

Shine like stars in the world  
Philippians 2:15

# WESTERN Recorder

September 28, 2010  
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## Bluegrass Hospitality



### World Equestrian Games open in Lexington as Southern Baptists offer visitors warm welcome

By Drew Nichter  
News Director

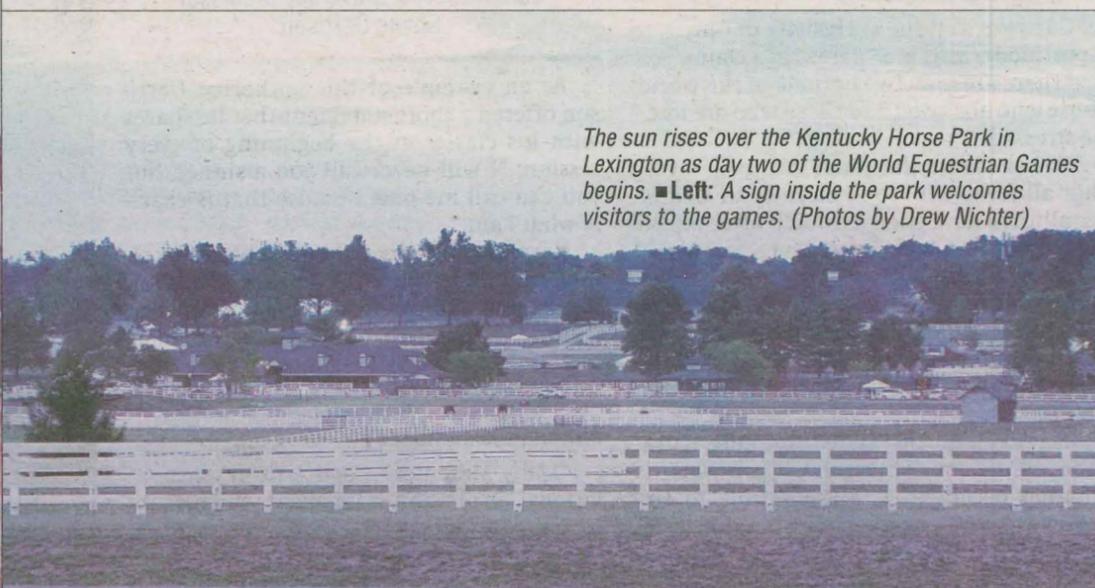
Lexington—The years of anticipation finally ended last weekend as the World Equestrian Games got underway at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington.

Kentuckians rolled out the red carpet for competitors from 58 countries at the games' opening ceremonies Sept. 25. More than 23,000 people attended the event.

The ceremony featured 40

different equine acts, showcasing drill teams, Western roping and riding and even a Thoroughbred race re-enactment, as well as an elaborately choreographed musical production.

See Kentucky ... Page 3



The sun rises over the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington as day two of the World Equestrian Games begins. ■ Left: A sign inside the park welcomes visitors to the games. (Photos by Drew Nichter)

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Dated material. Please deliver by Wednesday, Sept. 29



### Morris Chapman

A legacy of leadership & vision

### Retiring Exec. Comm. president given emeritus title

By Erin Roach

Nashville, Tenn.—In appreciation for his service, Morris Chapman was named to the honorary position of president emeritus of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee and was presented the M.E. Dodd Award for Cooperative Program support during a retirement dinner Sept. 20 in Nashville, Tenn.

"Dr. Chapman, no entity leader has been a greater ambassador for the Cooperative Program and its promotion convention-wide than you," remarked Roger Spradlin, chairman of the Executive Committee.

Throughout his tenure as pastor of four

churches over a span of 25 years and as president of the Executive Committee for 18 years, Chapman led the way in his support of Southern Baptists' method for funding missions, Spradlin noted.

"During each of his 13 years at First Baptist Church, Wichita Falls, Texas, the church's Cooperative Program gifts were in the top 1 percent in the Southern Baptist Convention," Spradlin said of Chapman. "As president of the Executive Committee, he never let circumstances dampen his enthusiasm for what God is doing with Southern Baptists" through CP.

See Outgoing SBC Executive ... Page 7

### Wright calls for 'radical' change in SBC funding

By Mark Kelly

Nashville, Tenn.—Southern Baptists have been given a tremendous opportunity to help literally fulfill the Great Commission in their lifetime, but it will take a "radical reprioritization" of funding to make it happen, the president of the Southern Baptist Convention told trustees of the SBC Executive Committee Sept. 21.

"With the passion of the young-adult Christians of today, with the modern means of travel, with the modern technology, God has given us an opportunity to fulfill His Great Commission in our lifetime," said Bryant Wright, pastor of Johnson Ferry Baptist Church in Marietta, Ga.

"The question we have to ask is ... are we as Southern Baptists going to be willing to pay the price—the radical price—to do what it takes to see that the gospel is taken to Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and the uttermost parts in our lifetime?" Wright asked.

The realistic possibility that the gospel could, in See Wright urges shift ... Page 8



GET 'RADICAL'? SBC President Bryant Wright voices his call for a "radical reprioritization" of funds for Southern Baptists to embrace the opportunity to fulfill the Great Commission. (Photo by Morris Abernathy/BP)

## Campbellsville University professor examines postmodernism, impact on Millennial Christians

By Tawny Vilchis  
Campbellsville University

**Campbellsville**—Shane Garrison, assistant professor of educational ministries at Campbellsville University, explored the central components of postmodernism and evaluated five specific impacts upon Millennial Christianity.

The Sept. 13 lecture was part of a Biblical and Theological Lectures series at Campbellsville's School of Theology.

According to Garrison the impacts on Millennial Christianity include: the exclusivity of Christ as the only means of salvation; the absolute truth of the Bible; the ethical and moral boundaries governed by scripture; the mandate for evangelism in a postmodern world; and the act of being lovingly corrective.

### Struggle with exclusivity

Garrison said the exclusivity of Christ, to a postmodernist, is a "dangerous claim."

"There are only two options in the world: those who are saved and those who are lost," he stressed.

"What about the Jews? Are you saying that all Jews will spend eternity in Hell after all they have been through, after all the atrocities that have been done to them?" Garrison asked.

He said that sentiment would make any postmodern-thinking Christian nervous. "Millennial Christians will struggle continually with this biblical teaching," Garrison noted.

In regards to the Bible's absolute truth, "The issue for Millennial Christians is whether or not they will continue to embrace scripture as divinely inspired by God, inerrant, infallible and absolutely truthful from Genesis to Revelation," Garrison said.

"Most will choose to select and dissect which portions they want to believe as true and disregard those sections they choose are

unsuitable for their life," he added.

The ethical and moral boundaries governed by scripture also is a sticking point for postmodern thinkers, Garrison explained.

"To call anyone a sinner means that there is an absolute authority dividing right from wrong, black from white," he noted, "and when we break that authority we are breaking the laws of God."

**"Postmodern-thinking Millennial Christians are truly confused in how they are to hold each other accountable to sin and personal disobedience without being viewed as critical and intolerant."**

Campbellsville University professor  
Shane Garrison

As an example of this authority, Garrison offered a short statement that he shares with his classes at the beginning of every session: "I will never call you a sinner, but you can call me one. Because that is exactly what I am."

Garrison described two problems postmoderns have when it comes to fulfilling the mandate of evangelizing a postmodern world. The first is that Millennial Christians love and serve their neighbor, but are careful not to offend them.

### Millennials confused?

"Many Millennial Christians practice relational or servant evangelism which seeks to build bridges with unbelievers leading to an opportunity to share," Garrison pointed out. But when the Millennial Christian shares the objective truth, they often fear that the friendship will be damaged.

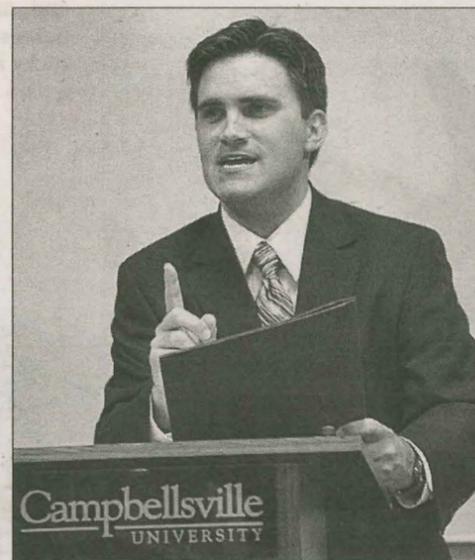
When speaking about the act of being

lovingly corrective, Garrison said, "Postmodern-thinking Millennial Christians are truly confused in how they are to hold each other accountable and personal disobedience without being viewed as critical and intolerant."

Garrison urged believers to use caution when keeping their brothers and sisters in Christ accountable.

"You will become a status update on Facebook and will be criticized for being judgmental, intolerant, 'Holier than Thou' and an absolute hypocrite because you have sin in your life and no one is calling you out," he said.

Garrison challenged Christians to turn their hearts toward God.



**EXAMINING MILLENNIALS** Shane Garrison, assistant professor of educational ministries at Campbellsville University, delivers a lecture on Millennial Christianity as part of the School of Theology's Biblical and Theological Lecture series. (Photo by Bayarmagnai Nergui/Campbellsville)

## Paducah pastor to be nominated for KBC 1st VP

**Bowling Green**—Dan Summerlin, pastor of Lone Oak First Baptist Church of Paducah, will be nominated as



Dan Summerlin

Kentucky Baptist Convention first vice president when the KBC annual meeting convenes Nov. 16 in Lexington.

Summerlin is the first announced candidate for the post. He will nominate by Tom James, pastor of Eastwood Baptist Church in Bowling Green.

In an e-mail stating his intention to nominate Summerlin, James said "it will be an honor to nominate a man who has never stopped leading his church to fulfill the Great Commission."

James pointed out that Lone Oak First Baptist members have attended seven mission trips so far this year—four in the United States and three abroad. Half of those members had never been on a mission trip, he added.

"Dan has led his church to fully embrace an Acts 1:8 model for ministry," James said.

Discussing his church's commitment to missions, Summerlin called a church's lack of missions involvement a "spiritual issue," and said that fulfilling the Great Commission involves going across the world and across the street.

Getting more money to missions causes has been the stated purpose of the Kentucky Great Commission Task Force, of which Summerlin is a member. He said many of the financial challenges facing Kentucky and Southern Baptist churches would be resolved if congregations simply gave more money to the Cooperative Program.

"We have to be strong in the Cooperative Program," Summerlin stressed, noting that his work on the state task force "really opened my eyes" to all that Kentucky Baptists do.

The task force has recommended moving to a 50/50 allocation split among KBC and Southern Baptist causes by 2017-18. Summerlin suggested that if every church gave more money to CP, a 50/50 allocation would be possible, still leaving plenty of funds for Kentucky Baptist missions and ministries.

Summerlin has been pastor of Lone Oak First Baptist Church since 2002. He previously served churches in Alabama and Mississippi. He is a member of the KBC Mission Board and serves as trustee for Western Recorder.

According to the KBC's 2009 Annual Church Profile report for Lone Oak First Baptist, the church gave \$277,332 (9.6 percent) of its undesignated receipts to CP in 2008-09. It also reported 46 baptisms.

## Convention honors state's top literacy volunteer for 2010

**Hopkinsville**—Denise Kellow of Hopkinsville has been named literacy volunteer of the year by the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

A member of First Baptist Church of Hopkinsville, Kellow began tutoring children served by the congregation's literacy ministry seven years ago. Recently she was named director of the program.

