

Shine like stars in the world
Philippians 2:15

WESTERN Recorder

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FOR THE RECORD



Kentucky
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Ky. Baptists help kick off 'extreme makeover' at African hospital

By Mark Kelly
Baptist Global Response

Sanyati, Zimbabwe—Volunteers are digging into the renovation of the historic Sanyati Baptist Hospital so new generations of Zimbabweans can experience for themselves the love of the Great Physician.

Many more teams, however, will be needed to complete the ambitious five-year project.

A 17-member team, made up mostly of Kentuckians, launched the renovation in May, replacing trusses and a metal roof on the hospital's pharmacy and medical records warehouse. They were followed by 11 volunteers from Tennessee and Florida, and a four-

□ See Zimbabwean ... *Page 6*

Flooded with Blessings

Destructive water stokes fire in congregation's heart to rebuild

Volunteers from Chilton Baptist Builders, an Alabama-based construction ministry, use a crane to place a steeple atop the newly built Indian Creek Baptist Church building in Monroe County. The church was devastated by torrential rains and flooding last year. Pastor Gene Gearlds said the congregation was unsure about its future before several blessings came the church's way, allowing it to be rebuilt at a new location. (Photo by Tommy Bartley)

By Robin Bass
Partnerships Director

Fountain Run—One year after being devastated by a series of floods, Indian Creek Baptist Church and its resilient members are standing much taller these days, largely because of the rebuilding efforts of 144 volunteers from an Alabama-based construction ministry.

"It has been an awesome adventure," said Gene Gearlds, pastor of the Monroe County church.

That adventure began May 2, 2010, when eight inches of rain resulted in 18 inches of standing water inside the church sanctuary and classrooms. Members quickly responded to stack wooden pews, move pianos and other furniture, but were stunned when the follow-

□ See Congregation devastated by floods ... *Page 2*

Southern Baptists begin to 'embrace' unreached people groups

By Alan James
International Mission Board

Richmond, Va.—"Let's get to it already. We're ready to roll."

Micah Fries' sentiment echoed through the crowd as International Mission Board President Tom Elliff gave an invitation during the Southern Baptist Convention's annual meeting last month in Phoenix.

Elliff told messengers he felt like he was "holding back a dam" of Southern Baptists ready to walk forward and "embrace" the remaining 3,800 unengaged and unreached people groups around the globe.

Fries, pastor of Frederick Boulevard Baptist Church in St. Joseph, Mo., and his wife, Tracy, didn't blink when the moment arrived for them to step forward and respond to a calling they felt deep inside.

Before Elliff invited individuals to come forward and turn in their commitment cards, he requested that no music be played.

He then told them to "just get up and come."

Fries and a multitude of pastors, church leaders and laypeople rose to their feet—almost in unison—and headed for the front of the conven-

tion floor to answer Elliff's challenge. One performer onstage said she had goose bumps at the sight of men and women being obedient to God's leading.

The crowd was committing to learn more about how they could engage those people groups with no active church-planting strategy among them and less than a 2 percent evangelical presence.

Since the annual meeting, IMB staff still is following up with those who turned in 600-plus commitment cards. Elliff referred to the response as a time "when Southern Baptists were on the same page" in a call to action that might cost them their lives.

After serving with the IMB in West Africa nine years ago, Fries contends more and more Southern Baptists—young and old—are more than ready for that type of sacrifice.

"We've got a huge number of people who are just eating that up and would love to engage in that kind of mission," said Fries, whose church recently began efforts to work among a Central Asian people group.

The spirit of unity and one purpose among Southern Baptists on the final night of the convention was something Eric Thomas, pastor of First Baptist Church of Norfolk, Va., said he hasn't seen in a long time.

"The simplicity of the call was strong and powerful," said Thomas, who was elected the SBC's second vice president.

"Regardless of where you come down on different issues in Southern Baptist life, to reach an unreached people group is—at its core—the biblical mandate that we embrace as Southern Baptists."

Al Jackson, pastor of Lakeview Baptist Church in Auburn, Ala., said he wasn't surprised when he saw the number of people get up from their seats to respond to the challenge that night.

"There is so much more for us to do," Jackson said. "It's going to take sacrifice of our time, sacrifice of our people."

While Lakeview Baptist continues to work among Arab Swahili people along Africa's east coast, Jack-

□ See Southern Baptists ... *Page 6*

Revved-up ministries



Race fans at the Kentucky Speedway in Sparta get race information packets and gospel tracts from Kentucky Raceway Ministry volunteers prior to the NASCAR race July 9. Ministries at the track were in high gear over the weekend with the arrival of the first-ever NASCAR Sprint Cup Series race at Kentucky Speedway, the Quaker State 400. See page 4 for more about the ministries going on at the track. (Photo by Todd Deaton)

IMB President Tom Elliff (on stage) calls Southern Baptist messengers to the altar, urging them to make commitments to reach 3,800 unengaged people groups. (Photo by Bill Bangham/BP)



Kentucky Baptists extend gospel reach with Find It Here 2011

By Ken Walker
Kentucky Baptist Convention

Williamsburg—The spiritual activity prompted by the evangelism initiative Find It Here 2011 included the conversion of a University of the Cumberlands student who had dabbled in several religions and the occult.

Campus minister Dean Whitaker said he and several students felt such a burden for the man that one night they spent two hours talking with him. Two weeks later, after a similar discussion in his dorm room, he accepted Jesus as his Savior.

"He still needs prayer for growth and healing, and we are in the process of discipling him," Whitaker said.

"This is a good example of what Find It Here looks like on the college campus," Whitaker continued. "It's a process rather than a single event. It came from exposure to Christians living what they believe and the power of the word to transform lives."

The process of spiritual transformation began in other non-traditional Kentucky communities earlier this year as Kentucky Baptists worked together to distribute portions of the Bible to thousands of people.

Find It Here 2011 was an effort coordi-

nated by Kentucky Baptists that followed up on last year's nationwide initiative 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, but most of those were in traditional residential settings. This year leaders at the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union and the 70 local Baptist associations wanted to share the love of Christ with college students, residents of nursing homes and assisted-living facilities, and inmates of correctional institutions.

The same spirit of sharing that made a difference in the life of a college student in Williamsburg was present on Mother's Day weekend at the Western Kentucky Correctional Complex near Fredonia.

During a worship service, 17 women accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior. Sixty-five volunteers from 20 Kentucky Baptist churches across the state helped organize the revival.

"We used this as an opportunity to

share with all the ladies," said Harrell Riley, director of Hell Is Real Ministries. "We had 450 of 675 inmates who sat under gospel preaching. It's unusual to have that many at one event."

Kentucky Baptists provided scripture portions and served in other ways at 14 other jails and prisons.

While such reports are exciting, state missions leader Larry Baker said the impact of this year's events on the convention may unfold far into the future.

"The real results came from church members fasting and praying for lost people," said Baker, leader of the KBC's missions growth team. "I think it got a great number of Kentucky Baptists to move their prayer life to a new level of intensity."

During the spring campaign, 32,000 Kentucky Baptists distributed approximately 150,000 booklets with portions of scripture. Many participants also fasted and prayed for three unsaved friends prior to sharing the gospel with them.

Keith Inman, leader of the KBC's collegiate and young-adult ministry depart-

ment, said students particularly picked up on the fasting and prayer initiative.

"Find It Here continued to remind us of the need to share Christ with our friends," Inman said. "Several campuses had an evangelism training emphasis to help our students share the gospel."

It also sparked special events. In April, the University of Louisville Baptist Campus Ministry sponsored a free cookout for 350 students. Along with food, visitors received a booklet and invitations to a trio of discussions about Christianity, Jesus and grace. As a result, several students agreed to attend church.

Campus minister Bill Noe said the group's goals are to serve Christian and non-Christian students seeking community. Collegiate ministry also is about serving with the local church.

"In my mind, Find It Here is simply a continuation of these goals," Noe said. "We are grateful to have strong church partners that help us in that endeavor."

"One of the great things is the resources that help us reach students for Christ," he added. "So as we continue to plan evangelistic outreach events on campus for the

□ See Find It Here 2011 ... Page 3

Congregation devastated by floods blessed with hands, heart to rebuild

Continued from page 1

ing day brought 10 more inches of rain. Soon, water levels in the church neared three feet.

Brown creek water would cross the threshold of Indian Creek Baptist Church two more times that spring. The last, and most devastating, flood left a five-foot high watermark and washed away the church's new asphalt parking lot. The new roof was not damaged by the swift-moving waters, but was left useless nonetheless.

Reflecting, Gearlds said he was astonished by the damage. With no flood insurance and most of the building funds spent on the recent improvements, the church's future seemed uncertain.

"The building had suffered not only cosmetic damage, but overwhelming structural damage. The water had literally tried to lift the building up within the brick walls. The cost of damages was over \$500,000 just in materials," Gearlds said. "We were in dire need."

The desperation of the congregation was almost as overwhelming as the floodwaters, said John Jordan, Monroe Baptist Association's director of missions. "But God sent

a rainbow. Blessings began to flow and miracles began to happen."

First, the area school system allowed the church to use a gymnasium for Sunday services. Then, a group of private investors purchased land at auction and made it available to the church. Jordan said Indian Creek Baptist became a church "on fire and on a mission" as they began to witness the hand of God moving in the community.

"A building committee was formed and the miracles continued to bless," Jordan said. "Local professionals began to volunteer. Architects, draftsmen, plumbers, electricians and contractors stepped up. Donations began to come in, and the church realized God's will was for Indian Creek to build."

Tommy Bishop, president of Chilton Baptist Builders, a construction ministry out of Alabama, said once leaders were made aware of the situation they felt led to help rebuild Indian Creek Baptist Church. Not only would they be meeting a great need, the project also provided the opportunity to lend a hand to one of their fellow volunteers—Gearlds.

Twelve years ago, the pastor was part of

a Chilton Baptist Builders project at another Monroe County church, Gamaliel Baptist. Like so many touched by the ministry, Gearlds said he looks forward to spending one week each year helping churches that cannot help themselves.

