

Shine like stars in the world
Philippians 2:15

WESTERN Recorder

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FOR THE RECORD



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Not slowing down

Busy year for Kentucky disaster relief continues

By Drew Nichter
News Director

Minot, S.D.—Kentucky Baptist disaster relief volunteers continue their work in North Dakota this week, the latest effort in what already has been a busy year for state DR teams.

There currently are 16 Kentucky Baptist volunteers serving in Minot, N.D., which is cleaning up from that city's worst flooding in more than a century. See Kentucky Baptist DR ... Page 2



■ **Above:** Kentucky Baptist disaster relief volunteers remove hundreds of pounds of now-useless wood, carpet and trash from a home in Minot, N.D., which was flooded back in June when the nearby Souris River overflowed its banks. Sixteen Kentucky Baptists are in Minot this week helping residents there recover from the city's worst flooding in more than 130 years. It was reported that more than one-quarter of the city's residents were affected by the floodwaters. Southern Baptist disaster relief teams are working through hundreds of requests for mud-out work at homes in the area. ■ **Right:** Kentucky Baptist DR volunteers Bill Johnson, from Grayson, and George Shanks, from California, get a power washer up and running to do mud-out work at a flooded home. As many as 4,000 homes were filled with floodwater, some with as much as six feet of water on the main floors. Compounding the problem was the fact that the water was slow to recede, taking as long as three weeks. (Photos by Karen Smith)



Making lists & checking them twice

Kids' missions groups encouraged to participate in Christmas in August

By Robin Bass
Partnerships Director

Louisville—It's that time of year again; time to shop for crayons, backpacks and glue sticks.

Also, don't forget the insect repellent, portable heaters, powdered laundry detergent and pre-paid gas cards. Confused yet?

All the items listed above—and many more—make up the wish lists of 20 missionaries selected to be the recipients of Christmas in August. The annual North American Mission Board initiative provides the missionaries with a variety of tools to not only minister to the needy in their communities, but also allow the opportunity to present the good news of Jesus Christ.

During the month of August, children's missions groups are encouraged to help with the restocking effort by prayerfully selecting a missionary and participate in collecting or buying new items on the list.

"I remember when I was in Acteens," said Denise Gardner, office manager with Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union. "We

See Christmas in August ... Page 2



LONDON BURNING The riots now plaguing urban England followed the fatal police shooting of a man in a working-class part of London. Meanwhile, Christians and missionaries are trying to minister amid the chaos. (Photo by Srinavas Kuruganti)

In London, IMB workers reach out during riots

By Trent Parker
International Mission Board

London—As riots, looting and arson continue to plague urban England, International Mission Board missionaries are looking for ways to minister to those residents who are left in the aftermath.

Violence spread from the capital to other cities following the death of Mark Duggan, 29, who was shot and killed by police officers Aug. 4 during an attempted arrest in Tot

See London riots ... Page 6

CU tennis coach carries on mission work in Dominican Republic



HEART FOR MISSIONS Campbellsville University tennis coach Kyle Caven poses with children he met while serving on a mission trip in the Dominican Republic. He has made three trips there in the last year.

By Matt Payton
Campbellsville University

Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic—Many Christians will go their entire lives and bypass opportunities to take an international mission trip.

But Campbellsville University tennis coach Kyle Caven is not one of them. He has seized those opportunities and ventured to the Dominican Republic three times in the last year.

Caven's first trip came last July. At the time, he said there was no way of knowing he would be led to return twice more in a 12-month span. He recently brought back some new experiences after his third visit to the island nation in the Caribbean.

Much of Caven's time in the Dominican Republic was spent in the capital city of Santo Domingo. He served there through a group called SCORE International, a sports ministry that exposes athletes and coaches to short-term missions.

Caven said his first trip to the country was truly an eye-opening experience and that his expectations were different from what he encountered.

"I was expecting it to be really tough,"

he recalled. "I didn't expect the kids to speak English, and I thought they would be poor."

Instead Caven and the team from SCORE were taken to a tennis club, where they coached kids who ranged in age from 5 to 16 years old. "They were more middle to upper class," he said, "but God showed me that these kids need Christ, too."

The pro at the tennis club, Marcial, has been an integral part of all three of Caven's journeys to the island.

"He's just a really good guy," Caven said of Marcial. "He really cares about the kids and he goes out of his way to help kids that he doesn't even coach."

Marcial coaches at a lot of different clubs on the island, so he is in contact with a lot of children. "This time he told us that he has Jesus in his heart, which was really good to hear," Caven recalled.

The Campbellsville tennis coach said during his trips, he had the opportunity to build relationships with the coaches at the club and get to know them. "They were more open with us this time, and we were able to ask them tough questions like had they been going to church," he said.

On the most recent trip, Caven visited Jackie's House, a small orphanage in Santo Domingo. The children who live there range from infants to 15 years old. The team from SCORE took food and other items to the orphanage and ministered to the children there.

The team also had an opportunity to visit a sugar cane village. Many of the workers were Hatians who have migrated to the Dominican Republic since the catastrophic earthquake there in 2010. The team ministered to the villagers and gave them much-needed food.

"You wonder what you can do to help, and yes, you could give money and things, but I realized all I can do is pray and love them," Caven noted.

Caven said it is his hope that he can put together a trip that would allow the Campbellsville tennis teams he coaches to serve abroad.

"It's possible for us to go to Europe. They aren't poor or Third World, but we could still share," Caven explained. "They have club teams that we could play and it may spark a kid that we take (and) take them to another level."

Kentucky Baptist DR

Continued from page 1

century. Two teams are doing mud-out work at residents' homes, while a pair of volunteers are serving with the chaplaincy team.

As always, the disaster relief effort is being coordinated through the North American Mission Board, which has mobilized more than 150 volunteers from 22 state Baptist conventions. The majority of those teams are doing mud-out work; others are manning feeding and laundry units.

Coy Webb, disaster relief associate for the Kentucky Baptist Convention, said volunteers from the bluegrass will remain in North Dakota through the end of the week.

The Dakota response is the seventh this year for Kentucky Baptist teams—all of them since April—and another DR team is set to embark for Japan at the end of the month. A seven-member crew will spend more than a week serving in the country's Iwate Prefecture, an area that was devastated by the March 11 earthquake and resulting tsunami.

The nearly unending calls for DR crews from Kentucky have indeed put a strain on the KBC's Baptist Men on Mission department, which oversees the convention's relief work, Webb said.

"This has stretched us in volunteers and resources," he said, "but I am thankful that God has continued to provide in the midst of this difficult year of disasters."

And provide He has. According to Webb, Kentucky Baptists have stepped up this year in giving more of their time, effort and resources for disaster relief.

In the wake of the deadly tornadoes that ripped through the South and Midwest in the spring, Kentucky Baptist churches designated nearly \$80,000 to DR efforts. That money was used to fund relief work in five states, most notably Alabama and Missouri. An additional \$55,776 has been received from Kentucky Baptists since March for disaster relief efforts in Japan.

Even though the number of churches that are nowhere near record amounts, Webb said Kentucky Baptists' continued support of the disaster relief ministry is encouraging.

"I never cease to be amazed at the generosity and faithfulness of Kentucky Baptists in times of need," he noted.

The recent surge in disaster relief call-outs also resulted in a rush of potential volunteers, Webb pointed out. At a July 23 DR training session in Lexington, more than 300 people attended, nearly 200 of whom were first timers.

This weekend offers another opportunity for disaster relief instruction. A pair of chaplaincy training sessions will be held Aug. 20 and 27 at Lincoln County Baptist Association's office in Stanford. Participants must attend both sessions in order to be certified. For more information, visit www.KyBaptist.org/DR.

The surge is good news for a volunteer corps that often experiences ebbs and flows in participation. In busier years when disasters are particularly prevalent, volunteerism usually will spike. In quieter times, DR participation wanes.

DR volunteers new and old soon may have the opportunity to get involved with a new venture. The KBC currently is in the process of developing a mobile water purification unit.

Webb said the need for the new unit stems from the threat of a massive earthquake that experts say is likely to strike along the New Madrid Fault Line, a seismic zone that includes portions of western Kentucky, some time in the near future.

In recent years, geologists and U.S. government officials have predicted that a 7.7-magnitude earthquake or higher would result in catastrophic damage to areas of as many as 11 states, including Kentucky, and would nearly destroy the cities of St. Louis and Memphis, Tenn.

"We believe this is a critical unit as we continue to seek ways to be better prepared to minister in the probability of a New Madrid earthquake," Webb said.

The water purification unit, which should be operational by mid-2012, "would provide potable water to support our feeding and shower units in times where infrastructure damage causes the unavailability of safe water," he added.

While there are no guarantees about when and where disasters will strike, Webb praised those who unselfishly volunteer their time and energy and are ready to serve at a moment's notice.

"I cannot speak highly enough of the countless Kentucky Baptist volunteers who serve selflessly those left hurting by disasters," he said.



LAUNDRY DAYS Members of the North Carolina shower and laundry disaster relief team drove 1,800 miles and three days to do thousands of loads of laundry since arriving in Minot, N.D. The crew from North Carolina is just one of the dozens of teams from 22 state Baptist conventions currently serving in North Dakota. (Photo by Jim Whitmer/NAMB)

Christmas in August

Continued from page 1

would decorate the sanctuary and put those little paper rings on a Christmas tree. We would write one of the items from the list on each of the rings and the church members would come up and take one."

Gardner said it then was the Acteens' job to package the donations and have them shipped to the missionary.

This year, Kentucky WMU has decided to collect items for missionary Ginger Smith, who is the executive director of Baptist Mission Centers of Houston.

Smith and her staff serve the physical and spiritual needs of inner-city residents through food and clothing distribution, English classes and job-corps training. They also offer ministries for children, teens and senior adults.

"They have had so many hits with the hurricanes and now a drought," Gardner said. "The need is going to be great in Houston."

Along with Smith, NAMB has identified 19 other missionaries who are in need of everyday supplies—including Bessie McPeck, a Kentucky Baptist mission-

ary who ministers through the God's Love from a Diaper Bag organization in Jenkins.

