

Shine like stars in the world  
Philippians 2:15

# WESTERN Recorder

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## FOR THE RECORD

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## Rockcastle Revival

### Association-wide 'Find It Here' efforts bearing fruit

By Ken Walker  
Kentucky Baptist Convention

**Mount Vernon**—The spiritual seeds planted during Rockcastle Baptist Association's 21-day Find It Here revival in April have begun to bear fruit.

According to local pastors, several adults and children who were the focus of prayer by Kentucky Baptists' and other believers have accepted Christ as Savior or have attended a local church for the first time—or the first time in a long time.

"It didn't happen all during the 21 days, but we're starting to see people coming to Christ," said Randy McPheron, who is director of missions for Rockcastle Baptist Association.

The local revival was one response to the statewide evangelism initiative, Find It Here, coordinated by Kentucky Baptists that followed up on last year's nationwide effort launched among Southern Baptists by the North American Mission Board.

In 2010, Kentucky Baptists reached 1.3 million households in the commonwealth with the gospel through a door-to-door campaign.

This year Kentucky Baptists were encouraged to pray during the weeks leading up to Easter for three people in need of Christ. Many people also fasted during that time. Then believers were challenged to share the gospel with the people on their lists and to invite them to Easter Sunday services.

The Kentucky Baptist Convention dis-  
□ See 'Find It Here' revivals ... *Page 2*



**TAKING UP THE CROSS** Pastors from Rockcastle Baptist Association churches carry a cross during a passion play at Mount Vernon Elementary School on Good Friday. Kentucky Baptists in the area worked together to host a 21-day revival as part of Find It Here 2011, an evangelistic emphasis organized by ministries across the commonwealth and the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Rockcastle Association pastors reported that, weeks after the revival, people are accepting Christ as Savior or visiting local churches as a result of the prayers and gospel witness of others. (Photo by Shirley Cox)



## 'Welcome to the new Sudan' South Sudanese prepare for their independence

By Jacob Alexander  
International Mission Board

**Juba, Sudan**—"Welcome to our country," a smiling police officer says, excitedly greeting visitors walking past him on the street. "Welcome to the new Sudan!"

The officer's infectious spirit resonates among the residents of Juba, where on July 9 a declaration of independence will be signed giving birth to the world's 196th nation, the Republic of South Sudan.

Nearly 99 percent of voters from southern Sudan approved a referendum in January to officially designate the region as a new nation. Sudan has been ravaged by years of civil war between the heavily Islamic, Arab-dominated north and the predominantly Christian and animist south. The referendum was the final benchmark of the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement, which ended more than 20 years of civil war in Sudan.

Crude oil exports from Sudan generate millions of dollars for the country. Many observers cited oil as a factor in the referendum, but Christians in southern Sudan say they are more concerned with freedom to practice their faith—and freedom from the north's harsh enforcement of Islamic law.

"Before it was not easy, people had been intimidated; there are some areas where you cannot carry out the message of the gospel," said Simon Gatluaklim, a pastor at Nuru Baptist Church. "I believe the church will really benefit and have freedom of worship ... being able to carry out the message of Jesus Christ."

Radical change in South Sudan will not come quickly; it likely will take many years to develop its government, infrastructure and an identity apart from the north.

□ See 'Welcome to the new Sudan' ... *Page 8*

## With pair of fires raging across Arizona, victims thankful for 'priceless' DR help

By David Roach

**Scottsdale, Ariz.**—As Arizona's Wallow Fire nears full containment, Southern Baptists are transitioning from relief to recovery work and preparing to assist victims of the Monument Fire in the southern part of the state if needed.

The Wallow Fire, which has burned more than half a million acres in eastern Arizona, was 67 percent contained as of June 23, various news outlets reported, and evacuated residents began to return to some areas.

In response to the fire, Southern Baptist disaster relief workers deployed a shower unit to a shelter in Lakeside but ceased operation of the unit when the shelter shut down. Larry Hyde, Arizona disaster relief state coordinator, told Baptist Press that he left the shower unit in place though, in case it is needed during recovery efforts.

He added that the unit was a valuable tool for showing displaced residents the love of Jesus and said the Red Cross thanked Southern Baptists for their



Evacuees from one of Arizona's wildfires arrive at the home of Larry Hamblen, pastor of Jesus First Church in Eagar. Some 30 church members took shelter on his property.

helpful response to the fire.

"The response that we got from the Red Cross and from others up there was that the comfort and the ministry that (the disaster relief workers) provided was just priceless," Hyde said. "They so appreciated them with their spirit, just being able to minister. (The shower unit) was a kind of calm place that people could go and get away from the busyness of what was going on and all the circumstances."

One important aspect of the Wallow Fire ministry  
□ See Southern Baptist disaster relief ... *Page 6*

## Reunion to celebrate former music school

By Drew Nichter  
News Director

**Louisville**—Graduates of the former School of Church Music and Worship at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary will reunite next month in Louisville to share their memories of the school.

A two-day "Remember and Rejoice" reunion is set for July 11-12 at both the Southern Seminary campus and St. Matthews Baptist Church. The event will be marked with plenty of music, food and fellowship among the school's graduates.

"It's a 'remember and rejoice' event, and we're going to rejoice through music," reunion organizer Phillip Landgrave noted.

A longtime professor at the School of Church Music and Worship and music minister at several Louisville-area churches, Landgrave said he has spent the last six months arranging the gathering of those who attended the now-defunct school.

Southern trustees voted in 2009 to close the School of Church Music and Worship, combining it with the School of Leadership

and Church Ministry in what now is called the School of Church Ministries.

At the time, Southern Seminary President Albert Mohler said it was not "economically viable" for the seminary to maintain the music school. He also cited changing worship trends that focused less on traditional music and more on contemporary praise and worship styles, as well as Southern Baptist churches hiring staff members who serve in combined ministry roles.

The music faculty was downsized from 11 to four full-time positions. According to the seminary's website, only three full-time music faculty currently serve. Associate professor Carl Stam died in May after a four-year battle with cancer.

The music school at Southern Seminary dated back to 1944 when it was established by then-president Ellis Fuller and thrived until the 1990s. Its absence has left its 1,100 graduates asking, "What happened to the school I went to?" said Landgrave, who still is a senior professor with the School of Church Ministries.

In contacting many of the former students for the reunion, Landgrave said some of them still harbor ill feelings toward the seminary and its administration for closing their school.

He said, however, that the reunion, part of which will be held at Alumni Chapel on Southern's campus, is not a time for throwing tomatoes. "People with tomatoes need to go down to the restaurant and eat them there, not throw them" at the reunion.

"I'm going to remember and rejoice" the former school, he added, "and we want the people who come to the concert to remember and rejoice."

Landgrave said as many as 150 people are expected to attend the event. There are gatherings planned throughout the two days, including discussions, meals and rehearsals for the concerts which will close out each evening.

For more information about the reunion, contact Phillip Landgrave at (502) 425-5943, or by e-mail at GloriaLandgrave@bellsouth.net.

## Kentuckians named to SBC's Committee on Nominations

**Phoenix**—Dudley Reaves, a member of Bethlehem Baptist Church in Louisville, and James Hill, pastor of Salem Baptist Church in Shelbyville, were among the individuals elected last week to the Southern Baptist Convention's Committee on Nominations for 2011-12.

The 70-member committee is responsible for recommending trustees next year to serve on the boards of SBC entities.

Kentucky Baptists who served on this year's Committee on Committees that nominated the Reaves and Hill were Charles Barnes, a member of Hurstbourne Baptist Church in Louisville, and Bob Lowery, pastor of First Baptist Church of Central City.

### Robbins elected SBCADOM 1st VP

In other business prior to the recent SBC annual meeting, a Kentucky director of missions was elected first vice president of the Southern Baptist Conference of Associational Directors of Missions.

Rick Robbins, DOM for Northern Kentucky Baptist Association, was elected to post at the group's annual meeting June 12-13 at North Phoenix Baptist Church. Robbins has been with the association for 14 years, and has been a DOM for 20 years, serving previously with Blackford-Breckenridge Baptist Association.

## Convention marks 20 years of 'Super Saturday' events

**Louisville**—Sharing the gospel with others, meeting the needs of communities and setting high standards of ministry are goals the Kentucky Baptist Convention wants to help local churches meet through its Super Saturday training events that begin Aug. 27.

This is the 20th year the KBC has organized the statewide, day-long leadership development events held on Saturdays in several communities.

"We've gotten really good at this," said Darryl Wilson, director of the convention's Sunday school department. "We listen to our pastors and churches. They tell us the kind of classes they need to help

equip their deacons, teachers and other leaders. We are thrilled to be able to help them."

Kentucky Baptists' gifts through the Cooperative Program help keep the registration fee low. Those who register early receive a \$10 discount on the \$35 per person fee.

"We are celebrating this year," Wilson said. "Celebrating two decades of learning from one another and becoming inspired to do God's work throughout Kentucky."

Events are Aug. 27 at Severns Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethtown; Sept. 10 at Porter Memorial Baptist Church in Lexington and Lone Oak First Baptist Church

of Paducah; and Sept. 17 at Bellevue Baptist Church in Owensboro and First Baptist Church of Prestonsburg.

A Super Saturday event for Spanish speakers is set for Aug. 20 at First Baptist Church of Hopkinsville. An additional Hispanic track will be held in early September in Louisville.

A complete listing of classes, location information and online registration is available at [www.KyBaptist.org/SuperSaturday](http://www.KyBaptist.org/SuperSaturday). Kentucky Baptists also can access promotional resources and watch brief testimonies of individuals and churches that have benefited from previous Super Saturday training.

## 'Find It Here' revivals in Rockcastle Association still bearing fruit

Continued from page 1

tributed thousands of booklets containing the gospel message and portions of scripture to assist believers in their 21-day focus on the spiritual health of others.

It seems that just about all of the new believers mentioned by pastors in the Rockcastle County area were on someone's prayer list.

Among those making decisions was an 18-year-old man visiting his dad on Father's Day. He accepted Jesus as his Savior that evening at Northside Baptist Church in Mount Vernon, where McPheron serves as pastor.

The teenager's father is a new believer, too. "His dad got saved right before the revival and immediately got busy with this stuff," McPheron said.

The father told McPheron that his son "was No. 1 on my prayer list."

Eddie Nation, pastor of First Baptist Church of Mount Vernon, credited six recent conversions at the church to the spiritual activity stirred by the revival.

Among the new believers were five children who accepted Christ at the end of vacation Bible school the week of June 6.

A man in his 50s who previously had attended church responded to an invitation to follow Christ the morning of June 19.

"He had been on my prayer list and his wife's," Nation said of the newest convert. "It had been a little while since we had seen any salvations, but we're starting to see that."

At Brodhead Baptist Church, five men who had been on various prayer lists attended a VBS commencement June 18. Two

never had visited the church before.

"It was a big breakthrough," said Pastor Ralph Baker, noting that this year's VBS enrollment was nearly 40 percent higher than in 2010. "It's helped our church."

Brodhead Baptist already had seen two salvations and baptisms because of Find It Here; both people had been on the pastor's prayer list.

Baker said the association's 21 member churches forged closer ties as a result of this spring's special services. The day after the revival ended, the association sponsored a passion play at Mount Vernon Elementary School.