Kentucky Baptist literacy missions provides tutoring for adults and children, using a curriculum that includes scripture and the gospel message. First Baptist, Hopkinsville, launched its Tutoring Children and Youth effort seven years ago, having begun English as a Second Language classes about three years prior.

Kellow was nominated for the Lillian Isaacs Award for Literacy Volunteer of the Year by the previous director of First Baptist's literacy ministry, Diane Back.

"On several occasions, Denise has initiated ideas which have been implemented in our ministry," Back wrote in her nomination. "She has willingly taken on additional responsibilities that have impacted our tutoring ministry in many positive ways."

Kellow has helped improve an already positive relationship with school officials tasked with referring students to the literacy program, said Rebecca Carnell, literacy consultant for the KBC.

"Denise worked in the school system and brought a lot of experience to the ministry," said Carnell, who presented the award to Kellow during Sunday services at the Hopkinsville church last month.



Denise Kellow

"I was humbled by it," Kellow said. "There are so many deserving people in this ministry. As I accepted this, I felt like I've accepted it for the ministry."

Kellow said that beyond the help tutors provide children in reading, math and other subjects, literacy missions is an opportunity to build relationships with families.

She shared the story of a girl who has received tutoring for two years. Although a Christian, the child was in a family that did not attend church regularly. Through the positive relationship with her tutor, the student began attending worship services. Today she is involved Sunday school, children's choir and Girls in Action, and has brought her siblings to church, too.

Through the years several children have made professions of faith in Jesus Christ while receiving assistance through the literacy ministry, Kellow said.

"It's very rewarding and exciting," she added. Volunteers "play a part in whether or not this child is successful in school." Tutors also "have the opportunity to show God's love in a way that some of these children have not experienced in their home life."

The Isaacs Award is named for Lillian Isaacs, a pioneer in Southern Baptist literacy missions who began the ministry in the 1950s at First Baptist Church of Pineville when her husband, John, was a professor at Clear Creek Baptist Bible College. Later commissioned as a Southern Baptist missionary, Mrs. Isaacs coordinated literacy efforts among Native Americans in Alaska.

Training and resources are available for Kentucky Baptists to start English as a Second Language, Tutoring Children and Youth, or Adult Reading and Writing ministries. For details, contact the KBC's mission service and ministries department by e-mail at Ministries@KyBaptist.org, or by phone at (502) 489-3530 or toll free in Kentucky at (866) 489-3530.

## Kentucky plays gracious world host as equestrian games begin

Continued from page 1

Several Kentucky-born celebrities helped kick off the event including legendary boxer Muhammad Ali and country music star Wynonna Judd, who serenaded the crowd with the state song, "My Old Kentucky Home."

Early the next morning, dozens of people gathered to worship across the street from the horse park at Cane Run Baptist Church.

The service at the 182-year-old church was one of two last Sunday sponsored by Affiliated International Ministries, the interdenominational group of churches that is working together to share the gospel with World Equestrian Games visitors. The other was held at the Georgetown Equine Expo. Both will be held the next two Sundays.

"Christians are constantly thinking about the world," AIM Director Larry Martin told those gathered at Cane Run Baptist last Sunday. "We're praying for the world. We send people all over the world, and it's a very, very rare time when God brings the world to one location."

The World Equestrian Games is expected to bring hundreds of thousands of visitors to Kentucky through Oct. 10. Many of them will be traveling from countries that do not have a strong Christian presence.

"When they're coming to us, then we have the opportunity just to serve and show them Christ in a way we could never do in their own country," noted Keith Ivey, a North American Mission Board missionary from Georgia who is volunteering with AIM during the games.

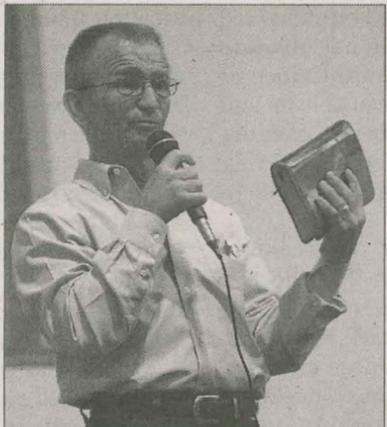
"Then they go back (to their countries) as missionaries, or they are more receptive to missionaries that are in their part of the world," he said.

On Sunday afternoon, Ivey manned AIM's booth at the Trade Show Village inside the horse park.

He and other AIM volunteers handed out information about the organization and plenty of "More Than Gold" pins, the multi-colored, horseshoe-shaped souvenirs that are presented along with the gospel.

Even though AIM volunteers were working inside the horse park were limited in how they could share about the pins, Ivey said there were some fellow believers who stopped by the booth just to pick up pins to take and share with others.

Another big draw at the booth last Sunday was an appearance by racing legend Pat Day. The Hall of Fame jockey has worked some with AIM since it started, even sharing his testimony at the Cane Run Baptist Church worship service.



The Kentucky Derby-winning jockey has been outspoken about his faith for many years now. He said sharing one's faith outwardly is the key to showing Christ's love to those who will visit Kentucky during the World Equestrian Games.

"It's a tremendous opportunity when they come into our locality to let our light shine," Day told the Western Recorder, noting the gospel children's song, "This Little Light of Mine."

"And as we do so, I believe that people will have the opportunity to share with them the basis of our faith and the love of God," he said.

And AIM volunteers are expressing that love through service.

An 11th-hour approval allowed for AIM to establish a shuttle service from the main parking areas to the front gate of the horse park. Martin said there usually are eight shuttles

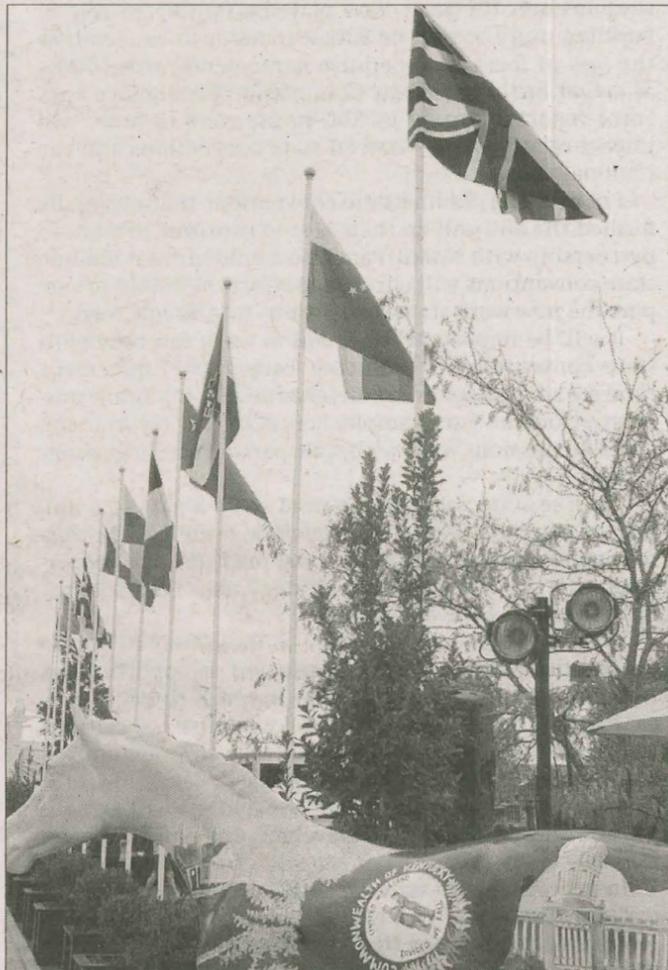
**TIME OF WORSHIP** Kentucky Derby-winning jockey Pat Day shares his personal testimony during a worship service at Cane Run Baptist Church Sept. 26. The service was sponsored by Affiliated International Ministries, which will host a service at the church—located directly across the street from the Kentucky Horse Park—at 8 a.m. each of the two remaining Sundays of the World Equestrian Games



running during the days, most of which are church vans on loan from Kentucky Baptist churches.

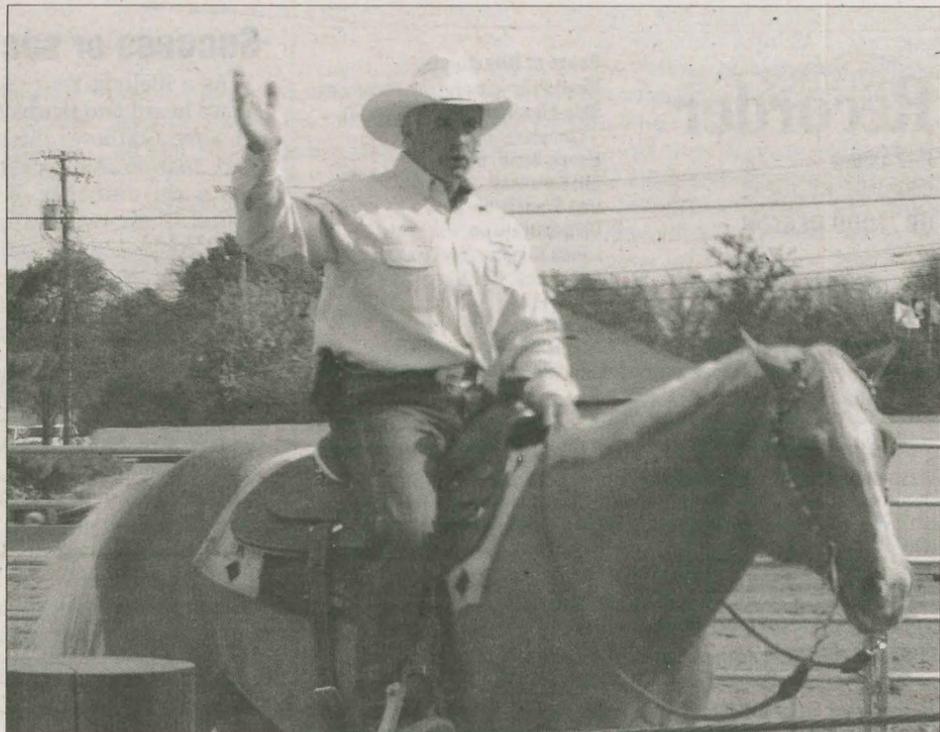
With its logo prominently displayed in each van's window, the AIM booth became a stopping point for visitors expressing their gratitude—which opens the door for conversations, Ivey said.

"They come by to just say they appreciated the ride," he said. "They'll tell me how nice the volunteers were. So, that's just a great segue into giving them the pins and talking with them about where they are (spiritually) and answering questions."



**Be sure to check out next week's Western Recorder for more on the ministries surrounding the World Equestrian Games**

**AT THE HORSE PARK** ■Left: Crowds gather at the Equine Village Arena as the Culver Black Horse Troop, an equestrian drill team from Indiana, prepares to enter. ■Right: Flags from a handful of the 58 countries represented at the World Equestrian Games fly at the Alltech Experience Pavillion. The area features a number of exhibits and offers a place for visitors to relax and get a bite to eat and hear music from around the world. (Photos by Drew Nichter)



**'SERMON ON THE MOUNT'** Horse and preacher Lew Sterrett preaches from atop a horse at a worship service Sept. 26 at the outdoor arena at the Georgetown Equine Expo. Sterrett heads the Sermon on the Mount ministry, using horse-training lessons to share the gospel. A worship service will be held at the Georgetown expo each of the next two Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

## Moving Day



Georgetown College President Bill Crouch (left) and Baptist Seminary of Kentucky President Greg Earwood stand in front of the seminary's suite of offices on the first floor of the Ensor Learning Resource Center on the Georgetown campus. The two schools commemorated BSK's arrival on campus with Earwood delivering the first chapel sermon to Georgetown students, faculty and staff. The seminary was launched in 2002 at Calvary Baptist Church in Lexington. Prior to its move last week, Baptist Seminary of Kentucky had rented space on the campus of Lexington Theological Seminary, which is affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). "It seems to us that everything has finally come together," Earwood said of the move to Georgetown. (Photo courtesy of Georgetown College)

## Ky. pastor now in strategic role

Kevin Ezell, pastor of Highview Baptist Church in Louisville, was elected president of the North American Mission Board by trustees on Sept. 14. He steps into one of the most significant positions of leadership in the Southern Baptist Convention.

