

Shine like stars in the world
Philippians 2:15

WESTERN Recorder

May 17, 2011
Vol. 185, No. 19

FOR THE RECORD



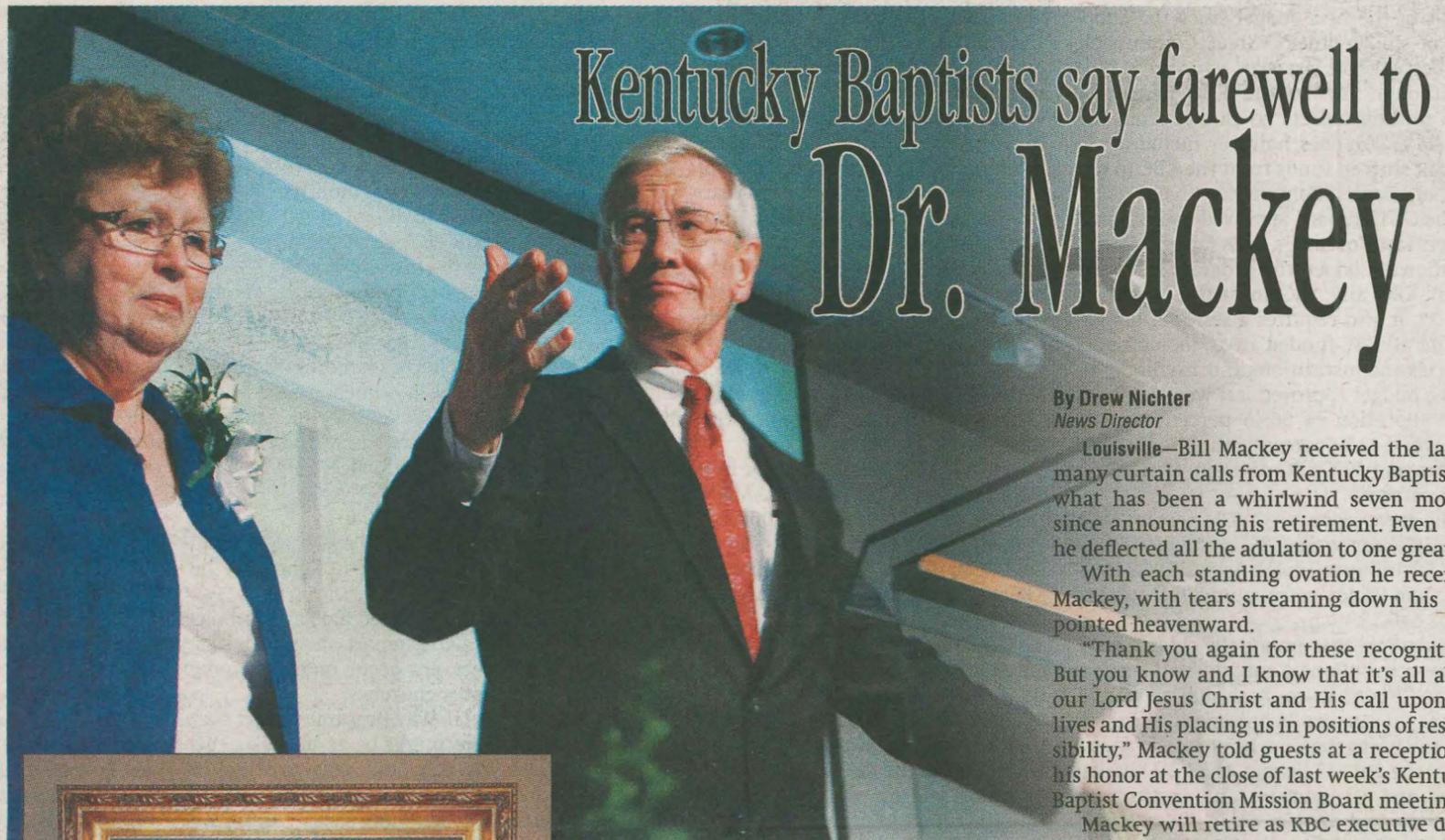
Kentucky
KBC Mission Board adopts details of 2011-12 that will send more than \$1.3 million more to SBC. *Page 2.*



People
Former KBC president, longtime pastor J. Chester Badgett dies at age 96. *Page 3.*



Baptists
NAMB revises its mission statement to reflect new emphasis on church planting. *Page 8.*



Kentucky Baptists say farewell to Dr. Mackey

By Drew Nichter
News Director

Louisville—Bill Mackey received the last of many curtain calls from Kentucky Baptists in what has been a whirlwind seven months since announcing his retirement. Even still, he deflected all the adulation to one greater.

With each standing ovation he received, Mackey, with tears streaming down his face, pointed heavenward.

"Thank you again for these recognitions. But you know and I know that it's all about our Lord Jesus Christ and His call upon our lives and His placing us in positions of responsibility," Mackey told guests at a reception in his honor at the close of last week's Kentucky Baptist Convention Mission Board meeting.

Mackey will retire as KBC executive director at the end of the month. He has led the convention since 1998.

"One of the things that I've learned is that you're not leading if God's not at work in the hearts of the people you work with and doing a mighty work among them," Mackey said at the ceremony.

Mackey and his wife, Kay, received several gifts from KBC Mission Board leaders.

KBC President Floyd Paris presented Mackey with the keys to the fleet car he has been using to traverse the state. During his 13-plus years as exec, Mackey has traveled more than 300,000 miles within Kentucky, speaking more than 1,500 times at churches and various events.

See Kentucky Baptists say farewell ... *Page 7*



■ **Above:** Retiring Kentucky Baptist Convention Executive Director Bill Mackey acknowledges a standing ovation from Kentucky Baptists at a reception honoring his tenure as convention leader. His wife, Kay, looks on. ■ **Left:** A portrait of Mackey now hangs outside the newly named Bill Mackey Board Room (sign below). The main conference room at the Kentucky Baptist Building in Louisville was officially named for Mackey at the close of the May 10 KBC Mission Board meeting. "We want to see you every time we come inside of the Kentucky Baptist Building," said Don Mathis, a Bowling Green evangelist and former KBC president, just before unveiling the portrait. As the plaque beneath the portrait states, Mackey was instrumental in leading the KBC to its current location at Eastpoint Centre Drive in 2005 from its previous Shelbyville Road site, where it had been since 1957. (Photos by Robin Bass and Denise Withers/KBC)

BILL MACKEY
BOARD ROOM

KBC Mission Board votes to have Assistant Executive Director Steve Thompson serve as convention's interim executive director. See story on page 2



Ala. tornado relief continues as flood response accelerates

Montgomery, Ala.—The latest disaster relief statistics released by the Alabama Baptist State Board of Missions show that more than 8,400 Southern Baptist volunteers from 10 states have been deployed in the aftermath of the deadly tornadoes in that state last month.

More significantly, disaster relief personnel reported 38 professions of faith in Christ as a result of their interactions with residents thus far.

Among other stats released by the Alabama state convention:

■ More than 200,000 meals have been served by disaster relief volun-

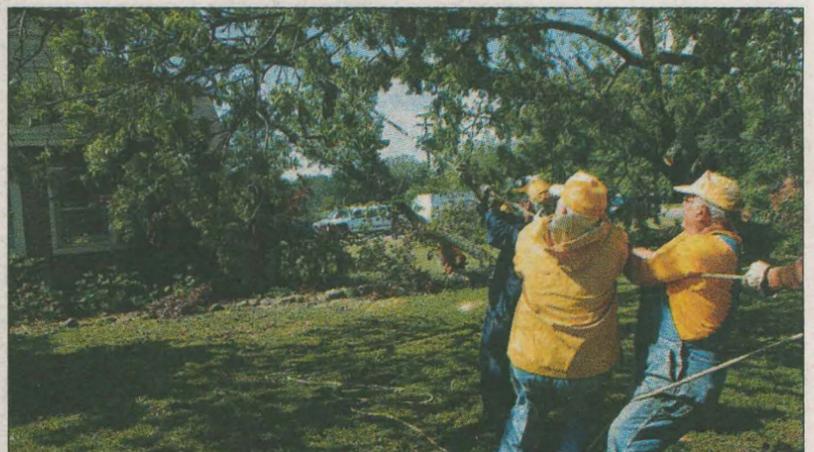
teers, and seven mass feeding units have been deployed.

■ More than 900 chainsaw jobs have been completed, and 365 critical incident stress management chaplains have served 5,292 people, the board of missions said May 11.

■ One temporary child care unit was deployed and 120 children had been assisted. In schools, 350 child crisis response clients had been served.

■ Twenty-two shower units have been deployed, and nearly 4,000 showers had been logged in addition

See DR work continues ... *Page 6*



THE WORK CONTINUES Volunteers from a Kentucky Baptist disaster relief chainsaw unit team up to pull a fallen tree limb off a home in Section, Ala., about 35 miles east of Huntsville. The Kentucky response team has had as many as 80 volunteers involved, only a fraction of the 8,400 that have served in Alabama since the deadly tornadoes last month. (Photo by Robert Reeves/KBC)

Board adopts '11-'12 budget, sends \$1.3 million more to SBC

By Drew Nichter
News Director

Louisville—The Kentucky Baptist Convention Mission Board last week approved the details of the first budget since the adoption of the Kentucky Great Commission Task Force report last year.

Although the 2011-12 KBC budget of \$23.5 million reflects no change from the current year, it does, however, include a significant shift in funds from the KBC to the Southern Baptist Convention.

The GCTF report, approved by KBC messengers last November, calls for a 50-50 distribution of Cooperative Program funds between KBC and SBC ministry causes by 2020-21. It also requires a series of budget cuts for all KBC-funded areas, including its agencies and institutions and auxiliary.

The budget approved last week includes a CP allocation of 56.46 percent for the KBC, while 43.54 percent will go to the SBC. The current KBC/SBC division of funds is 62/38 percent.

The move represents a 5.54 percent shift of KBC dollars to the SBC in the next fiscal year, according to Lowell Ashby, KBC's business team leader—a "monumental" total of \$1,301,649.

Ashby said that among the old-line state Baptist conventions, Kentucky will become the top CP contributor to the SBC next year. Even at the current 36 percent, it already is near the top of that list, he noted.

For the 2011-12 budget, the KBC Mission Board and its agencies and institutions were required to trim their budgets by 5 percent. Campbellsville University's and University of the Cumberlands' budgets were reduced an additional 6 percent.

All KBC Mission Board team offices trimmed their budgets for next year, subtracting more than \$607,000 from their current year totals. Also, should next year's budget of \$23.5 million be reached, Campbellsville and Cumberlands each would receive \$168,298 less in CP funds.

The convention also eliminated its contributions to the annuities of pastors and church staff members—which totaled \$500,000—and reduced Mission Board staff positions.

The personnel cuts came in January when the KBC eliminated five full-time and 19 part-time staff positions. Most of the eliminated positions came from the missions growth and evangelism growth teams, including seven campus ministry positions at colleges and universities across the state.

The staff cuts resulted in reduced budget costs of nearly \$458,000, Ashby told the Mission Board.

Another budget challenge the convention had to deal with for next year was the anticipated reduction in funding from the North American Mission Board. The missions entity contributes about \$1 million annually to jointly fund Kentucky Baptist ministries through a long-held cooperative agreement.

The SBC's Great Commission Resurgence report, adopted by SBC messengers last June, called for those agreements to be dissolved over a period of seven years.

Although NAMB President Kevin Ezell recently has indicated the cooperative agreements may not be completely severed between NAMB and the old-line state conventions, they probably will be reduced by half or more, according to Ashby.

For 2011-12, the KBC's reduction in NAMB funds likely will be at least \$120,000. "That's not bad," Ashby said. "I thought it was going to be worse."

A worst-case scenario may be in store for 2012-13 when it's believed NAMB may cut their funding back to \$500,000, he noted, half of what it is now. But even if NAMB doesn't make all its cuts in one year, the KBC will be impacted for years to come, Ashby said.

"The Mission Board will have to make a decision: Do we continue to fund those" now-jointly funded ministries? he noted. "And obviously, wherever we fund those, we'll have to take away funding from somewhere else in the KBC family."

Ashby said he resisted looking too far into the future to project the full impact of the GCTF mandates, but did say some tweaks may be needed down the road—specifically with shared expenses.

