

Shine like stars in the world
Philippians 2:15

WESTERN Recorder

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Oneida Baptist Institute
Father's Day Offering
See insert

FOR THE RECORD

Kentucky
Historical society book seeks to highlight leading Kentucky Baptists of the 20th century. *Page 2.*



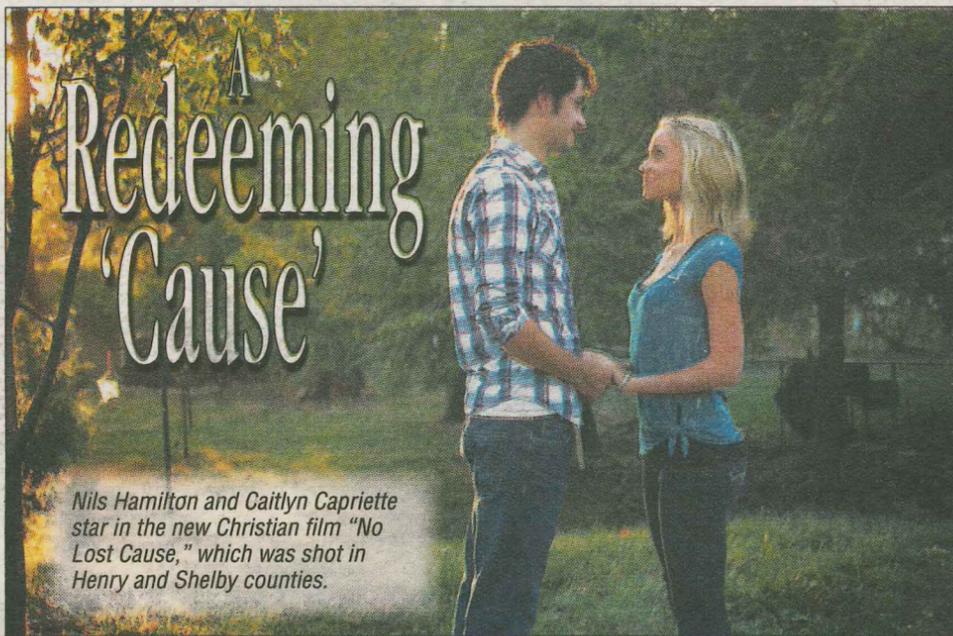
Nation
Disaster relief teams dealing with tornado clean-up and flooding now have hurricanes to think about. *Page 6.*



SBC Preview
Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee will review assignments of both IMB, NAMB next week. *Page 9.*

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Nils Hamilton and Caitlyn Capriette star in the new Christian film "No Lost Cause," which was shot in Henry and Shelby counties.

Independent film is realization of dream for young filmmaker

By Robin Bass
Partnerships Director

Frankfort—Rachael Yeager's eyes darted nervously about the makeshift movie theater at Frankfort's Kentucky Historical Society. It was the premiere of her first independent Christian film, "No Lost Cause," and of all things to fail—the voice track had faded to a whisper. Yeager paced behind the audience in her flowing blue gown before decidedly turning on her high heels in search of solution.

"It was a faulty cord," the 21-year-old writer and co-director explained a few days later when she was, understandably, much calmer.

The hiccup reiterated all the ups and downs Yeager experienced making the shoe-string-budget film with borrowed equipment and an all-volunteer cast and crew.

"You can put your faith in cameras or equipment, but at some point you realize it's all in God's hands," she said. "He really did help us through it every step of the way."

Two years ago, Yeager was putting something else in God's hands—the decision to heal her from choroidal neovascularization, a degenerative eye disease normally found in adults three times her age. Among her treatments was being secluded in her home for five days with the shades drawn and the lights turned off. Doctors were perplexed, she said, and they prepared her for the worst.

Yeager was distraught. Not only could she lose her sight, but the probability of fulfilling her dream to make movies seemed to be fading as well.

"I remember calling Ashley (Raymer) ... See *Movie mirrors filmmaker's ... Page 7*

Putting 'flowery words in action'

Disaster relief volunteers continue cleanup in Alabama

By Jon Wilke

Birmingham, Ala.—Clarence Smith, a 71-year-old semi-retired brick mason, hid in his chimney hearth during the storms that ravaged Alabama in April.

"It was scary," said Smith, a widower who lives on a dead-end street in the Pratt City neighborhood of Birmingham.

He heard the trees snapping and felt the thump of debris striking his house. When he emerged, Smith was one of the fortunate ones. Even though every tree within 75 yards of his 35-year-old home was on the ground, his house only suffered minor roof damage and his deck was missing a few rails.

One block over, it's a different story. Whole neighborhoods are leveled. People's homes now are a mass of timber, trees and debris. A late-model Ford Explorer SUV is buried beneath a downed pine tree. One house is missing most of its roof and exterior walls, but two glass chandeliers still hang in what's left of the kitchen.

Smith has been through bad weather before. This time he knew where to hide.



CLEAN-UP CREW A volunteer disaster relief team from Long Hollow Baptist Church in Hendersonville, Tenn., worked in tornado-ravaged areas of Birmingham, Ala., over Memorial Day weekend, clearing fallen and hanging trees and other storm debris. (Photo by Jon Wilke)

"Houses get cleaned off to the slab, but you always see the brick chimneys left standing after the storms. The chimneys are still there. And I built my chimney," he said.

See *Clean-up crews ... Page 6*

CHITWOOD ELECTED



Kentucky Baptists have new convention exec

By Todd Deaton
Editor

Louisville—Paul Chitwood was elected as executive director-treasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Convention by the KBC Mission Board June 2 by an 88-7 ballot vote.

"Coming to this point was a surprising and unexpected journey," Chitwood said, adding that "there's no doubt in my mind that God has been working in my life to build a great excitement about the potential of serving as your executive director."

Envisioning the executive's role as "a great opportunity to be a pastor to pastors" and to be an encourager to Kentucky Baptists, Chitwood told the Western Recorder that his desire is to be "a blessing to the churches and to build them up."

Chitwood, 41, pastor of First Baptist Church of Mount Washington since 2003, was presented to the Mission Board by search committee chairman Paul Badgett of Pikeville. The committee, he said, was seeking a candidate with the right character and chemistry—who could relate well to all Kentucky Baptists—as well as competence.

"We found that in Dr. Paul Harrison Chitwood," Badgett said, noting that Chitwood has been a trustee of the International Mission Board, an assistant professor of evangelism and church growth at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, and an adjunct professor at University of the Cumberland.

A native of Jellico, Tenn., Chitwood has served as pastor of four Kentucky congregations. He also has been a convention president and first vice president, and he has served as president of the KBC Pastors' Conference.

KBC President Floyd Paris, a member of the search committee, told the Mission Board, "We interviewed a lot of great guys. Any one of them could have done a good job, but we weren't tasked to find someone to do a good job. We were tasked to find the one whom the Holy Spirit has set apart to be the next leader."

Prior to the board's discussion, Don Mathis, immediate past president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and a member of the search committee, addressed a concern about the committee's process in arriving at nominating one of its own members for the position.

In appointing members of the search committee, Mathis acknowledged that he had asked each person if he or she envisioned the possibility of being considered as a candidate.

"It was not a forever question," Mathis explained, "but I ... See *Chitwood elected ... Page 2*

"Coming to this point was a surprising and unexpected journey."

Newly elected
Kentucky Baptist
Convention
Executive Director
Paul Chitwood

Book to highlight 20th century's noteworthy Ky. Baptists

By Drew Nichter
News Director

Glasgow—It has been said that Pastor William Pettigrew never stood in a pulpit on a Sunday unless he had shared Christ with someone during the week.

As a result of Pettigrew's faithful efforts, it is believed there were only two Sundays in his 19 years at Louisville's Walnut Street Baptist Church where someone did not make a public profession of faith.

That's just one of the stories Bill Whittaker plans to include in a book he is working on about Kentucky Baptist leaders of the 20th century.

"I believe any church leader or convention leader is always encouraged by the faithful record of the past," said Whittaker, a now-retired pastor and former president of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College.

The book is a project of the J.H. Spencer Historical Society, an independent group formed in 2008 after the dissolution of the Kentucky Baptist Archives Advisory Board. The Spencer society is not officially connected with the Kentucky Baptist Convention, but does have ties to its archives office

and receives a modicum of funding from the KBC.

Whittaker is the book's editor, while the historical society's officers serve as the editorial committee. The group is compiling a list of Kentucky Baptist leaders who spent the bulk of their ministries between 1900-2000.

The book will consist of dozens of approximately 200-word biographies of Kentucky Baptists "whose lives were spent ... serving the Lord in the 20th century," said Ben Stratton, Spencer society secretary and pastor at Farmington Baptist Church.

Further criteria for inclusion in the book includes a "significant influence on the state" during the previous 100 years, Whittaker noted.

Focus on Kentucky regions

The book likely will be divided into eight sections representing the Kentucky Baptist Convention's eight regions.

Stratton said some Kentucky Baptists who come to mind as likely being included in the book are men like Harvey Boyce Taylor, longtime pastor of First Baptist Church



Bill Whittaker



Ben Stratton

of Murray and architect of the Cooperative Program, and L.R. Riley, one of the great Baptist debaters.

While many of the names will be familiar to Baptists today, the emphasis on regional personalities will "bring to light a lot of people that maybe aren't as well known," Stratton said.

Whittaker said he is in the earliest stages of compiling the book and is looking for suggestions. He also wants to hear from individuals who would be interested in writing the biographies.

And it's not just pastors he wants to in-

clude in the compilation, Whittaker said. Kentucky Baptist men and women from all areas of ministry—preachers, evangelists, missionaries, lay leaders, etc.—will be featured.

As far as what the book will mean for today's leaders, Whittaker said all Kentucky Baptists have been inspired by those who have gone before them.

"We're all influenced and helped by others," he noted. "The Scripture reminds us of remembering the saints who've gone before. ... If we live constantly in the present without any appreciation of the past, I think we've lost a great deal."

For those who are interested in submitting suggestions or writing biographies for the book, contact Whittaker at BRWhitt@Glasgow-Ky.com.

The J.H. Spencer Historical Society currently has about 60 members and is open to all Baptists. The group has two meetings each year, a regional meeting in the spring and one a day before the KBC annual meeting in November, which this year will be held Nov. 15 at Florence Baptist Church at Mount Zion.

Chitwood elected executive director, sees KBC as 'big-tent convention'

Continued from page 1

did not want us to begin with anyone in the room, or more than one, ... being candidates for the job.

Though the committee interviewed many excellent potential candidates, "we did not sense as a group the clear leadership of the Holy Spirit in any one direction," Mathis said. "I felt that I was in a dilemma because I had asked every person on the committee to tell me they were not a candidate.

"However, the Lord began to impress upon me that what I had asked, (which was) nowhere in any guidelines, ought not to stop us from pursuing the most obvious candidate," Mathis continued.

"Paul Chitwood did not at any point decide to be a candidate until after he had been asked by numerous members of our search committee," Mathis noted.

After consenting to being considered, Chitwood did not participate as a member of the committee from that time forward, Mathis assured the board.

In a post-election interview, Chitwood told the Western Recorder, "When I felt the Lord was giving me the freedom and encouragement to be considered as a candidate, I stopped my work as a committee member completely. I did not get involved in their process in any way except when I was invited to be present" to be interviewed.

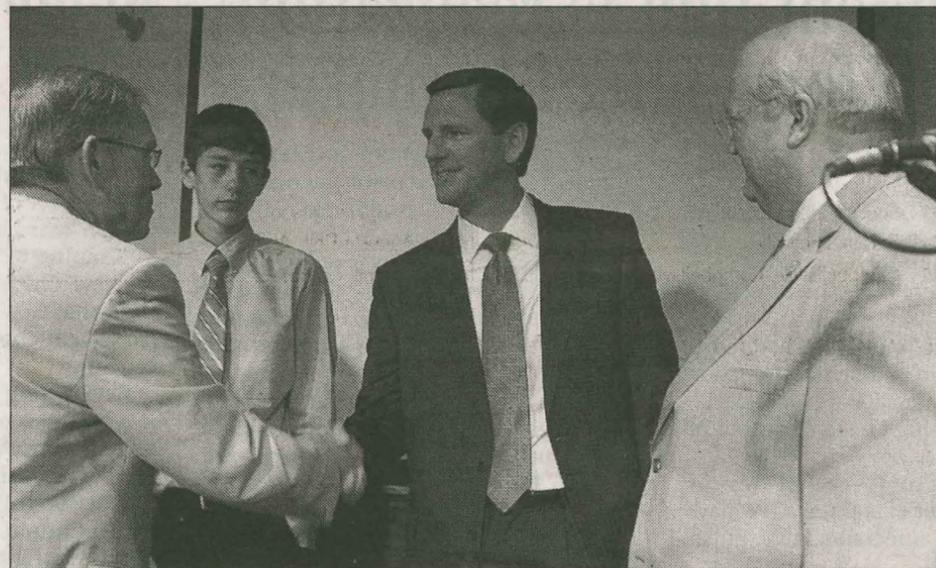
Priorities: Relationships, cooperation

Prior to his election, Chitwood addressed the board briefly, sharing that one of his priorities would be church planting.

"Seeing the number of churches that are closing and actually outpacing those that are starting across the country, I think there is a great opportunity there," he said.

Chitwood also said he sees an opportunity for relationship building and promoting greater cooperation between the convention's staff and KBC pastors.

Another role Chitwood said he would embrace is strengthening the partnership between the convention and its universities and agencies, he said. "Serving as a trustee for the University of Cumberland and as a faculty member at Southern Seminary has provided some opportunities to think about the great potential for stronger partnership that lies there," he said.



CONGRATULATIONS ALL AROUND Paul Chitwood (second from right) shakes hands with Pikeville pastor Paul Badgett, chair of the executive director search committee, just after being introduced as the Kentucky Baptist Convention's new exec. Looking on are Chitwood's son Daniel (second from left) and KBC President Floyd Paris. (Photo by Robin Bass)

In response to a question about his theological perspective, Chitwood responded, "I am a Bible-believing Southern Baptist. I believe God's word is true, inerrant," adding also that he is "perfectly comfortable" in affirming all versions of the Baptist Faith and Message.

More specifically, in regard to his views on Calvinism, Chitwood said, "I really think that that issue is needlessly a point of controversy."

"I really believe on that issue what we find in scripture is a tension between human responsibility and human free will and the absolute sovereignty of God" he added. "My personal theology allows for that tension."

Of greater concern, Chitwood added, is that Kentucky Baptists allow for a difference of opinion on matters that Scripture holds in tension.

Urging Kentucky Baptists to be "a big-tent convention," Chitwood observed that every tent needs stakes to keep from being blown about by the wind. For him, those stakes include the word of God, the Baptist Faith and Message statements, cooperation and the Great Commission, he maintained.

"With those four stakes, the Kentucky Baptist Convention can be a big tent. And, it

can be a big tent that honors God and allows us to work together with enthusiasm," he said.

CP & where that money goes

As for his support of the Cooperative Program, Chitwood explained that at his two previous pastorates, the congregations contributed more than 20 percent of their undesignated gifts to CP. At First Baptist, Mount Washington, members have embraced a plan to steadily increase CP giving to 10 percent, he said. The church currently gives approximately 8.5 percent and is moving to 9 percent in the next budget year.

"While there is room in our convention for anyone who is willing to cooperate at any level," Chitwood said, "I do believe the leaders of our convention need to lead by example."

Adding that he considers himself to be "a great beneficiary" of the Cooperative Program both as a former student and faculty member at Cumberland and Southern Seminary, Chitwood noted, "I cannot deny the blessing it has been to me and my life." He stated his intention to be an enthusiastic advocate for the cooperative endeavors of Kentucky Baptists.

