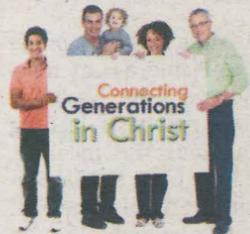


Shine like stars in the world
Philippians 2:15

WESTERN Recorder

October 12, 2010
Vol. 184, No. 39

FOR THE RECORD



Annual Meeting
Kentucky Baptists to decide on Great Commission report and elect new president next month. *Page 2.*



World Equestrian Games
Nearly 700 volunteers share Christ throughout Lexington during World Equestrian Games. *Page 6.*

Free transportation afforded multiple opportunities to share the gospel at the Kentucky Horse Park. *Page 7.*

Find us on Facebook
and on twitter
as westernrecorder

Farewell

World Equestrian Games wraps up in Lexington



Southern Baptist couple competes on world's biggest equine stage



Lexington—The day is colder than expected, so Mike and Jerry McLennan have to wear their big coats when they take Tina and Ruff for a run.

"Let's go!" Mike shouts.

Mike's wife, Jerry, and the grooms brush, bridle and saddle the two steeds for the morning warm-up in the 40 degree weather. They'll take the two out then saddle up four later in the day.

"Come on, Jerry!" Mike smiles, shouting to his wife who's left the stable for a toboggan cap.

The Texas couple were one of a handful of Christian competitors at the World Equestrian Games, and they're one of a smaller group of Southern Baptist athletes.

In minutes the two horses are attached to a carriage and pulling the McLennans behind them guided gingerly by Mike. The grooms trail them in a golf cart to the practice field a mile or more away.

"This isn't just a lot of fun, it's also a good opportunity to be a Christian influence," Mike said.

The couple has entered a number of Carriage Driving competitions, including the 2005 World Pairs Championship in Salzburg, Austria, and the 2006 World Equestrian Games in Aachen, Germany.

Religious talk leads to little change, Barna survey reveals

Ventura, Calif.—A surge in communications technology in the past decade has expanded religious dialogue, but the discussions have led to little change in people's lives, the Barna Group found in a recent survey.

When asked, "Has anything related to your religious beliefs, practices or preferences changed in the past five years?" only 7 percent of respondents could think of anything that had changed.

The types of people most likely to have changed included 13 percent of young adults, 12 percent of independent voters and 11 percent of adults

who describe themselves as "mostly liberal" on social and political matters, Barna said in a report released Sept. 27.

Those least likely to have changed included people age 65 and over, registered Republicans and social conservatives.

Churches and change

George Barna said the survey results raise questions about the impact of church-related activities, such as whether "the courses of action currently pursued are capable of facilitating and reinforcing significant change."

Barna added that the results are consistent with a pattern he has seen over the years indicating that most of the religious beliefs, behaviors and expectations that define a person's life have been developed and embraced by the age of 13.

Given the fact that only 7 percent of respondents could think of any change in their religious lives, Barna suggested that religious leaders may not be "provoking people to think deeply and practically about the major issues of life and culture from a religious perspective."

The data reflected relatively generic shifts that had occurred in

lives without much evidence of a deeper level of intellectual or spiritual struggle taking place, Barna said.

"Because the survey revealed that more than two-thirds of adults say their religious faith is very important in their life, and a large majority regularly talks to others about matters of faith, the nature of their religion-focused reflection and discussions may not be as substantive or thoughtful as some observers might imagine," Barna said. "People do not appear to be turning to religion as often as assumed for answers to troubling questions." (BP)

Dated material. Please deliver by Wednesday, Oct. 13

November 16

KBC Annual Meeting

Lexington

Kentucky Baptists to decide on task force report, elect new president

Lexington—Kentucky Baptists will consider making major changes in how they allocate funds for missions and ministries across the commonwealth, nation and world when the Kentucky Baptist Convention meets in Lexington Nov. 16.

"Connecting Generations in Christ" is the theme of this year's meeting held at Immanuel Baptist Church.

Messengers also will elect a new president for the 2006, vote on constitution and bylaw changes proposed at last year's meeting, and hear reports on all aspects of Kentucky Baptist work.

KBC President Don Mathis, staff evangelist at Eastwood Baptist Church in Bowling Green, will deliver the president's address on Tuesday morning. Dan Summerlin, pastor of Lone Oak First Baptist Church of Paducah, will preach the annual convention sermon that afternoon.

Caz McCaslin, president and founder of Upward Sports, will speak to messengers on Tuesday evening. Upward helps churches use sports recreation programs in basketball, soccer, flag football and cheerleading to reach children and families for Christ.

Other business of the 173rd annual meeting will include setting a new Cooperative Program budget goal and the presentation of the annual Distinguished CP Leadership Award.

Great Commission vote

The Kentucky Great Commission Task Force report is scheduled to be presented at 10:05 a.m. on Tuesday by the panel's chairman Hershael York, pastor of Buck Run Baptist Church in Frankfort. The task force was appointed at last year's meeting and asked to study "how Kentucky Baptists can work more faithfully and effectively together in serving Christ through the Great Commission."

The task force released its report in August with four recommendations. If approved, Kentucky Baptists will move to an even distribution of Cooperative Program receipts with the Southern Baptist Convention and set an ambitious goal of increasing

state churches' missions giving.

The report's first recommendation is for the convention to launch a three-year spiritual emphasis to be called "More for Christ."

The report also recommends changing the Cooperative Program allocations between KBC and SBC causes to an even 50 percent split by 2017 with the bulk of the shift occurring in 2011. Currently, 62 percent of CP receipts are shared by various KBC organizations and 38 percent is forwarded to the SBC.

The percentage split would be calculated after 4 percent in shared administrative expenses between the conventions is removed from the total. Shared expenses are those expenditures made by the state convention on behalf of the SBC.

Additionally, the report calls for increased giving by churches and individuals to the Cooperative Program to achieve an overall increase in receipts of 3 percent per year for the next seven years. Achieving this goal would require churches on average to increase the percentage of undesignated giving that they contribute through the Cooperative Program by approximately 0.25 percent for each of the next seven years.

The final recommendation allows the task force to stay in place for the duration of the seven-year plan in order to monitor progress and report annually to Kentucky Baptists.

Bylaw changes & Find It Here

Convention messengers will hear at 9 a.m. on Tuesday morning a report from the Constitution and Bylaws Committee. The committee will bring two recommendations that would reduce the size of the Mission Board, the representative body that acts on behalf of the convention between annual meetings, from 170 members to approximately 120 over several years.

KBC Executive Director Bill Mackey will address the convention Tuesday morning. Mackey is expected to highlight Kentucky Baptists' success through the Find It Here evangelistic emphasis to share the gospel

message with more than 1.3 million Kentucky households this year. He also will encourage participation in the 2011 Find It Here follow-up in which Kentucky Baptists will distribute scripture portions in prisons, nursing homes, assisted-living facilities and college campuses. Participating Kentucky Baptists also will pray and fast for three friends

who do not know Christ and take them a copy of the scripture portion.

Officer elections

Convention officers will be elected during the Tuesday morning and afternoon sessions. The president's election is slated for 2:40 p.m. with the election of first vice president taking place at 4:05 p.m. and second vice president at 4:45 p.m. The convention secretary and assistant secretary will be elected at 9:15 a.m.

The announced candidates for president are Butch Tanner, pastor of Red House Baptist Church in Richmond, and Floyd Paris, pastor of Unity Baptist Church in Ashland. Paris will be nominated by Paul Badgett, pastor of First Baptist Church of Pikeville. Tanner will be nominated by Butch Pennington, pastor of Kirksville Baptist Church in Richmond.

Summerlin, pastor of Lone Oak First Baptist Church of Paducah, is the only announced candidate for the first vice president post. He will be nominated by Tom James, pastor of Eastwood Baptist Church in Bowling Green.

Two directors of missions will be nominated for KBC second vice president. Jim Clontz, DOM for South District Association, and Greg Nimmo, DOM for Crittenden Association, are the announced candidates.

Clontz will be nominated by Choe Sergent, a pastoral intern at First Baptist Church of Junction City, while Nimmo will be nominated by T.J. Francis, pastor of First Baptist Church of Walton.

Special music

Music is expected to be a highlight of the meeting with No Other Name, a contemporary Christian music trio from Nashville with a distinct missions emphasis, leading worship throughout the meeting. Messengers also will hear from the University of the Cumberland's Chorale, the KBC Men's and Women's chorales and soloist Bo Warren.

A special Eastwood and President's Choir will feature singers from Eastwood Baptist Church and other congregations served by KBC President Mathis.

Pastors' Conference

The Kentucky Baptist Pastors' Conference precedes the KBC annual meeting at Immanuel Baptist Church Nov. 15. Sessions are scheduled for the afternoon and evening.

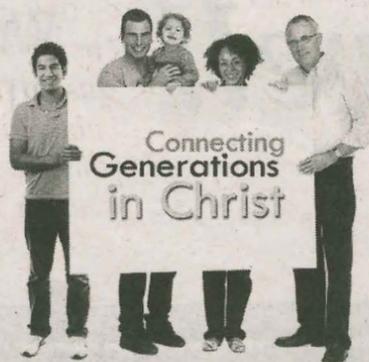
Guest speakers include Frank Page, the recently installed president of the SBC Executive Committee, Johnny Hunt, immediate past SBC president and pastor of First Baptist Church of Woodstock, Ga., and Daniel Akin, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C.

Child care

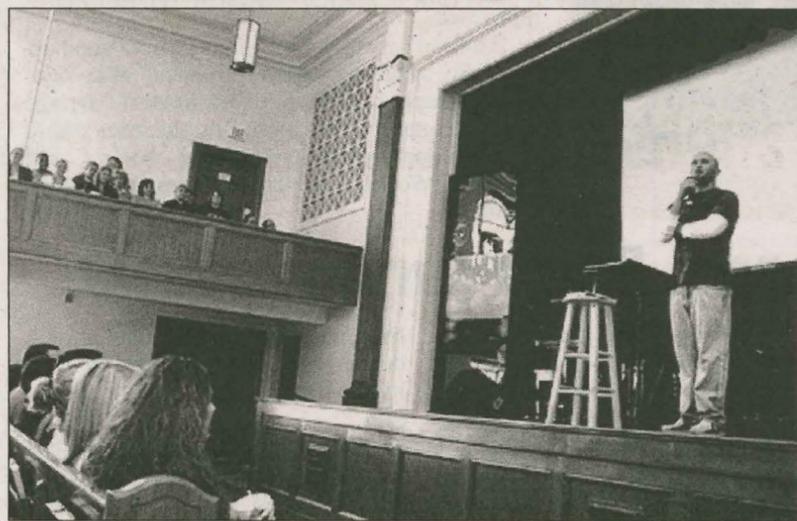
The KBC's preschool and children's department will coordinate care for preschoolers and children, ages 6 weeks to fifth grade, during sessions of the annual meeting and the preceding Kentucky Baptist Pastors' Conference. There is no charge for the child care but space is limited and advanced registration is required. To register, parents should call (866) 489-3575. Parents are required to pick up their children during meal times.

The KBC regrets that it will be unable to provide care for special-needs children.

For more information on the KBC annual meeting and Pastors' Conference, visit www.KyBaptist.org/AnnualMeeting.