Describing shared expenses as any expense that promotes the Cooperative Program, Ashby said the GCTF set a 4 percent benchmark for those expenses at the end of the 10-year period. That means 4 percent of CP funds would stay with the KBC, while the remaining 96 percent would be divided between the KBC and SBC—48 percent each.

Other state conventions, like Georgia, have used a generous shared expenses model for years, Ashby said. For example, if the KBC operated similarly to the Georgia convention, it would claim 19.63 percent of its CP budget as shared expenses. The remaining 80.37 percent then would be distributed equally between the KBC and SBC.

"So, we've got a lot of room to move," Ashby said. "I think we should move a lot in that area" in the coming years.

Outgoing KBC Executive Director Bill Mackey agreed.

Increasing shared expenses "would help

Thompson to be interim KBC exec

By Drew Nichter
News Director

Louisville—Steve Thompson has been called upon to lead Kentucky Baptists in the absence of an executive director.

The Kentucky Baptist Convention Mission Board approved giving Thompson the role of interim KBC executive director-treasurer at its spring meeting last week in Louisville.

With the approaching retirement of KBC Executive Director Bill Mackey at month's end, the Mission Board voted unanimously to have Thompson serve as the interim executive director beginning June 1. Thompson has served as the KBC's assistant executive director since 1999.

"We're not recommending Steve just because we need somebody, he's well qualified" to serve as interim, said Don Mathis, who chairs the Mission Board's administrative committee.



Steve Thompson

The search committee tasked with recommending the next executive director-treasurer has been working since it was appointed last October. Pikeville pastor and former KBC president Paul Badgett is chairman of that committee.

Although there was no word on a timetable for presenting a candidate, Mission Board members authorized the search team to call a special meeting of the board with at least two weeks' notice for a candidate recommendation.

Prior to joining the KBC, Thompson was director of missions for Green Valley Baptist Association in Henderson. Before that he served as pastor of several western Kentucky churches, including First Baptist Church of Morganfield for nearly 15 years.

Mackey, who has served as executive director since 1998, will finish his tenure on May 31.

us long term, in terms of resources to help strengthen the work here in Kentucky," he said.

Mackey also suggested a delay in implementing the GCTF report should an economic recovery not occur quickly among Kentucky Baptist churches.

He cited a LifeWay Research report that indicated there might be as much as two years' delay in economic recovery time in local churches.

The GCTF's "More for Christ" initiative challenges churches to increase their CP giving of undesignated receipts by 3 percent over the next three years. If that doesn't happen, "there may be a need for some delay in the implementation" of the GCTF recommendations, Mackey said.

"We don't want to damage the work to the extent that it would have difficulty recovering and being strong," he added.

Ashby said the success of the GCTF report hinges on increased Cooperative Program giving.

"If we're going to ever get to 50/50 (KBC/SBC CP split), 3 percent (more CP giving) per year has got to happen," he stressed.

Webb to lead Baptist Men

In personnel action, Coy Webb was named the new director of the convention's Baptist Men on Mission department, effective Sept. 1. Webb, who has served as disaster relief associate for three years, will succeed Randy Foster, who is retiring.

Webb has focused primarily on coordinating Kentucky Baptists' disaster relief efforts since 2008, including the Kentucky ice storm in 2009 and last year's massive earthquake in Haiti. Kentucky disaster relief crews currently are serving in Alabama following last month's deadly tornadoes.

Foster will leave the KBC Aug. 31 after 14 years. He will, however, continue to serve in a part-time contract role through Kentucky Changers and the R/6 ex-offender mentoring ministry.

Association swaps regions

Nelson Baptist Association will move from Kentucky's Region 3 to Region 4, Mission Board members decided last week.

As dictated by a decennial evaluation of regional membership totals to maintain a "regional balance in terms of Baptist population," according to administrative committee chair Don Mathis, it was recommended to move Nelson Association to Region 4. That region previously had the smallest membership total, while Region 3

had the largest Baptist population.

Mission Board changes

With convention messengers voting last November to downsize their governing body, the Mission Board approved some organizational changes.

The adjustments to the KBC's bylaws were made to reflect the reduction in Mission Board members that will take place in the coming years. At present, there are approximately 170 board members, making it the largest among SBC-affiliated state conventions. That number will be reduced to around 120.

In each of the Mission Board's six standing committees, the number of members will be reduced from 30 to 20. Those committees are: agencies and institutions; business and finance; church development and evangelism; leadership development; missions growth; and resource development and communications.

Changes also were made to the board's nominating committee in regard to its size, makeup and how its members are selected. The committee now will consist of 15 members, as well as the KBC president and vice presidents who are ex-officio members. They and the 10 returning members will appoint five new members each year.

May meeting moves?

The days of holding the Mission Board's spring meeting at Cedarmore Camp and Conference Center in Bagdad may have come to an end.

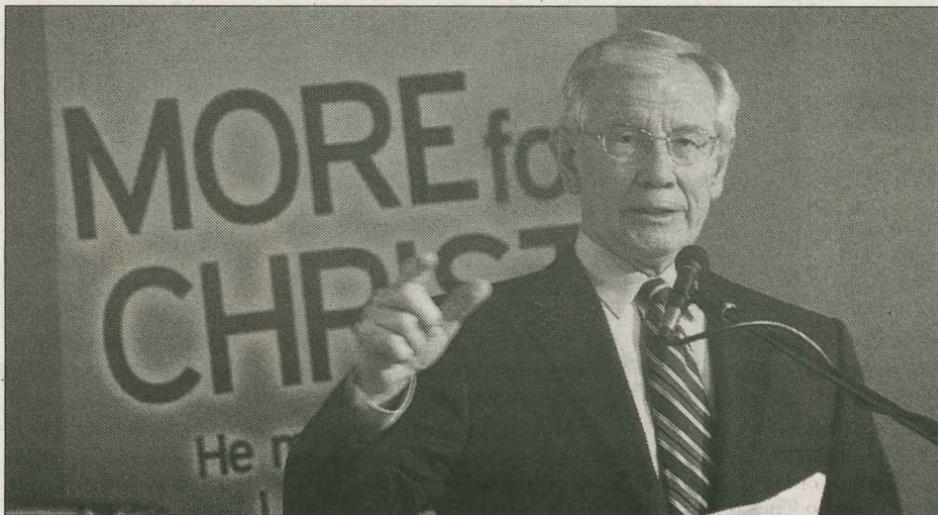
Last year, board members opted to hold this year's May meeting at the Kentucky Baptist Building in Louisville, where the group's December meeting is held each year. Cedarmore had hosted the spring gathering nearly every year since 1964.

Mission Board members voted 60-13 to continue meeting in Louisville each May rather than return the meeting to Cedarmore. The board's administrative committee will have the final say on the matter at its August meeting.

Scholarships for Clear Creek

Mission Board members voted to include Clear Creek Baptist Bible College in the Kentucky Baptist Scholarship Fund.

The fund provides \$1,000 scholarships to students who are members of Kentucky Baptist churches. Previously the fund policy included only Campbellsville University, University of the Cumberlands and Georgetown College.



FINAL WORDS With a "More for Christ" promotional banner as a backdrop, retiring Kentucky Baptist Convention Executive Director Bill Mackey delivers his final report to the KBC Mission Board May 9. (Photo by Robin Bass)

Ky. Baptist statesman Badgett, 96, led 'full life of a Christian'

Louisville—J. Chester Badgett, a longtime Kentucky Baptist pastor and former president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, has died at age 96.

The 30-year pastor of Campbellsville Baptist Church was revered as a champion of Campbellsville University where he served on the board of trustees from 1969 until his death May 10 at Jewish Hospital in Louisville.

Badgett "touched the lives of thousands of people across southern Kentucky and beyond," said Campbellsville University President Michael Carter, who described Badgett as not only a bold supporter of the university, but as a key member of its board of trustees.

"His passion for evangelism and missions, advocacy of the Cooperative Program and leadership at all levels of our denomination are legendary," Carter said. "He led a full life of Christian service in the cause of Jesus Christ and his legacy remains alive in the lives of the many people he touched through the years."

Badgett wrote "History of Campbells-

ville University 1906-2006" following the institution's centennial celebration, and was honored in 2009 when the Student Union Building was renamed the Badgett Academic Support Center. He also served for a time as the university's director of church relations.

"Know that a prince and a great man has fallen today," said W.R. Davenport, Campbellsville president from 1969-80, quoting King David after the death of his faithful army commander.

Badgett "rose to encourage support for us in ways that few, if any others, could have done," Davenport continued. "He leaves a legacy unmatched by others, not only for our university, but also for Campbellsville Baptist Church and the entire community of Campbellsville and Taylor County."

Badgett served as pastor of Campbellsville Baptist from 1950 until he retired in 1980. It was during his tenure there that he was elected KBC president, a post which

he held 1963-64.

"He was a denominational leader, ... a very, very effective pastor and had a missionary heart," said Skip Alexander, Campbellsville Baptist's current pastor. Badgett was "very much a leader at the church and on campus. Heaven has gained one of the great statesmen."

According to longtime friend Barry Bertram, Badgett also was initiated in a program that encouraged funeral homes to ask families to donate Bibles in memory of their loved ones. Bertram said the Campbellsville chapter of the Gideons Memorial Bible program now collects more Bibles than any other in the world—all because of Badgett's work.

Badgett and his wife, the late Ruth Cloyd Badgett, who died in 2009, served several Kentucky Baptist churches, in addition to Campbellsville Baptist. They include Clear Creek Baptist Church in Versailles; Little Mount Baptist Church in Tay-



J. Chester Badgett

lorsville; Beaver Dam Baptist Church; and Utica Baptist Church. The couple also served with two international Baptist churches, Kowloon Baptist Church in Hong Kong and Bethel Baptist Church in Caracas, Venezuela.

Badgett was a 1936 graduate of Georgetown College and received his master of theology in 1939 and his Ph.D. in 1946 from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. He received an honorary doctor of divinity degree from Campbellsville in 1980.

Badgett is survived by his three children, five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Badgett's funeral was held May 13 at Campbellsville Baptist Church. The family requests expressions of sympathy to be made as donations to the Badgett-Cloyd Scholarship Fund at Campbellsville University, the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, Gideons International or Campbellsville Baptist Church.

Compiled from reports by Campbellsville University and the Central Kentucky News Journal

15 Kentucky Baptists chosen to serve in Southern Baptist Convention roles

Phoenix—Fifteen Kentucky Baptists have been selected to serve on Southern Baptist Convention boards and committees.

SBC President Bryant Wright, pastor of Johnson Ferry Baptist Church in Marietta, Ga., appointed two Kentucky Baptists to serve on the Committee on Committees during the SBC annual meeting June 14-15 in Phoenix.

The Kentuckians named to the committee are **Charles Barnes**, a member of Hurstbourne Baptist Church in Louisville, and **Bob Lowery**, pastor of First Baptist Church

of Central City.

The Committee on Committees is responsible for nominating members to the Committee on Nominations, who will then nominate trustees next year to serve on the boards of SBC entities.

Members of the 2010-11 Committee on Nominations, including **Ken Felty**, interim pastor of Liberty Avenue Baptist Church in Berea, and **Martha Parker**, a member of First Baptist Church of Murray, nominated 13 Kentucky Baptists to serve on various SBC boards.

Kentuckians nominated to a first term of service are:

Rob Gibson, pastor of North Oldham Baptist Church in Goshen, GuideStone Financial Resources.

Wesley Noss, pastor of New Hope Baptist Church in Versailles, GuideStone Financial Resources.

David Parks, a member of Porter Memorial Baptist Church in Lexington, North American Mission Board.

Sam Rainer, pastor of First Baptist Church of Murray, Southern Seminary.

Marla Sanders, a member of Highview Baptist Church in Louisville, Southern Seminary.

Tim Turner, senior associate pastor of adult education ministries at Porter Memorial Baptist, LifeWay Christian Resources.

Bill Whittaker, a member of Glasgow Baptist Church, Executive Committee.

Kentuckians nominated for a second term are:

Adam Greenway, assistant professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville and a member of First Baptist Church of Mount Washington, LifeWay Christian Resources.

Hutch Hutcheson, minister of education at Twelve Oaks Baptist Church in Paducah, Southwestern Seminary.

