

WESTERN Recorder

November 22, 2011

Shine Like Stars * Philippians 2:15

Volume 185, Issue 45

'Light the beacons' Chitwood charges Kentucky Baptists

By Todd Deaton

Florence—"It's time to light the beacons," Paul Chitwood charged Kentucky Baptists, just moments after being commissioned as their next executive director.

At the conclusion of the Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting in Florence, Chitwood used a scene from J.R.R. Tolkien's "Lord of the Rings" to call Kentucky Baptists to ready, rally and respond.

Paul Chitwood:

"Soldiers of Christ, will you ready yourselves for battle? Will you rally together? Will you respond? ... Will you answer the call to do more for Christ?"



"Let them (the beacons) be lit across the commonwealth this night ... from Paducah to Pikeville, from Williamburg to Williamstown, from Albany to Ashland, from Lexington to Louisville, from Middlesboro to Mayfield, Owensboro to Owingsville, Bowling Green to Barbourville—and all points in between," Chitwood urged.

In the movie, the beacons of Gondor were warning lights, he noted. "Lighted only in the worst circumstances, those beacons were a signal to the people of the land that they were directly in path of the enemy. They were the worst of news," he said.

"And yet, to those who were in the path, the beacons also represented hope," he emphasized, explaining that the beacons served to call out the armies to defend those in danger.

In the Prophet Joel's day, an enemy in the form of locusts swept across the land like a great army, devouring everything in their path, Chitwood observed. "Crops were gone. Pastures were gone. People were literally starving to death."

A swarm of locusts may not be sweeping across the commonwealth today, he allowed, but "make no mistake about it, our state is being devoured."

Pointing to ravaged communities, broken families and lives in bondage to sin, Chitwood proclaimed: "The only hope of freedom they have is the emancipation proclamation of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ."

Kentucky Baptists must stand together against the enemy, he exhorted.

□ See Chitwood's challenge ... Page 3

Kentucky Baptists Answer call to do 'More'



■ **Above:** Some of the 1,251 messengers and guests at the 174th Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting Nov. 15 answer a call by President Floyd Paris for everyone to lay \$20 each on the altar for the Cooperative Program. The impromptu offering brought in nearly \$7,500. For more about the offering, see the editorial on page 5. ■ **Right:** The choir and orchestra from Florence Baptist Church at Mount Zion, which hosted the annual meeting, lead a time of worship during the evening session. (Photos by Robin Bass)



KBC inks missions partnership with St. Louis Baptists

By Drew Nichter

Florence—Larry Baker came to know about the city of St. Louis as a child in west Kentucky picking up radio broadcasts of St. Louis Cardinals' baseball games.

Now, he'll be "deeply involved in trying to reach the lost of St. Louis with the gospel of Jesus Christ," he told Kentucky Baptists last week.

The missions growth team leader for the Kentucky Baptist Convention helped introduce a new missions partnership with Baptists in St. Louis at the KBC annual meeting Nov. 15.

During his report to messengers, KBC Executive Director Paul Chitwood ceremoniously signed the agreement along with Jim Breeden, director of missions

□ See St. Louis partnership ... Page 2



MAKING IT OFFICIAL Jim Breeden (second from left), director of missions for St. Louis Metro Baptist Association, signs his name to a new missions partnership between St. Louis and Kentucky Baptists. Looking on are (from left) Scott Pittman, partnership missions director for the Kentucky Baptist Convention; Larry Baker, KBC missions growth team leader; KBC President Floyd Paris; and KBC Executive Director Paul Chitwood.



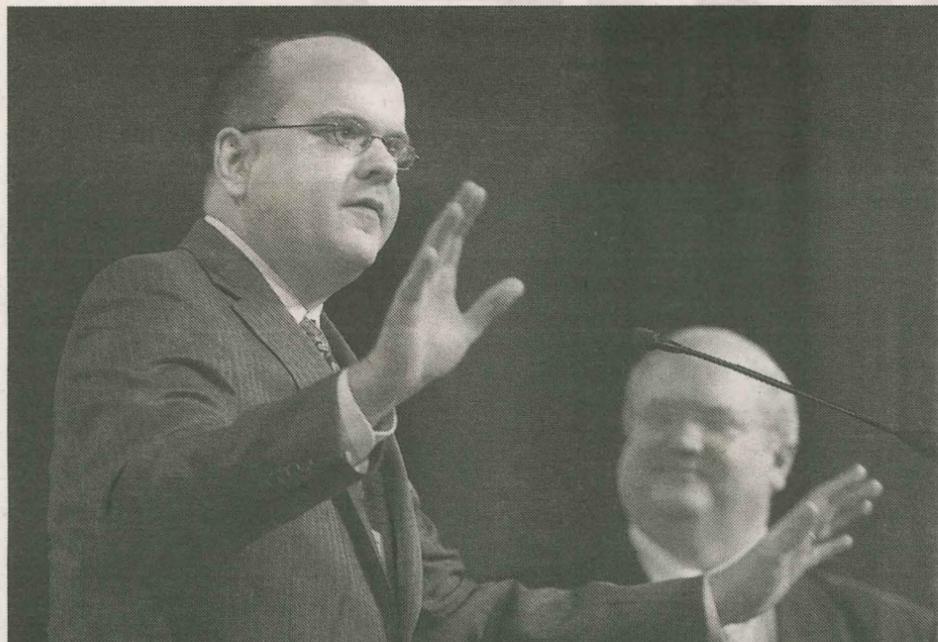
"The Western Recorder encourages Christians to serve one another, rejoice together, weep together, praise God together."

