kids, but they showed us so much more love. I also saw just how much God, as our father loves us," she explained.

**ON MISSION** University of the Cumberlands volleyball team members with the young Kenyan girl the team sponsors. From left to right: Amanda Hensley, Katie Johnson, Kara Clemenz, Courtney Fout, Aileen Nescha, Tommie Thompson, and alumnae Amanda Walton and Leslie Bellar.



## Surge of gifts brings year-end CP totals close to budget

**Louisville**—A surge of gifts from Kentucky Baptists prior to the end of the fiscal year brought August Cooperative Program totals to within \$70,000 of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's workable budget goal of \$23 million.

Kentucky Baptists gave \$1,888,316 in August to bring the year's total CP gifts to \$22,930,141.

"Finishing the year within \$70,000 of our workable budget when other states are running nearly 5 percent behind their goals shows the importance Kentucky Baptist churches place on the Cooperative Program and all the local, national and world-

wide ministries and missions it supports," said Lowell Ashby, the KBC's Business Services Team leader.

The total workable budget for the year was \$23 million, trimmed from \$24,480,000 in response to the global economic downturn.

"We are thankful that Cooperative Program gifts were so close to reaching our workable budget goal," said Billy Compton, executive associate for Cooperative Program and Resources for the Kentucky Baptist Convention. "In a challenging economy, the sacrificial giving from Kentucky Baptists continues to enable us to share the gospel in Kentucky, North America and the nations."

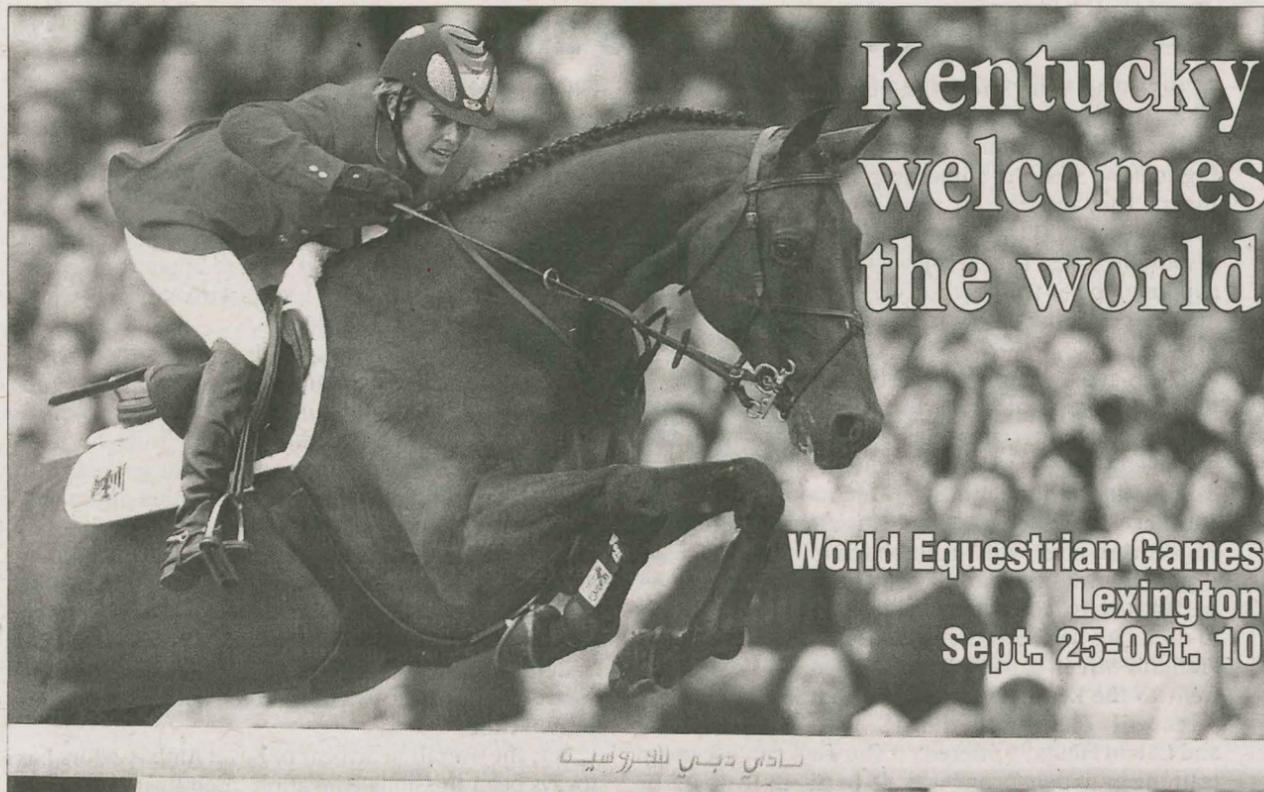
### Kentucky Baptist CP gifts at a glance



#### Giving for Aug. 1-31, 2010 & Year-to-Date

Monthly budget* goal:	\$1,916,667
Actual giving:	\$1,888,316
Under budget:	\$28,351
Year-to-Date budget* goal:	\$23,000,000
Year-to-Date actual giving:	\$22,930,141
Under budget:	\$69,859

\*Reduced from approved FY 09-10 budget in response to economic downturn.



## Kentucky welcomes the world

World Equestrian Games  
Lexington  
Sept. 25-Oct. 10

### Upcoming event is culmination of years of ministry preparation

By Drew Nichter  
News Director

Lexington—In 2006 a delegation led by Larry Martin traveled to Aachen, Germany, to experience the World Equestrian Games, the world's largest equine sporting event.

This weekend Martin and the rest of the group that came to be known as Affiliated International Ministries will see their four years of planning culminate in more than two weeks of gospel-sharing events surrounding the games, which kick off this Saturday at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington.

AIM Director Martin, a consultant with the Kentucky Baptist Convention and its former missions growth team leader, has amassed a legion of ministry entertainers who will be performing at several venues, primarily throughout eastern Kentucky, during the Sept. 25-Oct. 10 World Equestrian Games.

The group also has enlisted hundreds of volunteers to help AIM achieve its goal of "working together to make a positive impact before, during and after the games."

Martin said AIM has been working at the "grassroots level to build the awareness and to build relationships leading up to the games."

"Many, many churches have been very receptive, and we're very thankful for that. They are involved in many different ways," he said.

Martin called the AIM effort an interdenominational one that includes individuals from eight different denominations—"and they've worked together beautifully," he said. "They're all very committed to serving together."

AIM already has more than 350 volunteers involved with a variety of ministries during the games, but could use as many as 75 more as the events get going this weekend.

Volunteer opportunities still are available at a handful of the community festivals AIM will co-sponsor through the close of the games, Martin noted.

#### Community events

The bulk of AIM's work will be centered at the Georgetown Equine Expo, which will kick off Friday, one day before the official start of the World Equestrian Games.

A number of entertainers working with AIM will be featured in Georgetown, just north of the Kentucky Horse Park. From Sept. 24-Oct. 9, AIM-sponsored events will be held from 4-6 p.m. and 9-11 p.m. each day.

Day one of the Georgetown Equine Expo has been designated "John Lyons Day," Martin said. Lyons, who is working alongside AIM, is a world-renowned horse trainer who uses horse-training techniques to share the gospel.

Lyons also will be performing at the Equine Village inside the Kentucky Horse Park. He and Molly the Pony, a 20-year-old horse that was rescued from a Louisiana farm after Hurricane Katrina and wears a prosthetic leg, are AIM-sponsored entertainers at the venue.

According to an AIM news release, visitors to the park can access the Equine Village and Trade Show Pavilion, where AIM will have a booth, by purchasing a \$25 one-day grounds pass. (This does not include admission to individual equestrian games events.)

AIM-sponsored entertainers also will be featured daily from Sept. 25-Oct. 9 at the International Equestrian Festival in Lexington. The event will be held at Heritage Hall in the Lexington Convention Center on the lower level of Rupp Arena.

Several entertainers will perform each day from 4-6 p.m., including Kentucky Baptist David Garrard, a nationally-known magician who also serves as the children's minister at St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville. Benton-based gospel group The McKendrees also is scheduled to perform.

As part of an African-American Recognition Day at the International Equestrian Festival Oct. 4, Lincoln Bingham, co-pastor of Louisville's St. Paul Baptist Church at Shively Heights, will share his story of how he, the grandson of a slave, moved from anger to a racial reconciler.

In addition to the local festivals, AIM will be taking its show on the road for a few one-day-only events.

A number of AIM-sponsored entertainers will be featured at the Renfro Valley Big Barn Entertainment Center Sept. 30 at 7 p.m. as "Renfro Valley Welcomes the World." A similar event will be held in Shelbyville at the Shelby County Fairgrounds Oct. 3, beginning at 4 p.m.

A pair of AIM-sponsored entertainers will make the trip to eastern Kentucky to perform at the Stables at Creekside Glen in Lynch. The horse ministry is part of Meridzo Center Ministries in Harlan County.

The following day, AIM will have several featured performers at the third annual Secretariat Festival in Paris from noon-3 p.m.

With the World Equestrian Games spanning three Sundays, AIM has made worship times available for visitors.

Each Sunday at 8 a.m., a worship service will be held at Cane Run Baptist Church, which is located directly across Ironworks Pike from the Kentucky Horse Park. Lyons will preach all three Sundays.

In addition, AIM is sponsoring worship services each Sunday at the Georgetown Equine Expo. The guest preacher at the first two services will be Lew Sterrett, a well-known speaker who uses horse training to demonstrate life lessons such as trust and teamwork.

Even as the World Equestrian Games get underway this weekend, Martin said AIM's work will continue well beyond the next two-plus weeks. He insisted the group will continue to work with future events that come to the Kentucky Horse Park.

Martin said he also wants to provide a network for the more than two dozen identified equestrian ministries working in Kentucky.