John McRoberts, a member of La Grange Baptist Church, Southern Seminary.

Jason Pettus, pastor of Living Hope Baptist Church in Bowling Green, North American Mission Board.

Lonnie Riley, director of Meridzo Ministries in Lynch, New Orleans Seminary.

Hershael York, pastor of Buck Run Baptist Church in Frankfort, International Mission Board.

LifeWay Research poll: Americans still appreciate KJV Bible

By David Roach
LifeWay Christian Resources

Nashville, Tenn.—Four hundred years after it debuted as the first widely distributed Bible for the English-speaking world, the King James Version of the Bible still holds a place of distinction among Americans, according to a recent study by LifeWay Research.

The poll, conducted to mark the 400th anniversary of the King James Version, found that more than half of all American adults (62 percent) own a KJV Bible.

Among those who read the Bible regularly, the percentage of KJV owners is even higher. A full 82 percent of Americans who read the Bible at least once a month own a KJV. Sixty-seven percent of American adults who own a Bible have a KJV.

Published in 1611 under the direction of England's King James I, the KJV has wielded significant influence over both religion and language among English speakers, generating now-common phrases such as "fight the good fight," "reap the whirlwind" and "feet of clay."

"Christians believe that God's word is truth and that truth is conveyed through language—thus translations have always been integral to the spread of Christianity," said Scott McConnell, director of LifeWay Research.

"It is hard to overstate the influence of the KJV not just on language and idioms, but because it brought the word of God to English-speaking peoples in the first widely

available format."

When asked to indicate whether five specific words had been their experience with the KJV, many adult Americans respond positively to: "I have found the language to be beautiful" (31 percent) and "I have found the language to be easy to remember" (23 percent).

The experience of some is less complimentary, responding, "I have found the language to be hard to understand" (27 percent) and "I have found the language to be outdated" (16 percent).

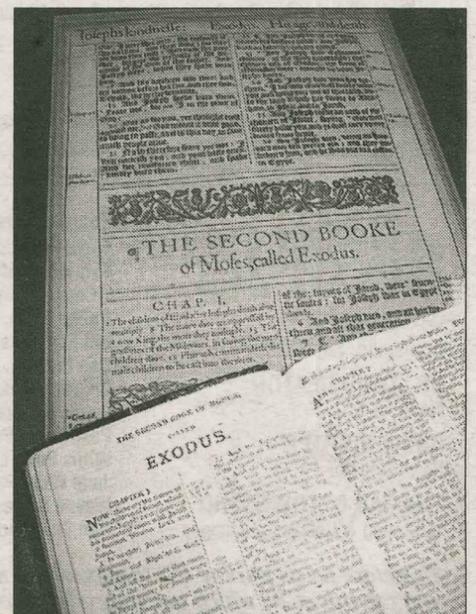
More than a quarter of adult Americans (27 percent) indicate they have never read the KJV for themselves. An additional 4 percent did not feel any of the statements matched their experience and 4 percent "don't know."

Women are more likely than men to own a KJV, with 72 percent of women who own a Bible having a KJV copy compared with 62 percent of men.

Age also is a significant factor related to KJV ownership. While 76 percent of Americans 55 years and older who own a Bible have a KJV, only 67 percent of those ages 35 to 54 own a copy. For those under 35 years old, that percentage drops to 56 percent.

Younger Americans also have less experience reading the KJV. Thirty-five percent of those under 35 have never read a KJV. Twenty-nine percent of those between 35 and 54 have never read a KJV along with 19 percent of those 55 and older.

However, the lower readership among



young Americans does not seem to indicate they have more difficulty understanding the language than their older counterparts. Only 21 percent of those under 35 say they find the language "hard to understand," compared with 31 percent ages 35 to 54 who say the same and 28 percent ages 55 and older.

Readers of all generations find the KJV's language beautiful. However, Americans in the South are more likely to say they "have found the language to be beautiful" (44 percent).

Southern Baptist Convention
June 14-15 in Phoenix, Arizona

2011 MESSENGER CARDS
Attention PASTORS:
Messenger Cards for voting privileges at the SBC are available from the KBC Executive Office. They MUST be signed by your church clerk or moderator BEFORE being presented for registration.

Please make your request to:
KBC
KENTUCKY BAPTIST CONVENTION

Executive Office
PO Box 43433, Louisville, KY 40253-0433
Attn. Wanda Karolyi
Call 502-489-3374 or 866-489-3374 or
e-mail: wanda.karolyi@kybaptist.org
DEADLINE: June 6, 2011

Gratitude to God

As I approach my retirement date coming up on May 31, it is a grand privilege to express gratitude to our awesome Redeemer God, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and our comforter and guide, the Holy Spirit, for the opportunity to serve with Kentucky Baptists.

Partners in the Mission**By Bill Mackey**

It has been a high privilege, under God, to serve as executive director-treasurer for the Mission Board and the Kentucky Baptist Convention. This role has given me the opportunity to work closely with the Mission Board staff and the KBC's agencies, institutions and auxiliary.

It has been a joy to work with staff and Kentucky Baptists in developing and implementing a strategic mission plan known as "Kentucky Baptists Connect." It has been especially exciting for me to see staff members working together across team and department lines to accomplish strategic objectives and goals.

I will never forget the way the Mission Board staff worked with associations, churches and the Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union in jointly sponsored emphases like "Crossover Louisville, '09," "Find It Here 2010" and "Find It Here 2011." Through these emphases, more people and more churches were involved in prayer walking and sowing a gospel witness than ever in our history as Kentucky Baptists.

I am grateful that members of the staff are serving because they have been called by God and by the Mission Board to utilize and develop their God-given strengths and talents. It has been rewarding to see new staff members mature over the years as creative and effective leaders.

It has also been my privilege to observe the effectiveness of our KBC agencies and institutions. Kentucky Baptists should be grateful to God for what I believe are the best entity leaders in any state convention.

Even with reduced resources and these challenging economic times, our agencies and institutions are making a big difference in the lives of those they serve. Just this week, a Japanese student at Campbellsville University shared with me that she had become a believer and asked that I pray for her parents and more than 250 other international students.

I am also grateful for the recognition that the Mission Board provided for my wife, Kay, and me at last week's meeting. The Mission Board gave us the key to the fleet car that I use and a check for a special trip. The board unveiled a portrait that will be displayed near the Board Room that will carry the name "Bill Mackey Board Room."

I recognize that service and our very existence is due directly to the grace of God, and we are grateful for His grace and all Kentucky Baptists. Please know that we love each of you in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Bill Mackey is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

A final challenge to Kentucky Baptists

Most of the attention at May meetings of the Mission Board is typically focused on budgetary matters and approval of the upcoming budget for the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Last week, the attention of board members was understandably directed toward a detailed report on the impact of a \$1.3 million shift in a single year from KBC ministries, agencies and institutions to the Southern Baptist Convention's two mission boards and six seminaries as the KBC moves toward a 50/50 split of Cooperative Program receipts with the SBC. Just prior to the budget's consideration, however, retiring Executive Director-Treasurer Bill Mackey issued an excellent challenge that, hopefully, was not overshadowed by the day's business.

In his final report to the Mission Board, Mackey rejoiced in the many accomplishments of the Kentucky Baptist Connect emphasis. The KBC is in the midst of a three-year extension, and Mackey provided a progress report on the 22 goals set by the KBC staff in key areas, such as developing leaders, strengthening churches, reaching people through evangelistic efforts, planting churches, and increasing involvement in domestic and overseas missions, as well as disaster relief. His remarks were laced with praise for the commendable work of Kentucky Baptists, but he concluded with a five-point challenge based on 1 Thessalonians 5. His words are well worth noting, for in keeping with Paul's words, Mackey reminded Kentucky Baptists that there is still much work to do, a mission to be accomplished, and people yet to be reached.

Mackey began by encouraging the Mission Board to "serve people so that they do respect you and your leadership." Observing that the word "overseer" also means to care for and protect, he cited 1 Peter and called on church leaders to be shepherds and examples to the flock. It is a trait that Mackey consistently modeled for Kentucky Baptists throughout his tenure through his sincere love for people and his passion for sharing Christ.

Second, "Encourage one another," Mackey urged. "Encourage those who are timid, encourage those who are weak, encourage those who are struggling," he added. Mackey shared that he had been encouraged recently by how KBC President Floyd Paris has found tangible ways to promote support of the Cooperative Program. If every Kentucky Baptist participated in the "\$3 more for Christ" effort, Mackey echoed,

it would make a significant difference both in the resources of local churches and for world evangelization. In his opening remarks to the board, Paris told about his "magic jar" in which a quarter could change the world. When coins are added to the \$26.32 already inside, they could help buy gospel tracts and New Testaments, he had explained during a children's sermon on CP Sunday in April. Paris was surprised to see church members respond during the invitation by filling his jar with nearly \$800. Imagine what could be accomplished for Christ if all of the KBC's 2,400 churches added \$800 to their CP giving, Paris challenged.

Third, "Be positive," Mackey advised. Emphasizing that Paul instructed the Thessalonians to pray, have joy and give thanks, Mackey observed, "That's not out of the ordinary, is it? But Paul adds adverbs to each, and it says to be joyful always, to pray continually, and to give thanks in all circumstances." By following Paul's advice, one will become a positive person, he explained. "Any crank can be negative; learn to be positive," he quipped.

Fourth, Mackey exhorted, "Preach and live the word of God with Holy Spirit fire." While Paul cautions believers not to quench the Holy Spirit or despise prophesying, Mackey said, "I just put it another way: Act like you believe it!" By seeking God and avoiding evil, one's ministry will be filled with integrity and leave a legacy of faith worth imitating, he explained.

Finally, Mackey encouraged Kentucky Baptists to "remember God is sovereign, and you are accountable to God." Stay focused on His mission and His calling, he urged. Pointing out that the Navy SEALs had to execute their assignment in Pakistan with precision and effectiveness, Mackey suggested, "Our assignment is greater than that, for eternal souls are being weighed in the balance."

Just as they started their journey together 13 years ago on their knees, Mackey fittingly closed this chapter in Kentucky Baptist life in prayer: "Father, we just pray that you will continue to unite us in a bond of love and a commitment to your Great Commission until every person has had an opportunity to hear the gospel in an understandable way and had an opportunity to respond in faith," he prayed. "Father, we pray that no sacrifice will be too great, no inconvenience too distracting, for us to accomplish the mission that you have given." Amen.

After Thought**By Todd Deaton****Mackey's ministry was truly a partnership****By Pat Beverly**

It has been a privilege to serve as Bill Mackey's ministry assistant for these past 13 years. Through these years, I have witnessed firsthand Dr. Mackey's passion for Kentucky Baptists, KBC churches and entities, the KBC staff, and most of all, for reaching the lost.

Oh, yes, I have to tell you that Dr. Mackey remains passionate about Whitesburg, too, and the time he and Kay served there. It never ceases to amaze me the people he remembers from those days, and the details of their ministry there. No matter where Dr. Mackey goes, he nearly always connects with someone who has ties to Whitesburg.

When Dr. Mackey became executive director of the KBC, he said that he wanted to be in as many KBC churches as possible—no matter the size of the church or the distance. Because of that commitment, Dr. Mackey and Kay have seldom had a Sunday to attend their own church, Hurstbourne Baptist in Louisville. In fact,

it hasn't been unusual for him to speak multiple times on a given Sunday in two or three different churches. Kay has gone with and driven Dr. Mackey to most of his speaking engagements. Their ministry to Kentucky Baptists has truly been a partnership.

While serving as executive director, Dr. Mackey has mentored several young pastors. I remember several years ago during a KBC annual meeting, a group of young pastors invited Dr. Mackey, Kay and me to join them for a time of prayer. What an awesome experience it was to be part of that memorable prayer time as they prayed for Dr. Mackey, Kay and the work of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

In addition to serving with Dr. Mackey, it has also been a joy for me to get to know Kay. She has been a blessing to many; in fact, she has sort of been like a pastor's wife to pastors' wives. I've enjoyed the lunches Kay and I have shared. She's so easy to talk with that she

makes you feel like you're a special friend.

In an effort to get to know the KBC staff, the Mackeys decided to invite everyone to their home for lunch—not at the same time, though! They invited folks to a luncheon in their honor during our birth months. These luncheons were greatly enjoyed and appreciated.