### Partners in the Mission



By Bill Mackey

Ezell is now in a strategic role, along with other SBC leaders, to bring together the best from the streams of influence and resources in the SBC, state conventions, associations and churches to reach North America for Christ. And, he is young enough to take time to seek counsel in developing long term, well informed strategies that can involve the most people possible to make the maximum impact.

NAMB partnerships with state conventions over the years have played a significant role in building unity across the SBC. It remains to be seen how the loss of formal cooperative agreements with NAMB, as called for in the Great Commission Resurgence Task Force report approved by SBC messengers in June, will impact relationships between state conventions and the national convention.

I believe the old-line state conventions that originally formed the SBC will do their best to continue to work in partnership with NAMB. I am also confident that old-line state conventions will encourage efforts by NAMB to support the new-work state conventions in strategic ways.

It will be important for NAMB to work carefully with state conventions in reducing cooperative agreement funding so that states can determine and maintain missions priorities. For example, Kentucky will try to maintain KBC missions work with state partners as long as possible.

Old-line state conventions need to be a part of a unified strategy to reach North America, even though they may not be funded by NAMB. It was only through cooperation that a North American strategy like "Find It Here" last year could have taken place.

I believe there are hundreds of thousands of Southern Baptists who are ready to respond to opportunities to be involved in a strategic plan to reach North America. For months, groups of Kentucky Baptist associations have been making plans to partner with cities for church planting. With the coordination of Larry Baker, KBC Missions Growth Team leader, four associations will explore possibilities in Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Toledo during October.

In a meeting with state executive directors on Sept. 16 in Stone Mountain, Ga., Ezell requested prayer for himself, his family and for Highview Baptist Church during this time of transition. It is a good time for Kentucky Baptists and Southern Baptists to rally behind Ezell to pray that in the transitions ahead God will be glorified.

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

## Where soul winning actually begins

With the Kentucky Baptist Great Commission Task Force's call in recent weeks so much of our attention on "doing more for Christ" has been directed toward sending more missionaries to the international missions field—where, it is true, many have yet to hear the gospel. Hence, it may be easy for church members and church leaders alike to lose sight of where reaching the nations for Christ actually begins. Observing a Soul Winning Commitment Day emphasis in our churches, such as "The Big Day," which is suggested by the North American Mission Board for this Sunday, provides an excellent time to remind us of some essential arenas of discipleship and witnessing.

Soul winning begins with the denomination's two missions-sending agencies. Through the Cooperative Program, all Baptists have a part in equipping God's servants whom he has specifically called out to go tell others through national and international missions work. Our ministers and missionaries are trained at our Baptist seminaries in personal evangelism and church planting techniques before being commissioned by our North American and International mission boards to reach the multitudes of lost people in our nation's metro areas and overseas.

Soul winning begins with Baptist state conventions. These special servants help focus our collective energies, provide essential training and channel necessary resources to pastors, church staff, missionaries and lay people, enabling them to more effectively share Christ with our cities and state. Successful statewide evangelism efforts, like the recent "Find It Here" campaign, require extensive coordination and preparation. Convention employees, through sponsoring events, such as the recent "Super Saturday," play a crucial role in equipping Sunday school, music, youth, children and discipleship training workers and strengthening our churches to be more effective, evangelistic missions centers.

Soul winning begins with Kentucky Baptist colleges and agencies. New generations of servant leaders continually are being mentored by committed, Christian teachers and campus ministers on our college and school campuses. They will become Christian influences in their future professional fields, help produce vital congregational ministries, and even answer calls to missions service. Providing our young people with a quality education in a Christian environment not only nurtures their own faith, making them better citizens and church leaders, but it also yields opportunities through which students and faculty are able to convey

testimonies of Christ's love to their family members and contemporaries who have yet to hear.

Soul winning begins with local associations that unite area churches in evangelism and missions through organizing intentional efforts to extend the gospel's reach to individuals, families, diverse ethnic groups and new communities. By strengthening the relationships between pastors and churches, associations bring together volunteers and leadership for local and state missions projects. Many even send teams to assist missionaries in shar-

ing Christ on the international missions field.

Soul winning begins with churches. Without strong churches with evangelistic pastors whose messages stir the laity's hearts toward reaching the lost, little soul-winning would happen. Not only in our pulpits, but also through great Sunday School teachers, committed vacation Bible school workers, dedicated discipleship and small-group leaders, and talented musicians and worship directors, God's love is proclaimed and demonstrated. Nowhere should it be more evident that "one more for Christ" is our cry.

Soul winning begins with you and me. When we get right down to it, soul winning is our privilege and responsibility. The others—as significant as they are in coordinating and strengthening the work—are only vehicles through which we, as followers of Christ, are able to unite in accomplishing our assignment: Go tell. Acts 1:8 is the charge of every believer: "But when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, you will receive power and will tell people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." The progression is important. Yet, it is not a multiple-choice instruction, with special emphasis placed on reaching the latter; it is an all-of-the-above imperative: Reach everyone. As Thom Rainer, president of LifeWay Christian Resources, challenges us in "The Unchurched Next Door," when we speak of the billions of lost people, we must not forget this includes our neighbors and coworkers who are still waiting for us to show we care and invite them to church.

Ultimately, soul winning begins with God. There is no greater truth, for therein is the gospel: "God saved you by his special favor when you believed. And you can't take credit for this, it is a gift from God" (Ephesians 3:8). Only Jesus saves. We just get to rejoice in and share the good news of 1 John 4:9: "God showed how much he loved us by sending his only Son into the world so that we might have eternal life through him." It is His love that motivates every believer to go tell—not just on one "Big Day," but everyday.

## After Thought

By Todd Deaton



## Success or sacrifice

As a lifelong Kentucky Baptist, I have heard two truths oft repeated. First, God loves the lost in our state, nation and world. The second is the authority of the Word of God. These two truths have converged in our local churches to create a passionate, sacrificial culture dedicated to the Great Commission.

In an effort to fulfill the Great Commission, an effective tool was created: the Cooperative Program. I have encountered CP from numerous angles. I have served with both the International Mission Board and North American Mission Board. My wife and I are both graduates of a Kentucky Baptist university and a Southern Baptist seminary. I have participated in various KBC ministries from camps to choirs to committees. Now, as a pastor of a small church, I continue to be grateful to God and indebted to Kentucky Baptists' ministries.

In regards to the recent recommendations by the Kentucky Great Commission Task Force, some oppose the recommendations on the basis of "success," either of CP or of certain ministries. Kentucky Baptists have done many good things for many years and any process that would lead to a change in these ministries is seen as ending "successful" projects.

The question Kentucky Baptists will answer in November is whether we separate success and sacrifice. The question is whether or not we are willing to forego the good things we have done, for the better or the best things God could do. Jesus constantly defines spiritual success as kingdom sacrifice. My hope and prayer for Kentucky Baptists is that we, as a convention of churches, would be willing to sacrifice for the kingdom as a mark of successful obedience.

Andrew Dyer  
Harrodsburg

## Another angle

In response to a letter regarding Kevin Ezell's qualifications for president of North American Mission Board, I pray we will consider another angle. Once again, we see that the Cooperative Program is for many the sole gauge of faithfulness to missions.

Southern Baptists have always trumpeted church autonomy, meaning that churches have the privilege to operate as they see fit, as long as they hold to the Scriptures and the Baptist Faith and Message. Yet, this notion flies out the window when it comes to the CP.

Churches should feel free to give to various biblical missions organizations that they feel will best facilitate getting their money to the nations.

To only look at CP giving without taking the entire missions giving picture into consideration is denominational traditionalism and legalism. Take a look at the whole picture and praise God for church autonomy that Southern Baptists hold so dearly.

Matthew Perry  
Lexington

See more letters on page 5

## WESTERN Recorder

Box 43969  
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DR. TODD DEATON  
Editor

DREW NICHTER  
News Director

THOMAS C. TOWNSEND  
Marketing & Business Manager

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

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## Kentucky college students daring to be 'stirred up'

By Gene Parr

What would it be like to worship in a crowd of over 1,900 college students? I recently had the opportunity to do just that during Collegiate Week at the LifeWay Glorieta Conference Center in New Mexico. The Southern Baptist Convention's National Collegiate Ministry, under the leadership of Linda Osborne, brought together college students, campus ministers and church workers from all over the United States for a week of worship, discipleship, training and challenge.

And challenged we were! Our two main session speakers were Mike Satterfield and David Platt.

Satterfield is an African-American pastor from Birmingham, Ala., and he spoke powerfully and practically about the need for the world to see us live a redeemed Christian life on the college campus.

Platt is also a pastor from Birmingham, has his doctorate from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, and is the author of "Radical: Taking Back Your Faith from the American Dream." The title is well chosen for it is "radical." How could it not be when we are called out of the world to follow the clearly counter cultural teachings of Jesus? Should followers of Christ be living the American Dream defined by material success and security?

Platt challenged us at Glorieta—and those who read his book or attend the 4,000-member church he serves, The Church at Brook Hills—to redefine success as "radical sacrifice." After all, are we not following a Savior who has made the most radical sacrifice this planet has ever seen?

College students respond to this call for radical obedience. As the author of the Book of Hebrews admonished: "Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works" (10:24). This generation of college students wants to be "stirred up" for a cause greater than themselves. Other translations use the phrase "provoke one another" or even "spur one another on," a fitting metaphor to use in a state with so many horses. A knowledgeable horse person will be quick to tell you that the purpose of spurs is not to hurt the horse (despite their wicked looks), but rather to capture the horse's attention and make it realize it really can run faster than it thought it could.

Platt is doing exactly that for us. His wake up call to the

radical lifestyle of the true follower of Christ is a provoking spur to all Western Christians in our affluent, materialistic society. We really can sacrifice more, give more, love more than we think we can and then along the way, discover we can enjoy belonging to God more.

I really got a vision of that when our college students returned from their Acts 1:8 experience this summer. Acts 1:8 is a leadership/discipleship/missions experience led and sponsored by the KBC Collegiate Ministry Department. Thirty Baptist Campus Ministry students from colleges and universities across Kentucky started their summer in Louisville on the campus of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. From that "Jerusalem," they did ministry in Louisville and then spread out to "Judea"—Shelbyville and Salyersville, then continued on to "Samaria"—Colorado and California. One of the Acts 1:8 teams finished their summer doing ministry in Haiti—the "ends of the earth."

Three students who served on the Acts 1:8 teams are students at Morehead State: Kyle Riffe of Ashland's Rose Hill Baptist Church, Robin Watson of Louisville's Valley View Baptist Church and Sarah Whisman from Crosspoint Church in Morehead. They came back to campus changed, inspired, discipled—in short, "stirred up!"

Sarah wrote about her summer:

"This experience has changed my life in more ways than I would have ever thought possible. When we were working in Denver, we were so involved in the lives of the children there and making them feel the love that we have experienced. We worked all day long sharing Bible stories and giving piggyback rides to children whom we came to love as if they were a part of our family. We were a part of their struggles with poverty and with their relationships. However, more than their struggles, we were a part of their joy."

