

Shine
like
stars
in the
world
Philippians 2:15

WESTERN Recorder

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FOR THE RECORD

Ministry

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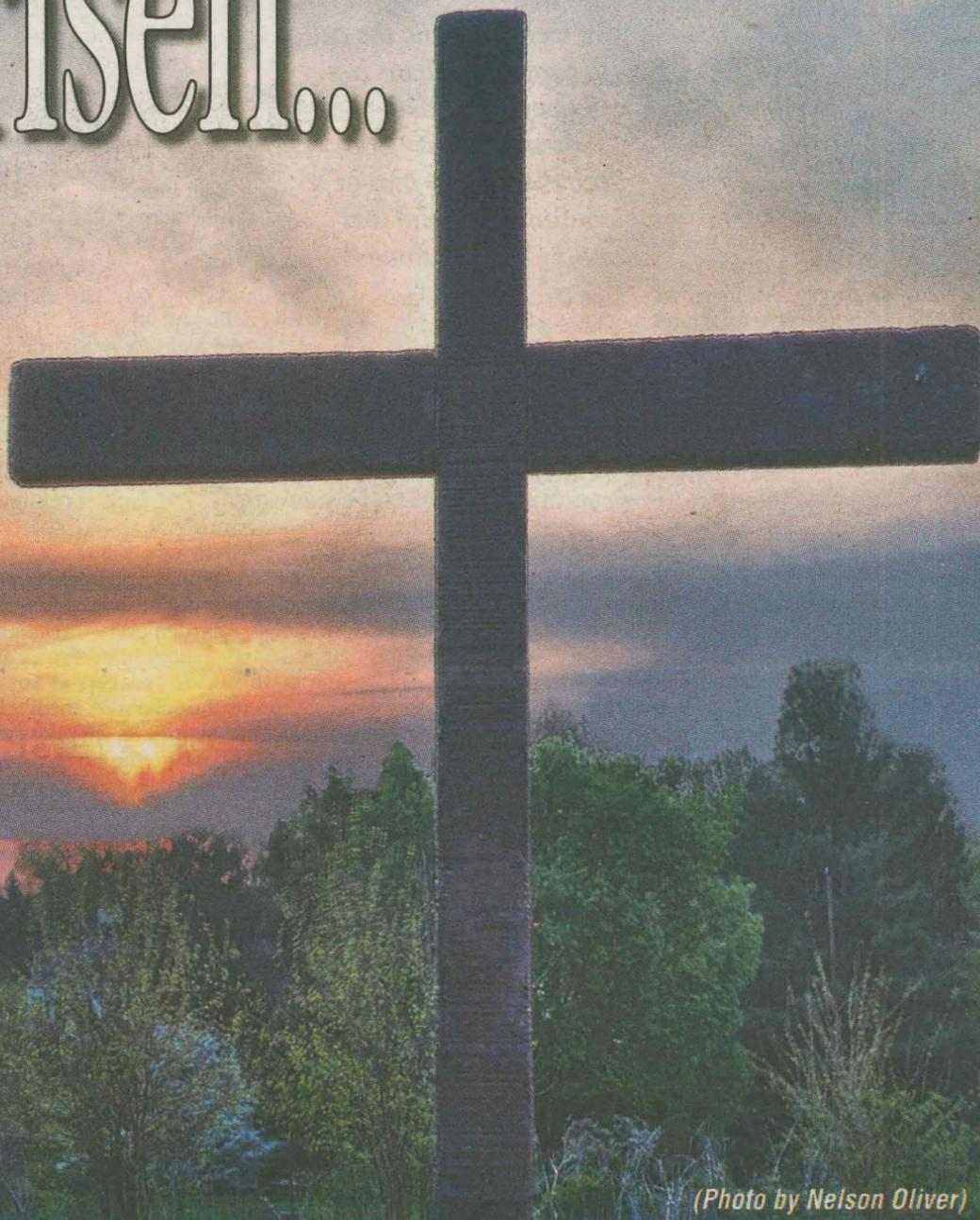
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(Photo by Nelson Oliver)

Even in U.S., child sex trafficking is growing concern

By Amanda Kate Winkelman

Washington—Commercial sexual exploitation remains a major problem among young people in the United States, with an estimated 100,000 U.S. children trafficked annually, experts say.

"The majority of the victims that we're finding who are child sex-trafficking victims are U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents," said Sarah Vardaman, senior director of Shared Hope International.

Vardaman's comments came during a live webcast hosted by Tony Perkins, president of the Family Research Council in Washington. The event focused on the reasons minors and young adults are sexually exploited in the U.S. in such great numbers.

"The sexual entertainment and the sexualization of our culture is encouraging a growing number of people who are demanding these ser-

vices," noted Vardaman, whose organization seeks to rescue and restore women and children victimized by trafficking.

"And so, if we want to look at the factors of supply and demand, then we would say (the sex trafficking industry) is growing."

The sexual entertainment industry is booming because of greater access to pornography through technology. People are becoming desensitized to what the sex industry offers, Perkins said.

Pat Trueman, chief executive officer of Morality in Media, said the porn industry is a \$12-\$13 billion industry.

Morality in Media, which published a report in February titled "Links Between Pornography and Sex Trafficking," recently drafted a letter to Congress explaining the harm of pornography and asking Attorney General Eric Holder to en-

force the country's obscenity laws.

"There is as much money going under the table as there is above the table," Trueman said. "So this is an industry that some of it's organized crime, some of it's involved in money laundering (and) trafficking."

The webcast—titled "Sex Trafficking in America: From the Boulevard to Planned Parenthood"—featured two video clips that gave viewers a look into the sex-trafficking industry. One of the clips was Live Action's recent undercover video of a New Jersey Planned Parenthood manager giving advice to actors pretending to exploit young girls from foreign countries. The clinic manager tells the "pimp" to lie to get discounts and instructs him on ways he can continue to exploit the girls for money after they have abortions.

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Orphan care, adoption organization brings summit to Louisville in May

By Drew Nichter
News Director

Louisville—Each Sunday Pastor David Prince stands in the pulpit, he looks out on a truly global congregation.

Through adoptions, families at Ashland Avenue Baptist Church have children from all over the United States and the world. They come from Ethiopia, China, Brazil, Russia and elsewhere.

"We've literally seen the nations come to us through adoption," Prince said of the Lexington church.

Prince will discuss the "adoption culture" he has tried to instill at Ashland Avenue during next month's Summit VII in Louisville. The May 12-13 event at Southeast Christian Church is sponsored by the Christian Alliance for Orphans, a coalition of more than 100 Christian organizations and a national network of churches involved in worldwide orphan care and adoption.

The Christian Alliance for Orphans formed at its inaugural summit in Colorado Springs, Colo., in 2004, attended by less than 40 people. As many as 1,500 people are expected to attend next month's gathering, according to alliance President Jedd Medefind.

The annual summit has become a barometer of how the orphan care and adoption movement has grown in recent years, Medefind said. "But it also is a driver of this movement, helping to inspire and equip Christians to live out the biblical mandate to care for orphans in effective ways," he added.

The purpose of the alliance, Medefind said, is to "really challenge the American church to reflect God's heart for orphans in very tangible ways," something Ashland Avenue Baptist and other Kentucky Baptist churches have led the way in doing.

Tera Melber has seen the adoption ministry at Louisville's Highview Baptist Church grow from an assistance fund and a semiannual class to a full-fledged emphasis providing support, mentoring and resources to families at all stages of the adoption and foster-care process.

In the five-plus years the ministry has been active, Melber said it has gone from being merely a cheerleader for adoptive families to "walking alongside" them at every step of the way.

Like Prince, Melber will lead a breakout session at the upcoming summit. Called "Reflections from Adoptive Families," she will lead a panel discussion of couples

who have grown their families by adopting preschool-age and older children (4 years and up), focusing on the expectations they had and what the realities are.

Tera and her husband, David, who is president of Kentucky Baptists' Crossings Camps ministry, have doubled their number of children through adoption. In addition to three biological children, ages 17, 15 and 12, they have adopted a daughter from the Philippines and two sons from Ethiopia, all of whom were older than 4 when they arrived.

"I think so many times we have these grand expectations of what life's going to look like," Melber said, "and parenting is hard no matter what spin you put on it, whether you've grown your family biologically or through adoption.

"So, I think people just need some realistic expectations of what to know ... and expect when they come home with older kids."

While adoption most often takes place in the context of individual families, the focus of orphan care really should be on the local church, Medefind noted.

"We feel like while the call to care for orphans is a call to every Christian, it's something that God desires we do as part of a community—and that's how it's best done," he said.

Medefind, Melber and Prince all cited the command from James 1:27 to care for orphans and widows—which James describes as pure and faultless religion—as the motivation for their ministries.

"When we do those things, we are reflecting God's heart to the world," Medefind explained.

"If we believe this is a visible expression of what God does for us in the gospel, then every Christian has to be involved in it and participatory in it," Prince added.

Among the main session speakers at Summit VII is Russell Moore, dean of the School of Theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, who has two adopted sons and has written a book on the subject. Dennis Rainey, president and co-founder of FamilyLife, also is among the featured presenters.

The Summit VII schedule, speaker and musician lineup and registration can be found at www.Christian-Alliance-For-Orphans.org/Summit. The cost is \$99 for alliance members and member applicants and \$149 for non-members. There also is information about additional attendance options available on the website.

"We feel like while the call to care for orphans is a call to every Christian, it's something that God desires we do as part of a community—and that's how it's best done."

Jedd Medefind, president of the Christian Alliance for Orphans

KBC workshop focuses on best way to help, minister to disadvantaged

Louisville—The Bible instructs Christians to give to others in need, but what is the difference between a "hand up" and a "hand-out"?

"It is important that churches and other ministries provide food, clothing and other assistance to the needy," said Eric Allen, director of mission service and ministries for the Kentucky Baptist Convention. "But are we actually hurting the very people we want to help if we aren't equipping them to make permanent changes in their lives that would enable them to support themselves?"

That question is at the heart of the KBC's "When Helping Hurts" workshop, set for May 16 at the Baptist Building in Louisville. Steve Corbett, co-author of "When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor ... and Yourself" will lead the training.

Corbett is community development specialist for the Chalmers Center for Economic Development at Covenant College in Georgia. He also is an assistant professor in the school's economics and community development department.

The morning session of the workshop will help missionaries, church staff and volunteers learn what principles should be in place for a ministry to expand beyond "giving" to "equipping."

"Christian ministries are different from other organizations because of the importance we place on evangelism when we give a cup of cold water or box of food to people in need," Allen noted. "Imagine if we could add job skills or savings plans to what we can offer? Lives could be radically changed right now and in eternity."

In the afternoon session, Corbett will discuss "Helping the Economically Poor to Acquire and Maintain Economic Assets," explaining how to facilitate "individual development accounts" and job training to people in need. "It's conceivable that these kinds of efforts could actually spark economic growth in some communities," Allen noted.

The workshop is \$20 per person and includes materials and lunch. Online registration is underway at www.KyBaptist.org/HelpingHurts.

March CP giving highest total yet for fiscal year

Louisville—Kentucky Baptists gave more through the Cooperative Program in March than in any month thus far in the fiscal year.

CP gifts totaled \$2,136,718 in March, exceeding the monthly budget goal of \$1,958,333 by more than \$178,000.

It was the first time since the fiscal year began last September that Cooperative Program receipts reached \$2 million mark.

"It is always encouraging to observe the generosity of Kentucky Baptists answering the call and investing in the Great Commission opportunities we support through the Cooperative Program," said Billy Compton, the Kentucky Baptist Convention's executive associate for Cooperative Program and resources.

"Kentucky Baptists' gifts make our worldwide witness for Christ possible," Compton added.

Cooperative Program gifts remain 4.52 percent below the budget goal for the fiscal year noted Lowell Ashby, KBC's business services team leader—a total of more than \$619,000.

Spending remains in line with receipts, however, Ashby said, because Mission Board staff is operating on a "spendable" budget that is 5 percent lower than the budget goal.

