

Shine like stars in the world  
Philippians 2:15

# WESTERN Recorder

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## FOR THE RECORD

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Church tries to answer tough questions, make difficult decisions about reaching unreached, unengaged people groups. *Page 6.*

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Southern Baptist volunteer Aspen Smith (center), a senior at the University of Georgia, helps build chicken coops for the 100 hens and one rooster that now provide a daily breakfast of eggs for children at an orphanage in Bon Repos, Haiti. The birds are part of a mini-farm begun after Smith's sister, Amy Hobbs, posted the idea on Facebook. (Photo by Nathanael Hollands/BGR)

## Farm aid Haitian orphans helped by sisters' Facebook campaign

By Riley Bridges  
International Mission Board

**Bon Repos, Haiti**—Wearing only an oversized T-shirt, Tiga does not know he is poor. What the child does know is that he is hungry.

Tiga lives in Bon Repos, Haiti, a place still shattered by last year's earthquake.

The orphanage where Tiga lives, Actions Pour Les Enfants (French for "Action for the Children"), is home to 118 Haitian children like him whose parents died or abandoned them because they were unable to provide even basic needs. Unfortunately, life in the orphanage isn't much better than on the streets. Still reeling from the devastation of a powerful quake on Jan. 12, 2010, Haiti has entire villages living in tents and children starving on street corners.

God, however, is using chickens to change this orphanage's future.

"Chickens lay eggs; eggs feed orphans," said Amy Hobbs, a Southern Baptist volunteer from Georgia.

Those words have become a mantra, fueling a movement that seeks to save Haiti's forgotten.

It was supposed to be a construction mission, Hobbs said. Instead, God led this wife of a pharmacist to assist a volunteer medical clinic at the Bon Repos orphanage where she met 60 starving children in March. The medical clinic was affil-

iated with Baptist Global Response.

When Hobbs returned home from her trip, the taut faces of starving children were engraved on her heart and mind.

"I just kept thinking, 'What can I do from Georgia that can make a difference in these kids' lives?'" Hobbs recalled.

To answer that question, Hobbs tapped into the power of social media. Rather than play the game "Farmville," Hobbs used Facebook to start a real farm.

A mere two weeks after she posted the idea on Facebook, more than \$9,000 had poured in to help make the farm a reality.

"The Lord laid an idea on my heart and I went with it. On my individual Facebook page, I mentioned the idea, and the Lord took it from there," Hobbs said. "Before I knew it, people from all over the United States were emailing me saying, 'I heard about this. How can I get involved?'"

Hobbs and her 21-year-old sister Aspen Smith, a senior at University of Georgia, flew to Haiti to deliver the resources in person. The young women spent a week this summer building chicken coops and pig and goat pens at the orphanage.

The self-sustaining mini-farm  
□ See Haitian farm ... Page 6

## KBC exec joins Baptist leaders in unity pledge

By Robert Reeves  
Kentucky Baptist Convention

**Louisville**—Joining with Southern Baptist denominational leaders across the country, Kentucky Baptist Convention Executive Director Paul Chitwood has signed a pledge to work cooperatively together with an attitude of gratitude and trust.

The pledge was initiated this summer by Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee President Frank Page to help reinvigorate the work of the convention.



Paul Chitwood

"We have been headed in the wrong direction in several ways," Page told messengers to the SBC annual meeting in Phoenix back in June. "Our convention is fracturing into various groups, some theological, most methodological. Sometimes there is an honest difference of opinion, but often there is self-centeredness that frequently mirrors our own culture."

"Christ-like selflessness is our only hope," he said.

The heads of the 12 Southern Baptist national entities and numerous state conventions signed the pledge at the June meeting, but Chitwood had not yet started as KBC executive director at that time. He signed the document recently during a meeting with Roger Oldham, the Executive Committee's vice president for convention communications and relations, at the Kentucky Baptist Building in Louisville.

"I was pleased to represent the Mission Board staff, our pastors and denominational leaders across Ken-  
□ See Unity pledge ... Page 2

## Carnell is Kentucky's MSC Missionary of the Year



Rebecca Carnell

By Dannah Prather  
Kentucky Baptist Convention

**Eubank**—For more than a quarter-century, Rebecca Carnell has shared the gospel one page at a time.

As a literacy missions tutor, Carnell has turned many pages, equipping men and women—many told since childhood that reading was beyond their capability—to read God's word for the very first time.

As literacy missions consultant with the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Carnell has helped potential tutors work through

training materials, preparing them when they would help children and adults learn to read the story of Christ.

For her service as tutor, trainer and gospel messenger, Carnell recently was named Kentucky Mission Service Corps Missionary of the Year.

Six MSC mobilization coordinators make the selection annually to a missionary who is "a true reflection of being an 'on mission Christian,'" according to Teresa Parrett, missions mobilization coordinator for the KBC.

□ See Missionary of the Year ... Page 2

# Daviess-McLean Association votes to remove church

*Journey Fellowship deemed 'unorthodox,' 'disorderly' in allowing pro-homosexual group to use facility*

By Drew Nichter  
News Director

**Cahoun**—Daviess-McLean Baptist Association messengers, in a special-called meeting Aug. 15, voted to remove a member church that allows a pro-homosexual group to meet at its building.

More than 91 percent of the 266 messengers on hand elected to cut ties with Owensboro's Journey Fellowship, a church that formerly was known as Seven Hills Baptist Church, and was affiliated with the association for more than 100 years.

The disfellowship vote was in response to a recommendation from Daviess-McLean Association's executive board. It voted last month to recommend Journey Fellowship's removal over its affiliation with the Owensboro chapter of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays.

The support and advocacy group for friends and family members of homosexuals has been holding meetings at the Journey Fellowship building since last fall.

The Daviess-McLean credentials committee began reviewing the church's member status in February. Journey leaders, including Pastor Bob Coons, were asked to disassociate with PFLAG. The church declined requests from the association to do so, prompting the executive board to recommend disfellowship.

Journey's "actions were unorthodox in doctrine and disrupting the order and peace of DMBA," Eddie Duke, chair of the credentials committee, said in opening remarks at last week's meeting.

"By using their building to facilitate the efforts of PFLAG, they are fostering confusion about what the churches of DMBA believe," Duke added.

According to Article IV, Section 6 of Daviess-McLean Baptist Association's constitution, associational messengers can vote to withdraw affiliation from a member church that is deemed to be "unorthodox in doctrine, disorderly in conduct, or negligent in reporting to this body for two consecutive years."

Director of Missions Jerry Tooley said Journey Fellowship was viewed to have violated the first two criteria for removal.

## Vote was as expected

Following the overwhelming 242-24 vote, Tooley said the churches of the association "have spoken concerning their relationship with Journey Fellowship."

In an interview with the Western Recorder, Tooley said the vote came out just as he expected. "Percentage-wise, it was almost identical to the executive board meeting" vote, he noted.

The vote tally was of little surprise to Pastor Coons as well. "The outcome was not unexpected, although I had hoped for a different result," he said.

Coons, who has led Seven Hills Baptist Church/Journey Fellowship for 11 years, said he hoped "there would be enough people open to the type of ministry that we're doing."

Both Tooley and Coons expressed sadness and regret about the dissolution of the longstanding relationship between the church and association—albeit for different reasons.

In his closing remarks at the meeting, Tooley said he was "saddened" at the ending of the relationship and advised messengers, "This is not a day to rejoice."

Coons, meanwhile, said he felt the dis-

fellowship vote served to harm the witness of Baptist churches. "I think it was a sad day for the kingdom of God."

The dispute between Journey Fellowship and Daviess-McLean Association garnered a fair amount of media attention statewide. The heightened local interest brought more than 450 people to Buck Creek Baptist Church near Calhoun. The standing-room-only crowd was more than double the attendance DMBA typically has for its annual meetings, Tooley noted.

Despite the hot-button nature of the topic, the meeting remained civil in tone, for which Tooley commended both messengers and guests.

## Debating the issue

In addressing the association, Coons claimed, as he has throughout, that the association was attempting to exercise ecclesiastical control over Journey Fellowship by asking them to disallow PFLAG from meeting there.

"I sure hope the association does not start demanding who can meet in your buildings," Coons told messengers. "This would be a terrible precedent."

Tooley disagreed with Coons's argument, saying the association was exercising its own "authority for autonomy," similar to that of individual churches.

"We've never told them what to do," he noted. "You don't tell Baptist churches what to do."

Coons said that by allowing the PFLAG group to meet at the church, Journey merely was showing hospitality to a group that needed a meeting place. He also claimed the debate was not just about homosexuality, but people.

"This is about people who hurt, people who want desperately to find grace somewhere," Coons said. "Where do you want them to find grace? At the gay bars? Or

should they find grace in the house of God?"

Among the messengers who spoke in favor of the recommendation was Paul Hampton, pastor of Karns Grove Baptist Church in Philpot. He argued that Journey's affiliation with PFLAG signifies an acceptance of a homosexual lifestyle, not a ministry to homosexuals.

"Ministry to people that are involved in a sinful act is you guide them away from that act," he said. "Acceptance of means that you support ... what they are doing."

"I suggest that it is a ministry of every church to make a point to minister to those who are involved in something that directs them away from the Lord, not to accept the sin that they're in," Hampton added.

In speaking against the recommendation, Will Zik, minister of youth and education at Macedonia Baptist Church in Owensboro, said Southern Baptist churches should not "construct walls that divide" but rather "build a bridge for the cause of Christ."

"Jesus was not about policies, He was about conversations," Zik noted. "Journey Fellowship should be applauded for at least opening their doors to at least extend grace in Jesus Christ to hurting people."

Jim Nelson, pastor of Island Baptist Church, who voted for the recommendation, drew a comparison between the disfellowship vote and the story of Jesus' cleansing of the temple in Jerusalem.

"The reason why Jesus did that is because it did not belong in the church, plain and simple," Nelson said.

According to associational policy, the removal of Journey Fellowship as a member church took immediate effect. The congregation ended its relationship with the Kentucky Baptist Convention in 2008. It currently is affiliated with the Kentucky and Cooperative Baptist fellowships.

## Missionary of the Year

Continued from page 1

"Rebecca's motivation in doing literacy missions is so people can read and gain knowledge of God's word," Parrett said. "Although much of her work involves training volunteers, she especially enjoys teaching students one on one."

Carnell began tutoring in 1985, and in 1993, became an MSC missionary. Mission Service Corps is a network of self-funded servants who use their own funds or raise financial support to assist churches, associations, state Baptist conventions and other ministries.

Eric Allen, Carnell's supervisor at the KBC, said he was pleased Carnell received the award "because of her passion and commitment to literacy missions."

"The latest literacy rates show that 12 percent of Kentucky's population lacks the ability to read simple printed materials such as a brochure, newspaper or the Bible," Allen said. "Rebecca is a tremendous resource for churches that see teaching someone to read as another opportunity to share Christ."