One of the goals of the Acts 1:8 experience is for student missionaries to return to their campus confident that God can do more than we think He can and we can trust Him for more than we thought. Kyle, Robin and Sarah are doing this on our campus. Though school has just started on our campus, they are already spurring us to step out on faith and dare to do more and risk more for God.

Gene Parr is campus minister at Morehead State University.

### FAITH ON CAMPUS

## Empty nest equals quiet home

By Vivian Stillwell

I will never forget one of our first Sundays at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington 17 years ago. Ginny Sisk, who was our pastor's wife and herself a mother of four grown children—all boys, mind you, with mischievous reputations—was encouraging me, as a mother, that the empty nest years ahead were the best. After 27 years of raising children, this memory is one I continue to hold on to.

I would listen to mothers speak of difficult moments letting children leave and attend college. Yes, I had those days. For the ones that have moved out of town, the initial adjustment period takes a little longer. For the children who stay in our local community, we are still just a phone call away, but we have found that we, the parents, are the ones sometimes that have to set new boundaries.

I feel comforted to know that my children are just a call away, but at the same time my husband and I are reclaiming our lives as a twosome. This "couple-ness" can be exciting again. We have taken advantage of some dance lesson opportunities, using them as dates. We enjoy so much the quiet of early morning time, sitting on our porch with coffee, cereal, puppies and just each other's company. We shop for groceries together, searching out special buys. We prepare for Sunday worship in peace, without teenage complaints.

Did I believe that these would be the best days of my life? I don't know. But I take these same words and I share them with young mothers that I see who seem to be overwhelmed, frustrated and at their wits end with the day-to-day schedule of raising their young family. It will be worth it, you will be proud and God will be blessed as you love these children—but remember to love their Daddy, too, because your life will continue after they leave the nest.

Vivian Stillwell is the wife of James Stillwell, minister to singles at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington and a Family Forum columnist for Western Recorder.



## Purge the urge to splurge

By Jeremy White

After a conference at which I had spoken, several said they simply tend to buy too much. "How can we cut back on purchases?" they asked.

People can drift into financial trouble without realizing it just from spending more than they think on the little stuff. Going out to eat, the multiple trips to the vending machine, or new tools for the garage.

Money just gradually slips away through day to day purchases with no tracking or control. These are the people who ask, "Where did it all go?" No major purchases made, but just the drip, drip, drip effect that eventually leads to a flood.

On the other hand, some people know very well why they are in financial trouble. They can point back to that boat, a new car on credit, or too much house for their income. People in this situation may watch some of the daily expenditures very carefully because money is so tight. But the big mistake is so significant that it is difficult to keep their finances in balance.

In both cases, families need to purge the urge to splurge. Those splurges or impulse purchases, whether big or small, can cause financial damage. Ask these questions before any non-routine purchase:

1. Do I really need this?
2. Can I borrow or try it before purchasing it?
3. Will I change my mind once I have it?
4. What area will I have to cut back on to buy this?
5. Have I had a "cooling off" period to avoid an impulse purchase?
6. Have I checked with my spouse?
7. Have I compared prices with other sources?
8. What's the worse thing that could happen if I purchase this? How likely is that to occur.

These questions are really designed for you to stop and insert self-control. As Proverbs 21:20 says, "In the house of the wise are stores of choice food and oil, but a foolish man devours all he has."

Reprinted from Western Recorder, Sept. 1, 2009. Jeremy White is a CPA with Blythe, White & Associates in Paducah.



## Taking our medicine

I have a five-year-old daughter who hates cough medicine. Every four hours, when the time for her dosage was at hand, an inevitable struggle would ensue, until recently. After she watched the ease with which her younger sister took her medicine and the praise that would follow, she gave up the fight. She marched toward me with a look of determination, took her medicine without protest, and declared, "I am so big!"

As I consider the urgent need for Kentucky Baptists to fulfill the Great Commission, the time for our response is now. The stellar leadership of Johnny Hunt and the GCR Task Force has led us to adopt a strategy that will lead to a resurgence of the Great Commission on the national level. What is happening within the SBC is exciting, but for the sentiment to materialize in KBC churches, the Kentucky Great Commission Task Force Report needs to be endorsed.

The principles found in the report are inspiring. The proposals are tangible ways that our local churches can reach the gamut of people spanning from our Jerusalem to the uttermost ends of the earth.

Knowing the unavoidable reality of 1 John 5:12, we cannot afford to let the hour pass us by. Eternal life is at stake. Prayerfully consider the report and be willing to traverse through the discomfort of change.

Jeff Pennington  
Louisville

## Guarding character

Does character matter? Should the personal character and integrity of a leader be important to those whom he leads? The obvious answer is, "Yes."

By definition, character is said to be "moral excellence." Character defined however, is not as important as character displayed. As ministers of the gospel, our character is tested each

week. Do we preach our own messages or do we "swipe" a sermon? Do we use our position, power and influence to accomplish God's will or our own objectives? Are we man enough to stand up and say, "I made a mistake. It was an error on my part. I'm sorry."

Character is not something that can be granted to us by others. Character is something that we must demonstrate ourselves. There are two—and only two—in this universe who know our true character. The first is God, who knows the entire story. The second is us. When we look in the mirror, we know if we are carrying unconfessed sin or if we are merely "playing a part."

May all of us (myself first) be men of character when we take up the mantle of "preacher of the Word."

Chris Young  
LaGrange

## Fresh air

Three years ago, I crossed the border and became a Bluegrass Baptist. After having served a Baptist university in Tennessee, God called me to pastor a local church.



Much of the 11 years of my former life was spent listening to college students. In the same breaths, they would often share their joys and dreams about God's call on their lives, while at the same time complaining about the processes of the local church—and particularly our denomination. I found myself simultaneously encouraged and disheartened.

Serving a local church is thrilling! Being a pastor is great, and the recent recommendations which come from the Kentucky Great Commission Task Force give me great hopes for our future as Southern Baptists in carrying out the calling of being the church and proclaiming Christ to a lost and dying world.

The call to re-allocate CP funds to a 50/50 split between Kentucky ministries and SBC ministries will mean that more of the world will hear the good news of the gospel. The Great Commission Task Force and the Kentucky Great Commission Task Force have served our generation and future generations well. They are leading us toward more strategic, more intentional, more aggressive, and more God-honoring ministries.

What a breath of fresh air!

Todd Brady  
Paducah

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

# IMB appoints 51 'ordinary people' as missionaries

By Don Graham  
International Mission Board

Tampa, Fla.—Six men with ski masks and machine guns stood between James Roberts and the security of a warm bed. He knew there was a possibility of facing something like this when he picked post-war Kosovo for his first mission trip.

Earlier this month, Roberts was part of a group of new missionaries appointed by the International Mission Board at Bell Shoals Baptist Church in Brandon, Fla. At a special service in their honor, 51 "ordinary people," including Roberts, shared personal stories of calling, sacrifice and passion for making Christ's name known.

"Buildings were still smoking, tanks were still rolling down the streets," the 38-year-old Texas youth minister recalled of Kosovo. "I was just a young seminary student. ... I didn't know anything about the war."

It was a frigid, pitch-black night in January 2000, just months after a NATO bombing campaign forced Serbian troops from Kosovo. Fighting had destroyed much of the fledgling country and Roberts was part of a small volunteer team delivering aid to Albanian refugees. The team was driving home from an evening church service when, to their horror, their van's headlights re-

vealed a roadblock manned by what appeared to be rebel Serbian soldiers.

One of the masked men rapped the muzzle of his weapon against the driver's window. Though none were speaking English, the soldiers' shouting and gun waving made it clear they wanted the team out of the van right away. They lined up Roberts and the others in front of the van and dragged the team's driver—a Southern Baptist missionary who was facilitating their trip—off to the side.

"We didn't know what to think. We were praying and I just remember ... this amazing peace came over me," Roberts said. He was ready to die for his faith.

But that sacrifice wasn't necessary. A few minutes later the soldiers ordered everyone back into the van and sent the team on its way. Actually, the "Serbian rebels" were Italian soldiers assigned to a United Nations peace-keeping force; their ski masks were just to keep warm while they manned a check-point searching vehicles for weapons.

But the harrowing story wasn't the only thing Roberts brought back from Kosovo. The weeklong mission trip marked the birth of a calling that, 11 years later, would lead him back overseas as a career missionary with the IMB.



James & Angie Roberts



**WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT** Richard Powell, an IMB trustee from Florida, precedes his prayer of dedication for Southern Baptists' newest international missionaries by telling them, "You're about to embark on a glorious, glorious journey."

"God gave me a bigger picture of the world," Roberts said. "I remember coming back (to the U.S.) and trying to find a way to get back (to Kosovo). My heart was in Eastern Europe."

Roberts' wife, Angie, knew God wanted her to be a missionary at age 9 while attending an evening worship service at a GA camp. Some people thought she was too young to know what she wanted to do with her life, but 21 years later, the Robertses are heading for Central Europe to plant a church in an unreached city.

Jill McCabe\*, an elementary schoolteacher from Texas, also was called to missions as a child. She knew at age 8 exactly how she would share Christ's love: get her pilot's license and fly across Africa giving to

the poor in Jesus' name. Though her plan didn't materialize as expected, she and her husband, Michael\*, soon will be leaving for Eastern Europe.

Speaking from 2 Timothy, interim IMB president Clyde Meador offered the same charge to the new missionaries that the Apostle Paul did to Timothy. "Paul charges Timothy, and we charge you, to realize that whatever you go to do, you do in the power of the Lord Jesus Christ—not in the power of yourself," Meador said.

"The things you go to do are things which you are incapable of doing. ... But we also know that whatever He calls us to do, He empowers us to do, and He fills us with His Spirit to enable us to do those things." (BP)

## 173rd KBC Annual Meeting Tuesday, November 16

Immanuel Baptist Church • Lexington, Kentucky

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

### Lexington Accommodations

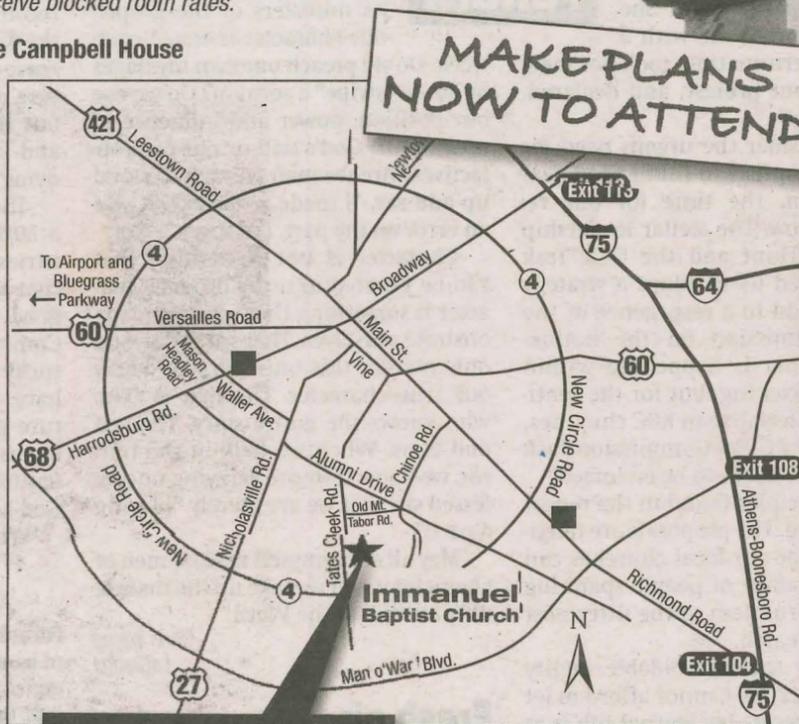
Rates do not include the current Lexington 13.42% hotel tax. Messengers are responsible for making their own reservations. Kentucky Baptist Convention **must** be mentioned and reservation deadlines met to receive blocked room rates.