When selecting a missionary for Christmas in August, NAMB recommends children's missions organizations first pray about their decisions and determine where God is leading them to provide assistance. Other tips to remember:

- Tell everyone—church members, neighbors, friends, etc.—about the project. Hand out a list of the items on the missionary's wish list and provide shipping deadline information.

- Send only the items on your missionary's list and send only new items. It's not necessary to send one of everything on the list; just do what can be done.

- When sending the items, include a self-addressed stamped envelope so the missionary can let the group know the gifts were received.

- Do not send the items separately. Boxes may be gift wrapped and then packaged together for easy handling.

- Make sure to use exact postage to ensure delivery.

- Pray for the missionary and the people being served by them. For more information, visit www.NAMB.net/Christmas.

Pastor renews call for clergy abuse database

By Bob Allen

Enid, Okla.—An Oklahoma pastor says the Southern Baptist Convention should reconsider a database to help safeguard churches from clergy who are sexual predators.

Wade Burleson, pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church in Enid, Okla., made a motion at the SBC annual meeting in 2007 calling for a database of Southern Baptist ministers who have been “credibly accused of, personally confessed to, or legally been convicted of sexual harassment or abuse.”



Wade Burleson

After study, leaders ruled the idea unfeasible, saying the convention lacked authority to investigate local churches, which are free to call their own ministers.

Burleson resurfaced the idea Aug. 10 in a blog posting about news of a former youth minister who recently confessed to inappropriate behavior with boys at two of his previous churches.

Burleson said that next to the victims, he feels most sorry for Morrison Heights Baptist Church in Clinton, Miss., caught in a scandal they did not cause. Burleson said he preached at the church in 2004.

“I know the people of Morrison Heights,” he said. “They are some of the finest, kindest, warm-hearted individuals on earth.”

Burleson said if there had been a policy requiring churches to report abuse, Morrison Heights could have contacted the SBC to ask if their candidate was listed. Instead, sources say, John Langworthy was allowed to leave his former church and eventually move on to theirs. He managed to keep his secret for 21 years, until a former colleague at his old church contacted leaders at Morrison Heights about Langworthy’s past.

Burleson said he isn’t sure how the SBC might enforce required reporting by churches, but there would need to be some penalty for non-compliance.

Christa Brown, a victims’ advocate who first approached SBC leaders about a system to prevent clergy abuse in 2006, said asking churches to report is one possibility, but she believes a more common scenario would be reporting by victims or those with knowledge of abuse.

Brown advocates establishment of an office with trained professionals to receive and assess reports of abuse and keep a record of those found credible. If a church knowingly chose to keep a credibly accused abuser in their pulpit, they could conceivably face discipline by the denomination.

“Such denominational review processes are common for clergy abuse allegations in other major faith groups,” Brown said. “If Southern Baptists provided such a process—and if it were truly a safe and welcoming place staffed by trained professionals—there would likely be many more clergy abuse survivors who would bring forward reports of abuse.” (ABP)

New NAMB role seeks to boost ethnic involvement

By Mike Ebert
North American Mission Board

Alpharetta, Ga.—A new role created by the North American Mission Board will help the entity maintain a strong focus on minority ministry needs and facilitate leadership opportunities for minorities throughout SBC life.

NAMB president Kevin Ezell created the role of presidential ambassador for ethnic church relations shortly after messengers at the Southern Baptist Convention in Phoenix voted to approve a recommendation citing the “need to be proactive and intentional in the inclusion of individuals from all ethnic and racial identities within Southern Baptist life.”

“I think messengers sent a clear signal in Phoenix that they want to see a broader spectrum of ethnic involvement in the SBC,” Ezell said. “This new role will help facilitate that.”

Ezell has named Ken Weathersby to fill the role. He most recently served as associate vice president for ethnic mobilization at NAMB. He previously served in leadership positions in NAMB’s church planting and evangelism areas as well. Weathersby also has served with the Tennessee Baptist

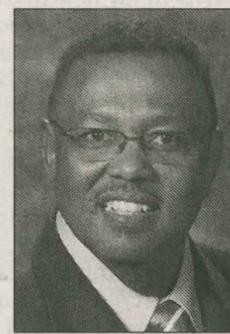
Convention and been pastor of churches in Baton Rouge, La., and Cincinnati.

“All of us need to be doing whatever it takes ... to reach all peoples,” Weathersby said. “So, I’m asking: How can we strengthen what we’re doing? How can we plant more churches? How can we show we value everyone and that we all need to work cooperatively?”

Weathersby’s role will be fully funded by NAMB, but he will spend part of his time working with the SBC Executive Committee as it seeks to implement recommendations made by the Executive Committee’s ethnic study workgroup regarding ethnic involvement in SBC life.

Based on a motion presented at the 2009 SBC annual meeting in Louisville, the Executive Committee workgroup examined “how ethnic churches and ethnic church leaders can be more actively involved in serving the needs of the SBC through cooperative partnership on the national level.”

On Feb. 22, the Executive Committee ap-



Ken Weathersby

proved a 10-part recommendation that was presented at the SBC annual meeting in June. Messengers voted overwhelmingly in favor of the recommendations that asked for greater accountability regarding increased diversity in leadership and participation of ethnics in the SBC.

“I am so excited about this joint endeavor with NAMB in which we will encourage our ethnic brothers and sisters to new levels of cooperation and mission involvement,” said Frank Page, president of the Executive Committee.

Weathersby said a key part of his role will be to forge and strengthen relationships with Southern Baptist ethnic fellowships and hopes that will lead to more ethnic involvement in SBC life.

“As we have more involvement, hopefully we will have more ownership,” Weathersby pointed out. “That includes responsibility and accountability. Promoting our missions offerings and the Cooperative Program and holding up the value of our missionaries—all of these are part of our responsibilities.” (BP)

Barrett, 83, worked to engage Baptists in reaching world

Richmond, Va.—David Barrett, founding editor of the World Christian Encyclopedia, a former research consultant with the Foreign Mission Board, and a pioneer advocate for unreached people groups, died Aug. 4 in Richmond, Va. He was 83.

Barrett, a mathematician who began his career researching aircraft flight design at Britain’s Royal Aircraft Establishment in 1948, began training for the priesthood in the Church of England after the RAE reassigned him to missile and bomb design, according to an obituary posted by the Center for the Study of Global Christianity at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary.

Barrett was appointed to Kenya by the Anglican Church Missionary Society in 1956. After post-graduate studies in the U.S., Barrett returned to Kenya and oversaw research for the Church of England in eastern Africa for 20 years. He then spent more than 10 years compiling and serving as editor of the World Christian Encyclopedia, which was published in 1982.

In 1985, Keith Parks, president of the Foreign (now International) Mission Board, engaged Barrett as a research consultant on the global status of Christianity. When that relationship concluded in 1993, Barrett continued to conduct research on global Christianity through the World Evangelization Research Center, which he founded in 1965, and its successor the Center for the Study of Global Christianity.

David Garrison, the IMB’s global strategist, worked closely with Barrett to present to Southern Baptists the challenge of reaching the world’s unreached peoples. Together they developed the missionary role now known as “strategy coordinator.”

“David Barrett showed us what the whole world looked like through the lens of the Great Commission,” Garrison said. “He showed us how God viewed the world, and particularly the unfinished task. (Barrett) defined for us, for all of us, the boundaries of the ends of the earth. ... Once we saw the tragic plight of more than a billion unreached, unengaged souls, we set out for them with a passion.” (BP)

Pastor Fred Luter says SBC president nomination in 2012 80 percent likely

By Lonnie Wilkey
Tennessee Baptist & Reflector

Rockwood, Tenn.—Ever since his election as first vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention in June, Fred Luter has heard the same question repeatedly: “Will you allow yourself to be nominated as president of the convention next year?”

Luter, senior pastor of Franklin Avenue Baptist Church in New Orleans, heard the question once again in early August prior to speaking at a summer Bible conference at First Baptist Church of Rockwood, Tenn.

Luter offered his standard answer that he is excited people are encouraging him to consider the nomination and that he is praying about the possibility to see if God is leading him in that direction.

But during the course of an interview with the Baptist and Reflector, Luter acknowledged he is about 80 percent leaning toward the idea.

Luter stressed he still is seeking input from close friends, as well as leaders at Franklin Avenue where he has served as pastor for 25 years. He said it would be important to have his church’s support should he decide to allow his name to be placed in nomination.

But Luter also acknowledged that the most important input will come from the homefront.

“I have to have my wife’s input. Elizabeth will probably be the toughest one to convince,” Luter said. “It is an awesome responsibility (to serve as SBC president). I don’t want to take it lightly.”

Social media darling

Luter has given serious thought to the idea, which was supported through Twitter following the annual meeting.

Among those who advocated Luter for the presidency was Union University President David Dockery, who tweeted: “Good day for SBC: 1st VP Fred Luter. Hope he will be elected president next year in New Orleans.”



SBC’S NEXT PRESIDENT? Fred Luter (left), pastor of Franklin Avenue Baptist Church in New Orleans and first vice president of the Southern Baptist Convention, speaks with a fellow pastor at the National African American Fellowship service June 12 in Mesa, Ariz. After receiving much encouragement to submit his name for nomination for SBC president next year, Luter said he is 80 percent sure he will do so.

Luter knows his election as president would be a milestone. He would be the first black president of the Southern Baptist Convention.

“You cannot get around the fact that I am an African-American and we have never had an African-American president,” Luter said.

While it would be a historic vote if he is elected, Luter already has achieved several milestones. He is the first African-American to preach a convention sermon and the first to serve as a trustee of LifeWay Christian Resources. In addition to his current role as first vice president, he also is a former second vice president of the convention.

Luter said he hopes he would be elected based on his accomplishments over the years—if he allows himself to be nominated.

Luter recalled that when he preached the convention sermon, then-SBC President James Merritt was asked if Luter was asked to preach because of his race. He said Merritt replied that the reason he was chosen was “because he was a respected preacher.” (BP)

Connecting partners

Among the key areas I plan to focus upon now that I have begun to serve Kentucky Baptists in my new role are embracing the Great Commission Task Force report, strengthening the relationship between the Kentucky Baptist Convention and local churches and their pastors, and starting new churches. While many other important roles

**Together
We are the KBC**

Paul Chitwood

for the KBC will always exist, these are "opportunity areas" that can help us ensure you of the value of your Cooperative Program investment and, God willing, grow that investment.