"But this year, we were excited to have our brothers and sisters in Christ from CBB come to aid Indian Creek Baptist in her time of need," Gearlds said.

Over four days last month, the 144 Chilton Baptist Builders constructed floor joists, built walls, fastened trusses, nailed roof decking and attached the steeple. Their efforts will double the space of the original one-story building. The new sanctuary, classrooms, office space and fellowship area will encompass 15,000 square feet amid the two-story facility. And with the church perched on higher ground, members are secure that history is unlikely to repeat.

"It's hard work, but we enjoy it. You're working for a different reason," Bishop said. "We're not just out to save churches money. We volunteer to help build churches that can't afford to do it on their own."

"People always say they are blessed be-

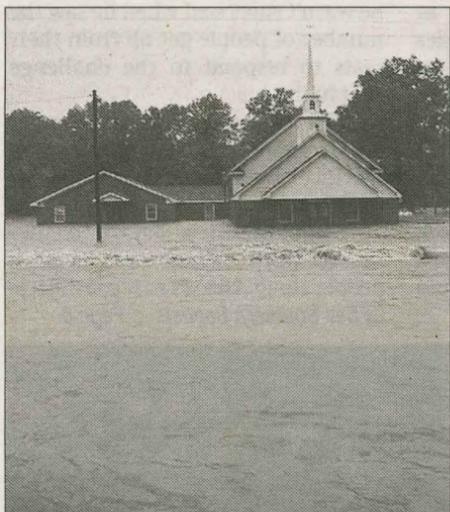
cause we are there. The blessing is ours," he added. "There is no better blessing than to use your hands, your skills (and) your brain for the Lord."

Bishop said the Chilton, Ala.-based ministry has been helping churches in need since 1983. Skilled laborers from across the Southeast spend Father's Day week each year building additions, making repairs and—in Indian Creek's case—constructing entire churches from the ground up.

Gearlds said over the last 14 months he has come to understand God's plan for his life and the life of Indian Creek Baptist Church.

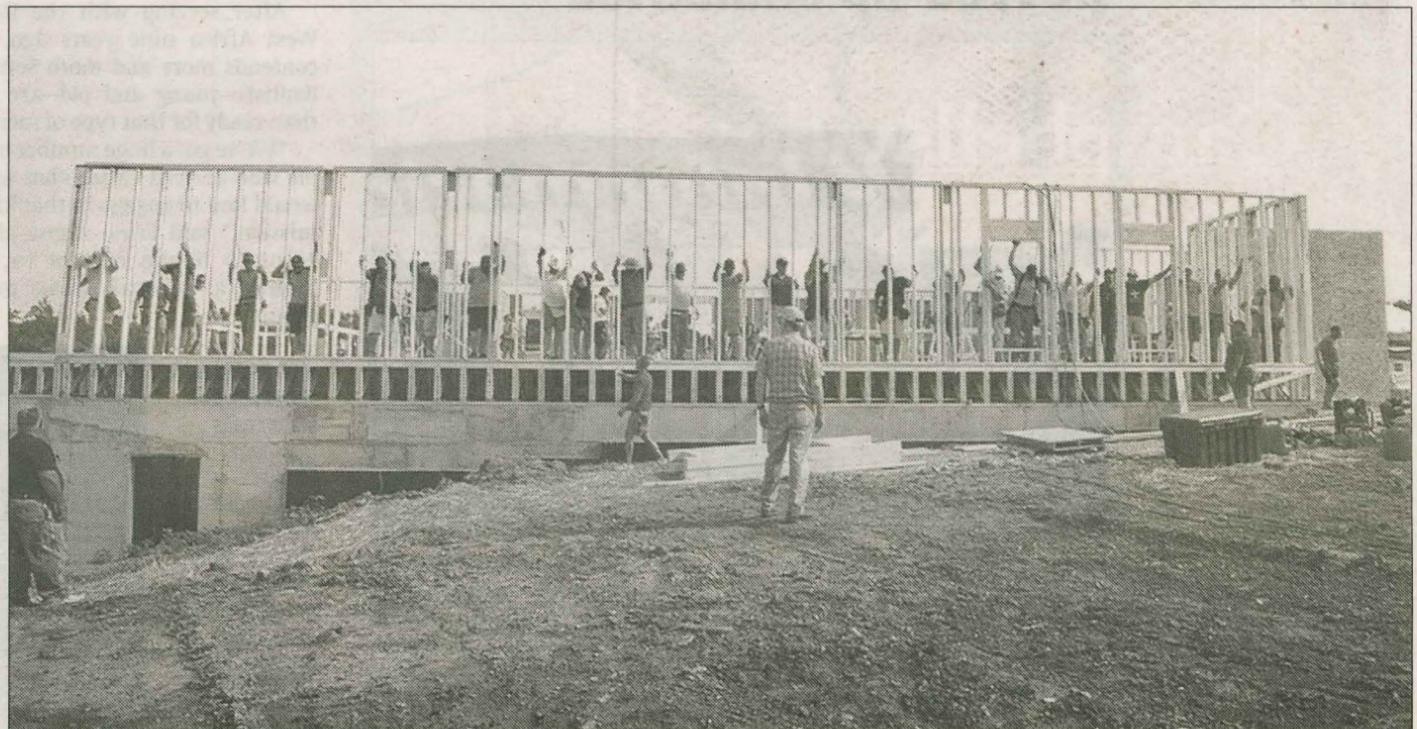
"We are more united now. This has been a true blessing to see the events come about," Gearlds concluded. "We have not only seen the power of our mighty God, we have experienced it. God has used much water to create a fire in those who love the Lord at Indian Creek. In that fire, our people have been refined, impurities have been removed, and a true, valuable treasure is now revealed, ready to be used."

"We have had our difficult moments, but we have been blessed by God's mercy and grace through it all."



■ Above: The old Indian Creek Baptist Church building is inundated with water after heavy rain and floods left water five feet high in the facility last May. (Indian Creek Baptist Church photo)

■ Right: Volunteers from Chilton Baptist Builders raise a wall frame at the new Indian Creek Baptist building during a four-day construction blitz last month. (Photo by Tommy Bartley)



Kentucky Baptist disaster relief courses scheduled for later this month

Lexington—Prospective Kentucky Baptist disaster relief volunteers are invited to learn about the ministry, and current workers to brush up their skills, at a training event July 23 at Porter Memorial Baptist Church in Lexington.

Completion of the one-day training certifies new volunteers. Recertification courses keep returning volunteers up to date on new procedures and current disaster relief needs.

It has been a busy year for Kentucky Baptist disaster relief. Men and women from across the state have provided hot meals, showers, laundry service and clean-up assistance to survivors of floods and tornadoes at home and in Alabama, Massachusetts and Ohio.

Disaster relief chaplains also have provided counseling to people affected by the devastating storms.

"We hope many of our current volunteers who have been unavailable to serve on a call-out yet this year will take the opportunity to get recertified in July so they will be ready the next time we are needed," said Coy Webb, disaster relief associate for the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

The registration fee for current volunteers is \$20 per person. New workers pay \$40 per person. Online registration is available at www.KyBaptist.org/DR. Click on the link under "training."

Campbellsville, CentriKid enjoy partnership

Campbellsville—When it's all said and done, Campbellsville University will host 43 different camps and 5,000 campers for church groups, sports teams, children's camps and freshman orientation this summer.

One group, the CentriKid Program Training Week, has been using Campbellsville as its summer camp destination since 1990.

"They've told me the reason they return is because of the excellent customer service," said Rusty Watkins, the school's director of summer camps and conferences.

Jeremy Echols, CentriKid camp coordinator, said they hold training week for the camp leaders across the country at Campbellsville.

"We return to Campbellsville University because we have a loyal group of church leaders who love camp on this campus and because the campus staff take great care of our camp staff and our church leaders," Echols said. "Rusty Watkins and his team always take care of the things we need on campus, and they even think of things before we need them sometimes."

"The customer service provided by Rusty is the biggest reason we've never even thought of looking for a new place to train our staff," he added.

Echols said his favorite thing about Campbellsville is the feeling that no matter what comes up he knows that the needs of the group can be accommodated.

"We are on over 20 different campuses, and in some places we are treated like we just rent the facilities," he noted, "but at Campbellsville, we are treated like partners."

In 2012, CentriKid will be at Campbellsville for the entire summer. Echols said it



SPRAY TIME Ashley Chestnut (right), assistant director of CentriKid 7 from Birmingham, Ala., uses a hose to cool off camper Lindsey Isbell of Savannah, Tenn. (Photo by Andre Tomaz/Campbellsville University)

is the first time the program been offered all eight weeks of camp at the university.

"We are happy for the opportunity to add more weeks of camp and touch the lives of more kids and adults through our partnership with Campbellsville University," he said.

CentriKid is a five-day, four-night camp for third to sixth graders to have fun and learn more about the message of Jesus Christ, Echols said.

The other camps being held this summer include 22 sports camps, 12 of which are football camps; eight of them are using CU's facilities for the first time.

"The new AstroTurf on the football field is an added bonus," Watkins said. "It has definitely increased participation."

Campbellsville also hosts its own camps through the summer, including LINC freshman orientation, Kids' College, Children's Theater Camp and a dental workshop.



A HELPING HAND The team from Hillcrest Baptist Church in Lexington recently volunteered with University of the Cumberlands' Mountain Outreach, helping families in the surrounding Appalachian region for a sixth year "I love working for the Lord and the kids," said Paul Coomer, a volunteer from the church. "It's a blessing to be out here to teach the kids and serve the Lord." The group helped build a home alongside other Mountain Outreach volunteers.

Find It Here 2011 extends Kentucky Baptists' gospel reach in the state

Continued from page 2

new school year, it will be great to continue to build on the success of Find It Here 2011."

Kentucky Baptists also funded an advertising campaign on 100 radio stations across the state. The 60-second message directed listeners to a website or to the phone number of NAMB's Evangelism Response Center to learn more about Christ.