"Randy and the association are doing more things together," said Baker, a bivocational pastor. "I know churches are working together for a common cause way more than before, and we're having better results."

McPheron applauded the 2011 version of Find It Here, saying it inspired the association-wide revival.

"Once we embraced the strategy it became very exciting," he said. "We began to see the potential of praying and fasting for 21 days."

McPheron said he especially appreciated the emphasis on fasting. Some pastors in the association used KBC materials to teach church members about fasting and other topics in spring sermons.

Some people abstained from activities other than eating, such as time spent texting or on Facebook. McPheron said he chose to fast for 21 days as an example to others in the association.

Although he had learned from Matthew



**AT THE ALTAR** People gather to pray at the front of the Northside Baptist Church sanctuary in Mount Vernon at the close of a revival service earlier this year. The congregation was among more than a dozen churches in the Rockcastle Baptist Association to host a 21-day revival prior to Easter as part of Find It Here 2011. (Photo by Shirley Cox)

6 that Christians should not let anyone know when they are fasting, McPheron told his family and others so they would pray for him.

"It was like a greater awareness and sensitivity to spiritual things," McPheron said of the benefits he gained. "The Lord began to expose things in my heart that led me to a deeper level of confession and a greater burden for the lost."

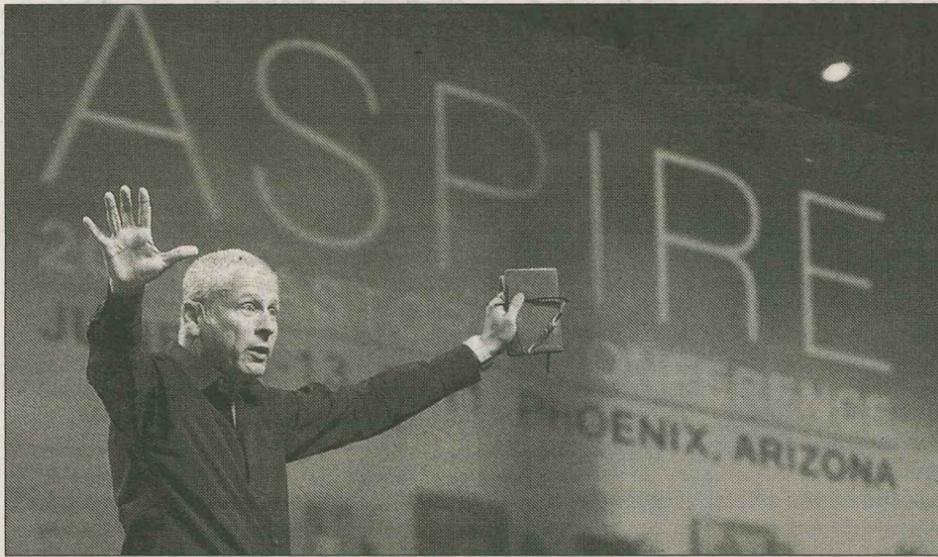
The association saw about 15 salvations as a direct result of its revival. The new Christians included the husband of a

Northside Baptist Church member who helped organize the passion play.

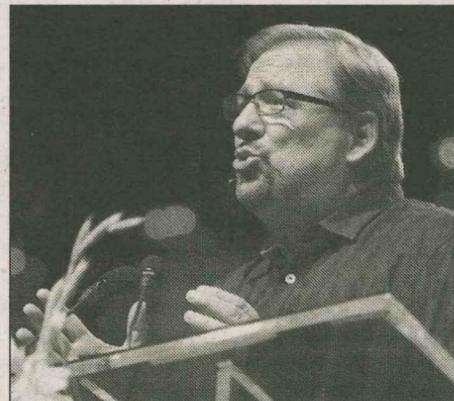
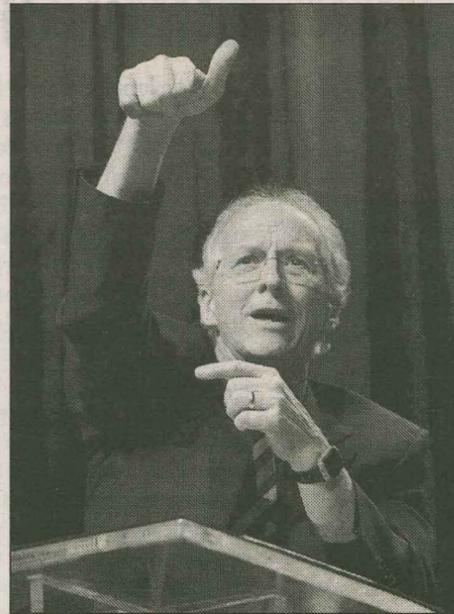
Another man accepted Jesus as his Savior after two members of Valley Baptist Church near Berea visited him in the hospital. Only weeks later, the man died.

"I went to his funeral visitation; his wife attended Valley," McPheron said. "What a comfort to know this guy was saved before he went into eternity."

Plans already are underway in Kentucky and across North America for next year's Find It Here evangelism emphasis.



Well-known pastors and authors Louie Giglio (above), John Piper (top right) and Rick Warren were among the many speakers at the 2011 Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference June 12-13 in Phoenix, held prior to the Southern Baptist Convention's annual meeting.



## 2011 Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference

### Lead in holiness, evangelism, service, pastors urged

Phoenix—Pastors must take the lead in personal holiness, evangelism and service to others if Southern Baptist churches are to be effective in reaching the world for Christ, speakers at the 2011 Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference told participants.

Following the conference's theme of "Aspire: Yearning to join God's Kingdom Activity," presenters also said now is the time to reach the nations with the gospel of Christ and not keep the good news to themselves.

Speaking from his experience of planting churches on Africa, Peter Ndhlovu, bishop of the Bible Gospel Church in Zambia, challenged participants to join him in reaching the nations with the gospel of Christ.

Ndhlovu, whose church has planted 286 churches in 13 African countries, urged pastors to fulfill the purpose God has called the church to accomplish—making disciples of all the nations. "We have a mission, and we have to accomplish it," Ndhlovu said. "We have to do it; now is the time, not tomorrow. We have no time to play games. We have no time to play church. We have to fulfill that which God has sent us to do."

Church planting is at the heart of Southern Baptist missions today, and that endeavor begins with individual churches, said Bob Pitman, longtime preacher and evangelist from Muscle Shoals, Ala.

Pitman tied that endeavor directly to the leadership of pastors. "Denominations do not plant churches," Pitman said. "Churches plant churches, and churches that plant churches are churches that are led to plant churches by their pastors."

Pitman also called on pastors to preach the gospel as servant leaders with pure motives.

To do that, pastors must first get their own lives in order and live "the kingdom life" before they can hope to influence the lives of their church members, Johnny Hunt said in his address.

Hunt, pastor of First Baptist Church of Woodstock, Ga., said that only when pastors have their lives properly ordered will the SBC be successful in reaching people for Christ.

"We as the Southern Baptist Convention have had a blessed past," he said. "But I personally sense that God desires to be with us in a more mighty way in the pres-

ent and in the future if we are to touch this nation, which we're not touching as we ought, and the nations of the world."

Bob Roberts, pastor of NorthWood Church in Keller, Texas, said Christianity is declining in the West while the developing world "is exploding" with a spiritual awakening. The church's challenge is "figuring out how to be a part of that."

"I don't want to just hear what He is doing in China and hear what He's doing in India and hear what He's doing in the Congo and hear what He's doing with college students in Iran—I want to be a part of seeing God doing something massive here," Roberts said. "I don't want to miss out on that."

As he was in the midst of planting a church in Las Vegas, Paul Gotthardt, founding pastor of Life Baptist Church, told how God laid it upon his heart to plant another church with a focus on the homeless.

Gotthardt said it's important to be positioned correctly in ministry to be effective for kingdom activity. Once those ministries are positioned, he noted, the best way to accomplish that is to walk in wisdom and make the most of one's time.

"Our walk is how we live from day to day," Gotthardt said. "We are to remain alert. We are not to be foolish and self-centered, but we are to walk as wise people who are acknowledging God."

Biblical maturity leads to biblical mission and to aspirations to share the gospel with others, according to Darrin Patrick, pastor of The Journey church in St. Louis and vice president of the Acts 29 church planting network.

"God must work in us if he is to work through us. The preparation, the work, the battle is in the soil of your heart. It is a war for control."

Just as dropped phone calls result from a lost connection to a service provider, so "drops" in Christian ministry result from a lost connection to God, noted Bartholomew Orr, pastor of Brown Missionary Baptist Church in Southaven, Miss.

"Too many pastors in too many churches have lost contact with the Master," Orr said. "They're still in business, but they're not doing His business: His gospel is not being preached and His truths are not being proclaimed."

Preaching on Jesus' miracle of water

made to wine, Greg Matte urged pastors to be servants drawing on God's power to turn proverbial water in their ministries to wine.

Noting the crisis at the Cana wedding celebration when the wine ran out, the pastor of Houston's First Baptist Church emphasized that servants, already tired from their duties, were tasked with the burden of filling six stone jars—each holding 20 to 30 gallons.

"When God asks you to do something, ... do you do 51 percent, or do you fill it to the brim?" Matte asked. He warned pastors against a 75-percent effort in their ministry when such effort often can carry them on their talent or giftedness.

Afshin Ziafat, pastor of Providence Church in Frisco, Texas, told pastors that a "proper understanding of the gospel will be the greatest fuel for missions." In contrast, he said, "When our appreciation and understanding of the gospel—the grace that we've received—waned, then our heart for missions suffers."

Ziafat challenged pastors to recognize the sending nature of the gospel: "The gospel didn't come into our hearts to terminate with us. If you have really grabbed hold of the gospel, it will send you out to others who do not know."

Ken Whitten, pastor of Idlewild Baptist Church in Tampa, Fla., encouraged conference participants to look beyond the outward appearance of people and seek what God sees—the internal need for salvation in Him.

"What you see is what you'll be," Whitten said. "What you know is where you go. Your care will be your prayer, and your hands will always follow your heart. So, what do you see? ... Before we can begin to see outside of ourselves, we need to see what the Lord sees."

Pastors must be radically God-centered for the sake of the gospel, for the sake of God's name and for the sake of the nations, John Piper told pastors.

Piper, pastor for preaching at Bethlehem Baptist Church in Minneapolis, used the first petition from the Lord's Prayer, "hallowed be your name," as the encouragement to pastors to be passionate about

### 2012 officers elected

Phoenix—Grant Bthridge, pastor of Liberty Baptist Church in Hampton, Va., was elected president of the 2012 Pastors' Conference which will be held June 17-18 in New Orleans prior to the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting.

Archie Mason, pastor of Central Baptist Church in Jonesboro, Ark., was elected vice president, while Philip Burdin, pastor of Cropwell Baptist Church in Pell City, Ala., was elected treasurer. (BP)

God's glory. The hallowing and treasuring of God's name, he said, is the ultimate purpose of all things.

"In eternity, we will not hallow the name of God so that anything happens," Piper said. "We will not hallow God's name as a means to anything. It's the end. When you have arrived at millions upon millions of people hallowing the name of God, you've reached the end. They don't do that for something. They do everything for that."

David Platt, pastor of The Church at Brook Hills in Birmingham, Ala., issued a passionate plea for pastors to seize the moment and seek to radically reach the nations with the gospel.