The ladies at the Baptist Building enjoy having quarterly luncheons and Kay has been a great part of these get-togethers. She is loved and admired by all of the ladies here.

As much as I hate to think about the Mackeys leaving the KBC and Kentucky, I'm glad they will get to spend more time with their two daughters, their son-in-laws and their five precious grandchildren.

I pray that God will richly bless Dr. Mackey and Kay in this new phase of their lives called "retirement." But, something tells me that Dr. Mackey and Kay will never really retire from serving God; they'll just be serving Him in a different place and in a different way.

Pat Beverly is administrative assistant in the KBC executive office.

WESTERN
Recorder

Box 43969
Louisville, KY 40253

DR. TODD DEATON
Editor

DREW NICTER
News Director

THOMAS C. TOWNSEND
Marketing & Business Manager

Board of Directors:

Floyd Price (chairman), Richmond;
Skip Alexander (vice chairman),
Campbellsville;

Duane Bolin, Murray;
Bill Edmonds, Louisville;
Dan Francis, Erlanger;
Chip Hutcheson, Princeton;
Lanna Kilgore, Bowling Green;
Paul Nunn, Prestonsburg;
Willis Polk, Lexington;
June Rice, Paintsville;
Wayne Spivey, Harrodsburg;
Dan Summerlin, Paducah.

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

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

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

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

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

www.WesternRecorder.org

Will the rapture occur on May 21? It's a possibility

By Ralph Tone

A billboard in Oklahoma proclaims, "Noah knew. We can know." Another in Nashville says, "The wise men knew, we can know." A billboard in another country, Tanzania, reveals a little more: "The rapture—May 21, 2011. The end of the world Oct. 21, 2011."

Not limited to billboards and bus benches, the message has gone mobile. "Noah knew" panel trucks are navigating the highways and byways of Minneapolis and New York.

The billboard blitz is courtesy of Harold Camping's Family Radio ministry based in Oakland, Calif. According to Camping and his "ambassadors," the rapture will occur on May 21, 2011, and God will destroy the world 153 days later on Oct. 21.

The fact that Camping, according to a CNN investigation, previously predicted the end to occur on Sept. 6, 1994 hasn't seemed to deter the prophetic fervor surrounding his latest end-time recalibration.

Should we join the movement? Probably not. Biblical teaching can be an inconvenient truth to those who would set a month, day and year to Christ's return.

Jesus left no doubt about the futility of playing the dating game when he told his disciples three times in Matthew not to go there (See Matthew 24:36, 42, 44b).

Moses knew a thing or two about how God went about revealing things to men. After a lifetime of walking with the Father he told Israel, "the hidden things belong to the Lord our God, but the revealed things belong to us and our children forever" (Deuteronomy 29:29a).

There are some things that are hidden to all but God. The date of Christ's return is one of them. But rest assured, when He does decide to send the Lord of Lords and King of Kings, His timing will be perfect. God is never late.

FIRST PERSON

Somewhat lost in the hoopla over doomsday dates is Family Radio's more sinister teaching that Christians should not be part of a local church. Yes, you read right.

A Family Radio tract titled No Man Knows the Day or Hour states that on May 21, 1988 the "church age" ended and the 23 year Great Tribulation began. Since that day "Satan has been employed by God to officially rule all of the churches." As a result, local congregations are no longer a legitimate vehicle of end time evangelization, the ministry believes. That task has been bestowed upon individuals—presumably those who are privy to Camping's special revelations.

The tract further states, "The Holy Spirit has abandoned all churches (and) those still following any church on May 21, 2011 are not saved."

This is serious. The Church is Christ's bride. For her He died, continually intercedes and will soon return.

Putting a date to the end can be dismissed as buffoonery. Ascribing leadership of the Church to the malignant one borders on blasphemy.

If there's an upside to such an outrageous claim, it's that it gives us an opportunity to revisit what the Bible says about the church:

Christ has purchased the Church with His own blood (Acts 20:28) and made it holy through the Word (Ephesians 5:26). He is actively building it to be stronger than hell itself (Matthew

16:18) and without spot or wrinkle, holy and blameless (Ephesians 5:27). It is His very body (Colossians 1:24). He lovingly cares and provides for it (Ephesians 5:29) and actively monitors its spiritual health (Revelation 2:1-3:22). As its Head, Christ exercises His authority to work its salvation (Ephesians 5:23).

The Church is God's household (1 Timothy 3:15) and the vehicle by which His multi-faceted wisdom is proclaimed to all creation visible and invisible (Ephesians 3:10). It belongs to God (1 Corinthians 1:2). He administers it (1 Corinthians 12:28) and has established it as arbiter of His judgment (Matthew 18:17-18) and pillar and foundation of the truth (1 Timothy 3:15).

The Church is the recipient of the Father's, the Son's and the Spirit's active, coordinated and all sufficient grace (Acts 20:28) and is the conduit of grace to the needy (1 Timothy 5:16).

The two errors highlighted here—dating the end of the world and maligning Christ's bride—on the face of it might seem totally unrelated, but they're really not. The spirit of error is voracious and rarely content to possess just one deception.

Will Jesus return on May 21? He might. Today is a real possibility as well—tomorrow, too. The real question is what will He find us doing when that day comes? What type of people will He deem us to be? Will He find us living by faith?

Watch and wait, for you don't know the hour.

I like the way that sounds. Somebody ought to put that on a billboard.

Ralph Tone is a church growth consultant with LifeWay Español of LifeWay Christian Resources.

News flash! Debt is a major problem

By Don Spencer

There have been many headlines recently regarding our country's increasing debt. While we can be concerned about the mounting debt in our country and the problems that are caused by that debt, most of us can do very little to directly address that issue. It has affected our economy and the effects continue to trickle down the chain affecting an increasing number of people.

While the debt crisis in our country has some effect on almost everyone, your own personal debt is more critical to you as an individual.

There is a time for proper use of credit. But one of the major problems for many people is the over use of credit. Too many are in over their heads. Remember, you will never have financial freedom as long as you are a slave to debt. If you have excessive debt, it tends to control your life. You cannot ignore it. If this applies to you, how do you solve the problem? Here are the basic steps:

1. Commit to becoming debt free. You must make it a top priority. Be intentional.

2. Stop adding to your debt. This is step one in stopping the cycle. Don't use credit cards. Avoid borrowing more money. Too much debt originates from people not wanting to live on what they make.

3. Pay God and yourself first. Tackle the problem God's way. Make tithing a priority. Don't neglect saving, even if the amount is modest.

4. List your assets, income and debts. Use a budget so you can be in control of your financial life.

5. Set up a plan for eliminating debt. Pay the required minimums on all debts. Then target either the smallest debt or the one with the highest interest as the first one to be eliminated. Pay all you can extra on that debt. When it's paid, move to the next one. Set a goal for when each debt is to be cleared.

6. Be disciplined and stick to it. There will be times when you are tempted to abandon the plan. Go back to #1.

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



Walk with your kids

By David Garrard

I think of retired Baylor professor Dick Couey as our very own Southern Baptist fitness guru. Couey's books and lectures have motivated many to take better care of our bodies so we can live longer to serve longer. Couey's influence has been immense. For years, he partnered with our Foreign Mission Board (now IMB). Couey spoke to new missionaries, educating them to the physical demands of mission work and challenging them to take care of their bodies.

I met Couey at Rec Lab and invited him to speak to our church. Recently, one of my friends reminded me of something that he said: "Walk with your kids." Couey told how he ran and exercised with his daughter, and how that time spent together led to many meaningful conversations. Couey said that when you are out walking with your kids, you are free from distractions that often make it hard to communicate. He promised that if you would walk with your kids, they would open up and talk with you about important stuff.

My friend was reflecting back on what great advice that had been. She told me how the time spent walking and talking with her son, who is graduating from high school this year, had shaped and strengthened their relationship.

I remember making the decision to drive my son to school, instead of sending him on a bus. I figured that over the course of a school year, the 20 minutes we would spend together each morning would provide lots of opportunities for important conversations.

So, take advantage of the warmer weather that has arrived at last. Get outdoors with your child and take a walk. The exercise will strengthen your bodies and the time together will strengthen your relationship.

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



Ways to avoid that 'end-of-summer tired' feeling

I am tired. The best way I know to describe it is an "end-of-the-summer tired." Most anyone in youth ministry will understand that phrase. After a summer of mission projects, camps, VBS, church league softball, amusement parks, Bible studies and the like, there is a special tiredness that comes over a student minister. And, if you're anything like me, the tiredness penetrates all aspects of my life—physically, spiritually, emotionally.

So I ask some guys that I trust—Steve Coleman, minister to students at First Baptist Church of Richmond; David Buckner, youth minister at Westport Road Baptist Church in Louisville; and Tim Ashley, minister to youth and young adults at Beechland Baptist Church in Louisville—"What do you do to stay fresh?"

David Buckner used the acronym F.R.E.S.H. in his reply. "F" stands for Feelings. While many times we can't trust our feelings, I've learned that when it comes to taking my 'ministerial temperature,' the way I feel will ultimately tell me if I need to do something to spur some refreshing."

Buckner continued, "R" means Relax and Recreation. For me, it means one of two things: exercise or journal. If I can go to a place and create time to accomplish both, then 'freshness' returns."

Coleman concurred: "I like to hike

or make sawdust in the shop. Sometimes just mowing the yard gives me time to think and speak. I like to spend time with family, my wife and adult children, and my in-laws are godly people and I still learn from them."

"E" is for Examination of self," Buckner explained. "Most days there isn't anyone around to tell me that I look tired, to hold me accountable on how I've chosen to prioritize ministry versus family, or to check when I took my last day off. So I've learned that for me to be fresh, I must take an honest look at myself and my situation."

"S" stands for Seek a mentor. Buckner continued, "This is really a necessity for ministers that often gets overlooked. We need a voice of wisdom."

Coleman also addressed this point: "I like to have my friends, accountability partners in the ministry, talk with me. I have learned that one of the best ways for me to stay fresh is to pour my heart into another youth minister or worker. I have been able to help them by sharing with them, which in turn lifts me up."

"H" is for Hope. Buckner explained it this way: "One of the best ways I've learned to stay fresh is to develop an attitude of hope. Seeing the good, talking positively, not getting bogged down about what isn't, but focusing on what is."

Youth Ministry Corner



Joe Ball

Ashley took a completely different approach and sent to me his top 10 list of things he does. It was too good to chop up and integrate into the conversation, so I will share it in its entirety:

"1. Meet with a friend, or a few. I have some people whom I trust that I can just be honest with. ... These people can speak life and truth and perspective into my soul.

"2. Do something out of the normal routine. Go to the mall for lunch and walk around, take a walk around the neighborhood, watch some funny videos online.

"3. Listen to a worship CD as loud as I can—with nobody else around.

"4. Read a book of the Bible in its entirety in one setting.

"5. Sleep as long as I can.

"6. List everything I need to get done and spend time praying over it.

"7. Eat a good meal.

"8. Watch a movie.

"9. Go visit my family.

"10. Treat myself to something I normally wouldn't, like new shoes or something for my computer."

As the summer months of youth ministry are approaching, take care not to overdo it. Plan now to take time for Sabbath. Let us not run ourselves so far into the ground that it takes us until October to recover. If we make good plans now, we can help limit the tiredness of summer.

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

Missouri flood destroys church, but pastor sees silver lining

By Brian Koonce
Missouri Pathway

Dorena, Mo.—When the U.S. Army Corps Engineers blew the Birds Point levee along the Mississippi River May 2, the water washed away as many as 100 homes and 133,000 acres of fertile farmland. It also flooded a small Southern Baptist church.

"The church is gone," said LeRoy Davenport, pastor of Dorena Baptist Church, which is just across the Mississippi River from the Kentucky town of Hickman. "I've seen aerial pictures and it's gone."

The church building is still there, but at one point the muddy waters were up to the edge of the roof. The day after Mother's Day, when the National Guard allowed property owners to inspect their homes via boats, a man reported to Davenport that he stood in the window ledge and could see pews floating inside.

The church had been around since 1946 and never had floodwater in it, though it came close a few times.