"There are many who are serving Christ in different ways in the horse industry who feel alone," he noted. "But the strongest movement of God we have seen in our lifetime in the whole horse industry is occurring today."

For example, Martin pointed out that Western Horseman magazine, one of the industry's top publications, has a great deal of advertising that features a Christian symbol of some kind. "Thirty years ago, that would have seemed totally impossible," he said.

For more information on events and volunteer opportunities, visit the AIM website, [www.AIMKy.org](http://www.AIMKy.org).

# AIM

Affiliated International Ministries

## Schedule of sponsored events

All AIM-sponsored events are free unless otherwise noted.

### GEORGETOWN

#### Georgetown Equine Expo, Sept. 24-Oct. 10

The expo is located at Exit 126 on Interstate 75. AIM will have a booth at the expo which will be open from noon-10 p.m. each day.

#### Sept. 24-Oct. 9, 4-6 p.m.

- John Lyons—dubbed "America's Most Trusted Horseman."
- The Glory Riders—a parade unit from Texas consisting of 10 riders on matching white horses.
- Lew Sterrett—teaches life lessons through horse-training demonstrations.

#### Sept. 24-Oct. 9, 9-11 p.m.

- Adrian Ross—Aboriginal didgeridoo player from Australia.
- Blue Flamingo Jazz—British jazz group.
- Manoj Chopra—holds the title of "strongest man in Asia," performs feats of strength.
- Derbytowntown Quartet—Louisville-based instrumental group that plays Celtic and Americana music.
- David Garrard—a nationally known magician from Louisville.
- The McKendrees—family bluegrass band from Benton.
- The Pareli Pederson Band—a musical group of young adults from Norway.

### LEXINGTON

#### International Equestrian Festival, Sept. 25-Oct. 10

The festival is located at Heritage Hall at the Lexington Convention Center. The cost of admission is \$5. AIM will have a booth at the expo which will be open from noon-9 p.m. each day.

#### Sept. 25-Oct. 9, 4-6 p.m.

- Blue Flamingo Jazz
- Manoj Chopra
- Derbytowntown Quartet
- David Garrard
- The McKendrees
- The Pareli Pederson Band
- Adrian Ross

### RENFRO VALLEY

#### "Renfro Valley Welcomes the World," Sept. 30

Renfro Valley Big Barn Entertainment Center, Mount Vernon, 7 p.m.

#### Featuring:

- Blue Flamingo Jazz
- Manoj Chopra
- David Garrard
- Gunnpoint Ministries
- The Pareli Pedersen Band
- Adrian Ross

### LYNCH

#### Stables at Creekside Glen, Oct. 1, 7 p.m.

#### Featuring:

- The Glory Riders
- Adrian Ross

### SHELBYVILLE

#### "Shelby County Welcomes the World," Oct. 3

Shelby County Fairgrounds, 4 p.m.

#### Featuring:

- Blue Flamingo Jazz
- Glory Riders
- The Pareli Pederson Band
- Lew Sterrett
- Adrian Ross

### AIM-SPONSORED WORSHIP SERVICES

#### Cane Run Baptist Church, Sept. 26, Oct. 3 & 10, 8 a.m.

Located across from the Kentucky Horse Park, featuring John Lyons preaching.

#### Georgetown Expo, Sept. 26, Oct. 3 & 10, 10:30 a.m.

Featuring Lew Sterrett preaching Sept. 26 & Oct. 3.

## Aetna Grove celebrates generations

My wife, Kay, and I recently had the wonderful privilege of representing Kentucky Baptists as Aetna Grove Baptist Church in Summersville celebrated 210 years of service.

### Partners in the Mission



By Bill Mackey

Representatives from different age groups were asked to share what the church meant to them. Here are some snippets from their testimonies.

**Youth:** Samuel Jones, guitarist for special music with Kelsey Scott, shared: "My teachers taught me about Jesus Christ."

**20s:** John Bagby, who has just gotten married, said: "Church has been a beacon of light for me."

**30s:** Daniel Scott, who has two children who are now believers, said: "The church is family, and I know they will be here for my family."

**40s:** Jeff Wright said: "As a grandfather I see the big picture. Leaders taught me respect and discipline. Guided by those leaders, we must guide future generations."

**50s:** Linda Evans shared: "I got away from the church, but God stirred my heart and drew me back 14 years ago and you welcomed me."

**60s:** Wanda Craddock said: "I remember revival meetings of two weeks, with crowds overflowing and standing at windows to hear, and meaningful baptisms at the river."

**70s:** Ray Wright recalled his "father praising God" and that he and his quiet mother were each "held in high respect."

**80s:** Ola Mae Quisenberry said: "Church represents holy ground" and remembered revivals with overflowing crowds and children saved. "Each generation is precious to Jesus," she added.

These testimonies were inspiring and powerful. Aetna Grove Baptist Church is a great example of a church with leaders and teachers who have mentored future generations by investing time with them as Sunday school teachers and missions organization leaders.

Organized in 1800, the church is the second oldest church in Lynn Baptist Association and has a long and rich history in the community. The church united with the association in 1856.

It was a special privilege for me to commend the church for its outstanding support of all missions offerings, and especially the Cooperative Program (14.5 percent in 2009). With an average worship attendance of 74 (ACP, 2009) the church has given faithfully to CP missions, reaching a total of almost \$400,000 since 1925. The amazing record is that 39 percent of that amount has been given since 2000 when Edwards became pastor. The church has also been strong in support of the Eliza Broadus Offering (\$1,143) and of Lynn Association (6 percent).

We are grateful to God for teachers and leaders in hundreds of KBC churches who are living the truth by God's help, intentionally mentoring future generations, sharing the gospel and supporting missions.

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

## Carr: Living strengths as ambassador for Christ

In "Living Your Strengths," authors Albert Winseman, Donald Clifton and Curt Liesveld believe that by discovering one's talents, one discovers a calling to serve God. "... Something resonates deep within us," they explain. "It is as if our spirits react to this discovery with a resounding 'Yes! This is the way it is supposed to be—this is who I was created to be.'" That's how it was with Rob Carr.

Long ago, when a pastor-friend took note of his zeal for teaching boys about God through missions, he encouraged Carr to explore if God was calling him into the ministry. Carr soon headed off to Southern Seminary to pursue a master's of Christian education degree with an emphasis in missions.

But Carr didn't want to just study about missions, he wanted to continue leading Royal Ambassadors to do it. So, he found a church where he could serve, Franklin Street Baptist Church in Louisville. He also went to the Kentucky Baptist Convention building to meet with then Brotherhood leaders Forrest Sawyer and Calvin Fields. "I offered, 'If you guys can use me in training or to help in any way, I'd be happy to do it,'" he recollects. They took him up on it.

From 1974 to 1979, while in seminary, Carr traveled all across the commonwealth, assisting churches in starting RA programs. "They basically would point at a map and say, 'We need you there this Tuesday night at 7 o'clock,' and they wouldn't give directions," he recalls. "I discovered more of Kentucky that way, but it really didn't bother me in the least," he chuckles. "When you're in your 20s and you're excited about what the Lord wants you to do, you've got a lot of energy."

After graduating, he married Cindy, a US2 missionary, who also wanted to attend seminary, and Carr found himself again in Louisville, serving as minister of education at Bethany Baptist Church. Then, when Sawyer retired and Fields moved up, he asked Carr to become associate director. "He didn't have to ask me twice," Carr said. Carr served Kentucky Baptists from 1982 to 1989, when he became Brotherhood director in Illinois. Nine years later, he was tapped by the Home Mission Board (now North American Mission Board),

where he now serves as children's missions education strategist.

Still, "Kentucky will always have a special place in my heart—for its leaders and its people," Carr says. "As far as missions goes, you will find a state that not only studies missions, but it also tries to apply it on many different levels—with children, youth and adults."

Through the years, there have been many changes in the RA program, but one of the biggest has been a simplification in its advancement steps, which had evolved into

a complex point system to earn bars, stars and patches. "Now we do the 12-12-12 approach, where if a boy hears 12 mission stories or testimonies, knows 12 Bible stories or verses, and is involved in 12 missions activities, then he earns a pin," Carr explains. The simplification seems to be catching on as more and more church leaders are discovering they can start RA meetings and do missions projects with limited resources and preparation time.

Yet, the overall heartbeat of Royal Ambassadors has always been missions education, mobilization in missions projects, and mentoring—"where a godly man (or woman) has the opportunity to shape a boy's understanding of the Bible, missions, God and the church," he emphasizes.

After 50 years as a Royal Ambassador, Carr hasn't lost his fervor for "seeing boys' lives changed" through missions. "If I could only say three things about RAs, it's the pledge, the pledge, the pledge," Carr underscores. "If you live out that pledge in your life and become an effective ambassador, then there isn't anything finer; it's about making a personal commitment to live your life as God would have you live it: as an ambassador for Christ."

"I say to people, 'Once a RA, always a RA,'" Carr quips. "What I mean by that is, you can't be a former ambassador for Christ." He's right. Imagine what would happen if every believer kept that perspective throughout life, aspiring to use his or her talents to become the best ambassador for Christ possible. That's living your strengths!

## After Thought

By Todd Deaton



## 'We're on board!'

While Kentucky Baptists have a proud history of doing great things for God, it is an especially exciting time in the KBC with hope for even greater days ahead.

For several years, the church where I am pastor, First Baptist of Henderson, has given 15 percent of undesignated receipts to the Cooperative Program.

When the SBC overwhelmingly approved the recommendations of the Great Commission Resurgence Task Force, our church looked forward to seeing how those recommendations might be implemented by Kentucky Baptists. The report of Kentucky's Great Commission Task Force reflects a desire to share the missional vision of the majority of Southern Baptists and a commitment to penetrate the unreached and underserved areas of the country and the world.