### Crowne Plaza Lexington - The Campbell House

1375 South Broadway  
859.255.4281  
\$89 (1-4 guests per room)  
• Non-smoking rooms  
• On-site restaurant and café  
• High-speed Internet access  
• 24-hour fitness center  
• Heated indoor pool  
• Complimentary parking  
Reservation deadline: 10/15

### Doubletree Guest Suites

2601 Richmond Road  
859.268.0060  
\$95 (1-4 guests per room)  
• Non-smoking rooms  
• On-site restaurant  
• High-speed Internet access  
• Fitness center and pool  
• Complimentary parking  
Reservation deadline: 10/25  
KBC block name: KBC-Withers (limited # of rooms)



Immanuel Baptist Church  
3100 Tate's Creek Road  
www.ibc-lex.org

For more information about Lexington or where to stay in the area, visit [www.visitlex.com](http://www.visitlex.com)



For more information, visit [www.kybaptist.org/annualmeeting](http://www.kybaptist.org/annualmeeting) or contact the Communications Department by phone at 502.489.3578 or 866.489.3578 or e-mail [Denise.Withers@kybaptist.org](mailto:Denise.Withers@kybaptist.org)



## Morris Chapman: Nearing retirement, longtime leader discusses joys, challenges of serving Southern Baptists, shares concerns for SBC's future

Morris Chapman recently reflected on the joys and challenges of serving as president of the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee in response to questions posed by Baptist Press. Chapman retires Sept. 30 after 18 years of leading the Executive Committee. (Answers have been edited for space purposes.)

**Q: What have been the greatest joys in the 18 years of your presidency of the Executive Committee?**

In short—the fulfillment of the Executive Committee and its staff resolving problematic issues before they become large enough so as to otherwise burden all Southern Baptists.

Because I have always believed so strongly in the Cooperative Program, I was grateful that Cooperative Program promotion and stewardship education returned to the Executive Committee. At the last Southern Baptist Convention, the messengers approved a vision that removes from the Executive Committee all but a token responsibility for Cooperative Program promotion and transfers it to the state conventions. If it proves to be a beneficial and healthy decision, I will rejoice. If not, I will be deeply disappointed in what may become the erosion and ultimate demise of the Cooperative Program as we have known it.

**Q: What have been the greatest challenges?**

The constant politicization of the convention by leaders and their followers who adopt agendas through which they view every decision and every election as a long-

standing problem in the convention. Under these conditions, I am uncertain God will ever believe us ready for a great revival among Southern Baptists.

The Executive Committee members and staff constantly face political posturing, pressures and lobbying, sometimes with smaller issues, but always with issues of any magnitude.

The challenge of the Executive Committee is to make sound, Spirit-directed decisions in spite of the pressures. Those who are elected as members of the Executive

Committee should be men and women who pray fervently to know the "will" of the Lord in each decision regardless of the necessity to refuse to cater to political agendas. If a decision is the right one, it will sometimes agree with those who apply political pressures, but ... it will sometimes disagree.

It is difficult enough to make informed decisions with all the facts on the top of the table, but it is nearly impossible when unseen, political agendas are being maneuvered under the table, behind the scenes, or wherever a specific agenda may be at any

given moment.

**Q: How would you describe the current state of the Southern Baptist Convention?**

In spite of the intent of the Great Commission Resurgence recommendations, a growing number of SBC leaders seem to regard the Cooperative Program as an outdated method of supporting missions around the world and are promoting designated giving to the exclusion, or at least to the de-emphasis, of the Cooperative Program.

The convention is in flux. "Missions" is the stated purpose behind the proposed vision approved at the SBC last June, and I have no reason to doubt the main purpose. Unfortunately, some of the decisions being made in the effort to challenge Southern Baptists to a greater responsibility in missions may lead to a dismantling of some aspects of the convention that are more critically important to the overall focus on missions than the proponents realize.

Only time will tell and I am praying that my present concerns will prove to be invalid and that we literally become the greatest missions force the world has ever known.

**Q: What makes you hopeful about the SBC's future?**

God is in complete control. In His timing, He can turn Southern Baptists in any direction He chooses. Perhaps that is what He is doing at this very moment. If so, I hope all Southern Baptists who may have had reservations will see the light and rejoice in the power of our God. If not, I pray that God will drive us to our knees asking Him to do those things through us that we cannot do for ourselves. (BP)



**PRAYING FOR SOULS** Morris Chapman prays with Georgia Baptist disaster relief volunteer George Swaringen (right) at a disaster relief feeding station in Mississippi during the massive relief effort following Hurricane Katrina in 2005. (Photo by Norm Miller/BP)

## Outgoing SBC Executive Committee head given honorary title of president emeritus

Continued from page 1

As an M.E. Dodd Award recipient, Chapman received a bronze sculpture of a farmer sowing the word as he walks across the world, depicting international evangelism. While other recognitions honor annual accomplishments in CP support, the Dodd award signifies sustained achievement.

Spradlin also reported that the Executive Committee, in addition to EC personnel policy retirement provisions, will make additional contributions to health insurance costs for Chapman and his wife, Jodi; provide a life insurance policy; and pay travel expenses for the Chapmans to future SBC annual meetings.

Spradlin also presented Chapman with the title to the vehicle that has been furnished to him by the EC, and made a tribute to Jodi Chapman.

"Many of us kind of subscribe to the axiom, though, that it may not be wise for any man to shop for any woman," Spradlin said. "So, we thought it not wise to presume what you might want. So we want to present you a gift tonight for \$5,000 for you to use how you see fit."

During the dinner, Jerry Vines, former SBC president and pastor of First Baptist Church of Jacksonville, Fla., acknowledged Chapman's role in the "conservative resurgence."

"It was not difficult for some of us to take a stand for the inerrancy of scripture and be willing to fight the battle for the Bible during the 'conservative resurgence' because our churches were very, very conservative," Vines said. "They were behind us all the way, 100 percent."

"Morris Chapman took a stand for the Bible at First Baptist Church of Wichita Falls when there was tremendous pressure upon him. He took that stand, and he took it with great, great courage."

When Chapman was elected president of the convention in 1990 by a 60 percent to 40 percent margin, Vines said, "his election basically resolved the issue."

"From that point on, it was very, very clear: that conservatives had won the battle and the Southern Baptist Convention was turning back to its conservative roots," Vines recalled. "It is because of men like Morris Chapman and others that we now have a denomination where we are on record as believing the Bible is God's inspired, infallible, inerrant word." (BP)



**HONOREE** Morris Chapman, outgoing president of the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee, voices his appreciation to Southern Baptists during a Sept. 21 retirement dinner in Nashville, Tenn. (Photo by Morris Abernathy/BP)



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**LUNCHEON**

at the 2010 Kentucky Baptist Convention

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**12:30 PM**

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Porter Memorial Baptist Church  
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Buffet lunch will include a Kentucky Hot Brown, vegetables and dessert.

## SBC Executive Committee deals with budget shortfall, rejects BP motion

By Bob Allen

Nashville, Tenn.—Even before considering a recommendation by the Southern Baptist Convention that it reduce its budget by nearly a third to channel more money to international missions, the SBC Executive Committee is facing a cash shortfall fueled by declining giving to the denomination and low interest rates in a weak economy.

For the second straight year, the Executive Committee will build an SBC operating budget smaller than the previous year. A budget summary committee members adopted Sept. 21 projects income and expenditures of \$8.6 million in the 2010-11 fiscal year. That is down \$505,000 from the current budget year, which ends Sept. 30.

The Executive Committee's largest source of income, \$6.8 million, is 3.4 percent of projected receipts anticipated through the Cooperative Program. The SBC operating budget goes toward administrative support of convention operations such as planning the annual meeting, promoting the Cooperative Program and communications through Baptist Press and the bi-monthly newspaper, SBC Life.

In June the Southern Baptist Convention adopted recommendations from a Great Commission Task Force that would reduce the Executive Committee's allocation from the Cooperative Program by 1 percent and increase the allocation of the International Mission Board by 1 percent, to 51 percent of CP receipts.

The recommendation, which will be considered at the Executive Committee's February meeting, would reduce the Ex-

ecutive Committee's budget by about 30 percent from current spending levels.

Cutbacks in 2010-11 budget include phasing out Empowering Kingdom Growth, a convention-wide initiative launched in 2002. Ken Hemphill, who leads the initiative, said he hopes to keep the program—which costs \$275,000 a year—alive and is looking for another sponsor.

The operating budget also calls for reduced funding for Global Evangelical Relations, a program formed after the SBC pulled out of the Baptist World Alliance and led by former convention president Bobby Welch.

### Baptist Press motion rejected

In other business, the Executive Committee declined to recommend that Baptist Press become a separate entity with its own board of directors.

The action responded to a motion, referred to the Executive Committee, that was made at the SBC annual meeting this year by Martin King, editor of the Illinois Baptist newspaper. King said in a letter he was concerned about "past and recent perceived failings" of the current structure.

In June, King and two other editors jointly published an editorial in the Florida Baptist Witness addressing "perceived lopsided coverage" of the Great Commission Task Force.

The Executive Committee declared a 1982 study of the structure of Baptist Press "still valid" and recommended that Baptist Press "continue to operate as an integral part of the ministry assignment of the Executive Committee." (ABP)

## Wright urges shift in CP funds, increased missions involvement

Continued from page 1

the words of Matthew 24:14, "be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations" in this generation should drive all Southern Baptists to prayer for a "radical reprioritization" in both their giving and going for missions, Wright urged.

The average evangelical Christian gives about 2.4 percent of his financial resources to "the Lord's work," Wright noted. Local congregations, Baptist state conventions and national Southern Baptist entities also could pass along more financial resources to the cause of taking the gospel to those who have yet to hear, he added.

"We can profess all day long that we are Christian, but the fact is that we love our money a lot more than we love Jesus," Wright suggested.

"The local church has to be serious about sacrificial giving when it comes to the global mission calling that Christ has given us. We as a denomination need to be as well," he continued. "It is my hope and prayer that as we think about the Cooperative Program and how it has been central to how we carry out our part of the calling of this kingdom vision of Jesus Christ, that there can be a radical reprioritization of our funding within the Cooperative Program."

Churches also need to make a radical commitment to go on mission in greater numbers than ever before, Wright said.

"It is my hope that every single church in our convention will take at least one mission trip, with the pastor being part of that trip, over the next year," he said. "There is no way I could adequately describe to you how mission trips have impacted the life of Johnson Ferry.

"When people are going through weeks

of discipleship training, learning how to have a better quiet time, learning how to share their faith with a different people group cross-culturally, they come back better Christians from the experiences they have had," Wright added.

Noting the website he has set up to encourage prayer for the convention—www.Pray4SBC.com—Wright said he hopes churches also would focus prayer on the "final big decision Southern Baptists are facing this year."

Referring to the recent appointments of Frank Page to head the Executive Committee and Kevin Ezell as president of the North American Mission Board, Wright reminded that the International Mission Board search committee still is looking for God's man for the job.