Fall Awakening



Ryan Warren addresses University of the Cumberland's students during the school's Fall Awakening last month. Warren, a young, Texas-based evangelist who speaks primarily to college and high school students, was the preacher for the Williamsburg school's annual event. Praise and worship times were led by contemporary Christian music artist Sarah Kelly. Two students made salvation decisions during the Fall Awakening, which was sponsored by the school's Baptist Campus Ministries group. "God spoke in a clear, fresh way," said junior Jill Tanner. "The way the message was presented was so simple. We try to make it hard, but really, it's so simple just to read and to walk with Him." (Photo courtesy of the University of the Cumberland)

Training for prospective KBC disaster relief volunteers is Oct. 23 at Southern Seminary

Louisville—Kentucky Baptists interested in becoming part of the nation's third-largest disaster relief organization are invited to attend a training event Oct. 23 at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

The four-hour session, coordinated by the Kentucky Baptist Convention, provides prospective volunteers an introduction to Southern Baptist Disaster Relief, a network of about 95,000 volunteers across the country that respond to natural and man-made disasters through an array of services.

Through Kentucky Baptist disaster relief, thousands of individuals in the commonwealth have been trained to provide hot meals, remove storm debris and mud from flooded homes, and offer many other services to people affected by disasters. Volunteers have responded to crises across the country and around the world.

To better serve people in need, current Southern Baptist disaster relief volunteers are being asked to complete a recertification process. According to KBC Disaster Relief Associate Coy Webb, the American Red Cross, U.S. Department

of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency and the North American Mission Board determined that recertifying all volunteers every three years, including a background check, is necessary to maintain high standards of service. In Kentucky, current volunteers have until the end of 2011 to attend training in order to continue to serve.

The Oct. 23 session begins at 8:30 a.m. in room 303 of Southern Seminary's Legacy Center. The cost is \$40 and includes training materials, a photo identification badge and a cap.

Online registration is available at www.KyBaptist.org. For additional details, contact the KBC's Baptist Men on Mission by e-mail at DR@KyBaptist.org, or call (502) 489-3527, or toll free in Kentucky at (866) 489-3527.

Another Phase 1 training session is planned for Jan. 22, 2011 at First Baptist Church of Arlington. Also offered that day will be a Phase 2 session for recertification and instruction in other areas of service. Training opportunities also are set for Feb. 4-5 in Elizabethtown, March 12 in May's Lick, and April 9 in Somerset.

'Considerable change' coming to NAMB, Ezell tells board staff

Alpharetta, Ga.—Telling North American Mission Board staff "considerable change" is coming, President Kevin Ezell shared a retirement incentive with employees that will be the beginning of an overall reduction in force in the months ahead. Details of the incentives were shared at a meeting Sept. 30.

"There are a lot of changes and some things coming down the road. I don't know what all of those are," Ezell told the NAMB staff at the mission board's offices in Alpharetta, Ga. "Knowing that there are changes coming and not knowing who exactly that would involve, we wanted to offer an incentive to those who might already be thinking about retirement."

Ezell said it was important to announce the incentive at this time in order to coincide with a significant change GuideStone Financial Resources has announced in its annuity funding rate beginning Jan. 1, 2011. GuideStone is reducing the floor funding for its lifetime annuity payments from the current 6 percent to prevailing industry rates.

Ezell described the incentive as "the first phase" in what will be a series of staff changes coming to NAMB.

"Is this it? No," he said. "We don't know the extent as to what will happen, but we do know that this will be the first phase. That's why we want you to at least look and see."

Under the plan, staff who are age 55 and older will be credited additional years of service in order to qualify for health insurance benefits. Additionally, a retirement incentive bonus will be paid, based on years of service.

"To be sure, we are being very clear—this is the very best incentive we could come up with," Ezell said. "It's the best option that will be available."

Ezell compared the changes coming to NAMB to a company that had been making washing machines and now will be making cars.

"There is going to be considerable change," he said. "A lot of the changes will not be directed to competency of people because we are going to be doing some things so drastically different. What does that look like specifically? I don't know yet. But we are working on that as fast as we can."

Currently, 258 people serve on NAMB's staff in Alpharetta. An additional 34 direct-paid missionaries who serve throughout North America are among those eligible for the incentive. Those taking advantage of the plan will need to retire by Dec. 31, 2010.

Ezell, the former pastor of Highview Baptist Church in Louisville, was elected president of NAMB Sept. 15. He succeeds former president Geoff Hammond, who resigned under pressure in August 2009 after leading the mission board for a little more than two years. (BP)



Kevin Ezell

'Covenant of trust' within SBC is Page's goal

By Erin Roach

Nashville, Tenn.—On his first day in the office as president of the Executive Committee, Frank Page emphasized a desire to build relationships and establish a covenant of trust among Southern Baptists.

"I know these are days of transition and days of challenge for Southern Baptists in many different settings and many different ways. I'm well aware of that and more aware every day," Page said Oct. 4. "We need to have a renewed trust in our Lord and His precious ability to pull things together."

Page led the Executive Committee staff in its regular Monday morning devotional, during which he said his challenge to himself and to the EC staff is that they would seek the heart of God, "seek His direction, and in so doing seek to be more like Him in our actions, in our reactions, in our interactions; that we would be more like our Lord and have His heart as our heart."

Afterwards, Page said he would be encouraging staff members to tell about recent experiences of sharing Jesus with other people.

Calling his predecessor, Morris Chapman, a soul winner, Page said, "Just know that I expect all of us to share Christ. You know what I'm talking about—in our normal traffic patterns of life."

"I will assure you that I'm not going to

ask you to do something that I do not already do and regularly do," he said. "In fact, I've been able to share Christ several times, probably more than a dozen times in the last week."

Page also described his first steps as a new entity leader in the context of building trust.

"I am trying to build relationships and trying to establish a covenant of trust to say, 'Our old ship is in trouble. But with relationships and the power of the Lord, we can turn it around.' Without relationships, we're sunk."

SBC Executive Committee President
Frank Page

"One of the things that I'm working hard on is building relationships," he noted. "That's why I'm going to be gone a good bit this fall. It is my intent, for example, to go and meet with every state exec within the first year. By the end of this year I will have visited 17 or 18 of them. I've visited half of that number already."

Page said he also had visited with half of the seminary presidents and half of the

other entity heads within the SBC.

"I am in contact every day with at least one if not two or three or four pastors," he added, "trying to build relationships with pastors and churches. I'll be out in as many churches as I can get to," he said.

Speaking to the multitude of opinions about the direction of the SBC, Page said, "I am trying to build relationships and trying to establish a covenant of trust to say, 'Our old ship is in trouble. But with relationships and the power of the Lord, we can turn it around.'"

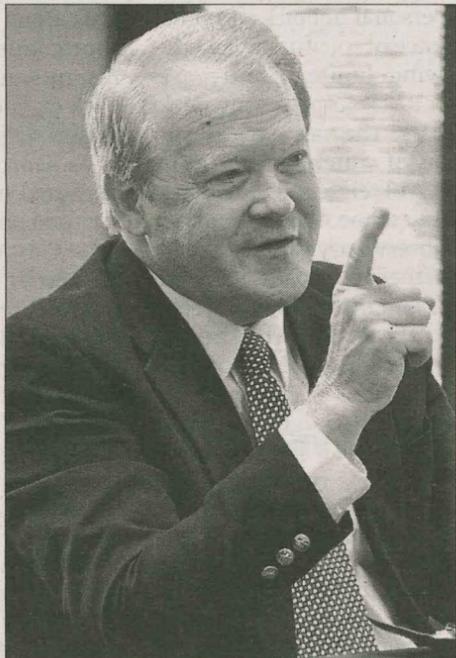
"Without relationships, we're sunk," he suggested.

As he works to build a covenant of trust throughout the convention, Page said he also desires to build personal trust with the Executive Committee staff.

"I want there to be openness. I want there to be a trust level. I want there to be a collegiality—professional, yes, but one that reflects we're in this together. We're brothers and sisters first and foremost," he said.

"I've been trying to share that with entity heads, with pastors, with EC members. This is the way it's going to be. I want us to build a covenant of trust in our convention."

Page officially assumed the role of Executive Committee president Oct. 1, succeeding Chapman, who served in the position for 18 years. (BP)



CHALLENGE During his first remarks to the staff as president of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, Frank Page said his challenge for himself and for the staff is that they would seek God's heart in all they do. (Photo by Tyler Malone)

SBC ends '09-'10 fiscal year behind budget, CP, designated gifts down

Nashville, Tenn.—The Southern Baptist Convention finished its 2009-10 fiscal year 6.18 percent below budget, while Cooperative Program receipts for the year were down 4.03 percent, and combined CP and designated giving for the year was down 2.52 percent, according to SBC Executive Committee President Frank Page.

Page, in a statement to Baptist Press, nevertheless noted that "much great work is occurring even in difficult circumstances" through cooperative outreach by Southern Baptists in their communities and around the world.

More than \$191.7 million in CP gifts was received by the convention during the fiscal year from Oct. 1, 2009, through Sept. 30, 2010—down by \$8 million (4.03 percent) from the previous year's total.

In 2009-10, an additional \$191 million-plus in designated gifts brought the fiscal year's overall giving for national and international missions and ministries to

more than \$383 million, or 2.52 percent below the previous year's figure.

For the SBC Cooperative Program Allocation Budget, the year-end total of \$191,763,152.87 was \$12,622,439.76 (6.18 percent) below the \$204,385,592.63 budgeted to support Southern Baptist ministries globally and across North America.

The Cooperative Program is Southern Baptists' method of supporting missions and ministry efforts of state conventions and the SBC.

The total includes receipts from individuals, churches, state conventions and fellowships for distribution according to the 2009-10 Cooperative Program Allocation Budget.

Designated contributions include the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions, the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions, Southern Baptist World Hunger Fund and other special gifts. (BP)

Baptist historians group affirms individual conscience

By Bob Allen

Atlanta—A group of Baptist historians that meets annually to read and discuss early Baptist writings endorsed a statement late last month affirming the role of individual conscience in Baptist life.

Fourteen members of the "Baptist Classics Seminar" group cited "broad and recurring themes" found in original Baptist sources written between 1610 and today.

Those affirmations include, according to a document released by the group: "believer's baptism, personal 'heart' experience of God, the priesthood of all believers, personal and communal devotion to God, a commitment to the church as the body of Christ, the autonomy of each local church, congregational polity, the regular practice of ordinances (baptism/Lord's Supper), voluntary cooperation among churches and strong voices for religious liberty and the

separation of church and state."

"We believe these themes are still relevant and should continue to inform our Baptist heritage and witness," the statement said.

Bruce Gourley, executive director of the Baptist History and Heritage Society, said in a background statement compiled in consultation with three other members that the group frequently shares its findings with the larger Baptist community through classrooms, preaching and teaching in local churches, publications and other venues.

Gourley said his group's statement is "a reminder to the Baptist world that we as Baptists of the 21st century share a distinct identity that arises from common and still relevant historical themes in our four centuries of existence."

The statement said this year's study of

selections from 17th-century English Baptist writings particularly affirmed "the role of individual conscience, especially when voluntary faith was threatened with coercion or compulsion."

The foundation for all the Baptist principles they enumerated, the scholars said, was "the belief that the Bible alone, neither creeds nor tradition, is the authority for religious faith and practice."

"In our tradition we find both the personal and communal elements of biblical faith; we find a believer's church that preserves a place for unfettered individual conscience," the scholars noted.