Platt referred to a recent trip to Egypt, during which pastors told him of the many hardships and persecutions that Christians there have endured. Platt said he encouraged those pastors, saying they aren't experiencing that persecution alone.

"I had the opportunity to gather around this pastor and each of those other pastors and to pray for them and tell them they are not alone, that we are with them, that when one part of the body hurts the whole body hurts," he recalled.

Christians must experience a Trinitarian revolution of the heart, Louie Giglio, pastor of Passion City Church in Atlanta, said.

"God is always at work, and He's always wanting to do more than just the collective horsepower of some good people together can do," Giglio said. "He's always going to show up in a way—to move in a way—that makes it clear to everyone that these people did not do this on their own. When that happens, glory comes to God in the church."

Rick Warren, pastor of Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, Calif., ended the Pastors' Conference with a plea for church planting and a challenge to reach the world's 3,800 remaining unengaged people groups with the gospel in the next decade. Warren called for pastors to either plant a church or have their churches be a parent church for a plant in the U.S. and one among an unreached people group.

"For the Southern Baptist Convention to turn around, we're going to have to change the way we keep score," he said. "For the last 30 years, we have rewarded attendance. If you have big attendance, you get invited to speak. Friends, I have more respect for a church of 100 that's planting churches than a church of 1,000 that hasn't planted any. What we need to reward is not attendance but reproduction ... not size, but sending capacity."

Warren said it takes all kinds of churches to reach all kinds of people, and all kinds of people to plant all kinds of churches. The defining mark of a mature church, he said, is whether or not it is reproducing other churches.

"All of the doomsday predictions of the SBC would turn around if everybody would start having babies," he said. "God blesses the unselfish church." (BP)

**The sharing of the church**

One of my favorite books, "All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten," was written by minister and author Robert Fulghum. In it, Fulghum lists lessons normally learned in kindergarten classrooms and tells us how the world would be better if adults practiced the same basic rules we teach children—sharing, playing fair, cleaning up after themselves, being kind to one another, etc. I began thinking, what would happen if churches practiced this kind of behavior, especially the "sharing" part?



Eric Allen

Churches of every size and tradition have something to share. What if we began dreaming about how we can share our resources to benefit the Kingdom of God? We don't just need to ask what we need as a church, but what do we have to share?

I learned recently of a church plant that shares more than 50 percent of its income by giving to missions, supporting local ministries and giving back to the community.

Just last week, a Louisville church communicated that it has an older congregation with a large facility that is not being used. The members are willing to open it up to the community and want help in determining how to most effectively share what God has given them.

Sharing allows a church's impact and influence to spread far beyond its own local body. The early church believed what they had was not their own and shared everything with those in need (Acts 4:32-37).

Here are some things that I see churches sharing today:

- **Tangible materials**—Sunday school curriculum or vacation Bible school decorations can be used again, so pass them on to another church. A portable sound system can be loaned or a television or DVD player might be shared.

- **Ideas and partnerships**—That innovative idea for reaching the community that is too big for just your church can be shared with other churches by inviting them to work together for the sake of the Kingdom. Consider partnering with other churches to purchase needed resources and supplies in bulk quantity to share the savings.

- **Real people**—Imagine your members sharing themselves with another church to provide VBS or help canvass a neighborhood. Encourage your gifted musicians, administrators or teachers to train and help other churches.

- **Space**—Consider sharing your building with a new ethnic or language church plant that needs a place to worship. Underutilized land can be shared to allow a sister church to provide a sports camp, ball league or community garden.

- **Finances**—What a testimony it is when an established church puts off building a larger building to help a new church build their first place of worship.

Every church has something unique to share with others. Get creative and discover how God has blessed your congregation. Then, start sharing it with other churches as you share the gospel of Christ with your community.

*Eric Allen is director of the Mission Services and Ministries Department of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.*

**Ethnic diversity pivotal to SBC, KBC path**

Convention messengers in Phoenix sent a strong signal to pastors and laity of ethnic congregations: "We have to work together."

Recognizing that our nation is changing demographically, Southern Baptists took a significant step toward becoming proactive in seeking greater diversity in leadership and more intentional about increasing participation of all ethnic identities and races. Following a two-year study by an SBC Executive Committee workgroup, the convention adopted 10 recommendations aimed at making denominational leadership more reflective of the ethnic diversity in its churches.

"We have far more ethnic participation in the SBC than we have representation on convention committees and among program personalities," said Scott Kilgore, chairman of the EC's communication's workgroup. "There needs to be a greater awareness on our part because there are some very gifted and called pastors and laity who are of different ethnic and racial backgrounds, and it would be best for Southern Baptists to fully leverage those gifts for kingdom work."

The SBC action is more than symbolic, SBC leaders maintain. Kilgore, pastor of Crossland Community Church in Bowling Green, noted that while the SBC previously has adopted a number of resolutions regarding ethnic participation, "one thing this particular recommendation does is create a baseline to measure effectiveness in getting greater involvement and participation." And, with that baseline comes increased accountability, he insisted.

Implementing the recommendations could prove pivotal in positioning Southern Baptists to reach an increasingly diverse American population. According to U.S. Census data, in 2000, 69.1 percent of the population was non-Hispanic white, 12.5 percent was Hispanic, 12.3 percent was black or African-American, and 3.6 percent was Asian. By 2010, 63.7 percent was non-Hispanic white, 16.3 percent was Hispanic, 12.6 percent was black or African-American, and 4.8 percent was Asian. These trends have led demographic experts to predict that by the 2040s there will be no majority populations, meaning all groups will be minorities.

When convention leaders look at the composition of boards and committees, however, it is very evident that only a few ethnicities or races are represented. Their concern is that if we are not sensitive to the changes taking place in our nation, Southern Baptists will lose a significant opportunity to share the gospel with growing segments of the population. Ed Stetzer, vice president of the research and ministry development division at LifeWay Christian Resources, in a recent column for Baptist Press, charged, "We've been so Southern and so white for so long that the annual

meetings look like a loaf of Wonder Bread. Our ideas of 'reaching out' are less impressive than striving to create an intentionally multicultural family that reflects the population of heaven."

According to the North American Mission Board, 27 ethnic fellowships are affiliated with the SBC, encompassing a vast array of people groups. "We all are responsible for reaching the lost," noted Chris McNairy, a leader on its multiethnic mobilization team, at a recent Ethnic Leadership Summit. "The largest categories of people are just two: the saved and the lost. And at the end of the day, the saved are responsible for the lost," he said, urging ethnic and Anglos to work together in reaching all people for Christ.

In Kentucky, Census data shows a similar demographic shift taking place: In 2000, 90.1 percent of the population was non-Hispanic white, 1.5 percent was Hispanic, 7.3 percent was black or African-American, and 0.7 percent was Asian. By 2010, 87.8 percent was non-Hispanic white, 3.1 percent was Hispanic, 7.8 percent was black, and 1.1 percent was Asian.

In some ways, the Kentucky Baptist Convention is a microcosm of SBC life. "We do have many ethnically diverse congregations," Kilgore noted. "We have African-American, Hispanic, Asian and other ethnic communities of faith represented in our state convention, and we need to be more aware that we do have brothers and sisters who can contribute so much to our understanding that we are one in Christ."

In 1992, only one Hispanic church was affiliated with the KBC; today, there are 66. While there are about 70 ethnic congregations, Multiethnic Missions and Ministries Director Carlos De la Barra expects that number to quickly grow to 100. After Hispanic, Korean and Haitian congregations are the most common, but the KBC has established ministries among Iraqis, Nepalese, Pakistanis, Bosnians, Indians, Somalis and Albanians. The KBC now has seven Hispanic strategists, one South Asian strategist and one deaf strategist. Emphasizing their importance, De la Barra said, "Certainly we have many churches and associations helping meet all sorts of needs among ethnic communities, but we are unaware of an ethnic church that began without the assistance of a missionary or strategist."

The KBC is leveraged to become one of the leaders in SBC life because of our sensitivity to ethnic diversity, Kilgore observed. "Kentucky Baptists are poised to do better and more," he challenged. Yet the true test is not what happens at a SBC meeting, but what happens back home in state conventions, associations and churches. Will Kentucky Baptists strive harder to embrace all races and ethnicities as our brothers and sisters in Christ and be willing to partner with them in serving our Savior?

when God has called His people to cooperate to preach the good news of the forgiveness of sins and the hope of eternal life to all people.

Perhaps on future occasions, the Resolutions Committee should consider leaving material appropriate for the political realm to the politicians and, when speaking to a convention of preachers, address the eternally more important spiritual mission that concerns churches.

*Chris Cooper  
Louisville*

**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.

**After Thought**

By Todd Deaton

**Taking a stand**

When a resolution on immigration hit the floor of the SBC annual meeting, opposing factions emerged in what otherwise had been a peaceful meeting. While both groups differed in manner of argumentation and opinion, they were alike on one key point: They were sure that theirs was the biblical position.

The Resolutions Committee considered the question from a whole-Bible approach, refusing to see the issue in black and white. Opposing Southern Baptists focused upon unquestionable texts that could only be ignored by those using the forest of Scripture to their advantage while ignoring certain embarrassing straightforward trees.

In all this, both parties presupposed a positive answer to a ques-

tion even more basic than what does the Bible teach concerning immigration reform. That question is: Does the Bible answer the country's immigration question? Is their one path that Christians must tread on this issue because the Bible prescribes it through positive command or example? Or, does more than one biblical, Christ-like approach to this issue exist?

This question seems even more important than the question addressed in Phoenix. After all, if the Bible does not answer the question and leaves open more than one biblical response that can be gathered from biblical principles, then it would be tragic for a convention of churches to divide over an issue upon which God does not call His people to take a collective stand, especially

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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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## A Kentucky Baptist in Hu Jintao's China

I have just returned from a wonderful two-week trip to China, accompanied by a small group of Murray State University faculty and staff. We spent the first week in booming, bustling Beijing, with its population of 15 million, its wide thoroughfares filled with Audis, Mercedes, Peugeots and BMWs, running past architecturally impressive skyscrapers of glass and steel. This evidence of a modern and postmodern world and, indeed, the crass commercialism rivaling the United States was juxtaposed precariously next to the Forbidden City, the ancient palace and grounds of Chinese emperors, and the centuries-old neighborhoods or hutongs, which we saw firsthand from the back of a rickshaw, powered by a Chinese bicyclist who knew his way around.

After a week in Beijing, we took an overnight train south to Xi'an. "Little" Xi'an has a population of only 5 million, making it the size of the whole of Kentucky. Xi'an was China's first capital and the site of Qin Shihuang's tomb, filled with 8,000 terracotta warriors that were buried with him for company in the afterlife. I surreptitiously snapped a photograph of the farmer who inadvertently discovered the warriors and the tomb while digging a well in a field in 1974. Now in his 70s, he has been well cared for by the government.

The sight of hundreds of the warriors, lined up in battle formation, is indeed astonishing, but another historic place in Xi'an proved to be even more stunning to me. Our guide took us to the Forest of Stone Tablets or Stone Steles, where hundreds of Confucian and Buddhist Tablets bore engravings of early versions of the Analects or the Eight-Fold Path. Most of these Stone Tablets date back to the Tang Dynasty (618-907) when many of the Tang emperors were oddly open to new religions and philosophies, brought into China from farther west along the Silk Road. After all, the eastern terminus for the Silk Road was Xi'an.