Tutors and churches can select from three ministry options: tutoring children and youth; adult reading and writing; and English as a Second Language.

Scripture and scriptural truths are presented at the appropriate reading level for each student. Through the tutoring process, students learn about Christ, the gospel and the lessons of the Bible.

There are more than 800 literacy volunteers in Kentucky Baptist churches—Carnell has trained more than 600 herself—but



## AWARD PRESENTATION

Rebecca Carnell was presented the Kentucky Mission Service Corps Missionary of the Year award during a Sunday-morning service at Eubank Baptist Church last month. "There was no better place to do it," said Carnell, who has served as an MSC missionary for nearly 20 years. She works primarily through literacy missions and has trained more than 600 literacy missions volunteers.

literacy missions are long-term commitments that some congregations find hard to sustain. "It is not easy," she said. "You have to do it every week for a long, long time to be effective."

Building relationships is as important in literacy missions as it is in personal evangelism, she said. It takes time to build trust, especially for adult students.

"The adults I've taught have been told all their lives they couldn't do it," Carnell said. "It takes everything you've got to keep convincing them they can do it."

The commitment is worth the time and effort, she said, "just to see that smile. You can see the light coming on" when a student reads about Christ for the first time.

"We know that professions of faith are made every year because of what we do," Carnell added.

Literacy missions' impact often moves more quickly than one person at a time.

English as a Second Language "is very popular," Carnell said. "On average, we plant one Hispanic church every year because of ESL."

Allen said in the past 15 years, 12 congregations in Kentucky were started as a result of ESL classes.

Reflecting on nearly 20 years as an MSC missionary, Carnell said she is thankful for the support she has received from friends, family and fellow Kentucky Baptists. "There are ways to be supported besides an income," she said. "Eubank Baptist (Church) is probably the reason I'm still around."

The Pulaski County congregation provides Carnell a home at a nominal rent. She also works part time in the church office.

Self-funded missionaries cannot always see how God will sustain the work He has called them to, Carnell said. "It's step by step, and sometimes you don't know where the next step is. It's all about faith."

## Unity pledge

Continued from page 1

tucky as I signed the 'Affirmation of Unity and Cooperation' at the invitation of Frank Page and Sing Oldham," Chitwood said. "The document represents core values that have helped Kentucky Baptists work together during some very tumultuous years in the life of the SBC."

## Kentucky not immune to tension

Chitwood said the denominational tension Page alluded to has not escaped Kentucky.

"While, thankfully, our state convention has avoided fragmentation, denominational conflict at the national level has not left us unscathed. We are not as strong or unified as we could be," he said. "Some Kentucky Baptists have simply chosen to disengage, no longer participating in our process and no longer making the kind of sacrifices they once made to support the Cooperative Program."

"My prayer," Chitwood added, "is that this pledge to trust, act trustworthily, embrace our ethnic diversity, and support cooperative ministry and the Cooperative Program will appeal to those who have been hurt or simply lost confidence in our denomination, and will result in them leading their churches to a renewed enthusiasm for and commitment to participation and cooperation."

## N.C. pastor tapped to lead NAMB campaign

*Gilbert will head up new 'Love Loud' evangelism initiative*

Alpharetta, Ga.—The North American Mission Board's ministry evangelism emphasis is charting a new direction and new opportunities with a new executive director. Al Gilbert, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, N.C., has accepted the new leadership role.

NAMB is calling the initiative "Love Loud."

"Our Send North America strategy is to penetrate lostness through church planting," NAMB President Kevin Ezell said. "That includes planting churches in North America's inner cities and mobilizing churches and communities to show people God's love and point them to a relationship with Christ. We will be intentional in connecting people to new or existing Southern Baptist churches."

NAMB's vice president for evangelism and leadership development, Larry Wynn, welcomed Gilbert, a fellow native Georgian, to his team.



Al Gilbert

"Al brings high energy and real passion for taking the gospel to the world," Wynn said. "He is a leader in SBC life and a practitioner of loving people to faith in Christ."

Gilbert will give direction to the new Love Loud team at NAMB beginning in September after finishing nine years as Calvary Baptist's senior pastor. Gilbert, who also serves on the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee, said he is excited and humbled by the opportunity.

"I have a passion for following God's heart and helping God's people follow Him in missional living," Gilbert said. "I derive great joy in helping God's people discover God's passion."

In his first year at Calvary, Gilbert led the church to have an even greater impact in Winston-Salem. "Basically, I asked them to help us discover how a church with a great missions heart that was involved in missions internationally could have a local impact."

After a year of study and preparation, Calvary held Love Winston-Salem, a one-week mission trip in their own city.

"It solidified my passion to ignite people to the reality of God's heart for the nations with God's heart for our neglected neighbors," Gilbert said.

Love Loud will combine existing ministry evangelism while also adding new evangelism efforts through NAMB. The effort will include volunteer opportunities for medical and dental professionals, crisis pregnancy, hunger relief and Campers On Mission, among others. Love Loud also will embrace new work including adoption and foster-care ministries, as well as helping inner-city schools. Love Loud primarily will utilize volunteers mobilized from existing and newly planted SBC churches.

Additional initiatives are only in the planning stages at this point, Wynn said.

Gilbert spent five years as special assistant to the president at the International Mission Board. Prior to joining IMB, he was pastor of two Virginia churches and served on church staffs in Texas and Georgia.

A graduate of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Gilbert is in his second term on the SBC Executive Committee. He delivered the convention sermon at the 2008 annual meeting in Indianapolis. (BP)

## SBC Pastors' Conference offering goal nearly doubled

By Mark Kelly

Las Vegas—The offering at the 2011 Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference reached nearly \$200,000, or twice the announced \$100,000 goal, an organizer of the event has announced.

The conference, held under the banner of "ASPIRE," was designed to help pastors see "the big picture of what God is doing in the world" and rise above preoccupations with temporary issues, conference president Vance Pitman, pastor of Hope Baptist Church in Las Vegas, said at the time.

The event, held prior to the Southern Baptist Convention's annual meeting in Phoenix in June, focused on the need to plant churches in North America and take the gospel to the ends of the earth.

The offering was to be divided 75 percent to finish translating the "JESUS" film into the language of an unreached people group in the Arabian Peninsula and 25 percent to conduct overseas conferences to assist church leaders in about 20 countries.

"Through the offering at ASPIRE, God provided just under \$200,000," said Travis Ogle, teaching pastor at Hope Baptist Church. "When we were planning the event, we felt it would be a shame to see Southern Baptist pastors come together and kingdom advance not come out of it. We wanted to celebrate God's activity and let the pastors know that something they were part of is going make a difference around the world."

Ogle said he contacted International Mission Board President Tom Elliff to let him know a check for \$150,000 is on its way to fund the movie translation. The \$50,000 balance will be used by Hope Baptist Church to help finance pastor training in in Africa and southeast Asia in conjunction with missionaries, Christian mission organizations and national Baptist groups.

"We have partners around the world, some in closed countries, who help us train pastors from dozens of countries each year," Ogle noted. "These events reach between 2,500 and 3,000 national pastors, and for most of them this is the only form of theological and leadership training they receive all year."

As an encouragement to pastors to make church planting commitments, video recordings of all Pastors' Conference sermons have been made available free of charge at the conference's website, www.SBCPC.net, Ogle said.

"Thanks to the North American Mission Board's sponsorship in this effort, the sermons from ASPIRE have been downloaded in more than 120 countries thus far," Ogle said. "We're praying God will continue to use these messages to touch the world with the gospel."

In years past, Pastors' Conference offerings were used to recoup meeting expenses. To enable the offering to be used for missions causes this year, Pitman recruited sponsors to cover conference expenses. (BP)

## Missouri Baptist Foundation elects new president

Jefferson City, Mo.—The Missouri Baptist Foundation has named Chris Calmer as its new president.

Since 1997, Calmer has served as the Missouri Baptist agency's director of accounting, controller and vice president of operations.

Calmer follows James Smith, who retired as MBF president after serving from 1993 to 2010.

During his tenure at the Missouri Baptist Foundation, Calmer has overseen all accounting operations. He helped manage more than 1,000 client accounts valued at more than \$140 million and served as chair of the investment review committee. (ABP)

## Rankin to lead Muslim studies at S.C. school

Columbia, S.C.—Jerry Rankin, retired president of the International Mission Board, has agreed to direct the Zwemer Center for Muslim Studies at Columbia International University in Columbia, S.C.

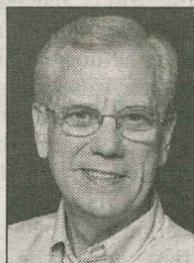
Rankin succeeds current director Warren Larson, who will retire in 2012, but will continue to serve in a teaching and writing role, according to a news release from the university.

Rankin retired July 31, 2010, after 17 years as IMB president and 23 years of missionary service in Asia, initially in Indonesia, the largest Muslim country in the world.

Rankin brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the area of Muslim studies, said Mike Barnett, associate dean of CIU's College of Intercultural Studies.

"Dr. Rankin's decades of service with the

IMB are invaluable as we look to the future at the Zwemer Center and consider new venues for Muslim studies both inside CIU's



Jerry Rankin

College of Intercultural Studies and assisting the church outside the university," Barnett said.

The Zwemer Center offers a curriculum on Muslim studies, including a master's degree, and sponsors research, seminars, dialogues and training conferences. Rankin will continue to live at his home in Mississippi while giving direction to planning, administration and implementation of

the Columbia International program, the news release noted.

Columbia International University is a private, Christian, multid denominational institution with 1,200 students from more than 40 states and more than 30 countries overseas enrolled in CIU's five colleges. (BP)

# MINISTRY ASSISTANTS' CONFERENCE





Training and special interest workshops for ministry assistants and other church staff

**Thursday, October 13, 2011**  
**8:30 am - 3:30 pm**  
**Kentucky Baptist Building**  
**13420 Eastpoint Centre Drive ■ Louisville**

Online registration underway through October 5 at  
[www.kybaptist.org/ministryassistants](http://www.kybaptist.org/ministryassistants)

- Understanding Your Boss
- Promoting Your Church and Events Using Social Media
- HELP! How do I use EXCEL?
- Managing Your Emotions in the Workplace

**THIS YEAR'S TOPICS**



**KBC**  
KENTUCKY BAPTIST CONVENTION

For more information e-mail  
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 call (502) 489-3335  
 toll-free in KY (866) 489-3335

**KBC entities are valuable partners**

As I have mentioned in previous articles, there are five "opportunity areas" I want to focus upon as I serve Kentucky Baptists. The final area regards our existing relationships with KBC institutions and agencies.

I have been very encouraged by the many ways Campbellsville University, University of the Cumberlands and Clear Creek Bible College have honored their historic ties to and even strengthen their current relationship with the KBC. I sense that Kentucky Baptists share that desire. Many of us are products of these institutions. And even more hope our children will be able to benefit from a degree attained in a Christian environment, learning from professors who embrace a biblical worldview.