"Current receipts are tracking on course reflecting the 5 percent CP reduction already adjusted in the spendable budget for the KBC Mission Board in fiscal year 2010-11," Ashby said.

Kentucky Baptist CP gifts at a glance



Giving for March 1-31, 2011 & Year-to-Date

Monthly budget goal:	\$1,958,333
Actual giving:	\$2,136,718
Over budget:	\$ 178,385
Year-to-Date budget goal:	\$13,708,333
Year-to-Date actual giving:	\$13,089,197
Under budget:	\$ 619,136

R.A.s prepare for Courage 2011

Brownsville—Kentucky Baptist Royal Ambassadors will worship in "God's Great Ambassadors" as part of Courage 2011, an overnight camp and rally focused on missions education set for June.

Located adjacent to Mammoth Cave National Park, Camp Joy Baptist Assembly in Brownsville will provide campers the opportunity to worship in a cavern. The setting inspired Greta Wilson, missions education consultant with Kentucky Baptist Men on Mission, to select John 8:12 as the focal verse and to select the theme, "One Night, One Light."

"I hope that the boys will learn that being Christ's ambassador lasts a lifetime," Wilson said. "God will equip them in the truths that are necessary to keep them strong and courageous, to be His light in the world."

Wilson said she hopes R.A.s, their fathers and leaders will invite friends and neighbors to the event who perhaps have never heard the gospel in a meaningful way. Courage 2011 is a missions education event but also is an evangelistic opportunity, she noted.

Last year eight boys accepted Christ as Savior during Courage, Wilson said. Many others rededicated their lives to Christ.

Guests this year include Jim Douglas, pastor of Millview Baptist Church in Frankfort; Calvin McFarland, a Baptist builder from Monticello; Stan Tillman, director of Camp Joy and chaplain of the Brownsville Fire Department, Bo Warren, a Christian recording artist; and Chris Clarke, a Mission Service Corps missionary and founder of Happy Trails Ministry.

Regional winners in the R.A. Racers will compete in the state finals. Open races also will be held with the \$3-per-person entry fee going to support Baptist Global Response's Sanyati Hospital in Zimbabwe.

Local missions also will benefit from the event. Participants are challenged to bring one can of food for each grade completed in school. For example: boys in first grade will bring one can of food; boys in second grade will bring two cans of food. The donations will support ministries that serve the needy in south central Kentucky.

Courage 2011 is June 24-25 but the registration deadline is April 29. Space is limited. The fee of \$35 per person includes camp lodging and meals. Reduced rates that cover meals only are available. T-shirts are available via advanced sales only. Details, forms and registration are online at www.KyBaptist.org/Courage.

Ezell: NAMB will continue states' jointly funded missionaries

By James Smith
Florida Baptist Witness

Brandon, Fla.—In spite of the Great Commission Resurgence report that many expected would end jointly funded missionaries with state Baptist conventions, North American Mission Board President Kevin Ezell said “strategically placed mobilizers” in Southern states are necessary to accomplish NAMB’s church planting goals in the rest of North America.

Ezell, who was elected NAMB’s third president in September, said the missions entity and the states would continue to have “jointly funded missionaries in every state. We’re not going to totally reduce all those.”

The GCR report, adopted by the Southern Baptist Convention last year in Orlando, Fla., he said, “calls for allowing NAMB to decide” what to do about the historic practice of jointly funding missionaries with the states.

Although the report does not explicitly recommend ending jointly funded missionaries, it does suggest NAMB “budget for a national strategy,” while calling for a seven-year phase-out of cooperative agreements to be replaced with “a new pattern of strategic partnership with the state conventions.”

“After examining it, we feel like it’s in the best interest to accomplish what we want to accomplish in the other four regions we need to have strategically placed mobilizers, jointly funded missionaries in the South with our partners to get it done in the other regions,” Ezell said.

As part of NAMB’s new “Send North America” strategy, the continent has been divided into five regions—South, Northeast, Midwest, West and Canada.

While NAMB is “downsizing and re-aligning” budgets for jointly funded positions, he said there will continue to be “jointly funded missionaries in every state,” adding it’s “important” that NAMB be “invested in every state.”

State conventions in the South, which he said currently receive about 20 percent of NAMB’s funding through cooperative agreements, probably will be around 10 percent as part of the reprioritization of church planting funding in regions outside the South.

“We want to mobilize churches in the South and states in the South to partner” with non-Southern regions and “we need missionaries and connections in every state to help us mobilize,” Ezell said, while noting it would be “foolish” to “not continue to plant in our strongest base—in the South.”

Still, “our focus is going to be in those other four regions,” he said.

Ezell emphasized that money—“absolutely every dollar”—withdrawn from the states as a result of the new strategic partnerships “will be invested in church planting. Every cent.”

Significant changes Ezell anticipates with the new strategic partnerships—of which NAMB has begun sharing drafts with state convention executive directors—are common definitions and greater accountability.

“We’re going to come up with some consistency of expectations of excellence. ... There are 42 different levels of excellence out there and we just want to bring everyone up to the same level,” he said, noting he is soliciting and receiving the input of state executives.

While there is accountability currently, Ezell said, “It’s just not consistent across

the states.”

Although there would be region-to-region differences, Ezell said the process would be “standardized” within each region.

“Right now you have church planters that compare Indiana, Illinois and Ohio together and then decide where they’re going to plant a church much like a high school prospect deciding on where he plays basketball because they’re all so different,” he said.

The strategic partnership agreement drafts include six-month evaluations for all NAMB missionaries. Ezell said NAMB will be relying upon “our states partners to do that.”

He elaborated: “I feel like I have the responsibility to Southern Baptists to make sure every missionary—be they volunteer or paid—is evaluated to make sure they’re representing Southern Baptists in the way

Southern Baptists desire them to represent us.”

The “overwhelming majority” of state executives have been supportive of the heightened evaluation process, including the new six-month reviews, Ezell said.

Ezell confirmed the draft strategic partnership agreements include a requirement that missionaries affirm the Baptist Faith and Message 2000, the SBC’s confessional statement.

“We’re going to hold all of our missionaries to that expectation,” he said, adding that he is unaware of any objection to the BF&M requirement from the states.

Ezell said he anticipates finalizing the wording of the new agreements this summer, although some state executives may require approval by their respective boards or state conventions before they are formally executed in time for implementation in 2012. (BP)

Seminary establishes scholarship for slain pastor

By Bob Allen

Waco, Texas—A new scholarship at Baylor University’s George W. Truett Theological Seminary has been established as a tribute to a pastor and graduate of the school murdered March 3 in his church office.

Rather than letting the tragic death of Clint Dobson, pastor of NorthPointe Church in Arlington, Texas, have the final say, his family joined with friends at the seminary to establish the Clint Dobson Memorial Fund, a scholarship that will serve future seminary students in his memory.

“This was something, because of his love for Truett and Baylor, the family wanted to do,” said David Hardage, director of development at Truett. “They wanted to continue his ministry and establish a legacy of his life that would be difference making for years and decades to come.”

According to the Baylor Lariat newspaper, Dobson’s siblings said they are doing it not just to remember their brother but as way to continue the ministry he started.

“It’s more personal than just being in his memory,” Dobson’s brother Chris Kirchner said. “For us, we see this as our final gift for Clint, but beyond that, it’s important because we believe in what he was doing. There is going to be an opportunity for someone, even if it’s not Clint, to continue with that ministry.”

The fund will become an officially endowed George W. Truett Theological Seminary scholarship in the amount of \$50,000. The family said they plan for the scholarship specifically to aid students who want to enter a pastoral profession.

Dobson, 28, was a Baylor graduate who



The family of the late Clint Dobson, who was pastor of Northpointe Church in Arlington, Texas, recently established a scholarship in Dobson’s name at George W. Truett Theological Seminary in Waco, Texas. Dobson was murdered at the church during a robbery March 3.

originally planned to attend New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, but after Hurricane Katrina temporarily closed the school he entered Truett. He excelled as a student, winning a preaching award in 2008, and developed an interest in service to the poor.

“Baylor was where he got his calling, and his experience at Truett was an amazing one,” Dobson’s sister Sarah Mitchell said. “This is our chance to give back to Truett and help someone else who wants to go into the ministry or pastor a church.”

After graduating from Truett in 2008, Dobson became pastor of NorthPointe Church, an older congregation being revitalized under a new name as a mission point with aid from First Baptist Church of Arlington, Texas. He died there during a robbery on the afternoon of Thursday, March 3. Two men have been charged with his murder.

Baylor officials said they hope the new scholarship fund will serve to comfort and encourage family members and friends still mourning the loss of Dobson.

“We can’t make sense out of it,” David Garland, seminary dean, told the Lariat, “but we can make something good come out of tragedy.” (ABP)

Tornado destroys Va. church sanctuary

Deltaville, Va.—The sanctuary of Zoar Baptist Church in Deltaville, Va., was destroyed by a tornado that touched down the April 16, just hours before the building would have been full of worshippers.

The tornado, which toppled the church’s steeple and left gaping holes in the side of its sanctuary, did extensive damage to the small town on the Chesapeake Bay. No casualties at the church were reported, according to the Southside Sentinel, the county’s newspaper.

Tornados swept through much of the South and the Mid-Atlantic last weekend, killing at least 37 people. At least 23 people were killed in North Carolina alone.

“Deltaville is like a war zone,” Zoar

member Ed Harrow told the Virginia Religious Herald. “I was in Germany at the end of World War II and I told my wife that’s exactly what it looked like.”

Harrow said the sanctuary—including all its stained-glass windows—was totally destroyed.

The church is committed to rebuilding, Harrow noted, though it is too soon to know how that would be accomplished.

County administrator Charles Culley told the Southside Sentinel some people in Deltaville called the damage worse than that caused by Hurricane Isabel, a deadly storm in 2003. “If we have gotten out of this (storm) without any fatalities or injuries it will be a miracle,” he said. (ABP)

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Why a legacy gift?

Have you ever thought about making a legacy gift to your church and/or other Kingdom causes? A legacy gift can be used by God to continue the financial support of mission causes that are important to you until Jesus returns again.

Partners in the Mission

By Bill Mackey

The need for the gospel is worldwide and God has blessed thousands of Kentuckians so they can be a blessing to Great Commission causes. The Bible records, "Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful" (1 Corinthians 4:2, NIV).

A legacy gift can be a gift included in your will, but it can also take the form of an endowment or trust you create during your lifetime. By establishing an endowment or trust now, you can have the joy of seeing the results.

There are many people who have good intentions but wait too long and miss the joy of being a blessing to Christian causes. Too often I hear of people—some very wealthy—who were ready to make plans but passed away before they followed through. That created a windfall for tax collectors without benefiting the Christian causes that were important to the individual during their lifetime.

When my wife, Kay, and I decided to make a legacy gift, we decided that the best way to support Acts 1:8 missions was through the Cooperative Program. We value the great ministries of the Kentucky Baptist Convention that help to build the foundation for world evangelization and missions so we established the "Bill and Kay Mackey Endowment" for the Cooperative Program through the Kentucky Baptist Foundation.

This will allow us to continue supporting long after we are gone such ministries as "Crossings," which expects 10,000 campers this summer; our vital Kentucky Baptist colleges; the work of the Mission Board staff to train leaders and help churches be healthy; the planting of new churches; evangelistic outreach efforts like Find it Here; special spiritual growth emphases like More for Christ and many more. In addition, we will be supporting missionaries all over North America and around the world and helping seminary students prepare to be the next generation of pastors, church staff members, denominational workers and missionaries.

Kay and I will continue to contribute to this endowment in the years ahead and with legacy gifts in our wills. If you do not have such an endowment, we invite you to join us in supporting CP missions by sending a gift to the above named endowment through the Kentucky Baptist Foundation, P.O. Box 436389, Louisville, KY 40253-6389.

We discovered that it was easy to set up the endowment. If you think you might want to do something similar or plan for another kind of legacy gift, give the Kentucky Baptist Foundation a call toll-free at (866) 489-3533 or (502) 489-3533 (Louisville).