The radio campaign was designed to reach 85 percent of Kentucky's adult population with the message three and a half times on average during the weeks leading up to Easter.

In Kentucky and across North America, Find It Here will continue in 2012.

Gary King, director of missions for Lincoln County Baptist Association, said volunteers intend to continue distributing the scripture portions next year.

"It (opens) doors of opportunity," said King, coordinator of prison outreach. "It opened up dialogue with department of corrections personnel and jailers and other opportunities for Bible studies."

Ross Bauscher, leader of the KBC's evan-

gelism growth team, said planning is underway for how Kentucky Baptists will respond to new service opportunities next year.

After two teleconferences in March, Bauscher met with 10 directors of missions in Lexington the second week of June to share ideas, pray and set goals.

"Hope. Find It Here 2012" will focus on so-called "attractational" events, such as block parties, motorcycle rallies and fishing tournaments. Churches will be encouraged to sponsor a spring event and join later in an association-wide activity.

University campuses will get an early start this fall with "The Maze," featuring Christian illusionist Jim Munroe. His appearance at Morehead State University last year prompted more than 200 conversions and other decisions, Bauscher said.

"What we're trying to do is be a relational building block to those in the community who need Christ and make a gospel presentation," Bauscher pointed out. "Without the latter, it just becomes another type of outing."

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extends congratulations and best wishes to

Dr. Paul Chitwood

Executive Director

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It's not about me!

"Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! 'Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor? Who has ever given to God, that God should repay them?' For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen" (Romans 11:33-36, NIV).

**Together
We are the KBC**



Paul Chitwood

Paul's words remind me of the oft repeated phrase, "It isn't about me!" With all the attention garnered from accepting a new position, I need that reminder! I also need to express my appreciation to Kentucky Baptists for the warm and gracious welcome you have extended to me and my family.

I am humbled and amazed as I reflect upon God's gracious path that has brought me to this role and the privilege He is giving me to serve you and serve with you. As a KBC pastor for the past 18 years, and through my involvement in other roles in the life of our state convention, I have always appreciated the eternal value of our cooperative work and those who have led us in that work.

In order to be home to 2,400 churches, the KBC has to be a big tent. Just as any tent needs stakes to keep from being blown away by the least gust of wind, to avoid being "blown here and there by every wind of teaching," I believe the KBC must be anchored by our commitment to these four things: the truthfulness of God's Word, our Lord's Great Commission, the beliefs summarized in the Baptist Faith and Message, and cooperation.

Kentucky Baptists have shown a remarkable ability to focus on the things we have in common and work together to advance God's Kingdom. I am confident that will continue to hold true as we move forward.

One of the questions I have been asked repeatedly is, "What changes should we anticipate coming to the KBC?" My response to that question is that I plan to spend some time viewing our work from the new vantage point entrusted to me before I begin to suggest ways to strengthen that work.

That isn't to say that I have come to this new role without a vision burning in my heart. To the contrary, I communicated to the search team five key areas that I want us to focus upon as I begin to serve Kentucky Baptists. I plan to share about each of these areas in my articles and a new blog (www.paulchitwood.com) over the coming weeks.

I will look forward to receiving input and suggestions from you along the way as "Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed" (Proverbs 15:22, NIV). Blogposts will have an open comment section and my e-mail address is paul.chitwood@kybaptist.org.

Never forget, you are the KBC!

Paul Chitwood is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Ministry helps race fans hear of greatest victory

Five years ago, my son, Caleb, and I attended our first NASCAR race. It was the 20th anniversary of the "Bring-a-Kid to the Race" day in Darlington, S.C., an event sponsored by a local Baptist association's raceway ministry for Royal Ambassadors and their dads. Caleb and I not only observed a tremendous outreach ministry of area Baptists that day, but also discovered a sport we now enjoy watching together. This past weekend, we were among the 109,000 NASCAR fans at the Kentucky Speedway in Sparta for the Inaugural Quaker State 400 race. About 150 volunteers with Kentucky Raceway Ministry, sponsored by three area Baptist associations, were there too—hoping that many race fans would have an opposite experience: Drawn by the sport they enjoy, they would find an opportunity to hear the gospel.



**After
Thought**

By Todd Deaton

Best described as "a ministry of hanging out," volunteer chaplains make themselves available to serve race fans in a variety of ways. "As fans walk past the ministry's tent, we establish quick relationships, and then we see where that leads," explained Bob Young, director of missions for White's Run Baptist Association. White's Run partners with Owen County and Ten Mile associations in sponsoring the raceway ministry. Begun about 12 years ago by two Baptist laymen, John Roberts and J.T. Marsh, Kentucky Raceway Ministry has grown from a single worship service to offering an array of servant evangelism activities, becoming "a church to the fans."

The ministry's primary goal is to show the love of Christ to race fans, Marsh explained. "We're just here to love on them. That's a lot of what we do," he said. Donning NASCAR t-shirts and caps, fans are always eager to talk about their favorite drivers, and that opens a door for the volunteer chaplains to begin conversations about the gospel. "But you don't necessarily have to be a NASCAR fan, just a fan of the fans," Marsh added.

Tens of thousands of NASCAR fans arrive early to stay over the weekend in the speedway's campgrounds, so KRM volunteers set up a large yellow-and-white striped tent to serve as a base for providing shade, bottled water, light refreshments, NASCAR-themed tracks and New Testaments, speedway guides and other literature. Campers were invited to a hamburger and hot dog cookout and a biscuit-and-gravy breakfast at which chaplains shared brief testimonies. Several worship services, led by chaplains or area pastors, were held on Race Day. Chaplains also carried notebooks to help them recall names of people they met and their prayer requests or ministry needs.

Among recreational activities offered were Hot

Wheels races for children, with trophies presented to winners; finger nail polishing for women; and horse-shoe tournaments for men. Christian racecar drivers sometimes dropped by the KRM tent to interact with fans and share testimonies. Volunteers also provided sack lunches for racetrack employees and security personnel, and they manned the speedway information booths and Fan Zone refreshment centers that gave away bottled water and thousands of homemade cookies baked by local Woman's Missionary Union groups. The raceway outreach is supported through the Eliza Broad-

us Offering for State Missions. On Race Day, the crowd quickly swells to the size of a large city, bringing the possibility of accidents and medical emergencies of all kinds. Both in the campgrounds and at the racetrack, KRM chaplains work closely with healthcare staff to provide comfort to injured persons as well as transportation for family members to area hospitals. Roberts, a Missions Service Corps missionary with the North American Mission Board, has served as chaplain at the Kentucky Speedway for five years and until recently doubled as the director of Kentucky Raceway Ministry. He led the invocation for the Quaker State 400 race.

"Southern Baptists are in our roots, and we deeply appreciate all of the volunteers and funding for our ministries," Roger Marsh, executive director of the National Fellowship of Raceway Ministries, based in Fort Worth, Texas, told me. "About 85 percent of our volunteers are Southern Baptists, and we are very thankful for them," added Marsh, a Southern Baptist pastor for nearly 30 years before assuming his present role full time two years ago. NFRM began in Daytona in the mid-1970s and has grown one racetrack at a time until by 2006 there were ministries at all NASCAR Cup Series races, most Nationwide Series races and many Indy venues. But with NFRM ministries at only about 200 of 1,325 racing venues across the country, "we still have a long way to go," he said.

Young, who has been involved with the Kentucky Raceway Ministry for nearly 10 years, is more convinced than ever that if Jesus came to Kentucky today, He likely would be ministering at the Sparta speedway. "I can just visualize Jesus in the stands cheering and working through the campground ministries to love lost people and care for their physical needs," he said. The racetrack ministry does provide a vital Kingdom outreach to many race fans who need to hear that the greatest victory of all did not happen on a racetrack, but on a cross.



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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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REVVED-UP FOR MINISTRY Bob Young, director of missions for White's Run Baptist Association, discusses the many ministry opportunities with J.T. Marsh, a cofounder of Kentucky Raceway Ministry, and Roger Marsh, executive director of the National Fellowship of Raceway Ministries, as more than 100,000 fans arrive at the Sparta speedway for the inaugural Quaker State 400 NASCAR race. White's Run partnered with Owen County and Ten Mile association in sponsoring about 150 volunteer chaplains from eight states for the weekend event.

Finding the path toward spiritual renewal

By David Jeremiah

Three days before reaching the New World, the crew begged him to turn back, fearing if they went farther they couldn't catch enough wind to return to Spain before running out of food and water. But Christopher Columbus had one word for his faltering men: "Adelante! Adelante!" (Onward! Onward!)

Christians should also live lives of dogged discovery. Too many stop short, like guests in an immense palace who have keys to every room but venture no farther than the entrance hall.

Has your Christian life become stale and stagnant? How do you rediscover the great adventure of Christian living? How do we find the lost path to spiritual renewal?

■ Cultivate a sense of wonder.

When was the last time you noticed the rose blooming by the fence? The spangled sky on a clear and moonless night? When was the last time you stood amazed in the presence of Jesus the Nazarene?

There's more to Christianity than you and I have thus far experienced, more to God than we've learned, and more to the Bible than we've discovered so far.

"I press on," said the Apostle Paul in Philippians 3:12-14. "Forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."

Remember when you first met God and experienced His amazing grace? A wonderful discovery! But how long since you glimpsed something new in your relationship with Him? As quaint old evangelist Gipsy Smith used to put it: "I've never lost the wonder."

Cultivate your curiosity, and stay fresh. Look for new discoveries every day, and enjoy His mercies which are new every morning.

■ Ask God to show you new things in His word.

Like the Psalmist who prayed, "Open my eyes, that I may see wondrous things from Your Law" (Psalm 119:18),

could there be more insights in familiar passages still waiting to be uncovered?

The Bible is simple, deep and unchanging. But our understanding of its message and its application to our lives is a process of daily discovery that rivals any exploration in history. Bible students are "wide-eyed travelers in the midst of wonders." Have you learned something new in the Bible this week?

FIRST PERSON

■ Learn new spiritual lessons.

When we have trouble with a loved one, a bad report from the doctor, or a crisis at work, God usually enlarges our hearts, and we learn new dimensions of His faithfulness to us and new lessons about our walk of faith.