As IMB trustee chairman, Chitwood was

a strong proponent of changing the Cooperative Program allocation formula to allow more funding to send more overseas missionaries. At last year's KBC annual meeting, he spoke in favor of the Kentucky Great Commission Task Force's recommendation to move toward a 50/50 split of CP receipts between the Southern Baptist Convention and the KBC.

"The decision has already been made by the Kentucky Baptist Convention with regard to the division of funds," Chitwood told the Western Recorder. "So, now it is the responsibility of the executive director and the staff here to carry out the will of convention with regard to the percentage that will go on to SBC causes, and to be the best stewards we can of the resources that are entrusted to the Kentucky Baptist Convention."

"I think we can do that best by celebrating—not lamenting—what God is doing with Cooperative Program funds," he said.

"Kentucky Baptists have always had a priority to get the gospel to the nations. A part of that is what happens here in Kentucky, but there is much more to the world than Kentucky," he added. "We should be excited about resources that are helping get the gospel to the ends of the earth."

Role of shepherd

In making the move from pastor to executive director, Chitwood said he envisioned the role as that of a shepherd, helping lead and being a cheerleader for the cooperative work of Kentucky Baptists.

"I believe with all my heart that the frontline is occupied by leaders of the troops who are our pastors and our state missionaries," Chitwood said. "I have been privileged for about 18 years now to be on that frontline in our churches, seeing the kingdom advance."

"But I truly am beginning to see that the work needs some strong cheerleaders who are there encouraging our brothers and sisters on the frontline, making sure they know that there are people behind them who are praying for them and helping them to see beyond the frontline to the bigger vision of work that the Lord has called us to as Baptists who cooperate together," he said.

Chitwood will begin duties as executive director July 1.



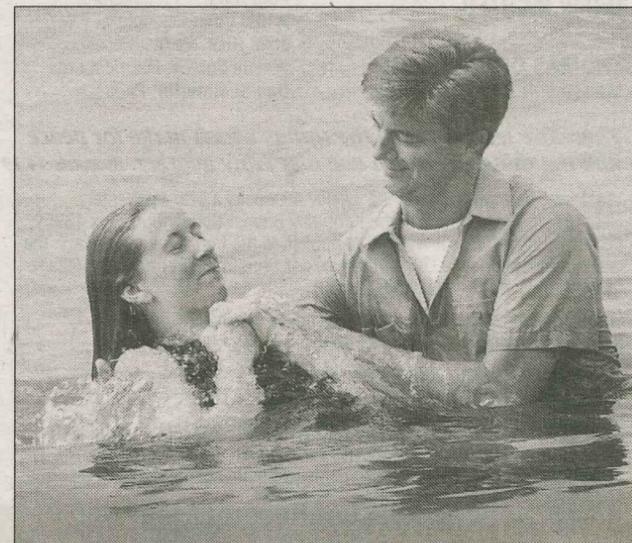
The Kentucky Baptist Convention celebrates with these congregations each new life in Christ represented in the numbers below, and the decision of these believers to follow Jesus' example through baptism.

Top 100 Kentucky Baptist Congregations in Total Number of Baptisms, 2009-2010

(Rank, Church, Baptisms)					
1	Hillvue Heights, Bowling Green	516	21	Crestwood, Crestwood	54
2	Valley View, Louisville	217	21	May's Lick, Mays Lick	54
3	Bell Co. Forest Camp Msn., Middlesboro	123	21	Richmond First, Richmond	54
4	Henderson First, Henderson	117	21	Russell First, Russell	54
5	Mill Creek, Radcliff	115	22	Central, Winchester	53
6	Consolidated, Lexington	108	22	Heartland, Paducah	53
7	Highview, Louisville	106	23	Franklin Crossroads, Cecilia	52
8	Northside, Mount Vernon	104	23	Lone Oak First, Paducah	52
9	Garner, Rush	96	24	Mount Washington First	50
9	Sojourn, Louisville	96	24	Trace Creek, Mayfield	50
10	Little Flock, Shepherdsville	90	25	Mill Creek, Bardstown	49
11	Living Hope, Bowling Green	79	26	Edgewood, Hopkinsville	48
11	Severns Valley, Elizabethtown	79	26	Pleasant Valley Comm., Owensboro	48
12	Binghamtown, Middlesboro	73	27	Mountain Ash, Williamsburg	46
13	Hardin, Hardin	72	28	Pikeville First, Pikeville	43
14	Forks of Elkhorn, Midway	69	29	Elk Horn, Campbellsville	42
15	Florence, Florence	67	29	Hope Community, Lawrenceburg	42
16	Ohio Valley, Ledbetter	61	30	Ludlow First, Ludlow	40
16	Porter Memorial, Lexington	61	31	Beacon Hill, Somerset	39
17	Crossland Comm., Bowling Green	60	31	Ekron, Brandenburg	39
17	Perryville First, Perryville	60	32	Owensboro First, Owensboro	38
18	Hawk Creek, London	58	33	Burlington, Burlington	37
19	Bellevue, Owensboro	57	33	Northside, Princeton	37
20	Shiloh, Lexington	55	33	South Fork, Hodgenville	37
20	Woodburn, Woodburn	55	34	St Paul, Louisville	36
			35	Campbellsville, Campbellsville	35
			35	Four Rivers, Paducah	35
			35	His House Ministries, Mayfield	35
			35	Yellow Creek, Owensboro	35
			36	Bowling Green First, Bowling Green	34
			36	Fairview, Ashland	34
			36	Immanuel, Lexington	34
			36	Parkway, Bardstown	34
			37	Buck Creek, Calhoun	33
			37	Dauids Chapel, Hickman	33
			37	Grace, Murray	33
			37	Liberty, Ashland	33
			37	Shelbyville First, Shelbyville	33
			38	Ashland Avenue, Lexington	32
			38	Fairview, Russell Springs	32
			38	New Zion, Benton	32
			39	Reid Village, Mount Sterling	31
			40	Ashby Lane, Louisville	30
			40	Cloverleaf, Louisville	30
			41	Bardstown Junction, Shepherdsville	29
			41	Brodhead, Brodhead	29
			41	Hebron, Hebron	29
			41	New Harmony, Mayfield	29
			41	Oak Grove, Corbin	29
			41	Zion, Henderson	29
			42	Augusta First, Augusta	28
			43	Central, Corbin	28
			43	Providence, Franklin	28
			43	Camp Pleasant, Frankfort	27
			43	East Hickman, Lexington	27
			43	New Salem, London	27
			43	New Salem, Nortonville	27
			43	New Work, Hopkinsville	27
			43	South Carrollton, Greenville	27
			44	Eastwood, Bowling Green	26
			44	Georgetown, Georgetown	26
			44	Hickory Grove, Independence	26
			44	Hopewell, Corbin	26
			44	Oak Grove First, Oak Grove	26
			44	Ormsby Heights, Louisville	26
			45	Eubank, Eubank	25
			45	Hillcrest, Hopkinsville	25
			45	Ninth and O, Louisville	25
			45	Rosemont, Lexington	25
			46	Lawrenceburg First, Lawrenceburg	24
			46	Main Street, Alexandria	24
			46	Middleburg, Middleburg	24
			46	Mount Zion, West Paducah	24
			46	North Frankfort, Frankfort	24
			46	Hedgeville, Darville	23
			47	Mount Vernon, Calhoun	23
			47	WestSide, Berea	23

Top 100 Kentucky Baptist Congregations in Baptisms Per Capita, 2009-2010

(Rank, Church, Primary Worship, Baptisms, Percentage)				
1	Bell Co. Forest Camp Msn., Middlesboro	50	123	246.00%
2	Perryville First, Perryville	45	60	133.33%
3	River Pointe, Munfordville	8	9	112.50%
4	Jacks Creek, Wheelwright	28	15	53.57%
5	Mill Creek, Radcliff	225	115	51.11%
6	Brookhaven Mission, Springfield	22	11	50.00%
7	Shady Grove, Providence	6	3	50.00%
8	East Fork, Fordsville	35	17	48.57%
9	Jesus Amigo Fiel, Lebanon	36	16	44.44%
10	Mount Vernon, Calhoun	52	23	44.23%
11	Liberty, Ashland	75	33	44.00%
12	Mount Zion, Horse Branch	40	16	40.00%
13	Garner, Rush	252	96	38.10%
14	Bethel Flock, Louisville	25	9	36.00%
15	Pierces Chapel, Columbia	14	5	35.71%
16	Northside, Mount Vernon	296	104	35.14%
17	Augusta First, Augusta	80	28	35.00%
18	Peaks Mill, Frankfort	35	12	34.29%
19	Nueva Vida, Bowling Green	65	22	33.85%
20	Reid Village, Mount Sterling	93	31	33.33%
21	Plainview, Maysville	30	10	33.33%
22	Dauids Chapel, Hickman	102	33	32.35%
23	Green Grove Missionary, Albany	31	10	32.26%
25	Calvary, Uniontown	28	9	32.14%
24	Whispering Meadows, Morganfield	28	9	32.14%
26	Salem, Pembroke	60	19	31.67%
27	Mint Springs, Tiline	13	4	30.77%
28	Highland, Princeton	62	19	30.65%
29	Mount Zion, East Bernstadt	43	13	30.23%
30	May's Lick, Mays Lick	179	54	30.17%
31	Woodland, Morganfield	20	6	30.00%
32	Stewartsville, Williamstown	10	3	30.00%
33	Victory, Henderson	17	5	29.41%
34	Cedar Cliff, Horse Cave	48	14	29.17%
35	Acton, Campbellsville	24	7	29.17%
36	Middle Creek, Hodgenville	45	13	28.89%
37	Storie Coal, Booneville	28	8	28.57%
38	Riverside, Fourmile	21	6	28.57%
39	Britian Creek, Kenvir	25	7	28.00%
40	Union, Vanceburg	18	5	27.78%
41	Ohio Valley, Ledbetter	220	61	27.73%
42	De Mossville, De Mossville	80	22	27.50%
43	Dunn Springs, Marion	11	3	27.27%
44	Ashby Lane, Louisville	111	30	27.03%
45	White Hall, Manchester	26	7	26.92%
46	Grace Dry Ridge, Dry Ridge	60	16	26.67%
48	Chapel Union Missionary, Morgantown	45	12	26.67%
47	Stonelick, Maysville	45	12	26.67%
49	Flat Rock, Orlando	72	19	26.39%
50	Fellowship, South Shore	81	21	25.93%
51	Eastview, Hopkinsville	70	18	25.71%
53	Baptist Worship Center, Mount Sterling	35	9	25.71%
52	West Madison, Franklin	35	9	25.71%
54	Wickliffe First, Wickliffe	78	20	25.64%
55	Ivory Hill, Irvine	79	20	25.32%
56	Jefferson Mission, Louisville	20	5	25.00%
57	Mill Creek, Bardstown	201	49	24.38%
58	Middleburg, Middleburg	100	24	24.00%
59	McGrady Creek, Olaton	21	5	23.81%
60	Dwarf, Dwarf	59	14	23.73%
61	New Life, Hawesville	59	14	23.73%
62	Faith Missionary, White Plains	90	21	23.33%
63	Living Waters, Oak Grove	60	14	23.33%
64	Trinity Southern, Falmouth	78	18	23.08%
65	New Beginning, Bardstown	26	6	23.08%
66	Corn Creek, Woodbine	74	17	22.97%
67	Rutledge Road, Louisville	70	16	22.86%
68	Berlin, Foster	22	5	22.73%
69	South Carrollton, Greenville	120	27	22.50%
70	Clear Creek, Mount Vernon	40	9	22.50%
71	Providence, Winchester	36	8	22.22%
72	Fonde, Frakes	18	4	22.22%
73	Ages, Ages	9	2	22.22%
74	Central, Ashland	50	11	22.00%
75	Dry Valley, Irvington	32	7	21.88%
76	East Hickman, Lexington	125	27	21.60%
78	Cedar Grove, Franklin	70	15	21.43%
77	Pilgrims Rest, E. Bernstadt	70	15	21.43%
79	Unity, Greenville	48	10	20.83%
80	Henderson First, Henderson	564	117	20.74%
81	Bardstown Junction, Shepherdsville	140	29	20.71%
82	New Life, Mayfield	34	7	20.59%
83	Twentieth Street, Corbin	49	10	20.41%
84	Ludlow First, Ludlow	200	40	20.00%
85	Fairview, Russell Springs	160	32	20.00%
86	Melber, Melber	75	15	20.00%
87	Beechgrove, Independence	60	12	20.00%
89	Bethany, Somerset	40	8	20.00%
88	Roseville, Hawesville	40	8	20.00%
91	DeKoven, Sturgis	25	5	20.00%
92	Primera Hispana, Carrollton	25	5	20.00%
90	Waltons Creek, Centertown	25	5	20.00%
93	Bethel, Greensburg	15	3	20.00%
94	Lilly Grove, Manchester	15	3	20.00%
95	Union Band, Howardstown	10	2	20.00%
96	Oak Grove, Corbin	150	29	19.33%
97	Immanuel, Madisonville	63	12	19.05%
98	Colson Baptist Church, Whitesburg	42	8	19.05%
99	Agape Missionary, Radcliff	37	7	18.92%
100	Antioch, Bardwell	16	3	18.75%



Time of transition

When I relinquished the pastorate at First Baptist Church of Morganfield in 1996, David Bratcher followed me as the interim and served all of one Sunday. Mark Galloway became the new pastor the following Sunday. This shows how difficult it was to replace me. Actually, I had been serving as the interim pastor for three months after being called as the director of missions for Green Valley Association. David remarked that this was probably the shortest interim on record.



Steve Thompson

On May 10 the KBC Mission Board elected me to serve as the interim executive director-treasurer until a permanent replacement for Bill Mackey was elected. Last Thursday, June 2, the Mission Board elected Paul Chitwood to be our new executive director-treasurer. He will begin his service July 1. So I have the privilege of serving in the interim for the month of June.

I want to express my appreciation to the administrative committee and the Mission Board for their vote of confidence in me. Jim Hawkins, my predecessor in my regular job, served as the interim for just over a year and did a wonderful job. I was on the committee that asked him to serve when Bill Marshall left. However, I think 30 days is about right for me. Surely, I can't mess things up too badly in one month.

I think, however, that I have an even more important role, one that I share with all our staff and all Kentucky Baptists as well. That role is to make the transition to a new leader for Kentucky Baptists as smooth as possible and includes helping Dr. Chitwood experience a successful beginning to his tenure as our leader.

Of course, we have an advantage in that he is one of us, even if he did start out in Tennessee. He has served as KBC president, as pastor to four of our churches, and in many other ways, having been connected to Kentucky Baptist life for more than 20 years. He is already a friend to many Kentucky Baptists. That being said, however, there still will be a time of learning. Kentucky Baptists are many and varied, and it takes a good while to build a good working relationship.

On behalf of the KBC staff (if I may take that liberty), let me say that we will continue the dedicated service that has been our custom, under and with our new leader. Transitions are always a time of adjustment, and this will be no exception. Adjustments are inherent in growth and a normal part of being a disciple of Jesus.

It is my prayer that all of us Kentucky Baptists will grow to love Paul, Michelle, Daniel, Anna and Cai as we have Bill and Kay.

Steve Thompson is interim executive director-treasurer of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

A robin's nest on a window sill

Several weeks ago we discovered a robin's nest on our bedroom window sill. Inside the nest were three eggs. My wife Michelle and I eagerly waited for the blue eggs to hatch, as though we were surrogate parents. For days, my children, Laura and Caleb, were mesmerized as the mother bird would fly off, leaving her fledglings anxiously chirping after her, only to be greeted when she returned with a worm in a few minutes by three upturned beaks opened wide. It wasn't long before the fledglings were stretching their wings and fluttering about the nest. We knew they soon would be venturing out on their own.