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Four in one: 'Unified Gospel' pulls together accounts

Richard Luebbert is the kind of guy who likes to know how it all fits together.

Several times Luebbert began work on unifying the four Gospels into a single, comprehensive narrative, but he never seemed to have time as a busy preacher to get far on the project. After moving to Kentucky in 2002 to live with his daughter, Joy Bolton, executive director of the Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union and her husband, Lee, pastor of Clay Village Baptist Church, Luebbert started again. His book, "Jesus for the 21st Century, the Unified Gospel," which was released in February, presents the four Gospels not in parallel columns, but rather as a compiled "patchwork" of 250 episodes in the order the events likely occurred. The book jacket further explains: "[T]his editor has sought to combine the four Gospels with all the details and nuances of all four into a single narrative without adding to or omitting any event, dialogue or comment which the four evangelists wrote."

**After Thought**

By Todd Deaton

Luebbert, a retired pastor whose lengthy ministry primarily was spent serving congregations in the Gulf Coast area, now teaches a men's Sunday school class at First Baptist Church of Shelbyville. At nearly 90 years-old, publishing a book has made Luebbert something of a local celebrity, and he will sign copies at the church on April 20 and at the public library on April 21.

The idea of a "unified Gospel" originated after he was introduced to A.T. Robertson's "A Harmony of the Gospels" during a New Testament course in college, Luebbert said. "I became a big fan. I really liked it," he explained. "Later on, when I was a pastor in Mobile, Ala., I felt like I could go another step, so you didn't have to figure out how the stories in the four Gospels went together. I'd put them all together so all you'd have to do is read it." A graduate of New Orleans Seminary, Luebbert chose the King James Version so those who have questions would have a readily available source for comparison. He also included a cross reference so verses in the four Gospels could be located quickly.

This being Easter week, perhaps it is appropriate to illustrate his concept of a "unified Gospel" with an excerpt from Episode 235, a compilation of Matthew 28:5-8, Mark 16:3-8 and Luke 24:1-8:

"Now very early in the morning, upon the first day of the week, at the rising of the sun, they <the women who followed him from Galilee> came unto the sepul-

cher bringing the spices which they had bought and prepared, that they might anoint him, and certain others with them. And they said among themselves, 'Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulcher?' And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away, for it was very great. And entering into the sepulcher, <they> found not the body of the Lord Jesus.

"They saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment, and they were affrighted <frightened>. And the angel answered and said unto the women,

"Fear not ye. Be not affrighted, for I know that ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified. He is not here, for he is risen, as he said."

"And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, two men stood by them in shining garments. And as they were afraid, and bowed down their faces to the earth, they <the two angels> said unto them,

"Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen. Remember how he spake unto you when he was yet in Galilee, saying, 'The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again?'" And they remembered his words."

Along the way, Luebbert found some surprises. For example, he noted that the Great Commission in Matthew 28 was not the last thing Jesus said—as some have asserted—but rather were the last words Matthew recorded. He also found 12 statements where Peter denied the Lord in seven different places or times, leading him to suggest, "All of us deny the Lord more often than we realize." And, he believes John may not have believed that Jesus had been raised when he first entered the empty tomb—since he didn't run to tell the others—but rather affirmed the reality of the resurrection after Jesus appeared. Most amazing, he said, was how well the Gospels fit together. "There is no question that they are all talking about the same guy, the same life and the same ministry," he asserted. "It adds authenticity. The unity and integrity are there."

"Jesus for the 21st Century" is available from the publisher at www.authorhouse.com or by e-mailing richard.luebbert@insightbb.com. Luebbert anticipates using proceeds to be able to give away the book in evangelistic situations. "That's my real goal," he said. Still, "Jesus for the 21st Century" may quickly become an invaluable resource for all students of the Bible.

Church Planting: What else should NAMB be doing?

By Kevin Ezell

Hopefully by now, you know I have a heart for church planters and I want to see the SBC start more churches. We've done several things in my first few months at the North American Mission Board to help give church planting a boost. Budget cuts and staff downsizing are allowing us to put \$9 million extra on the field for church planting this year. Next year, I hope it will be \$15 million.

In one of my first trips as NAMB president, I visited some of our church planting missionaries in New England. These guys have such a passion and dedication for reaching that part of our nation for Christ. The problem is, just when they start making some progress with their church start, NAMB's funding runs out.

So one change we are making is to give our church planting missionaries a longer "on ramp" as they are starting their church—especially in parts of North America where starting a church is so difficult. That means in some areas

we'll be extending our funding from two years to four years.

We're also looking at the monthly funding we provide planters. Under our current funding structure, NAMB provides some planters with as little as \$200 a month. Obviously, that means planters have to look to other sources to survive financially. We need to provide more, and we are working now to determine a new funding structure that will include higher "minimum" monthly support NAMB will provide.

In developing our "Send North America" strategy, we want to partner state conventions and churches with regions, cities and individual church plants with whom they want to have a relationship. That means church planters won't have to spend so much time developing supportive relationships with churches and state conventions. We want to do more for them.

Those are a few things we have already done. We want to do more to help SBC church planters have maximum impact. We also just

need to make the process of becoming a church planter easier. Right now, we put up too many hoops for planters to jump through. Yes, we need to be sure candidates are solid on doctrinal issues, but we don't need to make them fill out applications with three different entities before they can even be considered.

We will be working to encourage our existing churches to enlist greater numbers of members to pray for church planters. We also have a dream of seeing many more church members serving alongside church planters in short-term and long-term missions settings. Even brief visits or phone calls can be so encouraging to planters who are serving in difficult places.

What else should we be doing? If you are planting a church—or have in the recent past—what would be most helpful to you? I really would value your thoughts as we try to make NAMB more responsive to and supportive of our church planting missionaries.

Kevin Ezell is president of the North American Mission Board.

WESTERN RecorderBox 43969
Louisville, KY 40253**DR. TODD DEATON**
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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

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What would have happened if Jesus had not died?

By Joe McKeever

"What If?" is a series of best-selling books put together by Robert Cowley, in which historians look at some key event in history and try to imagine what if it had not happened that way. Such as: What if Pontius Pilate had spared Jesus?

That is the title of a chapter by Carlos M.N. Eire, chairman of the department of religious studies at Yale University. The subtitle reads, "Christianity without the Crucifixion."

Eire imagines Pontius Pilate heeding the warning of his wife whose sleep had been disturbed that night by thoughts of "that righteous man." Her message to the governor said, "Have nothing to do with him."

So, he asks, what if Pilate had resisted the religious leaders and the rabble who were crying for Jesus to be executed? What if he had released Him?

The answers could easily go all over the map. Eire says, "To speculate on what might have happened if anything at all had been different in the story of Jesus and his followers is to sail in an infinite ocean of possibilities."

One thing is sure: If no crucifixion, no resurrection. Without either a cross or an empty tomb, we have nothing but an inspiring story of a wonderful man who lived an exemplary life. In other words, we're in big trouble.

This being Easter season, it's the "in" thing for preachers and Bible teachers to go to seed on the pivotal event of the resurrection. Without it, nothing. With it, everything.

However, the crucifixion is the first half of that story. Separating the death of Jesus from His resurrection and trying to make one more important than the other is like running a ripsaw through your torso and trying to decide which half was more essential to your existence.

I find myself wondering why Robert Cowley didn't assign someone to write a far more intriguing chapter on the topic: "What if Jesus had not risen from the grave?"

I think we know why no such chapter can be found. It would be tantamount to admitting that Jesus really did rise from the dead. And if one admits that, he has to deal with a world of implications and consequences. So, it becomes easier to ignore the resurrection, which many have ruled out as an impossibility for the simple reason that "people don't come back from the dead," and to deal only with the crucifixion which poses no problem.

Interestingly, the Apostle Paul wrote an abbreviated version of "what if Jesus had not risen from the grave?" in 1 Corinthians 15:12-19. He identifies seven consequences:

- our preaching is without foundation.

- and so is your faith.
- we are false witnesses about God, claiming that He did what He did not.
- your faith is worthless.
- you are still in your sins.
- all who have "died in Christ" are really dead.

FIRST PERSON

- we are to be pitied.

Paul did not, however, speculate on what would have been the consequences if Jesus had been released by Pilate and lived out the rest of His life in the kind of preaching/healing ministry that characterized the first three years.

However, let's engage in a little of this foolish speculation: What would we have if Jesus had not died on the cross for our sins?

1. No sin offering. After all, what could we offer? That's the question the prophet Micah posed: "What should I bring before the Lord when I come to bow before God on high? Should I come before Him with burnt offerings, with year-old calves? ... Should I give my firstborn for my transgression, the child of my body for my own sin?" (Micah 6:6-7)

2. No forgiveness. Everyone would be on his own before God. Forgiveness for all your sins? In your dreams.

3. No gospel. Since "gospel" means "good news," we would have none. Our preaching would consist of: "You're sinners and you're going to hell." Period.

4. No Christianity. No church. No salvation. Nothing. Instead of a "Christian movement," we would have a Jesus Memorial Society at best. A few persons with a love for history might meet occasionally to repeat Jesus' messages and study the lore that grew up about Him. Nothing more.

Historian Eire thinks there would have been a religious movement to develop around the teachings and life of Jesus. However, he says the members of this religion would still be looking for a Messiah to come. Without the cross, Jesus is not the Messiah.

After all, Psalm 22 and Isaiah 53 point to the death of the Messiah for the sins of the people. And without shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness (Hebrews 9:22).

However, Jesus did go to the cross, and the news is all good.

God knew what He was doing. Pilate caved in to the crowd and sent Jesus to His death. Jesus died on the cross. He bore our sins. They buried Him in a borrowed grave. And on the next Lord's Day morning, disciples found the tomb empty and the Savior alive and active.

Not only do we acknowledge His death, we celebrate it. We call that day "Good" Friday. "Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows" (Isaiah 53:4). Thank God for the cross of Jesus. (BP)

Joe McKeever served five years as director of missions for the New Orleans Baptist Association, retiring in April 2009.

Six steps to obtaining a healthier financial life

By Don Spencer

We're often reminded of ways to improve our health, such as eating less fat or exercising. These reminders are beneficial and important. We also need to think about financial health. Here are six steps to consider:



1. Figure out where you are today. It's crucial to know where you stand. List your assets and liabilities. Know where all of your accounts are. For asset accounts including your retirement savings, know the balances and how they are invested. For debts, know the balance due, the interest rate and when that debt will be paid off.

2. Know where you are going. Decide on a plan for the future. Dream about the future and set some goals. Make your goals realistic and achievable. Make sure the goals are measurable—in other words, how will you know when you reach the goals? What do you need to do to financially to achieve those goals.

3. Make saving for retirement a priority. You will likely spend 20 or more years in retirement—so plan for it. Save an adequate percentage each month, gradually increasing the percentage each year. Most planners suggest at least 10 percent of your pay for retirement savings.

4. Balance the budget and pay off existing debts. Make sure you spending is in line with your income. Get rid of consumer debts. As long as you have those debts they impose some level of control over your life. You'll never have financial freedom as long as you are a slave to debt. For some folks, the only way this will be achieved is to cut up the credit cards—or at a minimum, leave the credit cards at home to have only in case of emergency.

5. Monitor your progress at least once a year. Are you making progress or are you getting into deeper financial trouble? If you're behind in your savings or debt reduction goals, take the necessary steps to address those areas. If you don't, you'll be facing major "financial illness" in the future.

6. Most important, as you do all these things, make sure your handling of money reflects your Christian commitment, which includes your tithes and offerings.

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

Easter's significance for my child

By David Garrard

With a little intentionality on the part of parents, Easter can be a spiritually significant experience in the life of children.

Holy Week provides an opportunity to talk with children about Jesus' suffering. They will not need to have all the gory details in order to understand that this was a hard week for Jesus.

Children will sense the unfairness of it all and will probably ask why so many bad things happened to someone so good. The simple explanation is that all of us do, say and think things that are not pleasing to God, and that Jesus took the punishment we deserve. Children can understand this truth, and conversations like these can help build developmentally appropriate awareness of their sin and their need for a savior. As Holy Week unfolds, children can begin to see that suffering and celebration go together.