I rejoice in the recommendation of a 50/50 allocation split between the KBC and SBC, believing this percentage to be the best missional standard for the years ahead. With Kentucky Baptists approving these recommendations in November, what pastor could not get on board with the prospect of reaching more people for Christ by leading our churches to

give more to the Cooperative Program?

Let me be among the first to say, "Yes, I will lead our congregation to increase our giving to the Cooperative Program by at least 0.25 percent each year for seven years." Why? It's simple: More for Christ.

Todd Linn  
Henderson



## Run it; fund it

I want to suggest a new theme for the Southern Baptist Convention: "We will run it, and you will fund it." Allow me to explain.

Let's begin by summarizing the Great Commission Resurgence Task Force recommendations. It goes like this: "Change is good—just trust us (whoever 'us' is)—and vote for it. We will figure out the details later. And, be sure to keep those Cooperative Program and missions dollars coming."

"We will run it, and you will fund it."

Elected as president of the North American Mission Board is a pastor whose church gave \$140,100 (2.3 percent) of undesignated receipts of \$6.3 million through the Cooperative Program. Additionally, his church gave 12 percent of their budget to "mission causes."

"We will run it, and you will fund it."

I thought strong support of the Cooperative Program was the predominant criteria before a person was deemed acceptable for Southern Baptist leadership service? Is 2.3 percent the new recognized "gold standard?"

Don't misunderstand what I'm saying: I'm weary of hearing from pundits who proclaim how one must be a substantial giver to the Cooperative Program before being "worthy" of convention leadership, preaching "thou shalt give the minimum of 10 percent to the Cooperative Program."

But, you can't have it both ways. Either strong support of the CP is a prerequisite for "career advancement" in the SBC or it is not.

We are going to awake one day to find that pastors and churches have become disillusioned and decided to reallocate their mission resources to "mission causes," rather than the Cooperative Program.

On that day those who "run it" will discover there's not enough left to "fund it."

Terrell Bradley  
London

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## WESTERN Recorder

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

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## Lost and found: A postman's kindness remembered

The nine-year-old third grader at Oaklawn Elementary School in Fort Worth, Texas, had waited for this day. Oh, how he had waited for this day.

Usually, his father—fresh from his own classes at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary—would come around at the end of the school day in the white, Rambler station wagon to pick up the two brothers for the short ride—only six blocks—home. But now his brother, two years older, had been elevated to “traffic guard” at the school, and he was busy ushering students across the street at one of the four corners of the school grounds before he walked home. For a while, the father picked up the younger brother alone.

The younger brother remembered the day the father had picked him up on Nov. 22, 1963. As always, he flicked on the radio. On that day, though, the radio announcer revealed some dreadful, unfathomable news: “The President has been shot!” The boy could hardly take it in. How could this be? The boy learned as he watched the black and white television set in the front living room in the days ahead that John F. Kennedy had, indeed, been killed. Those were frightful days.

But now it was Spring, and the boy's parents had decided that it was time for him to walk home alone. It was just six blocks, after all. And the boy knew the route well, having often walked it with his mother to a grocery store.

He knew that after several blocks from the school, a large, dark brick house surrounded by a chain link fence would rise on the hill to the right. Intimidating black Doberman Pinscher dogs, three of them, always came barking down to the fence at the sidewalk. Although the fence was sturdy, the boy always walked a little faster by that house, past those dogs.

Anyway, it was at that house that the boy knew to turn left onto the safety of Collins Street, his street. The street was gravel, still unpaved, but after making the turn, his house, a nondescript white frame bungalow with attached garage in front, stood only three doors down.

So on that cool spring day, the boy waited patiently for the final school bell to ring. And when it rang, he gathered up his things, headed for the corner, crossed the

street, and all by himself, headed home. He skipped along a block or two, and then began to look for the large dark house with the chain link fence. He listened for the familiar bark of the dogs. He walked another block, and kept up his watch. Then, another block. And then, one more.

By this time he knew something was amiss. Had he missed a turn? Had he left the school from the wrong corner? He wasn't sure where he had gone wrong, but he was sure of one thing: He was lost, utterly lost. He began to cry, and through his tears he saw across the street a tall man with a bag draped over his shoulder. The man wore a distinctive blue-gray uniform. The boy knew him for what he was, a mailman, a postman.

The boy looked both ways and crossed the street. He got the postman's attention, and still crying, tried to tell him that he was lost. The boy explained that he had left Oaklawn Elementary School a while ago, that his parents had allowed him for the first time to walk home alone, but that something had gone wrong. He was lost.

The boy has never forgotten what that postman did at that moment of his despair. The postman did not just point the boy back to the school with instructions to walk a few blocks in the direction from which he had come. Rather, the postman put his arm around the boy, left his own mail route, and walked with the boy step by step all the way back to the school.

Sure enough, back in the parking lot stood the boy's family, father and mother and brother, beside the station wagon. The Rambler had all the doors flung open wide, as if the car itself welcomed the boy back. The boy ran into the arms of his parents, who took him safely home.

I will never forget what that postman did for me that day. And I will never forget his face. And when I try to imagine what Jesus looks like, I don't see a stern young man with long-flowing hair and beard. Instead, through tear-stained eyes, I see the kindly, smiling face of the postman who led me back home.

*Duane Bolin teaches in the Department of History at Murray State University. A member of Murray's First Baptist Church, he teaches Sunday school and serves on the Western Recorder's Board of Trustees.*

### A Letter from the Laity



Duane Bolin

## What role do parents play in a child's faith retention?

By David Garrard

Christianity Today recently published an analysis of research by Notre Dame sociologist, Christian Smith dealing with the faith practices of “20-something” adults—a group some are beginning to refer to as “adultolescents.”

Smith reports that much of what happens as this group transitions to adulthood works against any kind of serious faith commitment, including putting down roots in a congregation. Not very many look to faith for stability in their lives.

At the same time, Smith says, “There is a significant minority of emerging adults who are raised in seriously religious families who continue on with that.” Which begs the question: “What are the traits of religious American teenagers who retain a high faith commitment as emerging adults?”

The most important factor is ... parents! Smith: “For better or worse, parents are tremendously important in shaping their children's faith trajectories.” He emphasizes that above everything else, this influence must include modeling, not just telling kids about faith. We often say that children pay more attention to what parents do than what they say. It appears that once again, research bears this out.

Two other factors also play an important role. Young people who have an established devotional life of some kind, i.e. they pray and read scripture on a regular basis, are more likely to continue to do so when they become young adults. These habits hold as life unfolds.

Relationships with other adults in the congregation besides their own parents are also significant. These adults provide support and encouragement, as well as additional modeling in the ways of faith.

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



## Some reasons to give

By Doug Strader

The world in which we live has been described by some as being filled with two types of people: givers and takers. In the Book of Acts, the Apostle Paul quotes Jesus as saying, “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” A friend of mine was fond of saying that if we did not believe that statement, then swap places with a beggar and see if it is not more of a blessing to be able to give than to be begging.

To be a Christian is to be a giving person. That is the very nature of one who has received salvation from Jesus Christ. Because we have been given so much, we, too, must give, as the gospel songwriter said. Why should we give our tithes and offerings to the Lord through his church?

■ Giving makes us more like Jesus. Paul said in 2 Corinthians 8:9, “For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you by His poverty might become rich.”

■ Giving blesses the giver in return. In Proverbs 22:9 we read, “Whoever has a bountiful eye will be blessed, for He shares His bread with the poor.”

■ In 1 Timothy 6: 18-19, Paul says that giving could produce a victory over materialism; “They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.”

■ Giving can bring true contentment. Paul says in 2 Corinthians 9:7; “Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

■ In the second chapter of James, he says in verses 14-18 that if we are giving our possessions to help others, we are showing evidence that we have a true faith in Jesus. Our good works must accompany our faith.

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

## Debunking five myths that many, including Christians, believe

By Erich Bridges

I used to believe that as long as I was “doing the Lord's work,” God would protect me from physical harm with some kind of magic force field whenever I visited overseas mission fields.

Historical ignoramus that I was, it didn't dawn on me until years later that countless faithful believers have died through the ages from sickness, accidents, attacks or persecution while serving the Lord. Was I supposed to get a special exemption when they didn't?

Lots of otherwise reasonable Christians depend on various shortcuts, myths and spiritual distortions to get through the day. Often we buy into such counterfeits to avoid trusting God and obeying Him. California pastor/author Larry Osborne addresses some of them in his book, “10 Dumb Things Smart Christians Believe” (Multnomah, 2009).

At least five of the myths he identified affect how we respond to God's call to take the gospel to the world:

■ “Faith can fix anything.” Faith in an ever-faithful God sustains us moment by moment as we follow Him. But it doesn't “fix” everything the way we want it fixed. Nor does God. He is concerned with accomplishing His will, not ours.

Faith is not “an impenetrable shield that protects us from life's hardships and trials,” Osborne writes. “It's not a magic potion that removes every mess. It's a map we follow.... It's designed to guide us on a path called righteousness. Along the way, it doesn't promise to fix every flat tire.”

That applies to daily life—and to missions. Cross-cultural ministry entails endless frustrations, hassles, confusion, misunderstanding and discouragement. The payoff might not come for years, even generations. But it will come. The word of God does not return void.

■ “God has a blueprint for my life.” A blueprint contains detailed instructions for building an entire structure (i.e., life). God gives us guidance for today and asks us to trust Him for tomorrow. Thinking too far beyond that brings little but anxiety.

“The starting place for finding God's will is obeying the commands and instructions we already know” from His Word, Osborne reminds his readers. “The pathway of obedience always leads to further light.”

■ “Christians shouldn't judge.” How convenient. If we redefine Christ's command not to condemn sinners (when we are sinners ourselves) to mean that we cannot call good and evil what they are, we have surrendered to evil.

Osborne: “Underlying the idea that we have no right to judge the beliefs and moral standards of others is another widely held belief. It's the dogma that truth and morality are relative.... If we refuse to label the behaviors Jesus called sin, sin, we're disagreeing with Jesus, not following Jesus.”