"I can think of no decision that is going to have a more lasting impact on carrying out Christ's Great Commission, especially to the unreached people groups of the world," than the decision about who will be IMB president, he noted.

Praying for God's leadership in that decision, about sacrificial giving for missions and about going on mission in greater numbers than ever before is crucial if "Baptist Christians are going to do our part in the overall kingdom vision mindset that Jesus gives us," Wright stressed.

"It is my hope that there will be a radical reprioritization so we can think about these thousands of people groups who have practically no witness of the gospel," he said. "Then as we think about that global calling that Christ gives us, with our own Jerusalems, ... with our Judeas, with our Samarias, with our uttermost parts, we will have a true global calling of what it means to do our part in kingdom business. (BP)

## On second thought

### 'Kevin' overcomes family struggles, behavior issues to succeed at Oneida

Our admissions office is accustomed to receiving calls from parents or guardians inquiring about enrolling their child at OBI. It is not uncommon to sense a spirit of urgency in enrolling the child as soon as possible, but there is just so much we can do to speed up the process. After the phone interview, it is basically up to the parent to keep things moving. When our admissions office receives an urgent call, we expect the application and other information to arrive in a week or so.

Some time ago, the admissions office received one of those "How soon can I enroll my child?" phone calls. Two months later the application had not arrived. We often wonder why, given the urgency, we do not receive the application and other information to complete the process.

Finally, after two months, the parent called again, explaining why there had been a delay. Often the parent was merely trying to scare the child by saying something like, "If you don't get your act together, I'm going to send you to a boarding school!" Sometimes that works, but usually it doesn't—or at least not in the long term.

This was the case with "Kevin" (not his real name). After two months the application finally arrived. Kevin had a combination of family, academic and behavior issues. Finally, late in the academic year, Kevin arrived on our campus. During the interview he confessed that he and his stepparent were not getting along. Additionally, he had some issues respecting female authority and he admitted that he could be a lit-

tle "mouthy." He also confessed to a history of being "bossy" with his older sister, lying about his homework and not doing his best at school.

We have had Kevin for more than two years now, and I confess that I have never seen any negative behavior out of him. His interactions with his peers always have been good, I am not aware of any conflicts with our female staff, and to be quite honest, in my opinion he has been an all-around good kid. Nearly every time I see Kevin, he's smiling. He seems to have a relatively small circle of friends, but they are the kind of friends that most parents want their children to have.

Recently on one of those warm sunny afternoons we've been having a lot of, I was sitting on one of the benches in front of our chapel. I saw Kevin coming to work and I asked him to sit with me for a moment.

As I often do, I asked Kevin to remind me about the circumstances which brought him to Oneida. Without hesitation he admitted that he and his stepfather didn't get along. When I asked him to tell me who was responsible for the conflict, he acknowledged that it was likely both of their faults. I believe he also told me that they both were a little hard-headed. I don't think I've ever met the stepfather, but I have never seen a situation where I could say that Kevin was "hard-headed." Then I asked him how he was doing with his grades. With one of those big smiles, he said, "Well, I had a 3.5 (GPA) last quarter!" I'm proud of Kevin and his grades and I appreciate his big smile.

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

### This is Oneida



W.F. Underwood

## A new man

### Former meth maker thankful for new life in Jesus Christ

If there were two kinds of people in the world Kirk Kirkemunde once avoided, it was preachers and policemen. Gary Howard, Cumberland County Sheriff's top lieutenant and pastor of Old Fashion Independent Baptist Church, represents both.

Howard was fighting the drug problem in Cumberland County, Tenn., even when Kirkemunde was one of its biggest meth cooks. Add the fact that both men always were armed for the drug battle and you have quite a picture.

That picture is not what people saw at an ordination service this summer though—a service also attended by Cumberland County Sheriff Butch Burgess.

"Not too many years ago, if we'd met in this building, one of us could have been laying here dead at the hand of the other," Sheriff Burgess told a Knoxville News Sentinel reporter. "But now I can see God working through him."

Kirkemunde now works in the Cumberland County Jail as a chaplain. Instead of a shooting match, this meeting of Kirkemunde with Burgess and Howard resulted in hugs and tears of joy at what God had done.

Kirkemunde's life turned around in June 2003 when officers found him with four grams of meth during a traffic stop. He agreed to treatment as part of a plea deal, which took him to the Bread of Life Rescue Mission. The mission was a ministry of Ralph Reagan, a Clear Creek alumnus.

Kirkemunde planned to cry a few fake tears during the invitation and have Reagan on his side, but something happened on the way to the altar.

"All that time, those little wheels were spinning in my head on how to get out of this," Kirkemunde recalled. "But while I was on my knees, I asked the Lord, 'If you're who you say you are, just take this from me.' That's what God can do. He can take a drug addict everybody's given up on and give him a new life."

God used Reagan to lead Kirkemunde to Clear Creek. After earning two degrees in ministry there, and now having been ordained, he is a minister to those who are in the grip of drugs and a partner to the officers he once would have killed.

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

### Clear Creek Chronicle



Donnie Fox

## Going 'beyond' the week

Camp group returns home,  
immediately goes 'beyond'

This week's column is written by Andrew Rupard, youth minister at Corinth Baptist Church in McQuady

On Sunday, July 11, at 11 a.m., 30 students and nine adults from Hardinsburg Baptist Church and Corinth Baptist Church in McQuady departed for Crossings Camp at Cedar-moore. That afternoon, we moved into the Fields Cabin, just one shy of the 40-bunk capacity. It was the beginning of an amazing week.

From Sunday evening to Thursday morning, we were exposed to high-energy worship, great Bible teaching and some awesome time spent in recreation and hanging out with one another. While there, we were challenged by the Beyond Effect that was presented by Crossings—combining your passions and burdens, to go beyond yourself to minister to others.

As camp was coming to an end on Thursday morning, we knew the week wasn't over yet. We returned to Breckinridge County and immediately moved into the Corinth Baptist Family Life Center where we would live for the next three days. That same evening, the Beyond Effect went into high gear.

Earlier in the year, the pastor of

a struggling church in our community had expressed a desire to have a vacation Bible school but was without the people or resources to make it happen. We knew it was a perfect fit for what God was leading us to do: Go beyond! So, we left Crossings and started our VBS that night.

In addition to the VBS, we also had a team that went out into the community and did random acts of service for those who lived nearby. They mowed yards, trimmed bushes and did small repair jobs. The students also served in the local clothes closet and visited the residents of a local nursing home.

During the course of the week, we saw two young men confess their faith in Jesus Christ and one other decide to follow the Lord in baptism. We had a variety of opportunities to share the gospel, both through the VBS and as we served our local community in Jesus' name. We are planning to return to Crossings Camp in 2011 and still are praying about what the Beyond Effect will look like for us in the future.

Thank you, Crossings, for encouraging us to go beyond!

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

Ky. Baptist  
Assemblies

David Melber

## Year-round needs

Abused, neglected children  
require help all year long

Now that the leaves are beginning to turn, darkness is arriving a bit earlier, and temperatures hopefully are beginning to cool, images of Thanksgiving dinner and Christmas trees may not be so far away.

While seasons in Kentucky can change almost overnight, that's not the case for homes where abuse and neglect are the norm. Thousands of children go to bed each night and wake up each morning in homes where proper love and concern are absent; where physical, sexual and emotional abuse is common; and where the hope for a brighter tomorrow grows dimmer with each passing day.

Sunrise Children's Services provides care and support to more than 500 of these children every day through our network of foster homes, residential programs and counseling services. Through our ministry, children are given a safe place to stay, people who care, and hopefully an opportunity for a better life. Many of you are a vital part of this ministry with your support, and the holiday season is a perfect opportunity to help these children who are in need.

Sunrise gets only about two percent of its annual operating budget from the Cooperative Program and relies heavily on direct contributions from church-

es across Kentucky. The annual Thanksgiving Offering provides an additional three percent of our annual budget and we need that to increase, especially in light of news that our CP funding may be reduced next year.

Churches traditionally have set aside one week a year to take up an offering for Sunrise—but it doesn't necessarily have to be at Thanksgiving. Regardless of when it's held, your church is a valuable partner in our efforts to provide a safe refuge for abused and neglected children.

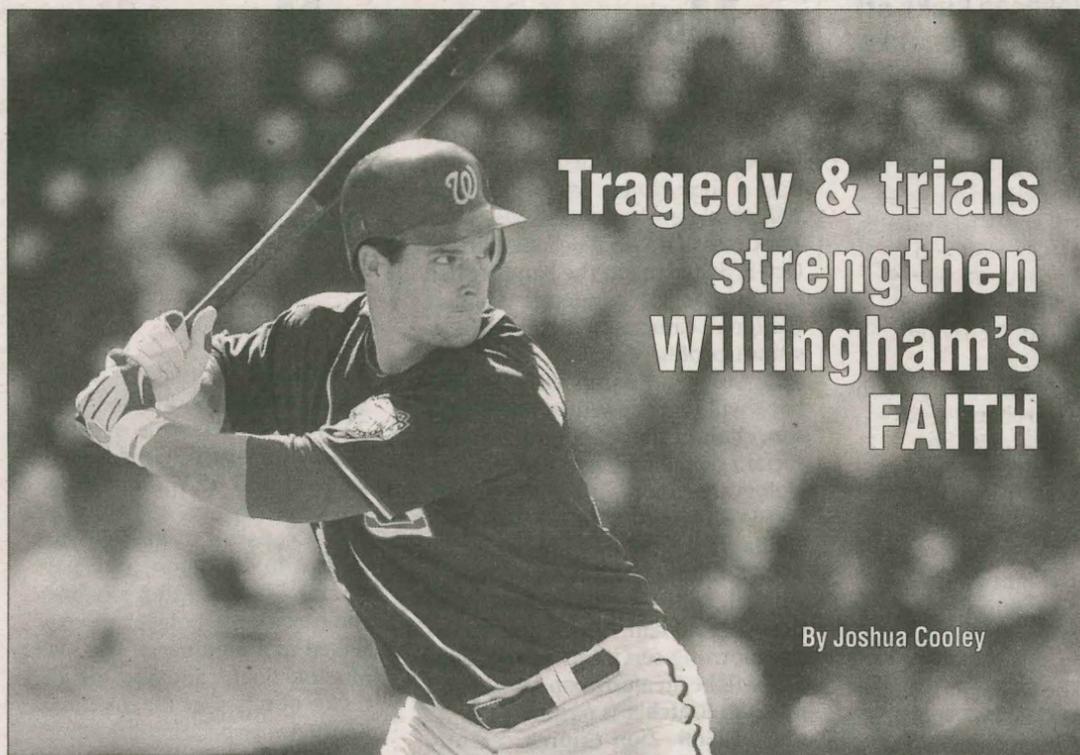
Likewise, churches partner with Sunrise each year at Christmas to sponsor children in our care and make sure they're not forgotten. Churches, Sunday school classes, youth groups and individuals have an opportunity to select a child or children in one of our foster homes or residential programs and buy gifts for them. It's a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate Christian generosity to young people who may have never experienced the kind of unconditional love Christ calls us to practice.

Abuse never takes a holiday, but neither does your opportunity to help the innocent victims of abuse. Start planning now about how you can join in our mission of giving hope to a hurting child.

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

Sunrise  
Children's  
Services

Bill Smithwick

Tragedy & trials  
strengthen  
Willingham's  
FAITH

By Joshua Cooley

Like any professional sport, Major League Baseball is filled with its share of extroverts, eccentrics and hermits. Josh Willingham, on the other hand, is like a human metronome.