**Together  
We are the KBC**

Paul Chitwood

In today's world, Baptist universities and colleges successful at attracting students are those unashamed of their evangelical Christian identity. As the culture grows ever more hostile towards the gospel, parents and students willing to invest in a degree from a private Baptist school do so for a reason.

My experience of serving as a trustee and adjunct professor at the University of the Cumberlands and having a good relationship with Campbellsville University and some of their board members has allowed me to see that presidents Taylor and Carter understand the rapidly changing culture, as well as the growing expectations of the students and families they will serve, and are rising to meet these expectations by distinguishing their institutions from the culture at large. For that reason, I count these institutions as important partners. While Clear Creek embraces a different assignment than our liberal arts colleges, they have a very important role in preparing the next generation of Kentucky Baptist pastors. Kentucky Baptists have invested in Clear Creek and have received a good return on that investment.

When it comes to evangelism, apart from the combined efforts of our local churches, no KBC ministry is doing more than Crossings Camps (Kentucky Baptist Assemblies). And no ministry of our convention rivals Sunrise Children's Services at exhibiting the "pure and faultless religion" James wrote about. When we add to this list the unique work of ministries like Oneida Baptist Institute, Kentucky WMU, Kentucky Baptist Foundation and the Western Recorder, we can appreciate the extensive reach of Kentucky Baptists. Moreover, the assistance of partners like Baptist Healthcare (Shepherding the Shepherd) and the Kentucky Ethics League finds us grateful for special relationships that serve to benefit our pastors and churches.

I valued these ministries and the partnership they offered to the churches where I served as pastor. And I consider them essential to the work I now oversee on your behalf. Strong partnerships like these make for a stronger state convention. Together, we are the KBC!

*Paul Chitwood is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.*

**Daviess-McLean decision: autonomy, convictions, grace**

Daviess-McLean Baptist Association's decision to withdraw fellowship from one of its churches last week has been criticized by some and affirmed by others.

Some will no doubt charge that Daviess-McLean violated church autonomy, attempting to dictate to Journey Fellowship what it may or may not do in regards to the use of its facility. This, however, reflects a partial understanding of Baptist polity. It is true that our Baptist tradition places a strong emphasis on the autonomy of a local church, allowing for decisions to be made by members, rather than by a judiciary body, such as an association, a state or national convention, or an ecclesiastical leader. However, one must recognize that Baptist polity also places an emphasis on the autonomy of the association, state convention or national body, affording each the same prerogative to make decisions and to determine with whom they associate.

According to Daviess-McLean's Bylaws (Article IV, Section 6): "The association shall have the power and right to withdraw affiliation from any member church which it may deem to be unorthodox in doctrine, disorderly in conduct, or negligent in reporting to the body for two consecutive years." The association's action was taken only after proper efforts to reclaim the church had been made by its credentials committee. In this respect, the autonomy of neither body was violated. The association has not challenged Journey Fellowship's right to be autonomous in making decisions, but it exercised its own right to be self-governing, noted Director of Missions Jerry Tooley. All along, the church was free to choose to comply or continue on a course it knew in all likelihood would lead to dismissal.

But, a doctrinal matter also was being challenged. In numerous resolutions, dating as far back as 1976, Southern Baptists have consistently stated their convictions concerning homosexuality. While not binding on any congregation, resolutions reflect commonly-held beliefs among a majority of gathered convention messengers. On the one hand, the statements usually express that homosexuality is deplored as "a perversion of divine standards and as a violation of nature and natural affections." On the other hand, they typically reaffirm that while "the Bible condemns such practice as sin, it also teaches forgiveness and transformation, upon repentance, through Jesus Christ our Lord." The vote gave a clear indication of where Daviess-McLean Baptists stand on the issue of homosexuality and the truth of God's word, said Tooley. "My only concern is that some people would think that is not caring, that we are not concerned about people, and that's just not true," he added. "Our churches love and care about people and want to minister to them."

While Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays—the group which Journey Fellowship allowed to use its building—may be portrayed in part as a support

group, it is much more, according to its national website. Credentials Committee Chairman Eddie Duke, pastor of Panther Creek Baptist Church, explained, "PFLAG is an advocacy group that is actively promoting acceptance of the homosexual lifestyle" and opposing the traditional definition of "family." As Jim Nelson, pastor of Island Baptist Church, observed, "There is a difference between coming into the church and coming into the church to promote sinful behavior."

Some, unfortunately, will characterize the association's action as intolerant and judgmental, accusing it, as one put it, of giving grace a rap on

the chin. I disagree. How could the association have done otherwise and still maintain biblical integrity and its effectiveness in presenting a clear, consistent witness to the broader community? "We obviously respect, love and care for all people, but it is never God's will to violate God's word," Duke declared. "The Bible is clear in stating that homosexuality (and) homosexual relationships are wrong in God's eyes," he said. Biblical doctrine cannot be remolded to fit a personal or social agenda. Furthermore, grace has a transformational and redemptive quality. "Folks, grace is not blind," Paul Hampton, pastor of Karns Grove Baptist Church, asserted. "So grace does not say, 'Come and do what you want to do.'" Grace is accompanied by the hope of a recipient's responsiveness to the Holy Spirit guidance—convicting one of sinful desires and behaviors that are not in accordance with God's word, acknowledging a need for forgiveness, and exhibiting a willingness to allow the Holy Spirit's transforming power to be evidenced in one's life.

Jesus modeled true grace in His compassionate response to sexual deviants and unethical tax collectors. He did not condemn the woman caught in adultery, but neither did He accept her immoral past. Rather He sought to redeem her, instructing her to "go and sin no more." Jesus also did not shun Zacchaeus, as others had, rather He chose to invite himself to his house, where they could talk in private. But more significantly, a radical change occurred in Zacchaeus' covetous lifestyle afterward. He gave half of his possessions to the poor and agreed, if he had cheated anybody, he would pay back four times the amount. That certainly sounds like one who has been convicted of his sin and acknowledged a need for repentance.

Finally, whether or not one agrees with the outcome, we can applaud the demeanor in which both sides reportedly conducted themselves at the Daviess-McLean meeting. Both the pastor of the church and a leader of the PFLAG chapter had an opportunity to speak. Observers described the meeting's overall tone as being somber and respectful, not mean-spirited or uncivil, even though they obviously disagreed. While the outcome may have been predictable, discord and ugliness did not prevail, and that is commendable.

**After  
Thought**

By Todd Deaton

**Leading by example**

One of the greatest compliments I ever heard about a Christian leader went like this: "He doesn't just tell us how to follow Jesus; he shows us how to follow Jesus." Kentucky Baptists are fortunate to have convention leadership who do just that.

Last Sunday, power problems cancelled services at my church and gave me and my wife the opportunity to attend Christ Community Church—a small church in Shelbyville. Christ Community has been in existence for just a little more than a year and is connecting with lots of young families in Shelby County. They meet in a school.

When we arrived, one of the first individuals we saw was Karl Babb—leadership development team leader

for the KBC. Karl was busy helping get things ready and assisting folks in various ways. He told me that he had been involved with CCC from the beginning, and shared with me some of the history of the church and the exciting things that were happening.

Next, we saw John Bennett—director of preschool and children's ministry for the KBC.

John and his family were hard at work preparing worship and Bible study activities for the children.

Here are two men who consistently do a great job of telling us how to follow and serve Jesus through their convention jobs. However, even more importantly, they show us how to do ministry by being personally involved in the life of a faith family and giving

their time and talents to that work.

Thanks be to God for these men, and for all of our KBC leaders.

*David Garrard  
Finchville*

**Correction:** A quote in a letter by Ernest Martin that appeared in last week's issue was misattributed to Harold Hunter. The quote should have been attributed to Eric Fuller, a Texas evangelist.

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

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

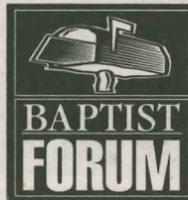
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## Throwing the torch: 'Hold it high!'

On Labor Day 21 years ago, we drove to an old family farm in Hickman County in far western Kentucky. We wanted our one-year-old son to meet his elderly relatives, two sisters and our distant cousins who lived together in a log cabin built by my great grandfather in 1867.

John Wesley Bolin had moved from North Carolina to Tennessee before heading north into Kentucky. His son, my grandfather, Wesley Lafayette Bolin, had been born in the cabin. My father, James Wesley Bolin, had visited the place often. We named our son, Wesley Seaton Bolin, after his forbears. Four generations of Wesleys. And we're not even Methodists!

The logs of the old house had since been covered on the outside with planed boards, but the log smokehouse, raised in 1870, still stood intact behind the main structure. We drove up the angled drive, parked by an ancient ginkgo tree with its fan-shaped leaves still two months away from turning a brilliant yellow gold before falling to carpet the ground around the house.

We knocked on the front door and waited a long time (both sisters were almost deaf) before Ms. Glenn came to the door with the aid of a walker. The tiny, stooped woman ushered us into the central room of the house, a room with a fireplace and with logs still exposed, except where book-lined shelves covered two walls. Ms. Geneva, who was the perfect picture of Mayberry's Aunt Bea, had died a few years before.

On this day, Ms. Patti soon joined Ms. Glenn in the room, and we presented our son Wesley—Cammie Jo was yet to be born—to them and visited for the better part of two hours. Evelyn and I sat on the edge of a rope bed on which my grandfather was born. Wesley had the run of the floor.

We finally got up to take our leave, but before we made it to the front door, Ms. Glenn instructed us to wait as she guided her walker to a back room. She returned with a stack of framed works of art. In retirement, the sisters had collected flowers and leaves from the grounds that made up the farm, pressed them, and arranged them on black velvet before placing them in frames.

Ms. Glenn gave us four of the art pieces, one for my brother and his family, one for my mother and father, and two for us, one to keep at home and one for my college office. I cherish these works of art, and I show them off to my students each term.

On the back of one of them—the one I show to my students—Ms. Glenn had typed:

"To Duane and Evelyn and Wes:

Plant material in this picture grew on a farm and along the roadside by the farm in Hickman County, Kentucky where we now live.

The farm was bought by our grandfather (my great grandfather) in 1867. He built a house on it and moved into it with his wife and children in November of that year. It has been home to his descendants, one or several at a time, in unbroken succession since that time."

Ms. Glenn then listed the line of our ancestors who had lived on the farm since 1867. Among the names are my great grandfather and great grandmother, and my grandfather, my father's father.

When Ms. Glenn handed us the frames, the small frail woman, hair up in a bun, balanced one hand on her walker and then handed me the works of art with her stronger, yet trembling, hand. As she handed them to me, she repeated the lines from John McCrae's World War I poem, "In Flanders Fields," which she had typed on the back along with the names of our ancestors: "To you from failing hands, we throw the torch, be yours to hold it high."

I have yet to find a better reason to share my faith, or a more powerful injunction to encourage the next generation to make others aware of that marvelous grace. We all need it, whether failed sinners saved by grace or failed sinners still in dire need of the gospel.