I believe a fourth opportunity area to be that of networking and forming new partnerships. If our convention will remain relevant in the future, we must place an even greater emphasis on networking pastors and churches. Getting our pastors connected to one another is the most effective way to introduce them to new ideas and enable the natural process of leaders strengthening leaders to unfold, even "as iron sharpens iron."

Connecting ministers also is very effective at bridging the relational gaps that weaken us. Whether it is the "generation gap," the divide between pastors who espouse a Reformed theology and those who do not, or the animosity between small churches and large churches or rural churches and urban churches, these and other lines of separation we tend to draw between ourselves and others diminish our ability to work together to advance the kingdom. My experience has been that when I get to know leaders who are different from me and begin to understand churches that are different from the ones I have led, I usually find things to appreciate and even lessons to take home. I also have found some valuable relationships.

As I think back on ways our state convention helped me as a pastor, two stand out above the rest. One is the educational opportunity afforded to me through institutions funded by the Cooperative Program, and the other is the networking that was facilitated by various KBC ministries. The latter has convinced me of the need to increase our emphasis on networking.

Another aspect of networking involves enlarging our network by forming new partnerships. To be specific, I hope to appeal to churches in Kentucky that are "Baptistic" in doctrine and practice, inviting them to partner with the KBC. I am firmly convinced that the structure, institutions and agencies of the KBC provide the greatest opportunity to facilitate Great Commission work. I especially believe that many existing ethnic and African-American churches, if shown the value of our partnership, would soon be ready to join our convention.

To that end, if you know of any church that fits the description of being "Baptistic" in doctrine and practice that would make a good partner in our work, contact me by email at paul.chitwood@kybaptist.org or by phone at 866-489-3369.

Paul Chitwood is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

More hay bales and less fried chicken

Among the dozens and dozens of stories that an editor typically reads each week, some will inevitably catch one's eye because they delight, amuse or astound by their profoundness and simplicity of solution. There were two such gems in this past week's news offerings.

The first story comes out of southeastern Louisiana, where an anonymous Baptist rancher, disturbed by the graphic images on television of tremendous hardship being caused by extreme drought across most of Texas, organized a hay lift to help save the cattle of some ranchers there. He saw some extra bales in his own barn, wondered if other ranchers in the area also had some, made a few phone calls, and soon was loading wagons and trailers bound for the Longhorn State. Admittedly, it is a small operation, but one Christian saw someone else in need and felt he should do something—and those whom he helps are no doubt very grateful. A Good Samaritan in action!

"I was at home, watching the news, and you could see how bad it (the drought) was out there. ... Then I left my house and as I was driving I saw leftover hay from last year in a barn. That's when it hit me: Why don't I find out how many barns have leftover hay they'd donate?" the member of Woodland Park Baptist Church in Hammond, La., humbly recounted to Karen Willoughby of the Louisiana Baptist Message. "From there it just took off. I started calling Baptist churches in Texas to see who had need, and that's how it started."

But wait until you hear what was behind this compassionate deed: "I love missions and wanted to help." The farmer, who retired from the Louisiana Department of Transportation, recently went to El Salvador on a medical mission trip, to Kentucky for a construction project, and to northern Mississippi for a tornado relief effort. He also organized a chainsaw unit for the local Baptist association's disaster relief ministry. Being involved in missions obviously has a transformational impact on one's outlook.

"That's what this (hay lift) is all about—helping people in the name of Jesus," the rancher simply stated. Wow! When we read a newspaper or watch a nightly news report, how many of us see ourselves as the answer to someone else's prayer? Do we see the tremen-

dous potential for ministry presented to us every day to share the love of Christ with others?

The second story comes out of northwest Mississippi, where a Baptist pastor, according to Reuters, has apparently "stirred a bit of controversy" by banning fried chicken. What? Surely not!

To a preacher's son who grew up in a small town in the deep South, this is plain anathema. Fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, buttered biscuits and a pitcher of sweet tea were an eagerly anticipated, standard Sunday fare. Why, it just wasn't Sunday unless a fried chicken leg was on my plate. A potluck dinner at church without fried chicken? This is sheer madness!

But maybe it's also why my doctor is after me now to lose at least 20 pounds. Therein lies the reasoning behind this pastor's seemingly rash insanity. Convinced of a growing need to fight obesity—particularly in the South—Pastor Michael Minor is urging fellow African-American congregations to make the health of church members a priority, according to Reuters reporter Colleen Jenkins. "Our bodies are not our own. They're a gift from God," he said. "We should do a better job with our bodies."

Minor makes a major theological point, and churches can play a key role: "Public health experts say faith communities, with their long records of tending to the sick and driving social change, are in a unique position to help tackle the obesity epidemic and the severe health problems associated with it," Jenkins wrote. In the article, Victor Sutton of Mississippi's state health department, observed: "Sometimes you can have a doctor tell someone something, and they'll blow it off. A pastor can tell someone what to do and they'll take it as a scientific fact."

At Minor's church, a walking track now circles the parking lot, water has replaced soft drinks at meals, and physical activities are encouraged at picnics. And, even though the switch from fried to baked chicken was "a traumatic time" for some, Minors said, "We've got members who are feeling better, looking better."

Point well taken. We Baptists could probably do with a little less fried chicken now and then and a little more exercise ... just please don't touch my sweet tea. That's where I draw the line!

**After
Thought**

By Todd Deaton

Be aware!

There are those among us who are creeping in whose purpose is to "reform our churches." The sad thing is that when they become pastors, they do not publicly let the churches know of their intentions, but privately work to bring it about.

Years ago, a church search committee seeking a pastor never considered asking people if they believed in the inerrancy of Scripture because they thought a preacher would surely believe in the Word of God. Today, a search committee never thought they would have to ask the question: Was Jesus' atonement for sin for the whole world or just a select few? Are some predestined for heaven and others predestined for hell, and they never really have a choice in the matter?

A search committee also never thought they would be asking: Is it your plan in the future to lead this church into becoming an elder-led church? By the way, this has not been Baptist church polity.

For those seeking to lead a church, it is up to you if you want to believe in Calvinism, but at least be honest with the church you are talking to about what you believe. If you have an agenda that you know is dif-

ferent from the church to which you are talking, let them know up front and don't split the church in the future. Churches, be aware! Learn to ask the right questions.

Mark Payton
Louisville**Reason for decline?**

How long will it take for the leadership of the convention and members of our churches to admit that the "theological cleansing" and disenfranchisement of "so-called liberals" and most moderates is not resulting in the growth, unity and peace that was promised.

According to reports at the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Phoenix, there is a serious decline in most categories that determine the vitality of our churches and convention: baptisms, worship attendance, Sunday School and missions education. Attendance at the annual meeting was less than 5,000—the lowest in 65 years! What a contrast to the 60s and 70s when the average attendance was 16,000 to 18,000! No reason for concern?

Is it true? Bill Harrell, former chairman of the SBC Executive

Committee stated recently in the Baptist Today journal that Southern Seminary is a "breeding ground for an 'army' of Calvinists." He went on to say, "I cannot support entities which have Calvinism as their agenda and are using it as a tool to take the SBC into a theological model with which 95 percent of the people in the SBC disagree." Harold Hunter, president of Trinity College and Theological Seminary, was quoted in the June 28 issue of the Western Recorder as saying at the Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists, "Calvinism is a big problem in our country and among Christians."

Could it be that there is a direct correlation between Calvinistic theology and the decline in professions of faith and baptisms? It is evident that there is a desperate need for our pastors and state papers to address these issues.

Ernest Martin
Danville

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Do you have a biblical understanding of time?

By Jeff Iorg

For many leaders, complaints about not having enough time are about as common as breathing. Yet, God isn't a harsh taskmaster, making unreasonable demands or giving us more to accomplish than there is time to do it. Let's consider the issue of time management for leaders. Let's start, not with learning how to program an electronic calendar, but with developing a theology of time. In summary, what does God say about time?

First, God invented time and called it good. God demarcated days and nights as part of his creative work and called the result—time—good (Genesis 1:3-5, 31). Time was part of the pre-Fall creation, thus time is good! This means time isn't your enemy. There is nothing sinful or evil about time. So get over making so many negative comments about stress, fatigue and hurry caused by a "diabolical force" called time.

Second, God established the time of your life. God placed you at the appropriate time in human history (Psalm 139:16). Your birth was perfectly timed for you to be part of this generation. Stop complaining about the times you live in. One friend repeatedly told me, "I was born about a hundred years too late" as he longed for a supposedly simpler, more moral era. My friend was not untimely born. He was born at the precise time God intended ... and so were you.

Third, related to number two, God's plan for your life also includes appropriate timing. He has a timetable for you. Your most productive life isn't life lived "in a hurry." Your most productive life is life lived in pace with God's

plans. Jesus' birth came at the fullness of time, paraphrased "when the times were ripe" (Galatians 4:4). God's timing is always perfect.

Fourth, God has called us to the stewardship of time. He instructs us to "redeem the time" (Ephesians 5:15-16). This doesn't mean life is a frenetic contest to see who can get the most done. Redeem the time means to make the most of it, to use time most wisely. Sometimes, the best use of time is rest, vacation, reading to a child, walking a beach with your wife or enjoying a beautiful sunset. Redeeming time means making responsible choices to make the most of the time you have, not just checking things off your to-do list.

Finally, God models a pattern of time use for His people (and expects them to follow it). The pattern is simple—work six days, rest one day (Genesis 2:2, Exodus 20:8-11). Sabbath rest is setting aside one day each week without work (without advancing your own cause). Doing this requires faith God can do more through you in six days than you can do in seven.

There are other types of "rest" mentioned in the Bible. There is the rest in the land of Canaan (Joshua 1:13) and three annual week-long rests associated with Jewish feasts and festivals. There was also rest associated with the Year of Jubilee. In the New Testament, there is of course the rest we have as believers in Jesus. Clearly, God intends His people to follow a pattern of work and rest.