When the floodway was activated, it was done so in part to save the town of Cairo, Ill., which experienced a record crest along the Mississippi River and a swollen Ohio River. With rain continuing and water levels at historic levels, the corps said there was "no way to stop all flooding, but rather to do our best to reduce the risk to life and property in the region."

DR work continues in Ala., as Ark., La., deal with rising floodwaters

Continued from page 1

to nearly 1,200 loads of laundry.

The board of missions emphasized that the numbers do not include the hundreds of spontaneous volunteers from Alabama churches and the more than 30 distribution centers across the state.

Flooding in Louisiana, Arkansas

Meanwhile in Louisiana, residents expect the surging Mississippi River to threaten levees protecting populated areas.

Mitch Minson, pastor of First Baptist Church of Lake Providence, La., explained that as water pressure builds on the earthen levees, weak spots leave the levees vulnerable. National Guardsmen have been stacking sandbags around those spots to counteract the danger.

The old levee at Lake Providence, built in 1912, was overcome May 12 and 13,000 acres of farmland were flooded. A newer levee, built after the 1937 flood, is expected to hold and prevent further flooding.

In Vidalia, La., the Mississippi River was at 59.8 feet May 13. The previous record was 58 feet.

"They're expecting 64 feet," said Bill McCullin, pastor at First Baptist Church of Vidalia. "It's just a matter of watching and waiting. As far as preparations, the community has done everything it can do."

The first Louisiana disaster relief unit is in place, according to Gibbie McMillan, director of Louisiana's disaster relief operations. A laundry and shower unit has been set up at First Baptist Church of New Roads, south of the Morganza Spillway and north of Baton Rouge, for use by National Guard and Army Corps of Engineers personnel.

"The trigger they're waiting on (before opening the Morganza Spillway to decrease the water level) is that the water flow rate reaches 1.5 million cubic liters per second. The spillway was opened over the weekend, leaving some areas of Louisiana up to 25 under water.

"It will drop the water level in Baton

This spring the Mississippi River has experienced precipitation 125 to 150 percent above normal. Corps experts estimate it will take up to two months for water to recede from the floodway, assuming there is no additional rainfall. After the water has receded, it will take another 20 to 30 days for the land to dry out.

If there's an upside to the manmade flood, it's that the residents of the floodplain and members of Dorena Baptist at least had some warning. Most of the church's small membership live outside the floodplain in East Prairie, Mo., about 20 miles northwest, but two who live in mobile homes had to move their homes to higher ground and now are out of work.

"We knew it was coming, and kept praying," Davenport said. "We got the piano, pulpit and Lord's Supper table out, but not everything. The rest of it is gone. The brick on one side of the building is gone, too. Then, if the water goes down like they're telling us, there may not be any roads left."

Davenport said there isn't a lot to be excited about and recovery is going to be hard work, but he sees a glimmer of hope in the dark waters. There is a lot of discussion floating around, including about rebuilding and even relocating permanently.

"Maybe God just wanted us to move this church into town," he said, referring to East Prairie. "Whatever He wants, that's

Rouge and New Orleans by two feet, but it's going to flood 3 million acres and 25,000 people, primarily in the Achehalaya Basin," McMillan said. "Eight directors of missions and all the churches in those associations will be affected by the flooding."

All shower, feeding and mud-out units affiliated with the Louisiana Baptist Convention are on alert, McMillan said.

In Arkansas, recent flooding along the Black River and its tributaries damaged three Arkansas Baptist churches. More than two feet of water inundated Shannon Baptist Church in Pocahontas following heavy rains earlier this month. The church sustained extensive damage including destroyed pews, flooring and drywall. Floodwaters have receded, and church members and other volunteers have begun to clean up the building.

Also in Current-Gaines Baptist Association, First Baptist Church of Success, Ark., and Calvary Baptist Church in Corning, Ark., sustained damage.

The damage to First Baptist, Success was limited to flooring after storms deposited more than an inch of water, said Don Settles, director of missions in that area.

Calvary Baptist's old fellowship hall was damaged, but the building already was scheduled for demolition. A week prior to the flooding, the church moved into a new educational facility across the street, which was not damaged.

Banks Baptist Church in Hardy, Ark., was damaged by floodwaters. Located near Martin Creek, the church was left with at least six inches of mud after floodwaters subsided, said Brent Powell of Black River Baptist Association. Church members resumed services in the building after removing flooring and cleaning the church.

Current-Gaines Association's feeding unit was dispatched to nearby Neelyville, Mo., and completed service May 6. Calvary Baptist Association's feeding unit was providing meals in Des Arc, Ark., which was hard hit by flooding. (BP)



HOT MEAL Joann Hahs of First Baptist Church of Oak Ridge, Mo., and Dan Dickerson of First Baptist Church of Millersville, Mo., prepare trays of food for flood victims at the feeding station at First Baptist Church of Morehouse, Mo. (Photo by Bob Greenlee/Missouri Pathway)

what we'll do. There's no growth possibility in Dorena simply because there's nobody down there. It's hard to leave the site of your home church, but maybe this is what God wants us to do."

In addition to Dorena Baptist, two other Missouri Baptist churches were flooded by the Mississippi River's recent surge—Shining Light Baptist Church in Charleston and Hooe Baptist Church in Oran.

Volunteers are needed for large-scale cleanup as the water recedes.

Rick Seaton, a men's ministry specialist

with the Missouri Baptist Convention and the state's disaster relief coordinator, said he anticipates at least a two- or three-week response in the area.

"We currently have mud-out teams beginning in the Poplar Bluff area and are presently looking into the need for other areas," he said. "We also need chaplains now."

The Missouri Baptist disaster relief office can be reached by e-mail at DMAier@MoBaptist.org or by phone at (800) 736-6227, extension 631. (BP)

SOUNDS LIKE THE MAKINGS OF A GOOD FOSTER PARENT.
"DO GOOD, BE RICH IN GOOD DEEDS, BE GENEROUS AND WILLING TO SHARE." 1 TIMOTHY 6:18

May is Foster Care Awareness Month. Thousands of children each year are removed from their homes in Kentucky due to abuse and neglect. Sunrise foster families are in-home missionaries with whom children are placed to receive treatment, love, and encouragement. During the month of May, we are asking you to prayerfully consider opening your home to a child, or supporting those that do. Call (855) 33-ICARE to learn more, or visit us on the Web at www.Sunrise.org.

SUNRISE
Children's Services

OPEN YOUR HEART TO FOSTER CARE.

Kentucky Baptists say farewell to Dr. Mackey

Continued from page 1

Longtime Kentucky Baptist lay leader Charles Barnes, who was a member of the search committee that selected Mackey as KBC exec in 1998, gave Kay Mackey a check to be used for a vacation for her and Bill. He also thanked her for being a valuable ministry partner with Bill in his demanding role of being the face of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

The final honor was the unveiling of a portrait of Bill Mackey that will hang outside of the board room that now is named for him.

The Bill Mackey Board Room is the main conference room at the Kentucky Baptist Building. It is the first room visitors see when coming into the building's main entrance.

"If someone didn't know you better and us better, they would think we were tired of seeing you. But we want to be real sure that you know that's not true," said Don Mathis, a Bowling Green evangelist and former convention president.



FOND FAREWELL Bill Mackey, who will retire as Kentucky Baptist Convention executive director May 31 after more than 13 years, shakes hands on his way through the room following a reception in his honor to close out last week's KBC Mission Board meeting at the Kentucky Baptist Building. (Photos by Robin Bass)

"We want to see you every time we come inside of the Kentucky Baptist Building," Mathis told Mackey just before unveiling the portrait.

Mackey was instrumental in moving the KBC to its current home at Eastpoint Centre Drive in 2005 after nearly 50 years at its previous location on Shelbyville Road in the Middletown area of Louisville.

Final challenge

As he has done throughout his KBC tenure, Mackey challenged Kentucky Baptists to remain focused on sharing the gospel with those who need to hear it.

"Nothing will please me more than to see the kingdom of God grow exponentially in the days ahead," he said. "There are many people to be reached. There is much to be accomplished. There's a world that desperately needs the gospel, and we must continue to find ways for that to happen through future generations."

Upon retiring, Bill and Kay Mackey will move to Raleigh, N.C., to be closer to their children and grandchildren.

"Bill and I will both say that it has been the thrill of our lives to be back in Kentucky," Kay Mackey said. "We have always loved Kentucky, and we're just grateful to

God for giving us the privilege and the opportunity to know you and your churches."

Bill Mackey echoed his wife's sentiments.

"It's a great privilege just to be identified with Kentucky Baptists," he said. "And we know it's all because of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and God our Father, as we're empowered by the Holy Spirit to seek to accomplish the mission that He's given us."

"Yes, it's a huge mission, but we have a big God."



'THANK YOU' Kay Mackey says a word of thanks to Kentucky Baptists during a reception honoring her and her husband. Upon retiring, the Mackeys will be moving to North Carolina to be closer to their children and grandchildren.



BYE, BYE BOSS Bill Mackey hugs his longtime ministry assistant Pat Beverly following a reception honoring him and wife, Kay (right), at the Kentucky Baptist Building in Louisville May 10.

Come be still and know that He is GOD...

Smoky Mountain Christian Village
Serving Through Hospitality

SMOKY MOUNTAIN CHRISTIAN VILLAGE... the ideal setting for your Family Vacation, Camps or Church Retreat!

- Comfortable Chalets and Lodges sleeping anywhere from 2 to 100 people, on a 44 acre campus.
- Year round heated pool and a playground.
- Firepit, pavillion, vollyball, basketball and walking trails.
- Fully equipped kitchens, dining rooms, living rooms, and gas grills.
- Located across the street from Dollywood and 10 minutes away from all the fun and shopping of Pigeon Forge.

Let us give you grace-filled Southern Hospitality and a safe environment for the family.

facebook

www.tsmcv.org 866-947-7710

NAMB's revised mission statement to focus largely on church planting

By Mickey Noah
North American Mission Board

Alpharetta, Ga.—To simplify and re-focus its ministry assignments—as directed by the Southern Baptist Convention last summer—North American Mission Board trustees adopted a six-item mission statement during their meeting last week in Alpharetta, Ga. The new statement reflects NAMB's priority shift to church planting.

"The North American Mission Board exists to work with churches, associations and state conventions in mobilizing Southern Baptists as a missional force to impact North America with the gospel of Jesus Christ through evangelism and church planting," the revised ministry mission statement reads.

The new statement—consolidating NAMB's former ministry assignments from nine to six—cites the six primary areas of work the missions entity will employ to accomplish its Great Commission-driven strategy:

- Assist churches in planting healthy, multiplying, evangelistic SBC churches in the United States and Canada.
- Assist churches in the ministries of evangelism and making disciples.
- Assist churches by appointing, supporting and assuring accountability for missionaries serving in the U.S. and Canada.
- Assist churches by providing missions education and coordinating volunteer missions opportunities for church members.
- Assist churches by providing leadership development.
- Assist churches in relief ministries to victims of disaster and other people in need.

Leadership development is an addition to NAMB's mission statement. Ezell announced that responsibility for NAMB's evolving leadership development area will be placed under Larry Wynn, the entity's vice president for evangelism.

"We will give new focus to revitalizing church-



REDIRECTING FOCUS North American Mission Board President Kevin Ezell addresses trustees during the group's May 11 meeting in Alpharetta, Ga. Looking on are (from left) Doug Dieterly, first chairman of NAMB's board, and Tim Dowdy, chairman. (Photo by John Swain/NAMB)

es, encouraging pastors and developing a leadership network," Ezell said. "And we want to establish relationships with existing and ongoing ministries who also do leadership. We want to come up with a best-practices program."

The proposed mission statement supersedes an earlier one adopted in 1995 and will go to the SBC Executive Committee for consideration at its June meeting. If approved by EC members, the statement will be voted on by SBC messengers at next month's annual meeting in Phoenix.

In other business, trustees approved Ezell's nomination of Steve Bass as vice president of NAMB's West Region. Ezell also announced the appointments of Stan Albright as NAMB's national director for associations and Micah Millican as director of church planter relations, both effective June 1.

He announced, too, that NAMB cooperative strategies team leader Walter Mickels has been named as associate vice president for the South Region states of Georgia, Florida, Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Tennessee and Kentucky. (BP)

Welch joins Tenn. convention

Brentwood, Tenn.—Bobby Welch, Global Evangelical Relations strategist with the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee since 2007, has been named associate executive director of church growth with the Tennessee Baptist Convention. He will continue to assist the Executive Committee in a reduced role.