The historians renewed their commitment to "the vibrant Baptist witness of freedom that is responsive to the authoritative Scriptures and under the lordship of Christ" and to "the relevance of Baptist identity for the 21st century." (ABP)

The power of cooperative giving

I recently had the privilege of being with Northside Baptist Church of Science Hill in Pulaski County to share about the Cooperative Program during Sunday school time and to preach during worship.

Partners in the Mission



By Bill Mackey

I had previously met the pastor, Patrick Bratcher, during the "Welcome to Kentucky" event for new ministers and their spouses. A native of Kentucky, he had served as a pastor in Virginia during his studies at Clear Creek Baptist Bible College. Clear Creek graduates are known for their strong support of missions through the Cooperative Program.

His wife, Jessica, is also a graduate of Clear Creek. They have two lovely daughters and a handsome son.

For a number of years, Northside Baptist Church had a strong record of giving to missions through the Cooperative Program, but its missions giving had declined during a period of loss in attendance. The church has since experienced recovery and growth during the last several years, but it had not adjusted its support of missions. Brother Patrick discovered that many new members did not know about the Cooperative Program or did not know the purpose of this dynamic method of funding missions and ministries.

Since arriving in January of this year, Patrick has been intentional about educating the congregation about the Cooperative Program and has led the church to increase its CP giving from \$1,200 to \$12,000. The church is also considering an additional increase.

On the Sunday I was there, Brother Patrick asked me to share about how the Cooperative Program works and the results that are achieved through cooperative giving. Basing my sermon on Acts 1:6-8, I shared a biblical message showing how the local church, association, state convention and the Southern Baptist Convention all relate to Acts 1:8.

After providing the framework of how the local church and association relate to Jerusalem, the state convention to Judea, North America to Samaria, and international missions to the uttermost parts of the earth, I shared the purpose and summary of missions and ministry results in each area. A handout contained the biblical outline and facts on the front and back of one page so participants could focus their prayers and be reminded of the impact locally, beyond their church and around the world.

Northside has given a cumulative total of \$352,441 to missions through the Cooperative Program since 1951. God has blessed the church financially and the congregation wants to be a blessing to others locally and around the world through more sacrificial missions support through the Cooperative Program. I am grateful for this vision and pray that others will catch this same vision for Acts 1:8 missions.

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Stars, roses, races, golf ... and spiritual formation?

Several weeks ago, a reader wrote to me inquiring about my position on spiritual formation. The letter intrigued me since I have sat under professors at two seminaries as they taught spiritual formation and I soon will lead a class at a Baptist university. A contemporary, evangelical expression of practicing spiritual disciplines views them not as means of earning grace, but as tools to aid believers in being more intentional about growing as disciples.

In a study of Ephesians, David Jeremiah tells a story about a struggling sheep farmer who during the Great Depression gave consent to drill on his property. An oil company hit a large oil reserve and soon was pumping more than 80,000 barrels a day. The family became millionaires overnight. Jeremiah asks, "Before the oil was discovered ..., did he own the mineral rights to it? That is, was he a millionaire all the time he struggled to eke out a living as a sheep rancher?" He insightfully observes, "Many Christians today are ... completely unaware of the fabulous wealth that is theirs." Asserting that God didn't intend for us to be "spiritual paupers," he encourages believers: "The riches are there, and it is up to us to mine them and claim them by faith."

One way believers can mine these riches is through spiritual practices such as meditation, prayer, fasting, Bible study, simplicity, solitude, worship and service. Richard Foster explains, "The disciplines allow us to place ourselves before God so that He can transform us." Allow me to use some personal hobbies and interests to illustrate the importance of spiritual practices:

Astronomy—I enjoy viewing Jupiter, Saturn, Venus and the moon through a telescope on my deck. We have no way yet to traverse the vast expanses to explore other galaxies, many of which barely can be seen through our most powerful telescopes. I recently read an article in Sky and Telescope magazine about a new NASA plane with an observatory that will allow astronomers to see much farther into space. Stars are a reminder of the marvelous and mysterious power of God, whose thoughts are far above our own. And yet, God has revealed Himself to us through His Son and by studying His Word.

Roses—I love tending a rose garden. A delicate bud

can grow into an intricate bloom with dozens upon dozens of exquisite petals. Yet, rose bushes require diligent care, protection from insects and prevention of diseases, such as black spot. They need frequent fertilizing and pruning for bountiful blossoms. A traditional symbol of romantic love, roses are a reminder of how God tends to the intimate details of our lives, and that He wants to nurture and protect us from destructive forces of sin. Prayer and solitude allow us to share in and yield our lives to His will.

After Thought

By Todd Deaton



Racing—A NASCAR race is a journey filled with sudden bumps and turns, flat tires, unscheduled pit stops, blown engines and wrecks. Life has disappointments and heartaches, too. It also has a checkered flag and a victory lane. Just as a good driver doesn't get distracted, we must keep our eyes focused on our heavenly prize. But racing is also a team sport. A capable pit crew serves each driver—refueling, changing tires, fixing dented fenders and cleaning windshields. Racing is a reminder to keep our focus on God's greater purpose for our lives and, all the while, willingly serve others in Jesus' name.

Golf—I have played golf since I was on a high school team, though you couldn't tell it today. Mastering the game requires discipline. No matter how often I play—which isn't as often as I'd like—I am never quite able to consistently score pars (or even bogeys, for that matter). Yet, the objective is fixed: shoot for the flagstick until you reach the hole, avoiding traps and hazards along the way. Golf is a reminder of our human shortcomings, and our need to rely on the Holy Spirit's guidance. Simplicity and fasting serve to put us back on course, steering us away from the hazards of materialism that so often clutter our lives.

In short, spiritual formation is engaging in an intentional process—always dependant upon the transforming power of the Holy Spirit—to become "just like Jesus," as Max Lucado describes it. It is only accomplished by "remaining in Him," as Jesus instructs us (John 15:5). In doing so, our lives will bear much fruit, for blessed is the one who delights in God's word: "He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither" (Psalm 1:3).

'Get to know us'

In response to recent letters chastising Highland Baptist Church for the Honoring Sacred Texts event on Sept. 11, I had to wonder, do they know my church? As a member, I read that we exhibited "no discernment" and that "honoring" is unacceptable.

We offered our space for three reasons. First, in response to the announced burning of the Quran by a church in Gainesville, Fla., we felt called to offer a different message. We decided that as members of the majority religion, we should show that burning sacred texts is not something that all Christians advocate.

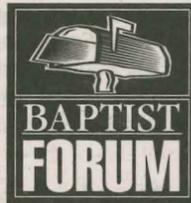
A second reason was to provide a civil space for minority religions, which are a part of the American landscape, to highlight our universal values. We made clear that we do not all agree, and that our sacred texts do not agree on many matters of faith. But the task of religious liberty does not fall to government alone. As Baptists we felt it important to stand up and affirm the right of all people of faiths, including those with whom we theologically differ. This stance was much appreciated by members of other religious traditions, who regularly face bigot-

ry and stereotyping.

Finally, we held this event as part of our Christian witness. Many who attended had never entered a church and would perhaps never do so. We at HBC believe that standing for religious liberty is a strategic witness in light of all the religious intolerance running rampant in our world.

Before you accuse a KBC congregation of heresy and idolatry, get to know us first.

Roy Fuller
Louisville



Threatening our lifeline

I have grown rather tired of hearing about the Great Commission Resurgence Task Force, and of people putting down the Cooperative Program as not being the way to support SBC ministries. Since the Cooperative Program was approved, it has been the lifeline of Southern Baptists.

The CP always has been the one thing Southern Baptists have agreed on to support missions and ministries in a way that we as individual, autonomous churches cannot do. Every Baptist church is autonomous, and can do whatever it wants, but we have joined together through the CP, which has proven to be very successful.

All this does is encourage church-

es to go back to the old way of supporting missions. The person with the greatest sob story, or the best personality, is the person who gets the most money.

Furthermore, to put anyone in leadership from a church that does not give a substantial percentage to the CP is supposed to stir the wrath of true Southern Baptists.

I have served churches that gave from 5 to 35 percent to the Cooperative Program. The churches that gave the greatest percentage to the CP also have been the ones that have given the most to the Lottie Moon, Annie Armstrong and state missions offerings.

The way some want to change things today almost causes me to want no part of the Kentucky Baptist Convention or the Southern Baptist Convention. Everything seems to be so non-Southern Baptist. Where is it all going to stop?

Joe Pat Winchester
Murray

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

WESTERN
Recorder

Box 43969
Louisville, KY 40253

DR. TODD DEATON
Editor

DREW NICTER
News Director

THOMAS C. TOWNSEND
Marketing & Business Manager

Board of Directors:

Floyd Price (chairman), Richmond;
Skip Alexander (vice chairman),
Campbellsville;
Duane Bolin, Murray;
Bill Edmonds, Louisville;
Dan Francis, Erlanger;
Chip Hutcheson, Princeton;
Lanna Kilgore, Bowling Green;
Paul Nunn, Prestonsburg;
Willis Polk, Lexington;
June Rice, Paintsville;
Wayne Spivey, Harrodsburg;
Dan Summerlin, Paducah.

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

Western Recorder is published weekly 49 weeks a year by Western Recorder Inc., an agency of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253. It will not be published the first week of January, the week of Independence Day or the week of Christmas. Periodicals postage paid at Louisville, Ky. (USPS 679-380)

For general information, to give news tips, or to place an advertisement, call (502) 489-3535.

POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to:
Western Recorder, Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253.

To subscribe: Send \$12.50 for a one-year, individual subscription. Group subscriptions on the church budget plan are \$10 per year. An additional church newsletter service is available for churches of all sizes.

www.WesternRecorder.org

Making visitors feel welcome at church

Usually this space is targeted toward youth ministry concepts, ideas or best practices. But this month, I want to tweak it a little and look at some things I have observed in some churches where we have had the opportunity to visit. Most are in Kentucky; some are not. It has always been my contention that healthy youth ministry is best done within the confines of a healthy church. So here are some things I have noticed in my travels over the past year or so from which, hopefully, we can learn to help our youth ministries be the best they can be.

Church members are friendly ... but usually only to each other. I am not sure how many times I, or my family and I, have arrived at a church and had virtually no one speak to us. Sometimes even the people who open the door for us or hand us a bulletin give little more than a courtesy nod. Sometimes they are even in conversation with someone else and just hand us a bulletin on the sly. I guess they know it is their job to hand them out, but not to the point that they actually have to speak to guests.

There are great conversations going on all over the place—just not with the visitors. One of the strangest times was when we had to push our way into the sanctuary through a group of men who were clustered at the doors to the sanctuary. We literally had to touch them on the shoulder and ask them to move so we could get into the sanctuary.

The funniest (or saddest) part of this is when it is time for the official “meet and greet” in the service. Then, we are usually welcomed well. People come from all across the sanctuary to shake our hands, but only at the appointed time in the program. However, we sat in the sanctuary for 15 minutes before the service without a word being spoken to us.

My wife has superpowers ... I know this—after all we have been married for 25 years. Still, it seems she has the superpower of invisibility. The weird thing is that I have never noticed this in her. (Yet, if she had it, would I notice?) Our kids and I just thought she had eyes in the back of her head.

There have been several times, though, where we have visited and she wasn't offered a bulletin, spoken to, or even acknowledged. It was like she wasn't there! The only thing that we can figure is that she must have the gift of invisibility.

Welcome centers are a great idea ... but only if the people manning them know where to take us. It still amazes me how many people on the front lines of welcoming guests don't know their way around the church building. They can find their Sunday school class or the fellowship hall, but they don't know room numbers or where to find the youth or children's area.