We're also undermining His mandate to make disciples among all peoples. If the world isn't lost in sin, what's the point of preaching the gospel of salvation?

■ “A valley means a wrong turn.”

“Most of us understand that hardships (even long-term hardships) are a natural part of life,” Osborne acknowledges. “But something fundamentally changes when the deep and lengthy valley is our valley. The truths we so easily accept in theory and so quickly apply to others become difficult to fathom in our own life.”

Valleys, especially ones that pass through the shadow of death, force us to trust God or despair. In missions, deep valleys often come before mountaintop breakthroughs.

■ “Dead people go to a better place.” Really? All of them? Jesus spoke of the place of weeping and gnashing of teeth for those who reject God. He spoke of the narrow path to heaven and the wide highway to hell.

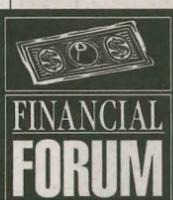
“To our modern-day sensibilities, the exclusivity of Christ, the reality of hell, and the need for salvation that includes personal piety have all become passé, if not downright offensive,” Osborne says.

“The cross and salvation are central to the gospel. Once we lose any real concept of hell, the natural consequence is more than just putting us at odds with Scripture; it eventually devalues the cross, redefines salvation, and turns obedience into an extra-credit spiritual add-on.”

The Bible is a hard book to read in our day. It contains judgments, absolutes and non-negotiable commands—as well as the words of the Lord's abounding grace, love and mercy.

It's not the message we want to hear. It's what we need to hear.

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



## Men gather for breakfast

Continued from page 1

portunity to break a world record drew 40 men—a considerably bigger crowd than normal. Lincoln Heights has about 150 members.

“Men are naturally competitive, and many men see The Bigger Breakfast as a challenge that goes beyond a typical church men’s breakfast,” said Jim Burton, NAMB’s mission education team leader.

But The Bigger Breakfast transcends competition or a hearty breakfast.

**THE BIGGER  
BREAKFAST**  
The international men’s breakfast day

“On the heels of the Southern Baptist Convention adopting the Great Commission Resurgence Task Force recommendations, The Bigger Breakfast

2010 is particularly timely for our churches,” Burton said. “For Southern Baptists to penetrate lostness, we must recruit, train and mobilize a host of men who embrace this vision and will lead their families and churches to be on mission.

“The primary goal for The Bigger Breakfast 2010 is for every man attending to participate in a 40-day prayer plan for spiritual awakening.”

This year, The Bigger Breakfast 2010 marks the second consecutive year NAMB has organized Southern Baptist men to take part in the breakfast, which originated in the United Kingdom in 2008 before spreading last year to North America and Africa.

Robinson, at Piner Baptist, said his interest in last year’s event was piqued because the breakfast highlighted the Southern Baptist World Hunger Fund. As he researched what Southern Baptists are doing to combat hunger, he found materials about the breakfast. Since his church had struggled to organize men in the past, he thought he’d try participating in the breakfast. (BP)

## Cyclists cross U.S. to support Haiti orphans

By John Evans

Glendale, Ariz.—Monty Patton has an unusual prayer request for his church’s latest missions project.

“Pray for my rear end,” he asks, only half joking.

Patton, lead pastor of Mountain Ridge Church in Glendale, Ariz., is preparing to embark on a journey with the church’s missions coordinator, Dave Kless—by bicycle, 2,400 miles to churches across America. Patton and Kless hope the trek will teach them more about missions and offer help to some of the world’s poorest people.

The idea for the trip began as the two started biking together in 2007 to get in shape, gradually riding greater distances.

“We just rode more and more, and then we started to have conversations about riding across country,” Kless said.

When Mountain Ridge Church offered Patton the chance to take a sabbatical, he saw it as the perfect opportunity, but he wanted the trip to have eternal significance—a desire Kless shared.

“As this idea came together, I thought that if we’re going to do this, we need to do it in a way that’s missional,” Kless said.

The two have formed a plan they hope will do exactly that.

They will set out from Del Mar, Calif., on Sept. 27, stopping at churches along the way to their destination at Jekyll Island, Ga., which they hope



BIKERS Ready to cycle across America to help orphans in Haiti are Monty Patton of Mountain Ridge Church in Glendale, Ariz., and Dave Kless.

to reach by Nov. 4.

As one aspect of the trip, Patton wants to learn from other pastors about how they do missions in their own backyards.

“I hope to interview pastors along the way to see how they’re reaching their communities for Christ,” he said. “I’m going to blog every day about what I’ve learned.”

While learning about missions is a motivating force, there is another reason they are riding that is dear to their hearts.

Since 2005, Mountain Ridge Church has sent volunteer teams to Haiti, which was shockingly poor even before the Jan. 12 earthquake.

During their trips to Haiti, the teams partnered with New Missions, a nondenominational Christian organization. Mountain Ridge has set a goal of raising \$50,000 to sponsor 100 Haitian children into New Missions’ schools, where they will receive a Christian education, meals and medical care.

Patton and Kless hope their bike trip will go a long way toward reaching that goal.

“We felt that it tied together, that we could chase our passion (for biking) while raising money and awareness for a cause that’s Christ-centered and doing great things for people of Haiti,” Kless said. (BP)

## 28 Carson-Newman football players among 61 baptized in Cherokee Lake

By Lonnie Wilkey  
Tennessee Baptist & Reflector

Morristown, Tenn.—Sunday, Aug. 8, was already scheduled to be a special day at First Baptist Church in Morristown, Tenn.

The church was sponsoring its annual “Blue and Orange Day” in honor of the Carson-Newman College football team.

In addition, the congregation was joining seven sister churches in Nolachucky Baptist Association in a joint baptism service at Harrell Park, property owned by FBC on Cherokee Lake. Thirty-three people were to be baptized that evening.

The day got better.

Dean Haun, pastor of FBC, said the church invites the entire team to attend for services. They came early for breakfast, then attended special Bible study during the Sunday school hour led by former University of Tennessee football great and NFL player Scott Galyon, who is now a representative with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

The players then attended worship in which Haun preached a message based on Matthew 7 titled “Three Keys to Success in Life.”

The team then went to Harrell Park for lunch. Haun was going elsewhere for lunch when he received a call from Ken Sparks, head football coach at Carson-Newman, informing him that “a bunch of their guys” had said they accepted Christ and wanted to be baptized.

Haun left his lunch gathering and went to the park where he discovered 28 football players were ready to march into the lake and be baptized.

“This was one of the most glorious Sundays I have ever experienced as a pastor—to be a part of that with those guys,” Haun said.

He said the church, along with Galyon, planned to do follow up on those who made decisions and provide discipleship for any player who wished to participate.

Haun was quick to credit Coach Sparks. “None of this would have happened without his leader-

ship. He encourages the guys and leads them spiritually.”

The Morristown pastor noted that nine more people from FBC were baptized during the joint service that evening.

“It was a great day,” he declared.

Sparks told the Tennessee Baptist and Reflector, “the Lord moved and did things that only He could do in calling the young men to obedience to follow Him.”

The veteran coach, known for his Christian testimony in addition to his winning record, said part of the opening days of football camp are devoted to the Carson-Newman Plan for Life.

Part of that includes the players’ spiritual needs, Sparks said, noting that IMB missionary and former University of Tennessee football star Alan Duncan leads the team through the process and shares the plan of salvation.

The coach noted a majority of the players actually made decisions for Christ the night before the church service.

He had no idea that so many wanted to be baptized when the team went to Harrell Park for lunch and team-building exercises.

Several players approached him, asking if they could be baptized, so he called Haun who immediately came to the lake.

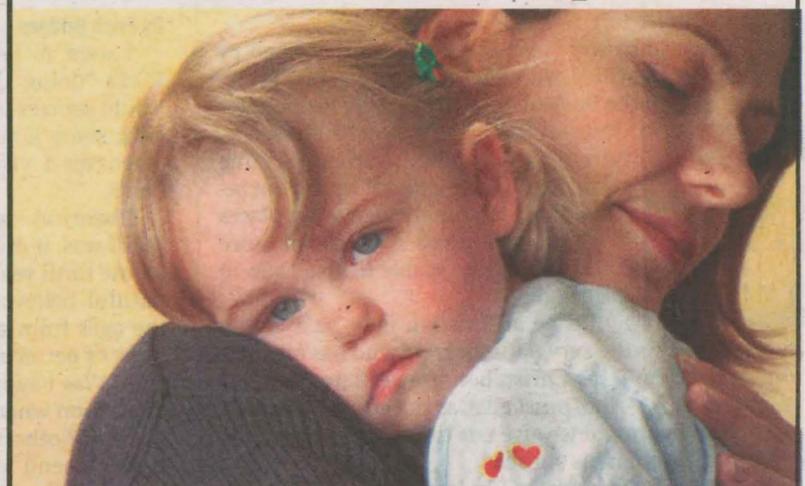
Haun and Sparks explained what it meant to be baptized and then Haun went into the lake to begin baptizing. “Before you knew it we had 28 players baptized,” the coach said.

In the days following, there have been an additional 16 professions of faith. “We need to have another baptism service soon,” Sparks said.

Though Sparks is the fourth winningest active college football coaches in the nation and has won five national championships, winning games can’t compare to seeing his players come to know Christ as Savior.

“That’s what it is all about. It’s better than winning a national championship,” Sparks said. (BP)

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Sunrise Children’s Services

## World Hunger Funds crucial for Haiti, Pakistan relief

By Mark Kelly

Nashville, Tenn.—Relief workers are able to give hope to thousands of desperate families in Haiti and Pakistan because Southern Baptists have given generously to their World Hunger Fund, the executive director of a Southern Baptist relief and development organization said Sept. 13.