So, here's a summary of a Theology of Time. God invented time and called it good. He places us at the right time in history and has appropriate timing for events in our lives. We are responsible to use time wisely, including following God's pattern for work and rest. So, let's celebrate the gift of time and make managing it a positive part of our leadership role. (BP)

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

"Redeeming time means making responsible choices to make the most of the time you have, not just checking things off your to-do list."

Reviewing homeowners insurance

By Don Spencer

Last month I referred to many people taking a laissez-faire approach to insurance. The bill arrives and you pay it with little or no thought to reviewing the coverage and premiums. This may not be good stewardship. This month I offer a few things to be considered when you get your next home insurance bill.

A typical home insurance policy covers three areas: structures, contents and liability.

There are three areas where it unfortunately takes a significant loss before most people get in touch with these issues:

1. Some things are excluded from coverage. Home insurance provides protection in the event of loss or damage due to an emergency or disaster. Make sure you know what's excluded before there is a loss.

2. There are limits to the amount of coverage. Again, know what your limits are. Too often, insurance consumers are looking at the benefits without seeing the reality of the limits.

3. There is a major difference between "actual cash value" vs. "replacement costs." Typically there is a clause in the policy that describes your coverage. For example, it may state that as long as the dwelling is insured for at least 80 percent of the actual value, losses will be covered for "replacement costs"—up to policy limits. Again, know what your policy covers.

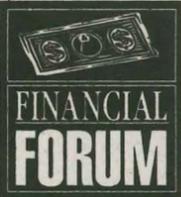
Homeowner policies typically come in one of seven standardized forms. For most people who own their own, an HO-3 policy is used. Renters usually use an HO-4 policy that covers personal property and liability but not the structure.

Are damages from things like earthquakes, floods, power failure, war, nuclear hazard, earth movement, or pets covered? If not, should they be? If so, many of these coverages can be added through a "rider." High values items in the home often need a "rider" as well.

When you experience a loss and have a possible insurance claim, knowledge is your best defense. Knowing exactly what your homeowners policy covers and excludes is critical and it helps you determine whether you need to purchase additional special coverage for your circumstances.

Know your coverage! Know your limits! Know your exclusions!

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



Four steps to encourage a church planter

By Diana Davis

It can be lonely out there. When a new church is begun, its pastor may sometimes feel isolated, especially during the initial months.

Planting new churches is a high priority for Southern Baptists, who are committed to planting record numbers of them, especially in highly populated, under-reached cities. Your small encouragements could make a huge difference to a church planter in North America.

As a member of a Southern Baptist church, you are already involved in church planting since your church's contributions through the Cooperative Program and Annie Armstrong offering helped support more than 750 new church plants just last year.

Would you go a step further and personally encourage one church planter? Here are a few tips:

1. Find one.

Be intentional about knowing and befriending a church planter and his family. If your church sponsors a new church, intentionally get to know that planting pastor. Otherwise, ask your pastor or a denominational leader to recommend a church planter you can encourage. You can meet planters face-to-face at your state or national Baptist convention.

Click "mobilize me" or study the online church planter map at www.namb.net, then prayerfully select one and initiate a friendship by email.

2. Be an encourager.

Whether that new church is across town or across the country, faithfully

demonstrate your personal interest and support. Study its newsletter, blog or website.

Give relational support. Let the church planter and his family know you care. Send email encouragements. Take him to lunch. Ask how things are going and how you

can pray for him. Listen well to discover needs and opportunities. Offer practical advice when asked. Be available if he needs you. Brainstorm with him. Enthusiastically praise God for blessings and pray with the planter about challenges.

Give prayer support. Pray for the planter weekly at a specific time, i.e. Tuesdays at 8 a.m. Inform him of your prayer commitment. Send a note to remind him that you pray. Your personal encouragement may be the fire that reignites a church planter's joy.

3. Share your resources.

Has God gifted you with things that could be shared to help the church? Could they use your home for a Bible study? Your pool for a fellowship? Your lake home for a planning retreat or pastor getaway? Loan your tent or trailer for an event. Connect Christian friends who might offer aid, such as a banker, carpenter or accountant.

Share monetarily. Your tithe, of course, is given to your local church, but God may prompt you to give an additional monthly offering, like \$20 or \$200, to a church plant. Consider a one-time offering for a specific item, like a coffee pot, advertisement, or a down payment for land. Do they need Bibles, audiovisual equipment or fur-

niture? Could you organize a garage sale to fund a church sign or musical equipment?

Encourage the planter pastor with a bookstore gift certificate or scholarship to attend a conference, Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting, or seminary class. Do something for his family.

4. Share yourself.

Show your personal support by visiting the new church's worship service occasionally. Make a special effort to attend its constitution service or groundbreaking event.

Offer your skills and talents. Can you design a website, build a wall, make outreach visits or repair a toilet? Are you a gifted musician or an experienced Vacation Bible School teacher? Can you clean, organize, paint or type? If the church is in another state, can you organize a mission trip for an outreach event, survey or building project? Could your vocation or hobby be used to help the church?

A new church needs a quality core group. If God leads, would you relocate to the church plant area to help for a few years or months? If your employment can be done from any location, could you serve as a Bible teacher or greeter or technical support person? Could you invest retirement years there? If God calls you, He'll provide a way.

As your church and denomination send new church planters, will you personally encourage just one of them? (BP)

Diana Davis is an author, speaker and wife of the North American Mission Board vice president for the Midwest region.

Is church important to family?

By David Garrard

The numbers are stunning and disappointing, but not all that surprising if you are a Sunday School teacher: 100, 100, 10, 58, 74, 22, 86, 68, 38, 8, 86, 40, 66 and 96. These percentages represent the attendance of each child in one of my Sunday School classes. The overall average is right at 50 percent. Most of these kids show up for the fun stuff—VBS, summer camp, fall retreat—but Sundays are a different story.

One of the boys was trying to understand what it means to be a Christian, but he was only in Sunday School five times the entire year. One of my kids had lots of questions about God and heaven and the Christian life, but she was only in Bible study 22 percent of the time. One of my moms said her daughter has trouble connecting with the other girls at church, but she had only been twice in the past three months.

Questions: Would you allow your child to only attend school 80 percent of the time? Would you let your child miss a third of their ball practices or games? Would you be satisfied if your child brushed her teeth once a week?

As you ponder all of this, remember that children and preteens don't drive. That probably means mom and dad aren't making it to church regularly either. And, if parents and children are missing Sunday School, they are most likely also missing worship.

True, going to church won't make you a Christian. However, it can help you live like one ... but you have to show up.

Bottom line: How important is church to your family? What are you teaching your children about the importance of Bible study and worship? Does the spiritual development of your child receive as much priority in your home as their educational, athletic and social success? What are your numbers?

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



'Amazing' impact

Rebuild Haiti on target to complete 2,500 homes by end of March 2012

By Mark Kelly
Baptist Global Response

Port-au-Prince, Haiti—Rebuild Haiti, the joint Southern Baptist disaster relief initiative launched in the aftermath of the massive January 2010 earthquake, will have built 1,982 houses by the end of November and has 560 more in the pipeline before the scheduled exit date in March 2012.

"Southern Baptists should heartily celebrate what has been accomplished in Haiti," said Jeff Palmer, executive director of

Baptist Global Response, one of the key partners in the Rebuild Haiti alliance.

"It is amazing what has happened in such a short period of time, but there are still thousands of people living in tents and much to be done."

Rebuild Haiti is a cooperative venture that involves Haitian Baptists, the International Mission Board, the Florida Baptist Convention and Southern Baptist Disaster Relief.

In the past 18 months, Southern Bap-



NEW HOMES, NEW LIVES Rebuild Haiti will have constructed 1,982 houses by the end of November and has 560 more in the pipeline before the scheduled exit date in March 2012. (BGR photo)

tists have invested more than \$4.5 million in assisting survivors of the earthquake. Besides building houses, the disaster response effort has included feeding programs, medical clinics, school assistance, beds for 2,200 orphans and prosthetics fabrication, as well as many other projects.

Baptist volunteers from Ecuador, Dominican Republic, Dominica and Grenada also have worked alongside U.S. and Haitian volunteers.

Building up Haitians, communities

The goal of the home construction campaign has not been just to build houses, but rather to build up Haitians and their communities, said David Brown, who with his wife, Jo, directs BGR work in the Americas.

"About 50 Haitians have been trained and employed as supervisors on job sites. Each of these has been training two assistants," Brown said. "As a result of community transformation, small businesses have been created to meet construction supply needs and transportation of those supplies.

Small diners and shops have sprung up to provide daily necessities. The impact of Rebuild Haiti will be felt for generations to come."

Meanwhile, home construction has been coordinated in about 30 communities, Brown pointed out.

Southern Baptist workers who have endured the heat and hardships of post-earthquake Haiti can find satisfaction in knowing their efforts have made a difference for thousands of Haitians, Palmer noted.

"We are, however, still entertaining volunteer teams who are interested in helping in Haiti, but we are asking them to diversify into other activities," Palmer explained.

"There are needs in the medical and health care areas, as well as for water wells," he noted. "We are working on some poultry/farming projects with an orphanage to help them become self-sufficient. There's an enormous amount of work yet to be done to help people in these communities get their lives back on track and experience the love of Christ for themselves."



DANGEROUS SITUATION As riots and looting spread from London to other cities in England, International Mission Board missionaries are seeking ways to reach out to their neighbors with help and the gospel. (Photo by Srinavas Kuruganti)

London riots

Continued from page 1

tenham, a working-class district in north London where race riots erupted in 1985.

Duggan's friends and family gathered at a Tottenham police station for a peaceful protest Aug. 6, but about 300 people joined the demonstration, which soon turned ugly.

"It was to be a peaceful demonstration against the police that turned violent," said Paul Machaka, a Zimbabwean immigrant who moved to England in 2001. "What I'm seeing are racial tensions, and people are taking advantage of the situation to unleash their anger."