I have known of guests who were given “the grand tour” of the building just to find the right classroom. Or, greeters may know where the class is located in the building, but not know which age group meets in what room.

Because of space, I'll leave alone how we welcome visitors in the service, not being able to find a parking spot, knowing which door of the building to enter, or how very few spots are left in any pew, on the aisle or near the back. This allows visitors to slip in without having to make a scene and crawl over people to find a place for a family to sit together.

I know you're wondering why I am addressing this in a column about youth ministry? Gina and I, and our children for that matter, have been raised in church, and we are used to how we do things. And, honestly, we are probably guilty of many of these and several others ourselves. But an unchurched teen, who is skeptical at best about going to church and church people, may find these as reasons not to come back.

It is not just the job of the youth minister or youth workers to make students feel welcome when they walk into our church building. It is the responsibility of everyone. Great youth ministry can only occur within the confines of a healthy church. Let's do our part to help our youth ministry succeed.

Joe Ball, a former youth minister at Edgewood Baptist Church in Hopkinsville, is youth strategist for the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Youth Ministry Corner



Joe Ball

Grace giving or pocketbook living

By Doug Strader

Recently a member shared with me that a statement that I had made during our stewardship emphasis was true from his perspective: Tithing is a heart issue and not a pocketbook issue. He had grown up in a very conservative rural church where tithing was neither taught nor practiced. People gave enough for the church to pay her bills, but nothing more. That is quite a contrast to the way the Macedonians gave according to the Apostle Paul.

How did the Macedonians give? In the eighth chapter of Second Corinthians, Paul describes their giving philosophy to the offering he was receiving for the Jerusalem Christians.

- He described their giving as the grace of God.
- They were in a severe test of affliction.
- They had an abundance of joy.
- They were in extreme poverty.
- They had an overflowing wealth of generosity.
- They gave beyond their means.
- They did it of their own free will.
- Paul said that they even begged for the privilege of giving to the saints in Jerusalem.

■ Before the Macedonians gave of their resources, they first gave themselves to the Lord and then to Paul and his companions.

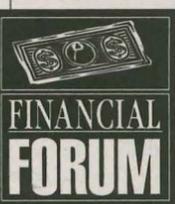
Paul was writing to the Corinthian Christians, urging them to follow through on an earlier commitment they had made to the offering for the Jerusalem Christians. He was using the Macedonian example to inspire them.

As you think about your giving to the Lord's work, how does it compare to the Macedonian example? Are you a grace giver, or do you give only what you think you can afford? Think about what the Lord has done for you, how you have been a recipient of His grace? Then compare your giving with the grace He has given to you.

Each Sunday when we worship through giving, it should please us to know that we have offered to God our best. As the words of the song say, “because I have been given much, I, too, must give.” That is grace giving.

Reprinted from Western Recorder, Sept. 22, 2009.

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



Trust God with our children?

By David Garrard

The story of Moses is perhaps one of the most familiar in the entire Bible. Most of us have read it over and over, and yet, as is prone to happen when we study the Bible, I found this story speaking to me in new ways earlier this year. The insights I found present serious challenges to parents.

We are all familiar with the basic flow of the story, and the incredibly scary scenario that faced Moses' parents. Here are some questions that naturally flow from what happened:

1. What would you have done if you had found yourself in similar circumstances that threatened the life of your child?

2. Would you have deliberately disobeyed a government order/law?

3. How long do you think Moses' mother, Jochebed, contemplated her actions?

4. Would you have willingly placed your child in such a dangerous position?

5. What do you think Jochebed did while Miriam watched her brother?

The bottom line: In order to save his life, Jochebed had to place her son into uncertain situations over which she had absolutely no control. She had to do it twice—once when she hid him in the Nile (Exodus 2:3), and then again when she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and allowed him to be raised in the palace (Exodus 2:10).

Jochebed knew that her child was a gift from God and that he was a “fine child” (Exodus 2:2). As such, she was able to trust God with the life of her son and to risk her own life in the process.

There will surely be times when we will have to surrender our children into situations over which we do not have much, if any control—everything from sending them off to school to allowing them to spend the night with a friend or go on a trip without us. When those times arrive, we can do so with full confidence, knowing that God loves our children even more than we do, and knowing that we can trust God to care for them and be present with them in ways we cannot.

(Source: Lessons for the Leader, Worship Kidstyle, Lifeway.)

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



Life have you worried? Focus on God's presence

By Jeremy Woods

Are you worried about someone or something today? If God, in His Word, promises to watch over and take care of us, why do we worry?

It is certain God is watching every move we make and wants only the very best for the divine purpose He has for your life. He loves us so much He paid the ultimate price for every sin we have and will commit by being gruesomely slain on a cross ... with you on His mind the entire time. Isn't that an awesome thought?

So why worry? Why worry when it is time to pay the rent, when a health crisis encounters our lives, when problems and responsibilities of every day life seem to overwhelm us? In striving to live a worry-free life, we desperately need to ask God for the right direction to each situation we encounter.

People who do not know the Hope of Glory are so wrapped up in worrying that they worry about worrying itself. The Bible tells us in Matthew 6 to take one day at a time and not to worry about the problems of tomorrow—because tomorrow will worry about itself. As a matter of fact, God is already there! So in the words of Bobby McFerrin's 1988 hit: “Don't worry, be happy.”

Even as we reflect on the truth in

this phrase, do you still feel that you worry more than you should? Do you think this is easier said than done? Medical science has confirmed that worry is a serious contributing factor in many major illnesses. Think about

it this way—worry is like a rocking chair. It will give you something to do, but it won't get you anywhere.

But we have a way out of worrying: we can take our problems and cares to the Lord in prayer. A problem not worth praying about is not really worth worrying about. Have you ever noticed how worry tends to increase with the ten-

sion and pressure points in our lives? Worry often comes at a time of crisis. Just when you need a clear mind and steady nerves to make the wisest decision possible, here comes worry—like a dark cloud that obstructs the warmth and light of the sun. Worry drains you of your ability to think creatively and can cause many other problems.

For example, worry can fill the face with wrinkles and apprehension. It has the ability to rob the body of rest at night and send you through your day shattered and shaky, living on the ragged edge. Has this been you lately? Worry also can cause heart disease, high blood pressure, ulcers, and a host of other diseases. Why? Worry is fear, rather than faith. Worry is a predispo-

sition toward defeat and despair.

If this is how worry can ruin our lives, then we desperately need to find a way to overcome the worry that entangles our lives. Never worry about things you cannot change in life.

Do you have confidence that the Bible is very clear on the assurance of how to conquer worry? It boldly gives us the prescription for worry. Do not worry about your fear, “For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind” (2 Timothy 1:7). Do not worry when you feel overwhelmed by the pressures of life. The Apostle Paul says, “Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!” (Philippians 4:4).

Worry is the rejection of faith, and allows a Christian to say he believes one way—but lives another. It may be a clear indication that we may be hearing the Word of God, but not putting it into practice. No wonder the Bible says, “Without faith it is impossible to please Him” (Hebrews 11:6). It is impossible to worry and trust God at the same time.

If your life's course has been altered by worry, then it is time you focus on the presence of the living God. Feel His peace and His reassuring touch. Experience His love and the joy of His presence. If you are living in this spiritual zone, worry will die. Therefore, don't worry ... be happy! (BP)

Jeremy Woods is pastor of Willis Baptist Church in Kingston, Okla.

Volunteers share Christ at World Equestrian Games

By Adam Miller
North American Mission Board

Lexington—The distant sigh of traffic on Ironworks Pike filled an open doorway to the sanctuary at Cane Run Baptist Church in Lexington, a historic congregation uphill from the vast sweep of the Kentucky Horse Park. A cold, gray light filtered through the stained glass into the sanctuary where John Lyons, "America's horseman," led a devotional on day eight of the World Equestrian Games.

Spurs clanked with each heavy step along the red carpet.

God "doesn't want everyone to look the same and be the same because He didn't create everybody the same," Lyons told an audience holding golf ball-sized globs of play-dough in every color of the rainbow.

"I woke at 5 this morning with the guilt of yesterday weighing on me," Lyons recalled. "I had been in a hurry and a man had asked if I had a pass to get in the park, and I was too busy to slow down and help him. This morning I woke and thought I needed to call him. He'd given me his card. I couldn't find it. So I searched my pockets. I found it. I called his number and it rang and rang.

"I told him to meet me out here at the church at a quarter to eight." The man did.

"We have these opportunities. And if John is not thinking about John and what he's doing next then maybe I'll be able to be the light of Christ in somebody's life: instead of waking with guilt at 5 a.m.," Lyons said. "Some of the best sermons aren't preached but lived."

Lyons is a world-renowned horse trainer who uses horse-training techniques to share the gospel. He was just one of a half-dozen equestrian celebs reigned in by Affiliated International Ministries to provide entertainment during the games. AIM, an organization led by Kentucky Baptist Convention consultant Larry Martin, was responsible for much of the Christian volunteer work provided at the world's most prestigious horse event.

North American Mission Board missionaries, the Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union and volunteers from eight denominations joined in sharing Christ and providing free services to the 300,000 or more visitors from 58 countries.

The church services at Cane Run Baptist and other churches throughout the Lexington area served to calibrate a band of nearly 700 volunteers coming from other parts of the state and nation. Volunteers served in a variety of ministries throughout the games.

Half-million dollar horses, English butlers at the \$600-a-day Maker's Mark dining area, language and cultural barriers, and the mystique of equestrian culture are just a few of the "artifacts" that make the WEG a microcosm of a large and vastly unreached affinity group. Volunteers such as Jacobs and devout Christians with equestrian clout like John Lyons are serving to put feet to faith among an otherwise insular milieu.

"We believe the greatest movement of God is happening right now in the horse world," Martin said.

Maureen Gallatin, editor of Perfect Horse magazine and a personal evangelist among horse people, attributed the movement to God's faithful filling places deep within the culture at events such as the games.

"We're meeting people in their area of passion," Gallatin said. "Horses are such great communicators about the relationship between people and God."



John Lyons



FUN TIME AIM volunteer Chuck Jacobs passes a platter of play-dough during worship at Cane Run Baptist Church in Lexington. "We're going to have some fun this morning," said horseman John Lyons, who spoke to the group. "Fun" included making shapes out of play-dough. (Photos by Adam Miller/NAMB)

Face painting is popular WEG outreach

By Adam Miller
North American Mission Board

Lexington—Parents smile nearby as missionary Larry Leming quickly organizes the paint jars then applies the first strokes of a brown

horse's head and mane across their little boy's left cheek. He wants a blue University of Kentucky logo on the other side of his face.

Leming squints to concentrate and block out some of the morning

sun at the Kentucky Horse Park.

"People say, 'Face painting isn't evangelism,'" Leming said later. "No, it's not evangelism. But these are all tools that open people up to a conversation that can lead to evangelism."

Director of Low Country Ministries, Leming typically facilitates ministry in South Carolina's low country area near Beaufort. But during the World Equestrian Games, he brought his specialty to the cooler climes of Appalachia where more than 300,000 people from 58 countries gathered to watch the world's top equestrian athletes.

Leming and more than 500 other volunteers with Affiliated International Ministries, the Kentucky Baptist Convention, other state conventions and area churches worked at venues including the Kentucky Horse Park, Paris, Georgetown and downtown Lexington where festivals and equestrian enthusiasts en masse provided opportunities to pass out "More Than Gold" horseshoe pins, gospel materials and bottled water.