An estimated 3 million people in Haiti found themselves in desperate need after a 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck Port-au-Prince Jan. 12, and more than 15 million people were left destitute when devastating rain and floods swept through Pakistan in August.

“The magnitude of these disasters staggers the imagination. Families are wrestling with life and death issues on a daily basis,” said Jeff Palmer, who leads Baptist Global Response. “So far we have allocated \$2.35 million to these two disasters and, at least in Pakistan, the need far outstrips the resources we have available.

“The only reason we can respond to hunger needs at all in disasters like these is because Southern Baptists give generously to the World Hunger Fund,” Palmer added. “While the giving response to Haiti has been amazing, donations for Pakistan are lagging far behind the need. We are praying God will move in the hearts of His people to give generously to the World Hunger Fund—not only so we can meet the needs in Pakistan, but also so the fund will not be depleted to the point that we can’t respond to new disasters.”



**SHELTER** A Pakistani woman stands by the tent that shelters all her family has left after torrential rain and floods ravaged the country in August. Meanwhile, an estimated 3 million Haitians, already among the world’s poorest people, were forced into even more desperate conditions by the 7.0 magnitude earthquake that struck Port-au-Prince Jan. 12. World Hunger Sunday is Oct. 10.

### In Haiti ...

A total of \$4.7 million has been given through BGR and the International Mission Board for Haiti relief, Palmer said. In the early stages of the relief effort, work focused on food and emergency aid, in cooperation with Haitian, Dominican Republic and Southern Baptist partners. The work now is shifting away from hunger toward using relief funds to provide houses and beds.

Relief funds have been used to build about 60 12-by-16-foot cinderblock houses, and plans call for 250 houses to be completed in 2010 and another 1,000 by the end of 2011, Palmer noted. BGR also plans to provide 2,200 beds and mosquito nets for Haitian orphans.

“As we look to the future, we are shifting more and more toward restoring safe weather-secure and earthquake-resistant housing,” Palmer said. “BGR has designed a simple cinderblock home with better construction specs and a tin roof that will act as a transitional home for Haitians. We are already seeing other groups beginning to leave temporary wooden housing models and move toward our BGR model house. Over the next 18 months to two years, projects in Haiti will revolve around housing construction, education projects and trauma counseling.”

tarian assistance in Pakistan,” Palmer said. “The number of people affected by the flooding exceeds the combined number of people affected by the 2004 tsunami, the Haiti earthquake and the 2008 earthquake in Pakistan. Time is of the essence in delivering lifesaving supplies.”

To date, projects in the flood zone, which also includes sites in two neighboring countries, have focused on food and water, as well as some temporary shelter and cooking kits, Palmer said. A total of 80,513 people have been helped through 15 projects conducted in partnership with national and international partners.

### Declining receipts

Receipts for the World Hunger Fund have tailed off over the past decade, according to statistics available at [www.worldhungerfund.com](http://www.worldhungerfund.com). In 2003, more than \$8.6 million was given, but by 2008 donations had declined to barely \$6.1 million. In 2009, just \$5 million was received, while international project expenses alone totaled \$8.79 million.

“We are deeply grateful to Southern Baptists who care about people in need and demonstrate that concern by giving generously to the World Hunger Fund,” Palmer said. “They can celebrate the fact that so many people are experiencing the love of God and discovering hope for a new life through the projects funded by the World Hunger Fund.

“They can celebrate the fact that 100 percent of every dollar given is used to help hungry people; nothing

is taken out for administrative expenses,” Palmer added. “Practically no other relief and development organization can make that claim.

“The needs and opportunities before us are astonishing, and the economic climate we are in is very challenging,” Palmer added. “Please pray with us that praying God will move in the hearts of his people to give generously to the World Hunger Fund this year so hungry souls can be fed and experience the full and meaningful life God created them to enjoy.”

Many Southern Baptist churches will use the resources available at [www.worldhungerfund.com](http://www.worldhungerfund.com) to observe their annual World Hunger Sunday on Oct. 10. Other congregations conduct world hunger campaigns at other times. (BP)

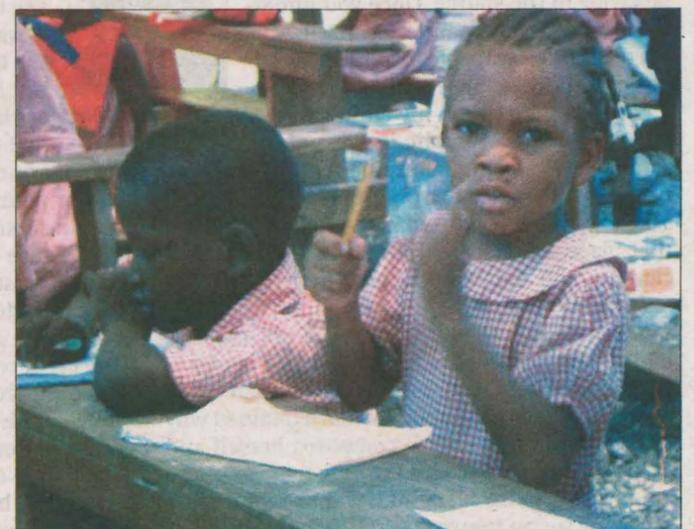


**NEED** A girl in Pakistan tries to salvage a piece of furniture pulled from the ruins of her home, which was wrecked by devastating rain and floods in August.

### In Pakistan ...

A total of \$50,000 has been donated toward the relief effort in Pakistan, but the projected budget needs for that response total \$700,000—before reconstruction needs even are taken into account, Palmer said.

“There are an estimated 8.5 million children in urgent need of humani-



**HUNGER** Haitian children affected by the earthquake are receiving Southern Baptist help through the World Hunger Fund.

# Tsunami taught Samoans about Baptists through disaster relief

By Mickey Noah  
North American Mission Board

**Pago Pago, American Samoa**—A year has passed since four devastating tsunami waves—each 15 to 20 feet high—crashed into Pago Pago Harbor in American Samoa, leaving death, shock and destruction on the South Pacific island.

And although Southern Baptist Disaster Relief (SBDR) concluded its operations there in late July, American Samoans will not soon forget the dozens of yellow-shirted volunteers who—like the tsunami—came in waves from across the United States to rebuild their homes and share Jesus' love and the gospel.

It was Sept. 29, 2009, when the tsunami waves—created by a powerful earthquake measuring 8.0 to 8.3—hit the U.S. territory without warning. The tiny island, home to 65,000 people, is located about halfway between New Zealand and Hawaii.

"The tsunami ... changed our lives," said Elise Tafao, director of missions for the South Pacific Baptist Association and pastor of Pago Pago's Happy Valley Baptist Church. "God used this disaster to pave the way for many ministry opportunities. In spite of lost lives and displaced families, the disaster relief ministry brought hope and comfort to many families. It's proven to be a blessing."

Tafao said the Baptist association is grateful for the 80 North American Mission Board and SBDR volunteers who spent at least a week serving in American Samoa. They came from Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Hawaii, Kentucky, Michigan, Mississippi, North Carolina, New Mexico, Tennessee, Utah/Idaho, Virginia and Washington.

Terry Henderson, NAMB disaster relief consultant, said SBDR volunteers began landing in American Samoa on Oct. 13 and worked on 25 different homes, doing block-



**REPAIRS** Southern Baptist Disaster Relief workers from the Eastern Idaho Baptist Association and Golden Spike Baptist Association in Utah, help two American Samoan apprentices repair the interior of a home heavily damaged by the tsunami.

work, masonry and rewiring.

"We had five volunteers per team ... qualified for FEMA grants by agreeing to train five to eight American Samoan apprentices on each team," Henderson said. "FEMA required us to rebuild hurricane-proof homes meeting Florida's hurricane building code."

Henderson called the American Samoan relief effort a "great success" but said much more work remains.

"We also helped support the local SBC churches on the island, and helped them to be more recognized in the community," Henderson said.

NAMB Mission Service Corps missionaries Randy and Ronda Corn of Horse Shoe, N.C., spent two tours on the island and, at the end, closed down the ministry July 29 during a six-week stay there.

In addition to the Corns, other Southern Baptists serving as "incident commanders" in American Samoa over the last year were Russel and Clara Hohmann of Ogden, Utah; Larry and Elaine Koch of Taylorsville, Ky.; Leon and Sara White of Alabaster, Ala.; and Ed and Loretta Green of Rio Rancho, N.M.

"The needs there are still great, and we only made a dent," Corn said, although SBDR volunteers recorded 2,571 volunteer days, ministered to 670 children—many who lost parents—purified more than 9,000 gallons of water and prepared 1,200-plus meals. SBDR volunteers and missionaries made nearly 1,800 ministry contacts, 180 gospel presentations and led 28 people in making salvation decisions.

Half of the people on American Samoa continue to live in FEMA-provided 15-by-15-foot tents or with other family members,

Corn noted.

"These are expatriates who are not American Samoan citizens, so they get no help from FEMA. Without help, they'll be living in those tents until the tents rot."

Corn's wife Ronda said her 11 weeks on the island were not enough. "I hope God allows us to go back someday. We're still in contact with the people there. It was such a rewarding experience. We were so blessed. The people of American Samoa are a very thankful and gracious people. They love you to death and you can't help but love them back."

Henderson, Corn and Tafao reported that appreciation for Baptist ministry now extend to the island's governor.

"We have a real foothold there," Corn said. "But there's still work to be done. It's still a great opportunity for Southern Baptists. The pastors there now need encouragement, and that's what we tried to do on our last trip. It was amazing to see what a pat on the back or a 'thank you' would do to make the pastors light up."

"It would still be a great place for a church to go for a mission trip. A group could work with one of the eight churches there, do backyard Bible studies and sports camps. Construction workers could go and continue to rebuild and repair homes. A lot of people there still need help."

One early casualty of the tsunami was the original Pago Pago Seafarer Center, a NAMB-supported outreach that ministers to seafarers—primarily international fishermen—docked in the harbor. The center, which was a total loss, had doubled as home for NAMB MSC missionaries Joeli and Tupe Sovea and their three children.