There in the middle of the Confucian and Buddhist Tablets was a prominent eight-foot limestone tablet, covered as the others in Chinese characters, but labeled in translated English as the story of the introduction of the Nestorian branch of Christianity in China as early as 635. The stone tablet was erected in 781 under the reign of the

Tang emperor, Dezong.

Nestorius, the Patriarch of Constantinople from 428 to 431 did not have a sound Christology. In fact, while he believed that Christ was both human and divine, he did not believe He was at once human and divine. Nestorius also refused to refer to Mary as "the Mother of God." For these views, he was deemed a heretic at the First Council of Ephesus in 431 and the Council of Chalcedon in 451.

Still, the fact that any branch of Christianity had found its way into China before the 19th century and before Lottie Moon caught me off guard. Why, though, should I ever be surprised by the mysterious workings of the Holy Spirit? Why, then, should I ever, as C.S. Lewis put it, be "surprised by joy"?

Although my trip to China was not a mission trip, but was rather under the auspices of Murray State University, I can tell you this: We always can be on mission for the Lord. Four members of our group were committed Baptists. We grew to love and respect a young Chinese man who accompanied us on several of our visits to museums, historic sites and shopping areas. The young man hopes to attend Murray State in the fall semester.

At Beijing's Silk Market, the young man and I soon grew tired of shopping, so we found a nearby café and rested there with a Diet Coke and a Sprite. An NBA fanatic, the young man quizzed me for a time about the resurgence of the Dallas Mavericks in the NBA Finals. And then, he became very serious, and he looked me in the eye and said, not in the form of a question, but in the form of a command: "Tell me about Christmas." Then he said, "Tell me about Easter."

This time, I was not caught off guard. Why, after all, should I ever be surprised by the mysterious workings of the Holy Spirit? Why then, as a Christian with a direct opportunity to share the gospel to someone thirsting for the gospel, should I ever be surprised by joy?

*Duane Bolin teaches in the Department of History at Murray State University and Sunday school at First Baptist Church of Murray. Contact him at duane.bolin@murraystate.edu.*

### A Letter from the Laity



Duane Bolin

## Moving across country for mate

By James Stillwell

**Q: I found someone online who might be "the one." What do you think about moving across the country to live in the same town so we can see each other frequently?**

**A:** Take a moment to hit the "pause" button and ask these questions:

1) How do I know this person is telling me the truth and representing their true self? Online personas can be invented. It's huge if this is entirely based on fantasy.

2) Has prayer entered into my planning, from the perspective of a Jesus-follower and the kingdom of God? Have you at any time prayed, "Thy will be done," and had a positive answer?

3) If you move and it doesn't work out, will you resent this person? Perhaps it is God's leadership for you to move no matter what. If the answer to the question is yes, then it is a much easier thing to decide.

4) Has the relationship progressed to the point of discussing long-term plans and marriage? Engagement includes a ring and a wedding date.

5) Are you planning to live your best Christian values when it comes to living arrangements? Statistical success for couples and the New Testament agree: Living together before marriage is not a good idea.

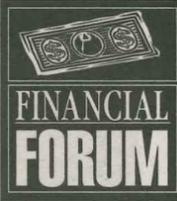
6) What's your "plan B?" If you haven't thought through "what if it doesn't work out," then stay where you are until this has been done.

7) How are you finances? A "lateral" financial move nearly always loses money. Check cost of living in the prospective city.

8) What are your job prospects? This would be a good question even if you were married. From a Christian perspective, the question becomes, "What is your calling to move?"

9) Finally, pray. Making the biggest move of your life needs to be done under the hand of God.

*Reprinted from Western Recorder, June 1, 2010. James Stillwell is minister to singles at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington.*



## Schemes, scams and susceptibility

By Jeremy White

Many of us have received an e-mail from someone in Nigeria or elsewhere who needs an associate to handle a large sum for them in exchange for a fee. The advance-fee fraud is nothing new, but it is similar to a scam over 100 years ago known as the Spanish Prisoner scam. The ruse was that a rich prisoner promises to share treasure with the victim in exchange for money to bribe prison guards.

These frequent schemes appeal to the weak minded or those who desire to get rich quickly. The Bible reminds

us to "rest in the Lord and wait patiently for him; do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, because of the man who carries out wicked schemes" (Psalm 37:7). The nature of humans for thousands of years is to get caught up in selfish desires and fail to yield to wisdom of others and wisdom from God.

"Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a snare and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge men into ruin and destruction" (1 Timothy 6:9). To avoid falling prey to these various schemes, we should seek God's wisdom for our lives, be patient, stay with what we know, have accountability, pray before decisions, and seek good counsel.

Long before the Internet and e-mail, I remember "business opportunity" ads about stuffing envelopes at home or a pyramid-scheme of making money the easy way by getting others to join in selling overpriced products and recruiting others. The proverbs tell us, "The prudent man sees evil and hides himself, the naive proceed and pay the penalty" (Proverbs 27:12).

The most dominant get-rich-appeal—but a sure way to lose money—is in the gambling industry. Gambling is not based on wisdom even if you call it entertainment; the odds are definitely against you. Betting or casting lots is nothing new. God's word reminds us, "The plans of the diligent lead surely to advantage, but everyone who is hasty comes surely to poverty" (Proverbs 21:5).

*Jeremy White is a CPA with Blythe, White & Associates in Paducah.*



## Baptist Campus Ministry: an effective strategic resource

By Brian Combs

The culture shift that has taken place during the past few years has been tremendous. Never before have I seen such division among generations, political parties and even Christians. One significant observation I have made is the breakdown of interpersonal relationship skills within the discipline of leadership development.

This is a significant breakdown in terms of Jesus' summary of the Law in Matthew 22: 37-40. The command to foster growing, loving relationships with God and our neighbor, based on a healthy self-love, is commanded by Jesus. Many acknowledge this truth. However, when it comes to working this truth out in our ministries, it is often neglected.

My experience and observations point to our denomination increasingly leaning into a more positional approach to leadership and away from a more relational approach. The positional approach tends to rely on one's status or role as a leader to influence people. The relational leader tends to develop relationships where people are motivated to action by that relationship. The later approach requires much more investment and time, but is consistently healthier and more sustainable over time.

While primarily focusing on positional leadership once was and continues to be effective with certain generations, my life experience in ministering with and to collegiate young-adults, their constituents in churches, and institutions of higher education

in Kentucky, says that it is one of the foundational reasons we are losing ground with current generations of people, who need and often want to have an active, growing relationship with our Lord, Jesus Christ.

To continue to effectively engage the world with the gospel and work toward fulfilling the Great Commission, we need to relate with greater effectiveness to each other as brothers and sisters in Christ and to those who are not yet brothers and sisters in Christ. We also need to address our spiritual development in a holistic manner that works to grow the Kingdom of God.

Kentucky Baptist Campus Ministry consistently seeks to integrate this type of holistic, relationship-based personal development, as we work toward fulfilling our mission of serving as a conduit of influence through which the church can strategically evangelize college campuses to take the gospel to all nations.

When one considers the reality of the nations God is bringing to the United States for educational purposes, His work can be interpreted as God bringing the nations together to hear the gospel. In a sense, the higher education system has become one of the great gathering points of people from all nations. International students increasingly are coming to the United States and domestic students increasingly are traveling to other countries to engage in a process of explorative learning. These students will take lessons learned back to their people to share.



What impact could we make for the Kingdom if the greatest lesson they learned was that they were created for God's purposes and needed Jesus to restore their fallen state to fulfill His purposes and experience life to the full for now and throughout eternity?

Could it be that God's plan to reach the nations involves a significant emphasis on the college campus? What would happen if the church effectively engaged higher education with the gospel and effectively mobilized young adults to take the gospel with them as they travel to study abroad or return to their home country? The potential is great!

In Kentucky, BCM engages approximately 34,000 students with a core group of approximately 5,400 students, annually. These students are engaged through evangelism, discipleship, worship, stewardship and missions. The findings of a recent study indicate that 94 percent of graduates that were involved in BCM are involved in church on at least a weekly basis. In addition, 67 percent of those surveyed indicated they were filling a leadership role within their churches. BCM is highly effective at not only engaging students with the gospel, but also encouraging active participation in church post-graduation.

BCM desires to continue to partner with increasing numbers of churches to assist in fulfilling their God-given mission to take the gospel to all nations. I invite you to contact a campus minister and develop a strategy for working together for the glory of God.

*Brian Combs is campus minister at Northern Kentucky University.*

# Evangelists sound off on convention issues

## Concerns about Calvinism, NAMB funding cuts voiced at COSBE meeting

By Norm Miller

Phoenix—The need for renewed evangelism, concerns about Calvinism and comments regarding North American Mission Board budget cuts were voiced during the recent evangelists-sponsored worship service in Phoenix.

The Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists' gathered June 12, prior to the recent Southern Baptist Convention.

"If there was ever a time that evangelism needed to be at the forefront, now is that time," COSBE president Braxton Hunter told the assembly. "There is little concern for evangelism in our convention."

In his message to the group, Texas evangelist Eric Fuller equated the role of a contemporary evangelist with the role of the prophet Ezekiel and the watchman in Old Testament culture, saying: "Failure to warn people of God's judgment results in death," and that pastors and evangelists "will be held accountable."

Pastors and evangelists "must remember that we are not defined by the numbers of souls that are saved in our ministry, but by our character, integrity and obedience to God," Fuller said.

Calvinism is "a big problem today in our country, and among Christians," Fuller said. "If you are a Calvinist in this place this morning, stop trying to convert Christians to Calvinism and begin sharing the gospel with lost people so that the Lord can convert them to Christianity. If you are a non-Calvinist this morning, stop talking about sharing the gospel and get out there and actually do it."

Former COSBE president Brian Fossett encouraged evangelists to get back to "the three 'T's' of evangelism—tracts, training and testimonies"—that he said would "revo-



**COSBE MESSAGE** Harold Hunter, president of Trinity College of the Bible and Theological Seminary in Newburgh, Ind., preaches during the opening session of the Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists in Phoenix June 12. The conference was held prior to the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting. (Photo by Matt Miller/BP)

lutionize our churches."

Harold Hunter, president of Trinity College of the Bible and Theological Seminary in Newburgh, Ind.—Braxton Hunter's father—said in his message he is "burdened" about the direction of the SBC, noting fewer people were baptized in 2010 than in 2009, representing the lowest number of annual baptisms in 60 years.

"Evidently this new wave of trying to be relevant to the people in the bars on Friday night is not really working," Harold Hunter said. "Either what you do at your church and what this convention does is supernatural or it's superficial."

Referring to Acts 2, Hunter said Jesus' disciples "were together in one accord." Though Southern Baptists were gathered in Phoenix, he said, "We are together but, pardon my English, we ain't together."

"We've gotten into celebrity worship," he continued. "Just look at all the names on pastors' conferences and state evangelism events. ... They are not as well attended as they once were, because to be a major speaker on the program you must be a mega-pastor or else you're a failure."

Hunter also noted an action by NAMB

that defunded the Baptism Assistance Project, a COSBE-NAMB partnership that provided COSBE-certified evangelists a modest, pre-determined honorarium with travel and lodging expenses to preach at any Southern Baptist church requesting assistance to reverse a church's lack of baptisms.