In the midst of the chaos, IMB workers are taking the opportunity to reach out to neighbors and communities affected by the violence.

"London is usually an incredibly safe city, but these riots bring to light the nature of sin in all humanity," said a Southern Baptist missionary serving in the city. "Please pray that out of these shocking circumstances people will hear and understand the gospel."

There is widespread debate whether race or class issues sparked the riots. Some say the destruction reflects anger among the poor over suffering caused by the struggling global economy and harsh economic austerity measures now being implemented by the British government. Others say young thugs have seized on the situation to carry out mindless violence and looting.

"A lot of it now is just hooligans and

gangs set out to loot and destroy," said Machaka, a resident of Croyden, a London area hit hard by rioting and destruction. "But people are praying, and that is a good thing. Prayer brings about change. People can try to take the situation into their own hands, but at the end of the day they can't create real change. Real change comes from God. Answers are found in Him."

An IMB missionary couple who help lead an ongoing prayer unity movement in north London, said in a communiqué that the violence "has been a frightening experience for people, especially within the immigrant community."

"Christians in these communities are trying to give hope, but that hope needs to be coupled with tangible help, whether that is working to clean up areas or walking alongside these kids."

Homes and businesses have been ransacked and burned in parts of London, Birmingham, Nottingham, Liverpool and Bristol. British authorities are taking measures to stop the unrest and are cleaning up streets strewn with debris.

"People in London, especially immigrants, might become more open to the gospel because of their constant state of fear," said an IMB worker serving in the area. "This event has opened up a powder keg of pent-up frustration. There is a very real sense of hopelessness about the future among the young people of Britain."

"This is a time when people could turn to the Lord and seek something that man and the government cannot provide." (BP)

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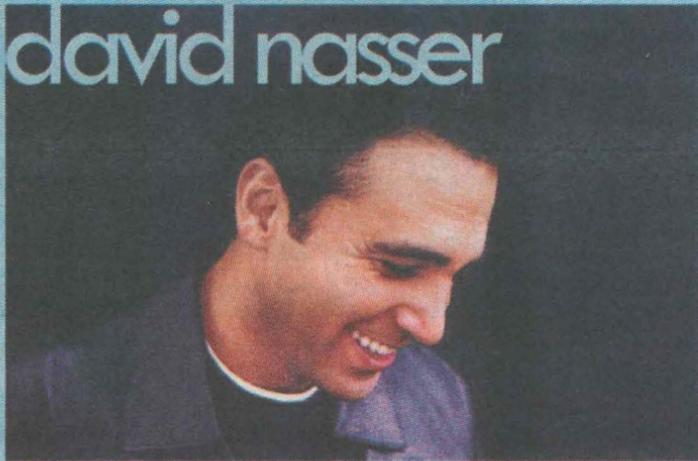
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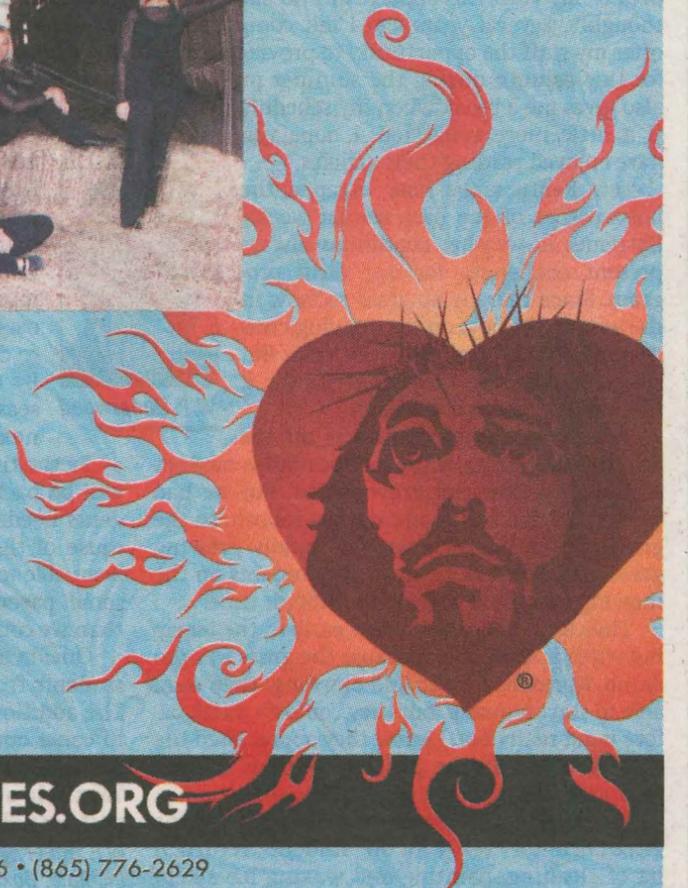


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Study reveals worldwide uptick in hostility toward religion

By Mark Kelly

Washington—Social hostilities relating to religion or government restrictions on religion rose substantially for more than 2.2 billion people—nearly a third of the world's population—between 2006 and 2009, according to a new study released by Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion and Public Life.

While social hostilities rose most noticeably in Europe, the study also found that social hostilities involving religion have risen significantly in China, Thailand and Vietnam, according to a summary of the research released last week.

Much of the tension in Europe centered around the region's rapidly growing Muslim population, but in some cases reflected rising anti-Semitism and antagonism toward minorities such as Jehovah's Witnesses, the report noted.

Richard Land, president of the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, called the study's findings unsurprising and noted that Christians are persecuted in greater proportions than any other religious group worldwide.

"These dismal research results are not surprising but instead (are) the acceleration of a downward spiral that has been going on for more than a decade," Land told Baptist Press. "Religious freedom around the world is in decline from Russia to Africa, almost everywhere in the Middle East and in Asia. It's caused great concern for all freedom-loving people."

"Christians should be praying for their brothers and sisters who are undergoing persecution around the world," Land urged. "And it is Christians who are disproportionately being persecuted."

Five of the 10 countries that registered substantial increases in social hostilities were in Europe: Bulgaria, Denmark, Russia, Sweden and the United Kingdom, accord-

ing to the report. Nearly one-third of the countries in the Middle East/North Africa region saw increased government restrictions on religion, the report stated. Egypt ranked in the top 5 percent of all countries on both government restrictions and social hostilities involving religion. Indonesia was the only other country in the world that had scores as high as Egypt on both measures.

"Polarization" of prohibitions

Most of the countries that had substantial increases in social hostilities or government restrictions involving religion al-

ready had high levels, the report noted. Nearly half the countries that substantially decreased in restrictions or hostilities already registered low levels.

That suggests a shift in which restrictions are getting higher in countries where they already were relatively high, while restrictions are decreasing in countries where they already were relatively low, the report said.

"There seems to be somewhat of a polarization," particularly in countries with constitutional prohibitions against blasphemy, Brian Grim, the study's primary researcher, told Religion News Service. "When you

have one set of restrictions in place, then it's easier to add on."

Christians faced incidents of either social or government harassment in 130 countries (66 percent) and Muslims experienced persecution in 117 countries (59 percent). Hindus and Buddhists faced harassment in far fewer places—14 percent and 8 percent, respectively—even though together they account for roughly one-fifth of the world's population. Although Jews comprise less than 1 percent of the world's population, social or government harassment of them was reported in 38 percent of the world's countries. (BP)



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Hello again

Summer heat has made life somewhat difficult for Oneida students, volunteers

Faithful readers of this column know that for the past two months I have given several members of my staff the opportunity to share their thoughts. Several years ago I felt compelled to offer my staff the opportunity to provide articles for this column during the summer months. It also gives me a break when my schedule is a little more congested. I hope you have enjoyed reading their articles.

Few Kentuckians have escaped the hot weather of the past several weeks. Extremes in weather conditions always present challenges for our farm program. Since there is no grass to mow in the winter, the boys on the mowing crew do not have to deal with the cold. But bless their hearts, they make up for it when it is as hot as it has been.

Adding to the problem was all the rain in July. Normally the July rainfall is modest, so the grass does not grow as fast. But we had more than five inches of rain last month, so the grass grew a lot. Between the rapidly growing grass and the extreme heat, the students on the mowing crew have had a very difficult time.

They were not able to mow early in the morning when it was cooler because the grass was too damp. Normally, about mid-morning, they were able to start mowing, but they couldn't finish before it got really hot. I know they appreciated the extra breaks and the gallons of water, but the heat still made their jobs very difficult.

Several of our girls have been busy getting the girls' dormitory ready for our students' return. A lot of cleaning, painting and waxing have kept the girls busy. Hopefully the returning students

will appreciate all the extra work the girls have done to make everything spic and span.

The volunteers also have had a difficult time dealing with the heat. We've tried to provide as many inside projects as possible, but some of the outside work simply couldn't be avoided. While we were careful to make sure our volunteers never got overheated, it still was a challenge. The number and size of the groups will decrease in August and September.

This is Oneida



W.F. Underwood

With all of our students back, there are fewer projects for our volunteers. However, October has become the most popular month for volunteers. That has happened in no small part because of the weather. June and July used to be the most popular months for volunteers, but over the years, many groups have chosen to come later when the weather is nicer. By the first of November, the volunteer season will be drawing to a close until next spring when it starts all over again.

By the time you read this article our students will be back for the fall term. Many of our students needed additional financial assistance because of the faltering economy. While we have been able to meet nearly all reasonable requests, some parents have asked for more assistance than we could provide.

Oneida always has been very generous to our students from low- and middle-income families. The additional assistance our students need has to come out of our general funds since our students do not qualify for federal loans and grants. Your help and support make that additional support possible. Thank you!

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

In the center of God's will

First-year student following call to pursue missions study

First-year Clear Creek student Amanda Payne has only been married to her husband since 2008, but things have changed so much for them since then.

"My husband, Daniel, just graduated from Clear Creek last year," Amanda said. "He commuted to campus the last three years of his time at Clear Creek while he served as youth minister at Farmersville First Baptist Church in Farmersville, Ohio."

"Last summer I got a chance to go to Cambodia and work with an organization called RAPHA House. This is a house for girls in Cambodia who have been forced into human trafficking. It was a huge experience for me."