**After Thought**

By Todd Deaton

But, that's when a train of powerful thunderstorms rumbled through during the night with gusts upwards of 70 miles per hour. The next morning the fledglings were gone. The nest was still intact, but they weren't there. Had they been forced to grow up and fly away sooner than their mother would have liked? A few days later, I saw two young birds chirping and playing together in the grass in our backyard. A mother robin seemed to be keeping a close eye on them from a nearby fence post. Perhaps, they were our fledglings!

As we reflected later, I was reminded of an episode of The Andy Griffith Show, in which Opie Taylor assumes responsibility for raising two baby birds. The day when the young birds must be set free comes all too soon. Opie has a very difficult time making the transition, and he mournfully remarked, "The cage seems awfully empty now." But, drawing attention to the lovely birdsongs, the wise father replied, "Yes, but don't the trees seem fuller."

It is an emotional experience to watch your first child walk across a stage to receive a high school diploma. Laura has brought countless blessings into our lives with her sweet spirit, musical talents and commitment to Christ. As she heads to college to study nursing, her career choice reflects her compassion for the hurts and needs of others.

But we also have been made increasingly aware that her time to fly is coming all too soon for us. Wasn't it just last week that I bounded down the hospital hallway beaming proudly, holding a tiny newborn in my arms? And, wasn't it the day after when she sat on the front step in a red shirt and blue denim jumper eager for her first day of school? Didn't I just see her in a light blue tennis

outfit on the way to a school match? And, yesterday, we were packing her bags to send her on youth mission trips or off to camps, weren't we? Tomorrow, she flies! But the trees will indeed seem fuller.

Just a few days earlier, her brother, Caleb, participated in a graduation ceremony, too. We are excited that he has completed middle school and soon will be beginning his high school experience. We are more keenly aware than ever that his time to fly will be coming all too soon. In a recent message, my pastor encouraged new parents to place 936 pennies in a jar and start removing one each week. The remaining pennies, he said, would serve as a reminder to treasure the short amount of time we have together and to be a godly influence on our children before they turn 18. The psalmist likewise urges, "Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom" (Psalm 90:12).

Such transitions are frequently exciting, but seldom easy. They are at once exhilarating and terrifying. New challenges and adventures await us, yet fears of uncertainty and unexpected turns also abound. The prophet Jeremiah had some encouraging words that may be helpful to both students and parents going through this transition: "For I know the plans I have for you,"—this is the Lord's declaration—"plans for you welfare, not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope." Robert Morgan, in his book, "100 Bible verses everyone should know by heart," offers this abbreviated study guide for Jeremiah 29, where this verse is found:

"1. Make the best of things (vv. 4-6) ... Be hopeful. Don't give up. You may not be where you want to be, but make the most of where you are. ... 2. Pray where you are (v. 7). ... Lift up your surrounding circumstances in prayer. 3. Beware the wrong voices (vv.8-9). Don't listen to false hope or ungodly messages. 4. Take the long view. ... Our long-term prospects are always better than our immediate conditions. 5. Get hopeful about God's plans (v. 11). 6. Seek the Lord above all (vv. 13-14)."

For a parent, it is certainly a great comfort to know that God is thinking about our children personally and has a plan for their lives. For that reason alone, we need not fear the future. If we trust His plans, the trees will indeed seem fuller.

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

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'One-directional' view

I have just finished reading your article, "Rekindling the biblical principles that forged freedom" in the May 24 issue. I am surprised at your wording: "the infamous phrase that government should 'make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.'" According to Carol Sewell in her book, "We the People," the purpose of Jefferson's phrase, "a wall of separation between church and state" was meant to calm fears that "Congress would choose one denomination to be the state church." This interpretation, which is referred to as "one-directional" by church historians, overlooks both the historical context in which Jefferson wrote his famous letter to the Danbury Baptist Association in 1801

and the consistent views articulated by Jefferson over many years.

The historical context was the struggle of Baptists for religious freedom in Connecticut, where Congregationalism continued until 1817 to be the established church. Baptists in Connecticut had organized the Baptist Petition Movement in 1800 to convince the Congregationalist majority to end its status as the state's official religion. The Danbury association was trying to enlist Jefferson's support. In this regard, the letter of the Baptists was "one-directional."

Jefferson, whose views on the separation of church and state had been stated clearly as early as 1779, carefully worded his response to include the other direction, the view that government should have

no role in advancing or promoting religious ideas. The first reference to a "hedge or wall of separation between the garden of the church and the wilderness of the world" goes back to Roger Williams in 1644.

Both Jefferson and Franklin were Deists, not orthodox Christians. The God in whom they believed was a God who worked providentially, but not miraculously. Jefferson even took scissors to the New Testament to cut out references to Jesus' miracles.

Joe Thomas
Owensboro

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



Lessons learned at the Senior PGA Championship

I was privileged to be able to attend a couple rounds of the 72nd Senior PGA Championship that was held in Louisville. I had won two tickets and was offered tickets for the other days. I only went on Thursday and Friday for the opening two rounds.

After a couple of days of reflection, here is what has been stirring inside of me that I think we, as churches and youth ministries, can learn from my time there. They are in no particular order.

Empowering volunteers

Thousands of volunteers from across the region paid money to volunteer to work this event. These volunteers attended mandatory training, took vacation from work and worked 10-12 hour days to make sure the event ran smoothly. What I noticed about the volunteers is that most of them felt like they were vital to the success of the event. They had bought into the vision and understood how vital their part was—no matter how menial or trivial it may seem to anyone else. Our churches and ministries are full of people who are waiting to be a part of something they believe in and which they feel they can be a part of. It is our responsibility to cast the vision, provide the training and then allow them to serve.

Face time with celebrities

While I never got to speak to or meet Tom Watson, Kenny Perry, Fuzzy Zoeller or any other golfer for that matter, I did get to see them and snap a few pictures. For a while on Thursday afternoon, I was even part of the crowd that followed Kenny around from hole to hole. I watched people wait for hours to catch a glimpse of one of their favorite golfers and maybe catch their eye or utter a positive comment as they passed by. I

wonder how much of what we do leads our students to elevate Jesus to this status, where they would wait for hours to catch just a glimpse of the Spirit of God at work. My fear is that we have made it about us and our celebrity status and not about Jesus.

Sabbath

I know that for a lot of people two days of sitting on a camp stool watching grown men hit a little white ball would be torture. But it has been a long time since I had a couple of days where I had nothing to do, think through, plan, implement or oversee. The biggest decision I had to make on those two days was where the closest shelter was when the rain started. I had forgotten the importance of downtime. Summer is here in youth ministry, and it is the busiest time on the calendar. Let's not forget to make time for Sabbath.

Logistics

You can't put 80,000 people through a place over six days without taking care of the small details. Several times a day the website was updated. Every morning e-mails were sent, Facebook and Twitter were updated, and I knew exactly what the contingency plan for parking was for that day. The course was spotless, people regularly came around and picked up trash, ropes were used to keep the crowd where it needed to be. There were vehicles close to every hole to move golfers to safety in event of inclement weather or another emergency. We may never get the opportunity to plan and organize an event of this magnitude, but we can do our part to make sure that what we have charge of is well thought out and taken care of.

It starts in the parking lot

From the moment I pulled into the parking lot at Southeast Christian Church (one of the plan B parking sites), there was signage pointing me to the parking area. There were people directing traffic all the way to my parking spot. They were polite; they spoke to me when I passed them on the way to the shuttle bus. I was greeted at the course by other volunteers who pointed me to the entrance; their job was to make sure my experience was the best it could be from the beginning. I hope we do as good of a job at greeting those that come our way.

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

Youth Ministry Corner



Joe Ball

Maximize your legacy giving

By Laurie Valentine

Maximize your giving impact by:

- Determining if the causes you want to support are qualified charities—the IRS website (www.irs.gov/charities/index.html) can tell you if they are qualified 501(c)(3) organizations. Churches are qualified charitable organizations but don't have to register with the IRS.

- Determining if the causes will be a good steward of your gift—talk to the organization's leadership; check out website databases that report on the activities and finances of charities such as www.give.org (Better Business Bureau's database on charities that solicit nationally with links to local BBB sites); www2.guidestar.org; and www.charitynavigator.org.

Maximize your tax savings by:

- Giving appreciated assets (stocks, bonds, mutual fund shares, or real estate) rather than cash—the after-tax cost of your gift will be lower than the same size cash gift when you consider both the income tax savings and the capital gains savings you may realize from using the appreciated asset to make your gift.

- Selling depreciated long-term capital gain assets and giving the cash sale proceeds—you'll get a charitable income tax deduction if you itemize and a deduction for the capital loss.

- Establishing a Donor Advised Fund (DAF). DAF's allow you to make your gift in a year when the deduction can save taxes, but defer the decision about what causes will benefit from your gift until later years.

- Increasing your gifts to charity in years in which you will have the most income—the amount of income tax savings depends on your tax bracket; the higher your tax bracket, the more tax savings from charitable gifts if you can itemize deductions.

Maximize your income by:

- Setting up a "life income" gift such as a charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust. Life income gifts provide an opportunity to set up an irrevocable future gift for charity with the potential to increase current cash flow to you and/or others for life or a term of years. Not only may your cash flow increase, you'll have tax savings from the deduction of the value of the charity's interest in the year you set up the life income gift, if you itemize deductions.

Laurie Valentine is trust counsel for the Kentucky Baptist Foundation.

Staying grounded at college

By Scott Wigginton

Q: How can we help our recent high school graduate to stay grounded in her faith as she goes away to college this fall?

A: Someone once wrote, "The faith that fizzles before the finish had a flaw from the first." It is important to remember that the firmest foundations of faith are always built with the involvement of heads, hearts and hands. Helping your graduate stay grounded in the "faith once delivered to the saints" will mean that she is able to think correctly, to make heartfelt connections and applications, and to act regularly on her beliefs.

Just as 1 Peter 3:15 encourages believers to "always be ready to give a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you," we should help our college-bound sons and daughters to think through possible challenges to their faith. Rather than viewing this through the lens of fear, we need to see this both as a means of growth and an opportunity to be salt and light. It might be a good family activity to have regular discussions around some difficult questions of the faith that may be questioned at college. Examples might include:

- What makes Christianity any better than other world religions?
- How do we know that the Bible is God's word?
- How do we know that there is a God?
- How do you reconcile the biblical account of creation with the theory of evolution?
- Why would it matter if a Christian married a non-Christian as long as the two people love each other?

Before your student goes off to college, research with her possible churches that she may attend. Find out in advance what options exist on campus with regard to Christian organizations. The friends she becomes involved with will be crucial to her faith development. Above all, continue to remind her that college is a time for her to grow spiritually as well as mentally, socially and physically. As always, set an example for your daughter as you walk daily with Christ.

Scott Wigginton is associate professor of pastoral ministries and counseling at Campbellsville University and minister of counseling at Campbellsville Baptist Church.



The rumor going around about our church is true

By Terry Dorsett

A gentle older couple from a church across town stopped into my office the other day. They wanted to make us aware of a "terrible" rumor going around town about our church. The rumor was that our church allows *anyone* to worship with us no matter their past, their background or their current state of sinfulness. I do not know where that couple heard this rumor, but I was quite happy to confirm that the rumor was true!

Our church has worked hard to let everyone in the community know that we accept each person who comes just as they are. I am glad the word is getting out about this and that people are talking about it openly in our community. I can think of worse rumors floating around out there about churches.

Jesus encountered the same kind of "rumors" in His ministry. Luke 5:30-32 recounts the story: "But the Pharisees and their scribes were complaining to His disciples, 'Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?' Jesus replied to them, 'The healthy don't need a doctor, but the sick do. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.'"

In this passage, as well as many

others, we see that Christ reached out to people who did not fit the typical "religious" stereotype. Christ reached out to those often spurned by the church. Many people did not understand or like what Christ was doing. If His actions were going to be misunderstood by so many, why would Christ do this? Christ did this because He loved all kinds of people. His love compelled Him to reach out to anyone He came in contact with, including those that others may have considered untouchable.

But do not be confused. Though Christ took each person where they were, He loved them too much to leave them where they were. Christ challenged people to consider their spiritual condition before a holy God and called them to repent of their former lifestyle and become His followers.

Our church feels the same way as Christ does about the people whom God is bringing to worship with us. We accept them as they are. But we love them too much to leave them as they are. We sow the Word of God into their lives and watch as the Spirit of God transforms them. We are ever mindful of Hebrews 4:12, "For the word of God is living and effective and sharper

than any two-edged sword, penetrating as far as to divide soul, spirit, joints, and marrow; it is a judge of the ideas and thoughts of the heart." We do not have to judge the behavior of others. All we have to do is share the Word of God with them. The Spirit does the convicting and brings about repentance and faith in Christ. This is what all churches should be doing.

I thank God that our church is filled with really messed up people who found a loving and accepting place where they could discover Christ. I thank God even more as I watch each of us in the church be transformed by the Spirit's power through the washing of the Word.

If you know someone in Central Vermont who cannot find a church that will take them as they are, send them our way. But do not expect them to be the same when we send them back to you.

I pray that this "terrible" rumor about our church continues. I pray that this rumor begins to be whispered about more churches. If that begins to happen, we may yet see another great spiritual awakening sweep across our land.

Terry Dorsett is director of the Green Mountain Baptist Association. For information, visit VermontBaptist.org.





President Barack Obama (far left) listens as FEMA administrator Craig Fugate (center) discusses federal preparedness for the 2011 hurricane season during a briefing at the White House June 1. Also taking part in the meeting was Mickey Caison (far right, yellow shirt), the North American Mission Board's disaster relief coordinator who also is president of National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters. (White House photo by Pete Souza)

Disaster relief: First tornadoes, then flooding, & now it's hurricane season

Alpharetta, Ga.—As if Southern Baptist Disaster Relief teams haven't faced enough challenges because of a spate of deadly tornadoes in the South and Midwest over the past month, June 1 marked the official start of the 2011 North Atlantic hurricane season.

Southern Baptist Disaster Relief operations are winding down in the Joplin, Mo., area, where at least 134 people died as a result of the EF-5 tornado that devastated much of the city.

"We've only been able to work around the perimeter of the total destruction," Seaton said, adding that there are no plans as yet for a long-term rebuild effort in Joplin.

Disaster relief operations in Illinois following Mississippi River flooding also are standing down. Also affected by the flooding was Kentucky, where mud-out and chaplaincy work recently wrapped up in three associations—West Union, Ohio River

and Green Valley Baptist associations—according to Coy Webb, Kentucky Baptist DR coordinator.

But even as Southern Baptist DR teams are standing down following the tornadoes and floods, the North American Mission Board's disaster relief team leader, Mickey Caison, was at the White House June 1 meeting with President Obama, leadership from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and other federal and state officials to discuss preparedness for the 2011 hurricane season. Caison attended the White House meeting in his role as president of the National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster.

"Recent events including the deadly tornadoes in the central U.S. and Southeast, flooding along the Mississippi and other emergencies serve as a reminder that we should be prepared to address all hazards, including hurricanes," FEMA administrator Craig Fugate said. (BP)

Clean-up crews continue work in Alabama

Continued from page 1

Smith lives atop one of the area's tallest hills. Blue tarps serve as temporary shingles for most remaining structures. Schools and churches prepare community meals, and smiling volunteers hand out frozen popsicles to sweat-and-dirt-laden relief workers and contractors.

One Alabama Baptist disaster relief coordinator estimated only 10 percent of the debris had been removed since the deadly storms.

Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley announced that the Federal Emergency Management Agency had granted his request for an extension of Operation Clean Sweep, the program aimed at removing storm debris. It now will last until July 12.