While it may be difficult to lift the celebration of Easter to the excitement level of Christmas in the eyes of a child, parents should certainly try to make a big deal out of Resurrection Sunday. Create family traditions around the holiday. Attend a sunrise service; plan a family gathering; color and hide eggs while talking about the meaning behind the colors; make pretzels and talk about prayer; make a special gift to missions. Give your child a special Easter gift. Your local Christian bookstore will have something appropriate. See secular decorations as springboards for conversations about the real meaning of the celebration. Above all, let children see the significance of Easter in your own life.

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

Mission trips for teens: why they're so important

By Jeff Iorg

I get around a bit—okay, quite a bit. I have the safety announcement memorized on two major airlines. I can tell you the way T.S.A. procedures vary from airport to airport. I know the best places to eat (and a few to avoid) in major airports. Travel is part of my job and I enjoy it. Beyond that, even without the job, travel has been an important facet of my life—and the life of my family.

One of the most interesting discoveries in my journeys is that most people never travel out of their immediate area. Even on college campuses where I am a frequent speaker, most students are from the immediate vicinity, or at least from the state in which the school is located. Most people stay close to home, and consequently, have a one-dimensional view of the world. When I speak about living in a multicultural environment, stripping Christianity of its American biases, and developing a global worldview, students look at me like I am an alien. It is mind-warping to realize there are committed Christians in other places who experience life differently than you do.

During a recent trip, a younger dea-

con from a prominent First Baptist Church in the South sat by me on the plane. He had never heard of Golden Gate Seminary (that's another story), and he was fascinated Southern Baptists had a seminary outside the South. He was,

however, very mission-minded—having led several church-facility building trips to Brazil. He has two young daughters he also wants to have a passion for missions. My advice: Take them with you to Brazil! One of the best ways you can educate your children (or help educate other children) is to send them on trips to other cultures.

If possible, every Christian young person should have two mission trip experiences while in the teen years. The first should be a "soft landing" trip—an introduction to the world through a location with first-world services (i.e., bathrooms and a McDonald's close by). The second trip should be much more primitive (i.e., squatty-potty hole and "what is this?" for dinner). My daughter followed this sequence. Her first trip was more like mission-tourism. It was profitable, but relatively easy. A subsequent trip, partly canoeing up a jungle river, was much more challenging. As Melody

met mothers with sick and deformed children who had no access to medical care, they pleaded with her to treat them. Melody's heart was broken—particularly when she recognized problems easily solved by proper medical care.

She hasn't been the same since she came out of the jungle—and that's a good thing. Travel changes your perspective. One of my friends took his children on several significant trips, even taking them out of school when necessary. He once told me, "You can't let school stand in the way of your child's education." Don't misunderstand me, good attendance is important (after all, I work at a school). But the larger point is well-taken—travel is educational in ways a classroom experience can't replicate.

So, go somewhere! Learn something. Meet new people. Get out of your comfort zone. See how the gospel connects with people in different cultures. Shatter some myths. Take a risk or two. Or, if you won't or can't go, invest in some young person so they will have a more global worldview and compassion for people around the world. (BP)

Jeff Iorg is president of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary in Mill Valley, Calif.



Three Days? Just how long did Jesus stay in the tomb?

By Daniel Burke

As Christians worldwide prepare to celebrate Easter, they will follow a familiar chronology: Jesus was crucified on Good Friday and rose from the dead on "the third day," in the words of the ancient Nicene Creed.

But if Jesus died at 3 p.m. Friday and vacated his tomb by dawn Sunday morning—about 40 hours later—how does that make three days? And do Hebrew Scriptures prophesy that timetable?

Even Pope Benedict XVI wrestles with the latter question in his new book about Christ's last days, "Jesus of Nazareth: Holy Week."

"There is no direct scriptural testimony pointing to the 'third day,'" he concludes.

The chronology conundrum is "a bit of a puzzle," said Marcus Borg, a progressive biblical scholar and co-author of "The Last Week," a book about Holy Week.

But Borg and other experts say the puzzle can be solved if you know how first-century Jews counted time, and grant the four evangelists a little poetic license.

For Jews of Jesus' time, days began at sunset. So, Friday night actually was Saturday, a schedule that still guides Jewish holy days, such as Shabbat.

Ancient Jews also used what scholars call "inclusive reckoning," meaning any part of a day is counted as a whole day, said Clinton Wahlen of the Seventh-day Adventist Biblical Research Institute in Silver Spring, Md.

Using these counting methods, a backward calculation from Sunday morning to Friday afternoon makes three days.

Besides, the four evangelists likely were not counting time literally, according to some scholars.

"Expressions like 'three days' and '40 days' are imprecise in the Bible," Borg said. For the evangelists, "three days" means "a short period of time."

Ben Witherington, an evangelical scholar of New Testament at Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, agreed.

The phrase "three days," is a colloquialism comparable to "directly" in Southern-speak, meaning "after a little while," he said. It's anachronistic to expect the evangelists to monitor time like modern-day men, Witherington said.

"The Gospel writers didn't walk around with sundials on their wrists the way modern scholars walk around with wristwatches," he said. "They were not dealing with the precision that we do."

But precision, especially when it comes to the Bible, has been a hallmark of faith for many Christians—especially those who equate truth with historical facts.

Most troubling for these believers is Jesus' own prophecy, recorded in the Gospel of Matthew, that He will rise from the dead after "three days and three nights in the heart of the earth."

Trying to reconcile that prophecy with the Holy Week calendar, ancient Christian

theologians counted the eclipse of the sun after Jesus' death as a night, said John Behr, dean of St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary in Yonkers, N.Y.

"Didascalia Apostolorum," a third-century Christian treatise, took a more radical approach.

It proposes that Jesus and his apostles followed a different calendar than other Jews and celebrated the Last Supper on a Tuesday, meaning the crucifixion happened on a Wednesday, a theory some fringe Christian denominations still promote.

But the point of Jesus' prophecy is to draw a comparison to Jonah, who was willing to die to save his shipmates (and spent three days in the belly of a big fish), not to set a timetable for the Resurrection, Witherington said.

Martin Connell, a scholar at St. John's University in Collegeville, Minn., called the chronology conundrum a "never-ending question."

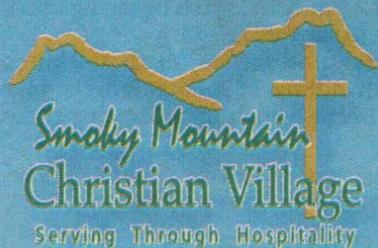
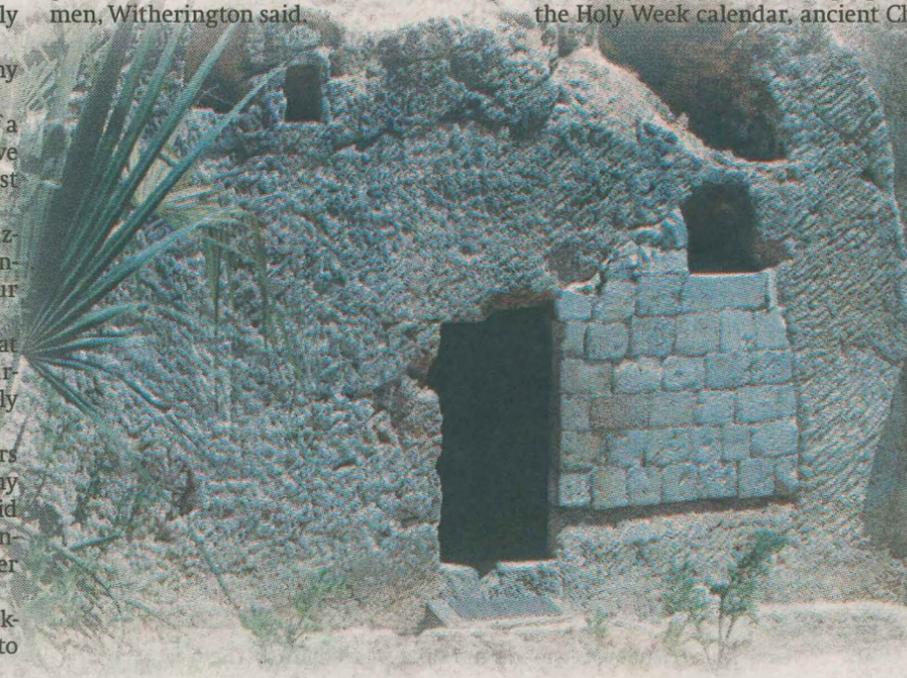
"So unsettled is the evidence, and so elastic, that the debate will likely always continue," Connell said.

The Apostle Paul wrote that the third-day Resurrection accords with the Hebrew Scriptures.

Some scholars, such as Wahlen, think Paul is pointing to a passage in the Book of Hosea, which says God will "heal" and "restore" Israel after three days.

There may have been a very practical reason to time the Resurrection three days after Jesus' death, scholars say.

First-century tradition held that only after three days could you be sure someone was dead; after four days the spirit was presumed to leave the body. (RNS)



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SBC leaders issue Annie Armstrong Easter Offering challenge

By Mickey Noah
North American Mission Board

Alpharetta, Ga.—Easter Sunday 2011 comes later this year—April 24—than any other Easter since 1943. The next time Easter falls as late will be in the year 2038.

Beyond the ancient tradition linking Easter to the spring equinox, the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering always is vital to the North American Mission Board's never-ending work of sharing the gospel throughout the United States and Canada.

Some 5,000 Southern Baptist missionaries in the United States and Canada count on support from the offering's 2011 goal of \$70 million.

"As Christ followers, we should have a consuming passion to reach our homeland for Jesus Christ," said Ronnie Floyd, pastor of Cross Church in Springdale, Ark. "With 233 million lost people in the United States and 258 million lost people in all of North America, we need to give financially to further the work of Christ, penetrating the

darkness of lostness.

"With the exciting new commitment of the Southern Baptist Convention toward church planting, we need to increase our funding of the Annie Armstrong Offering for North American Missions," Floyd pointed out.

NAMB President Kevin Ezell said more than half of NAMB's budget comes from the annual Annie Armstrong Easter Offering.

"We are very dependent on this offering," Ezell said. "As Annie Armstrong goes, so goes the opportunities NAMB has to support missionaries."

Ezell said during his first three months as president of the missions entity, he and other NAMB leaders worked to eliminate everything possible in order to get more money on the field for missionaries.

"We downsized our staff by 36 percent. We decreased the travel budget by 50 percent. We deleted millions of dollars in other expenses so that in 2012, we'll have \$15 million more than ever before for church planters," he noted.

"Hopefully, churches will respond to Annie this year—knowing that NAMB will be a good steward of their money, ensuring that it goes directly into the hands of church planters and our missionaries."