So, to the next generation of children and students, and to those of my own generation, and even to my elders who have never accepted God's saving grace: "To you from failing hands, we throw the torch, be yours to hold it high."

Duane Bolin teaches in the Department of History at Murray State University. He also teaches a Sunday School class of his elders from whom he learns each Sunday at Murray's First Baptist Church.

### A Letter from the Laity



Duane Bolin

## Big marriage questions

By Valerie Vincent

**Q: "I'm looking for something to stimulate some growth in my marriage. Any suggestions?"**

**A.** Find a time where you and your spouse can relax and talk without distractions. Have a conversation where you each respond to the following "big marriage questions":

- Has my understanding of love grown or expanded to be more like Christ's kind of love in my marriage?
- How often do I think of my spouse's needs before my own?
- How do I try to partner with God to bring opportunities for my spouse to follow God's will and guidance?
- How have I been Christ to my spouse?
- What are the ways I have made sure my spouse feels special, uniquely loved, as Christ has done?
- What is missing in my marriage that I have the power to change?
- How well have I gotten to know my spouse—like God has by knowing the number of hairs on my head, to have searched me and known me, to be familiar with all my ways?
- What changes have I made for the benefit of my spouse during the course of our marriage? Have I been guided by the Holy Spirit?
- Have I created a home for my spouse that is a place of joy, blessing, and beauty?
- How does God want to use my marriage to change the world for His glory, for His kingdom?

From this conversation, you each may discover something new and meaningful about your spouse. You may identify some specific things to pray for in your marriage. God may initiate some new growth, stretching you to set some new goals for your marriage.

Valerie Vincent is a Christian counselor with Hardy Associates in Louisville.



## Faithful giving produces joy

By Doug Strader

There is an interesting verse in Exodus 22. Verse 29 in the NIV says, "Do not hold back offerings from your granaries or your vats." The RSV translation says do not delay your giving, in other words, when you are harvesting your grain and making your wine be up front with your giving. Many Christians fail to receive their full blessings because they are not faithful to give to God and to those in need in a proper fashion.

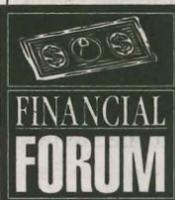
The passage that was quoted earlier from Exodus is in the middle social responsibilities given by Moses to the children of Israel. The message seems to be that for God's people giving is just a way of life.

Giving is a matter of the heart; it is not about one's checkbook or billfold. The happiest Christians are those who are generous givers. Rarely do you see a financially stingy person who is a happy person. God created us to be giving persons.

It is absolutely amazing that God permits Christians to be on mission with Him. A very integral part of that mission is the privilege to give to support the work of the Lord through His church. For Kentucky Baptists, we are fortunate to have the Cooperative Program that enables us to give to international missions, North American missions, Kentucky missions and our local mission projects by giving through our local churches. When we give through our local churches, we are giving and supporting everything that Baptists are doing around the world in the name of Jesus.

Early in His instructions to His people the Lord reminded us through the writings of Moses how important it is to be generous with the resources that we receive from Him. He continued to give us encouragement throughout His word to be generous and systematic givers. The financially generous Christians are the ones who have the joy of the Lord in their hearts because they are being faithful to the Lord.

Doug Strader, retired director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's stewardship department, is pastor of Farmdale Baptist Church in Louisville.



## Addressing the root cause of the London riots

By Paul Brewster

It seems that the societal ills that plague inner cities everywhere are no respecter of nations. Britain is presently being rocked with social unrest that is quite out of step with what was once viewed proudly as the stodgy national character.

In any culture, revered traditions can only hold back disorder so long when young people are uneducated, impoverished and without opportunity. Prime Minister David Cameron has pointed out that Britain has created an atmosphere that is characterized by "children without fathers, schools without discipline, reward without effort, crime without punishment, rights without responsibilities communities without control." He failed to add that Britain has also created a culture in which men have no souls.

The riots and looters in England have gone out of its way to convince them otherwise. Collectively, England once believed that God was both Creator and Judge to mankind. After Darwin, He no longer was revered as Creator. Thus, it is not surprising if He is no longer feared as Judge. As the echoes of these once foundational truths grow more and more faint, the restraints on behavior fade away as well.

Increasingly, the language being used to describe this generation is adopting a soulless view. For example, British commentator Max Hastings recently described London's youth thusly: "They are essentially wild beasts ... bereft of the discipline that might make them employable; of the con-

science that distinguishes between right and wrong. They respond only to animal impulses—to eat and drink, to have sex, seize or destroy the accessible property of others." In the same Daily Mail article, he also recounts a colorful metaphor which he attributes to a former police chief of London: Today's youth have gone feral.

While this dehumanizing language is strong, it could hint of the dawn of hope, for recognizing we have a problem is often the first step toward resolving it. These youth are acting like animals. But stop and think for a moment: This is exactly the evolutionary meta-narrative that contemporary western societies have decided to embrace and engender. From the cradle up, we have taught them they were animals, different from apes only in species and skills, not in essence. It is not that they have no conscience to differentiate between right and wrong, but that their consciences have not been trained with truth.

The solution for animal-like behavior is for them to see that they are men instead, bearing God's image, and created with the spiritual capacity to know God. In short, they are not wild beasts, but men with souls who stand accountable before a holy God.

Sadly, however, most who have begun to embrace dehumanizing language and refer to their fellow Britons as if they were packs of wild dogs are likely not on the cusp of a return to

the truths of Christianity. Hastings comes to his own conclusion about what must be done to solve the crisis: "Only education—together with politicians, judges, policemen and teachers with the courage to force feral humans to obey rules the rest of us have accepted all our lives—can provide a way forward and a way out for these people." He proposes that "Britain introduce incentives for decency and impose penalties" for beast-like behavior.

The problem is that he is dealing with men, not dogs. This generation is not in need of moral training so much as it is starved for a true spiritual awakening—which would bring in its wake the desired moral renovations that Hastings would like to see. Anything short of spiritual solutions will not affect a cure.

Here is how the Apostle Paul described his own culture: "And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper, being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice" (Romans 1:28-29).

There is only one solution for all the evil that lurks in human hearts, and it is not education. Rather, what we need is the saving power of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Like Paul, may Christians everywhere be unashamed to proclaim loudly the saving gospel as the only tonic for a world gone feral. (BP)

Paul Brewster is pastor of Ryker's Ridge Baptist Church in Madison, Ind.

**"This generation is not in need of moral training so much as it is starved for a true spiritual awakening."**

## EMBRACE

# Church tackles tough decisions about unengaged peoples

By Alan James  
International Mission Board

Winston-Salem, N.C.—Choosing a people group to engage with the gospel can feel like throwing a dart at a map.

With the global population nearing 7 billion and approximately 3,800 unengaged, unreached people groups—those with no active church-planting strategy and less than a 2 percent evangelical presence—the task of narrowing down which people group to embrace can seem overwhelming to Southern Baptist leaders.

“It’s a daunting task,” said Mark Harrison, missions pastor at Old Town Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, N.C. “We’ve been on a journey the last couple of years and trying to figure out what God wants us to do.”

Harrison and a team from Old Town returned from a southeast Asian country recently after assisting with International Mission Board work on the ground there. They also encountered a group of people they may be interested in pursuing for a long-term partnership—if the Lord leads.

Harrison admitted he still has questions. The process of selecting an unengaged, unreached people group, he con-

tends, seems to be “more art than science.”

“I’m sort of a black-and-white kind of guy, ... (either) it is or it isn’t,” he said. “That’s been part of our struggle, ... trying to figure out how people identify themselves as people groups. Who is reached and who is unreached?”

## Conference to answer questions

To help answer some of those questions, Harrison said he plans to attend IMB’s Embrace equipping conference Sept. 7 at Johnson Ferry Baptist Church in Marietta, Ga.

The one-day event—which is the first of four such meetings being held around the country—will focus on assisting churches with exploring, identifying and embracing unengaged and unreached people groups.

Harrison said he hopes to connect with other likeminded pastors and church leaders seeking to be obedient to God’s call on their lives.

“If we can help motivate others, help smaller churches get involved who can’t do it themselves, this is an incredible way to bring churches together,” he noted.

Old Town is planning a return trip to Southeast Asia in the fall to revisit the people among whom God may be leading them



**REACHING THE UNREACHED** A team member from Old Town Baptist Church in Winston-Salem, N.C., hands out candy to local children in a southeast Asian village, where the team traveled while researching work with an unengaged, unreached people group.

to work. If all goes as planned, the congregation will begin 40 days of prayer to decide if that is the direction they should go.

Probably the most important part involves a “network of prayer,” Harrison said. “If all anybody does is pray every day for this people group and pray for our engagement of them, then that is going to take us a long way toward the accomplishment of the task.”

“If those roots of prayer can go deep

within the congregation, then God’s going to honor that,” he added.

The final decision, Harrison said, will rest with church members.

“We believe it’s a decision that’s going to need the whole body being involved,” he explained. “Ultimately, what I want to see happen is ... every couple of months there to be a team going (overseas) to train those who are believers and to evangelize those who are not.” (BP)



**LIVING WATER** A Haitian orphan gets water from a container used to collect rainwater at an orphanage in Bon Repos, Haiti. International Mission Board missionary Delores York hopes funds will become available to dig a well at the orphanage in the near future. (Photo by Jim Servies)

## Haitian farm

Continued from page 1

would be complete with chickens, goats, pigs and fruit trees to provide the children with basic nutritional needs.

A local Haitian man, known simply as Pastor Jilien, started the orphanage in a school building attached to a church after last year’s 7.0-magnitude quake. “He has too big of a heart,” missionary Delores York said of the orphanage’s founder.

Pastor Jilien rarely turns a child away. As a result, the number of residents has grown to a staggering 130-plus kids, ranging in age from 6 months to 15 years old.

York, an International Mission Board missionary, said she recalls when she first visited the orphanage through her work in Southern Baptists’ recovery efforts.

“This is the worst I have seen,” York said.

“They were very malnourished. They had large abdomens. A lot had very skinny arms, reddish or light-colored hair. They were hungry. ... They were eating out of tin cans that black-eyed peas would come in. They didn’t have enough utensils for everybody. The building they were in was just about to collapse.”

After York discovered the orphans’ needs, BGR responded with emergency food aid. Later York gave Hobbs the idea for the mini-farm.

“They really needed protein, and there wasn’t enough money to give them protein,” York said. “I wanted to make sure they had some way to get over the anemia. Chickens sounded like an easy thing.”

The mini-farm includes 100 chickens that provide a daily breakfast of protein-filled eggs, five goats and five fruit trees.

The Facebook initiative has done more

than just feed the children. Heather Testerman, the leader of the “Creations for Christ” women’s ministry at Wallace Memorial Baptist Church in Knoxville, Tenn., organized a clothing drive for the orphans. Thirteen women’s groups from nine states volunteered to sew clothes. “Every child received two outfits with their names on them,” Davis said.