But a new center, about 15 minutes inland from the original site and slightly smaller, is slated to hold its grand opening with a prayer dinner for local pastors of all denominations on Sept. 25. (BP)

## Celebrating the little things

**OBI staffer shares lessons learned from following God's lead to a blessed life**

By Sharon Grant, OBI Tutoring Lab Director

Celebrating the little things in life is a lesson that God has been trying to teach me for many years.

God blessed our family with a beautiful little girl who struggles daily with autism. Through her I have learned patience, perseverance, acceptance and unconditional love. She just turned sixteen and I truly believe I could not do my job as effectively if I did not have her to teach me.

When dealing with someone with a disability, you need to look beyond the behavior to the source. Once you understand why it has manifested itself, you are much more capable to handle the situation calmly.

For example, when my child threw a major tantrum in public it was not because she was being manipulative. She was confused as to what was going on because what I asked of her was not what she normally did at that place. She felt frustrated at the unexpected changes and didn't know how to verbalize her feelings.

Once I realized my mistake of not explaining in advance what was happening, I spoke to her softly to help her get control of herself while many onlookers gawked, and then explained why it had been different. She composed herself and we continued on our way. I'm sure many of those onlookers felt my daughter was too old to be throwing such a tantrum. They probably thought she was just being a spoiled brat and that I was a bad parent for letting it happen. However, I have learned that not all bad behavior is caused by a

child wanting to manipulate a situation.

Being the director of the Tutoring Lab, I have seen many examples of bad behavior from our students. While I cannot say that none of that behavior is purely manipulative, I do realize that our students have usually struggled greatly in school and act out due to their frustration and lack of confidence.

I believe that every child wants to succeed, but after years of struggling and failing, they give up. Most of them develop the attitude of "Why should I keep trying and failing? I'll never be smart." Those same children would rather fail by not trying than try and still fail.

So we in the Tutoring Lab try to get to the root of the problem. We assess their weak points and focus on strengthening the basics. We also make a big deal about the little things. When a student finishes the timed multiplication quiz for the first time, we celebrate with lots of praise and a bit of candy. When a young man with rather poor penmanship wrote out the weekly Bible verse in cursive and proudly showed me his paper, I made sure to have a reaction with lots of "pizzazz." He just beamed. Positive reinforcement can make a student sit up straighter and make more of an effort, or can just put a smile on his face. A little bit of confidence can go a long way.

We measure success differently here at OBI. We celebrate the little things that make big differences. It doesn't cost much, just a few moments of our time or the price of a few candy bars. It's all worth it because those students that the Lord chooses to send our way deserve it.

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

This is Oneida



W.F. Underwood

## Developing his soft spot

**First year student is training to help change lives**

First year student Phillip Duttry knows what it's like to be alone and depressed, feeling like you have nowhere to turn. He wants to help change that feeling in other people's lives. That's why he is at Clear Creek.

"I grew up in a home where we went to church. I was saved at a young age," Duttry said. "As I grew into my teen years, though, I got involved in a rebellious lifestyle that led me to a lot of things I should not have been involved with. This lifestyle went on for a few years until one day I literally found myself sitting in the attic of an old house in Cleveland, Ohio where I would hang out with some people I knew."

"In my heart I was not happy. I started re-evaluating this lifestyle I was living and got really depressed," Duttry said. "I went home with the intention of ending my life that night. But a friend called me and we began to talk. He helped me to see that I did not need to do that. I started praying to God and rededicated my life to Him that night."

"I started attending church regularly, and last year I began to feel that God was calling me into the ministry, but I just didn't want

to surrender to that call," Duttry said. "I went to a Youth Evangelism Conference as a counselor for my church youth group. God used the speaker's message to convict me about surrendering to His call on my life, and I ended up making that commitment at the conference."

"I talked to a former student of Clear Creek, and he told me to pray about attending here. I went home and filled out an application. Now I am here attending classes."

"I know God is calling me to open a youth center for homeless and vagrant youth," Duttry said. "When I hung out in that house in Cleveland, a lot of

my friends were runaways. I have a soft spot for people who are feeling just like I once felt.

"If I can share Christ with some of these young people I know lives can be changed," he said.

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

## Biblical examples of giving

### From widow to Barnabas, Jesus is supreme example

Someone once said, "Two things I've had in life in ample supply, good advice and poor examples." One of the great things about the Bible is that it not only gives good advice, but it also gives good examples. Below are six worthy of emulation.

First is the example of the poor widow (Luke 21:1-4). In terms of the coins she used, she made the smallest gift. But to Jesus, in comparison to what the wealthy gave, she made the most significant gift. To Jesus, the gift that counts is the gift that costs; it's not the size of the gift, but the size of the sacrifice; it's not the amount, but the proportion; it's not the depth of our pockets, but the depth of our love and commitment to Him. No one is excluded from making a worthy gift to our Lord.

Second, Zacchaeus is an example of a person of wealth who gave over and above the normal (Luke 19:1-10). He was such a successful businessman and tax collector that he had become wealthy. When he decided to follow Jesus, he freely vowed, "... I give half of my possessions to the poor." What an ex-

ample of generosity for those who have wealth!

Third, the woman with the alabaster jar of expensive perfume (Mark 14:1-9) is an example of a single person who was just getting by financially but out of gratitude made a sacrificial gift to the Lord.

Fourth, Barnabas (Acts 4:36-37) used a piece of real estate to make a planned gift for the Lord's work "with no strings attached."

Fifth, the Macedonian Christians (2 Corinthians 8:1-5) gave out of their poverty and beyond their ability for the privilege of being involved financially in the Lord's work.

Sixth, the Lord Jesus Christ stands as the supreme example and motivation for us as Christians to give faithfully, generously and cheerfully (2 Corinthians 8:9).

The Bible is true (Acts 20:35) and the examples above provide proof: "It is more blessed to give than to receive." So, give it a try; I promise you will be blessed.

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

### KENTUCKY BAPTIST FOUNDATION



Barry Allen

## Ezell charts course for church planting

By Mickey Noah  
North American Mission Board

Alpharetta, Ga.—The first person North American Mission Board employees saw at the front door of the building last Wednesday morning was NAMB's newest employee, who greeted each of them with a smile and a handshake. It was the mission board's new president, Kevin Ezell.

Later that afternoon (Sept. 15), despite a sudden bout with laryngitis, Ezell met with NAMB's 250-member staff. While he couldn't say much, Ezell made them laugh and briefly outlined his vision for NAMB.

"One of the greatest things we can do as Christian leaders is to recognize that people are our greatest resource," Ezell told NAMB's staff.

"There are pastors and laypeople who want to invest and engage in church planting," said Ezell, who is known for his intense passion for church planting. "We need to allow them to be part of missions and do missions. That is what's going to ignite the Southern Baptist Convention."

"Today, we've got the potential of entering a golden age of church planting. The GCR (Great Commission Resurgence) and Southern Baptists made it very clear that they want us to be about church planting. Fifty percent of NAMB's budget is to be for church planting. So we need to be building the greatest church planting network in the world. God has given us the resources. We will have the passion. But we must focus and get it done. We can be the greatest church planting network the world has ever seen—to God's glory,



not our own," Ezell said.

Insisting that NAMB staffers call him "Kevin" and not "Dr. Ezell," the mission board's new president said, "I want you to know that I'm here because I absolutely feel God has called me here. But I don't have a cape with an 'S' on it. I have no white horse. I just want to do the right thing."

"I want to earn your trust and I don't mind that," he said. "Just give me a chance. Let's test each other and let the results be our grading card."

Ezell told the NAMB staff that "we do what we do—not because we work for NAMB or for Southern Baptists, or because we're trying to get people to write or say nice things about us. We have to remember who we're doing it for. You don't work for NAMB, you work for Him. We're going to work together and be a team. It's more fun that way."

Ezell had served as senior pastor of Highview Baptist Church, a multi-campus 6,000-member church in Louisville, Ky., since 1996. (BP)

**CHARTING A COURSE**  
New North American Mission Board president Kevin Ezell meets with some 250 NAMB staff members Sept. 15, outlining his vision for the mission board's work. (Photo by John Swain)

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## Harris, Wheelwright centers see needs met through Eliza Broadus offering

Continued from page 1

After talking with the company, KBC Business Manager Lowell Ashby had concerns about noise, dust and safety of children attending various clubs at the center.

However, the company offered funds for businesses and agencies whose operations would be disrupted. That led to the state convention finding a way to address potential problems.

"We received money to air condition Freda Harris so we could (shut windows to) keep the noise down and put up a chain-link fence across the front of the building," Ashby said.

"I was talking with Joy (Bolton) about that later and we didn't have the money to fund capital improvements. We have had some plumbing problems and flooding problems at Wheelwright, too."

Whitree said the transportation and building funds provide valuable support for his center, which last year served more than 1,900 children and teens.

The children attend a drop-in program on Mondays that offers Bible stories, games and refreshments, while teens are part of a teen club that meets on Wednesdays.

One of the principles the teens learn is hard work. Each raises their own money to take an annual summer trip.

Since 1983, 95 percent of the participants have gone on to at least one year of college in an area where about 35 percent of teens drop out of high school.

The center also operates evening basketball games for young men that draw up to 60 participants twice a week, and a men's program in the morning that includes exercise and games.

In addition, about 30 families obtain food and clothing each week at the center.

It also operates a toy giveaway that reaches about 1,400 children at Christmas.

Not only does the parsonage need a new roof, Whitree said the center's gymnasium and classrooms need to be painted, and the lock replaced on a metal door.

"All this tends to wear out when we help out," said Whitree, noting the center hosted eight vacation Bible schools this year. "General maintenance keeps a roof over our heads and improves the looks of the center."