According to the Tennessee Baptist and Reflector, Welch, in his new role, will be responsible for developing, coordinating, promoting and equipping Tennessee Baptist churches in a statewide strategy of church planting, church revitalization and evangelism. The TBC Executive Board unanimously elected Welch to the position May 10.

Frank Page, president of the

Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee, said he and Welch have been in "conversation for quite some time about this possible new arrangement."

He explained, Welch "came to me some months ago with the possibility of joining with another, wholly compatible ministry," Page said, "so that he might continue the Global Evangelical Relations ministry on a much-reduced basis and still help Baptists in evangelistic ministry."

Page said TBC exec Randy Davis "is fully aware and supportive" of Welch's continued work with GER.

Welch, who was SBC president from 2004-06, served as pastor of First Baptist Church of Daytona Beach, Fla., for 32 years. (BP)

Carpenter BUS SALES

going the extra mile since 1953

We Rent Buses!
15 to 41 Passenger
Buses Available
Call for Rates



LifeWay
CHURCH BUS SALES
Biblical Solutions for Life
A Service of LifeWay Christian Stores

Visit www.carpenterbus.com to see over 100 New & Used Buses in Stock. We buy buses and welcome Trade-Ins.

CALL TOLL FREE: 800.370.6180

What does their future hold?

Class of 2011 made great strides during time at OBI, academically & spiritually

On May 14 Oneida had its 103rd commencement service. We know that, like most other schools, we never will see some of the students of the class of 2011 again. But the impact we have had in their lives hopefully will serve them "for time and eternity."

With all of the technology available today, it is very likely that we will be hearing about our graduates for decades to come. I confess I feel quite proud when I hear about our alumni who are providing services to groups of people who have special needs. Hopefully those graduates learned some important life lessons from our faculty and staff about the special blessings that come from serving others. Nearly everyone appreciates being compensated for their labor, but there are rewards and blessings that transcend monetary compensation.

It is especially rewarding to know that many of Oneida's graduates will be returning to their native countries when they have completed their education here at OBI and in the U.S. We had international students in the class of 2011 from Tanzania, Vietnam, South Korea, Ethiopia, Mongolia, Liberia, Canada, Thailand, Sierra Leone and China. Additionally, there were students in the class from all across Kentucky and more than a dozen other states.

It also is rewarding to know how hard the class of 2011 worked to obtain academic excellence. The class of 2010 set a school record when 78 percent of the them earned advanced diplomas. While the class of 2011 didn't do quite as well, I'm thrilled that 75 percent of the class also

earned advanced diplomas.

Please keep in mind that our students must meet the same requirements as all Kentucky public school students. To earn an advanced diploma, the student must take three math and three science classes from a pre-college preparatory program (one during his or her senior year). He or she must take two years of a foreign language, one additional social studies class and—as required exclusively by OBI—one year of Bible class. It takes a lot of extra effort and time to meet those requirements. Most of those students are preparing for college, so the advanced classes are needed.

It also is with pride that we hear our graduates share how OBI has impacted their lives spiritually. Some admittedly came to us as non-believers and will be leaving us with a spiritual void in their lives. But the vast majority of this class falls into one of two other groups. The first consists of students who came to us from Christian homes but admittedly never took their spiritual commitments seriously. Many have told us about their spiritual growth while they have been at OBI. The second group came to us as non-believers but now claim Christ as Lord of their lives.

Nearly every year for the past six years, we have had at least one student from China in the graduating class. And to my knowledge every year at least one, and often two, of our Chinese students has accepted Christ as Savior. I trust you will rejoice with us knowing that we have had an eternal impact in the lives of our graduates.

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

Senior memories

Clear Creek graduates reflect on their time at the school

The month of May means graduation time at Clear Creek. It always has been a tradition at Clear Creek graduations to share the favorite memories of each graduate as they walk across the stage to receive the diploma they have worked so hard to get. I thought you would like to read some of the favorite memories of this year's graduates.

"My fondest Clear Creek memories are learning to trust God more each day; learning how to better organize my time; and learning how to study the Bible." —Joseph Dowell

"My fondest ... memories are the special events I have enjoyed here like the tree lighting at Christmas-time and movie night at Kelly Hall. I believe the most enjoyment has been the times to talk and pray with my brothers and sisters in sharing what the Lord is doing in our lives." —Greg Jones

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." I am so thankful that God's plan for my life has included allowing me to serve Him here at Clear Creek Baptist Bible College. My

fondest Clear Creek memory is the sweet people I met and got to know." —Melissa Abernathy

"My fondest ... memory is meeting my husband at Clear Creek and establishing my first home there with him." —Ashley Dean

"My fondest ... memory is meeting my wife. She is amazing and I am very fortunate to have her." —Jonathon Derek Dean

"My fondest ... memory comes in the form of developing lasting friendships. I was assigned a roommate my freshman year who I knew nothing about. He is now one of my best friends and someone I can talk to about ministry." —Matthew Ryan Doane

"My fondest ... memories are the friends I have made and relationships that will last for a lifetime; and the experience and knowledge of God that will last even longer. I have been blessed by loving teachers, timeless memories and, most of all, meeting a very special guy that I have grown to love more every day. I am sad to go but thank God that I came." —Marlanda Brooke Bowlin

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

Where is bin Laden now? Most Americans say he's in hell

By Nicole Neroulis

Washington—While Americans have debated whether Osama bin Laden's body belongs at the bottom of the Arabian Sea, most agree on the final destination of his soul: in hell.

A new poll released last week reveals that most Americans (82 percent) believe bin Laden distorted the teachings of Islam to suit his own purposes, and nearly two-thirds (65 percent) agree he will be "eternally punished for his sins in hell."

Evangelical Christians, at 80 percent, are most convinced bin Laden will spend eternity in hell, according to the poll conducted by Public Religion Research Institute in partnership with Religion News Service a few days after the al-Qaida founder was shot by U.S. troops in Pakistan.

In contrast, only about two-thirds of Catholics, white mainline Protestants and minority Christians—and less than half the religiously unaffiliated—agree that bin Lad-

en is in hell.

Stephen Prothero, a Boston University religion professor, said the numbers struck him as low, particularly among evangelicals. But the "eternally" part of the question may have prompted hesitation among some respondents, he said, compounded by questions about hell raised by Rob Bell's recent book, "Love Wins."

Americans are more conflicted over whether Christian values are consistent with the raucous celebrations that broke out after bin Laden was killed. About 60 percent of respondents—ranging from seven in 10 minority Christians to little more than half of white mainline Protestants—believe the Bible's message, "Do not rejoice when your enemies fall," applies to the death of bin Laden.

Clark West, a chaplain at Cornell University, said the Bible sends mixed messages on such celebrations—examples of rejoicing over an enemy's downfall, as well as

the admonition from Proverbs.

"Scriptures can be found both supporting and critiquing such celebrations," he said. "There can be healing for a trauma survivor in recovering a joyful sense that evil will not have the last word, but human events like the killing of bin Laden should not be confused with the divine vanquishing of evil."

But for Sept. 11 survivors and victims' families, "quiet prayer and attentiveness," rather than raucous celebration, may provide a greater sense of healing, he said.

In other findings:

- A slim majority (53 percent) of Americans say the U.S. should follow the Golden Rule and not use any methods on our enemies that we would not want used on our own soldiers—down from 2008, when 62 percent agreed.

- Younger Americans between the ages of 18 and 34 (69 percent) are more likely to believe the Bible passage about not celebrat-

ing "when your enemies fall" applies to bin Laden than do those age 65 and older (47 percent).

- Religiously unaffiliated Americans (57 percent) are significantly more likely than Christians to say the use of torture against suspected terrorists can never be justified. Catholics, at 53 percent, are the Christian group most likely to say torture can never be justified.

- Majorities of white evangelicals (54 percent) and minority Christians (51 percent) believe God had a hand in locating bin Laden, compared to only a third of white mainline Protestants and 42 percent of Catholics.

- A slim majority (51 percent) of Americans believe God has granted the U.S. a special role in human history, led by two-thirds of evangelicals and nearly as many (63 percent) minority Christians, compared to 51 percent of Catholics and white mainline Protestants. (RNS)

Navy suspends policy to allow gay weddings

Washington—The U.S. Navy reversed course May 10 on plans to allow chaplains to officiate at same-sex marriage ceremonies once the military's ban on openly gay members is repealed.

Rear Adm. Mark Tidd, the Navy chief of chaplains, said in an announcement to chaplains his previous memo about the repeal of the Don't Ask/Don't Tell policy was "suspended until further notice."

The reversal follows opposition from Republican leaders and some chaplains who argued that permitting gay weddings on bases in states where same-sex marriage is legal violated the federal Defense of Marriage Act, which defines marriage as between one man and one woman.

"It was suspended in order for us to thoroughly review the associated legal and policy matters," said Cmdr. Danny Hernandez, a Navy spokesman.

The Pentagon's Eileen Lainez recently told the Navy Times that "DOMA does not limit the type of religious ceremonies a chaplain may perform in a chapel on a military installation."

On May 11, Lainez also said the policy is under review.

In his April 13 memo, Tidd said a chaplain "may officiate" at a same-sex wedding if participation is "consistent with the tenets of his or her religious organization."

Elaine Donnelly, president of the Center for Military Readiness, who opposes gays serving openly in the military, said the Navy's action could be temporary and urged Congress to review Pentagon plans before a full repeal.

"This weather-vane policy is likely to change back as soon as all the branches of service get on board and Congress looks the other way," she said. (RNS)

Indiana bans Planned Parenthood funds

Indianapolis—Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels signed into law May 10 expansive pro-life legislation that includes a ban on state-directed funding of abortion providers such as Planned Parenthood.

In doing so, the Republican governor likely made Indiana the first state to enact such a prohibition on money for organizations that perform or promote abortion. The law exempts hospitals and outpatient surgery centers. The measure will eliminate about \$2 million of the \$3 million in federal funds Planned Parenthood of Indiana receives each year, according to The Indianapolis Star.

Planned Parenthood of Indiana filed a lawsuit hours after Daniels signed the legislation, but federal judge Tanya Walton Pratt denied the organization's request that she block enforcement of the new law, The Star reported. The measure will remain in effect while Pratt considers the new law's constitutionality.

Indiana Right to Life reported the new law also authorizes the state to bar abortions at 20 weeks gestation based on evidence that unborn babies are capable of feeling pain at that point; empowers Indiana to opt out of abortion coverage in health exchanges called for by last year's health care reform law; mandates written information on abortion be given to women considering the procedure; and requires abortion doctors to have admitting privileges at a local hospital.

Daniels "has now established Indiana as one of the leading pro-life states in the nation," Indiana Right to Life President Mike Fichter said in a written statement. "This legislation places Indiana on the vanguard of efforts to protect the unborn, to deny public funds to businesses that profit from abortion, and to ensure that women considering abortion have full and factual information about such issues as fetal development and alternatives to abortion." (BP)

Bill & Kay Mackey's legacy

Mackeys establish fund to support CP as best way to spread gospel

Bill Mackey is the fourth KBC executive leader with whom I have had the privilege of serving these past 40 years. And in the spirit of Mordecai's profession of divine providence about Queen Esther, I can profess each of these godly leaders responded to the call to lead Kentucky Baptists "for such a time as this."

As Bill retires May 31, having been the KBC executive director since Feb. 1, 1998, the KBF is honored to feature and pay tribute to Bill and Kay in the summer edition of our newsletter, "Living Legacy." You can access it at www.KentuckyBaptistFoundation.blogspot.com.

I have not known anyone who has demonstrated a greater passion than Bill Mackey for strengthening local churches and expanding their visions of world evangelization and their commitments to the Cooperative Program as the best way to connect all people to Jesus Christ. As a fellow Kentucky Baptist and KBC-related entity leader, I say, "Thank you Bill, and job well done!"

Bill and Kay, high school sweethearts from Lancaster County, S.C., married in 1963. Across the years these two Great Commission Christians have said as much,

if not more, by their lives as they have said by their lips.