Both personally and professionally, the Washington Nationals' slugging left fielder never veers too far one way or the other. One always knows what to expect. He's consistent and dependable.

It's a good trait to possess in baseball, which chews up and spits out many more players than it elevates.

"I've always been able to block stuff out—not get too high when things are going well for you," said Willingham, whose even-keeled personality currently is needed as he underwent season-ending knee surgery in late August. "It helps in sports, especially in baseball, because you have lots of adversity. You can do well, but it can go south really quick in baseball."

And in life.

That truth became excruciatingly evident to Willingham on June 13, 2009. Around 5:30 a.m., he awoke to the sound of someone knocking on his hotel door. The Nationals were in Tampa, Fla., for a three-game interleague series with the Rays. David Willingham, Josh's father, had been unable to reach him by phone. That left Rob McDonald, the Nationals' travel director, as the herald of terrible news: Willingham's little brother, Jon, had died.

A little more than a month earlier, Willingham's grandfather also had died. Life had thrown him a painful beanball after a wicked curve.

"The Bible says we will always face adversity," Willingham said. "I experienced that last year with the death of my brother. Your faith just grows over a period of time. That's where I'm at now. It's a never-ending thing."

The foundation for such spiritual steadiness was laid long ago. Willingham's parents, David and Denise, raised their two sons in a loving, Christian home and attended church three times a week, without fail. Josh and Jon were active in youth group and continued a longstanding family tradition by attending Mars Hill Bible School, which was founded by Josh's great-grandfather. Despite offers from much larger schools, Josh chose to attend college close to home at the University of North Alabama.

Still, he didn't make his family's deep-rooted Christian faith his own until 2000, when the Florida Marlins drafted him in the 17th round. At short-season Class-A Utica (N.Y.), far away from his sheltered upbringing, he quickly learned that true faith is accompanied by godly actions.

"When you get by yourself, your faith really has to show up on its own," he noted. "I was faced with a lot of things. I had to make a pretty big decision where my career was going. For me, it was: 'OK, I'm not around home or my Christian friends anymore. Which way am I going to go?'"

Willingham's baseball prowess had a head start on his faith. In three years at North Alabama, he led the Lions to an appearance in the NCAA Divi-

sion II World Series and set multiple individual season and career records.

Once drafted, he spent the next six years slowly climbing the Marlins' minor league ladder before breaking through in 2006, when he belted a career-high 26 home runs and knocked in 74 runs. After a chronic back injury wiped out 50 games in 2008, the Marlins packaged Willingham in a trade to the Nationals.

Then came the difficult 2009 season. Despite putting up decent numbers (24 HRs, 61 RBI), Willingham struggled as a platoon outfielder. On June 12, his average dipped to .252 after an 0-for-4 night in Tampa. The next morning, he received the news about his brother.

According to an article in the Florence (Ala.) TimesDaily, Jon, 27, had tried to evade police at about 1:45 a.m. earlier that night after they attempted to pull over his 2003 Ford Explorer for reckless driving and speeding. Jon lost control of the vehicle and slammed into a tree.

After spending a week in Florence, Josh agonized over returning to D.C. The brothers had been very close. They often fished and watched Alabama football together during Josh's offseasons. "It's going to be hard for me to go back," Josh told his father then. "I don't have my heart in it."

Through it all, Willingham clung to the paradoxical command of James 1:2: "Consider it pure joy ... whenever you face trials of many kinds."

"I love that verse," he said. "You're going to have trials and struggles. You have to persevere through that. (Considering) the struggles like Paul and Job had, a lot of our struggles seem pretty small."

After signing a one-year, \$4.6 million contract with Washington last January, Willingham earned the team's everyday left field job and was on pace for a career year during the first half of this season. But a bothersome left knee derailed the promising start. On Aug. 19, he was placed on the disabled list with a medial meniscus tear, which prompted season-ending arthroscopic surgery.

It's a frustrating blow to a player who is like clockwork when he is in the lineup.

"He's just a professional hitter," said Nationals backup catcher Wil Nieves. "He's a tough out, and that's what you want from a guy."

Willingham's clubhouse value far exceeds his discipline at the plate. Shortly after arriving in D.C., he became the team's chapel leader.

"He is a real good teammate," said Olsen, who has known Willingham since 2005 when they both were in the Marlins' organization. "He'll have your back for anything."

Throughout the personal tragedies and baseball's capriciousness—the quietly dependable Willingham has learned a valuable lesson.

"Sometimes the Lord has to get your attention," he said. "He does that in whatever way he wants to. He has taught me to live every day, to do the best every day, and whatever happens, happens. It's something he's in control of. I have to keep that in mind." (BP)

**Johnson kicks off 'Dialogue on Race' at Campbellsville**

Campbellsville—Eric Johnson, pastor of Greater Galilee Church in Louisville, will speak to students, faculty, staff and coaches on Sept. 29 in Ransdell Chapel at Campbellsville University.

Along with speaking at the chapel service, Johnson will also launch this year's "Dialogue on Race."

John Chowning, the university's vice president for church and external relations and executive assistant to the president, said, "The Dialogue" was launched in the fall of '99 as a means of facilitating better communication on the campus, and later in the community, among people of different backgrounds and experiences."

He said, "We live in a global village in 2010, and this annual dialogue has become a means of bringing understanding and reconciliation between students of different races, languages, ethnicities and economic status."

Johnson has served as pastor of Greater Galilee Church since 1995. He has done adjunct teaching for CU at the Louisville Center and has served as an instructor at Simmons Bible College (now Simmons College of Kentucky).

He is the author of Boyd Sunday School Commentary and was the guest writer in the African-American Lecternary in 2008.

For more information, call the Office of Campus Ministries at 270-789-5227.

**MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI**

COMPILED BY STAFF

■ **CAMPBELLVILLE**—Campbellsville University's School of Theology will host a book review session of **Jarvis Williams'** new book "One New Man: The Cross and Racial Reconciliation" Oct. 5, 5:30 p.m., in the banquet hall of the Badgett Academic Support Center on campus. Williams is an assistant professor of New Testament and Greek at Campbellsville. The book will be reviewed by **David Carlson**, chair of the school's division of social science and a professor of sociology. For more information, contact Williams at (270) 789-5481 or JJWilliams@Campbellsville.edu.

■ **COX'S CREEK**—Cox's Creek Church will celebrate its 225th anniversary Oct. 3, 10:30 a.m. Lunch will follow the morning service at noon. There also will be an afternoon service at 2 p.m. **Jim Bratcher** is pastor.

■ **HENDERSON**—Zion Church recently called **Bill Chase** as minister of worship. **Mark Galloway** is pastor.

■ **LIBERTY**—**Dwight Coffman** recently resigned as pastor of Creston Church.

Chestnut Grove Church recently called **Gale Durham** as pastor. He previously was pastor of Floyd Switch Church in Eubank.

■ **MURRAY**—Locust Grove Church recently ordained **John Burress** and **Jimmy Graham** as deacons. **Ryker Wilson** is pastor.

■ **PHILPOT**—Bethabara Church will celebrate its 185th anniversary Oct. 3, 10:30 a.m. A meal and historical cemetery tour led by former pastor **Herschel Morgan** will follow the morning service.

■ **PIKEVILLE**—First Church will hold revival services Oct. 3-6, 6:30 p.m., with **Bobby Welch**, strategist for global evangelical relations with the Southern Baptist Convention, as evangelist. **Paul Badgett** is pastor.

■ **PROVIDENCE**—Green Grove Mission-

**Spotlight on ...**

Walton



Longtime Kentucky Baptist pastor **Kenneth Cole** died Sept. 20. He was 82. Cole recently was name pastor emeritus of First Church of Walton where he served from 1979-93. He also was pastor of Russell Cave Church in Lexington, as well as several other Kentucky Baptist congregations. Cole previously served as a member of the KBC Mission Board and interim director of missions for Northern Kentucky Association. He is survived by his wife, Hannah, four children, four grandchildren, one stepgrandchild and one stepgreat-grandchild. Funeral services were held Sept. 23 at First Church of Walton.

ary Church will hold revival services Oct. 3, 11 a.m. & 6 p.m., with **Van Yandell**, Mission Service Corps missionary, as evangelist; Oct. 4, 6 p.m., with **Bob Morrison**, director of missions for Little Bethel Association, as evangelist; Oct. 5, 6 p.m., with **Patrick Yates**, pastor of Caldwell Blue Spring Church in Princeton, as evangelist; and Oct. 6, 6 p.m., with **Troy Doster**, pastor of Nortonville Church, as evangelist. The church will host a block party Oct. 2, 4 p.m., to kick off the revival services.

■ **WATER VALLEY**—Water Valley Church held its first services in its new building Sept. 12. The previous building was destroyed by a fire in July 2009. **Howard Copeland** is pastor.

**LifeWay Research reveals largest, fastest-growing churches list**

By Brooklyn Lowery  
LifeWay Christian Resources

Nashville, Tenn.—The Southeast led the way, but churches from coast-to-coast are included on the 2010 list of America's largest and fastest-growing churches as compiled by LifeWay Research and published by Outreach Magazine.

LifeWay Research solicited information regarding average weekend attendance, not membership, in February and March 2010. Eight thousand churches from across the nation responded. From those responses, LifeWay Research generated the Largest and Fastest-growing lists for Outreach Magazine's annual special issue, "100 Largest and Fastest-Growing Churches in America."

"The lists and reports are about more than simply seeking out megachurches and patting them on the back for their popular appeal," said Ed Stetzer, vice president for research and ministry development at LifeWay Christian Resources. "The report is intended to encourage church leaders and members with the news that churches all over this country are making an impact in

their communities for God's kingdom. They are a snapshot of what God is doing through churches."

This year's Largest list features churches from 31 states across the nation. The highest concentration of Largest-list members is in the Southeast, where churches hold 33 of the top 100 spots. Rounding out the regional representation: Churches in the West captured 22 of the top spots; churches in the Midwest and Southwest each earned 21 spots; and churches in the Northeast garnered three placements.

"It isn't a surprise that the Largest list features heavy-hitters from traditionally church-going areas like the Southeast and Southwest," Stetzer said. "But the data sets also demonstrate that the Bible Belt hasn't cornered the market on attracting attendees. In reality, churches in all regions of the country are reaching people. The fact that two churches in the Northeast placed in the top 50 on the Largest churches list is evidence of that."

Churches in the Northeast also earned representation on the Fastest-Growing list, with four placing in the top 100.



**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.

**November**

5-6 ENGAGE International Student Conference, Cave City Convention Center.

6 Creative Ministries 101 Workshop, Central Baptist Church, Corbin.

12-14 All-State Junior High Choir, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

13 GA Jam, Calvary Baptist Church, Lexington.

15 KBC Mission Board Meeting, Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington.

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



**REACHING YOUTH** More than 400 youth workers gathered Sept. 13-14 at LifeWay Christian Resources to learn more about developing the spiritual lives of students in their groups. The three-day event featured Derwin Gray, a former NFL player for the Indianapolis Colts and Carolina Panthers, who encouraged the youth workers to share the story of God's glory with the world. "God wants us to aim higher," said Gray, lead pastor of Transformation Church in Fort Mill, S.C. "The living God, the Great I Am, wants to energize our lives and our students' lives so that we will echo His story through all eternity." Sessions included teaching from Jeff Iorg, president of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, and Ben Arment, a church planter from Virginia.

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**RETREAT:** Ski Timberline W.Va. \$99 complete 2-day ski package. Now extended through Dec. 26-27. 2 nights bunkhouse lodging, lift ticket, regular ski rental, beginner lesson, 5 meals. (800) 392-0152.