Face painting also was a favorite at the games.

"One girl told me she was too old for face painting and I said 'Look. I painted a 60-year-old woman's face the other day,'" Leming recalled. "You're never too old for face painting."

According to Larry Martin, who coordinated ministry efforts at the games, more than 60 people made decisions for Christ as a result of outreach through AIM.

Those decisions came from the work of nearly 700 AIM volunteers from a variety of Christian denominations who did everything from provide shuttle service to and from the parking lots at the World Equestrian Games to manning the AIM booths at several locations, all while sharing Christ with others.



'NEVER TOO OLD' AIM volunteer Larry Leming, director of Low Country Ministries in South Carolina, paints a young boy's face at the AIM booth at the Kentucky Horse Park. (Photo by Adam Miller/NAMB)



'Sermon on the Mount'

Lew Sterrett, an evangelist horse trainer, preaches the Sermon on the Mount horseman style from the mount of his steed. Listeners, including children, sat spellbound in response to his creative sermon at the annual Secretariat Festival in Paris. The event coincided with the World Equestrian Games in Lexington.

The trust, dependence and obedience a horse exhibits toward a rider teaches a lot about how God asks for our trust, dependence and obedience not only for His glory and purposes but for our good, fellow equine evangelist Maureen Gallatin noted.

(Photo by Adam Miller/NAMB)

Secretaries Luncheon

A special event for church and denominational secretaries

Tuesday, Nov. 16, Noon

In conjunction with the 2010 KBC Annual Meeting, Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington

Guest Speaker: **Bridget Kehrt-Grace**, executive director, Crossroads Pregnancy Center, Bowling Green & former on-air radio personality

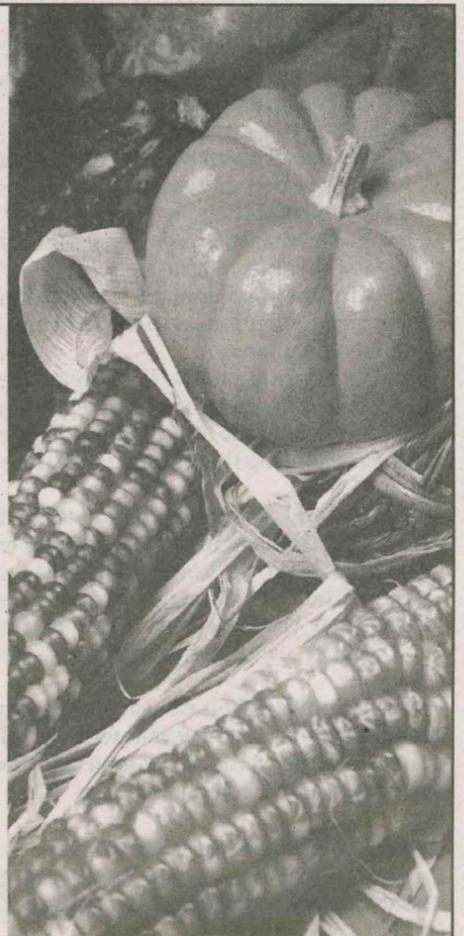
Cost: \$10 per person. Reservations required by Nov. 10. For details, or to register, contact Jenny Byrd by e-mail: jenny.byrd@kybaptist.org or by phone: (502) 489-3335 or (866) 489-3335 (toll-free in KY).

Immanuel Baptist Church is located at 3100 Tates Creek Rd.



COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

This event is sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Convention Church Development Team and the Kentucky Baptist Secretaries Association



Free transportation was key opportunity at equine games

By Adam Miller
North American Mission Board

Lexington—Marilou “Piddle” Johnson’s seven legal pad pages tell the story of the mornings she spent parked in a church bus at the Kentucky Horse Park during the World Equestrian Games.

On day one she shuttled two people from Israel, six from Great Britain, six from the Netherlands, and eight from South Africa. That list grew day by day in volume and variety.

Some were horsemen and horsewomen, some were spectators, and a large percent-

age of the people Johnson drove along the half-mile stretch between the parking lot, stadium and stables needed the assistance of crutches or a wheelchair. Many were para-equestrian athletes who would spend the final days of the games showing just how far one could go even with a missing leg, arm or with some type of paralysis.

“I keep an eye out for people in wheelchairs and crutches,” said Johnson, a member of First Baptist Church of Richmond. “Some of them have a golf cart they climb on or ride behind in the wheelchair.”

“That’s an amazing thing to watch,” she added. “They stay in their wheelchair, strap in, grab on to a bar and off they go.”

For those who don’t have the finances to have their own cart, Johnson lowers the lift and offers a ride on the bus, compliments of First Baptist, Richmond.

A volunteer opportunity made available only weeks before the World Equestrian Games began, the shuttle service was the suggestion of Kentucky first lady Jane Beshear. Affiliated International Ministries pulled together more than 50 volunteers and 35 vehicles from area churches, just to shuttle people around the horse park.

NOTEPAD & A SMILE Each day, Marilou Johnson kept a tally of passengers and their countries of origin, a useful way of recording the story of the international community attending the World Equestrian Games. Johnson, a member of First Baptist Church of Richmond, provided free transportation to para-equestrian athletes and others with special needs as a volunteer for Affiliated International Ministries during the games. (Photo by Adam Miller/NAMB)

AIM is an interdenominational group that worked together to share the gospel with World Equestrian Games visitors.

A number of Kentucky Baptist churches contributed their vans and buses during the two-plus weeks of the World Equestrian Games. One morning, visitors were being shuttled to the front gates in 15-passenger vans from First Baptist of Richmond, St. Paul Baptist Church at Shively Heights in Louisville and Dry Run Baptist Church in Georgetown.

Roger Bartley, also a member of First Baptist of Richmond, coordinated the shuttle fleet from Imani Baptist Church, about five miles from the park. He said a typical day consisted of approximately 17 shuttles in operation. At the peak, there were as many as 30 running at once.

“I just had a little girl come up to me today at our exhibit booth and she said, ‘Hey, those are the people who provide the shuttle,’” said Larry Martin, AIM’s director. “It’s made an impact on people.”

Those people include the nearly 700 volunteers themselves.

A native of Kentucky’s coal field area, Johnson said she saw people from every corner of the world come through her native state during the games, many of whom entered through the tented checkpoint where she parked her van.

“There are people here who can rent out an entire floor of a hotel and those who are riding someone else’s horse,” Johnson said. “Those who can afford the \$600-a-day Maker’s Mark tent and those who are sleeping in a barn.”

Volunteer shuttle driver Chuck Jacobs

said the service provided him a five-minute window to share a “More Than Gold” horseshoe pin and, sometimes, a word about why he’s giving free rides.

“Where you from?” Jacobs asked as three men piled into the minivan he was driving.

“Colorado Springs,” one of the men replied.

“Here’s a pin,” Jacobs said. “And here’s a card that explains what the pin means.”

At the end of the ride of silence and small talk, the men piled out.

“You don’t always get a chance to share,” Jacobs noted. “But just that they know we’re here because of Jesus is sometimes enough. Then sometimes you get someone who really is open. Like last night. I picked up a man and a woman. He was half drunk. I shared, she listened, and by the end something struck a nerve and she was getting teary-eyed. She said, ‘Thank you so much.’”

Jacobs smiled, and got a little teary-eyed himself.

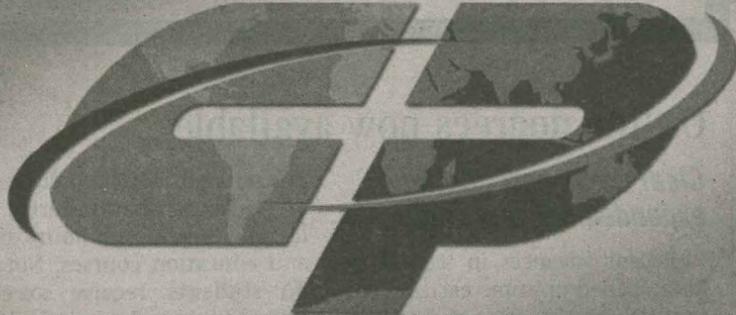
“I miss my family and my grandkids and warm running water,” said Jacobs, who spent 15 days in a Starcraft pop-up camper. “But I love it. I couldn’t be any happier. I get to tell people about Jesus.”

Johnson said the shuttle service was the perfect opportunity for her.

“I felt God really put me in the right place at the right time,” she said. “I lost my job in June and I’ve been working for the Census Bureau but I’m flexible. If we give anyone a drink of water or a ride in Jesus’ name, it’s like giving it to Jesus Himself.”

With additional reporting by News Director Drew Nichter





COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

love in action



*Thank you for your gifts through
the Cooperative Program.
Together, we are demonstrating
love in action by funding missions
and ministries all over the world.*

www.kybaptist.org/cpmissions



Supreme Court justices torn on free speech rights, private funeral rites

By Daniel Burke

Washington—The last rites of a slain Marine clashed with a small church's right to preach its anti-gay gospel in oral arguments heard before the U.S. Supreme Court last week.

Despite religion's prominent role in the dispute, however, the justices seemed most interested in, and perplexed by, the limits of another First Amendment right: free speech.

Westboro Baptist Church, an independent congregation with about 50 members based in Topeka, Kan., has picketed nearly 200 military funerals in recent years with signs like "Thank God for Dead Soldiers" and "You're Going to Hell." Westboro believes God is punishing America for its tolerance of homosexuality by killing U.S. soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan.

In 2006, Albert Snyder filed a federal lawsuit against Westboro after church members picketed near his Marine son's funeral in Westminster, Md. Snyder argued the church infringed on his rights of privacy and religious expression and intentionally inflicted emotional distress with nasty signs targeted at his son, Lance Cpl. Matthew Snyder.

A federal court partially sided with Snyder and awarded him \$5 million in damages; an appeals court overturned that verdict, ruling for the church.

The justices last week seemed torn between sympathizing with Snyder's anguish and defending Westboro's right to picket and preach, no matter how offensive its message.

Any ruling they deliver, the justices know, will have far-reaching implications for the First Amendment. The justices repeatedly raised hypothetical situations and pondered where to draw the lines between free speech and harassment, between offering opinions on public issues and targeting private citizens with invective.

Sean Summers, Snyder's attorney, painted Westboro as publicity hounds who sought to "hi-

jack someone else's private event" to promote their church and inflict harm on the Snyders.

But the justices questioned whether Westboro's apocalyptic picket signs were targeted at the Snyder family or the country at large. "It sounds like 'you,'" in signs like "You Are Going to Hell," is directed at "the whole rotten society in their view," said Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Westboro used many of the same signs to protest at the Maryland state capital the same day as the Snyder funeral, Ginsburg noted, meaning the church likely was targeting societal issues, not private families. Several justices alluded to the high court's long history of protecting speech on matters of public concern.

But Ginsburg and other justices also appeared to empathize with the Snyders' plight.

"This is a case about exploiting a private family's grief," she said. Ginsburg then asked church attorney Margie Phelps, "Why should the First Amendment tolerate exploiting this Marine's family when you have so many other forums for getting across your message?"

Phelps said that Americans are questioning why U.S. soldiers are dying and that Westboro Baptist Church has answers people need to hear. "We have an answer to your question ... our answer is that you have to stop sinning if you want this trauma to stop happening."