Mary Darby lived through the nightmare of being attacked by an intruder. Afterward she lived with constant fear, until the Lord gave to Mary 2 Timothy 1:7: "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." She quoted those words when panic arose. They gradually dissolved the dread, allowing peace to return to her soul.

God is infinite. His wisdom is limitless, and we don't grow up in Christ in a day. His ways are deep and wonderful, and it takes years of prayerful experience to search them out. Every day we should be making more discoveries and discovering new mercies.

■ Discover new ways of serving Him.

Charles McCoy was a pastor with seven academic degrees. His church expected him to retire at 72 and move into a retirement home.

But McCoy was an explorer at heart. He retired to India. His friends said, "You might die in India." He replied, "It's just as close to heaven from there as it is from here."

He shared Christ before political leaders, educational institutions, large crowds. He planted churches in Calcutta and Hong Kong. At age 86, he died. A friend said, "He had come to the end of his great adventure. He was as close to heaven as if he had never left New York. He had been faithful."

God intends for us to be rivers, fresh and flowing, ever growing, never stagnant. He wants us to press on, to keep the wonder, and to think of our life in Christ as a great adventure.

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

God intends for us to be rivers, fresh and flowing, ever growing, never stagnant.

How to recover after an affair

By Scott Wigginton

Q: Is it ever possible to recover from an extramarital affair?

A: Recovery from extramarital affairs, while difficult, is quite possible in most cases, provided the couple is willing to do a few basic things.



Before outlining what couples need to do, let me first describe three basic types of affairs. Type one may be called the "one-night stand." Here the relationship is short-lived, has little emotional attachment, and is basically a sexual tryst. Type two might be

termed "emotional entanglement" since its primary feature is not sex but emotional support and attachment. Type three affairs involve multiple sexual partners issuing forth from the core problem of sexual addiction. This third type is typically the most difficult to deal with since the affair spouse must be willing to confront his or her own addictive processes.

The first two, while painful, provide the best prognosis for marital survival if the following happens:

1. After the affair is disclosed or discovered, the affair spouse quickly breaks off the relationship;
2. Affair spouse provides evidence to the non-affair spouse that the affair is over;
3. Affair spouse is willing to take full responsibility for their sin and is willing to reverse "walls and windows," creating walls with the former lover and windows with the non-affair spouse so that their questions are answered and contact with the lover is completely cut off;
4. Affair spouse is willing to do anything possible to rebuild trust, such as providing open access to phone, text and computer records;
5. In type two affairs, affair spouse must grieve the loss of the lover, while at the same time acting in ways that are loving towards his or her partner;
6. Non-affair spouse is willing to forgive and refuses to continue to hold this offense over the partner;
7. Couple grows to recognize the ways in which they have hurt each other and learns to do the things that honor Christ and build a strong marriage.

Recovery must always begin in brokenness and humility.

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

IRS charitable deduction tips

By Laurie Valentine

To assure your charitable gifts are deductible, following these eight tips from the IRS:

1. Give to a qualified organization. IRS Publication 526, Charitable Contributions, tells you what constitutes a "qualified organization." Contributions earmarked for a specific individual or to a political organization or candidate are not deductible.
2. Itemize your deductions on Schedule A of IRS Form 1040.
3. You may only deduct the amount by which your contribution exceeds the market value of any benefit you receive for making the gift such as merchandise, ballgame tickets or other goods and services.
4. Stock and other non-cash property contributions are generally valued at fair market value. Fair market value is the price at which property would change hands between a willing buyer and willing seller, neither having to buy or sell and both having reasonable knowledge of all relevant facts.
5. Clothing and household items must be in good or better condition. Special rules apply to vehicle donations.
6. You must maintain a bank record, payroll deduction records or written communication from the organization containing its name, date of your gift and the amount for all contributions of cash, check or other monetary gifts.
7. If your contribution of cash or property is \$250 or more, the organization's gift acknowledgement must also state whether it provided any goods or services in exchange for your gift and the value of what you received. If your contribution is over \$500, complete and attach IRS Form 8283, Noncash Charitable Contributions, to your return.
8. If the property you are giving is valued at more than \$5,000, you must get a qualified appraisal and complete Section B of IRS Form 8283.

Laurie Valentine is trust counsel for the Kentucky Baptist Foundation.



Hearing from 'our' students and their leaders

We have all seen the reports and read the blogs and internet postings of what students are dealing with today. While the statisticians go to great length to authenticate their results, there is always in the back of my mind the thought: "But is that really reflective of the students I work with?" And, in most instances, I am sure it is. Teens are teens and as long as we don't over generalize, we can use these reports in teaching others about the culture of teens that we work with today.

Recently I had the privilege to serve as worship speaker for one of the Kentucky Changers projects that the KBC sponsors every year. On Wednesday night of that week, we asked students what was keeping them from being who they needed to be in Christ. What was it they needed to give up, get rid of or give over to God to be in a right relationship with Him? We had everyone, as they felt lead by the Spirit, to write it on a post-it note and place it on a window as a symbolic act of giving it over to God. I was amazed as students and adults alike came down and—with a genuineness you don't always see—began to write.

Since then I have prayed over these concerns, lamented over some, and

found them to be a glimpse into the hearts of students and student workers in Kentucky. These are not statistically authenticated, but they reflect what was on the hearts of students and student workers on a Wednesday night in Mt. Washington.

The most-written issues were related to lust, sexual purity and pornography. This probably doesn't surprise any of us. This may be the one issue that I have noticed the most when it comes to students. It isn't uncommon for even our most faithful, growing, core student leaders to be involved sexually in one form or another. There is a major disconnect between what Scripture teaches and how they live.

The second dealt with pride and selfishness. We have always said that this is a narcissistic generation. In fact, it may be the first narcissistic generation to be raised by a narcissistic generation. Look at the popularity of shows like "American Idol," "The Voice" and "Big Brother." Everyone can be a star and get their 15 minutes of fame. Spend any amount of time on "YouTube" and you will see this firsthand.

The third related to hate, anger and malice. This one surprised me. I

had seen and heard these were part of this culture of students, but I didn't expect to see it from church kids on a mission trip. I guess that was just my naivety showing.

The fourth dealt with jealousy and envy. This is from a generation of students that has everything. I don't think there was a student there that didn't have a cell phone, nice clothes and a warm and dry place to sleep.

The fifth concerned family issues, especially relating to dad. I'm not sure of the reasons behind this being cited in this context, but it kept popping up.

There were over 200 post-notes used in a crowd of just under 285 people. There were several items that were only listed once. A couple had prayers written on them and other pleas for help. There were pleas of loneliness, needing more love in my marriage, living a double life, admissions of starvation, and feeling out of place.

What has this experience taught me? Students and their leaders in Kentucky and in our churches are dealing with the same issues that other students all across the country are dealing with. My prayer is that their churches and leaders are hearing their hearts and moving them closer to Jesus.

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

Youth Ministry Corner



Joe Ball



EXTREME PROJECT Randy Foster, the outgoing director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Baptist Men on Mission department, tackles truss work for the "extreme makeover" of Sanyati Baptist Hospital in Zimbabwe. (BGR photo)

Zimbabwean hospital gets makeover with some Kentucky Baptists' help

Continued from page 1

member team from Georgia is on the ground at Sanyati for the first two weeks of July, said project director Peter Sierson of Pleasant Heights Baptist Church in Columbia, Tenn.

As many as 60 teams will be needed over the next five years to complete the project.

The first team of volunteers tore into the roofing work—an act of faith, considering the roofing supplies hadn't arrived yet, said Mark Byler, a physician from Kansas City, Mo., who serves at Sanyati.

"With only four work days and no roofing materials, the scene looked challenging—but this group was up for the task," Byler said. "They began tearing off the leaky, rusted, metal roofing sheets and piling them in a nearby storage facility. This revealed some very termite-ridden trusses that had to be replaced, as they literally just crumbled to the ground. The new roofing material was on the way—maybe."

By the end of day two, however, the roofing material arrived and the team spent four hours unloading the heavy steel sheets by the light of the moon and a pickup truck, Byler recalled.

"What seemed like only hours later, on day three, the new gleaming-white roofing was in place and skillfully being fastened down."

Other team members spread out through the hospital, crawling up in the ceiling spaces to trace out old wiring systems, Byler noted. They ran new wiring for a solar-powered system that will provide electricity for X-ray and ultrasound equipment, the labor and delivery area, the operating room, and the immunization and lab refrigerators.

One team member, Tina Weitkamp, a clinical

nursing instructor at the University of Cincinnati, spent time teaching nurses and the nursing students about techniques in neonatal resuscitation and how to help newborns in distress, Byler noted. The volunteers finished up their week touching up, applying cement and finishing repairs on hospital equipment.

Texas volunteers Gerald and Bobby Thornton served as on-site project coordinators from Feb. 1 to May 18. Tennessean Don Smith, who recently retired after 22 years as a project manager in hospital construction, followed the Thorntons and plans to serve on site through August.

The five-year "extreme makeover" plan will greatly extend Sanyati's renowned 60-year history of meeting both physical and spiritual needs, Byler said. The hospital treats an average of 35,000 outpatients and 1,800 inpatients a year. The staff performs about 1,000 surgeries and delivers more than 2,000 babies each year. Southern Baptist missionary physician Archie Dunaway Jr. was killed at Sanyati in 1978 by guerrillas fighting against the government of what was then Rhodesia.

"These generous, hard-working, dedicated men and women did more than just put up roof and wires; they ministered to people they'd never met before in many ways," Byler said. "They shared words of encouragement and prayers with people of the community and patients. They shared devotions with the staff in the morning. They shared a meal at a local village of believers. They shared the word of God at two different local churches."

"They unselfishly shared their skills and hearts in a way that will last long after the new ceilings start to fade and leak," Byler added. "God's love, shown in this practical way, is making an impact at Sanyati Baptist Hospital."