"The trip just confirmed for me the calling God laid on my heart when I was 14," Amanda recalled. "I have always had missions on my heart since I was a young girl. I took several mission trips here in the states. After the trip to Cambodia though, I knew God was affirming His call to missions on my life."

"I knew I needed to go to school, but I really didn't know where God wanted me to go," she said. "Daniel had graduated and we were living

in Ohio, so I thought I would find a school close to our home. I began to look at some schools and God just shut the door."

"Since my husband came to Clear Creek, we began to pray about coming here," she noted. "After we prayed about it, God began to show us that Clear Creek was the place we needed to be. So, Daniel resigned his position at the church and we moved to campus last year so I could study for my degree in missions."

The Paynes had another big change in their lives this past year; they recently had their first child during Amanda's first year at Clear Creek.

"God put a sense of urgency in my heart about being in the center of His will when we found out I was pregnant right before we came to Clear Creek," Amanda recalled. "As we brought this baby into the world, I wanted to make sure I was right where God wanted me to be. We both know Clear Creek is where that is supposed to be."

Clear Creek Chronicle



Donnie Fox

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.cccb.edu; e-mail: dfox@ccb.edu

STOCK MARKET

GuideStone to investors: Keep long-term goals in perspective

Dallas—Even in the midst of the recently volatile markets, properly allocated retirement investors are being advised to maintain their investment strategies, according to officials at GuideStone Financial Resources.

Although it is always prudent to review one's investments periodically, making changes in volatile markets can lead to emotional mistakes, GuideStone officials noted.

"Our retirement-plan participants should always keep the long-term view first and foremost," GuideStone President O.S. Hawkins said. "It's easy to allow disturbing headlines to cloud our judgment. In all times—but especially times like these—the important thing is for investors to remain rational, consider their financial goals and to avoid making decisions guided by emotion."

Whether the market is up or down, GuideStone officials point to three key areas that can help investors make decisions about how to handle their investments:

- Focus on objectives not emotions.
- Avoid making impulsive decisions.
- Maintain realistic expectations about market behavior.

"We never know what the future holds," Hawkins said. "What we can do is look at history and see that investors who maintained a consistent investment discipline and did not make rash decisions almost always come out better off than those who changed direction every time the economic winds moved."

States scramble to find prison chaplains after cuts

By Yonat Shimron & Adelle Banks

Raleigh, N.C.—In the two months since North Carolina's legislature laid off most of its prison chaplains, Betty Brown, director of prison chaplaincy services, has been crisscrossing the state searching for volunteers who can attend to the religious needs of prisoners.

State legislators had assumed volunteer ministries would jump in and help prisoners meet the devotional needs of their faiths. But so far, that hasn't happened.

"It's been tough locating volunteers," said Brown, whose department lost 26 full-time prison chaplains as part of an effort to close a \$2.6 billion state budget gap.

Across the nation, religious life behind bars is changing as correctional departments face budget cuts along with other state agencies. Some states like North Carolina have seen outright cuts. In other states, vacancies due to hiring freezes mean no replacements for chaplains who die or retire.

Gary Friedman, spokesman for the American Correctional Chaplains Association, said his organization distributes brochures to explain to legislators the benefits of retaining correctional chaplains.

"Chaplains are getting caught up in all these budget reductions and staff reductions," he said. "It's going on all over the country."

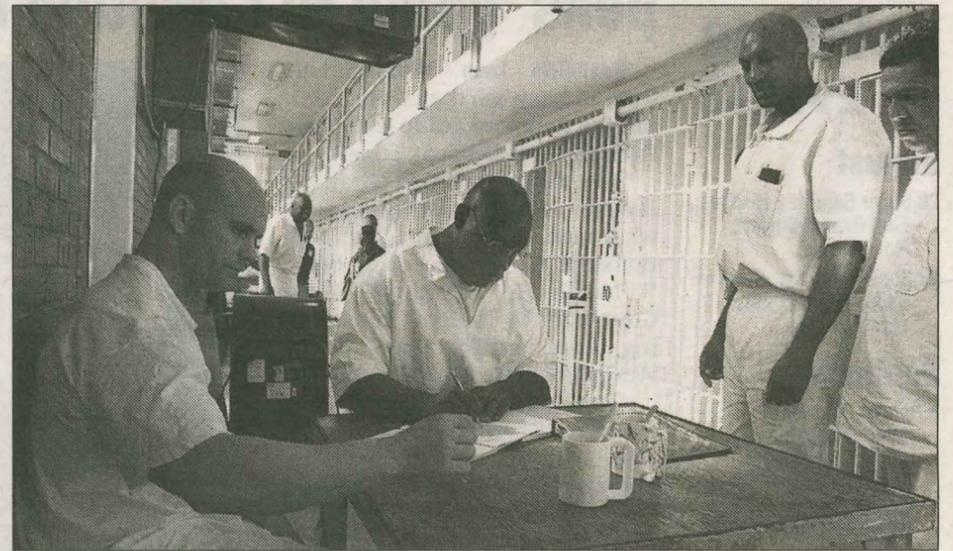
Some states, such as Texas, were able to spare chaplains in the budget negotiations.

But in other states, prison chaplains are seeing increasing workloads in tough economic times, even as the religious diversity of inmates continues to grow.

In California, where about 130 prison chaplains currently are employed, there are three dozen vacancies.

At the California Men's Colony, a medium- and minimum-security prison in San Luis Obispo, Lon Moskowitz, the Jewish chaplain, is helping fulfill the duties of a Muslim chaplain who died a few months ago.

Indiana's prisons—which have 9 vacancies among 37 chaplain positions—have had



FAITH BEHIND BARS Prisoners at the Vance Unit in Sugarland, Texas, celebrate 10 years, graduation and baptisms along with daily life in the Christian Prison Unit served by Innerchange and Prison Fellowship. (Photo courtesy of Kevin Vandiver)

restrictions when overseen by skeleton crews at times when inmates might have attended chapel, said Stephen Hall, director of religious services for the Indiana Department of Correction.

When there's a drastic cut in chaplains, as in North Carolina, questions arise about everyday religious concerns, as well as special or weekly observances.

"Lay people tend to think chaplains perform services on holy days," said D. Craig Horn, a North Carolina legislator who opposed his state's chaplaincy cuts. "My view is a professional chaplain adds stability and has a tremendous impact on promoting calm and providing prisoners with counseling and direction."

A onetime church volunteer who helped prisoners prepare for the world outside, Horn also knows volunteers aren't trained to do the kind of interfaith work that chaplains provide daily.

Pat Nolan, vice president of Prison Fellowship, which itself laid off 72 staffers last month, said chaplains are the ones most

likely to help inmates after riots, rapes and other traumatic incidents or to facilitate special requests. "For the safety of the institution, it's important that persons going through those horrible situations have someone to help them to defuse the situation," he said. "Otherwise, tension can get really high or out of control."

Nolan said his organization urged volunteers to contact legislators and fight for the Texas chaplains. With North Carolina, there simply wasn't time: "It was a done deal before we could mobilize anybody."

But the well-being and safety of prisoners aren't the only reasons to keep chaplains; there are legal issues, too.

The Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000 puts government agencies on alert that they can't get in the way of the free religious practice of prisoners. With no professional chaplains left in North Carolina's medium- and minimum-security prisons, chaplaincy director Brown said that legal requirement has become the biggest headache. (RNS)

'Chain Reaction'

Eliza Broadus Offering is just one way Ky. Baptists support missions

How fortunate we Kentucky Baptists are to be engaged in connecting women, men, girls and boys to Jesus Christ 24/7 in local communities, throughout the state, the United States and around the world through our larger family of Great Commission service ministries.

Our Baptist family includes our churches, associations, mission boards, educational institutions, children's ministries, youth camps, stewardship services, news journals, human-needs ministries, collegiate ministries, healing ministries, and missions support services. Cooperation still is Kentucky Baptists' way to advance the kingdom of Jesus Christ at home and beyond.

At different times throughout the year, we give special focus prayerfully and financially to specific aspects of our cooperative missionary, educational and benevolent ministries. Our methodology includes a "week of prayer" and a "special offering" over and above our ongoing giving. We have weeks of prayer and offerings for international missions, North American missions, state missions, associational missions and other selective ministries.

It's time now to focus on state missions and the collection of the Eliza Broadus Offering. The suggested dates for the week of prayer and offering are Sept. 11-18. This year's theme for our focus is "Chain Reaction," based upon John 4, Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman at the well, and especially John 4:39a, which records her testimony that resulted in "a chain reaction" among her fellow Samaritans.

Ky. Baptist Foundation



Barry Allen

I'm praying every pastor and mission leader of every Kentucky Baptist church will contact Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union to request the planning guide for use by their churches. Call today toll free at (866) 489-3534.

State missions has taken on a new international dynamic as the whole world has come to Kentucky. As a result, we must adjust accordingly our thinking, planning, praying, going and giving.

Like the Samaritan woman, many Kentuckians are waiting to receive the living water only Jesus can provide. Let's start a chain reaction where we live by encountering those who are without Christ and tell them where to find the living water.

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

New year, new EBO goal

Next month marks start of new year for state missions offering

Thank you Kentucky Baptists for your gifts to the Eliza Broadus Offering. Year after year your faithful giving helps support the work of state missionaries, church planting, multiethnic missions, church and community ministries, evangelism training, Find It Here, collegiate and young-adult ministries, disaster relief, Kentucky Changers and more.

If any of these ministries take place in your association, then it benefits from the Eliza Broadus Offering. In addition, many associations in our state receive Kentucky Baptist Convention funding to help provide salaries and/or benefits for directors of missions. These funds are provided in part by EBO.

In a few weeks, we will start a new church year and a new fiscal year for the KBC. For our record keeping, we track giving from Sept. 1 through Aug. 31 each year. Thus we are about to close out the 2010-11 Eliza Broadus Offering and start the 2011-12 offering. Our EBO goal for the coming year is \$1.25 million.