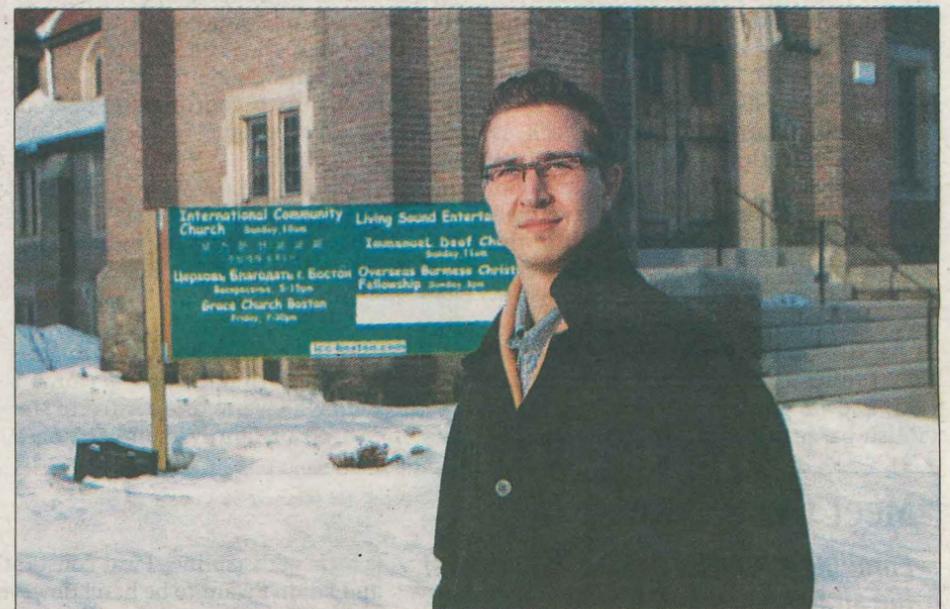
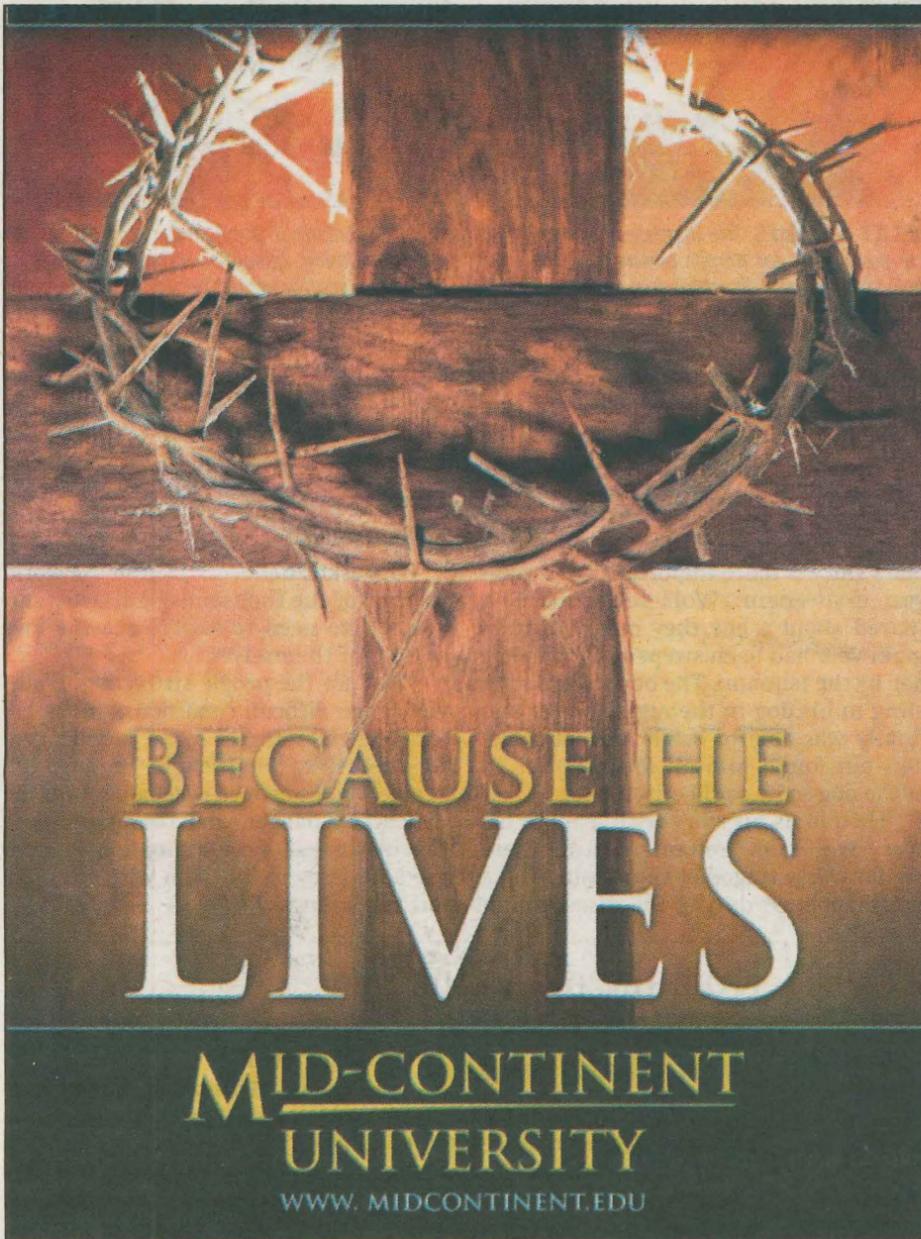
Gifts to Annie so far this year have been encouraging, Ezell said, but it still is too early to celebrate.

"The offering has been down for several years," he noted, "and we need a good year in order to meet the needs."

SBC President Bryant Wright said his church will give the largest Annie Armstrong offering in its history.

"We so believe in what NAMB is doing in church planting," said Wright, who is pastor of Johnson Ferry Baptist Church in Marietta, Ga.

"Knowing how important the Annie Armstrong Offering is and with Easter fast approaching, I ask pastors to pray about how to challenge their church," he added. "We hope to have thousands more churches throughout the Southern Baptist Convention give more to Annie this year and be great lighthouses for Christ." (BP)



FACES OF ANNIE ARMSTRONG Jan Vezikov in Boston is only one of hundreds of North American Mission Board missionary church planters starting new churches across North America, supported by the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. Vezikov moved to Boston in July 2009 to reach fellow Russian speakers and has since caught a vision for reaching young professionals and intellectuals through three churches, Mosaic Boston, Grace Church Boston and Russian Church Boston. (Photo by Adam Miller/NAMB)

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Ralliers want national holiday for Good Friday

Washington—A small band of Christians is planning a rally in Washington in an effort to make Good Friday a national holiday.

Organizer Sharon Jones, a New York-based missionary, recalled growing up observing the holiday in her native Britain.

She has scheduled a rally on the National Mall for April 22, Good Friday. She said she hopes thousands will attend and watch a film about Jesus during the event.

"Growing up in the U.K., I remember nothing was open," she said. "It was a true day to just look unto Jesus and to say, 'Thank God that we are saved by the blood.' Now this is a perfect opportunity for an awareness of who Jesus is."

Jones said 11 states observe Good Friday as an official holiday, including Kentucky, which treats it as a half-day holiday. She is circulating an online petition to Congress for a U.S. observance to join 135 other countries that observe the holiday. (RNS)

Japan relief work continues, caravans, training underway

By Mark Kelly

Ishinomaki, Japan—Japan's Baptist leader has expressed heartfelt gratitude for the assistance Baptists worldwide have provided in the aftermath of his country's March 11 earthquake and tsunami—and has made specific requests for continued prayer.

Southern Baptists working in the disaster response say they are pleased weekly caravans now can make their way into the disaster zone and that training efforts are helping Japanese Baptists mount effective relief initiatives.

"Please accept my deepest gratitude for your kind expressions of comfort, encouragement, prayer support, and love offerings following the earthquake that has wrought devastation to Japan," Makoto Kato, executive secretary of the Japan Baptist Convention, wrote in a letter earlier this month.

"The warm response from Christian brothers and sisters around the world has sustained our broken hearts. Japan Baptist churches appreciate the marvelous support system of Baptists around the world united in prayer for Japan."

The increased availability of gasoline has made it possible for "the most critical necessities for human existence, such as water, food, clothing, gasoline and kerosene" to be delivered into the disaster zone, Kato said. The Japan convention has placed temporary crisis management staff in the area to support the work of local churches in helping ease the emotional trauma disaster survivors are experiencing.

Baptist Global Response, an international relief and development organization, and its partners are moving to establish bases of operation in the prima-

ry impact areas, BGR Executive Director Jeff Palmer said.

"We have partners committed to establishing and staffing bases of operations in Ishinomaki and Sendai, and plan to build housing in Sendai for Japanese Baptist volunteers coming out from Tokyo," Palmer said. "The operation now has the capacity of feeding hot meals to up to 3,000 people at a time, and our stateside disaster relief specialists have trained Japanese Baptists in areas of disaster response administration, grief counseling and logistics."

Southern Baptists' generosity

Palmer said he has been deeply moved by the generosity of Southern Baptists in responding to the Japan crisis.

"We are now somewhere over \$500,000 in donations through IMB and BGR and have appropriated almost \$200,000," Palmer said. "Funds are still coming in at a fairly steady pace, thanks to churches that have not forgotten Japan's suffering people, and to partners like LifeWay Christian Resources, which has designated the 'change buckets' in their stores nationwide for Japan relief. Southern Baptists continue to demonstrate they are people who care about people in need."

The disaster response in Japan is about connecting with people in need and caring about them as individuals, said Pam Wolf, who with her husband, Ben, helps lead BGR work in the Asian Rim.

Wolf joined a team headed into Ishinomaki April 5 that helped a woman named Sato who wanted to return to the city in search of family members. Sato



RELIEF SUPPLIES The increased availability of gasoline has made it possible for "the most critical necessities for human existence, such as water, food, clothing, gasoline, and kerosene," to be delivered into the disaster zone, according to Makoto Kato, executive secretary of the Japan Baptist Convention.

wound up helping with a distribution of relief supplies at the parking lot of a convenience store. While they were handing out supplies, Sato recognized one woman as an old friend, who also was searching for her family.

Sometimes just listening to someone's story is more important than what you give them, Wolf reflected. She shared about a boy they met in Ishinomaki who had been swept away with his dog by the tsunami. The boy struggled to cling to his dog in the raging water and finally was able to catch hold of a ladder—but found himself forced to let go of the dog so he could climb out.

"He told us his story with tears in his eyes," Wolf said. "You might think there are far worse tragedies than losing a dog that happened during the disaster, but

for this boy, his loss is as traumatic as anyone else's. Because Southern Baptists cared enough to send us in to do disaster response, we were able to be the love of God for this boy."

Prayer requests

Kato asked believers around the world to pray for the thousands of disaster survivors who need to experience the love of God for themselves.

"Pray for the people struggling to survive under difficult conditions," he urged. "Pray for the refugees living in relief centers, the sick, the grieving. Pray for the people who have been evacuated from the radioactive danger, and the many more that live in fear of contamination. Pray for the Lord Jesus to fill them with His comfort and strength." (BP)

Meet the class of 2011

Enrolling at Oneida helped 'Brenda' get life straightened out, find Jesus Christ

When two people reach an impasse it can be difficult, even impossible, for either to admit they may be part of the problem. Often when students come to Oneida there is a history of family conflicts and out-of-control anger. Even though young people often are responsible for most of the conflict, if parents are honest they have to take ownership of some of the anger as well.

If the student decides to enroll at OBI, we want the parents to step back and allow us to work with the student as experience leads us. That's not to suggest that the parents have done a poor job of parenting. But one way we can offer help to a family that has been dealing with anger is to give everyone a "time out." It's a simple concept, but it works.

"Brenda" (not her real name) was the source of a lot of conflict in her home, and she took very little ownership of any of the problems. Here is part of her senior essay, which will give you some insight into Brenda before she came to OBI.

"I am just a small-town girl. Before I came to Oneida I was headed down a path of failure and I hung out with the wrong people, ... I got hooked on all the wrong things, I didn't care about my education, I flunked everything, and I needed a change.

"I enrolled at Oneida in 2008, my sophomore year, definitely not by choice! (It) was the worst and the best summer of my life. When I arrived, I had one of the worst attitudes on campus. Within the first two weeks I had over 30 hours

(a form of discipline). I was constantly in trouble and I didn't want to be here! However, I began to realize that, like it or not, OBI was where I needed to be.

"During my first year at Oneida, I accepted Jesus and that was the best decision of my life. ... After that my grades began to go up, my attitude improved and I started caring about myself and other people. I also learned what it was like to have real friends and people who actually cared about me. I've never been very sociable but OBI helped me to open up. Now I'm not as shy as I used to be.

"My Oneida experience taught me how to love others and be patient. I learned to be kind and more responsible. I began to realize that my education was actually important and there were people who really cared about me and were willing to help me. But the most important thing I've learned at Oneida is that Jesus Christ is real and He loves me. I've been at OBI for three years, and I'm really glad I stayed."