And now, they are leaving a lasting legacy of their love for Christ and His mission in this world and their confidence in the Cooperative Program as the most effective way to facilitate the accomplishment of the Great Commission by establishing with the KBF the Bill and Kay Mackey Endowment Fund for the Cooperative Program.

You can express your appreciation, admiration and affection for Bill and Kay and their leadership by making a contribution of any amount to this endowment fund. You can send a check payable to the KBF designated for this fund to: P.O. Box 436389, Louisville, KY 40253.

For gifts of appreciated assets, please call me or Laurie Valentine.

Thank you, Bill and Kay, for your conviction, your confidence and your witness. May we all emulate your example!

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

Ky. Baptist Foundation



Barry Allen

Time for camp

Eliza Broadus offering helps make possible full summer of camp fun

Amid sleeping bags, swimsuits, Bibles and lots of giggles, campers and leaders soon will head to missions camps and overnights at Cedar Crest and Jonathan Creek. The Eliza Broadus offering will be at camp, too, underwriting the cost of the camps sponsored by Kentucky WMU. Fees paid by our campers cover only lodging, meals, and a small program fee for a T-shirt and craft materials. Expenses for camp staff, missionaries, and adventure recreation are provided by EBO.

Kentucky WMU camps and overnights are different in that they include missions throughout. Each week campers meet and talk with missionaries, eat meals with them and learn about their work. The camp experience also includes a missions unit, related ministry project, and the camp offering always is used for missions.

Beyond camps and overnights, EBO goes on the road for several weeks of associational camps. Under the leadership of camp director Stacy Nall, our camp staff spends time in selected associations conducting day camps which have similar content to our residential camps.

During the 2011 Ky. WMU annual meet-

ing, Karis Bogle and her mom, Bernie, shared their camp testimonies. Karis made a profession of faith after a cabin devotional.

During the annual meeting, we sang some of the fun songs that campers learn.

You can have fun singing, swimming and learning with us by bringing campers from your church. EBO makes it possible for chaperones of weeklong camps to come with their campers at a reduced rate. We also have a limited number of scholarships which provide half the camp cost.

Kentucky WMU offers three weeks of camp and three overnights at Cedar Crest in June and July. We offer three simultaneous overnights at Jonathan Creek, June 24-25. Learn more about missions camps at www.KyWMU.org/Camp.

Please pray for our campers and chaperones. Pray that campers will be saved and respond to God's calling on their lives. Pray that future missionaries will be sensitive to God's leading in their lives. Pray for our camp staff and missionaries. Pray for safety as well as a great camp experience for everyone. And remember, you're never too old for camp. Join us!

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

May

- 20-22 Kentucky Baptist Conference of the Deaf, Cedarmore Camp and Conference Center, Bagdad.
- 23-24 Youth Ministers' Spring Retreat, Thomas & King Leadership and Conference Center, Georgetown.

June

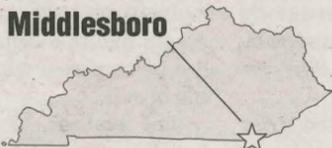
- 4 Church Weekday Education Seminar, Crestwood Baptist Church.
- 11-17 Kentucky Changers, Bullitt County.
- 12-13 National WMU Missions Celebration and Annual Meeting, Phoenix.
- 14-15 Southern Baptist Convention Annual Meeting, Phoenix.
- 18-24 Kentucky Changers, Paducah.
- 19-26 All-State Youth Choir and Orchestra Retreat and Tour, Campbellsville University.
- 20-24 Mission Adventure Camp for Girls, CedarCrest Camp, Bagdad.
- 24-25 Acteens Splash, Jonathan Creek Camp and Conference Center, Hardin.
- 24-25 Courage 2011, Camp Joy Baptist Assembly, Brownsville.
- 24-25 Girls in Action Overnight, Jonathan Creek Camp and Conference Center, Hardin.
- 24-25 Mother/Daughter Overnight, CedarCrest Camp, Bagdad; Jonathan Creek Camp and Conference Center, Hardin.
- 25 Kentucky Baptist Nursing Fellowship Summer Meeting and Continuing Education Session, Louisville.
- 27-7/1 Mission Adventure Camp for Girls, CedarCrest Camp, Bagdad.

MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

Spotlight on ...

Middlesboro



Binghamtown Church hosted commencement services for Clear Creek Bible College May 6. President **Donnie Fox** presented 15 students with degrees at the ceremony. **William Boyd Bingham** is pastor.

more information, call (606) 528-6650.

■ **ELIZABETHTOWN**—Colesburg Church will celebrate its 120th anniversary May 22, 11 a.m., with **Raymond Ward**, former director of missions for Severns Valley Association, as guest speaker. The church also will hold tent revival services May 23-25, 6:30 p.m., with Evange-

list **Dale Rose** and **Ellen Popham**, music minister at Ovesen Heights Church in Hodgenville, as music leader. **Kyle Page** is pastor.

■ **HENDERSON**—Airline Church will hold revival services May 20-21, 6:30 p.m.; May 22, 10:45 a.m., with **Van Yandell**, a Mission Service Corps missionary from Fredonia, as evangelist. **Rodney Groff** is pastor.

New Hope Church will hold revival services May 22-26, 7 p.m., with **Bob Morrison**, director of missions for Little Bethel Association, as evangelist. **Donald Berry** is pastor.

■ **HODGENVILLE**—First Church's children's choir will present the musical "Go Go Jonah" May 22, 6 p.m.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Hurstbourne Church will hold a Christian estate planning seminar May 22, 5 p.m., with **Barry Allen** and **Laurie Valentine** of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation. **Mike O'Neal** is pastor.

Shively Church will host

Amazed in concert May 22, 6 p.m. For more information, call (502) 367-9155. **Bill Gressette** is pastor.

Walnut Street Church will host a performance by the **Living Hope Angels** from China May 22, 8:30 & 10:50 a.m. For more information, call (502) 589-5290. **Rusty Ellison** is pastor.

■ **MAYSVILLE**—Plainview Church will hold revival services May 18-22, 7 p.m., with **Todd Wiley**, pastor of Mount Pisgah Church in Ewing, as evangelist. **Albert Simmons** is pastor.

■ **WAYNESBURG**—Pleasant View Church recently ordained **Nick Bastin**, **David Blakeman**, **Jeremy Blanton**, **Josh Brown**, **John Cook**, **John Peek**, **Willie Petrey**, **Doug Ruckel** and **Mark Wilson** as deacons. **John Penick** is pastor.

■ **WILLIAMSBURG**—First Church's Young Musicians Choir will present the musical "Moses and the Freedom Fanatics" May 22, 11 a.m.

IMB, NAMB presidents discuss ways to 'penetrate lostness'

By Erich Bridges
International Mission Board

Richmond, Va.—Southern Baptists' two mission boards have differing ministry assignments but one overarching vision: Mobilize every church to evangelize the lost, make disciples and plant new churches.

"Working together, we can do more than we can do apart," said Tom Elliff, president of the International Mission Board, who met recently with Kevin Ezell, president of the North American Mission Board, to brainstorm ways to partner in realizing that vision.

"We're keenly aware that Southern Baptists have two different mission boards with two different ministry statements," Elliff said, "but we're making a determined effort to forge a new and stronger relationship."

The mutual goal of the two mission boards, Ezell said, is to "work together seamlessly, because we're all trying to penetrate lostness—just in different parts of the world. There's really no reason we can't do that together."

Elliff, a former pastor, missionary and Southern Baptist Convention leader who was elected IMB

president March 1, and Ezell, also a veteran pastor who was elected to lead NAMB last September, met one on one and with top IMB leadership at IMB's offices in Richmond, Va.

The two executives talked about "dozens" of ideas, as Elliff put it. Both men stated it was an exploratory starting point of discussions, but they indicated potential projects could include missionary training, sharing church planting strategies, and joint initiatives aimed at engaging members of unreached people groups living in North America.

"We put a lot of things on the table," Ezell said. "To me it would be foolish of the North American Mission Board not to use the expertise of the International Mission Board in helping us when significant percentages of the ethnic groups in our major cities are largely unreached."

"What we want to do is penetrate lostness. Obviously there are some things we do distinctively apart. But there are some things we need to do distinctively together," Ezell said.

NAMB's overarching goal, Ezell said recently, is to "mobilize and equip thousands of churches—along with the (Southern Baptist) associations and existing church planting networks—to engage in church planting."

Elliff indicated his top priority as IMB leader immediately after his March election, using part of his acceptance speech to challenge Southern Baptists to embrace all of the estimated 3,800 people groups overseas that are both unengaged and unreached by the gospel—and to do it in one year following the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in June.

The ultimate goal: "that every people group on this globe (will have) some church committed to take specific steps to strategize, to pray over, to learn about and discover some way that the gospel witness can be shared with those people."

"I can't tell you how excited I am for us to be able to work together like

this, to be partners in the best sense of the word," Ezell said. "Tom has always been a hero of mine. I've always looked up to him as a pastor, and I'm honored to be able to work with him."

Elliff said the respect is mutual. "Kevin's years of pastoring have giv-

en him great insights on effective ways to mobilize our churches for reaching the lost, discipling and church planting."

It will take "all hands on deck," Elliff noted, to take the good news of Jesus Christ to the millions of spiritually lost people. (BP)

CLASSIFIED ADS

To place an advertisement:
Rates are available upon request.
Call (502) 489-3428;
or visit www.WesternRecorder.org.
Claims made by advertisers are not necessarily those of the Western Recorder's staff or directors.

NEEDED: Portable baptistry for Winchester prison ministry. Information: Call Central Baptist Church, (859) 744-4328.

SEEKING: Part-time minister of music who will be responsible for planning weekly worship services, working with adult choir and all instrumentalists at Bardwell Baptist Church in Bardwell, Ky. For more information, contact Pastor Rodney Bice at (270) 628-3645; or bbcpastor1@windstream.net.

SEEKING: Full-time, experienced student/college pastor for FBC Murray, Ky. Please send resumés to fbcmurray@fbcmurray.org; or to Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 203 S. 4th St., Murray, KY 40271. Deadline is Sunday, May 15.

SEEKING: Director of missions for Tates Creek Baptist Association. A strong missions-minded person with active involvement in associational work is desired. Final candidates subject to background checks. Please send resumés to: Tates Creek Association, PO Box 69, Berea, KY 40403, Attn: DOM Search Committee; or tcbasearch.com@yahoo.com. Resumés accepted through May 31.

SEEKING: Full-time student pastor. Will be working with students who are in kindergarten through 12th grade. Resumé deadline is June 8, 2011. Please send resumé to Tusculum Baptist Church, 775 Erwin Hwy., Greenville, TN 37745, Attn: Danny Bentley. Any questions, call (423) 638-8361.

SEEKING: Part-time youth pastor, South Campbellsville Baptist. Experience preferred; possible housing furnished. Send resumé to scbc@windstream.net.

SEEKING: Minister with preschoolers and families for Central Baptist Bearden, Knoxville, Tenn. Previous experience required. CBF/SBC church averaging 100 preschoolers a Sunday. Church profile, position profile, recommendation and application forms available at www.cbcbearden.org; click "Resources," then "Employment."

SEEKING: Full-time coordinator of student ministries—including youth ministries for 6th through 12th grades (75%) and college/secondary education ministries (25%) for Gardenside Baptist Church in Lexington, Ky. Coordinator is responsible for planning, developing, implementing and directing outreach, education and discipleship programs for both our youth and college ministries. Coordinator works along with ministry and administrative staff under the supervision of the pastor to build the church's capacity to disciple and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. A degree and/or work experience in youth or student ministries is preferred. Salary commensurate with education. Please e-mail resumé to gbcjobsearch@gmail.com. Go to www.gardensidebaptist.com for more information about Gardenside Baptist Church and a pdf version of the full job description.

SEEKING: Senior pastor for Salem Baptist Church in rural Western Ky. (150+ attendance). Prefer 5+ years pastoral experience and seminary degree. Send resumé and references to: Glenn Gordon, Pastor Search Committee, 1145 Pinckneyville Road, Salem, KY 42078.



MEETING OF THE MINDS North American Mission Board President Kevin Ezell (left) met recently with International Mission Board President Tom Elliff to brainstorm new ways to partner in reaching the lost. "Working together, we can do more than we can do apart," Elliff said. Taking the gospel to the millions of spiritually lost people in the United States and around the world "is going to take all hands on deck."