Noting that Psalm 105:15 "categorically says 'touch not mine anointed and do my prophets no harm,'" Harold Hunter said he wanted NAMB leaders to know that "in my opinion, you sinned against God."

"You cannot mistreat the only position in the entire Southern Baptist Convention that exists primarily to bring people to Christ ... and you had the audacity to cut that funding in the face of a holy God. Shame on you," Hunter declared. (BP)

## Former missionary to Asia is named dean of Southern's Billy Graham school

Louisville—Southern Baptist Theological Seminary announced that Zane Pratt will become dean of the Billy Graham School of Missions and Evangelism in August.

Pratt, a former missionary, oversaw missions work across Central Asia from 2001-11. Pratt will replace former dean Chuck Lawless who became vice president for global theological advance at the International Mission Board.

In addition to his role as dean, Pratt will serve as an associate professor of missions.

"Zane is one of the world's premier missiologists and most effective missionaries," noted Albert Mohler, president of Southern Seminary. "His experience leading a missionary movement in one of the world's most challenging regions is invaluable."

"I have had the opportunity to visit with Zane on the field and to see him at work," Mohler added. "I have long admired his vision, his tenacity and his faithfulness. I cannot wait for the students of Southern Seminary to know him as dean, teacher and friend. I am convinced that he will be an epic leader of the Billy Graham school, and I am further convinced that his leadership here will mean that many, many new missionaries will go out in service of the Great Commission." (BP)

## Southern Baptist disaster relief teams serve Ariz. wildfire victims

Continued from page 1

was the work of disaster relief chaplains, Hyde explained. Several chaplains in the area served the shelter on a rotating basis, providing spiritual assistance both to Southern Baptist workers and fire victims.

Chaplains "spend as much time as they can in shelters and try to minister to the spiritual needs of people trying to go through the recovery process of a disaster," he said.

"They'll offer spiritual comfort and some advice. They're a good resource because they know of other agencies and resources available to folks to help them figure out what they're going to do next," Hyde added.

If needed, recovery teams will move into affected areas and help returning residents sort through burned debris. The teams also can clean off the foundations of homes and assist with rebuilding, Hyde noted.

"It's kind of a dirty job," he said. "They just get in there and waller around in the soot and the ashes and stuff with the homeowners and gather up anything that looks like it's valuable and help clean off the slabs."

Meanwhile, another team of Arizona Southern Baptists is on standby to cook meals for victims of the Monument Fire in the southern part of the state. Hyde said he already has deployed a kitchen unit to the area and is assembling a team to man it if needed.

A second shower unit also is ready to be deployed to the Monument Fire, he pointed out.

The Monument Fire, which was first spotted June 12, burned 27,000 acres and was 27 percent contained after one week, the Tucson Citizen reported.

Hyde said Arizona Southern Baptists are willing to move any of their shower or kitchen units wherever they can be of help in the fire-affected areas.

"If there's a need at another shelter or if we set up recovery, or if there's just a need in our community where they need that shower unit, that's one reason why it's there," he said. "It's there to be of service to the community. It gives us opportunities to go out and share Jesus with people. When they see the shower trailers and stuff like that come in and we're not charging anything for this, they begin to ask questions." (BP)

8-27 | Elizabethtown Severns Valley Baptist Church  
9-10 | Lexington Porter Memorial Baptist Church  
Paducah Lone Oak First Baptist Church  
9-17 | Prestonsburg First Baptist Church  
Owensboro Bellevue Baptist Church

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## CROSSOVER ARIZONA

The Southern Baptist Convention in Phoenix was more than a gathering of church messengers and missions leaders. The annual meeting also was an opportunity to spread the gospel message in the host city and throughout the state of Arizona. This year, hundreds of Baptists participated in Crossover Arizona by organizing block parties, door-to-door visits, and many other innovative evangelistic efforts in the week before the convention. Local churches followed up the next weekend by sponsoring similar events—all in the hopes of reaching more for Christ.



Clara Molina, center, of Fort Worth, Texas, invites a resident of the Glendale community and his granddaughter to a block party sponsored by Love Baptist Church in Phoenix. (Photo by Bill Bangham)



Sal Ramos (center), 15, prays with a resident of Tolleson, Ariz., after sharing the gospel as part of Operation Andrew door-to-door visitation. (Photo by Kent Harville)



ABOVE: Children play with a parachute during a block party at Primera Iglesia Bautista Hispana in Phoenix on Saturday evening, June 11.



AT LEFT: Members of Sabino Road Baptist Church in Tucson, Ariz., performed random acts of kindness at neighboring Schumaker Elementary School during Crossover 2011. As part of the effort, David McDonald prunes trees around the school. The ministry event preceded the Southern Baptist Convention Annual Meeting. (Photo by Matt Miller)



Steve Wright of Family Life Radio prays with a young man attending the Community Arts Festival in Tucson, Ariz. (Photo by Adam Covington)



Shonn Keels of Team Impact tears a phone book in half during a presentation at a block party at Peart Park in Casa Grande, Ariz.

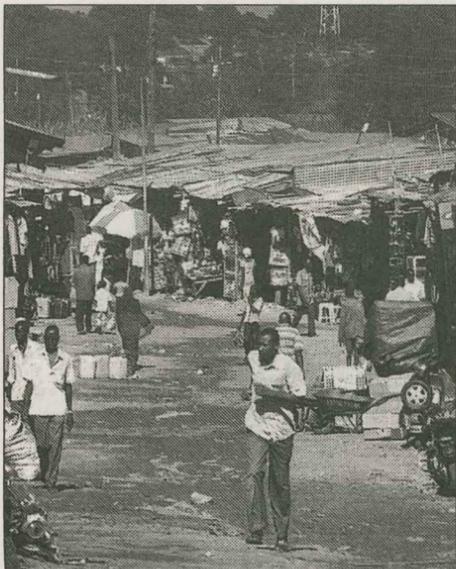
# 'Welcome to the new Sudan'

## Sudanese in southern part of country ready to celebrate independence

Continued from page 1

Juba, expected to be South Sudan's capital, does not look like a typical African urban center. There are no high-rise buildings, few paved roads, no traffic lights and piles of trash strewn here and there. Small squatter camps have sprung up around the city, occupied by displaced people who construct houses from whatever rubbish they can find. Western-style hotels are few and far between, but lodge owners have gotten creative by converting storage containers into comfortable, yet small and pricey, overnight accommodations.

Large trucks carrying blue water tanks



**WORK NEEDED** Poised to become the capital of the Republic of South Sudan on July 9, Juba will require extensive development. There are no high-rise buildings, few paved roads, no traffic lights and piles of trash strewn here and there.

can be seen around town, full of filtered and purified water drawn from the Nile River. Only the government offices, aid organizations and wealthiest residents can afford to buy clean water, evidence that Juba lacks a proper water system available for the general public.

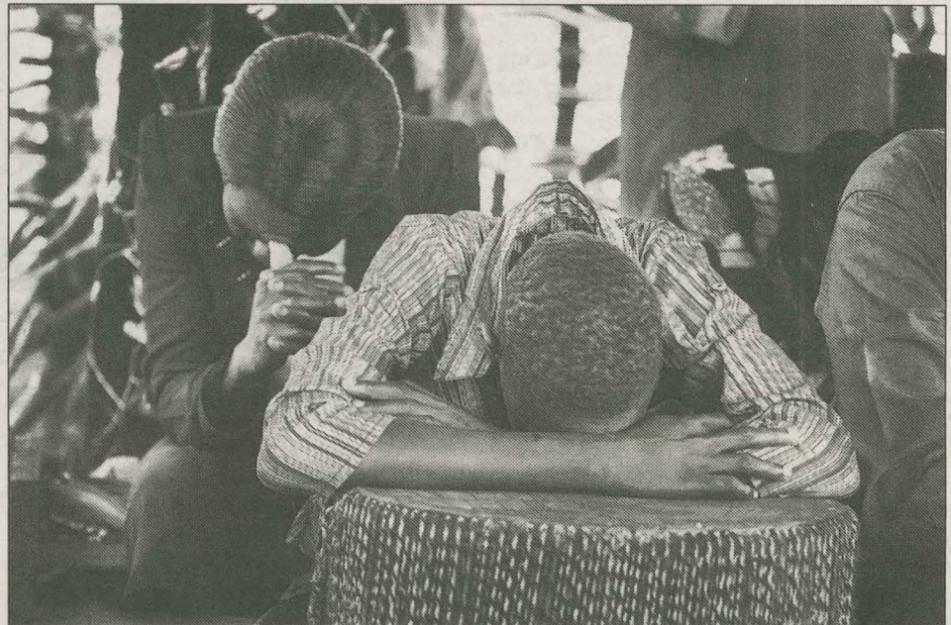
### City of promise

Despite what it lacks, some Sudanese see progress and a city of industry and infrastructure in the works. Sworo Elikana, another pastor at Nuru Baptist Church, recalled Juba a few years ago when amenities were even less than they are now.

"Juba is like a great improvement than the way it was before. ... It was very dirty; there was no good structures," Elikana said. "After the referendum there is a lot of progress, even in the government. Everyone is happy."

That happiness extends to members of Nuru Baptist Church, the name of which means "light" in Arabic. The church currently meets in a town on the outskirts of Juba called Jebel, an Arabic word that means "mountain" due to its proximity to a small mountain seen from anywhere in Juba. The church building, a work in progress made of bamboo shoots, screws and a tin roof, is a reflection of the new country itself: people with a common belief, coming together and growing from the ground up.

Church members are looking forward to celebrating independence in their community with other believers and their neighbors. "The church is also preparing; (Christians) really need to separate and enjoy that day" together, Gatluaklim said. "It seems like prayers are being answered

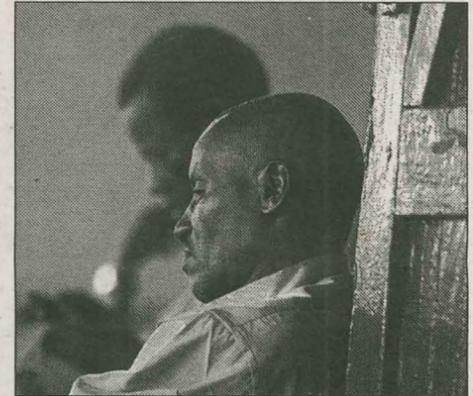


**UNITY PRAYERS** Members of Nuru Baptist Church in Juba, Sudan, pray for unity among people groups as they look to southern Sudan becoming an independent nation on July 9. They also pray for increased opportunities to share the gospel. (Photos by Charles Braddix/IMB)

by God."

A sense of pride and excitement is obvious in Juba as the people anxiously anticipate ushering in the historic July day when they finally have their independence. Pastors of Nuru Baptist Church asked believers worldwide to pray for this exciting time as they prepare for their new country.

"Let them pray for South Sudan so that people could really get peace," Gatluaklim said. "Pray also for the good news of our Lord Jesus Christ that should take place if we are really in peace." (BP)



## A good old foot-washin'

### Following Jesus' example, some OBI faculty do double duty as campus EMTs

By Joy Godbold  
OBI faculty member & EMT

Pop quiz: How are the work of emergency medical technicians at OBI and Jesus' act of foot washing alike? Answer: Both involve servanthood—meeting someone else's needs, hopefully in a humble and helpful way.