COMMITTED More than 600 pastors, church leaders and laypeople, including Al Jackson (right), pastor of Lakeview Baptist Church in Auburn, Ala., responded to IMB President Tom Elliff's invitation for Southern Baptists to "embrace" approximately 3,800 unengaged, unreached people groups during the SBC annual meeting.

Southern Baptists ready to 'embrace'

Continued from page 1

son said he wants the church to keep learning and finding ways to help reach the unengaged, unreached.

"For pastors, we're inundated with the immediate," he said. "It's easy to let the unseen be neglected, (but) God is a God of nations."

The embrace challenge is different from "adopting" a people group. It is a more focused emphasis that challenges churches to make a lifetime commitment to an unengaged, unreached people group.

To engage them will take tre-

mendous sacrifice, Elliff said.

"They're unengaged for a reason," he told IMB staff recently. "A lot of them are on top of mountains, deep in the valley and in countries that are absolutely closed. We can't do it alone."

This initial response from pastors is just the beginning—a "crack in the barrel"—of a long and challenging journey, Elliff said.

To begin the "embrace" process, pastors and church leaders are urged to check out the embrace website at Call2Embrace.org. (BP)



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All Southern Baptist eyes now on Luter

With 2012 SBC in his home city, New Orleans pastor poised for presidency

By Bruce Nolan
New Orleans Times-Picayune

New Orleans—Even before the Southern Baptist Convention elected Fred Luter to national office, there already was widespread speculation that Luter is poised to become the denomination's first African-American president.

Representatives of 16 million Southern Baptists overwhelmingly elected Luter first vice president at their annual meeting last month in Phoenix.

By the Baptists gather again next summer in Luter's backyard, many expect the pastor of New Orleans' 5,000-member Franklin Avenue Baptist Church, one of the largest



Southern Baptist churches in Louisiana—to clinch the top post.

"Many of us are thinking this is the first step toward him being elected president next year," said Danny Akin, president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C., who nominated Luter for the vice presidency.

"I haven't talked to a person who hasn't affirmed that, including the present president, Bryant Wright; the past president, Frank Page" and others, Akin said. "There's tremendous interest and excitement about that."

Luter's election comes at a moment that the nation's largest Protestant denomination confronts evidence that it has plateaued in numbers—even declined slightly.

Moreover, some leaders of the predominantly white, socially conservative convention say they are concerned that their ranks—and especially their leaders—do not look like the nation as a whole.

In recent decades, the convention has passed 11 resolutions seeking "greater ethnic participation," including a 1995 resolution apologizing for its past defense of slavery, but church leaders deemed that insufficient.

"There's a sense

"I haven't decided what to do, but every step I take people are telling me, 'It's your time.'"

Fred Luter, New Orleans pastor and SBC first vice president

that we're behind the curve in the SBC, that we're not really representative of our constituency at the level of leadership; that we need to be moving forward with more diversity," said David Crosby of First Baptist Church of New Orleans.

Convention messengers approved a plan in Phoenix to vigorously reach out to minorities to incorporate them in meaningful leadership positions.

"We're becoming more aware of the fact we should strive to make church on earth look like church in heaven," Akin said in an interview.

Luter's allies portray him as the right man for the job next year, regardless of the denomination's explicit desire to incorporate more people of color into its leadership ranks.

"I think Fred can be elected on merit, regardless of race or color," Akin said. "But he gives us opportunity to make a proactive statement, to say something about who we want to be."

Pastor, church have come a long way

Luter, a gifted preacher, has traveled widely in Southern Baptist circles for almost 20 years and built a solid reputation all across the convention, Crosby said.

In 2001, the last time Southern Baptists convened in New Orleans, Luter was given a plum preaching slot and delivered a tour-de-force sermon that roused 10,000 messengers to their feet.

Luter took over the Franklin Avenue pulpit in 1986. Formerly a white church whose congregation had left for the sub-

urbs, it had only about 60 members and was near death.

At the time, Luter was a commodities clerk, not even formally ordained. His preaching experience was in borrowed churches and street corners, including his native Lower 9th Ward. Luter was ordained and installed as pastor on the same day, he recalled.

The congregation grew. And although it became predominantly black, like its changing neighborhood, it kept its Southern Baptist affiliation.

Franklin Avenue numbered about 7,000 members just before Hurricane Katrina destroyed it in 2005.

In the following months, evangelical pastors around the state sent money and volunteers to help Franklin Avenue get back on its feet. It currently claims about 4,900 members, according to the Louisiana Baptist Convention.

"He's known not only as a great preacher, but an effective pastor. He's worked hard and people love him. He's a model for pastors all over the convention," Crosby said.

In the meantime, Luter said he has been overwhelmed by the sudden attention he has received.

Although a movement to draft him for the presidency had quietly circulated for months, he said he was approached about the vice presidency only a couple of weeks before the convention.

With the elevation to that office, he said, people are congratulating him as if the presidency were a foregone conclusion. "My head's spinning," he said.

"I haven't decided what to do, but every step I take people are telling me, 'It's your time,'" particularly with next year's meeting scheduled for New Orleans, Luter said.

His congregation is in the midst of a major capital campaign to build a new church in eastern New Orleans. He said he would decide whether to seek the presidency after consulting with his church and other leaders. (RNS)

Group perpetrates hoax that claims SBC supports same-sex marriage

Nashville, Tenn.—Southern Baptist Convention officials say they were the victims of a hoax in which a group claiming to be the denomination's Executive Committee announced it had started to support gay marriage.

A website of the "Southern Baptist Convention of America" features a "welcoming and affirming" resolution on homosexuals that it claims was drafted by the committee in an "extraordinary emergency session."

The supposed resolution concludes that "the sanctity of marriage for all unions joined in love under God's grace is holy and should receive marriage rights by the Southern Baptist ministry regardless of sexual orientation."

Roger Oldham, a spokesman for the official SBC Executive Committee, said June 28 the statement is a hoax.

"This is clearly not an action of the Southern Baptist Convention or the Executive Committee," he said. "It is a hoax and we do not know who is perpetrating the hoax."

The sham extended to a phone number listed on a press release that was answered by an "intern" of the "Executive Committee press office." An e-mail sent in response to a phone inquiry announced a press conference at the real Executive Committee's address in Nashville, Tenn. Oldham said the committee did not host such an event.

The hoax was pulled off by a group called the Center for Responsible Christian Living. According to an anonymous spokesperson for the group, which does not have a website, the ruse was intended to "highlight the Southern Baptists' anti-gay stance as both irresponsible and un-Christian."

Gay-rights activists met in an unprecedented meeting with SBC President Bryant Wright during the Southern Baptists' recent annual convention in Phoenix. They reportedly had a civil discussion but Wright maintained the convention's stance that homosexuality is a sin.

Compiled from reporting by Religion News Service and Baptist Press

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BAPTIST DIGEST

4,852 is official SBC tally—The Southern Baptist Convention has released official registration figures for last month's SBC annual meeting in Phoenix. A total of 4,852 messengers were sent by 2,158 churches from 48 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. The registered messenger count was down 56.19 percent—from the 11,075 messengers in Orlando, Fla.—and was the lowest-attended meeting in 67 years. Tennessee had the most messengers in attendance with 389. The next four states in messenger count were Georgia, 360; Texas, 344; North Carolina, 336; and Alabama, 245. Kentucky was just outside the top five with 230 messengers attending.

CBF gets sobering financial report—Sagging financial contributions remain a challenge for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, members of the group's Coordinating Council were told at the CBF General Assembly last month. Current receipts are running at about 82 percent of the \$14.5 million budget for 2010-11. The adopted reduced operating budget of \$12.3 million for 2011-12 is a \$2.2 million drop from this year's budget goal. But if projected trends continue, even that lower figure won't be met, according to finance committee chair Bill McConnell. Year-to-date receipts are "exactly on track to end up where we were last year," he said, at around \$11.9 million. McConnell said CBF staff is functioning on about 89 percent of its budget to compensate for reduced revenue. Despite the negative financial report, CBF meeting attendees celebrated the group's 20th anniversary. The CBF was formed in 1991 by moderately conservative Baptists who disagreed with the conservative shift that was taking place within the Southern Baptist Convention.

SBCV exec Ginn accepts Louisiana pastorate—After three years as executive director of the Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia, Jeff Ginn has accepted the senior pastor position at Istrouma Baptist Church in Baton Rouge, La. Ginn indicated his last day as executive director

will be July 31. Ginn began as executive director in 2008, following Doyle Chauncey, founding executive director of the SBC of Virginia, who retired in 2007 after more than 12 years. During Ginn's tenure, the convention has adopted a Vision 20/20 strategy, with goals of planting 400 churches by 2020 and increasing Cooperative Program giving to SBC causes by 0.25 percent each year.

Missouri foundation files appeal—For a second time, the Missouri Baptist Foundation is seeking to appeal a judge's ruling that could force the institution to return control to the Missouri Baptist Convention. The foundation filed a notice of appeal to the Missouri Court of Appeals June 21. It is the foundation's second attempt to appeal a decision first issued in December that stated the foundation did not have the right to change its charter without MBC approval. The organization appealed in February, but was denied. The MBF claims it did not violate Missouri law or the convention's rights when it amended its charter in 2001 to form a self-electing trustee board. It also claimed the convention lacks standing or legal authority to bring legal action.

Convention partners with National Guard—The Missouri National Guard is reaching out to troops through the Missouri Baptist Convention in an effort to provide yet another layer of support to the state's citizen-soldiers and airmen. Maj. Gen. Stephen Danner, adjutant general of the Missouri National Guard, recently signed a voluntary memorandum of understanding to implement the Partners in Care initiative. Partners in Care helps coordinate support for guardsmen and their families by teaming up with local faith communities like the MBC. The state chaplain's office is working to identify resources churches currently offer and refer troops to those services. Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon said he supports the new partnership and sees the positive impact it will have on troops and their families.