"There's still so much that needs to be done here," said Art Snead, a disaster relief team leader from Long Hollow Baptist Church in Hendersonville, Tenn.

Snead, a LifeWay Christian Resources employee and father of four, has been organizing and leading weekend trips to tornado-stricken areas like Pratt City and Pleasant Grove.

Over Memorial Day weekend, Snead led his third volunteer trip. Ten other churchgoers from Long Hollow's multiple campuses gathered May 27 at the Hendersonville site with chainsaws, baby formula and a blue Ford tractor.

The team arrived at NorthPark Baptist Church in Trussville, Ala., which has hosted about 15 disaster relief teams from as far away as Fort Smith, Ark.

Alabama Baptist disaster relief leaders arranged for the Long Hollow team to work first on Smith's property.

Arriving at Smith's treeless lot, overwhelmed members of the team could be overheard saying,

"Oh my" and "Where do we start?"

But, using the blue Ford tractor and grunt labor, the team brought down several damaged trees, removed Smith's destroyed chain-link fence and cleared the lot around his storage shed.

No one on the team expected Smith, 71, to do any work. But he battled the heat, dragged heavy tree sections and limbs and pushed wheel barrels loaded with debris.

"With his background as a brick mason, he could probably outwork us all," said Steve Field, a civil engineer and Long Hollow Sunday school teacher. "We might have been faster, but he could probably work longer."

Smith teared up as he thanked the team for their efforts. Snead and the Long Hollow volunteers gathered around Smith and prayed for him before leaving for another job.

Less than a block away, 63-year-old Julius Jackson asked the team to remove a downed 65-foot-tall tree from his yard.

Members of the team scrambled along the branches with chainsaws in hand. Large portions were pulled by the tractor and all the debris was placed beside the road for the professional removal crews.

"I don't know how I would've gotten this job finished," Jackson said. "God bless you all for coming down."

Hillman Mann, a professor at Volunteer State College in Gallatin, Tenn., and one of the Long Hollow volunteers, said, "We might not be able to change the world, but each person can change their little piece of it. In just two days, the team helped nine tornado victims in all.

"As Christians," he added, "this is where we get to put all those flowery words in action." (BP)

Religious leaders call for MLB to give tobacco the 'heave-ho'

Washington—Southern Baptist ethicist Richard Land has joined other religious leaders in urging the Major League Baseball players' union to support a ban on tobacco use at games.

More than two dozen members of the Faith United Against Tobacco coalition urged the Major League Baseball Players Association to agree with MLB Commissioner Bud Selig's backing of a ban on smokeless tobacco.

Selig has endorsed the prohibition as part of a new collective bargaining agreement between Major League Baseball and the players' association. Major League Baseball prohibits smoking by players in view of fans and cameras, and minor league teams have had a complete ban on tobacco use since 1993.

In the letter, the religious coalition called for the ban because of the negative health consequences of smokeless tobacco on the players and the poor example it sets for young people.

"What players do on their own time is their business, but what they do when they are in uniform and on camera is all of ours, especially considering what's at stake," the letter stated.

Smokeless tobacco has long been a part of professional baseball. A 1999 survey of major league rookies found 31 percent used smokeless tobacco. There has been a 36 percent increase in the use of such tobacco by high school males since 2003, the coalition's letter said.

"When the cameras are rolling and they zoom in on a player, the last thing we want our kids to see is a big wad of chewing tobacco in his cheek or under his lip, as if he's an advertising spokesman for deadly tobacco," said Land, president of the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission.

"The players must recognize that they are harming their own health and jeopardizing our children's futures by continuing to make it look as though smokeless tobacco is integral to the major league mystique," he added.

Hall of Famer Tony Gwynn recently underwent treatment for salivary gland cancer that he attributes to smokeless tobacco use during his professional career.

Public health organizations and members of the U.S. Senate also have called in recent months for a smokeless tobacco ban at the major league level. (BP)



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OBI began as a school for children of the Eastern Kentucky mountains. We still welcome day students, many of whom carry on a family tradition by coming to Oneida.

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Oneida is a place where local, state, North American and international missions are going on -- all at the same time.

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This is the 17th year for Kentucky Baptist churches to observe the Father's Day Offering for Oneida Baptist Institute.

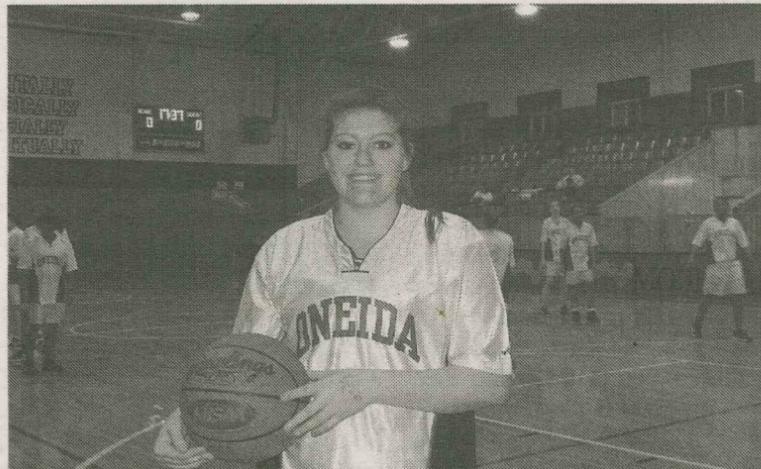
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Meet some of OBI's graduating Class of 2011

Oneida helped Shelby reach her potential



Shelby learned life lessons on the field and in the dorm.

Shelby is from Tennessee and attended all four years of high school at OBI. "This school became my home. I love my family, but my friends were all here. Between my grades, sports and friends, OBI had a big part in shaping the person I am now," she said.

Shelby and her parents had not been getting along. "We were constantly butting heads. They figured [if] I wasn't home all the time, it would be better for me, them and my siblings. My parents knew this was the best place for me," she said.

Living in a dormitory can be challenging, but Shelby said, "You learn how to forget about small things and focus on the more important things. You have to learn when to let stuff go and how to make the most of your time. Living in the dorm helped me to not be so quick tempered."

Her first year at OBI, Shelby accepted Christ at a weekend retreat with her girls' dorm devotion group. "Every day was a growing experience spiritually at Oneida. We have teachers who have given up their lives to teach

us and to mentor us. Every day I grew closer to Christ because of what somebody said or did," Shelby said.

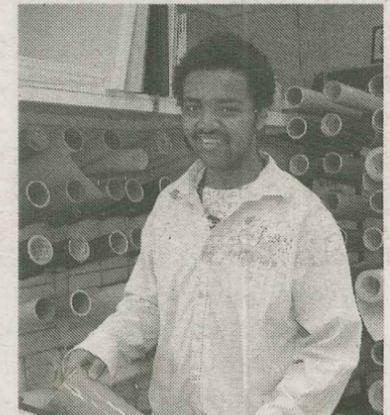
After four years of Oneida basketball, softball and volleyball, Shelby said, "The coaches definitely pushed me and helped me reach my potential."

Bill TerBurgh, Shelby's basketball coach and chemistry teacher said, "I watched Shelby grow in skill, maturity and confidence. During basketball, she learned how hard it is to be a leader, to be held to a higher standard. I believe she is equipped [for] the challenge of leadership in the future."

Shelby's awards include Top Scorer and MVP in basketball and Most Versatile in volleyball. She earned the Highest GPA award in each sport and was named the Most Studious sophomore girl by the faculty.

An honor roll student, Shelby said, "There was no pressure here. The teachers took the time to slow down and explain it to you over and over if that's what you needed." Shelby took four years of commercial art at OBI and plans to study graphic design in college. ■

Nahom achieved academic goals at OBI



Scholar and artist: OBI meets the needs of gifted students like Nahom.

OBI's Class of 2011 valedictorian is Nahom, who enrolled at OBI his freshman year as an international student from Ethiopia. He arrived with his sister, a junior at the time who graduated from OBI in 2009. "My dad was looking for schools in the U.S. for her, so she could get into a good college," Nahom explained.

Because of OBI's affordable tuition, Nahom was allowed to enroll with his sister rather than waiting until his junior year. This was preferable for both academic and personal reasons. "There is only one year difference between my sister and I. We grew up almost like twins, and my parents didn't want to separate us," Nahom said.

A gifted scholar, he began taking advanced placement classes at OBI as soon as they were available to him. He was pleased to earn the highest possible score on his AP calculus exam as a junior. He noted, "I had to pay for the test, but it saves me in college tuition since I don't have to take the class in college."

He took AP calculus II as an independent study course guided by his teacher, Steve Grant who said, "Nahom demonstrated greater insight and ... a depth of understanding beyond that of his peers."

Nahom received the faculty-voted Most Studious award each year of high school and the overall Highest GPA award in grades 10-12.

Though preparing for a career in computer engineering, Nahom took time to develop his artistic talents in art and graphic design classes at OBI. He made the regional art show in both areas and plans to continue in graphic design as a hobby. ■

Chris got back on track academically & spiritually

From Central Kentucky, Chris enrolled at OBI near the end of his freshman year in 2008. He had just been through a very difficult year at home having moved from Texas, where he had been living with his mother, to his father's home in Kentucky. "I didn't really get along with my dad. I do now, but at the time I felt like he was pressuring me to be a star [athlete] like my older brother. I felt bad about myself, so I guess I was getting back at him by not doing [well in] school," Chris said.

At OBI, he joined soccer, basketball and baseball. He earned two athletic letters in basketball and three in soccer. He received the "Beast" award and the 110% award from his soccer coach and was named to the All District team.

His bad grades were mostly because he was skipping school and not turning in homework. "I never did drugs, but I was kind of a partier, so I would sleep through class. I came here to raise my grades and get back on track," he said.

Chris experienced academ-

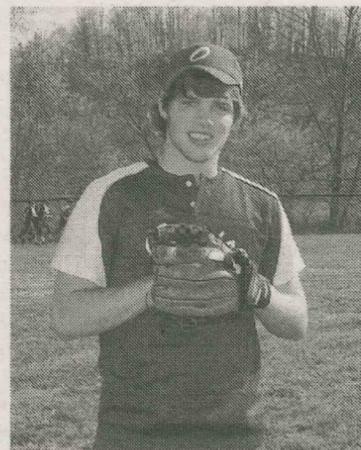
ic improvement almost immediately after enrolling at OBI. He said, "I'm definitely happy because my grades turned around dramatically. I had a 1.8 cumulative GPA my freshman year, and now it's a 3.3."

He credited required evening study hall, smaller classes and caring teachers with his success. "The teachers take the time to stop and help you. They slow it down and keep it at my pace."

Chris added, "This environment was better for me. Friends can't come over randomly and take you out. They might stop in your dorm room, but they're gone in five minutes. I don't think I could have succeeded at my old high school because of the distractions."

OBI Dean of Boys, Joseph Scull III, observed of Chris, "He's not a quitter. He continues to struggle toward the goal of success. I see that taking place in life as well. He will be one that will continue to work hard, to press forward, until the goal is achieved."

During a chapel service on



Chris enjoyed sports and fewer social distractions.

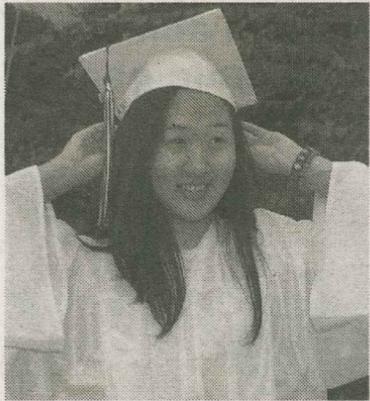
May 31, 2009, Chris said that he prayed and accepted Christ as his Savior. "[God] had been working on me," he recalled.

Chris believes that living apart from his dad helped their relationship. "It gave us space. I appreciate him more, and I appreciate time with him," he said.

Chris plans to earn a business degree, attend law school and become a lawyer like his dad. "I like to help people, and I like to argue," he smiled. ■

Oneida Baptist Institute

Anujin no longer the 'new kid' after finding OBI



Anujin accepted Christ, learned of God's love.

Born in Mongolia, Anujin moved to the U.S. at age five with her parents. Her dad moved around a lot because of his job. The fact that Anujin had lived in six states by the time she enrolled at OBI as a seventh grader was a big factor in their decision to choose a boarding school for her. They learned about OBI from a family friend.

It was not easy for Anujin to face starting yet another school year as the "new kid." She recalled, "I figured I'd be a loner like at every other school. Then I got here and people were really nice to me. They under-

stood that when you come to a new place, it's hard. They were comforting, and I made a lot of friends....I liked it here because I got to interact with people. At home, I was by myself after school which was boring."

Anujin accepted Christ in October, 2005, and was baptized at the Oneida Baptist Church. She said the daily teaching she heard in chapel led to her decision. "They tell us about salvation and a loving God and that it's a free gift. What 'clicked' for me was that everyone craves a Father's love. That's what Christ is for me, not that my parents aren't great, but He feeds me when I'm [spiritually] hungry," she said.

She enjoyed OBI's various worship and study groups like Baptist Campus Ministry and the girls' dorm devotion group. "I've grown in my relationship with Christ. Life makes sense. When I first became a Christian, there was always doubt. Once you start communicating with God and having a personal relationship with Him, you grow. My faith is stronger now," she said.

Anujin participated in all sorts of cocurriculars including cheerleading, volleyball, cross

country, tennis, drama and Creative Ministries. She spoke on behalf of OBI at the Kentucky Baptist Convention in November 2010, and she was the president of the Student Government Association.

In sports, Anujin made the All A regional volleyball team three years in a row and received the Coach's Award in volleyball and cheerleading. She earned the Most Improved award in tennis and cross country and Highest GPA awards in each sport.

The OBI faculty voted Anujin the Most Outstanding seventh grade and freshman girl.

Sheri Nutter worked with Anujin as a teacher and a coach. She said, "Anujin is one of those 'renaissance students' [who] excels at a variety of disciplines. She enthusiastically attacks all projects with gusto and smarts!"

Anujin maintained top grades by managing her time well. "You have to figure out what's most important, and I always put being a student first," she said.

Though her family currently resides in Illinois, Anujin would like to attend college in Kentucky, "so I can visit OBI," she smiled. ■

Hasset appreciated caring houseparents and teachers



Hasset's favorite OBI activity was choir.

Hasset (pronounced Hah-set) is from Ethiopia and came to Oneida as a junior. Like her brothers and cousins who attended OBI, she wanted the educational benefits of studying both in the U.S. and at OBI.

"I like the teachers here; they're really nice, and the houseparents, too. It feels like home, because they show you love. When you have a bad day, they talk to you," she said.

Hasset appreciated extra help from her English III teacher last year. The class was challenging for her because it had a lot of required reading with

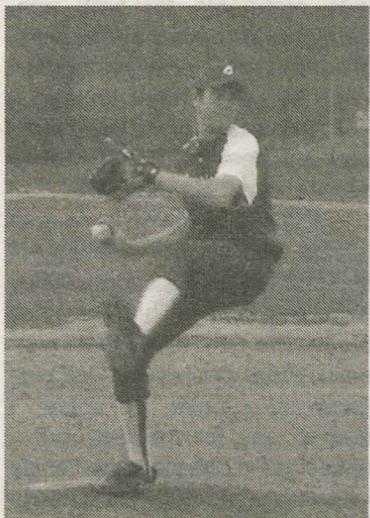
difficult vocabulary, and Hasset was not totally fluent in English. She shared her frustrations with her teacher who talked with her and gave her encouragement to keep trying. "My teacher told me, 'You can do better.' I tried and I got B's. ... I learned a lot and got better in my English," Hasset said.

"My favorite class was choir. It was fun and I learned a lot," she said. Hasset sang and traveled with the OBI choir her junior and senior years. "It was fun to go to the churches and meet people," she said.