For years OBI was blessed with a volunteer doctor, Richard Schroeder. When he retired, his able assistant, Hazel Bowling, stepped up to the plate. In her gentle, efficient way, she has lovingly and tirelessly seen to our students' medical needs for more than two decades.

To supplement her services, for the past decade OBI has funded EMT-Basic training for interested staff. This involves 125 hours of class work plus ambulance ride time, courtesy of the Manchester Emergency Medical Service.

A highlight of the training was provided by the Manchester Fire Department as they taught us to use the "jaws of life" to free a "patient" trapped in a "wrecked vehicle." The finale of the course was the national exam followed by certification as Kentucky EMT-Basics.

Each EMT is provided with a "crash kit" bulging with medical supplies. God laid it on someone's heart to donate a van to the school which we use when we are on duty. Currently two EMTs and a qualified nurse rotate weeks being on call. The school ensures that their EMTs receive the proper recertification every two years through workshops or courses online. At present, two other staff members are finishing up their basic training, so we eagerly look forward to

them joining our team soon.

As EMTs, we minister to students' medical needs. These run the gamut from sports injuries, altercations with cinderblock walls, asthma challenges, allergic reactions to stress-related issues, seizures and occasionally more serious problems. Like the rest of us, sometimes students just need a little tender loving care and attention. Miss Hazel sees to the majority of medical issues, including medication and visits to the doctor. We step in when she is not available.

### This is Oneida



W.F. Underwood

Besides ministering to our students, we hope that knowing an EMT is usually on call on our campus will provide some measure of assurance to parents and guardians. We also seek to lighten the load a bit for busy houseparents, who are juggling multiple tasks with a dorm full of teenagers. We have the time to assess injuries and determine whether transport to a medical facility is needed.

Other staff members volunteer their time to drive students at night or on the weekends to the hospital and wait while they receive medical care—another example of servanthood. Occasionally we are able to give medical assistance to staff and their families and to our ever-faithful volunteers when needed.

Being an EMT brings its own rewards. We have our own day jobs, but as medical technicians we get to know students in a different capacity, and get involved with others outside our classrooms. Not wearing halos, we do get weary at times. Then we remember our Savior, who left us His example of service and humble servanthood.

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

## Working with the wind

### Another 'Outdoor Truth' from Clear Creek alum Gary Miller

One of the obstacles that most hunters and fishermen dread is the wind. A light wind is not a factor; it's even helpful. But a windy day is burdensome to the fisherman and causes most game to stay out of sight.

Most of the time, I complain about the wind like everyone else. But there are a few circumstances where the wind actually adds excitement to the hunt and gives me the edge. One of those circumstances is when I'm turkey hunting.

As you turkey hunters know, this particular bird has excellent sight and can distinguish colors as well. The least movement will turn an otherwise successful hunt into a what-if story.

When the wind is still, I'm still, but when the wind blows, I use the opportunity to do a little stalking. On a recent hunt I was able to crawl within 15 yards of nine jakes without ever calling. And after they recognized something was not right, they came closer for some investigation. I could almost touch them with the end of my gun. Now that was exciting.

Many times, we assume the worst when the wind is involved. The truth is most of our growth

happens when the winds are against us. These gusts challenge our normal and comfortable ways of doing things. They make us decide whether we will allow our circumstances to defeat us or use them to find another way. They reveal to us our fears and our abilities to adapt and overcome. They show us who or what is controlling our lives.

Perhaps the winds of difficulty are blowing against you right now. Perhaps it seems they are so strong that your boat is standing still. It may be that God simply is causing you to move in another direction. Or it may be that He is using these gusts to reveal to you a fear that you need to relinquish.

The wind can be your friend if you will remember always that God is at its helm. He will determine its length and strength. He will use it to bring you new successes in different ways. And in doing this, He will move you to a greater trust in Him.

### Clear Creek Chronicle



Donnie Fox

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# White woman's passion leads to black history museum

By Norman Jameson

**Crittenden**—A Kentucky woman simply struck by a passion presided over the grand opening of a museum dedicated to the history of African-Americans in Kentucky June 18.

Connie Taylor grew up in Grant County and never noticed a black person, at least not that she remembers. Because today there is a black woman who says she played with Connie as a child, Taylor credits her parents' teachings that everyone is the same to her own "failure" to recognize the color of her friends.

The new Grant County Black History Museum is housed in the restored Dry Ridge Consolidated Colored School in Crittenden. School restoration was completed as a project of the Northern Kentucky African-American Task Force.

Taylor grew up in the area but hadn't lived there for decades. When she learned of the restoration she was inspired to create a museum. She is a genealogy enthusiast and while researching the history of a black friend in Cincinnati she wondered why there were no blacks in Grant County, which had a strong slave presence at one time.

She discovered that most left for jobs in the North in the early 20th century. They were not fleeing harsh treatment because Grant County employed a "gentler slavery," she said, fully aware of the oxymoronic term.

For her part, Taylor left Grant County as a young adult. Despite an early divorce she later sought ministry training at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, believing her life experience qualified her as a minister to singles.

After hearing a special guest "talk about what it was like to be a female working in a church setting" Taylor was convinced either she or the Lord "must be confused."

Instead, she entered ministry in the marketplace. She left a "cushy job" in nursing after mission trips to Brazil left her



**COLOR BLIND** Connie Taylor (center) has been the driving force behind a black history museum that opened in Grant County June 18. A great source of information was 106-year-old Della Jones, who was related to Jeanette Bronson (left) and Mya Bronson.

feeling her priorities were mixed up and she headed for the Navajo Indian reservation in Arizona.

There she spent two decades directing nursing at the hospital and consulting in health management. She moved back to Grant County last summer, breaking a childhood vow never to return.

And now she has a museum. Her genealogy research ignited a passion in her to discover the history of blacks in Grant County. She found Della Jones, who lived all her 106 years in the area and remembered many names Taylor was able to discover, and could clearly reconstruct relationships.

She was a double amputee and Taylor fed her each night after spending her days researching, finding pictures, letters and memorabilia. Della would fill her in on the details of anything she learned.

To a historian's delight, Della was a hoarder who "had an amazing amount of

stuff." Many pictures were not identified, but Taylor found a 99-year-old woman in Dayton who could put names to many of them.

Della was the last black Taylor found who actually grew up in Grant County.

The local sheriff had inmates help carry a 300-pound chalkboard into the school and museum for Taylor. He also had them refinish furniture, sand the floors, rebuild

steps and paint.

"They were very talented folks," said Taylor, 62. "When I asked them what in the world are you all doing in jail, they said they made a mistake. I said, 'Don't do it again.'"

But the result is "a museum that is going to be much nicer than I ever thought it could be," she said. She intends to form a nonprofit to fund the museum's maintenance.

She documents a "polite racism" in Grant County. Blacks worked in white homes and ate lunch with the families they worked for, and "afterwards they'd go their separate ways."

Through generations of unwritten rules of conduct, "They were in their place, but they didn't know it, so it didn't matter."

After Taylor started her research and discovered the "wealth of black history" in Grant County, where today there are virtually no blacks, "I felt if I didn't tell the story it was going to get lost, and I just didn't want that to happen."

Except for brief stints, she hadn't lived in Grant County since she left in 1967, but "then I got this passion," she said. "If you get the passion, the good Lord provides you what you need."

She was raised Baptist and her life on the reservation and now recording the history of slaves in her home county is part of her marketplace ministry. "It's called doing your mission; holding up all of God's children," she said. (ABP)

## Poll: Younger generation strong on life issue

**Washington**—The 18- to 34-year-old generation leads all age groups (53 percent) in those who believe abortion is morally wrong, according to a new poll.

What the poll also shows is that only 31 percent of Americans in that age range believe abortion should be legal under any circumstance.

The recently released Gallup poll on abortion also found that 42 percent of young people identify as "pro-life."

"The tide is turning in America," said Kristan Hawkins, executive director of Students for Life of America. "More and more young people want abortion to be illegal." (BP)

## The heroes of Crossings Camps

**Youth ministers commit their lives to seeing students come to Christ**

By Lindsay Swartz  
Guest services coordinator

With Crossings Camps nearing its half-way mark, we have been filled with excitement over the decisions being made to know Christ, more fully experience Him in obedience, and financially invest in His kingdom.

As of now, 130 students have made first-time decisions to trust Christ, 168 students have responded to calls to full-time ministry, and \$28,170.40 has been given to the Beyond Effect offering, which goes toward the care of orphans across the world.

In light of all of these blessings, we are struck anew with gratitude to those who often go unnoticed when it comes to expressing thanks, support, encouragement and constant prayer—the hundreds of youth ministers and volunteers who are faithful to shepherd each student at camp.

In the course of each student's life, we play a small role. We get the privilege of investing God's word in them for a maximum of six days. But our influence fades when they drive off our properties.

Some students go back to thriving, godly homes with Christian parents who are

faithful to teach them about the Lord and His word. Others face extremely hard situations where it's difficult to survive, let alone flesh out what they're supposed to do with a decision to follow Christ.

But, there is a faithful group of people who, day by day, week by week and year by year, have made Psalm 78:4 their cry, "We will not hide (God's works) from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done." They are the heroes of Crossings Camps.

Our goal is and always has been to come alongside and serve them with encouragement, prayer, refreshment in God's word, resources and a listening ear so they can fulfill the task to which God has called them.

We do not take this opportunity lightly and encourage you to do whatever it takes to let the youth minister or volunteer at your church know how much you appreciate them and look for ways you can partner with them in the gospel. Some of them are the only example of Christ their students will see.

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

**Ky. Baptist Assemblies**



David Melber

## Getting away on vacation

**As families enjoy time away, many Ky. children have nowhere to go**

Summer vacation is a time for families to pack up, leave the rigors and stresses of everyday life behind and enjoy time together at the beach, in the mountains, on a camping trip or at an amusement park.

The soundtrack of these trips often is dominated by laughter, giggles and happy sounds of families who value and love each other. Some of life's most pleasant memories will be made during these family vacations.

Sadly, for many children in Kentucky, the sounds they associate with family aren't necessarily happy ones. Rather, their ears often are filled with harsh criticism, angry words and their own cries as they retreat to a back room after suffering another round of abuse at the hands of an adult who is supposed to love them.

Child abuse and neglect take no vacation. For many children, it's a reality they live with 365 days a year, and unless broken, the cycle of abuse often is passed down from one generation to the next.

For more than 142 years, Sunrise Children's Services has worked to provide a refuge for children who have suffered abuse and neglect. Today, through our net-

work of foster homes and residential programs, we strive to provide healing, hope and, yes, even some happy sounds for children who need to hear words of encouragement, love and support.

Because of your continued support, we even can help some of these children take occasional trips to a ball game, amusement park or camping trip so they can experience some of the same joys and fun that other kids look forward to during the summer.

As you head out this summer to enjoy time with your family, remember to let your time together be guided by love and laughter. May you also remember the children of Sunrise who long for the same.

To learn more about how you can help Sunrise care for the children of Kentucky, visit our website at [www.sunrise.org](http://www.sunrise.org).

**Sunrise Children's Services**



Bill Smithwick

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



**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**June**

- 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 WMMU Leadership Development Event, Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown.

**August**

- 20 Super Saturday-Hispanic, First Baptist Church, Hopkinsville.
- 27 Super Saturday, Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown.