Quality assurance

Ky. Board of Education certifies Oneida for highest non-public school standards

By Dan Stockton, OBI principal

During the 2010-11 academic year, Oneida renewed its 15-year relationship with the Kentucky Non-Public Schools Commission by engaging in the five-year accreditation and certification process. The Kentucky Board of Education participates directly with the Kentucky Non-Public Schools Commission in working to ensure that quality educational programs are offered to students who attend private schools in the state.

KRS 156.160(3) directs that any "private, parochial or church school may voluntarily comply with curriculum, certification and textbook standards established by the Kentucky Board of Education and be certified upon application to the board by such schools."

Educational accreditation is a quality assurance process under which services and operations of educational institutions or programs are evaluated. Since state certification is completely voluntary for private schools, it is an honor and a privilege to be a part of the select group of institutions who have chosen to achieve this highest standard. At its meeting June 8, the Kentucky Board of Education approved OBI's certification, which is effective through June 30, 2016.

The Kentucky Non-Public Schools Commission provides each of its participating schools with the necessary document for the detailed self-study. The comprehensive study, which is comprised of more than 500 pages, requires that each school precisely examine, document and assess 13 major standards.

The most critical standards include:

- OBI's established philosophy and mission.
- The overall governance structure.
- That the personnel are appropriately qualified for the positions in which they work.
- That the educational program has clearly defined and communicated academic expectations.
- That the financial stability of the institution is able to support and maintain the expected learning outcomes of the educational programs.

The overall project takes about 12 months to complete, but the rewards are immensely beneficial to our students. We take humble pride in knowing that our Christ-centered efforts combined with the determination of our students equips them with an outstanding educational experience, which allows them to attend any college, vocational program or join the real-world workforce. Without a diploma from an accredited school, some of these opportunities would be nonexistent.

For OBI, the accreditation and certification process was a productive learning experience. It was an excellent opportunity that allowed all of us to reaffirm our established goals, to determine and continue our sense of direction, and to strengthen the school community for the service of God.

This process provides proof that OBI is a mission-driven school with a real Christian living, learning and working environment in which each of its students—Christian or non-Christian—are challenged diligently to grow mentally, physically, socially and spiritually in order to acquire an "Education for Time and Eternity."

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

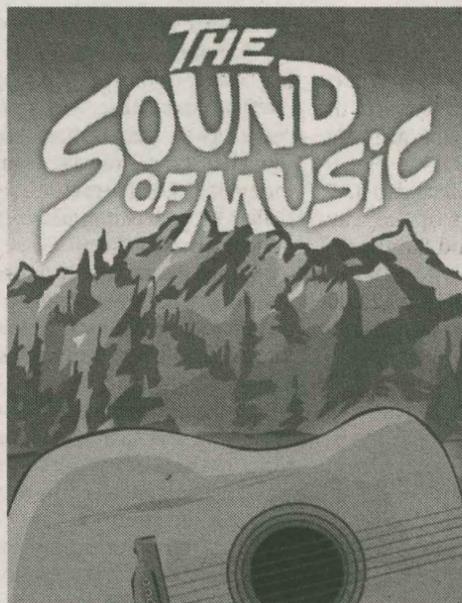
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The traveling nurse

Former student thankful for degree earned at Clear Creek

Since Clear Creek Baptist Bible College is a true Bible college, many people think the school trains only those who are preparing for vocational church ministry. Paul Kirke-minde stands as proof no such limit exists.

Paul is a traveling rural nurse, currently serving in Nevada, who graduated from Clear Creek in 2007 with a bachelor's degree in Christian Service.

Clear Creek doesn't offer nursing classes, but Southeast Kentucky Community & Technical College in Middlesboro does. What Clear Creek does offer is a Bachelor of Arts in Christian Service. This program is for those who may not be headed for vocational church ministry, but still need biblical training for the personal ministry God has given them.

This degree program also allows students who already have trained for a vocation to add the biblical education needed as they serve Christ in the workplace. Some students complete the Christian service degree, then add secular training later. Paul took advantage of this tremendous program but did it the hard way, earning his bachelor's degree at Clear Creek, an associate's

degree in nursing, plus an associate's degree in science in a short three and a half years.

Paul covers a 92,000-square-mile area in rural Nevada (an area two and a half times the size of Kentucky) and he "praises God every day for how He leads me to people who want to hear the word."

Paul's nursing skills and training enable him to pay his bills and help hurting people, but his main purpose is to tell people about Jesus Christ, who saved him and radically changed his life.

"I thank God for Clear Creek Baptist Bible College every day," Paul said. "It was a great atmosphere for learning. Without the help and support of Clear Creek staff, professors and classmates, I would not be where I am today."

Clear Creek Baptist Bible College exists to provide educational preparation for adults called of God to Christian service. That service may be vocational, bivocational or non-vocational—but it is always full time. Just ask Paul.

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

Clear Creek Chronicle



Donnie Fox

Pew survey: U.S. evangelicals say their influence is waning

By Adelle Banks

Washington—Are U.S. evangelicals losing their influence on America?

A recent poll from the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life seems to say just that, with the vast majority—82 percent—of U.S. evangelical leaders saying their influence on the country is declining.

At the same time, their counterparts in Africa, Asia and Latin America are far more optimistic.

“There’s both a huge optimism gap and a huge influence gap in terms of the way these folks perceive things,” said Luis Lugo, director of the Pew Forum.

Researchers surveyed more than 2,000 leaders invited to attend the Lausanne Congress on World Evangelization in Cape Town, South Africa, last year.

S. Douglas Birdsall, executive chair of the Lausanne Movement, said the U.S. pessimism is rooted in a changed culture where Billy Graham has withdrawn from public life and government-sponsored prayer has been banned from public schools for more than a generation.

“There was a time when there was a Ten Commandments in every classroom, there were prayers in public places,” he said. “So having gone from that position of considerable influence, even though we might actually have more influence than churches in ... other parts of the world, the sense is that it’s slipping from our hands.”

The perception of declining influence comes as the nation has become both more pluralistic and more secular. The vast majority of U.S. leaders surveyed—92 percent—called secularism a major threat to evangelical Christianity.

Some evangelical denominations are starting to acknowledge pluralism in hopes of increasing their numbers. The Southern Baptist Convention, which drew the smallest attendance since World War II at its recent annual meeting, and is grappling with declining baptism rates, has launched a plan to diversify its leadership.

Researchers also found that evangelicals are far more pessimistic than their Global South counterparts about the current and future state of evangelicalism.

About half (53 percent) of U.S. leaders said the state of evangelicalism is worse than it was five years ago, and nearly as many (48 percent) said they expect it to grow worse in the next five years.

Birdsall met with 150 Lausanne Movement leaders in Boston last week to map out steps for the next decade. He said topics included a focus on the authenticity and integrity of evangelicals’ image, which sometimes has been besmirched by the moral failures of its leaders and overly influenced by a consumer-oriented culture.

“What can happen is that the minister becomes the communications marketing guru who knows how to appeal to various markets and so you attract people,” he said. “When you do that, you lose your prophetic voice of what it means to challenge people to be in the world but not of the world.”

Researchers found that just 18 percent of those surveyed from the U.S. said religious leaders should stay out of political issues, compared to 78 percent who said they should express their political views.

Historian Mark Noll said there was a cer-

tain level of influence that was taken for granted by evangelicals in past decades, with Graham’s prominence and fewer concerns about political involvement.

“Big churches in medium (and) small places knew that they were important,” said Noll, a historian of American religion at the University of Notre Dame. “And now big churches in big and medium and small places, they may not have that same sense.”

He said successful congregations and ministries continue to thrive in parts of the country, especially locally, but “that local and individual strength doesn’t show up on the evening news.”

Birdsall agreed evangelical influence may have changed, but said it still exists, although perhaps in a different form.

“Though we are losing influence, it doesn’t mean that we are pessimistic about our churches and their role in society,” he said. “They’re having influence in homes. They’re having influence in caring for those who are marginalized, those who are the poor, the oppressed. It may not be as public.” (RNS)

Supreme Court to review obscenity policy

Washington—The U.S. Supreme Court announced June 27 that it will examine whether the Federal Communications Commission has the right to ban “fleetingly expletives” on broadcast TV.

The case will review last year’s decision by the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals that rejected the FCC’s power to regulate the use of expletives and nudity in prime-time television. The FCC fined broadcasters for depicting a woman’s naked buttocks in a 2003 episode of “NYPD Blue.”

The Supreme Court—which sided with the FCC in a similar case in 2009—was urged by the Obama administration to review the decision, while several broadcasters—including Fox, NBC and CBS—petitioned to let the lower court’s decision

remain unchanged.

The Parents Television Council praised the decision to review the case, saying, “Decency has been a fixture of federal law since the dawn of broadcasting, and despite the opinion of the TV networks and three judges in New York, it has not suddenly become an outdated relic.”

The announcement came the same day the justices rejected California’s bid to regulate the sale or rental of violent video games to children. Justices argued the state does not have the power to “restrict the ideas to which children may be exposed.”

The obscenity case is expected to be argued later this year when the court returns from summer recess for its 2011-12 term. (RNS)

Report: Islamophobia on the rise

Berkeley, Calif.—A new report asserts that anti-Muslim prejudice has worsened in recent years, but argues the trend could be reversed with greater community outreach.

The report, released last month by the Council on American-Islamic Relations and the University of California Berkeley’s Center for Race and Gender, said while there are no comprehensive figures to quantify the problem, anti-Muslim discrimination is broken into several categories, including hate crimes, workplace issues, schools, public accommodation, mosque vandalism and religious “profiling.”

“When we say there are campaigns against Islam and Muslims, a lot of people dismiss it as conspiracy theories,” said Ihsan Bagby, a professor of Islamic

studies at the University of Kentucky and a CAIR board member.

“But this proves that there are concerted campaigns against Islam and Muslims.”

Kamran Memon, a civil rights attorney in Chicago who represents Muslims in discrimination cases, said Islamophobia is not “a PR problem that can be solved with good marketing.”

“We need to acknowledge that people have legitimate fears that can only be turned around with serious engagement,” Memon said.