"Chain Reaction" is both the theme and the goal of the 2011 state missions emphasis. The EBO materials tell the stories of people who responded to missions needs, set-

ting in motion often unexpected chain reactions. Each prayer offered and dollar given will set off a chain reaction across Kentucky. And when you also get involved in a state missions ministry, the chain reaction grows larger. To learn more, visit www.Ky-WMU.org/EBO.

EBO at Work



Joy Bolton

New for 2011-12: Every Kentucky Baptist association will receive a basic grant of \$500. This first grant requires no application and is to be used by the association for some type of missions or evangelism outreach. These grants will be sent in February and an accountability form will be enclosed. Each association must complete the form to receive future grants.

In addition to the basic associational grants, Kentucky Baptist-affiliated ministries may apply for additional grants, including ministries of associations, Mission Service Corps missionaries, etc. Contact Kentucky WMU for an application.

The Eliza Broadus Offering is a supplement to the Cooperative Program. Together, they support missions in Kentucky. Though regular CP and annual EBO giving, the chain reaction continues.

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



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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.

October

- 3 Successful Strategies for Deacon Ministry, Main Street Baptist Church, Williamsburg.
- 4 Successful Strategies for Deacon Ministry, Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown.
- 6-8 Ministers in Transition Conference, Louisville.
- 7-8 Celebrate the Mission, TBD.
- 7-8 Women on Mission Fall Retreat, Jonathan Creek Camp and Conference Center, Hardin.
- 13 Church Secretaries Training Conference, Kentucky Baptist Building, Louisville.
- 13 Understanding Other Beliefs, Crosspointe Baptist Church, Owensboro.
- 17-18 Senior Adult Choir Festival, First Baptist Church, Shelbyville.

Singer Rebecca St. James pens 'guide to Christian men'

Nashville, Tenn.—Women who want to know what men are thinking can look forward to some help from singer Rebecca St. James.

The newly married Grammy Award-winning artist will explore what men have to say about relationships in her upcoming book, "What Is He Thinking?? What Guys Want Us To Know About Dating, Love and Marriage" (Faith-Words/Hachette Book Group).

"Drawing on interviews with single men as well as married men, along with her own dating experiences, St. James helps define just what men are looking for and what they wish women knew," according to a press release from St. James's publicist.

"What Is He Thinking??" which the publisher calls "the ultimate field guide to Christian men," reveals, among other things, the top 10 turnoffs for guys, do's and don'ts for interacting with guys, and their candid responses to questions on topics such as modesty, beauty and honoring God in relationships.

St. James, who married her husband, Jacob Fink, in April, has been a longtime advocate for the True Love Waits abstinence movement, participating in many of its events and encouraging Christians to remain sexually pure until marriage with her single "Wait For Me." Pub-



Rebecca St. James



licity for her new book notes that it continues in that spirit, with abstinence advice from men such as tips for maintaining physical boundaries.

Scheduled to be released in September, the book also touches on her previous struggles with single-ness and loneliness.

"In the heart of all of us, I believe that there's a longing for adventure," St. James has been quoted as saying. "It's not just guys that love to live a new story and go on a journey. That's what dating can be, girls ... an exciting adventure. Yes, it is scary at times and tough to navigate—but it is worth it. And God is shaping us in the process." (BP)

WEB ADVERTISING

Web advertising is available on the Western Recorder Website: www.WesternRecorder.org. For more information, call (502) 489-3428, or e-mail Business Manager Tom Townsend at Tom.Townsend@WesternRecorder.org.

SEEKING: PRESIDENT

The Board of Trustees at Blue Mountain College, a coeducational liberal arts Christian college affiliated with the Mississippi Baptist Convention, announces the search for its next president and invites nominations and applications for the position. Dr. Bettye Rogers Coward, the seventh and first female president, will retire from Blue Mountain College on June 30, 2012, when she will have completed 11 years as president. Dr. Coward led the College in a functioning planning process, extensive refurbishing of campus facilities, increasing enrollment, growing the endowment significantly, establishing the college's first graduate program, and developing a campus-wide wireless internet and course management system while maintaining a debt free situation. These accomplishments position a new president to take this Christian institution of higher education to new heights of excellence. Blue Mountain College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award baccalaureate and masters degrees. **Desired Qualifications:** The successful candidate will be a member of a Baptist church affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention, hold an earned doctorate and/or a successful tenure related to the nature of leading an institution of higher learning, and be an effective communicator. The college is seeking a president who has a passion for students and their development and a capacity for shaping and communicating an institutional vision in ways that are compelling to donors, the media, and the community and to other college constituents. He/she will be expected to be an effective manager of resources. **Challenges:** The next president of Blue Mountain College will build upon the foundation developed by the current Board of Trustees, administration, faculty, and staff and take the institution to new heights of excellence. The new president, through hers/his leadership, will work with all of the college's constituent groups to expand the influence and educational opportunities of the college in the region and beyond. **To Apply:** Go to www.bmc.edu and follow the application process, as found on the Presidential Search section. The Presidential Search Committee is committed to the highest standards of professionalism in working with candidates, sources, and references, respecting the need for confidentiality. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

Spotlight on ...

Farmington



Farmington Church baptized 20 people during a Sunday evening service Aug. 7, most of whom were students who accepted Christ at summer camp. Ben Stratton is pastor.

■ ARLINGTON—Shiloh Church recently called Gaylon Bruer as pastor. He previously was pastor of Oak Grove Church in Arlington.

■ BERA—West Side Church recently ordained Vernon Abney and Rex Layne as deacons. Allen Livingood is pastor.

■ CAMPBELLSVILLE—Campbells-ville Church will hold a Maroon and White Day Aug. 21, honoring the Campbellsville University fall sports teams and the school's marching band.

■ CLAY CITY—Clay City Church will host Boone's Creek Association's senior hymn sing Aug. 23, 7 p.m. Grider Denney is pastor.

■ FRANKFORT—Buck Run Church will hold a Magnificent Monday service Aug. 22, 6:30 p.m., with Dan Dumas, senior vice president for institutional advancement at Southern Seminary, as guest speaker and Aletheia as guest musicians. Hershael York is pastor.

Crestwood Church will host The Patriot Quartet in concert Aug. 21, 6 p.m. For more information, call (502) 695-2088. Michael Hail is pastor.

■ GREENVILLE—Second Church will host a community-wide youth service Aug. 20, 6 p.m., with artist Tim Bertram, founder of God's Graffiti, as guest speaker. H. Ray England is pastor.

■ HOPKINSVILLE—First Church will hold a back-to-school event for teenagers and children Aug. 21, 5 p.m., with inflatables and food. Rick Stevens is pastor.

■ LOUISVILLE—Cloverleaf Church will host the Melody Boys in concert Aug. 21, 7 p.m. For more information, call (502) 367-0218. Geoffrey Lacefield is pastor.

Melbourne Heights Church will

hold a family movie night Aug. 19, 6 p.m., with a showing of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat."

■ MOUNT VERNON—Rockcastle Association will hold its On Mission Celebration Aug. 20 with a missions fair at Pine Hill Church, 10 a.m., and a missions rally and worship service at Brodhead Church, 7 p.m. Randy McPherson is director of missions; Clyde Miller is pastor of Pine Hill Church; and Ralph Baker is pastor of Brodhead Church.

■ OWENSBORO—First Church will host a combined choir concert with First Church of Bowling Green Aug. 21, 6 p.m. Paul Strahan is pastor.

■ PADUCAH—Lone Oak First Church's worship choir, orchestra and Living Water will present "The Mercy Seat" Aug. 21, 7 p.m. Dan Summerlin is pastor.

■ PRESTONSBURG—First Church recently ordained Jerry Christopher Workman to the gospel ministry. Jerry Workman is pastor.

■ WINCHESTER—Kiddville Church will host Boone's Creek Association's senior hymn sing Aug. 22, 7 p.m. Steve Evans is pastor.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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FOR RENT: Two condos in Destin, Fla. Owned by Christian family. Check website for photos and information: www.harmonyventures.net.

PIANO LESSONS: In Louisville (Lyndon), for beginners or those who want to play hymns, worship-style. (502) 396-8711.

SEEKING: Pastor to lead Slaughters Baptist Church in reaching our community for Christ. We have an active youth and children's ministry and are search for the man God has chosen to be our pastor. We are a small community on the Hopkins-Webster county line with outreach possibilities in a large area. Please submit resumés to Pastor Search Committee, Slaughters Baptist Church, 20 Rail Lake Drive, Slaughters, KY 42456.

SEEKING: Full-time minister education/outreach. Committed to Sunday school as a foundational strategy. SS in mid 400s. Resumés to Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 3223 N. Gallagher Road, Dover, FL 33527; or pastor@firstbaptistdover.org.

SEEKING: Bivocational pastor to help our church grow and to lead us in the direction of God's will at Colesburg Baptist Church. Please send resumé by Aug. 12 to Rhonda Thompson, 235 Lincoln Ave., Elizabethtown, KY 42701. Visit our website at www.colesburg.org.

SEEKING: Full-time youth minister at First Baptist Church in Mayfield, Ky. Seminary education and previous youth experience is preferred. All interested applicants: send your resumé to 118 West South St., Mayfield, KY 42066, Attn: Youth Search Committee. Resumés must be received by Sept. 30, 2011.

SEEKING: Part-time youth minister for Bullitt Lick Baptist in Shepherdsville. This is a paid position and will require around 20 hours per week. Resumés or questions may be submitted by e-mail to secretary@bullittlickbaptist.org.

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

SEEKING: Full-time senior pastor. Send resumés 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.

Teen star Bieber not afraid to use the 'J' word

By Cathleen Falsani

When Justin Bieber strode onto the stage of the Gibson Amphitheatre in Los Angeles Aug. 7 to accept a Teen Choice Award, he thanked his fans profusely, then quickly turned his attention to something more eternal.

"I wanna say that anything is possible if you set your mind to it," the Canadian superstar said, grasping the award's blue-and-yellow surfboard that towered over him by several inches. "You gotta keep God first and always remember to keep family first."

Then, pointing toward the crowd with a sweeping gesture, Bieber added, "Jesus loves every one of you!"