York said she dreams of growing the farm to include more animals, more trees and a garden. She has prayed that God will provide the funds to construct toilets, drill a well and provide new children with clothes. She said she hopes to see the orphanage become self-sufficient in three to six months.

God “is truly the Father to the fatherless, and He is holding them right there in His hands,” she said. “And He will continue to provide.” (BP)



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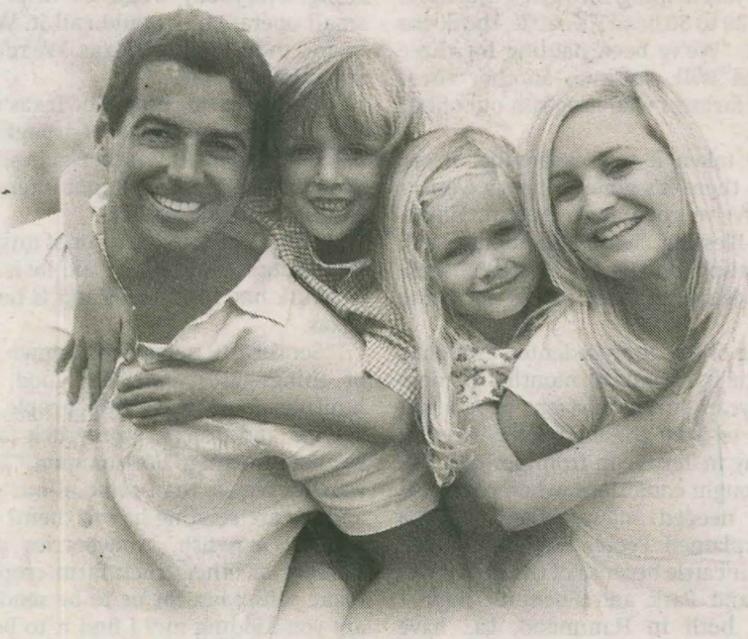
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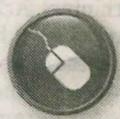
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**Through  
'Courageous,'  
churches can  
challenge,  
encourage  
fathers**

By Whitney Jones

Albany, Ga.—"Courageous," the next film from the makers of "Fireproof," is more than an excuse to eat movie theater popcorn—it is a challenge for both fathers and churches.

"It's not just a two-hour diversion," said Elizabeth Fields of Provident Films, the movie's distributor. "It's entertainment with a purpose."

"Courageous" opens Sept. 30 in 900 theaters across the United States and is the fourth movie produced by Sherwood Baptist Church in Albany, Ga. Previous movies included "Facing the Giants" and "Flywheel."

The new movie underscores the importance of fathers, and shows how five different men, four of whom work together on the police force, struggle to become better fathers.

"Courageous" highlights fathers, but Stephen Kendrick, the movie's producer, helped make sure it also shows the dynamics and importance of the entire family unit.

"In this movie, we do not downplay or undermine the importance of moms," Kendrick said.

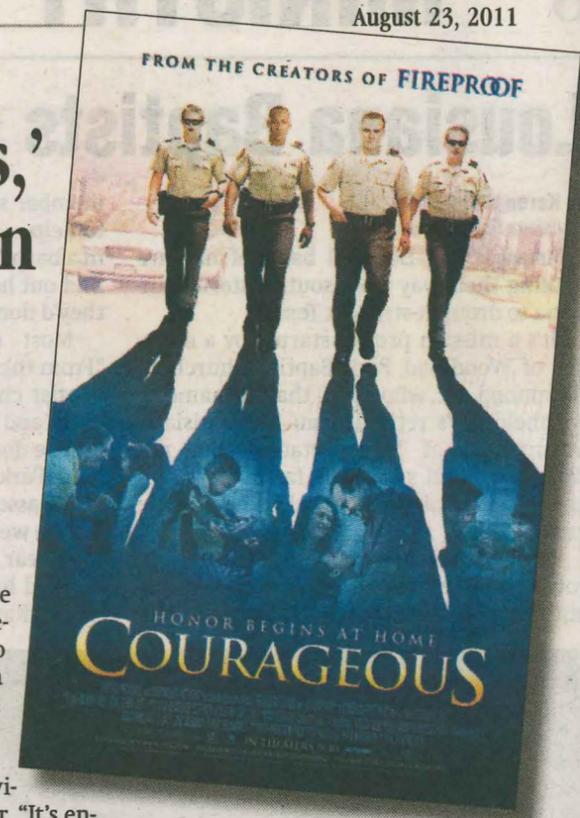
In this generation, he added, "the dads have fallen asleep at the wheel, and the mom is reaching over and grabbing the wheel and trying to keep the family alive and going."

A father is essential for children, and those who grow up without a dad—1 in 3 kids according to the U.S. government—are more likely to face trouble in many areas of their lives.

For example, almost 40 percent of prison inmates grow up without fathers, and children without fathers are twice as likely to drop out of school, according to U.S. Department of Justice statistics.

While "Courageous" calls fathers to invest in their children, the movie's producers also challenge churches to show their support for faith films.

People should see the movie on opening weekend because the first few days are the "bellwether" for success and play a role in the fate of future Sherwood films, Fields said. "We wholeheartedly recommend that



people go on opening weekend because the story we want to tell is that there is a need and a desire for faith films."

However, seeing the movie is just the beginning of how churches can use it as a ministry tool. Churches can buy tickets for opening weekend at the movie's website, [www.CourageousTheMovie.com](http://www.CourageousTheMovie.com), and find resources at [CourageousResources.com](http://CourageousResources.com).

There also are other ways churches can support and use the movie for ministry:

- Buy all tickets for a showing. Churches can rent out a theater so their congregation can see the movie together. Churches in towns where "Courageous" is not playing also can get in on the action and bring the movie in by pledging to purchase 1,000 tickets. (Visit [CourageousMovie.com](http://CourageousMovie.com) and click "Take Action.")

- Give tickets to chaplains, law enforcement officers and first responders.

- Put up posters and flyers to promote the movie on church campuses or in the community.

- Embed the movie trailer on church websites. (To find the trailer, visit the movie's website and click on "Click Here to Watch the Trailer." Then copy the code beneath the video.)

- Plan a sermon or series on fatherhood either leading up to or following the movie's release.

The film "is needed because of the state of fatherlessness in America," said Jim McBride, the movie's executive producer. "In 36 percent of all homes, the children are fatherless. But all of us know that even beyond that there are a lot of homes where the dad is present physically but not mentally. I think this movie is much needed because it's going to challenge dads to step up into their role as husband and leader and father in the home." (BP)

**'Grace Card' film released on DVD**

Memphis, Tenn.—"The Grace Card," the faith-based film made by a Memphis, Tenn., church and received favorable reviews earlier this year, was released on DVD last week.

The movie spotlights the racial tension between a white cop and a black cop and focuses on the subject of forgiveness.

It was directed by David Evans, an optometrist and a member of Memphis' Calvary Church, who was inspired to make the movie after watching the 2008 hit film "Fireproof."

"Grace Card" had an impressive opening weekend in February that placed it on par with the opening weekend of the 2006 film "Facing the Giants."

"People are really hungry for movies that inspire them, movies that have a message," said Evans, a graduate of Southwest Baptist University. "I call it entertainment with a purpose. You don't want people to come to theaters and feel like you're forcing medicine down their throat. So, we're very careful at what points we place our message." (BP)

# Louisiana Baptists send hay to drought-weary Texas farmers

By Karen Willoughby  
Louisiana Baptist Message

Loranger, La.—Donated bales of hay are making their way from southeastern Louisiana to drought-stricken Texas.

It's a mission project started by a member of Woodland Park Baptist Church in Hammond, La., who asked that his name be withheld. He's retired from the Louisiana Department of Transportation, but not from the small spread he farms near Loranger, where about 20 head of beef cattle graze.

"I was at home, watching the news, and you could see how bad (the drought) was out there" in Texas, the Woodland Baptist

member said. "I love missions and wanted to help. ... 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?"

Most everybody did, he discovered. "From there it just took off. I started calling Baptist churches in Texas to see who had need, and that's how it started."

The donor has been a member of Woodland Park Baptist Church for about four years, associate pastor Randy Ray said.

"He went on a medical mission trip with me a year ago to El Salvador and that really stepped him up as far as his focus on missions," Ray recalled. "He went to Kentucky

earlier this year on a construction project and he went to northern Mississippi with tornado relief a couple of months ago. When he came back, he organized a chainsaw unit for our association, and now we have a really nicely equipped chainsaw trailer."

The haylift ministry focuses on farmers with not too much acreage nor too many cattle.

"We're just helping the little guys, those with, say, 20 to 50 head" of cattle, the donor explained. "We've been hauling for three weeks and will continue another three weeks for farmers who have run out of hay and grass."

"We've taken it to Jacksonville, Texas, and from there it's gone as far as west as Abilene. We've got hay in Austin, Huntsville and Blessing, Texas," the donor said. "We're dealing mostly with Baptist churches, so it's delivered fairly and is not being sold."

Because of the unprecedented drought—Texas is in its driest 10 months in more than 100 years—grain feed isn't growing. It costs \$90 to \$120 these days for a round bale of hay in Texas, up from perhaps \$40 in non-drought conditions, when not much would be needed anyway, the Louisiana farmer explained. People are being forced to sell their cattle because of the drought.

Woodland Park and Ebenezer Baptist churches, both in Hammond, La., have been involved in the Texas haylift, and all

the hay has come from farms in the Loranger area. Northshore Baptist Association and the Louisiana Baptist Convention's disaster relief each have contributed \$1,000 toward what the convention's DR director, Gibbie McMillan, called a "disaster because of drought."

"Anybody anywhere could do the same thing we're doing," the anonymous donor noted. "Seems like once you start something, everybody wants to help. ... It's a small operation, I would call it. We're not trying to hay (all of) Texas. We're just trying to help people."

More than 90 percent of Texas is in the two most extreme stages of drought. An updated government weather map shows the drought holding firm—if not intensifying—through at least October.

Lonnie Wascom, director of missions for Northshore Association, said he is amazed to think hay from Louisiana is helping in Texas.

"Southeast Louisiana is known for a lot of things—great festivals, food, fishing, hunting, football, swamp people, swamp loggers and others, even truck farming—but not ranching," Wascom said. "Texas has ranches bigger than some of our parishes and we are sending hay to them? Sending shrimp, crawfish, strawberries and any number of other truck farm crops would make sense, but for us to be sending hay, are you kidding me? I find it to be simply wonderful." (BP)



RELIEF EN ROUTE Donated round bales of hay make their way from southeastern Louisiana to drought-stricken Texas. (Photo by Randy Ray)



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### OBI's campus is alive with excitement as students begin a new school year

It must be the first day of school. Yay! The summer break was nice and needed, but there seemingly is no life on our campus when most of our students are not here. Getting ready for their return and getting them registered and moved into the dorms takes a major effort from several of my staff. But all of the hard work is more than offset by the sound of laughter and the sight of smiling faces as friends are back together again. From across Kentucky and the U.S. and all over the world, our students have returned full of excitement and anticipation.