The transportation fund is especially needed, he said, since they have to shuttle numerous children and teens home after activities.

Without the funds from Eliza Broadus, most youngsters would be forced to walk or find an alternate means of transportation, Whitree said.

"With the teens, we got permission for the school buses to drop kids off at the center," he said. "Then we have to take them home. Some parents don't want to get that involved in what their kids are doing."

"It's the same thing with our drop-in program for kids on Monday nights. If we told the parents they had to come get them, we'd lose about half the kids."

The Eliza Broadus Offering provides other support for the center, such as purchasing playground and gym equipment.

"I can't imagine being able to do what we do without it," Whitree said. "As I talk to other missionaries around the state, I think they would agree with me, whether it's a Baptist center, a church or wherever they operate."



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**Mathis speaks at Cumberlands convocation**

Williamsburg—Don Mathis addressed University of the Cumberlands students, staff and faculty at the opening convocation for the school year. Mathis is currently serving his second term as Kentucky Baptist Convention president.

"On behalf of the KBC, we consider it an honor and a privilege to be in partnership with University of the Cumberlands," Mathis said.

Mathis shared scripture with the audience from Matthew 9 and Luke 15 to explain the relationship God wants to have with each individual. "If you'll dare let Jesus be the Lord of your life, I assure you He's got a whole lot better plan for your life than you could have ever imagined," Mathis explained.

Mathis is the former pastor of Central Baptist Church in Corbin, Ky. In addition to serving as KBC president, he serves as an evangelist preaching nearly 40 revivals a year.

**MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI**

COMPILED BY STAFF

■ **CADIZ**—Oak Grove Church will hold revival services Sept. 26-29 with **Jerry Bacon** as evangelist. **Paxton Redd** is pastor.

■ **CAMPBELLSVILLE**—Campbellsville University will host NASA astronaut **Leland Melvin** as guest speaker Sept. 27, 10 a.m., at the Ransdell Chapel on campus, and 1 p.m. at the banquet hall in the Badgett Academic Support Center. Both events are free and open to the public.

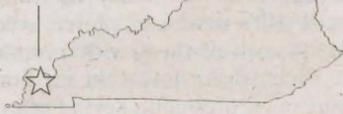
■ **CAVE CITY**—Cave City Church will hold homecoming services Sept. 26, 11 a.m., followed by a dinner on the grounds. The church also will hold revival services Sept. 26-30, 6 p.m. **Stephen Cavness** is pastor.

■ **CECILIA**—Severns Valley Association will host Central Kentucky Celebration services Sept. 26-29, 6:30 p.m., at Central Hardin High School with **Jim Wilson** as evangelist and **Clay Crosse** as music leader. Other musical guests include **Rush of Fools, Selah, Allison Durham Speer** and a 200-voice Celebration Mass Choir, directed by **Allen Case**, former music minister at Severns Valley Church in Elizabethtown.

■ **FREDONIA**—Creswell Church will hold homecoming services Sept. 26, 10 a.m., with **J.R. Bruce** as guest speaker. **Bobby Jackson** is pastor.

■ **HARDINSBURG**—Hardinsburg Church will hold the final service at its current location Sept. 26, 9 a.m., and an "Opening the Door" ceremony at its new location at 10:30 a.m. A meal will follow the worship service at the new location. **Doug Miller** is pastor.

■ **MAYFIELD**—Baltimore Church held a groundbreaking ceremony for its new church building Sept. 15. The

**Spotlight on ...****Melber**

A community-wide tent meeting will be held Sept. 27-Oct. 2, 7 p.m., at the corner of Old U.S. Highway 45 and state Highway 1241 with **Rick Burton**, pastor of Woodland Mills Church in Tennessee; **Jeff Cruse**, pastor of Washington Street Church in Paducah; **Chad Lamb**, pastor of His House Ministries in Mayfield; **Brett Miles**, pastor of Northside Church in Almo; and **Antonio Santos**, KBC regional Hispanic strategist, as evangelists.

previous building was destroyed by a fire earlier this year. **Jesse Alford** is pastor.

■ **SPRINGFIELD**—New Hope Church will host the Emmaus Road Bible Conference Sept. 26, 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.; Sept. 27-29, 7 p.m., with **James Hamilton**, associate professor of biblical theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. For more information, call (859) 284-5202 or e-mail info@NewHopeSpringfield.org. **Cameron Jungels** is pastor.

■ **VERSAILLES**—New Hope Church will hold revival services Sept. 26-29 with **Hershael York**, pastor of Buck Run Church in Frankfort, as evangelist. **Wesley Noss** is pastor.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS****September**

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, Gardenside 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](http://www.kybaptist.org)

**'Honoring Sacred Texts'**

**SEEKING PEACE** Highland Baptist Church in Louisville hosted "Honoring Sacred Texts," an interfaith service, on Sept. 11. Billed as a "peaceful, positive alternative" to the Quran-burning ceremony that was to have been held the same day in Florida, the service included a display of sacred texts from Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism and the Baha'i faith and featured readings by various representatives on topics related to peace and mutual understanding. "We want to show the world that in Louisville we don't burn sacred books; we honor them," said Terry Taylor, executive director of Interfaith Paths to Peace. "We may not all agree about every word written in our sacred texts, but we do honor those books and our brothers and sisters in other religions who revere them." The event was offered by Interfaith Paths to Peace in partnership with the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship.

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**SEEKING:** Pastor for First Baptist Church of Baton Rouge, La. Send resumés to [jrwlsu@bellsouth.net](mailto:jrwlsu@bellsouth.net) by Oct. 31.

**SEEKING:** Passionate minister of the gospel to lead recreation/missions ministry at First Baptist Church (Owensboro, Ky.), a multi-generational downtown church with a commitment to discipleship and missions. This leader must be able to use recreation to share the gospel within our congregation and community while leading members in caring for the physical temple. This leader must be able equally to lead of congregation in carrying out a comprehensive Acts 1: 8 missions strategy, providing church members the opportunity to fulfill the Great Commission. Candidates are expected to share the philosophy of our ministerial staff and church as well as possess a positive record of teamwork. All applicants should send their resumés electronically to [resume@fbcowb.org](mailto:resume@fbcowb.org).

**SEEKING:** Bivocational youth minister/leader. Send resumés to Poplar Grove Baptist Church, 10450 Hwy. 127 North, Glencoe, KY 41046; or e-mail to [janiemhall@hotmail.com](mailto:janiemhall@hotmail.com).

**SEEKING:** Full-time youth minister/pastor assistant for rural church. Some experience required. Send resumé to Mexico Baptist Church, 175 Mexico Road, Marion, KY 42064.

**SEEKING:** Full-time pastor for First Baptist Church in Clinton, Ky. Please send resumé and sermon on CD/DVD to [pastor4fbc@yahoo.com](mailto:pastor4fbc@yahoo.com); or mail to FBC, 320 Mayfield Road, Clinton, KY 42031.

**SEEKING:** Full-time youth pastor for Hickory Grove Baptist Church, a dynamic, Christ-centered church located in Independence, Ky., serving a weekly average attendance of 700 and an active and growing youth group. We are prayerfully seeking the qualified individual God will call to lead and grow youth by rooting them in the church and community. Our minister will be an individual who has an all-consuming love for Christ, a strong knowledge of God's word, and the ability and desire to connect with teenagers and their families in a way that brings glory to God. If you feel God may be leading you in our direction, please prayerfully submit a resumé, along with an optional video of you leading a youth group to: Youth Pastor Search Committee, Hickory Grove Baptist Church, PO Box 505, Independence, KY 41051; or via e-mail to [youth@hickorygrove.net](mailto:youth@hickorygrove.net) no later than Nov. 1, 2010.

**SEEKING:** Senior pastor for First Baptist Church in Princeton, Ky. Resident members: 600+; average Sunday school attendance: 300; average worship attendance: 350. Opened new CLC building 2010. Please send resumé to: Bobby Goodwin, 10538 S Jefferson St., Princeton, KY 42445; or e-mail [beg3757@att.net](mailto:beg3757@att.net).

**SEEKING:** Part-time, energetic worship minister to plan, organize and lead a growing worship ministry toward a dynamic and blended worship style that will cultivate a genuine worship experience at Ballardsville Baptist Church. Responsibilities include weekly leadership of worship choir, praise team and instrumentalists, as well as special seasonal events. Qualifications: college degree plus seminary-level training, preferable in music. Submit resumé and, if possible, please include a DVD showcasing spiritual gifts as a worship leader to 4300 S Hwy. 53, Crestwood, KY 40014; or e-mail [Info@BBCLife.org](mailto:Info@BBCLife.org).

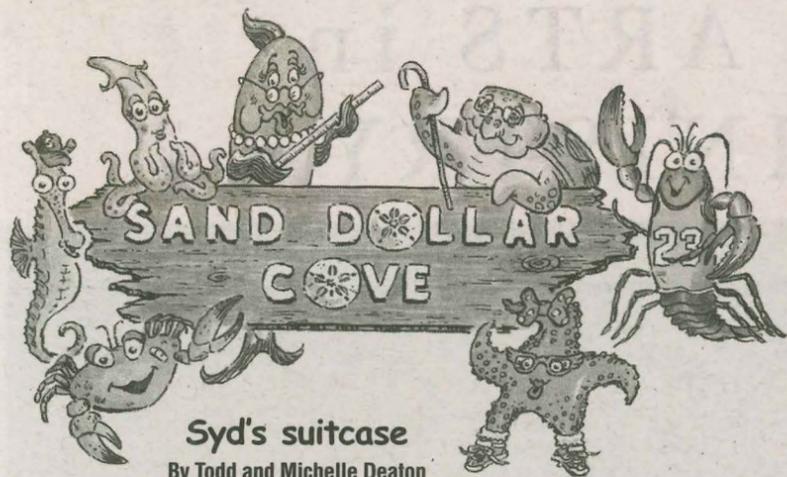
**SEEKING:** Full-time minister of family and community outreach for Great Bridge Baptist Church, located in Chesapeake, Va. This is a new and exciting opportunity for our church and community. Great Bridge Baptist is a family and mission-oriented church with an average attendance of 700-900. To learn more about our church and this ministry position, please visit our website at [www.greatbridgebaptist.org](http://www.greatbridgebaptist.org). Prospective candidates should have a postgraduate degree from a reputable seminary and practical experi-

ence 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](mailto:personnel@greatbridgebaptist.org).