It's hardly unusual for celebrities to give God a shout-out at award shows. In fact the phenomenon has become so ubiquitous that one critic wondered whether throwing out "God props" had jumped the shark.

But what young Bieber said is different. It wasn't the rote "I want to thank Mylordandsaviorjesuschrist" that we've heard so many times from the awards podium, often uttered by artists collecting prizes for music or films that would be hard-stretched to conceive as honoring the Creator.

Bieber, who is never shy about talking about his Christian faith, went beyond the approved script for Hollywood expressions of faith, invoking the "J-word" and taking it several steps further by telling whoever was listening that they are, in fact, loved by Jesus—and not the less specific "God."

Anyone who has paid attention to the Cinderella story that is Bieber's warp-speed rise from obscurity in small-town Canada to the most popular teenager on the planet will know that in addition to being cute as a button and preternaturally talented, "the Biebs" is a bona fide person of faith. In fact, he's indicated that the name of the album he's in the studio recording right now will be "Believe."

Rarely does Bieber, who turned 17 in March, miss an opportunity to talk about his faith, whether in an interview with Rolling Stone, on numerous talk shows or even on the red carpet. He seems keenly aware of the blessings that have come his way and exactly where they have come from.

"All the blessings I have come to me from God," Bieber told Rolling Stone in February, adding that he feels obliged to "plant little seeds" of faith with his fans. "I'm not going to tell them, 'You need Jesus,' but I will say at the end of my show, 'God loves you.'"

The poignancy of Bieber's comments about Jesus, made after receiving his award from Sean Kingston, a close friend and touring partner who had been badly injured in a jet-ski accident, surely was not lost on Beliebers glued to their TV (and

computer) screens.

For weeks after Kingston's accident in Miami, Bieber took to Twitter offering his prayers for his friend and asking fans to pray for him, too. When Kingston left the hospital in June after making a full recovery, Bieber tweeted, "God is so good. ... I love you, bro."

If Bieber's acceptance speech was any indication, perhaps the pop idol's feelings about explicitly telling his fans about Jesus has evolved over the past six months. He's growing up, finding his voice (musically and otherwise) and becoming even bolder about what he thinks and feels.

"Justin Bieber, like many teenagers, says what's on his mind," said Diane Winston, an expert on media and religion at the University of Southern California.

"After winning four awards, he felt Jesus' love. He probably felt enough of Jesus' love for everyone in the room, and he said so. ... Last night's audience saw that uncensored and spontaneous."

Still, Bieber's invoking of Jesus is unusual for a celebrity. Image is everything for celebrities, and most try to appeal to the widest audience possible.

Most teen stars are more carefully produced and packaged than a pair of glass slippers, polished to perfection (at least on the outside). Apart from giving superficial nods to faith as a means of assuring their fans' parents that they are inoffensive entertainment, it's rare to hear a teen star talk about his or her spiritual beliefs with any depth and consistency.

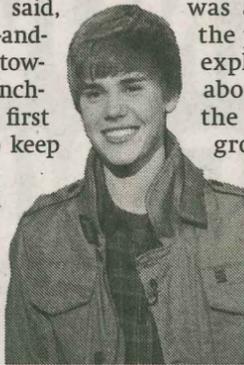
Perhaps having reached the highest stratosphere of ubercelebrity has made Bieber immune from worrying about alienating his audience. The lad has 11.6 million fans on Twitter—known collectively as "Beliebers." That's larger than the population of more than a few countries.

Or maybe Bieber represents not only a new breed of celebrity—allowing his fans unprecedented access to his life and thoughts via more than 10,000 tweets since 2009—but a new generation of "believers."

The way Bieber speaks about his Christian faith is neither defensive nor offensive. He doesn't sound like he's trying to be right, pious or triumphant. Rather, the way he speaks about his beliefs feels like a genuine extension of the way he connects to his fans. Authentic. Humble. Loving.

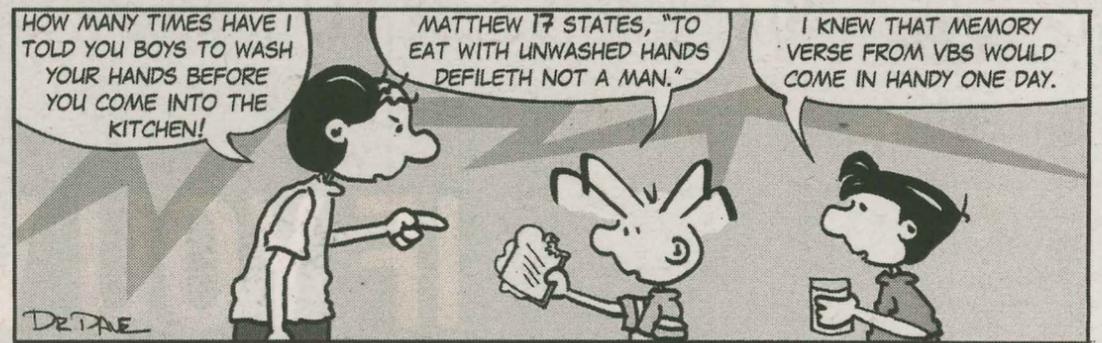
Bieber's mother, Pattie Mallette, a deeply faithful woman who embraced Christianity not long before she gave birth to her only child when she was just a teenager herself, has said she believes Justin has a "prophetic call" to be the "voice of a generation."

Millions of fans around the globe hang on his every word. And when Bieber says "Jesus loves every one of you," many Beliebers might actually believe him. (RNS)



"Jesus loves every one of you!"

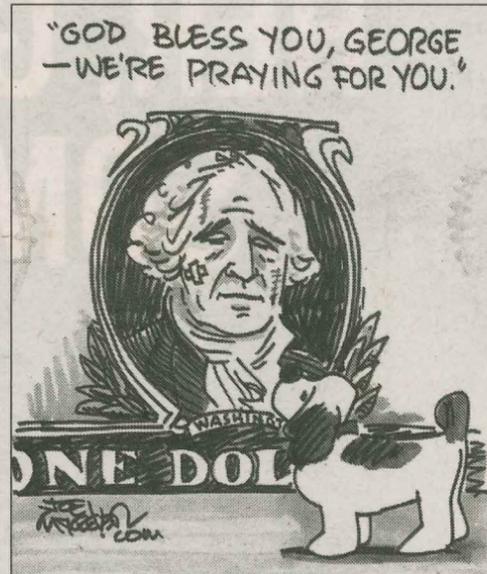
Preacher's Kids



Joe McKeever

Brother Bloop

Dennis Daniel



Bible Crosswords

By Joyce Handzo

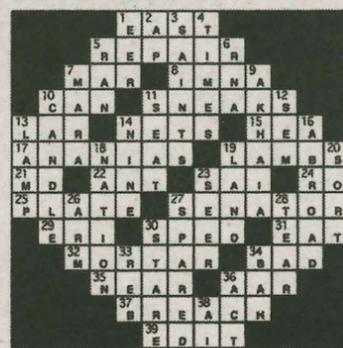
Across

- 1 "Many shall _____ to and fro" (Daniel 12:4)
- 3 "An half _____ of land" (1 Samuel 14:14)
- 6 "And _____ his son reigned" (2 Kings 21:18)
- 10 "As _____ is written" (Mark 1:2)
- 11 Certified Public Accountant, abbr.
- 12 A type of bird that wasn't to be eaten (Leviticus 11:13)
- 14 Master of Arts, abbr.
- 15 Louisiana, abbr.
- 17 "The _____ of heaven" (Jeremiah 33:22)
- 18 "The children of Gad called the altar _____" (Joshua 22:34)
- 20 "A Prophet was beforetime called a _____" (1 Samuel 9:9)
- 21 "_____ that believeth on him is not condemned" (John 3:18)
- 23 "And Jacob _____ his clothes" (Genesis 37:34)
- 24 "For the grace of God that _____ salvation" (Titus 2:11 nkjv)
- 27 The sixth note of the musical scale
- 29 One of the sons of Gad (Genesis 46:16)
- 30 "A _____ work of a sapphire stone" (Exodus 24:10)
- 32 "He passed through the midst of _____" (Luke 17:11)
- 35 "Ye _____ of this world" (John 8:23)
- 36 "I will nourish you, and your little _____" (Genesis 50:21)
- 37 North Dakota, abbr.
- 38 "That which groweth of _____ own accord" (Leviticus 25:5)
- 39 "The mountains skipped like _____" (Psalm 114:4)
- 41 Northeast, abbr.
- 42 "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also _____" (Galatians 6:7)
- 44 "I _____ daily with you" (Matthew 26:55)

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56								57			

- 46 "I am he that liveth, and was _____" (Revelation 1:18)
- 48 New Testament language, abbr.
- 50 "_____ ye now believe?" (John 16:31)
- 52 "The _____ shall take him by the heel" (Job 18:9)
- 54 "Jael the wife of _____" (Judges 5:24)
- 56 "Be _____ with such things as ye have" (Hebrews 13:5)
- 57 "_____ the kine to the cart" (1 Samuel 6:7)
- 22 "_____ and Medad do prophesy in the camp" (Numbers 11:27)
- 25 "All flesh is as _____" (1 Peter 1:24)
- 26 "And I said unto him, _____ thou knowest" (Revelation 7:14)
- 28 "Why make ye this _____, and weep?" (Mark 5:39)
- 30 "Neither shall there be any more _____" (Revelation 21:4)
- 31 Vessel, abbr.
- 32 "The _____ beguiled me" (Genesis 3:13)
- 33 "_____ did that which was right in the eyes of the Lord" (1 Kings 15:11)
- 34 "He will _____ them with his troops" (Hab. 3:16)
- 40 "I am come that they _____ have life" (John 10:10)
- 42 Rear Admiral, abbr.
- 43 "Escaped the _____ of the sword" (Hebrews 11:34)
- 45 "The unclean spirit had _____ him" (Mark 1:26)
- 47 A period of time
- 49 One of the men who was not with Adonijah (1 Kings 1:8)
- 51 Alternating Current, abbr.
- 53 "_____ the beginning" (Genesis 1:1)
- 55 "Let there _____ light" (Genesis 1:3)

Last week's solution



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