This morning our seniors were given their instructions about class schedules and other important information. Needless to say, they were excited.

One very special young man in the class of 2012 enrolled at Oneida when he was in kindergarten after being in our day care for five years. Yes, he is one of our staff children—our grandson. Lord willing, like his grandmother and me and his mother before him, he will receive his Oneida diploma next May. This is not the first time three generations have graduated from OBI, but it doesn't happen every year.

The dormitories are a hive of activity as the boys and girls unpack. Our returning students are pros when it comes to knowing what to bring and what to leave home. It's a different story with our new students. One look around the rooms and you quickly can tell the new students from the returning students.

When the first break comes at the end of September, most new students will take home things they discovered they didn't need and will

bring back items that will be much more useful. Sharing a room with three other people means space is at a premium. When one student has way more "stuff" than he or she needs, someone has to give up some space.

After 10 days, students are allowed to request a room change. So, for the next four or five weeks there will be a lot of moving as our students search for better roommates or simply seek to room with a newfound friend. Chemistry is very important when you place four boys or girls in one room.

### This is Oneida



W.F. Underwood

Nine months from now, much of what began this week will come to an end as we celebrate the graduation of the class of 2012. I've seen this cycle 28 times now. While there is much that is the same from one year to the next, no two years are exactly the same. Some graduating classes are larger than others, and some have more scholars than another.

For the past two years, 75 percent of the graduating seniors earned advanced diplomas. As I watched the seniors in this morning's meeting, I wondered if this class will be able to excel like the two previous classes.

Additionally, many of those who graduated in May are beginning their new journeys in a college or university setting. Since our graduates already have experienced the adjustment of being away from home, they likely will have fewer problems and adjustments to make than other freshmen who are away from home for the first time.

I'm grateful to be a part of this process. Few things in life are more meaningful than to impact the life of a young person.

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

## Meet the fall class

### Clear Creek welcomes its 43 new students to fall semester

Our fall semester has begun and there is excitement around campus. Our new students are settling in and adjusting to the task of balancing family, work, ministry and studies. It always is exciting to meet the new students God sends our way and hear them share how He is working in their lives. They always are excited about getting started with their studies and preparing for God's call on their lives.

This fall we praise the Lord for 43 new degree-seeking students. We count it an honor to be used of God to provide training for these students. Please continue to pray for each of them as they try to balance their time between all they need to do this semester. Since most of our students are of a non-traditional age, it can be a major life adjustment.

God continues to call Clear Creek students from all walks of life, from all over the country and to different avenues of study. Twenty-seven of these students will live on campus and study full time. Three of the students will enroll as commuters spending only one night a week away from home. Thirteen more of our new students will

study online, taking advantage of our bachelor's degree now being offered on the Web.

The average age in our incoming fall semester class is 28 years old. Twenty-two of our students are married and 21 of them are single. These new students come to us

from nine different states. We have 21 students from Kentucky; 12 from Tennessee; three from Indiana; two from South Carolina; and one each from Oklahoma, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Illinois and Virginia.

The students' previous occupations include: a secretary; restaurant worker; a pastor; a mechanic; a child care worker; a housekeeper; an office assistant; a retail worker; a construction worker; a truck driver; a janitor; a farm worker; a teacher; a pet sitter; and a grocery worker.

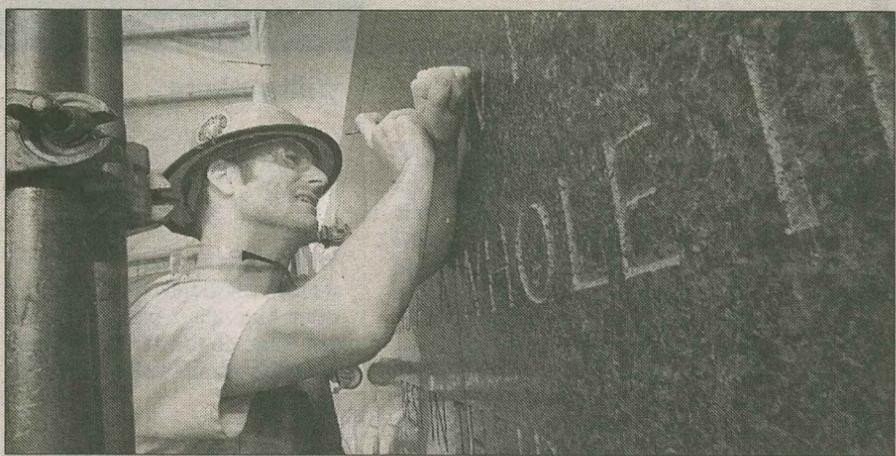
We count it a privilege to be the Bible college of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Thank you for your support that enables us to fulfill our mission to equip these God-called students for ministry. Please pray for them as they continue to follow God's call.

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

### Clear Creek Chronicle



Donnie Fox



**FAMOUS WORDS** Stone carver Nicholas Benson engraves more than a dozen quotations from Martin Luther King Jr. into the memorial that will honor the slain civil rights leader.

## Civil rights veterans say MLK monument is long overdue

By Adelle Banks

Washington—At age 93, Gardner Taylor never thought he'd live to see the day his friend Martin Luther King Jr. would be honored with a national memorial.

"I think it is singularly appropriate and long overdue," said Taylor, who helped found the Progressive National Baptist Convention 50 years ago to support the civil rights work of the friend he called "Mike."

"Mike King was minister and leader not only of black people," Taylor said, "but he was leading the nation to what it ought to be."

Ahead of the memorial's Aug. 28 dedication, the men and women who worked and marched alongside King said it's important to remember that before he was in the vanguard of the civil rights movement, he was a preacher of the gospel.

In fact, "it's really impossible to separate the civil leader from the religious leader," Taylor said. "He embodied both, and his life was a testimony to the unity

of the two."

Designers intended for the memorial to demonstrate what they called King's "spiritual presence," with his 30-foot physical image sculpted in the "Stone of Hope," and a wall of inscriptions that include quotes from his sermons and speeches.

In his "I Have a Dream" speech, uttered 48 years ago to the day of the memorial dedication, King said: "With this faith, we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope."

The placement of the monument, along the Tidal Basin a stone's throw from monuments to Thomas Jefferson and Franklin D. Roosevelt, is particularly meaningful to Otis Moss Jr.

"To have a nonviolent leader, spokesperson and martyr memorialized in the sight lines of Presidents Jefferson, Washington and Lincoln—two of whom were slaveholders and one having a mistress who was black—and to have this moral message is, I think, unprecedented." (RNS)

## Police ask judge to dismiss lawsuit over pastor's shooting

Gainesville, Ga.—Two north Georgia police officers have asked a federal judge to dismiss a lawsuit against them for their use of deadly force in a 2009 shooting that claimed the life of a Baptist pastor.

A Stephens County grand jury decided that narcotics officers Billy Shane Harrison and Kyle Bryant were justified in shooting Jonathan Ayers, 28, pastor of Shoal Creek Baptist Church in Lavonia, Ga., in a botched drug arrest on Sept. 1, 2009.

Ayers' widow, Abigail, responded with a civil lawsuit seeking damages for "gross and plain incompetence" by both officers and their supervisors in March 2010. The suit has since meandered through a series of motions, depositions and other court filings.

The most recent, entered into court records Aug. 17, asks District Judge Richard Story to grant summary judgment, a determination made by a court without a full trial.

The officers claim they spotted Ayers dropping off a woman they were investigat-

ing as detectives in a multi-county drug task force. They followed him to a gas station where he stopped to withdraw money from an ATM machine. When they approached to question him, Ayers reportedly tried to flee and his car struck one of the officers. Harrison fired shots, and one struck Ayers in the abdomen.

Ayers crashed his car, was taken to a hospital and died hours later. Family members said he asked who shot him and said he had done nothing wrong. The woman was later identified as someone Ayers had been ministering to, trying to convince her to get off of drugs and turn her life around.

Ayers' widow contends that her husband thought he was being robbed and tried to get away. Her lawsuit claims that the officers' decision to approach him the way they did—as shown in surveillance camera video—would cause any reasonable person to assume they were not police but criminals. (ABP)

## Report: Purity in workplace more difficult

Wenham, Mass.—Evangelical leaders striving to maintain their sexual purity are facing new challenges in today's corporate climate, where close contact between men and women is increasingly common.

"As laudable as Dr. (Billy) Graham's practice was—to never meet privately with a woman—it's a practical impossibility in today's workplace environment," Michael Lindsay, president of Gordon College and author of "Faith in the Halls of Power," told the Christian Post.

Women are increasingly mingling with men in leadership among evangelical organizations. The Post reported that Cherie Harder took the helm of the Trinity Forum, Joanna Mockler became chair of World Vision's board, and six women became presidents of evangelical colleges.

W. Bradford Wilcox, director of the Uni-

versity of Virginia's National Marriage Project, told the Post that studies indicate greater numbers of the opposite sex at work are linked to more infidelity.

Some men, aware of the risks, are taking precautions to protect their marriages. Michael Hyatt, former CEO of Thomas Nelson, told the Post that among his strategies are refusing to eat or travel alone with a woman and talking with his wife about everything.

Hyatt warned that men shouldn't be fooled into thinking they ever are safe from temptation: "Men that are wise will be intentional about this. It's naïve to think that somehow we can be so sanctified that we don't have to take into account our biology. ... I've seen ministries, individuals' lives ruined because of a moment of indiscretion." (BP)

## Crossing over into Haiti

### Camp staffers prepare for arrival of Crossings camp in Haiti for 2012

By Kelly Collins

Crossings executive assistant

Aug. 8 may have started like a normal day, but for the staff at Crossings, the day held a new kind of excitement, coupled with service and sweat, as we loaded a 40-by-8 foot container full of supplies for our new camp in Haiti.

The packing list was long, but the enthusiasm was evident as we packed and prayed over the items that soon would make the long trip to a new place.

Crossings in Haiti was announced this summer and presents students with the opportunity to take the gospel to the Haitian people through the ministry of Crossings in 2012. Students will help with outreach events in local schools and churches, as well as make camp improvements for future guests. Each student's registration makes a difference in the lives of those in Haiti, as each one will provide funds for 20 Haitian students to attend camp in the summer.

Crossings in Haiti is the culmination of months of dreaming and weeks of praying about the burden for orphans that the Lord has been developing in the heart of

this ministry for years. We are filled with a joy that is inexpressible as we prepare to take the mission of Crossings overseas, helping to provide an environment where our guests can come to know Christ or more fully experience Him.

### Ky. Baptist Assemblies



David Melber

We are excited to take our goal of relationships for Christ's glory beyond the United States and into the world. We exist to see people from every tongue, every tribe and every nation cross over from death to life (John 5:24).