Through her daily dormitory chores and her after school job in the campus grill, Hasset gained important life skills at OBI.

As a Christian, Hasset said that being a student at OBI helped to keep her grounded in her faith as she finished high school. ■

Evan enjoyed more time with friends, more time on the field



Student-athlete Evan earned awards in sports and top grades in advanced classes.

Evan was a sophomore when his parents made the decision to move to Oneida and join the OBI faculty. His family learned about our ministry through their church in Alabama.

Having been homeschooled for about two years, Evan looked forward to the opportunity to meet new people at a new school. "I made a lot

of friends here pretty quickly, especially other staff kids," he recalled. He liked the cultural diversity among OBI's student body. "It was all new to me, and I liked it," he said.

Comparing his Oneida experience with his larger city back home, Evan said, "There is so much to do on campus and so many friends here who are always here. ... I have more free time with them and can play more sports with them. In Alabama, I had to call and make plans a week ahead if I wanted to see my friends."

Evan had played sports growing up, like baseball for seven years. At OBI, he enjoyed more playing time and recognition of his hard work by coaches and teachers. He said, "At OBI, my efforts really did pay off."

His soccer coach and Spanish teacher, Mike Waslewski noted, "Evan shows exceptional character in whatever he does. He is a great example of a student athlete."

Evan was named the Most Outstanding sophomore and junior boy by the OBI faculty. He also received the Best Defense

award in soccer and two Golden Glove awards in baseball. At Oneida, he earned the Highest GPA award three years in a row in both baseball and soccer.

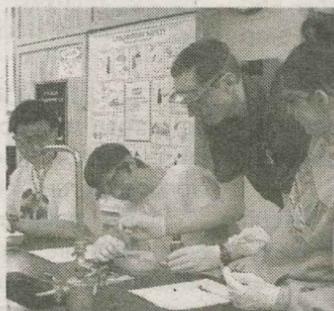
Evan was a top scholar who began taking advanced placement classes as a junior. He graduated as OBI's salutatorian with a GPA above 4.0 and said he is "strongly considering" majoring in pre-medicine in college. ■

A day in the life of an Oneida student . . .



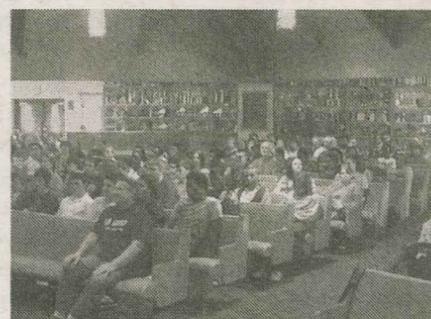
Most students choose to start the day with breakfast. Before going to school, beds must be made and dormitory rooms must be clean.

At OBI, our academic program has a wide range of classes from advanced placement courses...



...to math and reading help in our Tutoring Lab.

After third period each day, faculty and students meet for chapel. Songs, preaching and special programs keep God at the center of each day and provide a nice break.



After school, it's time to check for mail and packages, make a phone call or go to the student bank and campus store.

Oneida Baptist Institute

Julia led by example in school, work and attitude

Julia was in the sixth grade when she and her older sister, Teah, enrolled at OBI. At home in North Carolina, their single-parent mother wanted her girls to have adequate supervision after school.

Julia recalled with a smile, "My perspective of Kentucky changed after I got here. Not trying to be racist, but I thought my sister and I would be the only black people here."

At OBI, Julia met students from all walks of life. She also gained insight into her personal heritage when she met teenagers from Liberia. "We ate the same. We dressed alike. We listened to the same music. I felt very connected to the Liberians," Julia said.

Though she experienced homesickness at first, Julia enjoyed the sense of independence that comes with living at boarding school. Her sister graduated from OBI in 2010, and Julia said that while she missed her this year, "I really liked her not telling me what to do!" The sisters were

roommates in middle school and separated for high school, but Julia noted, "Teah always took care of me, like making sure I had washed my clothes."

A Christian, Julia was well known on campus for her compassion and friendliness toward others. "I really like helping people," she said. She plans to enroll in a nursing program in college this fall.

Julia's dependability and servant-leadership gifting were recognized early at OBI. She was made a supervisor on her kitchen cleaning crew as a sixth grader. "When it came to work, I just did it. ... I really liked the responsibility of getting to work first and showing the other workers what to do. I would lead by example," she said.

Julia participated in track, volleyball, basketball, cross country and cheerleading. What many do not know about Julia is that she has cerebral palsy which affects her legs. She wore leg braces all of her life to help with her balance, but she made the

decision in the seventh grade to stop wearing them. "I wanted to feel normal," she said.

Julia has to work a little harder and concentrate more on her movements, but she never lets that slow her down. She said, "I don't see myself as having a disability. I'm walking, I'm capable of doing things. Why not take advantage of doing sports when I have the time?"

She earned Highest GPA awards in each of her sports plus the Most Improved award in choir. The OBI faculty named her the Most Studious as an eighth grader and a junior and the Most Outstanding in grades nine through twelve. Julia also received OBI's highest graduation honor, the William A. Evans Award.

Her cross country and track coach, Lance Nutter observed, "Julia is a dedicated Christian girl with more maturity than most teenagers. ... She went outside her comfort level to try new things [like sports] and she was a very smart and hard working



Julia never let her physical limitations keep her from doing the activities she loved like cross country and the Yearbook Queen pageant.

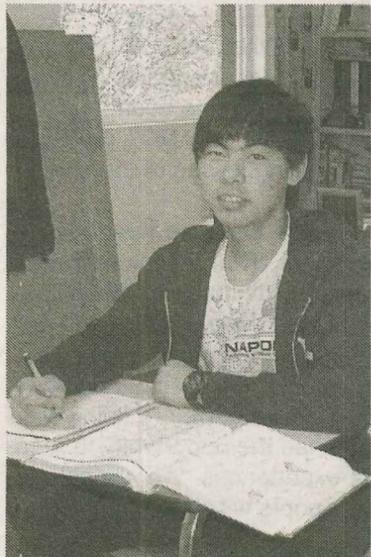
student who applied herself in all of her classes and took many AP classes. Julia stands out as a super amazing girl who we will certainly miss."

Having always earned top grades, Julia said, "To me, school comes first so if I'm struggling in a class, I try my hardest to bring that grade up." She added that she never dropped a class because it was hard. Instead, she would get extra help from the

teacher and spend more time studying. "I'm not a quitter. I'm a fighter. Sometimes you have to struggle in life to find success," she said.

Why did Julia remain a student at OBI, even after she was old enough to stay home alone? "The people and the staff," she said. ■

Shawn improved English, enjoyed a well-rounded education at OBI



Shawn had time for studies, sports and friends at OBI.

Shawn is an international student from China. His real name is Xiangyu (pronounced Shang-yu). He chose the American name 'Shawn' when he came to the U.S. for high school. "Because my uncle lived here, I had a chance to come to America. I just wanted to try it. I thought maybe I would have more opportunities here. My parents thought it was OK," Shawn recalled. He lived with his uncle in Massachusetts his freshman year.

When his uncle moved to Indiana, it was a good time for Shawn to explore academic options including boarding school. "I think it's good to learn how to live by yourself," he said. His family liked the fact that OBI

was a Christian school. Shawn explained, "This kind of school is better. We heard that Christian schools have more rules, that their purpose is for study and for students to be good. Most Chinese like that—peace and study." He enrolled at OBI as a sophomore and added, "It's been good training, and this dorm is nice."

OBI's English as a Second Language (ESL) class helped Shawn to improve his fluency. The "full immersion" experience of living at OBI and interacting with others outside the classroom also helped his English skills, and Shawn enjoyed friendships with both American and other international students. "This year I feel like OBI

is home. Thinking about graduating makes me sad to leave all these friends," he said.

Though Shawn did not make a profession for Christ while at OBI, seeds of truth were sown. In an interview his junior year, he said, "A lot of Chinese have no beliefs, and I am one of them." By his senior year, he stated that he believed in God.

ESL teacher Ryan Cordle observed, "Shawn has grown from an introvert who reluctantly spoke English into an outgoing student with many American friends. I will never forget the ... letter he gave me which thanked me for being his teacher."

Shawn does not regret his decision to finish high school in America, but he knows it was

a sacrifice for his parents. "They had a hard time deciding to let me go, but seeing me doing pretty good, they think it is good. If I get into a good college, they will be happy even more," he said. He plans to major in architecture at a U.S. college.

Shawn enjoyed his experience with the OBI soccer team. "I think everybody should do a sport. It's good for you. I liked the people working together and everyone working hard. It was like a family, and the coach was really nice. I had a good time," he said. ■

Each Oneida student must have a daily job. Many co-curriculars meet the requirement.

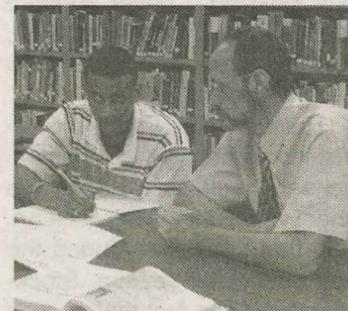


Teens who participate in the student work

program may do yardwork, clean classrooms, serve food in the campus grill, work on the OBI farm or clean in the dining hall and dormitories.

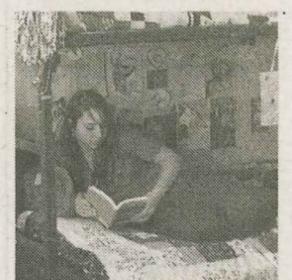


"Free time" is a chance for our young people to enjoy recreation in the gym. Students often have the option of attending a sports event or the computer lab.



Every student not on the academic honor roll must attend nightly study hall. Teachers take turns coming to study hall to be available to help students.

After evening chores, it's time to climb into the bunk bed to get some shuteye before starting another day.



Oneida Baptist Institute

Following Christ

Unlike many Christian schools, OBI welcomes teens who do not know Jesus. At OBI they hear the gospel message daily. If we reach them for Christ, they can take the good news around the world.

OBI's funding

Approximately 9% of Oneida's funding comes from the KBC Cooperative Program. Another 30% comes from student fees. The remaining 61% comes from income from our modest investments, churches and individuals who choose to invest in the lives of young people.

A multi-faceted ministry

OBI has an 11:1 student/teacher ratio, a Tutoring Lab with a 2:1 student/teacher ratio and nightly study hall.

We have a full array of co-curricular activities and a unique student work program. Many teens find their niche in the work program.

Many OBI students are not Christians when they enroll. We share the gospel through daily chapel, Sunday worship, Bible classes and campus ministry.

More about Oneida

OBI's average enrollment is 300-325.

We have 125 faculty and staff.

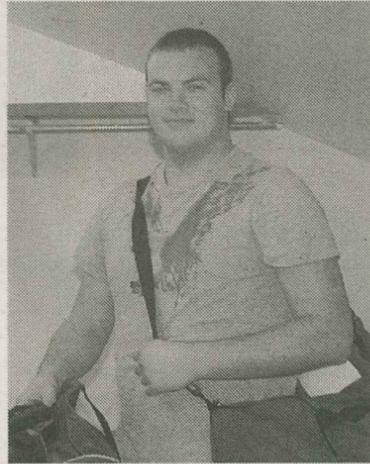
OBI has an 850-acre campus, including a 200-acre farm.

We enroll students throughout the year.

OBI provides affordable Christian education

Meet some of the Class of 2011

Smaller classes, Christian teaching benefit day students like Michael



Michael gained work experience in the Field Placement program.

Michael lives about five miles from campus and enrolled at OBI as a day student in the seventh grade. "My dad went to school here and liked it, so I figured I'd go where he went. Basically, all my family went to school here ... I love it," he said.

For Michael, the main benefit in attending OBI was smaller classes. "I have friends [in other schools] that have 30-35 people in a class. It's hard to learn when you've got that many. It seems like you learn a lot more in small classes," he said.

Michael received basic knowledge of scripture in daily chapel and Bible classes. He said, "I wasn't really raised in a Christian environment. I've learned a lot since I came here."

Michael enrolled in the senior Field Placement program and was assigned to work for OBI Athletic Director Laura Stockton. "Michael's daily assignments varied depending on what sports were in season. He was a hard worker and a tremendous blessing. I never doubted that whatever the errand or job, he would see it through and do it well," Stockton said.

Having helped with the refinishing of the gymnasium floor, Michael's main task during the school year was to keep it clean, a job that intensified during the busy basketball season. Stockton noted, "The fact that he was part of the refinishing ... surely influenced him as he cared for the floor during the year."

Michael plans to begin a vocational program after graduation. "I'll miss everything at OBI. It went by fast," he said. ■

Liz needed a fresh start

Adopted at age 10 after two and a half years in foster care, Liz said that middle school was a difficult time for her both at home and at school in Ohio. "I just didn't listen. ... I would never answer questions. I would lie. ... I refused to work," she said.

She enrolled at OBI as a freshman and explained that she found it easier to obey rules at OBI because they seemed more objective and less personal. She explained, "I did my chores here. I did the same things my parents had me do at home, it was just different here. I tried to argue here, but I just got in trouble, so I stopped arguing. I finally understood that you don't have a choice about [working] every day."

Staying active in cocurriculars at OBI helped Liz improve her attitude. "If I don't keep myself busy, I tend to get bored and annoyed," she said.

She participated in volleyball, cheerleading, softball, tennis and swimming. She was

a member of the choir and the FFA for two years and worked occasionally on the farm.

Her work experience at OBI helped Liz to shape her career goals. "I work better in structure," she learned. She would like to join the Army after she completes two years of college.

Liz made the honor roll each year thanks in part to teacher availability in class and at nightly study hall. She said, "The teachers will talk to you more which makes it easier to learn. There are people you can ask for help no matter what time of day."

Having accepted Christ when she was much younger, being a student at OBI gave Liz the opportunity to attend church regularly and fellowship with other believers. "That was another good reason to be at OBI," she added.

Christian houseparents and coaches became spiritual mentors to Liz. "I was glad to know there were [staff] willing to sit down with you and answer any



Liz flourished in campus activities like sports and FFA.

questions," she added.

One such mentor was Emily Kelley, OBI's middle school principal and girls' dorm devotion group leader who said, "Liz is an amazing young lady who has endured a lot of personal battles ... [and] does not give up when the going gets tough."

Liz concluded, "This school has changed me a lot. I don't argue as much, and I've gotten closer to my parents and to God. ... I'm thankful that my parents sent me here." ■

What are you investing in?

The theme for the Father's Day Offering this year is "What are you investing in?" From a monetary point of view, we all like to know that we are getting a return on our investments. Most of us know the feeling that came with the economic turmoil in 2008 and 2009 when we discovered that we were not only NOT getting a return on our investments, but most of us were experiencing losses of the investments themselves.

Many wonderful friends who support our efforts do so because they believe that Oneida provides the best return on their investment. That investment may come in the form of volunteer labor or from the financial gifts made to this ministry. The faculty and staff who labor day in and day out work longer hours and are exposed to more stress than most people, and they do this while working for very modest salaries.



What is the return on your investment in the Oneida ministry? If you would like to visit our campus or slip in during a graduation service in mid-May, I think you will be able to see what we are doing with the resources you provide. If you receive the Western Recorder, you have had the opportunity to read about the many lives that have been impacted because of their Oneida experiences. We are able to share the gospel message while providing living examples for the young people who are entrusted to our care.

What a wonderful blessing it is to share the love of Christ with a young person from China who has never--think about this--NEVER heard the message of Christ's love before coming to Oneida! Additionally, the joy that comes from working in the classroom with students who have often known mostly failure and frustration is difficult to describe. Then to see the excitement when, with the help of a loving faculty and staff, they are able to turn failing grades into A's, B's and C's. In the class of 2010, 78 percent of our graduates were able to earn Advanced Diplomas. In the class of 2011, 75 percent met the challenges required to earn an Advanced Diploma.