Justice Sonia Sotomayor acknowledged that some of Westboro's pickets, such as those condemning the United States or its wars, involve public speech and are thus likely protected by the First Amendment.

"I fully accept you're entitled in some circumstances to speak about any political issue you want," Sotomayor said. "But what's the line between doing that and then personalizing it and creating hardship for the individual?"

Phelps argued that Snyder became a public figure entangled with public issues when he spoke out against the war after his son's death in 2006. (RNS)

Our campground runneth over!

Retired volunteers make visit to Oneida to do much-needed work on campus

It happens the first two weeks of every October. They descend on us in cars, travel trailers and motor homes. Nearly all of them are retired. Like the other volunteers who bless us, the Alabama Campers on Mission could be fishing, walking on a sunny beach, visiting grandchildren or doing a dozen other things, but they have chosen to spend the time helping us. We are so blessed!

Our volunteer season usually is over by the end of October. This year, however, we also will have volunteers the first three weeks in November. Many groups wanted to come earlier, but we didn't have any open dates until November.

I never cease to be amazed at the number of volunteers who spend a week or two with us almost every year. I can remember back in the '80s when we only had about six or eight groups who came during the entire summer. We just had one guest house at that time, and we could only accommodate about 15 volunteers a week. Today we have about 60 beds for our guests and volunteers. You would think that with 60 beds we always would have an empty bed or two for guests who drop in and want to spend the night. But in June, July and October we have to be very careful or we will have more guests and volunteers than we have beds. Unfortunately, that has happened a time or two.

Since I am the one who usually has to make sure we have enough beds, I try to be careful not to promise a bed that already is in use. Even while I was writing this article, my wife asked if we had any empty beds for two unexpected campus guests.

This is Oneida



W.F. Underwood

The Alabama group is expecting more than 100 volunteers during the next two weeks. The only way we can accommodate that many people is that most of them will be using our campground and staying in their campers and RVs; the others will be using our guest housing. While the Campers on Mission are here, they will perform any number of services.

This morning I walked around to see some of their projects. I saw three men wiring one of our newer buildings. The retired electrician who is in charge began the project last year, but he was unable to complete the work then. It is likely that he and his crew will complete the project this year.

Another group was in the carpentry shop cutting some material to frame in the windows at Anderson Hall, the only original building remaining on our campus. Anderson Hall will be 100 years old next year and is being completely renovated. Several people were working inside the building. Two men were working on a drainage ditch that has created some flooding problems. More than a dozen ladies were sewing items to be given away at the Kentucky Baptist Convention in November.

Other ladies were working at the Friendship House, our used clothing store, and in our gift shop. Two men were repairing a roof that had lost some shingles in the last storm or two. Another group was, well, frankly, there is a lot more going on here, but I am out of space.

Lord, how deeply thankful I am for all the wonderful friends who make our work possible.

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

creative ministries 101 Workshop

www.kybaptist.org/101workshop



November 6, 2010
Central Baptist Church
Corbin, Ky.

Early Registration Pricing ends October 18, 2010

Online degrees now available

Clear Creek now offering expanded delivery mode

Recent advances in technology have opened up some exciting possibilities in the area of Christian higher education. Last year, Clear Creek received approval from both of our accrediting agencies to offer a fully accredited Bachelor of Arts in Ministry degree totally online.

We feel this degree offering provides an opportunity to minister to bivocational pastors who may not be able to just pick up and move to campus. There are literally thousands of such pastors in the Southern Baptist Convention who have not had the opportunity to take advantage of any formal ministry training. This program allows them the opportunity to obtain a fully accredited degree while still being involved in their current ministry settings.

The online Bachelor of Arts in Ministry degree prepares the graduate to lead a local church as pastor or associate pastor. For many graduates, this degree can and will serve as a pastor's final formal ministry preparation. It also serves as excellent preparation for advanced study at a seminary or graduate program.

The degree includes 50 hours of Bible/theology classes; 30 hours of

professional development courses; 14 hours of ministerial studies; and 36 semester hours of general education courses. Not only do students receive excellent Bible training, the practical component of the program assists them in "doing" ministry in their local churches.

The approval of the online degree also allows Clear Creek to offer other degrees in this format. We offer a Bachelor of Arts in Bivocational Ministry degree; a Bachelor of Arts in Christian Service degree; and Associate of Arts degrees—completely online.

In addition, Clear Creek offers a 28-hour certificate in Bible. This allows an individual to take courses online as a distance education student with the potential to complete the 28-hour certificate in 14 months.

If you would like more information, contact Director of Distance Education Jay Barnett at jbnarnett@cbbc.edu, or call toll free at (866) 340-3196.

Adapted from Western Recorder, Jan. 13, 2009.

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.cbbc.edu; e-mail: dfox@cbbc.edu

Clear Creek Chronicle



Donnie Fox

LifeWay: Young adults more accepting of gay marriage

Nashville, Tenn.—Six in 10 American Millennials—those born between 1980 and 1991—see nothing wrong with two people of the same sex getting married. But men, African Americans and Southerners are least comfortable among their peers with same-sex marriage, and for the most part Christian Millennials oppose it.

These are the findings from a LifeWay Research study for an upcoming book by Thom Rainer, president of LifeWay Christian Resources, and son Jess Rainer titled "The Millennials: Connecting to America's Largest Generation." The book is based on a wide-ranging survey of Millennials in the United States.

Millennials are divided in their responses to the question, "How much would you agree or disagree with the statement: I see nothing wrong with two people of the same gender getting married." Forty percent agree strongly; 21 percent agree somewhat; 15 percent disagree somewhat; and 24 percent disagree strongly.

Key differences exist by location, sex, race and religion. For example, nearly half of Millennials in the Northeast and the West strongly agree there is nothing wrong with same-sex marriage compared with fewer than one in three Southerners.

Women are far more accepting of same-sex marriage than men. Sixty-eight percent of female Millennials agree there is nothing wrong with same-sex marriage (49 percent strongly), while 55 percent

of males feel the same way (32 percent strongly).

African American Millennials are more strongly opposed to marriage between members of the same sex than Hispanics and Asians, according to the study. Fifty-three percent of African Americans disagree with the statement (32 percent strongly), while 33 percent of Hispanics and 36 percent of Asians disagree (19 percent strongly).

Opinions on the issue are sharply divided by religion. Two-thirds of Millennials with no religious preference agree strongly there is nothing wrong with same-sex marriage while only one in seven of those who say they trust Christ as Savior agree strongly. Further, 46 percent of those who say they trust Christ as Savior strongly disagree and, in fact, find fault with marriage between members of the same sex.

"Discovering a significant difference in the attitudes on same-sex marriage between born-again Christians and the rest of culture," according to Thom Rainer, "was not necessarily surprising."

"It will be a critical issue for churches—soon to be led by Millennials—to establish their biblical positions on the issue of same-sex relationships," he added.

"If it is to find relevance with Millennials, the church must be willing to deal directly with the issue of same-sex attraction and relationships," Rainer said. "The church must voice a clear, biblical ethic of sexuality." (BP)

Importance of discipleship

Today's youth hunger for mentorship, to go 'beyond'

By Lindsay Swartz
Guest services coordinator

Throughout Scripture, we see the mandate of discipleship in the lives of Christians. God commanded His people to teach their children about Him at all times (Deuteronomy 6). Christ's followers even were called "disciples" as they laid down their lives to learn from and obey Him. In addition, Christ commanded that we go into all nations and be disciple makers, teaching new believers how to walk with Christ (Matthew 28).

We see this example clearly set by Paul. He urged others to practice the things he did and taught (Philippians 2:9). More importantly, he brought younger believers alongside him in ministry. His life was about teaching them how to live a life transformed by Christ. He demonstrated that we have an obligation to teach, train and serve youth for the sake of their growth and effectiveness in Christ.

As adults, we often are disobedient in this. We tend to spend our energy on ourselves. As a result, we have younger generations who are hungry for mentoring and disci-

ple, but who are not getting it. No one will step up to the plate.

One of the ways we are seeking to disciple youth at Crossings is through the Beyond Effect. This is a movement where we seek to mobilize students to show themselves as Christ's disciples by combining their burdens and their passions in order to minister to the "least of these." We want to stand beside them and teach them how to serve and share Christ in their everyday lives.

We have seen an encouraging response to the Beyond Effect. We have had students take the challenge to heart, reaching out to the poor and lost through tutoring programs, basketball camps, dance classes and more—all for the sake of the gospel.

The response we have seen should emphasize the urgency of pouring into the youth in our churches. They are itching to serve the Lord, but need someone to cheer them on and show them how. Let's open our eyes to their potential in Christ, lay down our own agendas and join the apostle Paul in saying, "Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ."

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

Ky. Baptist Assemblies



David Melber

KBC Mission Board recommendations

The Kentucky Baptist Convention's constitution requires that the KBC Mission Board publish its recommendations in the Western Recorder at least 30 days before they are voted on during the annual meeting. This year's meeting will be Nov. 16 at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington. For more information about these recommendations, call the KBC Mission Board at (502) 489-3577 or toll-free (866) 489-3577.

Recommendations to the Messengers of the 2010 Kentucky Baptist Convention:

The annual Cooperative Program Goals, as well as the percentages for the division of Cooperative Program funds between Kentucky Baptist Convention causes and Southern Baptist Convention causes, are determined by the Kentucky Baptist Convention in its annual session.

Upon recommendation of the Mission Board, the Convention at Elizabethtown November 10, 2009 set the 2010-2011 goals and percentages as shown below.

The Mission Board recommends to the Convention in Lexington November 16, 2010 the following 2011-2012 goals and percentages.

	APPROVED 2010-2011 BUDGET	PROPOSED 2011-2012 BUDGET		
I. COOPERATIVE PROGRAM GOAL				
A. OPERATIONAL BUDGET	\$23,500,000	\$23,500,000		
1. SBC CAUSES (a)	\$8,930,000	\$10,404,081	38.00%	44.27%
2. KBC CAUSES (b)	\$14,570,000	\$12,155,919	62.00%	51.73%
3. SHARED EXPENSES (b)		\$940,000		4.00%
B. "MORE FOR CHRIST" CHALLENGE		\$705,000		3.00% **
1. SBC CAUSES		\$452,779		66.90% **
2. KBC CAUSES		\$224,021		33.10% **
3. SHARED EXPENSES		\$28,200		4.00% **
TOTAL COOPERATIVE PROGRAM GOAL (c)	\$23,500,000	\$24,205,000		
1. SBC CAUSES		\$10,856,860		44.85%
2. KBC CAUSES		\$12,379,940		51.15%
3. SHARED EXPENSES		\$968,200		4.00%
II. OTHER ESTIMATED INCOME	\$2,724,192	*		
A. RESTRICTED KY ONLY	\$330,000	*		
B. OTHER	\$2,394,192	*		
III. TOTAL BUDGET GOAL	\$26,224,192	*		

(a) The distribution of these items is voted by the Southern Baptist Convention.

(b) The distribution of these items is voted by the Mission Board, Kentucky Baptist Convention.

(c) Any Cooperative Program receipts in excess of the goal will be distributed at the same percentages as the "More for Christ" Challenge.

* To be approved by the Mission Board upon recommendation of the Business and Finance Committee May 9-10, 2011.

** 3% growth in CP divided KBC 33.1% and SBC 66.9% after 4% shared expenses per GCTF-KY CP Distribution Plan.

If the GCTF-KY CP Distribution Plan were not to be approved, the Mission Board would then recommend that the proposed 2011-2012 CP Budget be set to the Approved 2010-2011 CP Budget above.