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

**SEEKING:** Pianist skilled in playing various styles of music in worship services for Ballardsville Baptist Church. Styles include blending both modern worship songs and hymns for congregational singing, accompanying choir, playing with various other instrumentalists, and playing some solo pieces. Position includes Wednesday evening rehearsals and two Sunday morning services. Submit resumé and, if possible, please include a CD or DVD showcasing spiritual gift as a pianist to 4300 S Hwy. 53, Crestwood, KY 40014; or e-mail [Info@BBCLife.org](mailto:Info@BBCLife.org).

Mike Morgan



### Syd's suitcase

By Todd and Michelle Deaton

"One more minute, Mom," Syd Squid yelled as she sat on her bed, playing her hand-held video games.

"Hurry, Syd! We're leaving for our vacation at Rip Tide Reef in a few minutes. You need to pack your suitcase," her mom urged.

Syd kept playing. She did not even respond. Several moments later, her mom came back to see if Syd had packed her suitcase.

"Come on, Syd! Start packing. You haven't changed out of your pajamas yet," her mom said, exasperated.

"I'll do it in a minute," Syd replied. "I just made it to Level 5 on Super Seaweed Slurpers!"

Five more minutes passed, and Syd still had not moved. Her dad walked into the room and said, "Good morning, Syd. Are you ready to go to Rip Tide Reef?"

Syd did not reply. She did not even look up.

"I'm putting the suitcases in the car now. I don't see yours," her dad said.

"I'll do it as soon as I finish Level 7. I'm almost there," Syd grunted.

"I'll be back soon for it," her dad said.

Syd did not look up when her mom brought her suitcase into her bedroom and placed it beside the dresser.

After packing all of the other suitcases in the trunk of the car, Syd's dad returned to her room to get Syd's suitcase. "Oh, good!"

he exclaimed when he saw her suitcase sitting beside the dresser. "We're all ready to go," he said, picking it up to take to the car.

"Uh huh," Syd grunted, unaware of what her father was doing.

Her family piled into the car, eager to go. Everyone but Syd was in the car.

"Syd, let's go!" her dad yelled as he honked the horn twice.

Syd walked out the door, still playing the video game and still wearing her pajamas.

"Are you sure you want to go to Rip Tide Reef looking like that? Her mom chuckled.

Syd turned red with embarrassment and ran back inside to get dressed.

Later, as they pulled out the driveway, Syd's mom asked, "Did Syd pack her suitcase?"

"Yeah, it's in the trunk," her dad said confidently.

"Then, let's go!" Syd's mom exclaimed.

Syd sat in the backseat playing her games all the way to Rip Tide Reef. Once they settled in at the hotel, Syd's family went to a restaurant. Syd barely touched her food and gulped down her tea. "Let's go!" she urged, getting up from the table.

"Where are you going?" her mom asked.

"To the car to get my game," Syd answered. "I'm on Level 12. I'm going to win Super Seaweed Slurpers if it is the last thing I do!"

"Syd, we're going back to the hotel to put on our swimsuits. It's time to go to Rip Tide Reef," her mom announced.

"OK, Mom," Syd shrugged. But she continued playing the game. When her family returned to their room, Syd grabbed her suitcase, tossed it on the bed, and opened it to pull out her swimsuit. "Mom!" she cried.



### Treasure Hunt

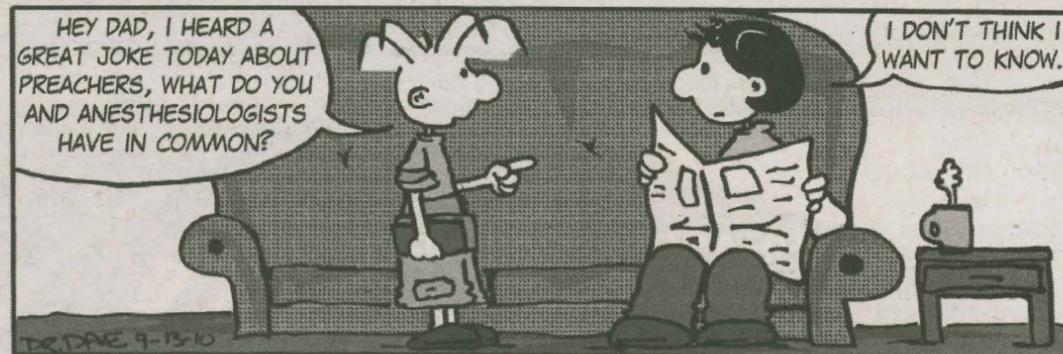
What do you think Syd Squid saw in her suitcase?  
 Why did she not listen to her mom and dad?  
 What were the consequences of not following instructions?  
 Read Proverbs 1:8 together.

### For Heaven's Sake



### Preacher's Kids

David Ayers



### Bible Crosswords

By Carole Stengel

#### Across

- 1 "With the \_\_\_ angels" (Mark 8:38)
- 3 "The Holy \_\_\_ shall teach you" (Luke 12:12)
- 7 "They went ... from \_\_\_ ... into Canaan" (Genesis 11:31)
- 8 A short laugh
- 9 Moses and \_\_\_ went before Pharaoh (Exodus 5:1)
- 10 "\_\_\_ is the way, which leadeth unto life" (Matthew 7:14)
- 12 Des Moines' state, abbr.
- 14 One of the twelve tribes (Numbers 1:38)
- 15 David reigned there (2 Samuel 2:1)
- 16 Substantive, abbr.
- 18 "The \_\_\_ of thy life shall be many" (Proverbs 4:10)
- 20 Northeastern area of the U.S., abbr.
- 21 Earned runs, abbr.
- 23 "Mine \_\_\_ is as nothing before thee" (Psalms 39:5)
- 24 "Our \_\_\_ is grown up" (Ezra 9:6)
- 29 Graduate degree, abbr.
- 31 A poem
- 32 Some were clay and some iron (Daniel 2:42)
- 34 "These are the \_\_\_ covenants" (Galatians 4:24)
- 36 "Being reviled, \_\_\_ bless" (1 Corinthians 4:12)
- 38 "God saw that \_\_\_ was good" (Genesis 1:10)
- 39 An unclean thing (Leviticus 11:29)

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- 41 Santa Fe's state, abbr.
- 42 A city belonging to the tribe of Naphtali (Joshua 19:38-39)
- 44 A mongrel
- 47 "By faith they passed through the \_\_\_ sea" (Hebrews 11:29)
- 49 Warrant officer, abbr.
- 50 News agency, abbr.
- 22 Do, \_\_\_, mi
- 23 I \_\_\_. God's name given to Moses
- 25 "I am the \_\_\_ and the offspring of David" (Revelation 22:16)
- 26 "He revealeth his \_\_\_ unto his servants" (Amos 3:7)
- 27 "\_\_\_ I opened my mouth" (Ezekiel 3:2)
- 28 Stitches
- 30 "One \_\_\_ or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law" (Matthew 5:18)
- 33 "When we shall \_\_\_ him" (Isaiah 53:2)
- 35 "If any \_\_\_ have children" (1 Timothy 5:4)
- 37 "The noise of a \_\_\_, and the noise of the rattling of the wheels" (Nahum 3:2)
- 40 Zaccur's father (Nehemiah 3:2)
- 43 "To be sin for us, who knew \_\_\_ sin" (2 Corinthians 5:21)
- 44 Pa's wife
- 45 "He was taken \_\_\_; and a cloud received him out of their sight" (Acts 1:9)
- 46 "Given \_\_\_ hospitality" (Romans 12:13)
- 48 "Without me ye can \_\_\_ nothing" (John 15:5)

#### Down

- 1 "With his \_\_\_ spread up to heaven" (1 Kings 8:54)
- 2 "Confess that Jesus Christ is \_\_\_" (Philippians 2:11)
- 3 Guaranteed annual wage, abbr.
- 4 "Perform unto the Lord thine \_\_\_" (Matthew 5:33)
- 5 Salvation Army, abbr.
- 6 "Deliver me out of all \_\_\_" (1 Samuel 26:24)
- 7 The joining of two or more things into one
- 8 "Provide things \_\_\_ in the sight of all men" (Romans 12:17)
- 11 Man's name, for short
- 13 Over again
- 17 "Abraham \_\_\_ Isaac" (Genesis 25:19)
- 19 "A bruised \_\_\_ shall he not break" (Matthew 12:20)

### Last week's solution

H	E	I	R	S	M	A	R	B	L	E
E	A	Y	O	K	E	F	A	A	D	
L	F	E	L	O	W	H	A	I		
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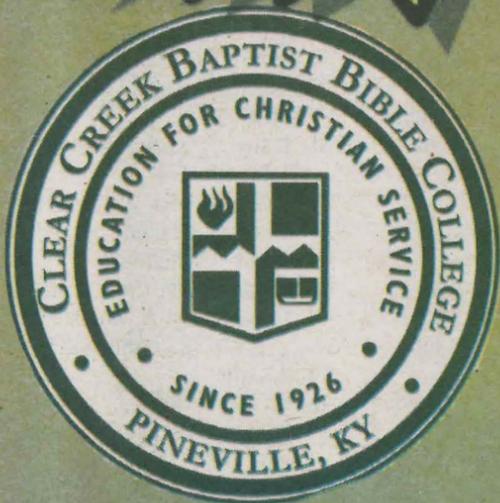
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