The report defined Islamophobia as “close-minded prejudice against or hatred of Islam and Muslims,” and said it is “not appropriate to label all, or even the majority of those, who question Islam and Muslims as Islamophobes.” (RNS)

Record giving at Crossings Camps

Students set strong example for all believers with Beyond Effect gifts

Money often is a taboo topic of discussion in many churches and Christian circles. Sermons preached on giving sometimes bring low attendance and an unusual amount of squirming by those who have come to worship the Lord, just not in that area of their lives, perhaps.

In an economy that is struggling and when saving is hard, giving might be on the back burner in many Christians’ lives. Yet, we are seeing the opposite to be true in the students we have the privilege of serving this summer. They are ready, eager and willing to give to the Lord for His kingdom.

Students have been challenged at Crossings this year to give toward the Beyond Effect offering. Crossings launched the Beyond Effect in 2009, where we urged students to combine their passions and their burdens in order to share the gospel and make an eternal impact in the lives of the “least of these,” with a particular emphasis on orphan-care ministry.

We have continued to challenge students with the Beyond Effect over the last couple of years and have seen them step up to the plate in amazing ways. The Beyond Effect offering is simply a way for them to

put the money the Lord has given them toward caring for the practical needs of orphans around the world.

The economy may be struggling and pocketbooks may be tight, but the hearts of the students at Crossings are overflowing more than ever with a desire to help orphans in the name of Jesus. We have seen several weeks of camp with record giving. Last year, the largest single offering given at a week of camp exceeded \$8,800. As impressive as that is, we have had weeks of camp this year where students have given more than \$11,400. In fact, students already have given more than \$65,000 to the Beyond Effect offering so far this year.

These students are setting an example in their youth groups for all of us who are watching. They are proving that their religion is pure before God as they care for orphans (James 1:27), giving gladly and sacrificially to God’s kingdom. What kind of an example will we set in return?

Ky. Baptist Assemblies



David Melber

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

Acteens in ‘Blume’ this week

Kentucky Baptist girls experience missions at national conference

This week more than 2,000 Acteens and their leaders are headed to Orlando, Fla., for Blume, the national Acteens conference. Blume is an intense and fun, four-day focus on missions for teenage girls and collegiate young women. And, yes, it will be held at Walt Disney World.

Blume 2011 takes place July 13-16 at Disney’s Coronado Springs Resort. There participants will have personal interactions with missionaries, participate in hands-on ministry projects, and experience dynamic and challenging worship, breakout conferences and Bible studies. Blume also offers a customized learning activity through Disney’s Youth Education Series program, an interactive, cultural experience at Epcot.

The Eliza Broadus Offering will be at work all week helping Kentucky Acteens and leaders attend Blume. Through EBO, Kentucky Woman’s Missionary Union provided 209 scholarships of \$100 per participant. To qualify, churches had to provide proof of a Blume registration for each participant (at a cost of \$299 per person) and proof of subscriptions to the Acteens Leader magazine or The Mag, the Acteens member magazine, equal to the number of re-

quested scholarships. The scholarships are helping churches with transportation and lodging expenses.

Kentucky WMU also will be represented at Blume with a display in the Missions Mania area. It will feature a “Blume Derby” every 30 minutes, as well as a “Call to Post” where participants will receive information about Kentucky missionaries, then use Post-It notes (made in Cynthiana) to post prayers for them. After Blume, we will laminate the posters with the notes and give them to the missionaries.

Because the song “Happy Birthday to You” is from Kentucky, girls who are celebrating birthdays while they are at Blume may stop by the booth for a birthday recognition. An additional part of the Kentucky display will be a photo point where participants can dress up like someone from Kentucky. Costumes include Colonel Sanders, Abraham Lincoln, a Derby attender in a fancy hat, a jockey and others.

Pray for our Kentucky Acteens and leaders as they travel and attend Blume. Pray for receptive hearts to God and the missions message of this event.

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

EBO at Work



Joy Bolton



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- July**
13-16 Blume 2011, Walt Disney World Resort, Orlando, Fla.
23 Disaster Relief Phase I Volunteer Training, Porter Memorial Baptist Church, Lexington.
29-30 Excel WMU Leadership Development Event, Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown.

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

- September**
8 Retired Director of Missions/Spouse Luncheon, Severns Valley Baptist Association Office, Elizabethtown.
10 Super Saturday, Lone Oak First Baptist Church, Paducah; Porter Memorial Baptist Church, Lexington.
10-17 MissionsFEST, Bell County Baptist Association, Middlesboro and Pineville.
17 Super Saturday, Bellevue Baptist Church, Owensboro; First Baptist Church, Prestonsburg.
19-20 Kentucky Baptist Ministers' Golf Tournament, Cherry Blossom Golf & Country Club, Georgetown.
21-23 Missionary Retreat, Mammoth Cave National Park.
23-24 Men's & Women's Chorale and Wind Orchestra Retreat, Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown.
24 Children in Action Day Camp, Buck Creek Baptist Church, Calhoun.
24 Men's Chorale Concert, First Baptist Church, Hodgenville.
28-10/2 Adult Kentucky Changers—East, Louisville.

Chinn named to WMU Foundation board

Birmingham, Ala.—A former Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union president has been named a trustee for the national group's missions funding organization.

Cathy Chinn of Hartford recently was elected to the board of trustees for the WMU Foundation, a nonprofit corporation that provides services to donors who wish to fund missions through WMU. Chinn served as WMU president from 2002-06. She and her husband, George, are Mission Service Corps missionaries who

serve as regional coordinators for Mississippi River Ministry.

"Serving on the WMU Foundation board helps me keep abreast of missional activities all over the world," Chinn said. "Helping to educate folks about how they can be a part of the future of WMU and all it stands for, while supporting national WMU and each state WMU in their work, is a real challenge, but a very worthy endeavor."

Chinn's term on the WMU Foundation board expires in 2015.

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SEEKING: Bivocational pastor for Central Avenue Baptist Church in Elizabethtown, Ky. Must be loving, compassionate, able to work with all ages and willing to lead the church the way God wants it. Desire at least 4-10 years pastoral experience. Send resumé to: Pastor Search Committee, Central Ave. Baptist Church, 401 Central Ave., Elizabethtown, KY 42701.

SEEKING: Bivocational youth minister for Victory Baptist Church in Laurel County. Victory is a fast-growing church that has a special heart for children and youth ministries. Looking for a creative, energetic person who can see kids saved and disciples made. For more information, contact Pastor Brian at (606) 682-1224; or bbond01@windstream.net.

SEEKING: Bivocational minister of music to lead blended worship services and coordinate other music ministries. Victory is a fast-growing church (150-plus) located in London, Ky. Please send resumé to bbond01@windstream.net; or contact Pastor Brian Bond at (606) 682-1224 for more information.

SEEKING: Part-time pianist. Must have experience and demonstrate godly character. Sundays and Wednesdays required. Send resumé 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 minister of worship and music for Central Baptist Church of Bearden (Knoxville) Tenn. Qualified candidates should have a minimum of five years experience as a minister of worship and music, a music degree from an accredited college or university; seminary degree preferred, along with other qualifications. Information, including our church profile and the job description, may be viewed at www.cbcbearden.org under "Resources," then "Employment." Interested individuals may forward a resumé to: Search Committee for Minister of Music and Worship, PO Box 51348, Knoxville, TN 37950-1348; or by e-mail to: musicsearch@cbcbearden.org.

SEEKING: Senior pastor for First Baptist Church, Hodgenville. Resumé now being accepted. Church information may be found at www.fbc.hodgenville.org.

SEEKING: Part-time minister of music. Responsibilities include worship leadership for blended congregation, service preparation, choirs, special events and other services. Resumé will be received by e-mail at douglas.davis85@yahoo.com.

SEEKING: Full-time pastor for Dry Ridge Baptist Church in Dry Ridge, Ky. Dry Ridge Baptist is a Southern Baptist church with 200-plus attending weekly worship services in a fast-growing community in Northern Kentucky. Send resumé to Dry Ridge Baptist Church, PO Box 14, Dry Ridge, KY 41035.

SEEKING: Permanent, part-time pianist for Ballardsville Baptist Church. Individual will share musical gift primarily in two Sunday morning worship services and for Wednesday night choir rehearsals. Applicants should be comfortable playing a variety of Christian music and accompanying vocals with other musicians. If you are committed to Christ and serving Him through music, we would like to meet you. Please send your resumé to: Search Committee-Pianist, Ballardsville Baptist, 4300 S. Hwy 53, Crestwood, KY 40014. (502) 222-9165; www.BBCLife.org.

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

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 resumé, 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 resumé including references to pbcfrankfort@aol.com.

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

MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

- **BEATTYVILLE**—Beattyville Church will celebrate its 150th anniversary July 15-17 with a series of events including a flag-folding ceremony, special music, meals and worship services with KBC Executive Director **Paul Chitwood** and **George Drake**, director of missions for Red River Association, as guest speakers. **Jimmy Overbee** is pastor.
- **ELIZABETHTOWN**—Severns Valley Church will host a Winshape Camps' "Ultimate Day Camp Experience" July 18-22 for children in grades 1-6, featuring sports, arts, Bible study and worship. The cost is \$179. For more information or to register, visit www.SevernsValley.org.
- **HENDERSON**—Airline Church will hold revival services July 15-16, 6:30 p.m.; July 17, 10:45 a.m., with **Bill Patterson**, director of missions for Green Valley Association, as

evangelist. **Rodney Groff** is pastor.

Zion Church will host Green Valley Association's Camp WOW July 18-22. The camp is open to children in grades 3-6, featuring basketball, softball, cheerleading, soccer, non-movement games, crafts and more. The cost is \$50 which includes breakfast and lunch. For more information, call (270) 827-9867.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—St. Matthews Church will hold a basketball skills camp July 19-21 for children in grades K-3. There will be a morning and afternoon session. The cost is \$50. For more information or to register, call (502) 896-8882.

■ **RIDGECREST, N.C.**—Ridgecrest Conference Center will host a staff reunion July 19-21. For more information or to make reservations, call (800) 588-7222 or visit the Ridgecrest staff alumni Facebook page.