**Campbellsville Univ. athletics director receives top NAIA honor**

By Chris Megginson  
Campbellsville University

Orlando, Fla.—For the second straight year an Athletic Director of the Year honor will be bestowed upon Campbellsville University Athletics Director Rusty Hollingsworth.



Hollingsworth

The National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics announced recently that Hollingsworth has been named an Under Armour AD of the Year. Hollingsworth received the award June 18 at NACDA's 46th Annual Convention in Orlando, Fla.

Hollingsworth, who was named the Mid-South Conference AD of the Year in 2010, will receive the Under Armour AD of the Year award for the NAIA Southeast region. One award is given to directors in four geographic regions for the National Junior College Athletic Association, NAIA and the five NCAA divisions.

"It's always nice to be honored by your peers with an award like this," Hollingsworth said. "I share this with everyone who works in our department, the administration that supports our efforts and the entire campus community.

"I feel very blessed to have the opportunity to work in an environment that fosters the development of character like Campbellsville University does," he added. "It is enjoyable to come to work every day with a group of coaches that care about the wellbeing of their student-athletes."

Hollingsworth, who called the Campbellsville job an "opportunity of a lifetime," began in 2001 and continues to say daily that he's "living the dream."

In 2010-11 Campbellsville University won six conference championships to claim the Mid-South Conference President's Cup for the second straight year as the conference's top athletic program. CU also sent 19 of its 23 sports programs to a national postseason in the NAIA, National Christian College Athletic Association or United States Bowling Congress.

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

**SEEKING:** Senior pastor for First Baptist Church, Hodgenville. Resumes now being accepted. Church information may be found at www.fbchodgenville.org.

**SEEKING:** Part-time pianist. Must have experience and demonstrate godly character. Sundays and Wednesdays required. Send resumes to Parkway Baptist Church, 1915 N. Broadway, Lexington, KY 40505; or e-mail gale48@insightbb.com. For more information, call (859) 299-8445.

**SEEKING:** Full-time pastor for a conservative, mission-minded church as our former pastor retired after 13 years of service. We are looking for someone who will work with all ages and lead our church in growth. Please submit resume, references and a DVD of a recent sermon by mail to the Pastor Search Committee, Immanuel Baptist Church, 5469 North Mayo Trail, Pikeville, KY 41501.

**SEEKING:** Part-time worship leader, experience preferred. Lead blended worship services Sunday mornings and evenings, and Wednesdays. Frankfort, Franklin County. Send resume including references to pbcfrankfort@aol.com.

**SEEKING:** Full-time DOM for Ohio County Baptist Association of 40 churches. Submit resume to ocba-dom@hotmail.com; or mail to OCBA DOM Search Committee, PO Box 48, Hartford, KY 42347. Resumes will be accepted until July 31, 2011.

**SEEKING:** Full-time staff member to lead student and music ministries at Emmanuel Baptist in Stanton, Ky., a theologically conservative church. Greater emphasis will be on student ministry. EBC is a progressive church with blended worship and a highly gifted praise team. We are searching for God's man to lead this ministry and disciple our students. Please submit resume by July 9 to PO Box 910, Stanton, KY 40380; or grace4me@praisinghim.com.

**SEEKING:** Full-time pastor for Persimmon Grove Baptist Church, located in rural Northern Kentucky, 16 miles south of Cincinnati. We are a small and diverse congregation poised for growth and service, looking for a God-called man to lead our congregation. For more information about our church, please see our website at www.persimmongrovebaptistchurch.org. Interested candidates, please send resume to PO Box 148, Alexandria, KY 41001; or via e-mail to barbgilb43@gmail.com.

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

**MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI**

COMPILED BY STAFF

- **BARDSTOWN**—First Cedar Creek Church will celebrate its 230th anniversary July 3, 11 a.m., with **Jerry Ad- amson**, pastor to senior adults and family life at First Church of Leitch- field, as guest speaker. A meal and af- ternoon worship will follow the morn- ing service. **Tim Lucas** is pastor.
- **ELIZABETHTOWN**—Severns Valley will hold a "Celebrate Freedom" event July 3, 6 p.m., with a car and tractor show, fireworks, horse rides, fireworks, food and a concert by **Matt and Joanna Black**. For more information, visit www.SevernsValley.org. **Bill Langley** is pastor.
- **FRANKFORT**—Crestwood Church will host **Adam's Road** in concert July 6, 6:30 p.m. For more information, call (502) 695-2088. **Michael Hail** is pastor.
- **GREENVILLE**—Second Church's choir will perform the musical "The Patriot Song" July 3, 9 a.m. **Ray England** is pastor.
- **HOPKINSVILLE**—First Church will hold a screening of the movie "Last Flight Out" July 12, 6 p.m. **Rick Stevens** is pastor.
- **LAWRENCEBURG**—Sand Spring Church will host **Adam's Road** in concert July 3, 8:45, 11 a.m. & 7 p.m. For more in- formation, call (502) 839-3415. **Mike**

- Hamrick** is pastor.
- **LOUISVILLE**—Fern Creek Church will celebrate Fourth of July with a perfor- mance by the adult choir July 3. **Linda Barnes Popham** is pastor.
- Hurstbourne Church will hold a performance of the musical "Home- land" July 3. **Mike O'Neal** is pastor.
- Maple Grove Church's adult choir will present a performance of the mu- sical "This Is My Country" July 3, 10:45 a.m. **Ray Hayes** is pastor.
- **PADUCAH**—Lone Oak First Church's choir and orchestra will perform the musical "Salute America" July 3, 8:30, 9:45 & 11 a.m. **Dan Summerlin** is pas- tor.
- **SOMERSET**—First Church will hold a performance of the musical "Cele- brate Freedom" July 3. **French Harmon** is pastor.
- **WILLIAMSBURG**—Main Street Church will host South Union-Mount Zion As- sociation's children's choir day camp July 11-15, 9 a.m., for kids in grades 1-8. For more information, call (606) 549-4497. **Bill Wright** is pastor.
- **WINCHESTER**—Emmanuel Church will celebrate its 70th anniversary July 12 with special music and a din- ner on the grounds. **Ron Montgomery** is pastor.

**CLASSIFIED ADS**

**SEEKING:** Part-time youth pastor, South Campbellsville Baptist. Expe- rience preferred; possible housing furnished. Send resume to scbc @windstream.net.

**SEEKING:** Bethany Baptist Church (www.bethanybaptistchurchbg.org) in Alvaton, Ky., is prayerfully seeking the pastor that God has called to His ser- vice. Please forward resume before July 31 to: Bethany Baptist Pastor Search Committee, PO Box 155, Alva- ton, KY 42122.

**SEEKING:** Full-time children's min- ister to work with children, birth through 6th grade, and their families in a Southern Baptist church of over 800 members. Send resume with cover letter to Children's Minister Search Committee, Westside Baptist Church, 207 Robertson Road South, Murray, KY 42071; or e-mail to westsidebaptist @wbcmurray.org.

**SEEKING:** Part-time worship leader. Lead diverse worship service, lead and direct adult and children's choirs and work with ministerial staff to do what- ever it takes to lead people to Christ, lead people in devotion to Him and build relationship with each other. Will work with school and/or work schedule. We are already praying for you. Send resume to stan.n.frazier @gmail.com. (803) 968-9120. Website: www.mtpleasantbaptist.net.

**SEEKING:** Full-time pastor for Saly- ersville First Baptist Church. Applica- tions may be obtained by written re- quest to the church at PO Box 616, Salyersville, KY 41465; or by phoning the church and leaving a message at (606) 349-6276—include full name, ad- dress and contact number.

**SEEKING:** Senior pastor for Salem Baptist Church (150+ attendance) in rural Western Kentucky. Prefer 5+ years pastoral experience and semi- nary degree. Send resume and refer- ences to Glenn Gordon, Pastor Search Committee, 1145 Pinckneyville Road, Salem KY 42078; fax: (270) 575-4614; e-mail: ggordon@csiweb.com.

**SEEKING:** Full-time senior pastor. Send resumes to pinckardchurch@aol. com; mail to Pinckard Baptist Church, 3401 Pinckard Pike, Versailles, KY 40383; or contact Eddy Litteral, (859) 229-4076. Visit our website at www. pinckardbaptist.org.

**SEEKING:** Exciting, passionate lead- er to direct children's ministry and oversee daily activities of family life center. Must have vision and desire to share the love of Christ with children and families through God-given spiri- tual gifts. Experience preferred, col- lege degree a plus. Please send cover letter and resume to: Search Commit- tee, Marion Baptist Church, PO Box 384, Marion, KY 42064; or e-mail to: searchcommittee@marionbaptist church.com.

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

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

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister of mu- sic who will be responsible for plan- ning weekly worship services, work- ing with adult choir and all instru- mentalists at Bardwell Baptist Church in Bardwell, Ky. For more information, contact Pastor Rodney Bice at (270) 628-3645; or bbcpastor1@windstream. net.

## Mission:Dignity

# Retirees and widows need comfort, security, dignity

By John Ambra

The story is told of thousands of European children who were left without homes and families following extensive bombing raids during World War II. The orphans were gathered up and taken to camps where they were cared for by Allied Forces personnel. There they had plenty to eat during the day and were now safe from the trauma, death and destruction that had once surrounded them.

Still, the children could not sleep. The thought of once again being left homeless and without food gripped them with uncertainty and terror.

It was suggested that each of the children be given a slice of bread to hold once they were put to bed at night. Amazingly, that worked. Just knowing that they had something in hand was enough to overcome their fears and provide comfort for a good night's rest.

Decades later and an ocean away, a similar scenario is being played out today. Many retired Southern Baptist ministers and widows face uncertainties as to how they will pay their bills, if they'll get their medicines or what they will eat. It can be a traumatic time, taking a toll in various ways, including being unable to sleep well.

Staff members at GuideStone Financial Resources are reminded of this fact on almost a daily basis, but a recent letter from Norma Jo Karnes drove the point home. She and her husband, William, were in ministry for 37 years as he served in the pastorate of smaller churches in Kentucky. After learning they had been approved for assistance from GuideStone Financial Resource's Mission:Dignity ministry, Norma sent in a word of thanks:

"There aren't words to express what your help has meant to us. We have gone from just getting by to being able to sleep at night knowing that we will be able to pay our bills. May God bless all of you. I was able

to buy me a new pair of shoes that I really needed. First pair in four years. Thanks from the bottom of my heart. Please pray for us."

Psalms 3:24 has a promise for those who live righteous lives: "... when you lie down, you will not be afraid; when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet."

That's a tremendous assurance that comes from a godly life. But it's also the result of the care and compassion shared by those whose Mission:Dignity gifts provide daily bread and so much more each month to God's faithful servants.

Through Mission:Dignity, GuideStone Financial Resources assists approximately 2,000 retired Southern Baptist ministers and their wives who have critical financial needs. Most of these served small congregations in decades past with little, if any, contributions toward a retirement plan. Sixty percent of Mission:Dignity recipients are widows. One out of every four recipients is a pastor's widow age 85 or older. Qualified recipients are eligible for grants of \$200 to \$530 each month.

Mission:Dignity is funded by the generous support of individuals, Sunday school classes, and churches across the Southern Baptist Convention. Gifts of any size are welcome, with 100 percent of contributions paid out in grants and nothing taken out for administrative expenses.