We already are praying for the people we will meet and are asking God for barriers to be broken down so the gospel can be clearly communicated. We are anticipating God's movement among the people of Haiti and are excited to partner with Him in His work among them.

Please join us in praying for the people of Haiti and for the students and staff who will serve them next summer. Pray also for our ministry at Crossings, as we seek to be faithful stewards of all God has entrusted to us.

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

## Time for 'Food Round Up'

### Ky. Baptist churches are called on to help feed kids in Sunrise's care

It's time for Sunrise Children's Services' annual "Food Round Up."

Each year, Kentucky churches answer the call to help our agency as we meet the needs of the approximately 500 children who are in our care each day.

Just as Christ modeled the practice of meeting the physical needs of people as He began His ministry to them, Sunrise also realizes that young children who have been victimized by abuse and neglect are much more capable of dealing with the deeper issues when they are in a stable environment with good food to eat, clothes to wear and a safe place to live.

Since our beginnings in 1869, we have relied on the church for help in meeting these needs—and they have never let the children down. Through the Food Round Up, churches across Kentucky are invited to participate in this initiative to help us provide good, nutritious meals to children who may have never had enough to eat.

Years ago this meant mostly collecting canned food items. But today monetary donations and gift cards to grocery stores are much more useful in our residential programs.

### Sunrise Children's Services



Bill Smithwick

Sunrise spends about \$6.50 per child per day on providing meals. With the number of children we care for, that adds up quickly. It's a significant expense but one that can be greatly lessened by the generosity of churches.

Here's how your contribution will help: If your church were to contribute \$3,510, it would feed 18 children for an entire month. Most of our residential programs have a capacity of around 18 children.

All of this support helps us meet our goal of providing basic care to the children in our programs, which then makes dealing with their emotional, spiritual and educational issues much more manageable. The support we get from churches during the Food Round Up is essential in the success we have with the children.

If you'd like more information on our Food Round Up program, please visit [www.sunrise.org](http://www.sunrise.org) or call Carmen Peckenaugh at (502) 538-1000.

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



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August

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.

20 Men's Chorale Concert, Central Baptist Church, Corbin.

20-21 Quarterly Prayer Meeting for Spiritual Awakening, Haven of Rest Family Ministries, Inez.

MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

■ ARLINGTON—Oak Grove Church recently called **Wallace Smith** as pastor.

■ CADIZ—Cadiz Church will hold revival services Aug. 28-31 with **Wes Feltner**, pastor of Tabernacle Church in Decatur, Ill., as evangelist. **Kevin Roberts** is pastor.

■ CAMPBELLSVILLE—Campbellsville University will host a guest organ recital by **Maria LeRose-Herndon** Aug. 30, 8 p.m., at the Ransdell Chapel on campus. The concert is free and open to the public. For more information, call Campbellsville's School of Music at (270) 789-5237.

Saloma Church will celebrate its 60th anniversary with homecoming services Aug. 28, 11 a.m. A potluck meal and concert featuring **From the Heart** will follow the morning service. **John Chowning** is pastor.

■ FRANKFORT—Buck Run Church will hold a Magnificent Monday ser-

vice Aug. 29, 6:30 p.m., with **Alistair Begg**, pastor of Parkside Church in Chagrin Falls, Ohio, as guest speaker and **Bo Warren** as guest musician. The church also will hold a ladies' day of scrapbooking and fellowship Aug. 27, 8 a.m. **Hershael York** is pastor.

Crestwood Church will host the Crestwood choirs in concert Aug. 28, 6 p.m. For more information, call (502) 695-2088. **Michael Hail** is pastor.

■ GREENVILLE—Roland Memorial Church will hold homecoming services Aug. 28 with **Jim Doyle** as guest speaker and **The Poe Family** providing special music. **Danny Mooneyhan** is pastor.

Vernal Grove Church will hold homecoming services Aug. 28 with former pastor **Jerry Eades**, now director of missions for Muhlenberg County Association, as guest

speaker.

■ JACKSON, TENN.—**Thomas Lewis**, who was director of missions for West Union Association in Paducah from 1982-89, died Aug. 6. He was 87. A native of Simpson County, Lewis served as pastor of several churches in Kentucky and Tennessee. He also led other Baptist associations in west Tennessee as a DOM. Lewis is survived by his wife, Rachel, and two children. Funeral services were held Aug. 14 at the Booker-Gilbert Funeral Home chapel in Franklin.

■ LEXINGTON—Grace Church recently ordained **Mike Adair**, **Teddy Fizer** and **John Stanhope Jr.** as deacons. **David Smith** is pastor.

■ LOUISVILLE—Farndale Church will hold its annual hymn sing Aug. 28. This year's theme is "Worship in Blue: The History of Soul Gospel," celebrating the contributions of black composers to church music. **Doug Strader** is pastor.

Fern Creek Church will host **Kristin Hale** in concert Aug. 28, 5 p.m. For more information, call (502) 239-0316. **Linda Popham Barnes** is pastor.

Hurstbourne Church will host a game night and open gym time for families of preschoolers and children Aug. 26, 6 p.m. **Mike O'Neal** is pastor.

Used church literature is Illinois group's ministry

By Lisa Sergent  
Illinois Baptist

Butler, Ill.—Steve Schmidt waved his arms over the dozens of pallets of Christian reading material. "All of this used to be recycled into cardboard," he said. "Now, it's stopping someone from going to hell."

Schmidt is the founder of Love Packages, which sends Christian reading materials to foreign countries. Dozens of Illinois Baptist churches participate in the ministry by donating excess (new and used) Sunday School literature, Bibles and other Christian materials to be sorted, packed and sent to countries where very little Christian literature is available.

Pastors and missionaries use the material to share Christ and disciple Christians in many African and Asian countries where English is not the native language, but often is taught in schools. Love Packages also accepts Spanish-language materials.

LifeWay Christian Resources and Billy Graham Ministries are among the many organizations that donate their overruns and slightly damaged materials to the ministry.

Eastview Baptist Church in Springfield, Ill., serves as a collection site for the ministry, and its members volunteer there.

"It's the greatest recycling ministry ever," said Eastview Pastor Bennie Fisher. "Love Packages allows thousands around the world to hear the gospel and to grow in their faith. That's evangelism and discipleship."

Love Packages began in 1975 in the basement of Schmidt's home when he said God showed him the huge amount of literature that was being wasted. The first year, he and his wife shipped 60 boxes overseas to four missionaries. As word spread about the ministry, donations grew and two ware-

houses were constructed in the tiny town of Butler, Ill.

"Over the last five years we've shipped right at 1,000 tons each year, enough materials for 50 million people to read," Schmidt said.

"For every piece of literature we send to the Third World," he said, "it may be read by 20 people."

"We have 200 tons of literature on the water now. We ship 20 tons of literature each week."

Love Packages has a staff of three, including Schmidt, but "we are always looking for volunteers," he said.

Volunteers look through the donated items and sort out any non-Christian and cult materials. They sort the literature into six categories: Bibles; reference material; Sunday School literature; books; magazines and daily devotionals; and cassettes, tracts and miscellaneous material. The resources then are placed in color-coded boxes for shipping.

Rick Stayton, a member of Emmanuel Baptist Church in Carlinville, Ill., has been one of those volunteers for the past ten years. "I heard about Love Packages from the WMU ladies at our church and have been volunteering here since then." Stayton even has brought groups of men from his church for mission projects and participated in the Illinois Baptist State Association's statewide Missions Spectacular project at Love Packages in June.

Alice Thomas, a member of Lincoln Avenue Baptist Church in Jacksonville, also volunteered as a part of Missions Spectacular. She was among several of the Mission Spectacular participants who chose to volunteer because their churches have been shipping materials to the ministry for many years. Looking at the dozens of pallets and shelves stacked with materials she said, "I didn't realize how much they collect." (BP)

Spotlight on ...

Williamsburg



Williamsburg Church will host its Cutting Edge Outdoors banquet Aug. 25, 7 p.m., with **David Hale**, co-founder of **Knigh & Hale's Game Calls**, as guest speaker.

Parkland Church will hold a free community dinner Aug. 25, 5 p.m. **Tom Curry** is pastor.

■ MANCHESTER—Lyttleton Church celebrated its 50th anniversary Aug. 21. **John Boley** is pastor.

Pleasant Run Church recently called **Jerry Hurst** as pastor.

White Hall Church recently called **Ernest Smith** as pastor.

■ MAYFIELD—High Point Church will hold a game night for adults Aug. 25, 6:30 p.m. **Rick Hatley** is pastor.

■ MOUNT STERLING—Reid Village Church will host Boone's Creek Association's senior hymn sing Aug. 25, 7 p.m.

■ PERRYVILLE—Perryville Church will hold a family movie night Aug. 26, 7 p.m., with a showing of "Soul Surfer." **Doug Davis** is pastor.

■ WILLISBURG—Willisburg Church will hold homecoming services Aug. 28. **Jay Hatfield** is pastor.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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**FOR SALE:** 30 padded table arm chairs (red): \$40 each, or all for \$1,000. Allen organ: call for more details: (502) 421-8534; or email [jeanne@crestwoodbaptist.org](mailto:jeanne@crestwoodbaptist.org) for both items.

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

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister of music for Perryville Baptist Church in central Kentucky. Responsibilities include worship leadership for blended services, service preparation, choirs and special events. Resumes will be received by email at [crappraisals@yahoo.com](mailto:crappraisals@yahoo.com).

**SEEKING:** Part-time minister of youth for Perryville Baptist Church in central Kentucky. Needs to be enthusiastic and energetic in leading youth Bible studies, mission projects, special events and fundraising. Resumes will be received at [crappraisals@yahoo.com](mailto:crappraisals@yahoo.com).

**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 resumes 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. Resumes to Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 3223 N. Gallagher Road, Dover, FL 33527; or pastor [@firstbaptistdover.org](mailto:@firstbaptistdover.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. Resumes 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. Resumes or questions may be submitted by e-mail to [secretary@bullittlickbaptist.org](mailto:secretary@bullittlickbaptist.org).

**SEEKING:** Senior pastor for First Baptist Church, Hodgenville. Resumes now being accepted. Church information may be found at [www.fbc.hodgenville.org](http://www.fbc.hodgenville.org).

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

**SEEKING:** First Baptist Church of Fernandina Beach, located in North-east Florida, is seeking God's leadership in pursuing a minister to students. We an SBC church that averages 625 in worship. Interested candidates should have minimum of 5 years experience; we prefer they have a seminary degree. Send resumé to FBC Fernandina Beach, 1600 S. 8th St., Fernandina Beach, FL 32034, Attn: Dawn Lee; or via e-mail to [dlee@fbfirst.net](mailto:dlee@fbfirst.net).

## Being 'Christian cool' in middle school

By Diana Davis

It's an enormous transition time, both for preteens and parents. How can a church assist their students entering middle school? Try this fresh idea.