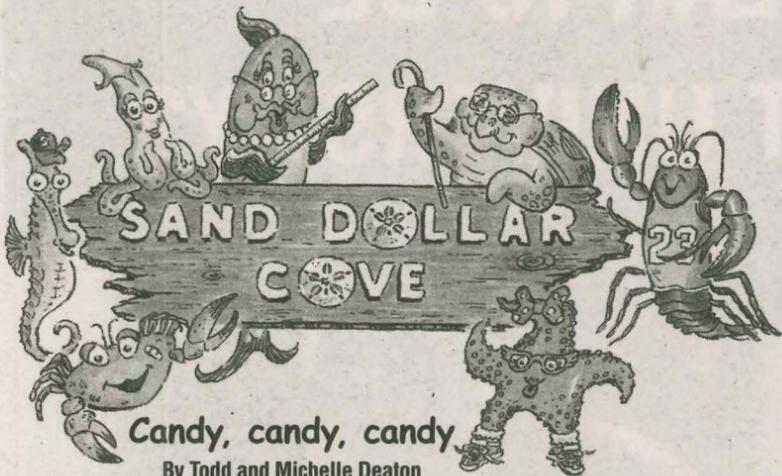
**SEEKING:** Part-time minister of music who will be responsible for planning weekly worship services and oversee the music ministry of the church. Contact Pastor Rodney Bice at Bardwell Baptist Church at (270) 628-3645; or e-mail bbcpastor1@windstream.net.

**SEEKING:** Part-time youth pastor for Worthville Baptist Church in Worthville, Ky., located within 60 miles of Southern Seminary. Interested candidates should submit resumés to past or@worthvillebaptist.org; or mail to Worthville Baptist Church, PO Box 126, Worthville, KY 41098.

**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.

**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 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 no later than Nov. 1, 2010.



## Candy, candy, candy

By Todd and Michelle Deaton

"Another ticket, please," Craig Crab said as he handed the money to Bobby Cork, the cod fish who was manager of the Nibble Hook snack bar. A box as large as a pirate's treasure chest sat on the counter. It was filled with gum balls, chocolate bars, suckers, caramel popcorn, jaw breakers, licorice sticks and other sweets.

"Are you buying another raffle ticket, Craig?" Seamore Seahorse asked. "How many do you have?"

"I lost count," Craig replied. "But I've spent all of the money in my Blowfish Bank."

"Are you sure that's a good idea?" Seamore asked.

"It is, if I want to win," Craig snapped.

"What if you don't?" Seamore asked. "You might need that money for something important."

When the drawing was held at the Nibble Hook, Craig stood right in front of the candy box, ready to grab his prize. Bobby Cork pulled the winning ticket out of a hat. "And the winner is ... Craig Crab!" he announced.

"I won! I won!" Craig exclaimed. He was so excited that he tore open the box, and shoved as many pieces as he could into his mouth. "Mmm, this is so good!"

For the next two hours, he ate candy. He locked up the rest in a safe in his room so no one could get it. Day and night, the Cove Kids bugged Craig to share some with them.

"Craig, you are so selfish. You won't share any," Sunny complained.

Soon, even Lenny Lobster did not like to play with Craig. All Craig wanted to do was sit around, eating candy. He ate so much that his stomach was swollen and ached.

"Candy, candy, candy! I can't stand any more candy," he moaned.

"Not even a chocolate-covered, peanut delight," Seamore teased.

"Ughh!" Craig groaned.

Most of the chocolate candy melted, and it had smeared all over Craig's fingers. Now it was everywhere. Chocolate was on his clothes, on his toys, on his games, on his books, and even on his pillow, which got it in his hair. Even worse, Craig had five cavities when he went to the dentist.

The next day, the Cove Kids went to the Nibble Hook for coconut milkshakes.

"I spent all of my money on raffle tickets. Can I borrow some?" Craig asked.

"Sorry. I can't help you," Sunny replied.

"Me, neither," Seamore shook his head.

Craig went home feeling very sad. "I have lots of candy, but I'd rather have a milkshake with my friends," he thought.

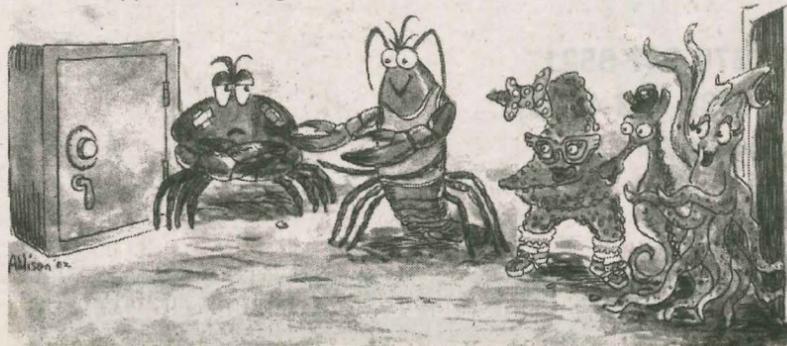
About an hour later, Seamore rushed up to Craig's door. He had big news. "Guess what!" he began. "The Nibble Hook is having another drawing. You can win coconut milkshakes for a whole year."

"Wow!" Craig exclaimed. "If I win, I'll be so happy! I'm going to buy as many tickets as I can."

Seamore sighed, "Will you never learn, Craig?"



What did Craig Crab think would make him happy? Why didn't it? How did the other Cove Kids feel about Craig's selfishness? Did he learn his lesson? Read Philippians 4:11 together.



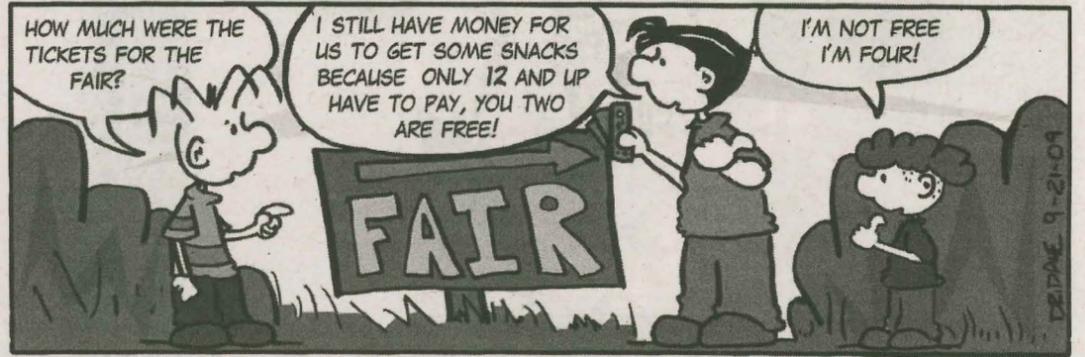
## For Heaven's Sake

Mike Morgan



## Preacher's Kids

David Ayers



## Bible Crosswords

By Cheryl Keiser

### Across

- Formal request for one's presence
- Preposition
- Sodium, chem. symbol
- Nickel, chem. symbol
- Man's name
- "\_\_\_ it with thy might" (Ecclesiastes 9:10)
- "The Lord knoweth the \_\_\_ of the wise" (1 Corinthians 3:20)
- "\_\_\_ hath he quickened" (Ephesians 2:1)
- Worries
- Belonging to
- Nurse, abbr.
- Belonging to Judah's firstborn (Numbers 26:19)
- The Anointed One
- Frigid
- Indefinite article
- Flightless bird
- "For God \_\_\_ loved the world" (John 3:16)
- Concept
- Twelfth-grader, abbr.
- Frightened
- Article that precedes a vowel
- "Phebe our \_\_\_" (Romans 16:1)
- Anger
- Floss
- "That have the rule \_\_\_ you" (Hebrews 13:17)

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- Atomic energy, abbr.
- Not, prefix
- "Ye might have life through his \_\_\_" (John 20:31)
- Shut noisily
- Bristle
- "Is my hand shortened at all, that it cannot \_\_\_?" (Isaiah 50:2)
- Light wood
- Spring of water
- Preposition
- Altitudes, abbr.
- Exclamation
- Scared, for short
- Group of singers
- India, abbr.
- Son of Becher (1 Chronicles 7:8)
- Lutetium, chem. symbol
- Someone who takes advantage

### Down

- "Who also maketh \_\_\_ for us" (Romans 8:34)
- Slang negative
- Accustomed to something unpleasant
- Big cat
- Small children
- "Groweth of \_\_\_ own" (Leviticus 25:5)
- Writings that Jews and Christians have in common, abbr.
- "I will fear \_\_\_ evil" (Psalms 23:4)
- Smells
- Southern continent, abbr.
- Apiece, abbr.
- Feelers
- Wrinkle
- Exhausted
- Trite
- "A \_\_\_ without blemish" (1 Peter 1:19)
- Promises
- Various, abbr.
- Suffix
- Shade tree

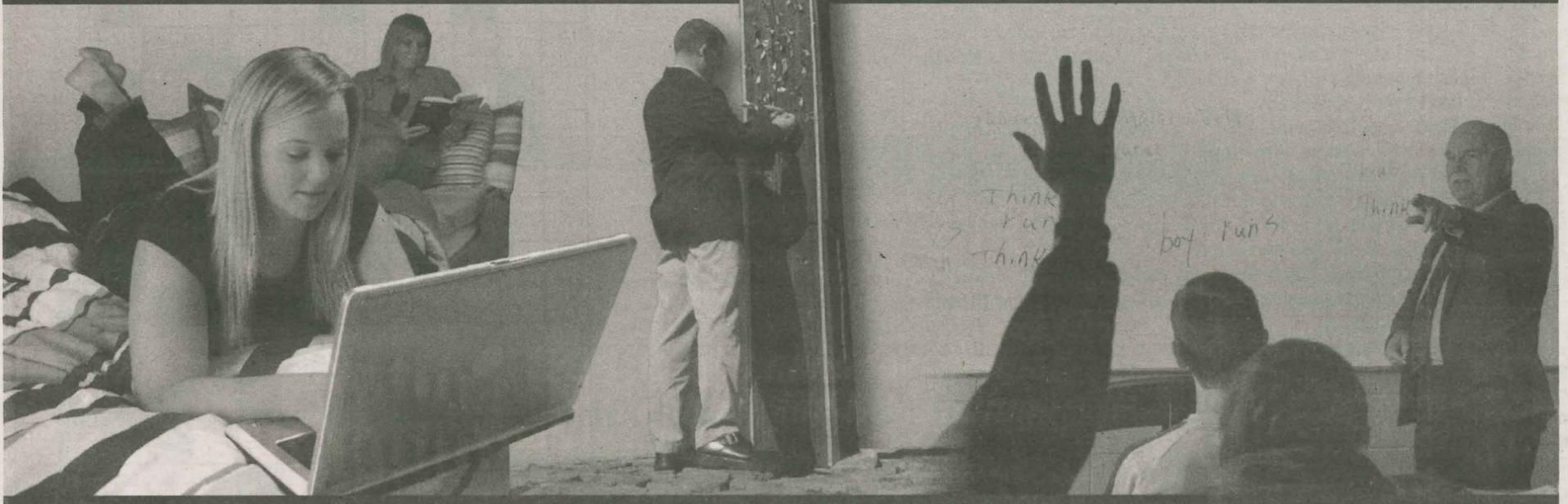
## Last week's solution

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# WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A SOUTHERN BAPTIST UNIVERSITY?



## IS THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST MESSAGE TAUGHT?



At Mid-Continent University, the infallible and inerrant Word of God has *always* been, and *always* will be the foundation upon which our curriculum is built.

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