Campbellsville to host KHIPP panel on 2010 election

Campbellsville University will host a panel discussion of state political observers on the 2010 midterm elections Oct. 19, 5 p.m., as part of the school's Kentucky Heartland Institute on Public Policy.

The discussion will be held at the Badgett Academic Support Center on campus. It is free and open to the public.

The panelists include Al Cross, director of the Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues with the School of Journalism and Telecommunications at the University of Kentucky; Lowell Reese, founder of Kentucky Roll Call, a Frankfort-based governmental affairs publishing company; and Ron Ellis, a Frankfort Bureau reporter for the CHNI News Service in Frankfort.

"The Nov. 2 election cycle is shaping up to be one of the most significant midterm election cycles in recent decades, and Kentucky's races are among the most pivotal in terms of the national outcome," noted John Chowning, Campbellsville's vice president for church and external relations and KHIPP founder.

For more information about the discussion, contact Chowning at (270) 789-5520.

MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

■ **BRODHEAD**—Ottawa Church will hold revival services Oct. 17-22 with **Kenny Davis**, pastor of Bethel Church in Berea, as evangelist. **Jim Craig** is pastor.

■ **FULTON**—First Church recently called **Jeff Keith** as pastor and ordained **Paul Adams** to the gospel ministry.

■ **KUTTAWA**—Macedonia Church will hold revival services Oct. 17-20 with **Rick Reeder**, director of missions for Caldwell-Lyon Association, as evangelist. **Bryan Grigg** is pastor.

■ **LONDON**—Lick Fork Missionary Church will hold revival services Oct. 17, 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.; Oct. 18, 7 p.m., with **Lincoln Bingham**, pastor of St. Paul Church at Shively Heights in Louisville, as evangelist. **Gary Kirby** is pastor.

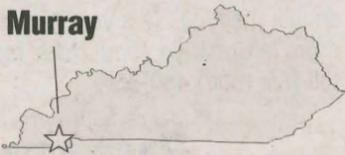
■ **LOUISVILLE**—Cloverleaf Church will host **Jimmy Blackwood and the Blackwood Brothers Quartet** Oct. 15, 7 p.m. For more information, call (502) 367-0218. **Geoffrey Lacefield** is pastor.

■ **PRINCETON**—Cedar Bluff Church will hold revival services Oct. 17, 11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.; Oct. 18-22, 6:30 p.m., with **Van Yandell**, Mission Service Corps missionary, as evangelist. **Mark Faughn** is pastor.

■ **SYMSONIA**—Elva Church recently

Spotlight on ...

Murray



First Church will host a "From Our Backyards to the Nations" conference Oct. 16, 5:30 p.m., and Oct. 17, 11 a.m., with **Kevin Smith**, pastor of Watson Memorial Church in Louisville, and **Ed Stetzer**, president of LifeWay Research, as guest speakers. For more information, call (270) 753-1854, or visit www.FBCMurray.org. **Sam Rainer** is pastor.

ordained **Tommy Gamble** and **Jason Littrell** to the gospel ministry.

■ **TOMPKINSVILLE**—First Church will hold revival services Oct. 17-20, 6 p.m., with **Farrell Isenberg**, pastor of Crosspointe Church in Owensboro, as evangelist. **Tom Stokes** is pastor.

■ **WINCHESTER**—Allansville Church will hold revival services Oct. 17-19 with **Matthew Perry**, pastor of Boone's Creek Church in Lexington, as evangelist. **Ray Coates** is pastor.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October

- 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.
- 15 Kentucky Baptist Music Conference, Versailles Baptist Church.
- 15 Kentucky Baptist Pastors' Conference, Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington.
- 15 Youth Ministers' Fall Meeting, Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington.
- 16 KBC Annual Meeting, Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington.

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

GCRTF chair's church changes name

Springdale, Ark.—Cross Church is the new name of First Baptist Church of Springdale, Ark., and its campus in Rogers, The Church at Pinnacle Hills, a move made Sept. 26.

"We are changing our name, but strengthening our identity," pastor Ronnie Floyd said in a news release. Floyd served as chairman of the Southern Baptist Convention's Great Commission Resurgence Task Force.

Cross Church also will encompass a campus in Fayetteville, Ark., which is scheduled to open in January 2011, as well as future campuses.

Floyd's son, Nick, who will be the campus pastor in Fayetteville, said the name change "will allow us to give a clearer picture to our community that we are one church that simply meets in multiple locations." (BP)

CLASSIFIED ADS

To place an advertisement:

Rates are available upon request.

Call (502) 489-3428;

or visit www.WesternRecorder.org. Claims made by advertisers are not necessarily those of the Western Recorder's staff or directors.

FOR RENT: Two condos in Destin, Fla. Owned by Christian family, each condo has two bedrooms and two baths—can sleep six. Available year-round. Pricing very reasonable. (423) 309-4422; or lbrammer@charter.net.

FOR SALE: Ridgewood Ebony Baby Grand recordable piano (wth bench). Like new; paid \$12,000, asking \$8,000. (502) 551-1796.

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.

SEEKING: Part-time children's director for preschool through 6th grade. Please send resumé to Eaton Memorial Baptist Church, 1225 W. Third St., Owensboro, KY 42301; or by e-mail to eatonmemorialbaptist@oolwireless.net.

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 resumé to or@worthvillebaptist.org; or mail to Worthville Baptist Church, PO Box 126, Worthville, KY 41098.

SEEKING: Full-time minister to students and outreach for a purpose-driven church in suburban St. Louis County. Must have a passion for youth ministry and reaching students for Christ. College degree preferred. Please send resumé to: Minister to Students Search Committee, Fee Fee Baptist Church, 11330 St. Charles Rock Road, Bridgeton, MO 63044; or e-mail to randy@feefeebc.org.

SEEKING: Senior pastor to lead a multi-generational historic, downtown CBF church in Kentucky's capital city. The church has an average Sunday school attendance of 170 and an annual budget of \$800,000. We are a very mission-oriented ministry. We operate a free medical/dental clinic and clothes closet onsite, in addition to a satellite mission center in Appalachia, together serving hundreds in need each month. We practice traditional worship with a multi-faceted music program and extensive programs for all age groups. For more information, visit www.fbcfrankfort.org. To apply, send resumé with references to: Pastor Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 201 St. Clair St., Frankfort, KY 40601 by Jan. 15, 2011.

SEEKING: Part-time minister of music for Grace Baptist Church, Lexington, Ky. We are prayerfully seeking a qualified individual to lead and oversee the music programs of all ages from children to adults. Please submit your resumé to the Minister of Music Search Committee by mail to 811 Bryan Ave., Lexington, KY 40505; or by e-mail to dfoley@gbclexington.org by Nov. 15, 2010.

SEEKING: Full-time pastor for First Baptist Church Greenbrier. FBCG is a multi-generational church in northern middle Tennessee that has just celebrated 125 years of serving our Lord and Savior. The church embraces the BF&M and all ministries are biblically-based. Seminary degree preferred; prior leadership experience required. Submit resumé to pastorsearch@fbc-greenbrier.org; or FBC, PO Box 485, Greenbrier, TN 37073.

SEEKING: Full-time office assistant/data specialist for Kentucky WMU office. This support staff member is primarily responsible for database management, mailings, archives, volunteers, other clerical needs. Maintains the WMU workroom and assists with WMU events. Computer experience required; knowledge and experience in WMU work a plus. Send resumé to: Joy Bolton, Kentucky WMU, PO Box 436569, Louisville, KY 40253-6569. E-mail: Joy.Bolton@kybaptist.org.

SEEKING: Full-time worship pastor for Beacon Hill Baptist Church. We are looking for someone called of God who can supervise a full church music program, including leading weekly worship for two blended worship services on Sunday morning with an average attendance of 600, a traditional service on Sunday evenings, praise team and band, choir, bells, drama, seasonal and special worship events. The candidate needs a knowledge of the technical aspects of a cutting-edge worship service. Send resumé to: Personnel Committee, Beacon Hill Baptist Church, 4705 South Hwy. 27, Somerset, KY 42503.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE - (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

1. Publication Title: Western Recorder

2. Issue Frequency: Weekly except 1 week in Dec., 1 week in Jan., and 1 week in July

3. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®): 13420 Eastpoint Centre Dr Louisville KY 40223

4. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not print): 13420 Eastpoint Centre Dr Louisville KY 40223

5. Full Name and Complete Mailing Address of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank): Board of Directors of Western Recorder, 13420 Eastpoint Centre Dr Louisville KY 40223

6. Editor phone and complete mailing address: Todd Deaton, 13420 Eastpoint Centre Dr Louisville KY 40223

7. Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address): Drew Nichler, News Director, Tom Townsend, Mktg & Bus Mgr, 13420 Eastpoint Centre Dr Louisville KY 40223

8. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address, as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a governmental organization, give its name and address.)

9. Full Name and Complete Mailing Address: KY Baptist Convention, 13420 Eastpoint Centre Dr Louisville KY 40223

10. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box: [X] None

11. Publication of Statement of Ownership: [X] If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. [] Publication not required.

12. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: [] Signature [] Title

13. Date: October 1, 2010

13. Publication Title: Western Recorder

14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: September 28, 2010

15. Extent and Nature of Circulation: Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 26648; No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 25558

16. Total Number of Copies (Net press run): 26648

17. Paid Distribution Outside the Mail (Include paid distribution through dealers and carriers, street vendors, counter sales, and other paid distribution outside USPS): 26474

18. Paid Distribution Through the Mail (Include paid distribution through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail®)): 25398

19. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 17 and 18): 51872

20. Free or Nominal Rate Copies Outside the Mail (Include free or nominal rate copies included on PS Form 3841): 100

21. Free or Nominal Rate Copies Through the Mail (Include free or nominal rate copies included on PS Form 3841): 100

22. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 20 and 21): 200

23. Total Distribution (Sum of 19 and 22): 52072

24. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers at page #10): 74

25. Total (Sum of 23 and 24): 52146

26. Percent Paid (Paid divided by Total times 100): 99%

27. Publication of Statement of Ownership: [X] If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. [] Publication not required.

28. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner: [] Signature [] Title

29. Date: October 1, 2010



The Bible Drill Winner
By Todd and Michelle Deaton

One more correct answer and Lenny Lobster would have a perfect score at the Bible drill at Surfside Church. If he knew the verse, he would be the only Cove Kid to earn a perfect score. Sunny Starfish had missed two verses, and Seamore wasn't able to find the book of Nehemiah in the Bible. Lenny was so nervous.

"Attention! Psalm 119:11. Start!" Pastor Porpoise called.

Lenny knew the verse. In fact, it was one of his favorites. He was so excited that he jumped forward and almost fell off the stage.

"I have hidden your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you—Psalm 119:11," Lenny replied with a big smile.

"That is correct, Lenny," Pastor Porpoise nodded. "You have achieved a perfect score," he applauded. Lenny beamed with pride.

"You all have really worked hard. I'm very proud of you," Pastor Porpoise congratulated the Bible drill team.



After the drill, Lenny invited the other Cove Kids to go to the Nibble Hook snack bar to celebrate. "I'll buy the milkshakes," he said.

"You sure do know your Bible verses, Lenny," Seamore said as the group sat down at a table.

"Seamore and I both missed some calls, but you got every one right," Sunny added.

"I sure did!" Lenny exclaimed, grinning ear to ear.