The return on your investment cannot be counted in dollars and cents. But it can be counted in the lives that are turned from spiritual darkness to the light of His love. It can be counted by the number of young people who were on the road to failure and destruction, but are now experiencing the joy of confidence and faith that will hopefully prepare them to live productive and godly lives. What a wonderful investment opportunity for you and your church! Please consider a gift to the Father's Day Offering for Oneida Baptist Institute.

— Dr. W. F. Underwood, OBI President, Class of 1963

Ways to support the Oneida Baptist ministry

Pray...

- For the hearts of teenagers at OBI to be transformed by the gospel.
- For our teachers, houseparents, coaches, administration and staff.
- For God's continued grace and provision.

Share...

- Your time and skills as a short-term volunteer at Oneida Baptist.
- Your financial investment or donation.
- Information about OBI with a family or teen who may need the Oneida ministry.

Movie mirrors filmmaker's own struggles, redemption

Continued from page 1

Brown, friend and co-director of "No Lost Cause") and she quoted Romans 8:28 to me: 'And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose,'" Yeager recalled. "Making my own film was a dream that I always had. God instills these dreams for a reason."

From that point on, Yeager decided to put her faith in something much greater than a doctor's diagnosis—and like her faith, Yeager's vision began to grow stronger. By the end of the experience, Yeager had 50 fresh pages of dialogue and a mission to accomplish.

Art imitates life

In "No Lost Cause," Yeager weaves a tale about the conquering nature of God's redeeming love. The lead fictional character, Beth Ann Collins, suffers paralysis after a car crash with a drunk driver. The young woman's bitterness about her prognosis grows with each passing day until she breaks under the unconditional love of Christ shown through her estranged, but dedicated father and a love-smitten young man at her father's church.



WOMEN OF FAITH Rachel Yeager (left) and Ashley Raymer-Brown co-directed and produced "No Lost Cause." Yeager also wrote the film, weaving many of her own life struggles and faith into the story of the main character, Beth Ann Collins. Yeager also dealt with a degenerative eye disease that threatened her vision and the movie. (Photo courtesy of Rachel Yeager)

"My experience was so similar to Beth Ann's," Yeager said of faith struggles experienced by the film's lead character.

Lead actress Caitlyn Capriette, 17, also identified with her on-screen character.

"Bad Beth Ann was a lot like myself a few years ago," said the Lexington native whose father, Greg Waltermire, is pastor of Heritage Baptist Church there. "I think the subject of redemption is a gorgeous biblical theme. I hope we get that message out."

Yeager said her desire is that the message in "No Lost Cause" would be one to which people at all stages of Christian belief can respond.

"Sometimes Christian films can be perceived as campy and it's hard for a non-Christian to view them without feeling like they are being preached to," Yeager said. "My hope is if it touches one person's heart, it was all worth it—and if it can touch one, why not a thousand?"

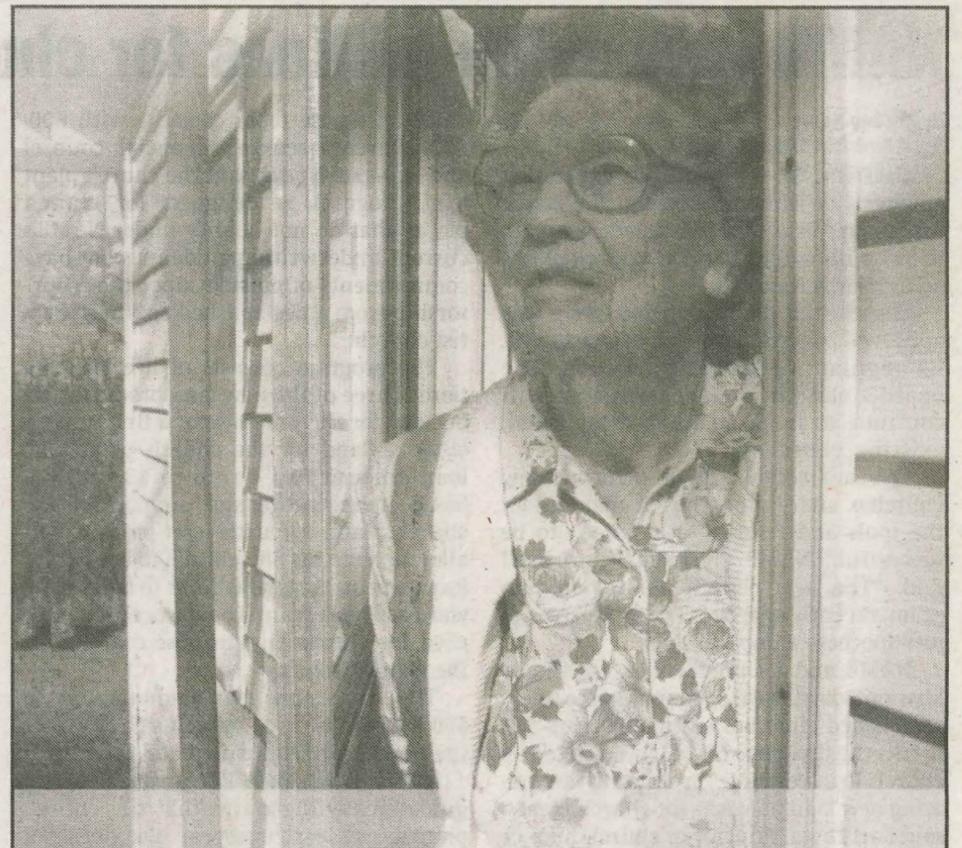
Movigoers will have another opportunity to see "No Lost Cause" June 12 at the Village 8 theaters in Louisville. The show begins at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$8 and can be requested by sending an e-mail to ProverbFilms@yahoo.com.

You can see
'No Lost Cause'
June 12, 3 p.m.
@
Village 8 Theaters
4014 Dutchmans Lane
Louisville

Tickets are \$8 and available at
ProverbFilms@yahoo.com



WORLD PREMIERE The cast of "No Lost Cause" gathers for a group shot during the May 27 premiere of the film at the Kentucky Historical Society in Frankfort. Caitlyn Capriette (front row, second from right) plays lead character Beth Ann Collins. Brian Douglas Barker (front row, far right) plays her father, while Nils Hamilton (front row, second from left) plays Beth Ann's love interest. Rachel Yeager (second row, far left) wrote and co-directed the film with Ashley Raymer-Brown (third row, far left). (Photo by Robin Bass)



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Electricity or medicine?*

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NAMB sets aside millions for church plant loans

By Mickey Noah
North American Mission Board

Alpharetta, Ga.—As part of its expanding emphasis on church planting, the North American Mission Board is dedicating up to \$15 million for financing church plants across North America.

The church plant loan initiative was approved by NAMB's board of trustees at its regular meeting last month. The board's church finance ministry will continue to make loans to established, existing churches.

"We are serious about planting new churches and giving church planters all the tools and resources they need to be successful," NAMB President Kevin Ezell said. "The new church plant loan program, recently approved by the trustees, is just another example of that."

NAMB and its predecessor, the Home Mission Board, have been making loans to established churches since 1900. But this marks the first time NAMB has utilized its church loan resources specifically for creating new loan products for church plants, said Karl Dietz, director of church finance ministry for NAMB.

Interest income from the loans flows directly back to North American missions. As of April 30, Dietz said NAMB had \$135 million representing 428 outstanding church loans on its books.

Dietz, whose team consults with 600-800 churches seeking financial counsel and loans each year, said the church plant loan program is designed for church plants that do not qualify under NAMB's current underwriting guidelines but have commitments of outside support or sponsorship from an established Southern Baptist church.

The program consists of five loan options. Three of the new loan products will be used for the purchase of a first unit facility or land for the church plant. The loan amount can go up to \$3 million, based upon the outside support of the church plant. A fourth loan product will allow an existing SBC church to use part of its equity in its own facilities to be used toward a church plant. Loan proceeds can be used for almost any purpose directed by the loan borrower.

The final new loan product (up to \$50,000) can be used by a church plant for the purchase of equipment and furniture.

Dietz said NAMB's underwriting guidelines will require that the church plant be at least one year old; does not own its first building; is a self-governed, legal entity; and averages 40 adult attendees each Sunday. The plant must have documented financial support extending into the future at least two years.

The purchased property serving as the

church plant has to be owned, not rented, and can be a new or previously used church building, storefront or any other facility.

"In today's economy, we recommend to church plants that the best thing they can do at first is to buy an existing building and do renovations," said Dietz, who noted that the program's interest rate will be the same as the current rate of 6 percent, which is subject to change. NAMB does not charge any additional fees beyond normal real estate closing costs, he said.

Dietz said normally it takes his team at NAMB 10 days to approve a loan if the church plant's loan package is complete. Because of the number of people involved—appraisers, realtors, engineers and attorneys—it usually takes another 45-60 days for the loan to close.

"We've been doing this for over 100 years now," Dietz said of NAMB and the HMB. "We've developed guidelines over the years that have been tested in good and challenging economies. We know how much debt a church can take on based on historical income, salaries and other expenses."

"The challenge for NAMB is that when you make a loan to a church, you're making a loan to an entity that doesn't sell a product or service. It's totally dependent on its members' giving." (BP)

New Orleans DOM McDaniel dies at 54

New Orleans—Duane McDaniel, executive director of New Orleans Baptist Association, died May 30 after suffering a massive stroke May 21. He was 54.

Since 2009 at the helm of the urban Baptist association still recovering from Hurricane Katrina, McDaniel set in place what he called "a holistic missional strategy for glorifying God by proclaiming the gospel in word and deed," said Jack Hunter of the associational staff.

It was a three-pronged strategy that included compassion ministries, church planting and church health. Gospel-centered compassion ministries seeking the transformation of New Orleans included Baptist community health centers, volunteer urban mission projects, home-repair projects and ministries to the homeless.

"Compassion ministries and church planting were very much Duane," said Hunter, president of New Orleans Baptist Ministries, the compassion ministries arm of the association. "He loved the lost and he loved the needy."

It was need that led McDaniel to New Orleans in the wake of Hurricane Katrina in 2005. He brought volunteers from the church he led then, Hawaii Kai Church in Honolulu, to New Orleans several times to help in recovery efforts.

A Louisiana native, McDaniel was a graduate of Louisiana State University, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, Miss. He was pastor of Hawaii Kai Church in Honolulu from 2001-09 before moving to New Orleans.

McDaniel is survived by his wife, Kathleen, and their four children. The funeral was held June 5 at First Baptist Church of New Orleans. (BP)

Criswell College offers scholarships to missionaries' kids

Richmond, Va.—Full-tuition scholarships are being offered by Criswell College to children of career missionaries employed by the International Mission Board, President Jerry Johnson announced recently.

"We want to partner with our missionaries by continuing the training they have given their children, providing them with a solid college education that emphasizes

Scripture, theology, missions, evangelism and the Christian worldview," Johnson shared with IMB trustees.

"We had been praying about a way that we might thank and encourage those who daily give so much to the Lord and his work," Johnson said.

The "Great Commission initiative" will begin with the fall 2011 semester. Any chil-

dren of career missionaries employed by the IMB will receive a four-year, full-tuition scholarship to enroll in an undergraduate degree program.

"It is also our hope that we might demonstrate ... that we are committed to the Great Commission resurgence and will do what we can to advance this vision," Johnson said. (BP)

God's heart for the nations

Teachers discovers international mission field also includes Oneida's

By Jonathan Barnes, OBI faculty

Nearly six years ago, my wife and I had to make a decision: Go to Morocco and teach, or come to Oneida and teach. Much prayer and deliberation brought us to the hills of southeastern Kentucky. A few years earlier God had called us to Africa, so the decision was difficult.

When we visited OBI, we were very impressed by the diversity of the student body. We met students from Korea, various parts of the U.S. and Africa. We could envision God's call to OBI fitting with His call to Africa and the nations. I still felt strongly that God's call was not just to do His work with Africans, but to actually go to Africa. I wondered as we moved to Oneida if it would be possible to go, but I trusted Him.

In 2007 we were able to travel as a couple to Rwanda for a volunteer trip to assist International Mission Board missionaries who were English teachers. It was good to be obedient to what I knew in my heart God wanted. I was blessed to do the same thing again in 2009.

As I continued to pray, a new opportunity arrived. Before coming to OBI, I was introduced to Kennedy Okere, a native Nigerian and medical doctor. He has his own organization, Horizon International Medical Missions, based in my hometown of Savannah, Ga. Dr. Kennedy has been going on medical mission trips to Nigeria since 2000.

When I returned to the U.S. from Rwanda in 2009, I talked at great length with Dr. Kennedy. I felt God calling me to go with the Himm team to Nigeria in 2011. I have had many Nigerian stu-

dents at Oneida. I got excited about the upcoming trip and was able to share with my students about it.

On March 17, we went to Nigeria for 10 days. We did medical clinics in four villages. We saw people with extremely high blood pressure and those with severe abscesses. Some had family problems; others had had curses placed on them; still others had spiritual oppressions and many other afflictions. We could not help everyone; every day we had to turn people away. We had three doctors, a pharmacist and pharmacy and a pastor to pray with those who came. Spiritual and physical needs were met. Many were treated medically and prayed for. Some were saved.

We were overwhelmed at how little we could do, but we were confronted with the reality that Jesus was the only one who could truly provide for their needs, and that He ultimately was who they needed most. He also is who we need most.

It was a great blessing to go, and it also was good to return to my friends and family here in Oneida. I was able to share about how God is at work in Nigeria just as He is at work at OBI and around the world. It also was good to see the homeland of many of the students I have worked with.

God's heart for the nations continues to beat with passion, a passion that all nations of the earth will come to know Him, be blessed by Him and praise Him. My joy is to be a small part of it and to share that passion with the others I am blessed to work with here and in Africa.

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, continued

Clear Creek graduates reflect on their time at the school

I hope you have enjoyed these "senior memories" of our graduates that were shared as they walked across the stage to receive their diplomas during graduation service.

My fondest Clear Creek memories are of marrying my wife while here and making close friends through school, work and classes. The greatest memory for me though is Christ's faithfulness while I was here. —Nathan Dowell

My fondest memories include making good friends and growing closer to Christ along the way; and best of all, finding my lovely wife-to-be. —Matt Phelps

My fondest Clear Creek memories are being able to baptize two of my children and establishing new relationships. —John Beck

My fondest memory was preaching and seeing 11 teenagers saved at a Saturday night youth rally in Chattanooga, Tenn. —Ed Goodman

My fondest memory of my time at Clear Creek is leading 14 people to salvation—nine of them were inmates at a local jail where we did ministry, four were children in my AWANA program, and one was my half-brother. —Myren Howard

My fondest Clear Creek memory

is the friends I made along the way. They are tremendous friendships that will be used during my ministry. —Josh Hust

My fondest Clear Creek memories are growing closer to my wife and son while watching Jesus provide for us when things looked

hopeless. —Frank Lane

My fondest memories are of seeing my family grow closer together and closer to God while making friends that will last a lifetime. —Chad Loveless

My fondest memory is bringing my family when I began school in 2001 and then returning years later to complete my degree with one of my sons as a classmate. —Terry McCain

My fondest Clear Creek memory is seeing neighbors' love for one another by reaching out to serve their fellow neighbors while I was here. —Benny Williams

My fondest memory was of my freshman year when I was only 18 years old. I was feeling discouraged about my age and Dr. Hughes encouraged me from 1 Timothy 4:12. I grew a lot as a result of that brief conversation. —Matt Rayburn

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

SBC Exec. Committee to review mission boards' assignments

By Bob Allen

Phoenix—The Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention is ready to consider revisions to working agreements that will allow the International Mission Board to work directly with internationals living in the United States.