Wins, losses and toss-ups

By David Jeremiah

Some days we feel like winners. Other days we feel like losers. But for the child of God, there's never really a losing season. It's important to know what the score is. I'd like to point you to the great scoreboard of the word of God and show you some winning numbers.

these words: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

How wonderful to sleep with God's promise for a pillow and His grace for a blanket. How wonderful to play the game of life when we already know we've won through our risen Christ, and that the score is 46-1!

FIRST PERSON

13-5

If you know Christ as your Savior, the score is always 13-5, as in Hebrews 13:5: "For He himself has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you.'" Those words were penned to a group of Hebrew Christians who were growing discouraged by opposition and threats of persecution. In writing to them, the author of Hebrews reminded them of a thrice-given promise made to Joshua. In the Book of Hebrews, we learn that this wasn't just Joshua's promise. It's a universal promise for all God's children. The writer of Hebrews told his readers they could claim it for themselves, and so can you.

Do you feel like a loser? Do you think the score's going against you? Maybe it is a problem at work or at home. Perhaps there's a conflict brewing in your church. Some who are reading this are battling physical problems, and you're worried about a doctor's appointment.

Remember the score is Hebrews 13:5. The Lord has told you He will never leave nor forsake you, and that makes us more than winners through Him who loves us.

46-1

Another winning number is 46-1. In Psalm 46:1, the Lord is called a Very Present Help in Trouble. I've capitalized those words because they could serve as a title for God. Try using it in prayer: "I come to Thee, O Thou Very Present Help in Trouble, with my need"

In 1947, missionaries Dick and Margaret Hillis settled with their four children in the Honan province of China. War between Chiang Kai-shek and the forces of Mao Tse-tung broke out. As bombs destroyed a neighbor's house, the family prayed. Kneeling beside Margaret Anne's bed, Dick noticed a scrap of paper stuffed under her pillow. On it was printed in big, childlike letters

41-10

Another number in God's score-book is 41-10. This is a verse all of us should memorize; it's one of the most comforting promises in the Bible: Isaiah 41:10—"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."

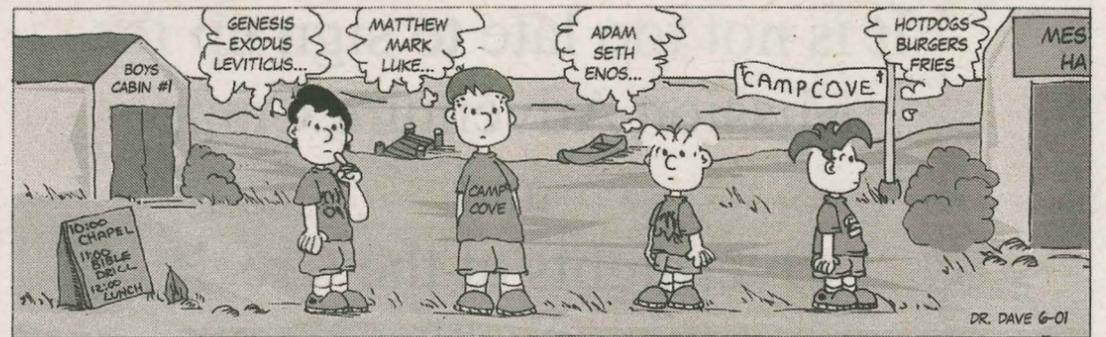
The well-known commentator Matthew Henry wrote that this promise is given to teach us to depend upon God's presence all the time, knowing that He is all-sufficient even in the worst of times. "Observe with what tenderness God speaks," Henry observes, "and how willing He is to let the heirs of promise know the immutability of His counsel, and how desirous to make them easy...." Henry points out how every phrase is designed to bolster our spirits and meet our needs:

- Are you afraid? Fear not!
- Are you alone? I am with you!
- Are you confused? Be not dismayed! ("Do not anxiously look about you," NASV)
- Do you need help greater than your own? I am your God!
- Are you weak? I will strengthen you!
- Are you at wit's end? I will help you!
- Do you feel like you're falling? I will uphold you with My righteous right hand!

Whatever you are experiencing—wins, losses or toss-ups—remember the numbers on God's scoreboard. He will never leave you nor forsake you. He is a very present help in trouble. And He will uphold you by His righteous right hand until the score is settled and the final victory is won. (BP)

David Jeremiah is the founder and host of Turning Point for God and senior pastor of Shadow Mountain Community Church in El Cajon, Calif.

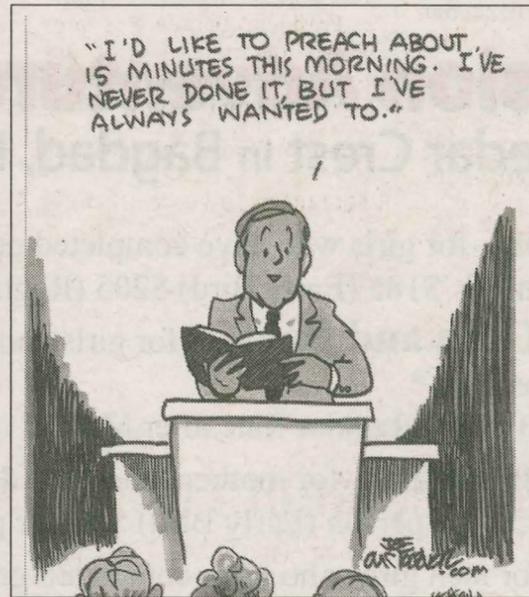
Preacher's Kids



Joe McKeever

Brother Bloop

Dennis Daniel



Bible Crosswords

By Mary Louise DeMott

Across

- 1 Father of 23 and 48 Across (Genesis 4:21)
- 4 Father of those who dwell in tents (Genesis 4:20)
- 8 A tract of open grassland
- 10 Pursuing wild animals for food
- 13 A length measured in yards
- 16 To rub or scrape out
- 17 Serial, abbr.
- 18 Suitable
- 20 Iridium, chem. symbol
- 21 Dry cut stalks of grain
- 23 Musical instrument with strings stretched on a roughly triangular frame
- 24 Barium, chem. symbol
- 26 Fermented grape juice
- 28 No
- 30 Using land to grow crops
- 33 Color of the sky
- 35 First note of the musical scale
- 36 Argon, chem. symbol
- 37 "_____ the mighty hunter" (Genesis 10:8-9)
- 40 A bag, or envelope, inflated with air
- 41 Rural Electrification Administration, abbr.
- 42 Einsteinium, chem. symbol
- 43 Mystery writer Christie's first name

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

- 46 Latin, Locus Sigilli, means place of the seal, abbr.
- 47 School, abbr.
- 48 Musical instrument made of pipes, that air is forced through

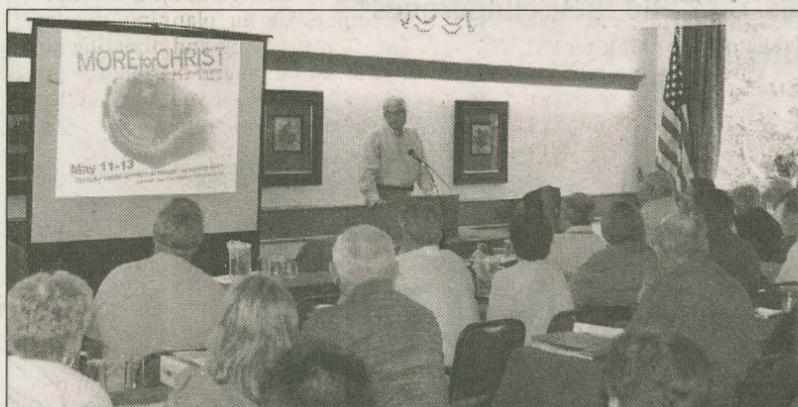
- 19 Tantalum, chem. symbol
- 21 Number 39 Down turns this when he works
- 22 Opposite of husband
- 24 Bachelor of Arts, abbr.
- 25 Opposite of 28 Across
- 27 Sodium, chem. symbol
- 28 National Guard, abbr.
- 29 Fluid, abbr.
- 31 Mother
- 32 Noncommissioned Officer, abbr.
- 34 Mottled yellow and green citrus fruits
- 36 Father of 7 Down (Genesis 4:2)
- 37 Built the ark, the father of zoology (Genesis 6:13-14)
- 38 To pull something with difficulty
- 39 Father of 30 Across
- 44 Preposition
- 45 Home run, abbr.

Down

- 1 A summer month
- 2 A person who carries something
- 3 Unit of money in Turkey
- 4 A summer month
- 5 Thorny or prickly plant with woody stem
- 6 Forward section of lowest balcony
- 7 Tending a flock of sheep
- 9 Opposite of west
- 11 Walk or run with quick, light steps
- 12 Not specified, abbr.
- 14 To pull back his hunting equipment for 37 Across
- 15 Gallium, chem. symbol

Last week's solution

1	F	A	N	4	S	A	G
7	A	S	I	D	E	9	P
12	P	I	R	S	T	13	S
14	N	I	L	18	T	19	N
17	O	R	E	18	S	H	E
21	D	E	N	L	M	B	22
23	T	R	E	24	A	N	E
25	B	A	N	27	E	28	S
31	A	M	I	32	P	R	I
34	T	A	G	35	S	36	L
37	S	H	E	38	H	40	E
43	S	T	A	44	G	45	R
45	T	A	H	46	O	47	W



DOM EVENT About 90 Directors of Missions and their spouses attended the annual DOM leadership event, May 11-13, at Mammoth Cave National Park. Frank Page, president and chief executive officer of the SBC Executive Committee, led four sessions focusing on Kentucky Baptists' More for Christ emphasis.

Smile! The Western Recorder showcases photos of people and events from Kentucky Baptist churches. Submit photos to Smile@WesternRecorder.org or through our website at www.WesternRecorder.org/info/submit-items.

Ahoy Kentucky Campers!

It is not too late to sign up for
Mission Adventure Camp
and
Overnights at the Creek

Don't miss out on the fun!



Mission Adventure Camp at Cedar Crest in Bagdad, Kentucky

- **Girls in Action Camps**—for girls who have completed grades 3-6 and their chaperones*
June 20-24 and June 27-July 1 \$185 (Early Bird) \$205 (Regular Rate after May 27)
- **Childrens Camp for Girls and Boys** — for girls and boys who have completed grades 3-6 and their church chaperones *
July 5-8 \$140 (Early Bird) \$155 (Regular Rate after May 27)
- **Mother/Daughter Overnights**—for mothers and their daughters who have completed grades 1-3
June 24-25 and July 1-2 \$53 per person (Early Bird) \$58 per person (Regular Rate after May 27)
- **Acteens Overnight**—for teen girls who have completed grades 7-12 and their church chaperones*
July 1-2 \$53 per person (Early Bird) \$58 per person (Regular Rate after May 27)

*One adult female chaperone is needed for every seven girls;
one adult male chaperone is needed for every seven boys



June 24-25, 2011

Mother Daughter Overnight—for girls who have completed 1-3 grade and their mothers
\$40 per person (Early Bird) \$45 per person (Regular Rate after May 27)

GA Overnight—for girls who have completed grades 4-6 and their chaperones*
\$45 per person (Early Bird) \$50 per person (Regular Rate after May 27)

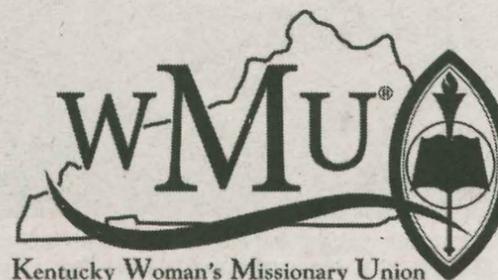
Acteens Splash—for teenage girls who have completed grades 7-12 and their chaperones*
\$48 per person (Early Bird) \$53 per person (Regular Rate after May 27)

*One adult chaperone for every six girls is needed

Contact Kentucky WMU for more information

P.O. Box 436569, Louisville, KY 40253-6569
502-489-3534 or (toll free in KY) 866- 489-3534

**Camp information and registration
forms are available on line:
www.kywmu.org/camp**



Mission Adventure Camp and Overnights at the Creek are sponsored by Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union and made possible by your gifts to the Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions and the Cooperative Program