Whether it is putting bread into the hands of a deserving couple or widow, helping them pay for utilities or enabling them to get the medicine they need, Mission:Dignity is a way for you and your church to share a slice of comfort, security and dignity with God's servants in need.

John Ambra, as director of development for GuideStone Financial Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention, leads the Mission:Dignity ministry. To learn more about this important ministry, visit [www.MissionDignitySBC.org](http://www.MissionDignitySBC.org) or call (888) 984-8433.



**GROWING** With a massive excavator in the background, members of High Street Baptist Church in Somerset recently broke ground for a worship, fellowship and family-life facility. Visiting dignitaries included Steve Thompson, interim executive director, Kentucky Baptist Convention, and Malcolm Cheek, director of missions, Pulaski Baptist Association. Ed Amundson is pastor at High Street.

## Preacher's Kids

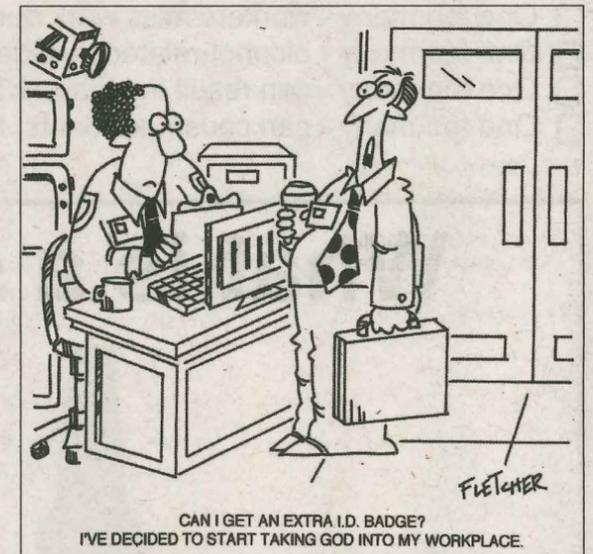
David Ayers



Joe McKeever



Fletch



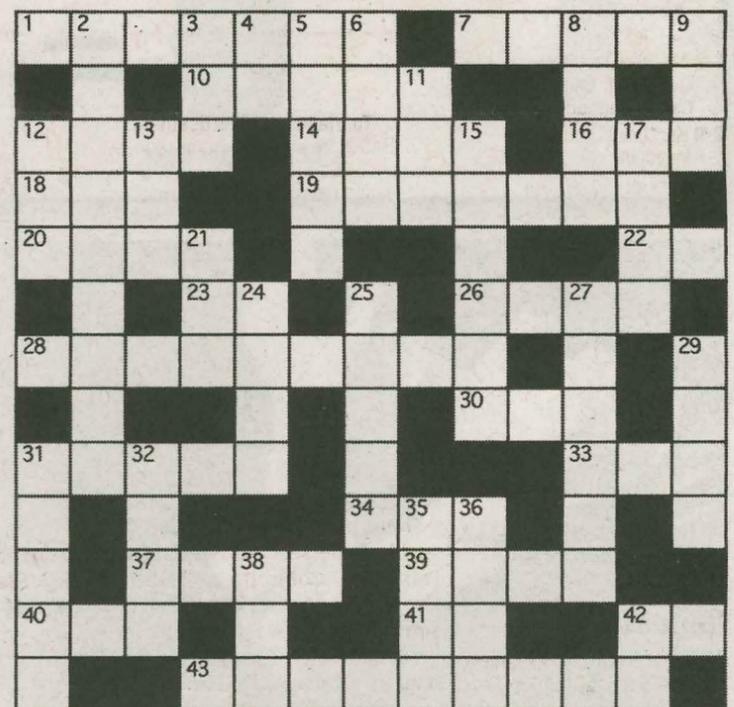
Dennis Fletcher

## Bible Crosswords

By Michael J. Landi

### Across

- 1 Sister of David (1 Chronicles 2:15-16)
- 7 "Unto ten virgins which took their \_\_\_\_" (Matthew 25:1)
- 10 City of Asher (Joshua 19:30)
- 12 "The \_\_\_\_ of the Lord" (Proverbs 9:10)
- 14 "So let it be" (Matthew 6:13)
- 16 "\_\_\_\_ no man any thing" (Matthew 13:8)
- 18 Acted as both judge and high priest in Israel (1 Samuel 1:9)
- 19 "\_\_\_\_, yet regarded as imposters" (2 Corinthians 6:8 NIV)
- 20 A priest who returned from Babylon to Jerusalem with Zerubbabel (Nehemiah 12:1)
- 22 David's book, abbr.
- 23 Physician, abbr.
- 26 "\_\_\_\_ their swords into plowshares" (Isaiah 2:4)
- 28 "For \_\_\_\_ to the faith among all nations, for his name" (Romans 1:5)
- 30 Loyal member of David's court (1 Kings 1:8)
- 31 "He threw him into the \_\_\_\_" (Revelation 20:3 NIV)
- 33 Last book of the Bible, abbr.
- 34 "Upon the tip of the right \_\_\_\_ of Aaron" (Exodus 29:20)
- 37 "Yet have I set my \_\_\_\_ upon my holy hill" (Psalm 2:6)
- 39 "Turned about with a very small \_\_\_\_, whithersoever the governor listeth" (James 3:4)



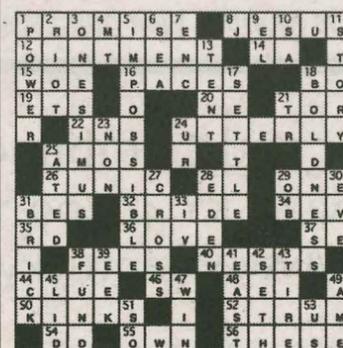
- 40 Light of the body (Matthew 6:22)
- 41 Associate in Arts, abbr.
- 42 "Thou shalt not muzzle the \_\_\_\_" (Deuteronomy 25:4)
- 43 "\_\_\_\_ block" (Romans 14:13)

### Down

- 2 "If they have called the master of the house \_\_\_\_" (Matthew 10:25)
- 3 When King Ahaziah fled from Judah he went here (2 Kings 9:27)
- 4 "I \_\_\_\_ Alpha and Omega" (Revelation 1:8)
- 5 "Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great \_\_\_\_" (Daniel 2:31)
- 6 "Then shall the \_\_\_\_ man leap as an hart" (Isaiah 35:6)
- 8 "The sun and the \_\_\_\_ and the eleven stars" (Genesis 37:9)
- 9 "I was blind, now I \_\_\_\_" (John 9:25)
- 11 Son of Zephaniah (Zechariah 6:14)
- 12 "Every prostitute receives a \_\_\_\_" (Ezekiel 16:33 NIV)
- 13 "Not as one that beateth the \_\_\_\_" (1 Corinthians 9:26)

- 15 "More in \_\_\_\_ than the sand" (Psalm 139:18)
- 17 "Peter went out, and \_\_\_\_" (Luke 22:62)
- 21 "Shall not \_\_\_\_ unto the word" (Deuteronomy 4:2)
- 24 "A second, like to a bear, ... and it had three \_\_\_\_ in the mouth of it" (Daniel 7:5)
- 25 "They will lick dust like a \_\_\_\_" (Micah 7:17 NIV)
- 27 Firstborn of Hiel (1 Kings 16:34)
- 29 Son of Alphaeus (Mark 2:14)
- 31 "Satan himself is transformed into an \_\_\_\_" (2 Corinthians 11:14)
- 32 "Thy father made our \_\_\_\_ grievous" (1 Kings 12:4)
- 35 Son of Omri, seventh king of the northern kingdom (1 Kings 16:29)
- 36 "For my flesh is \_\_\_\_ food" (John 6:55 NIV)
- 38 "In vain the \_\_\_\_ is spread" (Proverbs 1:17)
- 42 Amorite king of Bashan (Deuteronomy 31:4)

### Last week's solution

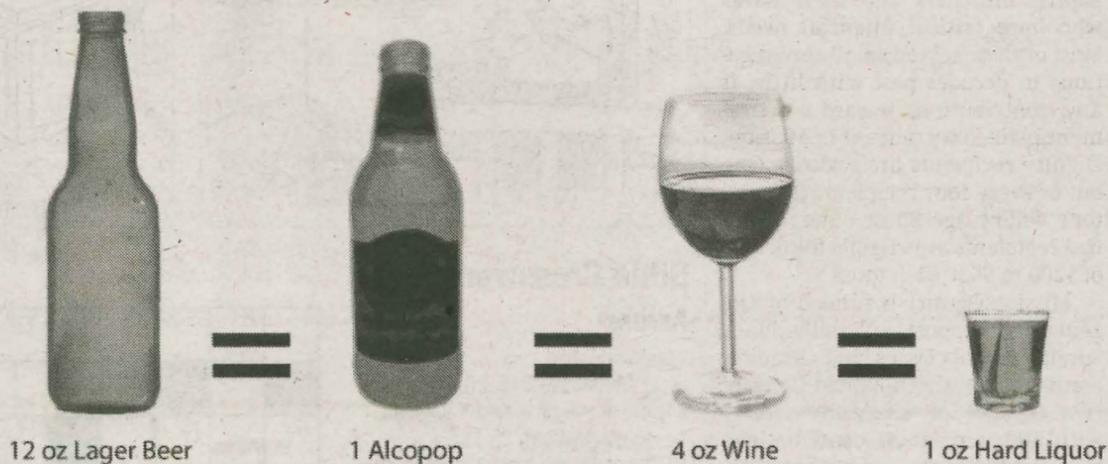


# ONE TOO MANY...

- One too many - victims of alcohol-related domestic violence
- One too many - deaths of young people due to alcohol overdose
- One too many - victims of drinking and driving crashes
- One too many - families have been torn apart due to drinking
- One too many - children born with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
- One too many - people have died due to alcoholism
- One too many - active duty military and veterans need help for alcoholism
- One too many - children growing up in a family with alcoholism
- One too many - workers miss work due to drinking
- One too many - alcohol-related suicide deaths
- One too many - can result in high-risk behavior
- One too many - can cause accidents, falls, and injuries



## What is a standard drink of Alcohol?



## Alcohol Abuse Affects Everyone

- In the United States, over 15 million people are addicted to alcohol.
- 6.6 million children in the United States live in households with at least one alcoholic parent.
- Excessive alcohol use including binge and underage drinking is the third leading preventable cause of death in the United States.
- Excessive drinking is responsible for 79,000 deaths annually in the United States.
- Excessive drinking costs the United States approximately \$185 billion each year in healthcare and criminal justice expenses.

The Kentucky League on Alcohol and Gambling Problems is a statewide, faith-based organization that seeks to prevent the moral, economic, and social problems caused by alcohol and gambling. This is done through advocacy and lobbying in the state legislature. In addition, our sister organization, The Kentucky Ethics League, Inc. seeks to raise public awareness of alcohol and gambling issues by distributing educational materials and through speaking engagements. To continue this important mission we must have the financial support of many more individuals and churches. Please help. We need your gifts and prayers. Donations to the Kentucky Ethics League, a 501(c)3 corporation are tax deductible.

Some information presented in this advertisement was obtained from the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, Inc., the founder and sponsor of NCADD Alcohol Awareness Month. Visit <http://www.ncadd.org> for more information.

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