On the agenda at the Executive Committee's June 13 meeting, just prior to start of the 2011 SBC annual meeting in Phoenix, is a recommendation by IMB trustees to expand the agency's ministry assignment beyond geographic borders to authorize "specialized defined and agreed upon assistance to the North American Mission Board in assisting churches to reach unreached and underserved people groups within the United States and Canada."

The proposed change stems from a Great Commission Resurgence Task Force

recommendation approved last year to entrust the IMB with "the ministry of reaching unreached and underserved people groups without regard to any geographic limitation."

Supporters of the change say it makes no sense for IMB missionaries specialized for ministry with a particular ethnic group to be unutilized for reaching people from that same group just because they live in North America.

Critics fear it blurs the lines between "foreign" and "domestic" missions, separate dual priorities since the convention's organization in 1845, each with its own mission offering, and could open the door to a merger of the two mission boards.

Merger talk surfaced in 2009 when the NAMB chairman said he thought Southern Baptists would be better served by a "singular world mission agency." Tim Patterson,

pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Fla., later apologized for giving the impression that his interview with the Florida Baptist Witness was on behalf of the entire board of trustees.

NAMB trustees adopted a statement at that time calling the agency "crucial" to Southern Baptists and "an efficient and effective" entity.

The new mission statement was on the agenda at the Executive Committee's meeting in February, but action was postponed "so that the approved process for making ministry statement changes can be fully complied with, during which time all pertinent factors can be thoroughly examined."

Executives from both missions agencies told committee members that their boards had agreed in principle, but due to leadership changes at both entities, needed more

time to iron out details. The motion presented to the Executive Committee in February said the group "affirms the expressed desires" of the task force report but it was amended to "acknowledges" after a member said he did not want to give the impression that he is in favor of the task force's idea.

The motion will be presented first to the Convention Ministries Workgroup and then the Cooperative Program Subcommittee. From there it goes to a plenary session.

Ministry program statements are listed in the SBC's organization manual and designed to help various convention entities work together in non-competitive ways that promote the total work of the convention. They "express the policy of the convention with respect to entities" and can be changed only by vote of the convention in annual session. (ABP)

SBC PREVIEW

WMU Missions Celebration/Annual Meeting—June 12-13, Grand Ballroom of the Wyndham Phoenix Downtown Hotel. Theme: "Proclaim!" Keynote speakers: Ginger Smith, executive director of the Mission Centers of Houston, will speak June 12. Jeff Iorg, president of Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, will speak June 13. A special missions feature June 13, 11 a.m., will be led by Gordon Fort, vice president of overseas operations for the International Mission Board. National WMU President Debby Akerman will give her presidential address during the June 13 morning session. Breakout sessions will be offered June 12, 2:30-5 p.m., and June 13, 2-4:30 p.m.

Pastors' Wives Conference—June 13, 8:30-11:45 a.m., North Ballroom A-B at the Phoenix Convention Center. Theme: "Aspire." Keynote speaker: Kay Warren, author and wife of Saddleback Church Pastor Rick Warren. A panel discussion featuring sev-

eral ministry wives will be led by Susie Hawkins, wife of GuideStone Financial Resources President O.S. Hawkins.

Directors of Missions Conference—June 12-13, North Phoenix Baptist Church. Themes: "God Does Not Change" and "God Is Not Ever Surprised." Keynote speakers: GuideStone President Hawkins will speak at a luncheon June 12, 11 a.m. The Sunday afternoon session will feature addresses from North American Mission Board President Kevin Ezell and International Mission Board President Tom Elliff. Ken Hemphill, the Empowering Kingdom Growth strategist for the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee, will speak that same day at 4 p.m.

COSBE Worship Service—June 12, 9 a.m.-noon, Valley of the Sun Ballroom at the Sheraton Phoenix Downtown Hotel. Theme: "Ageless Urgency." Keynote speakers: Harold Hunter, president of Trinity

College of the Bible and Theological Seminary in Newburgh, Ind.; former COSBE president Brian Fossett; and evangelist Eric Fuller.

Seminary Luncheons—The six Southern Baptist seminaries will host luncheons for alumni and guests June 15. **Golden Gate:** 12:15 p.m., rooms 227A-C on level 200 of the Phoenix Convention Center's North Building. Tickets: \$10, (888) 442-8709 or rsvp@ggbs.edu. **Midwestern:** noon, rooms 124A-B on the street level of the Phoenix Convention Center's North Building. Tickets: \$15, (816) 414-3720 or iaoffice@mbts.edu. **New Orleans:** noon, room 120A in the Phoenix Convention Center's North Building. Tickets: \$25, www.nobts.edu. **South-eastern:** noon, rooms 129A-B in the Phoenix Convention Center's North Building. Tickets: \$25, www.sebts.edu. **Southern:** 12:30 p.m., room 120D on level 100 of the Phoenix Convention Center's North Building. Tickets: \$20, (502) 897-4142 or rdramer

@sbts.edu. **Southwestern:** noon, room 120 on level 100 of the Phoenix Convention Center's North Building. Tickets: \$20, (877) 467-9287 or www.swbts.edu.

National African American Fellowship—June 12-14, various locations. A worship service will be held June 12, 6:30 p.m., at Canaan Baptist Church in Mesa, Ariz., with keynote speaker Tyrone Barnette, founding pastor of Peace Baptist Church in Decatur, Ga. The business session will be held June 13, 4 p.m., in room 230 on level 200 of the Phoenix Convention Center's North Building. The group's annual banquet will be held June 14, 6:30 p.m., in room 129 on level 100 of the convention center.

Native American Fellowship—June 13, 10 a.m. until noon, room 226A in the Phoenix Convention Center's North Building. Keynote speaker: Emerson Falls, president of the Fellowship of Native American Christians.

Best-kept secret

Ky. Baptists can put KBF to work for them in financial planning area

At the May session of the Kentucky Baptist Convention Mission Board, President Floyd Paris observed "the Kentucky Baptist Foundation is probably Kentucky Baptists' best-kept secret."

He continued by bearing testimony and giving examples of how the KBF had facilitated the estate stewardship of some of his church members. Then he encouraged all of the Mission Board members, in the spirit of the "More for Christ" emphasis, to utilize the KBF's services, especially the stewardship education seminars we conduct in churches and with senior-adult groups and the private estate planning consultation service for them and their fellow church members.

What a joy it was to get that kind of affirmation and encouragement from our convention president—and in the presence of that important leadership group. Needless to say, I was sincerely gratified.

Since 1945 your Kentucky Baptist Foundation has remained steadfast and solid for kingdom advancement. What distinguishes the KBF from other foundations is the emphasis on kingdom advancement. We seek always to bring the highest business and Christian standards and meth-

ods as a fiduciary of funds and as a facilitator of life-changing legacies for kingdom advancement.

We believe God is the creator and owner of all things, and we are called to be His managers (stewards). How we plan our estates likely will be the single most significant act of financial stewardship we shall ever perform. And through estate stewardship, each and every one of us, regardless of our financial stations in life, can do "more for Christ."

So, now the secret is out. What will be your response? There is no cost or obligation for a private, confidential estate planning consultation session by telephone or in person. Neither is there any cost for us to conduct a seminar in your church or senior-adult group. We cover such topics, as estate stewardship and incapacity planning, ways to make charitable gifts other than cash, the truth about probate and living trusts, and long-term care planning.

Call us toll free to arrange a meeting, and visit our website for more information.

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

'Courage' underground

Upcoming event gives boys, men opportunity to experience missions

When boys gather June 24-25 at Camp Joy Baptist Assembly in Brownsville for Courage, the Eliza Broadus Offering will be there. Courage is a one-night camping experience for missions-minded boys and their leaders that will challenge them to encounter the light of the world—Jesus.

Courage is an action-filled weekend with guest speakers, recreation activities, Bible study and a missions project. Participants will worship in "God's great indoors," a cavern adjacent to Mammoth Cave National Park.

One of the featured activities during Courage will be Missions Challenge open races with proceeds benefiting Baptist Global Response's project at Sanyati Baptist Hospital in Zimbabwe. Other activities include the R.A. racer competition, archery, hunting games, Pitstop Challenge, cross bucks, mission shootout, rope-challenge activities, knot tying and an equestrian exhibition. Missions displays also will be part of the weekend, including firefighting demonstrations and a "Minute to Win It" challenge.

Courage 2011 is for Royal Ambassadors, dads and R.A. leaders. It is a great opportunity to invite friends and neighbors who

do not attend church regularly or perhaps have never heard the gospel.

Participants have the opportunity to be part of a missions project while attending Courage 2011. To benefit local ministries that serve families in need, each boy

is challenged to bring one can of food for each grade of school he has completed. For example: boys in first grade will bring one can of food; boys in second grade will bring two cans of food, etc. Adults can participate as well, bringing more cans of food to help with the project.

Support for this event is provided through an EBO allocation to the Baptist Men on Mission department. Greta Wilson, a Mission Service Corps missionary who is a missions education consultant with the KBC, has planned the Courage event. Learn more at www.KyBaptist.org or call (866) 489-3527.

Starting this fall, Kentucky WMU will take the lead in events and leader training for Royal Ambassadors and Challengers. EBO will continue to provide support for the expansion of missions education for boys and girls of all ages.

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

June

- 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.

July

- 1-2 Acteens Overnight, CedarCrest Camp, Bagdad.
- 1-2 Mother/Daughter Overnight, CedarCrest Camp, Bagdad.
- 2-9 Kentucky Changers, Maysville.
- 5-8 Mission Adventure Camp for Girls and Boys, CedarCrest Camp, Bagdad.
- 13-16 Blume 2011, Walt Disney World Resort, Orlando, Fla.
- 23 Disaster Relief Phase I Volunteer Training, Porter Memorial Baptist Church, Lexington.
- 29-30 Excel WMU Leadership Development Event, Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown.

BGR projects give families 'BOOST' in remote Philippines

By Mark Kelly
Baptist Global Response

Cebu City, Philippines—The remote, picturesque villages of the Cebu and Camotes islands in the Philippines are among the poorest in the country. The ruggedly beautiful mountains offer little to families who don't know how to cultivate the rocky soil, a Southern Baptist humanitarian worker in the region said.

"Food and clean water are scarce. Many children die from preventable disorders like measles, diarrhea, pneumonia and malaria," said Ben Wolf, who directs Baptist Global Response work in the Asia Rim. "Opportunities for training are few, and many people abandon their farms and hometowns for the cities, where their lack of job skills dooms them to life in the slums."

For almost two years now, community development initiatives in three areas of the Cebu and Camotes islands have been working to provide the skills in farming, health care and livelihood that help people discover the quality of life God created them to enjoy, project director Al Hoopes said.

"Many adults abuse alcohol. Many of the children do not attend school due to poverty and lack of hope for the future to improve," Hoopes said. "Remote areas have no

health facilities and the Cebuanos have little knowledge about nutrition or health care. With little or no successful role models, rural youth abandon their families and go to cities like Cebu and Manila with no money and no values."

Using the BOOST training approach developed by the Mindanao Baptist Rural Life Center, community development projects use World Hunger Fund resources to provide hands-on, on-site training that will alleviate many of the problems rural families face, Hoopes said.

"These projects will focus on making farmers successful. It will teach values, literacy if needed, community project development and how to work without 'outside' funds," Hoopes said.

Local officials of the Philippines' agriculture department helped workers locate the neediest areas for the development projects, Wolf said. The projects employ sound principles of community development to help families understand how to use what they have to improve their lives, without becoming dependent on outside resources, he added.

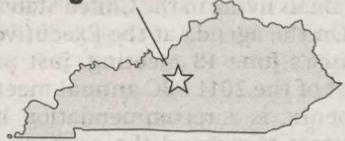
"Farmers provide land for food production and animal projects. They will use much of their own capital for the projects such as baskets for FAITH gardens, materials for goat barns and materials for mush-

MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

Spotlight on ...

Hodgenville



First Church's **Magic Hands** youth black light choreography ministry will perform June 12, 10:15 a.m.

■ **BENTON**—Vanzora Church will host a puppet show performance and cookout June 12. **Randy McClure** is pastor.

■ **CAMPBELLVILLE**—Campbellsville University's theater department will host a theater camp June 20-24 featuring an improv workshop for children in kindergarten through eighth grade. The cost is \$75 per child, which includes a T-shirt and performance. Multi-child discounts are available. The registration deadline is June 10. For more information or to register, send an e-mail to Theater@Campbellsville.edu or call (270) 789-5266.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Carlisle Avenue Church will celebrate its 100th anniversary with a picnic June 11, 4 p.m., and worship services June 12, 10 a.m., with **Thom Rainer**, president of LifeWay Christian Resources, as guest speaker, and **Tom Hellams**, LifeWay's vice pres-

room culture," Hoopes said.

FAITH is an acronym for "Food Always In The Home," an approach to gardening designed to improve the quality of household nutrition.

The projects make a big difference in people's lives for a minimal cost, Wolf said. The 2011 components of the three projects will use a

ident of executive communications and relations, as worship leader. **Jason Allen** is pastor.

■ **MORGANFIELD**—First Church will hold an Upward Basketball and Cheerleading camp for children in grades K-5 June 27-July 1, 5:30 p.m. The cost is \$35 and the deadline to register is June 11. For more information or to register, call (270) 389-1042.

little more than \$72,000 from the World Hunger Fund, benefitting about 1,200 people at costs of between \$49 and \$78 per person.

"Southern Baptists can be proud of the impact their contributions to the World Hunger Fund make for the world's poorest families," Wolf said.

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SEEKING: Senior pastor for Melbourne Heights Baptist Church in Louisville. Prefer 5+ years pastoral experience and seminary degree. Send resumé to Pastor Search Committee, PO Box 6197, Louisville, KY 40206.

SEEKING: Full-time director (or minister if ordained) of children and youth ministries. Individual called will be expected to spend equal time on both children's ministries (pre-school through 6th grade) and youth ministries (grades 7-12) for Flemingsburg Baptist Church in Flemingsburg, Ky. The director will conduct evangelistic outreach, provide Christian education and other activities for children and youth, and their families. A bachelor's degree and/or work experience in youth and children's ministry is preferred; salary commensurate with education and experience. Please e-mail resumé to fbcyouthchildrensearch@gmail.com; or mail to Flemingsburg Baptist Church, PO Box 4, Flemingsburg, KY 41041, before July 30, 2011.

SEEKING: Part-time DOM for Henry County Baptist Association. Submit resumé to mhughes477@aol.com no later than 06/30/2011.

SEEKING: Director of facilities (custodian) for Fern Creek Baptist Church (approx. 32 hours weekly). Applicant must be a Christian of exemplary character, an active church member, and also must be experienced in custodial work. Send resumé to: Personnel Committee, Fern Creek Baptist Church, 5920 Bardstown Road, Louisville, KY 40291; or e-mail to Linda@ferncreekbaptist.org. Resumés will be received through June 20. Questions? Call (502) 239-0316, ext. 103 (Linda Barnes Poplar, pastor).

SEEKING: Full-time senior pastor to lead Central Baptist Church (founded in 1911) in Winchester, Ky., as God's church into the next 100 years. We are prayerfully seeking God's will to find a shepherd who is passionate about God's word, sharing the gospel and leading people of every age into a deeper walk with God. Applicants should be Spirit-filled, humble servants, driven to uplift and expand God's kingdom. Please send biographical sketch to Pastor Search Committee, Central Baptist Church, 101 W. Lexington Avenue, Winchester, KY 40391.