Brenda is not really much different from many other teens who find their way to Oneida. Even though it was a challenge to help her focus on the important things in life, we are grateful for the opportunity to work with her and for our friends who make our work possible.

Only time will tell how Brenda will turn out, But I believe she has the ability to realize that a Christ-centered life has a lot to offer. The support of our friends has made it possible for us to provide Brenda and her family an opportunity to start over. Thank you!

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

This is Oneida



W.F. Underwood

From the old to the new

Clear Creek's Alumni Hall gets new look & new name

There was a great need for two-bedroom apartments at Clear Creek in 1976. Clear Creek alumni addressed that need with a student apartment building appropriately named Alumni Hall. I am sure there was great excitement among students who moved in as the very first occupants of 12 brand-new apartments.

Fast forward to the year 2011 and a lot has changed. The real need on our campus now is not for two-bedroom units, but for three or more bedrooms. A particular need to relocate some of our single female students is pressing. The beauty of bigger apartments lies in their versatility. A family with children can occupy a three-bedroom unit, as can three single students (or up to six if housing is scarce). It was time to rethink and rebuild.

That is where the Melzoni family came to the rescue. Due largely to their financial contributions, Alumni Hall is being completely remodeled. The newly named Melzoni-Alumni Hall is being converted to a total of six three-bedroom apartments. The Melzoni family took on this project in honor of the patriarch and matriarch of the

family, Tom Melzoni Sr. and his wife, Tressie.

Tom Melzoni's ministry predates the original Alumni Hall. Spanning 40 years it includes these pastorates: Kelly Street Baptist Church in Harlan; Beach Park Baptist Church in Oliver Springs, Tenn.; and Miami Shores Baptist Church in Dayton, Ohio. He also was elected secretary of the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference in 1984.

Melzoni received his Bible training from Clear Creek and had a tremendous love for the Appalachian region and for the mission of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College. A U.S. Army veteran of World War II, Melzoni died at the age of 67 in 1989, and Tressie Melzoni died in 2007 at the age of 87.

This renovated building honors the life and ministry of this wonderful couple and their family who have meant so much to the ministry of Clear Creek. Their influence continues in the work of the students this building will provide assistance to as they follow God's call for ministry training.

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

Clear Creek Chronicle



Donnie Fox

Court dismisses challenge to national prayer day

Chicago—The law calling for an annual National Day of Prayer imposes solely on the duties of the U.S. president, leaving private citizens no legal standing to challenge it, a federal appeals court ruled last week.

The unanimous decision overturns a 2010 lower court ruling that found the law unconstitutional. The ruling comes just weeks before many Christian groups plan to hold annual observances to mark the contested day on May 5.

"If anyone suffers injury ... that person is the president, who is not complaining," ruled a three-judge panel of the Chicago-based 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

The panel described the presidential proclamations that follow the law as requests, not commands of the public.

"Those who do not agree with a president's statement may speak in opposition

to it; they are not entitled to silence the speech of which they disapprove," the court said.

The Freedom from Religion Foundation, which had argued that the proclamation violates the Constitution's prohibition of an official "establishment" of religion, said it would seek a rehearing by the circuit court's full panel of judges.

Meanwhile, Family Research Council President Tony Perkins hailed the ruling.

"The court is to be commended for rejecting even the idea of a federal lawsuit that demands this kind of religious expression be scrubbed from the public square," he said.

Richard Land, president of the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, also applauded the decision. "The idea that the National Day of Prayer is unconsti-

tutional is absurd on its face," he said. "The First Amendment guarantees freedom of religion, not freedom from religion."

Though the annual presidential proclamation regarding the National Day of Prayer "speaks to all citizens, no one is obliged to pray, any more than a person would be obliged to hand over his money if the president asked all citizens to support the Red Cross and other charities," the Seventh Circuit Court's chief judge Frank Easterbrook wrote on behalf of the panel.

He cited President Lincoln's mention of God and prayer in his second inaugural address, which is engraved on the Lincoln Memorial in Washington. "An argument that the prominence of these words injures every citizen ... would be dismissed as preposterous," Easterbrook wrote. (RNS) With additional reporting by Baptist Press

Child trafficking growing concern in United States

Continued from page 1

Another video, filmed in a major East Coast city, showed a man on the street letting another man name the price of the youngest girl he had—a 14 year old. Such exploitation of young teens can be found frequently in any city, Vardaman said. People are selling children for sex—and people are buying, she said.

Organizations are helping children and women get out of the industry and informing the Justice Department of the slavery occurring in the U.S. The key is partnerships, said Lisa Thompson, the Salvation Army's liaison for the abolition of sexual trafficking. Thompson works with more than 30 different religious groups to create organized partnerships to stop sexual exploitation.

"Unfortunately, I think there is a real disconnect for people to understand that children who are trafficked into prostitution grow up to be adult women in prostitution," Thompson said. "And so many of our services that have developed have focused on providing care and services to the minors, which that's very good and well needed—we need to do that. But for those that we miss, they will continue in that (path) of continuing in prostitution."

Thompson said she believes the problem will continue, because people have desensitized themselves to sexual explicitness.

"We have accepted pornography. We have accepted the sexual objectification of women. And this is conditioning girls to look at themselves as sex objects and to think the sex industry doesn't pose any threat or harm to them," Thompson said. (BP)



Developing & Managing People

Tuesday, April 26, 2011

9:00 am - 4:00 pm, Kentucky Baptist Building

IN THIS SEMINAR

- ▶ Discover what it takes to lead others.
- ▶ Develop your ability to coach for personal growth.
- ▶ Learn how to lead with Christ-like competence.
- ▶ Improve your management skills for ministry results.

Developing and Managing People is required by the North American Mission Board for those who supervise missionaries but is also very helpful to DOMs, campus ministers, and pastors that supervise staff.

This Next Level Leadership Network training event will explore new concepts while retaining the best elements of Supervision Training 1.

Registration is \$15 per person and includes all materials and lunch.

Register Online Now!
www.kybaptist.org/developingpeople

For more information: call (866) 489-3530 (toll-free in KY) or (502) 489-3530 or e-mail: ministries@kybaptist.org



KBC
KENTUCKY BAPTIST CONVENTION

13420 Eastpoint Centre Drive
Louisville, KY 40223-4160

More for Christ via CP Endowment Fund

There is variety of ways to give to CP than just through offering plate

The Cooperative Program enables us Kentucky Baptists to accomplish more for Christ together than we ever could on our own. CP funds provide the foundational support for statewide, nationwide and worldwide missions and ministry efforts.

Traditionally, the Cooperative Program is supported primarily by the collective giving of the churches. However, there are other ways for you to support the Cooperative Program directly through the Kentucky Baptist Foundation. Let me encourage you to consider one or more of these as you prayerfully plan your longer-term stewardship goals.

If your goal is to make a gift at death, then consider a bequest in your will or a beneficiary designation of life insurance or retirement assets. If your goal is to avoid capital gains on the transfer of real estate, then consider a real estate gift. If your goal is to avoid the potential double taxation at death of your retirement assets, then consider gifting those assets at death.

If your goal is to make a simple gift now, then consider an outright gift of cash or appreciated securities. If your

goal is to make a gift larger than you ever dreamed possible, consider a life insurance gift. If you desire flexibility in timing the decision as to what charities will benefit from your gifts versus the tax-advantaged timing of your gifts, consider a donor advised fund.

Ky. Baptist Foundation



Barry Allen

If your goal is to make a gift now, but receive in return a fixed income for life, consider a charitable gift annuity. If your goal is to make a gift now and create a hedge against inflation over the long term, then consider a charitable remainder unitrust. If your goal is to reduce the cost of passing assets to your heirs, then consider a charitable lead trust.

A legacy gift to the KBF for the CP Endowment Fund is a perpetual investment with eternal implications that will be working literally 24/7 to connect people all over the world to Jesus Christ. Please call us to assist you.

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

EBO and disaster relief

State missions offering supports Ky. Baptists' best-known ministry

Disaster relief probably is one of Southern Baptists' best-known efforts throughout the United States. When disaster strikes, the swift appearance of men and women in yellow shirts and hats brings a sigh of relief in many places. Hot meals, showers, help with mud-outs, tearing out wet walls and flooring, cutting up downed trees, and many other tasks are done by our disaster relief volunteers. And with each task, volunteers pray with disaster victims and find many opportunities to share the gospel.

The Eliza Broadus Offering is at work every time a Kentucky disaster relief team hits the road. In the current fiscal year, \$33,000 has been designated for Kentucky disaster relief. This includes training and certification of volunteers, as well as funds to maintain equipment and buy fuel for traveling to disaster sites.

In addition, Blood River Baptist Association received a \$5,000 Special Ministry grant from the 2010-11 EBO for new disaster relief equipment. The grant is helping with the cost of a new DR communication system. A heavy-duty vehicle will be equipped with a 35-foot aluminum crank-up tower to aid in communication when

other communication options are out of service.

EBO also partnered with our Kentucky directors of missions this year to help purchase a new disaster relief shower unit. The total cost of the unit was \$22,000, with \$15,000 provided by overage from the 2009-10 Eliza Broadus offering. Thank you Kentucky Baptists for your generous giving which helped make this possible.

Yet I must share a concern: The 2010-11 Eliza Broadus Offering is running behind, the first time in four years. At the current pace, we will not reach our \$1.2 million goal. This means ministries throughout the Kentucky Baptist Convention, such as disaster relief, will not receive their full allocation for 2010-11.

Please join in prayer for EBO. Please pray that we will reach the 2010-11 goal. If you would like to give to the current year offering, you may send it through your church, designated as EBO. Or you may mail your contribution to Kentucky WMU, PO Box 436569, Louisville, KY 40253-6569. Please include EBO on the notation line of your check.

Joy Bolton is executive director-treasurer of Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union, PO Box 436569, Louisville, KY 40253; (502) 489-3534; www.kywmu.org

EBO at Work



Joy Bolton



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April

- 26 Developing and Managing People Workshop, Baptist Building, Louisville.
- 29 Children's Bible Drill, St. Matthews Baptist Church, Louisville.
- 29-30 Sunday School Growth Academy, Paroquet Springs Conference Center, Shepherdsville.
- 29-30 Women on Mission Regional Retreat, Camp Schafer, Pellville.
- 29-5/1 All-State Children's Choir—East, Cedarmore Camp and Conference Center, Bagdad.
- 29-5/1 All-State Children's Choir—West, Jonathan Creek Camp and Conference Center, Hardin.
- 29-5/1 Equestrian Trail Ride, Mammoth Cave National Park.

May

- 3 Iron Sharpening Iron, Laurel Lake Grove Marina, Corbin.
- 3 Senior Living Celebration, Edgewood Baptist Church, Hopkinsville.
- 5 Iron Sharpening Iron, Kentucky Dam Village Lodge, Gilbertsville.
- 5 Senior Living Celebration, Parkway Baptist Church, Bardstown.
- 6 Children's Bible Drill, First Baptist Church, Somerset; Reidland Baptist Church, Paducah.
- 6 Senior Living Celebration, First Baptist Church, Richmond.
- 7 Children's Bible Drill, First Baptist Church, Bowling Green; First Baptist Church, Madisonville.
- 9-10 KBC Mission Board, Baptist Building, Louisville.
- 11-13 Directors of Missions Leadership Event, Mammoth Cave Hotel.
- 12 Iron Sharpening Iron, Great American Ballpark, Cincinnati.
- 12-13 Children's Ministers' Retreat, Cedarmore Camp and Conference Center, Bagdad.
- 14 WMU State Associational Leadership Training, Baptist Building, Louisville.
- 16 Kentucky Youth Ministers' Day at the Ballpark, Whitaker Bank Ballpark, Lexington.
- 16 When Helping Hurts Workshop, Baptist Building, Louisville.
- 17-20 Ministry Partner Development School, Baptist Building, Louisville.

MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

- **BENTON**—James Keeling will retire as pastor of Ferguson Spring Church April 30. He has served the church for 10 years.
- **CADIZ**—Ponderosa Church will present a production of the "Passion Play" April 24, 10 a.m., and April 27, 6:30 p.m. Norman Cotton is pastor.
- **DRAKESBORO**—Ebenezer Church will hold revival services April 24, 6 p.m.; April 25-27, 7 p.m., with Bob Morrison, director of missions for Little Bethel Association, as evangelist. Scott Casebier is pastor.
- **ELIZABETHTOWN**—Roger McCurry recently resigned as activities and senior adult pastor at Severns Valley Church. He has served for 29 years.
- **HENDERSON**—Bellfield Church recently ordained Tim Griffen and George White as deacons. Phillip Basinger is pastor. Michael Eldridge recently resigned as pastor of Immanuel Temple.
- **IRVINE**—Beech Grove Church recently called Marion Brewer as pastor.
- **JENKINS**—First Church recently called Larry Brashear as pastor.
- **MAYSVILLE**—Bob Donovan recently retired as pastor of Central Church. He had served the church for nearly nine years.
- **PHELPS**—First Church recently ordained Ronald Bowling to the gospel ministry.
- **PIKEVILLE**—Sam Crawford recently retired as pastor of Immanuel Church. He had served the church

Spotlight on ...

Science Hill



Longtime Kentucky Baptist pastor Albert McKinney died March 27. He was 69. McKinney served as pastor of several churches, mostly in Pulaski County, including Eubank Church; First Church of Burnside; Mount Pleasant Church in Somerset; Northside Church in Science Hill; and Pulaski Church in Eubank. He also was pastor of Elk Spring Valley Church in Monticello, Freedom Church in Mount Vernon and First Church of West Liberty. McKinney was serving as interim pastor of Elk Spring Valley at the time of his death. He is survived by his wife, Glenda, three children, eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Funeral services were held March 31 at Eubank Church.

- for 12 years.
- **ROCKFIELD**—Clear Fork Church will hold an Easter Sunday sunrise service April 24, 6 a.m. Breakfast will follow the service. David Daugherty is pastor.
- **VANCEBURG**—Union Church recently ordained Pastor Greg Collins to the gospel ministry.

Bardstown church planter Doug Bunch dies at age 57

Bardstown—Doug Bunch, who planted a growing church in Bardstown 11 years ago, died March 30 after a brief illness. He was 57.

Bunch started the People's Church of Central Kentucky, a Kentucky Baptist congregation, in 2000. It grew from nine charter members to approximately 150 attendees. Bunch's son, Josh, described it as a "church for the unchurched."

"He had a burning desire to see those who don't know Jesus come to know Jesus," Josh told Bardstown's Kentucky Standard newspaper about his father's ministry passion.

Josh, who is the church's worship and youth pastor, said his father was a "superman" to him. "I've said many times growing up he was absolutely my hero," Josh said, according to an obituary in the Standard.

After feeling a call to ministry, Bunch sold off a lucrative furniture delivery business he owned in Cincinnati. He completed his GED and earned degrees from Northern Kentucky University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. In 1987, he became pastor of Oakland Avenue Baptist Church in Covington.

Bunch went on to serve as pastor at Trinity Southern Baptist Church in Falmouth and Bloomfield Baptist Church before planting the People's Church in Bardstown. He also was an active member of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's disaster relief ministry.

Bunch is survived by his wife, Donna, son, Josh, and daughter, Robin, as well as five grandchildren. Funeral services were held April 3 at the People's Church.

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.

SEEKING: Full-time pastor for Pleasant Home Baptist Church, Glencoe, Ky. Must be dedicated to serving the Lord fully in all pastoral areas and to preaching God's word completely and truthfully. Please send resumés to: Pleasant Home Baptist Church, c/o B. Cook, 1425 Eagle Hill Road, Glencoe, KY 41046; or e-mail to tinashauger@fuse.net. For more information, call (859) 643-5373, (859) 801-3612.

SEEKING: Bivocational pastor for Lynn Camp Baptist Church, Corbin, Ky. Applicants should be Spirit-filled, greatly interested and motivated in church growth and the uplifting of God's Kingdom. Prefer five years experience and seminary degree (or pursuing such degree). Applicants should have good leadership and communication skills relative to all age groups. Send resumé and DVD of recent sermon (if available) to: Pastor Search Committee, Lynn Camp Baptist Church, PO Box 306, Gray, KY 40734.

SEEKING: Senior pastor for Jamestown First Baptist Church, located in South-Central Kentucky. JTFBC is a strong-leadership church with a core body mix of creative, missional and biblical people. Grace and mercy characterize our church over engaging cultural warfare. We cooperate with the SBC in our missions giving and are focused on reaching all peoples. Our next pastor will be distinctively Baptist with an ability to communicate and relate to a theologically/economically diverse audience. JTFBC is giving first consideration to those who hold an M.Div (or higher) and demonstrate creative communication coupled with successful church growth. If interested, please send a resumé and a DVD or CD to: Pastor Search Team, PO Box 308, Jamestown, KY 42629. JTFBC will receive resumés through April 30, 2011. www.jtfirstbaptist.com.

SEEKING: Bivocational pastor for West Covington Baptist Church. If interested, please send resumé to West Covington Baptist Church, 1003 Highway Avenue, Covington, KY 41011.

SEEKING: Pastor. Beaver Dam Baptist Church is a historic church at the heart of a small, rural community in Western Kentucky. BDBC is widely known for both its music ministry and youth ministry, led by two full-time ministers, and a growing Christian education ministry, including a preschool and K-6 elementary school. In 2010, BDBC contributed more than \$100,000 to local, state and international missions, with \$660,000 in undesignated receipts. BDBC affirms the 1963 Baptist Faith & Message. For more information or to submit a resumé, please contact the BDBC Pastor Search Committee, PO Box 242, Beaver Dam, KY 42320; or bdbcpsc@gmail.com.

SEEKING: Youth minister for small SBC church, 10-15 hours per week. Send resumé to David's Fork Baptist Church, 3245 North Cleveland Road, Lexington, KY 40516; or e-mail bro.mickeydfb@hotmail.com.

SEEKING: Full-time youth minister for a growing congregation in Gracey, Ky. Candidate will work with the youth committee to plan and promote activities. Candidate should be passionate about reaching youth and their families for Christ. Responsibilities include discipleship, outreach, and leading our youth to be mature Christ-followers. Resumés should be sent to: Gracey West Union Baptist Church, PO Box 154, Gracey, KY 42232.

SEEKING: Associate pastor for children at Tabernacle Baptist Church in Carrollton, Ga. An M.Div degree (or equivalent) is required from an accredited seminary. Candidate must have experience in planning, developing, supervising and coordinating a ministry to children from birth to sixth grade. For more information, visit www.tabernacle.org. To apply, submit resumé by April 30, 2011, to: Search Committee, Tabernacle Baptist Church, 150 Tabernacle Drive, Carrollton, GA 30117; or e-mail: linda.bohannan@tabernacle.org.

SEEKING: Full-time minister of students for Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Somerset, Ky. Candidate must be a God-called man who can provide leadership to all student ministries of PHBC from preschool through 12th grade. He must be competent in the areas of teaching, administration, and student pastoral care. Church Website is phbc Somerset, KY. Send resumés to Personnel Committee, PHBC, 1685 Hwy. 3091, Somerset, KY 42503; or e-mail phbc@new-wavecomm.net.

New Mexico Hot Air Balloon Fiesta + Arizona

15 Days Join other Baptists September 27, 2011 from \$1448*

Start in Phoenix, AZ and take the scenic drive north to Sedona, Oak Creek Canyon and Flagstaff. Tour the Grand Canyon, Painted Desert, Petrified Forest, and spend two nights in Albuquerque. Witness the famed hot air balloons "Mass Ascension" opening Albuquerque's Hot Air Balloon Fiesta, plus the evening's "After Glow", and spectacular fireworks. Next, tour more of New Mexico including Pueblo archeological sites; Manhattan Project's Los Alamos; Santa Fe; Roswell; the International UFO Museum & Research Center; Carlsbad Caverns National Park; Ruidoso; Alamogordo; White Sands National Park, Missile Range and Museum; and Las Cruces, NM. Travel east, back into Arizona, and visit Wyatt Earp's Tombstone (see the OK Corral), and spend a night in Tucson touring the Mission as part of your city tour. Travel back to Phoenix for your final two nights, and city tour, and optional Hot Air Balloon Ride or visit to the famed Desert Botanical Garden.

Autumn Leaves Tour Visits Historical East

15 Days Join other Baptists September 17, 2011 from \$1348*

Start in Philadelphia; travel on your comfortable motor coach, through the mountains, offering spectacular and colorful vistas. There's included fully escorted sightseeing in Philadelphia (Independence Hall & the Liberty Bell); and New York City where you'll see all the highlights! You will next visit New Haven and Mystic Seaport, CT; view the gorgeous mansions of Newport, RI; and spend two nights in Cape Cod, MA exploring Chatham and Provincetown with coastal scenery, village shops and art galleries. Spend a day and night in Boston to tour the Old North Church, The Boston Common, Bunker Hill and USS Constitution. Next, travel through the White and Green Mountains to French Canada: Quebec and Montreal (two nights each, both with city tours) then travel along the St. Lawrence River in "upper NY" to Niagara Falls for a half a day. YMT will also take you to tour Corning Glassworks, Hershey World, Gettysburg, Amish Country, and other attractions before flying home.

*Price per person, based upon double occupancy, includes taxes. Airfare is extra.



Call for details and itinerary 7 days a week:

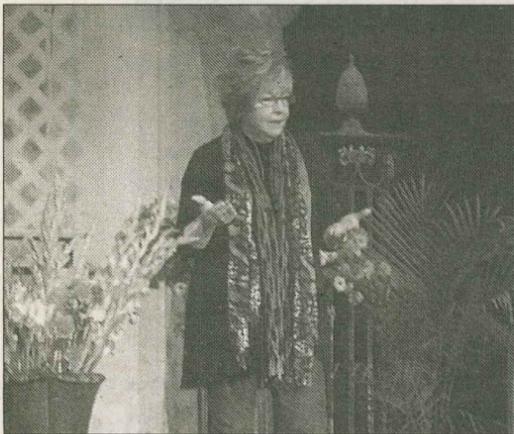
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It's time to travel

Mike Morgan



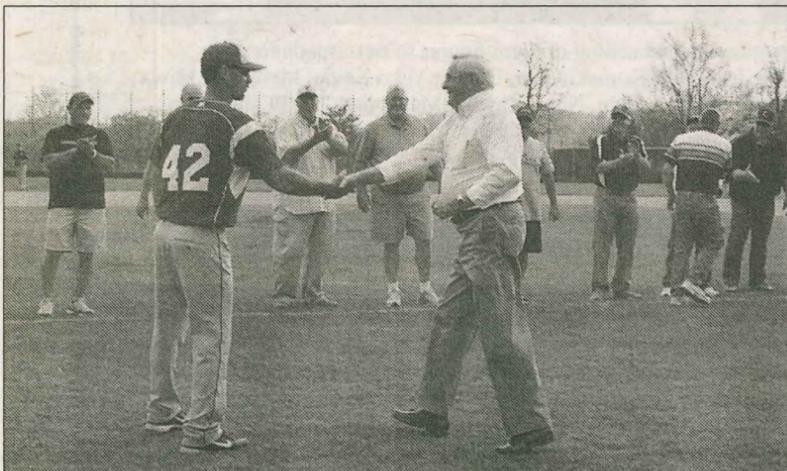
FRAMED Catherine Willis (left) and Pat Durham of Union Baptist Church in Union are framed as the Statue of Liberty at a VBS preview in Nashville, Tenn. "Big Apple Adventure" is the theme of this year's Vacation Bible School. Willis and Durham were among more than 1,500 people from churches across the country who gathered earlier this year at LifeWay for two VBS preview events. (Photo by Kent Harville)



BRUNCH A spring brunch at First Baptist Church of Hopkinsville, March 23, brought together 260 women from 42 churches. With the theme "Big Girls Don't Whine," women celebrated with fellowship, food and music, plus hearing Jan Silvius, left, author of "Big Girls Don't Whine." Several churches used the event as a kickoff for a study using her book.