"Well, I'm finished," Craig Crab said, after gulping down his milkshake. "Let's go have some fun," he added.

"That will be 7 puka shells," the waitress said as he headed for the door.

"Lenny is paying for everybody's shake today," Craig explained.

"That's right, Lenny nodded. "I'll take care of it," he said, reaching into his pocket. "35 puka shells," he announced as he picked up the bill. "Hey, this must be my lucky day. She only charged us for five milkshakes."

"But there were six of us," Seamore corrected.

"I know, but that was her mistake," Lenny replied.

"Don't you think you should tell her?" Seamore asked. "It should have been 42 puka shells."

"You're such a do-gooder," Lenny chided.

"I just don't think we should cheat her out of the money that we owe," Seamore replied.

"Well, I deserve a free shake," Lenny snapped. "After all, I did get all the Bible verses right."

Seamore sat at the table, thinking about what had just happened. Then, he reached into his pocket, counted out 7 puka shells and handed them to the waitress.

Sunny, who was watching him from the door, walked back to the table. "You did the right thing," she smiled. "Lenny may have known all the verses, but I think you're the real winner."

Treasure Hunt

What problem did Lenny Lobster have at the Nibble Hook? Why did Seamore Seahorse think Lenny was wrong? What did Sunny Starfish mean when she called Seamore the "real winner"? Read Psalm 119:11 together.

For Heaven's Sake



Preacher's Kids

David Ayers



Bible Crosswords

By Rebecca Souder

Across

- 1 "___ and see" (John 1:39)
- 5 Town near Bethel (Joshua 7:2)
- 6 "Them that ___ in riches" (Mark 10:24)
- 11 Valley near Jerusalem (Joshua 15:8)
- 13 "___ is he" (Romans 14:22)
- 14 Aluminum, chem. symbol
- 15 Nashville's state, abbr.
- 16 "I am the ___" (John 14:6)
- 18 "Trees of the Lord are full of ___" (Psalms 104:16)
- 19 Large stringed instruments
- 21 Do, ___, mi
- 22 "We beheld his ___" (John 1:14)
- 24 "Like a refiner's ___" (Malachi 3:2)
- 26 East Indies, abbr.
- 27 "Whosoever ___ in him should not perish" (John 3:16)
- 31 "A great ___ dragon" (Revelation 12:3)
- 33 "Unto the ___ of the earth" (Acts 13:47)
- 34 Resound
- 35 "The ___ of death is sin" (1 Corinthians 15:56)
- 37 "To sit up ___" (Psalms 127:2)
- 38 "When ___ the king had heard these things, he was troubled" (Matthew 2:3)
- 40 "Naphtali is a ___ let loose" (Genesis 49:21)
- 43 Calendar numbers
- 46 Victory in Europe, abbr.
- 47 "He was ___ the world" (John 1:10)
- 49 Accomplish

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11			12			13			
14			15		16	17		18	
		19				20		21	
22	23					24		25	
26			27	28	29				30
31		32		33			34		
35			36			37			
	38				39		40	41	
42		43			44		45	46	
47	48				49	50			51
52		53	54		55			56	
57									58

- 52 "He ___, and denied not" (John 1:20)
- 56 "Made it a ___ of thieves" (Matthew 21:13)
- 57 "No man hath ___" (John 3:13)
- 58 Road, abbr.

- 20 "Go thy way; thy son ___" (John 4:50)
- 23 "As much as ___ in you" (Romans 12:18)
- 24 Iron, chem. symbol
- 25 "As many as ___ him, to them gave he power" (John 1:12)

Down

- 1 "Poured out the ___ money" (John 2:15)
- 2 "Took no ___ with them" (Matthew 25:3)
- 3 St. Paul's state, abbr.
- 4 "He cannot ___ into the kingdom of God" (John 3:5)
- 5 "I ___ the living bread" (John 6:51)
- 6 "Father, glorify ___ name" (John 12:28)
- 7 Egyptian sun god
- 8 ___ and downs
- 9 "He that ___ his rod" (Proverbs 13:24)
- 10 Kind, variety
- 12 "Glory as of the ___ of the Father" (John 1:14) (2 words)
- 16 "The ___ was made by him" (John 1:10)
- 17 "Love one another, ___ I have loved you" (John 15:12)
- 19 Company, abbr.

- 28 Printer's measure
- 29 "I... was in the ___ that is called Patmos" (Revelation 1:9)
- 30 "___ fast that which is good" (1 Thessalonians 5:21)
- 32 "Jesus Christ, Who ___ for us" (1 Thessalonians 5:9-10)
- 36 Gun lobbyists, abbr.
- 39 Eastern seaboard state, abbr.
- 41 "___ man spake like this" (John 7:46)
- 42 Type style
- 44 Correspondence enclosure, abbr.
- 45 Doctorate degree, abbr.
- 48 Negative votes
- 50 Committee for Economic Development, abbr.
- 51 "To this ___ I was born" (John 18:37)
- 53 State where man first flew, abbr.
- 54 Far East, abbr.
- 55 Northwest state, abbr.

Last week's solution

1	S	C	H	I	3	S	M	5	C	O	M	6	7	I	T
8	O	H			9	I	O	T	A			10	I	N	
11	D	I	N	E		L		12	C	R		13	C	H	E
15	I	N			16	A	T	H		17	P	E	E	R	
		18	R		19	O	D		20	E	P	H		R	
21	A	M	O	Z	22	A	H	23	A	H	24	H	E	M	
		27	B	I	L	H	A		28	H		29	H	E	
30	G	O			31	L	E	G	32	R	O	33	C		
	36	L	N		37	Y	O	R	E		38	O	T	A	
39	M	O			40	D	E		41	H	I	42	D		
	43	A	B	O	M	I	N	A	T	I	O	N			
47	48	M	O	T	E			49	E	U	Z	50	A	G	A
51	A	S	H		52	A	N	A	N	I	A	S		L	

College Tuition Full Scholarship

APPLY BY FEBRUARY 1, 2011

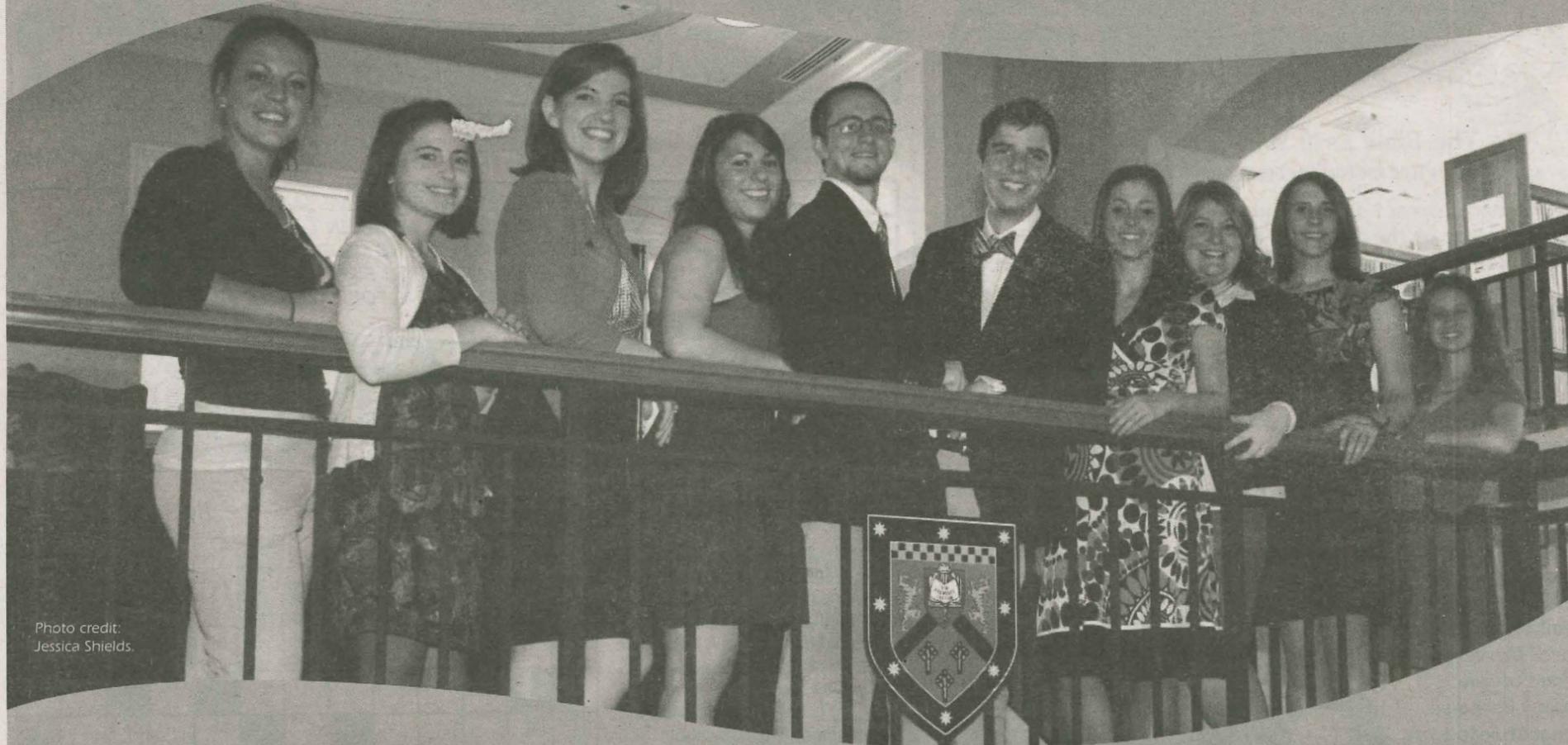


Photo credit:
Jessica Shields.

Parks Scholars 2010-2011

Left to right:

Caitlin Williams

Junior from Murray, KY
Spanish major

Elizabeth Metcalfe

Sophomore from Georgetown, KY
Art History major

Molly Shoulta

Sophomore from Louisville, KY
Political Science/Religion double major

Ashley Fox

Freshman from Corbin, KY
Biology major

Phillip Davis

Sophomore from Somerset, KY

Coran Stewart

Senior from Paducah, KY
Religion/Philosophy double major

Rhyan Martin

Freshman from Middlesboro, KY
Biology/Chemistry double major

Elizabeth Fannin

Senior from Inez, KY
Chemistry/Philosophy major

Cheyenne Hensley

Freshman from Brodhead, KY
Biochemistry major

Anna Fiechter

Sophomore from London, KY
Environmental Science major

Not pictured:

Hannah Flanery

Junior from Ashland, KY
currently at Oxford, England

Parks Baptist Scholars Program

The full tuition **Parks Baptist Scholarship** is the most prestigious scholarship offered by Georgetown College. Established as a tribute to Bowling Green, KY, physician and former trustee Dr. Paul Parks '43 and his late wife, Phyllis, the Parks Baptist Scholarship **annually recognizes four highly qualified students** who exhibit intellectual curiosity, global awareness and an appreciation of their Baptist-Christian heritage. It is available to students pursuing undergraduate degrees in preparation for lifelong learning, teaching and Christian service.

For more information on overall qualifications and to receive an application for the fall 2011 Parks Baptist Scholars Program, contact:

Office of Admissions

800-788-9984

admissions@georgetowncollege.edu

400 East College Street
Georgetown, KY 40324

www.georgetowncollege.edu



GEORGETOWN

COLLEGE

Live. Learn. Believe.