SEEKING: A Spirit-led senior pastor for a vibrant and growing multi-cultural Southern Baptist church with approx. 1,500 members, an average attendance of 1,100 in worship, and 700 in Sunday school. This church is among the top churches in Kentucky in support of the Cooperative Program and is conservative in theology. Current pastor is retiring after serving 20 years. For more information about the church, go to www.hillcrestbc.net. Send profile to Pastor Search Committee, Hillcrest Baptist Church, 920 Skyline Drive, Hopkinsville, KY 42240.

SEEKING: Ordained Baptist minister to serve as full-time senior pastor at Midway Baptist Church. Preference for someone with both bachelor's and seminary degrees, six years of ministry experience with three of those as senior pastor. MBC is dually aligned CBF/SBC with both traditional and contemporary services. Additional information regarding MBC and its ministries may be seen at www.midwaybc.net. Send resumé to office@midwaybc.net; or Midway Baptist Church, PO Box 352, Midway, KY 40347.

SEEKING: Senior pastor for Immanuel Baptist Temple, a Southern Baptist church in Henderson, Ky. Pastoral leadership experience is preferred but not necessarily required. We are seeking the man that God has chosen for us as our next pastor. Send resumé to Pastor Search Committee, Immanuel Baptist Temple, 540 Second St., Henderson, KY 42420. Attn. Larry Pendergraft.

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 gjobsearch@gmail.com. Go to www.gardensidebaptist.com for more information about Gardenside Baptist Church and a pdf version of the full job description.

SEEKING: Full-time administrative services manager for Hurstbourne Baptist Church. Direct computer-related accounting experience with a small- or medium-sized business is required, as is proficiency with Microsoft Office, and familiarity with Automated Church Systems. Position includes supervision of two employees. Competitive salary and benefits. Send resumé to: Dr. Mike O'Neal, pastor, 8800 Shelbyville Road, Louisville, KY 40222. moneal@hurstbournebc.org.

SEEKING: Full-time pastor for Sherman Baptist Church in Dry Ridge, Ky. Prefer previous pastoral experience and at least a master's degree from seminary. Please submit resumé, references and a DVD of a recent sermon by mail to Pastor Search Committee, Sherman Baptist Church, PO Box 72, Crittenden, KY 41030.

SEEKING: Bivocational pastor who may become full-time pastor with the expected growth at Cedar Hill Baptist Church in rural Owen County. Must be loving and compassionate, able to work with all ages, and willing to lead the church in growth. Desire 5-10 years of pastoral experience. Send resumé to: Cedar Hill Baptist Church, c/o Church Clerk, 640 Old Monterey Road, Owenton, KY 40359; or e-mail to swigertt@yahoo.com.

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

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.

Girl's bake sale yields \$3,000 for house in Haiti

By Margaret Dempsey-Colson

Live Oak, Fla.—At age 10, Mallory Fernald may be small but her heart dreams big.

Mallory listened intently as her pastor was reminding church members that thousands of Haitians are still homeless from the January 2010 earthquake. Many are forced to live in tents or cardboard boxes.

"I felt sad and wanted to do something to help," Mallory said after the sermon in early February.

That evening in a business meeting, her church, First Baptist in Live Oak, Fla., voted to participate in Rebuild Haiti, an effort to construct cement block homes for Haitian families. The cost of each home is \$2,500.

Mallory's dream began to take shape. She approached her mother, Leigh, and told her she wanted to have a bake sale with a goal of \$1,500 toward building a home in Haiti.

Not wanting to discourage her young missions-minded daughter, her mother gave her the go-ahead.

"We had always told Mallory that living a life as a Christian is not about you," Leigh said. "It's about serving others and considering others better than yourself."

Yet, while Leigh was thinking of a front-yard lemonade stand with limited proceeds, Mallory began putting a bigger dream into action.

Her pastor, Phillip Herrington, was amazed by her passion.

"Mallory has a very sensitive heart," Herrington said, "especially to those in need. She knew in her heart what God wanted her to do. There was never a thought that 'We can't do this.' With a child-like faith, she went after it and watched God do the rest."

Mallory sat down and wrote a letter to Jeff Scott, a deacon at her church and owner of a local drugstore. She told him her dream and asked if she could hold the bake sale on the sidewalk outside his store. Scott agreed.

"Mallory has an incredible faith for a 10-year-old," Scott said. "She has grown up in the church, learning that she is part of fulfilling the Great Commission. I wanted to help her."

Scott, who has personally been on numerous mission trips, said he saw the bake sale as "an opportunity to witness to our community."

He not only gave her permission to set up her bake sale outside his store but also offered to match any funds she raised up to \$750. He then helped her produce a video promoting the bake sale for Rebuild Haiti. After being posted on the drugstore's website, the video found its way to YouTube. Facebook postings, a newspaper ad and numerous handmade posters also helped spread the word about the little girl with the big dream.

Response was almost immediate. Mallory began receiving donated baked goods for her sale. On the day before the sale, Mallory and her mother spent hours in the kitchen baking their own goodies to sell.

On March 25, Mallory and her mother set up four tables at the drugstore loaded with a variety of baked goods. Customers began streaming in, and the steady stream continued throughout the day.

Many customers told Mallory to "keep the change." One even paid \$100 for a pound cake, which amazed the 10-year-old.

At day's end, Mallory and her mother were weary but eager to see the results. Mallory wrote what happened next on her blog:

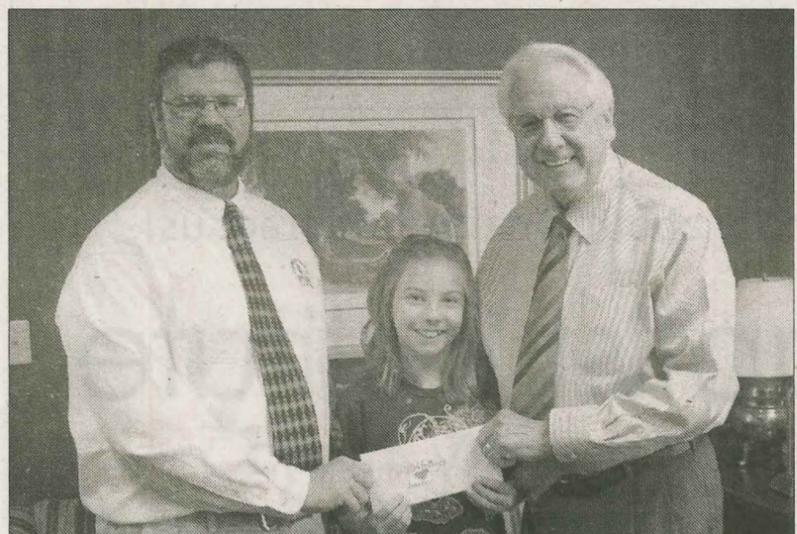
"When we got home, my mom and I said a prayer thanking God for all the money given, for all the people who gave, and for the people of Haiti who need a home.

"We started counting and I couldn't believe my eyes. There was \$2,214.63! Amazing! Then I thought about the matching of \$750 that Mr. Jeff promised from Cheek and Scott. So that made the total \$2,994.63! Wow! That is going to build a home for a family in Haiti and start on a second home. This makes me so happy."

Mallory's mother is happy also—and still a little amazed.

"In my feeble mind, I failed to realize that God could do this," Leigh said. "He took her idea and blessed it. Others have seen that God can use them to do big things."

Margaret Dempsey-Colson is a freelance writer for the Florida Baptist Convention.

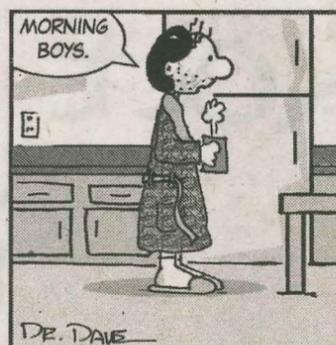


BAKE SALE Mallory Fernald, 10, who attends First Baptist Church of Live Oak, Fla., raised nearly \$3,000 for Rebuild Haiti—enough to build a cement block home for a Haitian family. Accepting the check are Fritz Wilson (left), director of disaster relief and recovery for the Florida Baptist Convention, and John Sullivan, the convention's executive director-treasurer.

Preacher's Kids



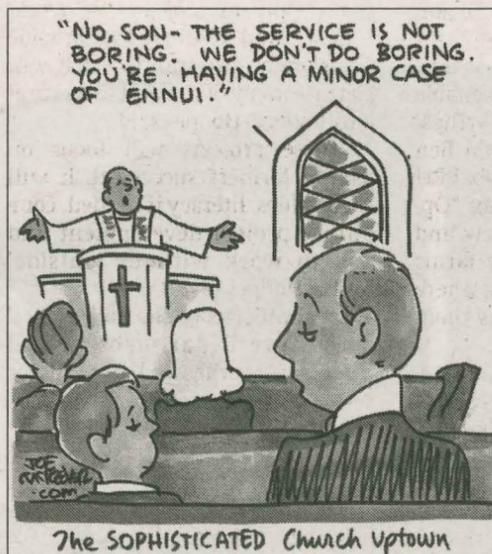
Joe McKeever



Brother Bloop



Dennis Daniel



Bible Crosswords

By Janet Kennedy

Across

1. "With trumpets and sound of _____ make a joyful noise before the Lord, the King" (Psalm 98:6)
7. "The people piped with _____, and rejoiced" (1 Kings 1:40)
11. Able to give way
13. "And the fish of the _____" (Psalm 8:8)
14. Motor torpedo boat, abbr.
15. "David took an _____, and played with his hand: so Saul was refreshed" (1 Samuel 16:23)
16. "Praise him with stringed instruments and _____" (Psalm 150:4)
18. 51, Romans num.
19. Fourth tone of the music scale
21. Lincoln's state, abbr.
22. Tellurium, chem. symbol
23. "That at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, _____, harp" (Daniel 3:5)
26. "Ye _____ the light of the world" (Matthew 5:14)
29. First day of the week, abbr.
31. Black sticky substance
32. "That at the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, _____, psaltery" (Daniel 3:5)
35. "That chant to the sound of the _____" (Amos 6:5)
36. Gold, chem. symbol
37. Suffix: more
38. Kind of molding
39. "And the seven angels which had the seven _____" (Revelation 8:6)
42. Maritime province, abbr.
43. Inches per second, abbr.
44. Contraction of it was, poetic

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	
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43				44						45
			46			47				48
49								50		

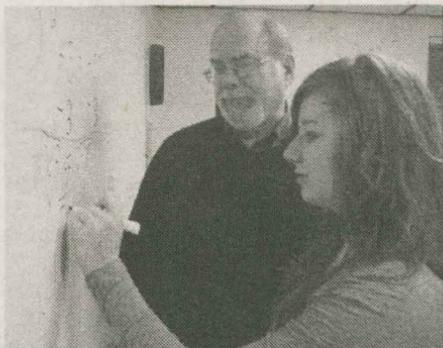
45. "I _____ the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6)
47. French article
48. "Come unto _____, all ye that labour and are heavy laden" (Matthew 11:28)
49. Miriam took one of these instruments (Exodus 15:20)
50. "For we have seen his _____ in the east, and are come to worship him" (Matthew 2:2)

9. Weird
10. "The trees of the Lord are full of _____" (Psalm 104:16)
12. "Give thee seed of this woman for the _____ which is lent to the Lord" (1 Samuel 2:20)
17. Opposite of untidy
20. Man's name
24. Messy
25. A large Australian bird similar to an ostrich
27. "No lion ... nor any _____ beast shall go up thereon" (Isaiah 35:9)
28. "At that time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, ... psaltery, _____, and all kinds of music" (Daniel 3:5)
30. "Nor to _____ authority over the man" (1 Timothy 2:12)
33. Witch's concoction
34. Throws
36. Not straight
40. "Come now, and let _____ reason together, saith the Lord" (Isaiah 1:18)
41. High stature
45. American Medical Association, abbr.
46. Same source, Lat. abbr.

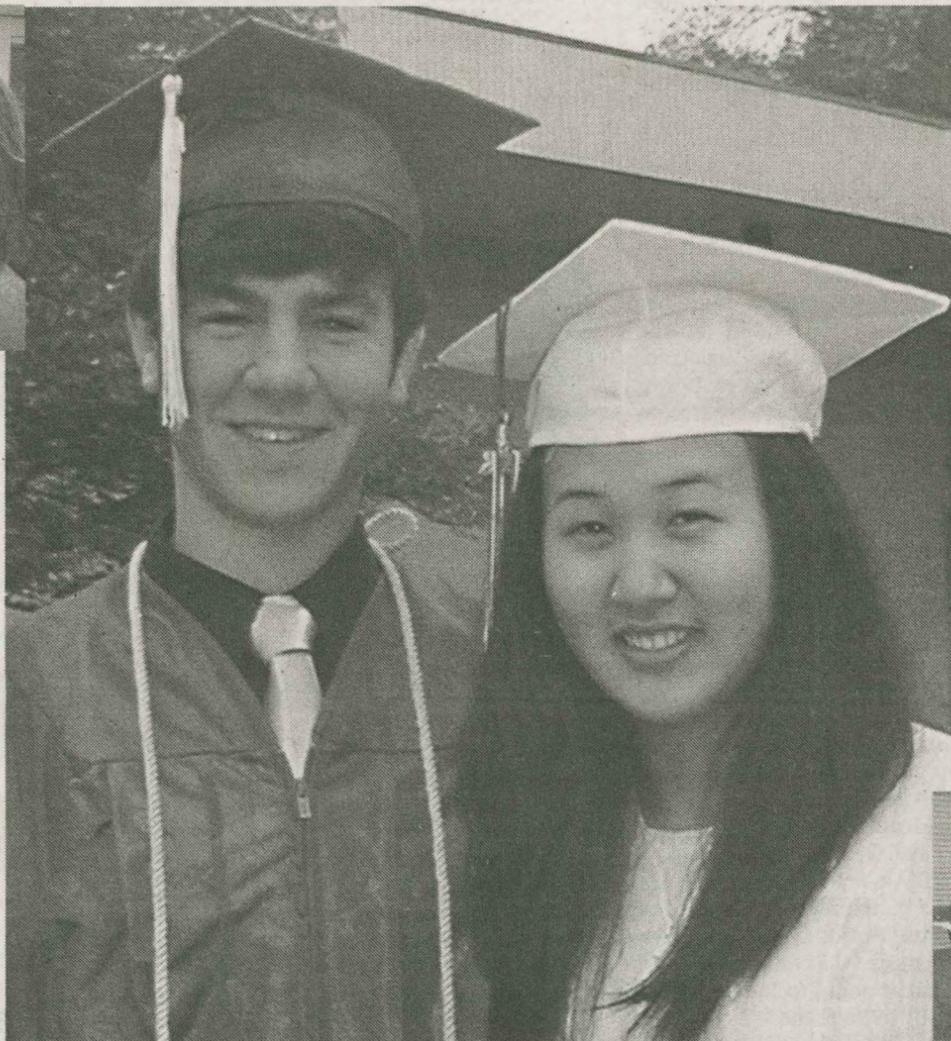
Last week's solution

S	E	A		D	U	S	T		J	U	S	T
N	N		E	S	A	U			U	P	O	N
N	E	G	E	B	Y	R		D		N	T	
			E	S	T	H	E	R		A	R	
S	L	A	S	E		H	E	A	L			
A	S	U	B	I	T	E		P	I	E		
A	M	S	N	A	R	E	D		E	R	A	
N		J	A	G	E	D		S	N	F		
G	L	O	R	Y		L	E	T				
R	E	B	A	E		R	E	V	A	N		
Y	E	V	O	T	E		V	E		M	E	
K	E	E	P		R	A	I	N		O	W	
P	S	A	L	T	E	R	Y		E	S	T	

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For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? ~ Matthew 16:26

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