Smile! In upcoming issues, the Western Recorder will showcase photos of people and events from our Kentucky Baptist churches, such as member recognitions, ministerial ordinations, significant anniversaries, sanctuary dedications, and missions projects. Submit photos in an e-mail attachment to Smile@WesternRecorder.org or through our website at www.WesternRecorder.org/info/submit-items.



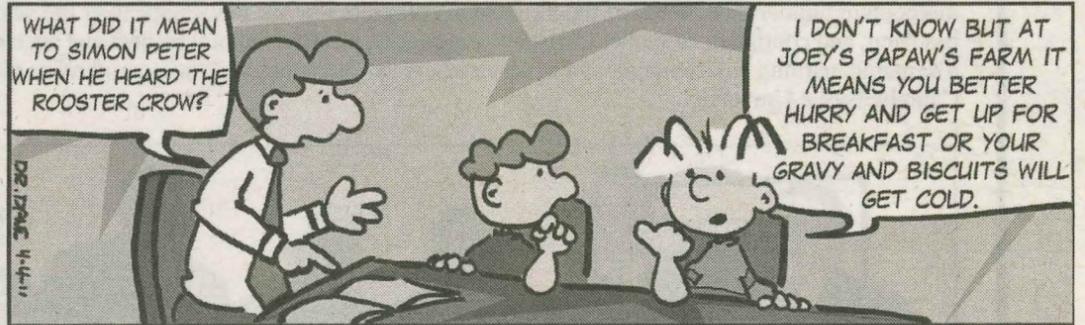
PITCHER David Aker attended the first University of the Cumberlands baseball alumni day on April 8. Greeted by UC coach Brad Shelton, Aker was the first pitcher in 1961 when the university became a four-year school. He threw out the first pitch to open up senior collegiate baseball at Cumberlands. Aker now serves as director of missions for the South Union/Mount Zion Baptist Association and is chairman of the Williamsburg Ministerial Alliance.

For Heaven's Sake



Preacher's Kids

David Ayers

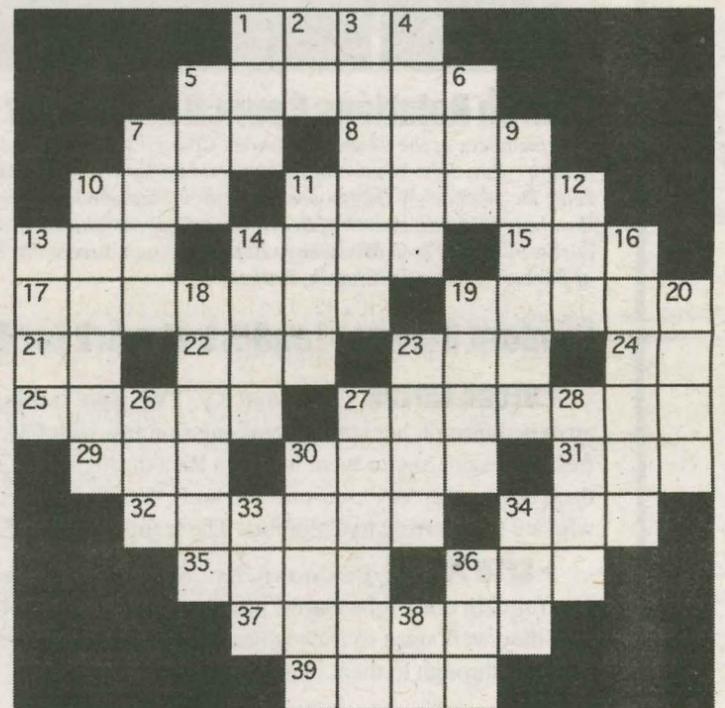


Bible Crosswords

By Janet Adkins

Across

- 1 "(I) will ____ praise to the name of the Lord most high" (Psalm 7:17)
- 5 "Famine and pestilence shall ____ him" (Ezekiel 7:15)
- 7 "He hath chosen Solomon my son to ____ upon the throne" (1 Chronicles 28:5)
- 8 "When it shall turn to the Lord, the ____ shall be taken away" (2 Corinthians 3:16)
- 10 Letter before dee
- 11 "____ is confounded and dismayed" (Jeremiah 48:1)
- 13 Self-addressed envelope, abbr.
- 14 Religious group
- 15 "There ____ him ten men that were lepers" (Luke 17:12)
- 17 "And hired counsellors against them to frustrate their ____" (Ezra 4:5)
- 19 "And if he trespass against thee ____ times in a day ... forgive him" (Luke 17:4)
- 21 Plural ending
- 22 Belonging to Judah's first son (Genesis 38:2-3)
- 23 Prohibit
- 24 Alcoholics Anonymous, abbr.
- 25 Robinson Crusoe author
- 27 "They found him ... sitting in the midst of the ____" (Luke 2:46)
- 29 "____ thy morsel in the vinegar" (Ruth 2:14)
- 30 "I will ____ in thy truth" (Psalm 86:11)
- 31 Amount, abbr.
- 32 Girl's name
- 34 Late general/president

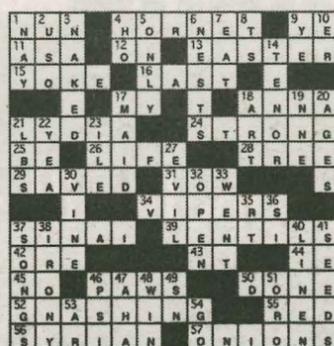


- 35 Father of Ahira (Numbers 1:15)
- 36 Saints, abbr.
- 37 Fur-bearing aquatic animals
- 39 Syringe, for short

Down

- 1 "I will ____ no wicked thing before mine eyes" (Psalm 101:3)
- 2 Method of administering medication, abbr.
- 3 "Not a ____, lest ... he fall" (1 Timothy 3:6)
- 4 "That he was gone to be ____, with a man that is a sinner" (Luke 19:7)
- 5 Expire
- 6 Equip
- 7 "And Samuel answered Saul ... 'I am the ____'" (1 Samuel 9:19)
- 9 "Gird yourselves, and ____, ye priests" (Joel 1:13)
- 10 "I have ____ you to be carried away captives" (Jeremiah 29:7)
- 11 "And there followed him a ____ of meat from the king" (2 Samuel 11:8)
- 12 Girl's name, for short
- 13 "Have they not ____?" (Judges 5:30)
- 14 "For they were ____ afraid" (Mark 9:6)
- 16 "They did ____ and ceased not" (Psalm 35:15) (2 words)
- 18 "Let my ____ go, that they may serve me" (Exodus 9:1)
- 19 "And the cup was found in Benjamin's ____" (Genesis 44:12)
- 20 Political cartoonist
- 23 Gaucho's weapon
- 26 "No grapes on the vine, nor figs on the ____ tree" (Jeremiah 8:13)
- 27 "All things which were ____ and goodly are departed" (Revelation 18:14)
- 28 "He was strong as the ____" (Amos 2:9)
- 30 "For the fierce ____ of the Lord is upon you" (2 Chronicles 28:11)
- 33 "Let us meet ... in the plain of ____" (Nehemiah 6:2)
- 34 Contraction
- 36 Theatre sign when there are no more seats, abbr.
- 38 European Plan, abbr.

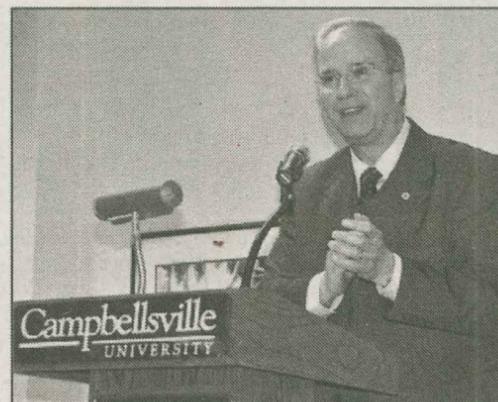
Last week's solution





Celebrating 15 Years as a University: Part of a Rich 105-Year History of Service

The Board of Trustees made a bold decision in 1996, changing the name from Campbellsville College to Campbellsville University. This historical and pivotal move in the institution's 90th year helped set the stage for the growth and momentum that we have enjoyed over the course of the past 15 years. In retrospect, it was a significant step forward in laying the groundwork for what has been a decade and half of dramatic transformation at Campbellsville University. This move helped set the stage and served as a momentum builder that enhanced the tremendous progress that we have made over the years. Our quest has been, and continues, to model Christian community, promote mutual respect and acceptance, create a dynamic learning environment, and to serve others as Christ taught – these are threads that run deep at Campbellsville University.



CU President Michael V. Carter



Church Relations Council at work for CU:

New members of the Church Relations Council were acknowledged at the March 24-25 meeting on campus. From left are: Rev. John Chowning, vice president for church and external relations and executive assistant to the president; Dr. Michael V. Carter, president; Rev. Stephen Smith, pastor of Mt. Herman Baptist Church in Louisville; Rev. Larry Rowell, pastor of Beech Grove Baptist Church, Campbellsville; and Rev. William Dickerson, associate pastor of Little Flock Missionary Baptist Church, Louisville; with Rev. Mark Shelton, chair of the CRC, and pastor of Burkesville Baptist Church, Burkesville.

"There are different ways by which to measure progress, and the progress we have made in the last 15 years is the result of being faithful to God's direction and the historic mission of the university.

"It also results from the cooperative work by a dedicated Board of Trustees, faculty, staff, and coaches -- as well as our alumni, various boards, councils, churches, and friends -- who are working together to create a model community of learning and engagement for our students."

- Dr. Michael V. Carter

Student Servant Leaders at work for CU:

> **BECCA SAYLOR**, Lexington, Ky.: "We were waiting in the dark, and then we saw flashlights coming from over the hills," Becca Saylor said about an experience on her spring break mission trip with CU in Costa Rica. "There were people coming to church in the dark and rain from hours away," the freshman said. Saylor went to Costa Rica during spring break with a group from Campbellsville University's Baptist Campus Ministry. While they were there during the "dry" season, she said, "it still rained every day." The trip was the last of a partnership with local missionaries Bill and Linda Egbert who are transferring to Colombia. The team worked with the Ngabe people, teaching English in schools and going around, to houses sharing testimonies.

> **SETH PIERCE**, Bardstown, Ky.: Mission trip to Dearborn, Mich., "This mission trip is not much like others because you don't see results; you don't see fruit." In one of the largest Muslim communities in the United States, CU students met with people who "were not open to Christianity," Pierce said, "but they were open to friendships." Pierce said members of the team will continue to pray for and stay in contact with their new friends hoping to "maybe break through to them in a few years."

MORE THAN 200 PROFESSIONS OF FAITH WERE REPORTED DURING SPRING BREAK MISSION TRIPS

KBC relief efforts for Japan helped by CU students:

CU students are giving service to their homeland by raising funds for Japanese relief that will flow through the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Japanese student Yumiko Oga was awakened to a startling phone call from her mother 7,000 miles away in Fukuoka, located in the southern part of the country, who told her about the devastation in Japan. Oga said she immediately reached out to her CU peers. The CIE (Center of International Education Office) provided service to the 39 students from Japan so they could make calls to Japan. Through those calls and Facebook the Japan natives contacted each other and were blessed to find that their families were alright.



CU students creating and selling origami figures to raise funds for their homeland are, from left: Komaki Ochi, Ehime; Yuko Kaida, Miyazaki; Miwa Matsuo, Tokyo; Mami Adachi, Nara; Kayoko Matsumoto, Aichi and Miho Shimoda, Tokyo.

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LINC dates 2011 for new students:

1. June 2-3 (Thurs. - Fri.)
2. June 4 (Sat.) - Commuters Only*
3. July 14-15 (Thurs.-Fri.)
4. July 15-16 (Fri.- Sat.)
5. August 4-5 (Thurs.-Fri.)

*Commuters are welcome to attend any of the LINC sessions.