### FRESH IDEAS

"Get-Ready-for-Middle-School School" is an info-packed, fun event planned exclusively for sixth graders entering middle school. Scheduled on a Saturday, its sole purpose is to encourage preteens to excel as Christians.

Recruit a top-notch team of instructors and helpers. Design a huge "welcome to middle school" sign. Plan impressive snacks, youth group T-shirts, and info packets containing annual youth calendar, youth leaders' contact info and church info. Personally invite every new sixth grader in your church.

The Get-Ready-For-Middle-School School's schedule is fast-paced and purposeful:

■ **Opening session.** At registration, preteens enjoy snacks and informal fellowship with youth workers. The youth minister shares a lively, well-prepared presentation to passionately challenge youth to live as vibrant Christians in middle school. He introduces youth workers, and overviews opportunities for

Christian fellowship and discipleship.

■ **Many mini-classes.** Eight power-packed classes last just 10 minutes each, and preteens rotate from class to class. Instructors are youth leaders, role models, church members on faculty/staff of the local middle school, and godly older youth. They use handouts and visuals to teach how-to topics about Christian growth, resources and inside tips for middle school life. Games and snacks may be interspersed.

■ **Prayer points.** The youth minister prays for preteens by name, asking God's blessing and guidance. Students receive a list of prayer points to remind them to shine for Jesus.

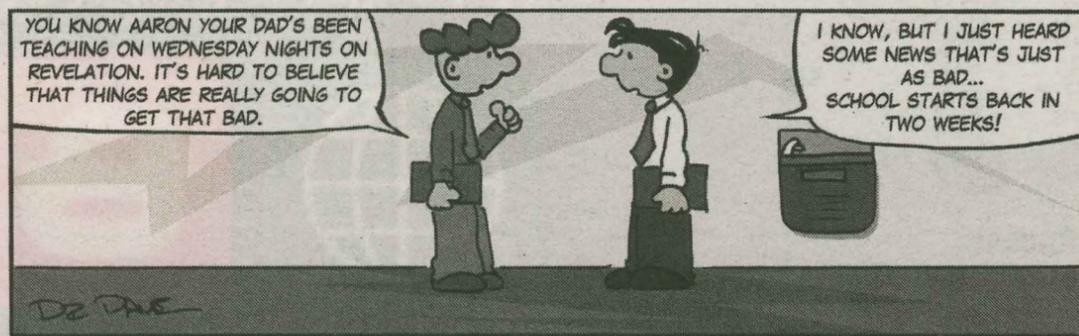
■ **Party time.** Culminate the event with a fun, memorable activity to promote friendships, such as Frisbee golf and cookout in the park, a swim party at a church member's pool, or a photo scavenger hunt.

■ **You're in the Youth Group!** Sunday morning after the event, sixth graders are welcomed into the youth Sunday School department.

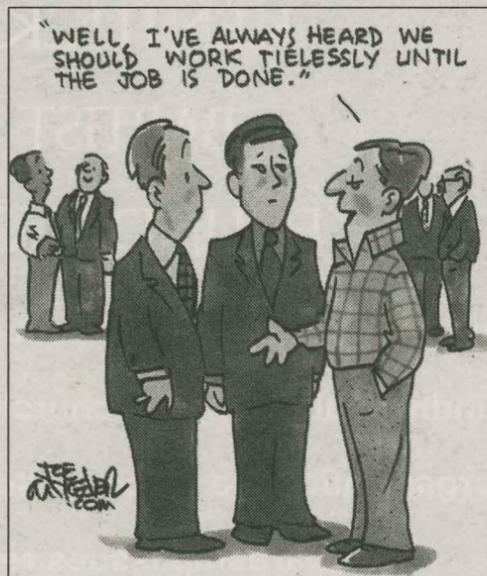
Diana Davis is an author, speaker and wife of North American Mission Board VP for Midwest Region.

## Preacher's Kids

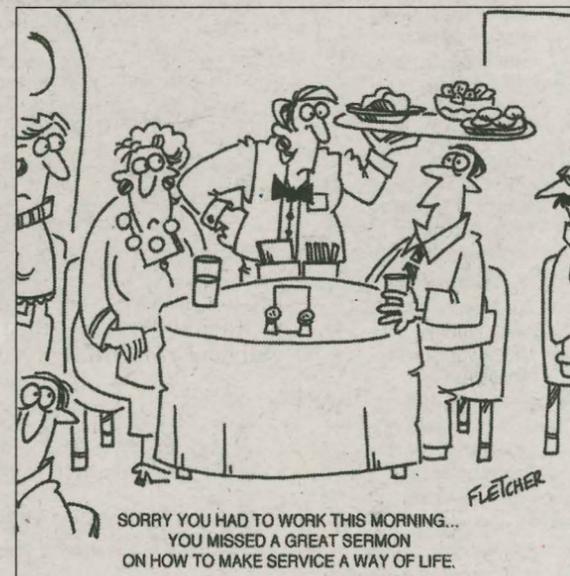
David Ayers



Joe McKeever



Fletch



Dennis Fletcher



**FIRST SPONSOR** Saloma Baptist Church of Campbellsville provided an initial gift toward the \$5,000 fundraising goal of Campbellsville University's Church Relations Council to support the school's new Christian radio station, WLCU 88.7 FM. Presenting a \$250 check to Benji Kelly (right), vice president for development at Campbellsville, is Saloma Pastor John Chowning, CU's vice president for church and external relations, and Helen Henderson, church clerk and CRC secretary. "The radio station is providing quality Christian music, news and programs for a region of South Central Kentucky and providing CU students with a laboratory for learning Christian broadcasting," Chowning said, adding that Saloma is "thankful to have this opportunity to provide this first of additional planned donations."



**HONORED** Dorothy Stewart was recognized Aug. 14 by Macedonia Baptist Church in Jonesville for 65 years of service as organist. A lifelong member of Macedonia, she began playing the piano for services as a teenager. When the church purchased an organ in the 1950s, she became organist. Gene Hill is pastor at Macedonia.

## Bible Crosswords

By Janet Kennedy

### Across

- 1 "Though they be red like \_\_\_\_\_, they shall be as wool" (Isaiah 1:18)
- 6 "Thou shalt also make a laver of \_\_\_\_\_" (Exodus 30:18)
- 10 Omissions excepted, abbr.
- 11 A long period of time
- 12 "And thou shalt make a veil of \_\_\_\_\_ and purple" (Exodus 26:31)
- 13 Lead, chem. symbol
- 14 Upper case, abbr.
- 15 Association of American Railroads, abbr.
- 16 Californian city, abbr.
- 17 "Lydia, a seller of \_\_\_\_\_" (Acts 16:14)
- 19 Academy, abbr.
- 20 \_\_\_\_\_ out: barely making a living
- 22 Kiloliter, abbr.
- 23 Elevated railroad
- 24 "And in the place of the boil there be a \_\_\_\_\_ spot ... somewhat \_\_\_\_\_" (Leviticus 13:19)
- 28 Consumed
- 29 Actress McGraw
- 30 "They had on their heads crowns of \_\_\_\_\_" (Revelation 4:4)
- 32 Base hit (baseball), abbr.
- 33 "A dove ... her feathers with \_\_\_\_\_ gold" (Psalm 68:13)
- 34 6, Romans num.
- 35 "He ... saw a publican, named \_\_\_\_\_ and said unto him, Follow me" (Luke 5:27)
- 38 A liquid adhesive
- 40 "Of the tribe of \_\_\_\_\_ were sealed twelve thousand" (Revelation 7:6)
- 42 "The same came therefore to Philip, ... saying, \_\_\_\_\_, we would see Jesus" (John 12:21)
- 44 "Lie down in \_\_\_\_\_ pastures" (Psalm 23:2)
- 47 Bear, Sp.
- 48 Estimated time of arrival, abbr.

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42	43			44	45		46		47		
48							49			50	
51				52						53	

- 49 "Neither knoweth \_\_\_\_\_ man the Father, save the Son" (Matthew 11:27)
- 50 Uncooked
- 51 "Let your yea be yea; and your \_\_\_\_\_ ..." (James 5:12)
- 52 But
- 53 "Let not the \_\_\_\_\_ go down upon your wrath" (Ephesians 4:26)
- 21 An interjection of surprise
- 23 And, Lat.
- 25 "One \_\_\_\_\_ is with the Lord as a thousand years" (2 Peter 3:8)
- 26 Able, suffix
- 27 "Peter said, \_\_\_\_\_ and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee" (Acts 3:6)
- 28 Those who give counsel
- 30 "I saw seven \_\_\_\_\_ candlesticks" (Revelation 1:12)
- 31 "\_\_\_\_\_ no man any thing, but to love one another" (Romans 13:8)
- 32 "He made for the altar a \_\_\_\_\_ grate" (Exodus 38:4)
- 36 Southern state, abbr.
- 37 "I will pass through ... removing ... all the \_\_\_\_\_ cattle among the sheep" (Genesis 30:32)
- 38 "Yea, \_\_\_\_\_ hairs are here and there upon him, yet he knoweth not" (Hosea 7:9)
- 39 Repulsive to the eye
- 41 Jacob's brother
- 43 Independent T.V. Authority, abbr.
- 45 Take food
- 46 Empire state, abbr.

### Down

- 1 "Two vessels of fine \_\_\_\_\_, precious as gold" (Ezra 8:27)
- 2 "He \_\_\_\_\_ the sea, and maketh it dry" (Nahum 1:4)
- 3 "Come unto \_\_\_\_\_, all ye that labour" (Matthew 11:28)
- 4 "Be in health, even as thy \_\_\_\_\_ prospereth" (3 John 2)
- 5 "For Christ also hath \_\_\_\_\_ suffered for sins" (1 Peter 3:18)
- 6 "Canst not make one hair white or \_\_\_\_\_" (Matthew 5:36)
- 7 Country area
- 8 At the age of, abbr.
- 9 "They clothed Daniel with \_\_\_\_\_" (Daniel 5:29)
- 12 Sound of sheep
- 18 "Though they be \_\_\_\_\_ like crimson, they shall be as wool" (Isaiah 1:18)

## Last week's solution

1	2	U	N	3	4	5	6	7	8	9					
10	I	T	11	C	P	A	12	13	O	S	P	R	A	Y	
14	V	15	M	A	16	L	A	17	H	O	S	T			
18	19	20	S	E	R	U	21	22							
23	R	E	N	T	24	B	R	I	N	G	S	25	26	L	
27	P	28	L	A	29	E	R	I	D						
30	P	31	A	V	E	D	32	S	A	M	A	R	34	I	A
35	A	R	E	36	O	N	E	S	37	H	D				
38	I	T	S	39	R	A	M	B	40	S	V				
41	N	E	R	E	A	P	I	44	S	A	T				
46	47	D	E	A	D	E	48	49	G	R	E	50	H	E	
51	O	52	G	I	N	54	H	E	B	E	R				
56	C	O	N	T	E	N	T	57	T	I	E				

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