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

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

SEEKING: Full-time pastor for Salyersville First Baptist Church. Applications may be obtained by written request 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, address and contact number.

SEEKING: Full-time senior pastor. Send resumé 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: Pastor for First Baptist Church of Providence. Looking for a man who loves Jesus, believes in the inerrancy of God's Word, and doesn't embrace Hyper-Calvanism. Theological education and experience is required. Send resumé, CD to: First Baptist Church, 214 South Broadway, Providence, KY 42450.

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 resumé to PO Box 148, Alexandria, KY 41001; or via e-mail to barbGilb43@gmail.com.

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

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

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Airline Baptists to hold six revivals in one year

Henderson—Airline Baptist Church of Henderson has scheduled six revivals this year. Two have already occurred; one is being held this month, and three more will take place before year's end.

"I've never done anything like this before," said Pastor Rodney Groff. "I've always had one or two revivals a year.

"Even then, I never wanted to schedule a revival just for the sake of saying, 'We've had our annual meeting.' But God spoke to my heart to have six this year," he explained.

"I asked, 'Are You sure, Lord?' The idea was so different that I hesitated to present it to the church," Groff said. "But God impressed upon me that we were to hold six revivals."

The six evangelistic meetings follow a year in which Airline celebrated its 50th anniversary with a jubilee year of celebration services. Former pastors came to preach several times. One Sunday the church recognized its 14 living charter members. The last big event featured Nate Adams, executive director of the Illinois Baptist Convention and son of the late Tom Adams, who was pastor when the church was constituted.

Adams challenged the church to look forward, grow and become more of what God wants it to be. He said Airline had spent a year remembering from where it came and celebrating the past. Now, however, "It is time to look to the future," he said.

Like many churches, Airline grew for several years, hit a peak and for the past several years has experienced a slow decline. Groff said he "got alone with the Lord" and considered carefully Adams' challenge. He felt that one reason Airline and many other churches may

be declining in baptisms is because they were no longer emphasizing revivals like they once did.

With the deacons and church leadership on board, Groff began making calls to find revivalists. He asked evangelists to lead the three crusade-type meetings that would last Sundays through Wednesdays and to use other speakers for the three Friday-through-Sunday night services.

The first meeting was preceded by four Wednesdays of prayer and fasting by the congregation. The church was filled to near capacity for the preaching of Don Mathis of Bowling Green.

Van Yandel led the second meeting, which was more of a teaching-type time of renewal.

In the first two revivals, Airline added six people by professions of faith and baptisms. Two were young adults, two were youth, and two were older children. In addition, the church now averages 15 percent more people in Sunday school and worship attendance than last year, enthusiasm is up, and people have more of a "soul consciousness" than before, Groff noted. Church members now openly talk about others they can invite to church, and a sense of expectancy has returned to worship services, he added.

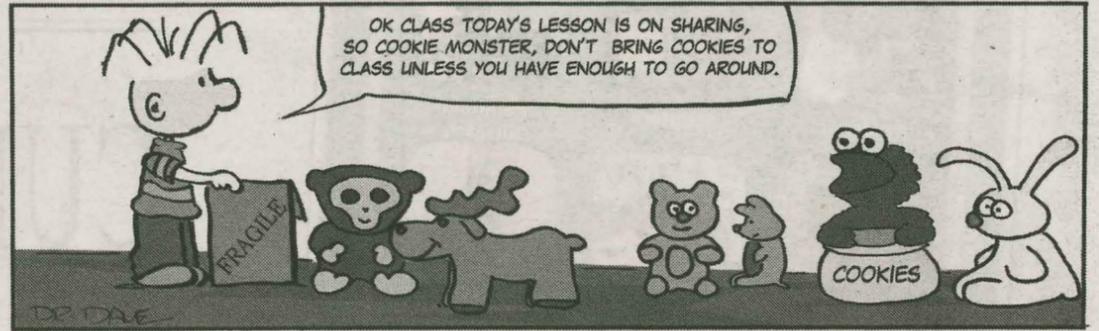
Bill Patterson, director of missions for Green Valley Baptist Association is leading the services this month, and Evangelist Steve Hardy and Alan Witham of the Kentucky Baptist Convention will lead in August and October, respectively.

"I know holding six revivals is unique," Groff said. "The idea came out of the blue—out of the Kingdom Blue. I believe God put it on my heart and He is blessing it."



ALABAMA AID Twenty-three members of Imani Baptist Church in Lexington went on the church's first mission trip on Memorial Day Weekend to Alabama, taking a truck filled with supplies to assist tornado victims in Birmingham, Pratt City and Tuscaloosa. Willis Polk is pastor at Imani.

Preacher's Kids



Joe McKeever



Dennis Daniel

Brother Bloop



Bible Crosswords

By Janet Kennedy

Across

- 1 What the Israelites did in Egypt
- 8 Preposition
- 9 "For the kingdom of heaven is ___ hand" (Matthew 3:2)
- 10 Rural Electrification Administration, abbr.
- 12 Simile preposition
- 13 "And thou shalt make a hanging ... wrought with ___" (Exodus 26:36)
- 17 "And his raiment became ... exceeding white ... so as no ___ can white them (Mark 9:3)
- 18 Inspector General, abbr.
- 20 "Saying (to Philip), ___, we would see Jesus" (John 12:21)
- 22 Each, abbr.
- 23 These people built a house for David (2 Samuel 5:11)
- 28 Railroad, abbr.
- 29 "They ... bought with (the money) the ___ field, to bury strangers in" (Matthew 27:7)
- 30 South Dakota, abbr.
- 31 Institute, abbr.
- 34 "Esau, who is ___" (Genesis 36:1)
- 36 People with the same profession as Simon (Acts 9:43)
- 39 "He that heareth the word, and ___ with joy receiveth it" (Matthew 13:20)
- 40 "Though they be ___ like crimson" (Isaiah 1:18)
- 41 Alcoholics Anonymous, abbr.
- 42 Common Era, abbr.
- 43 Stitching a picture on cloth

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		48	49					50			
		51				52					

- 48 "It is a ___ thing that the king requireth" (Daniel 2:11)
- 50 "He stood by the ___ of Gennesaret" (Luke 5:1)
- 51 Streets, abbr.
- 52 Persons who fill seams or joints so they will not leak
- 24 Revolutions per second, abbr.
- 25 "We are the clay, and thou our ___; and we all are the work of thy hand" (Isaiah 64:8)
- 26 And, Lat.
- 27 A person between 13 and 19
- 32 Measurement at sea, abbr.
- 33 "___ can you see?" (2 words)

Down

- 1 People who work with brass
- 2 Impersonal pronoun
- 3 People who make candies, cake, etc. for sale
- 4 A vegetable which looks similar to spinach
- 5 Repetitive
- 6 An earner
- 7 "Pharaoh was wroth against ... the chief of the ___" (Genesis 40:2)
- 11 More, suffix
- 14 Good; well; true, prefix
- 15 Elevated railroad
- 16 550, Romans num.
- 19 People who grow flowers and vegetables
- 21 Internal Revenue Service, abbr.
- 35 "Why ___ the heathen rage?" (Psalm 2:1)
- 37 "Why make ye this ___, and weep?" (Mark 5:39)
- 38 More scarce
- 39 Alternating current, abbr.
- 40 Rubidium, chem. symbol
- 44 "Jesus ... findeth Philip, and saith unto him, Follow ___" (John 1:43)
- 45 Not well
- 46 A relay type of transportation of men or horses in India
- 47 ___ out: barely making a living
- 49 Preposition showing location or time

Last week's solution

A	B	I	G	A	I	L	L	A	M	P	S
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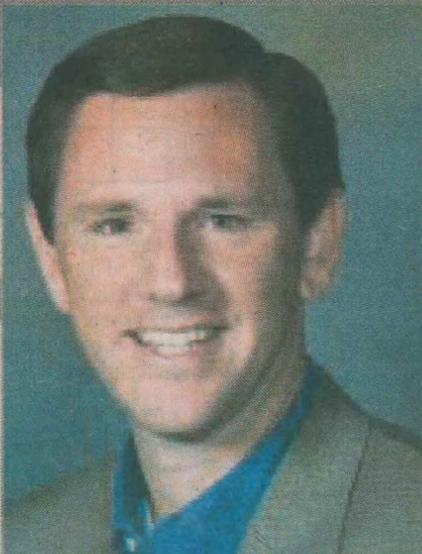
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We congratulate Dr. Paul Chitwood and Dr. Chuck Lawless for their recent election to important ministry roles and assure them of our prayerful support and encouragement!

**Paul Chitwood, PhD.
Class of 1992**

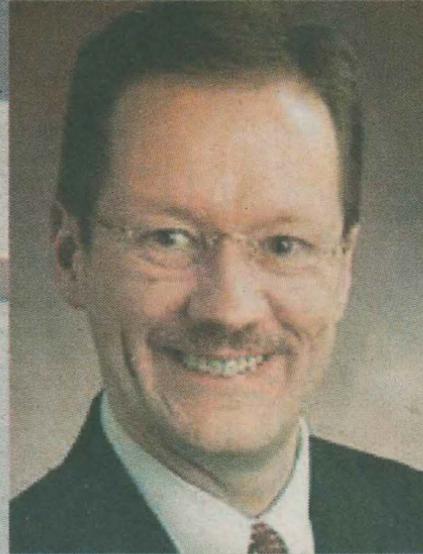
Newly elected Executive
Director Treasurer of the
Kentucky Baptist Convention



"My UC education was a vital part of the foundation I needed in preparation for ministry. I look back with deep appreciation for my time there. I am especially grateful for the men and women who invested their time and energy as instructors in the classroom and in my life's path."

**Chuck Lawless, PhD.
Class of 1985**

Newly elected Vice President for
Global Theological Advance of the
International Mission Board



"God began to grab my heart for global missions while I sat in a History of Christian Missions class in the early 1980s. Traveling to Israel with Professor Milton Murphy, a former SBC missionary, only strengthened my interest. Little did I know then that God was starting a process that would affect the rest of my life."

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