Subscribe NOW at www.westernrecorder.org

Find us on
Facebook
and on
twitter
as westernrecorder

Western Recorder 11-22-2011

Greenway discusses KBC presidency, seminary, Calvinism



MEETING ADJOURNED Newly elected Kentucky Baptist Convention President Adam Greenway shares a final word with messengers shortly before calling the 174th KBC annual meeting to a close as outgoing president Floyd Paris looks on. Greenway, 33, is the youngest president in the convention's history. (Photo by Robin Bass)

By Drew Nichter

Florence—New Kentucky Baptist Convention President Adam Greenway said he hopes messengers chose him because "it was the leading of the Spirit."

When asked why he thought he was elected, Greenway said: "I think because the messengers felt that my experiences and my service to Kentucky Baptists was something that they wanted to affirm and to continue to see."

There was no mention of his employer.

Greenway has served as a professor and administrator at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary for the past five years. His position and now his elected post are a point of contention for some local-church pastors who see Greenway as "the establishment."

In nominating Greenway's presidential opponent, Derek Coleman, Lexington pastor Paul Sisk said recent KBC leadership has been "strongly influenced by the national convention by proximity to the flagship seminary."

Greenway defeated Coleman, garnering 73.1 percent of the 644 ballots cast at the Nov. 15 KBC annual meeting.

With Greenway's election, four of the last seven KBC presidents have had teaching ties to Southern Seminary—Hershael York, Paul Chitwood and Bill Henard were the others. Greenway is the only one of that group who was not also a full-time pastor when elected.

It's a troubling trend, according to Sisk. He said it represents a "loss of recognition of the local church" and a "loss of touch with those of us out there in the trenches."

In a press conference following his election, Greenway told the Western Recorder he still considers his "primary calling" to be that of a local pastor. He was a pastor before taking the job at Southern Seminary and has served several churches in interim roles since. Currently, he is filling in for Tim Alexander at Florence Baptist Church at Mount Zion, who nominated Greenway for president.

While he may not be a full-time pastor, Greenway said it is his desire "to stay connected to the grassroots and to stay in the trenches."

As for his connection to Southern Seminary, Greenway acknowledged there are, at times, tensions between it and the convention, but said the seminary is not trying to control the KBC. "I can assure you that is not the case."

"Dr. Mohler and I have never had a conversation about the Kentucky Baptist Convention," Greenway said of Southern Seminary's president, Albert Mohler. "He's not sitting there trying to manipulate what goes on."

Because of the seminary's location in the commonwealth's largest city, Greenway said it should be expected that seminary leaders and graduates would be involved with the state convention.

2011-12 KBC officers elected

Florence—A seminary professor will hold the Kentucky Baptist Convention's top elected post for the next year.

Adam Greenway, a professor and associate dean at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's Billy Graham School of Missions and Evangelism, was elected KBC president last week. He received 73.1 percent of the 644 votes cast, defeating Derek Coleman, pastor of Gardenside Baptist Church in Lexington.

Greenway is a former KBC first vice president. He was nominated by Tim Alexander, pastor of the host church, Florence Baptist at Mount Zion, where Greenway is serving as interim pastor while Alexander receives treatment for melanoma.

Addressing messengers at the close of the annual meeting, Greenway said he looks forward to traveling the state "loving you, encouraging you and

praying for revival in our commonwealth in our time."

Greenway is the youngest president in the convention's history. At 33 years old, he is two years younger than now-KBC Executive Director Paul Chitwood was when he was elected in 2005.

The four remaining officers ran unopposed for their respective posts and were elected by acclamation.

Alan Dodson, pastor of Cornerstone Baptist Church in Lexington, is the convention's first vice president. T.J. Francis, pastor at First Baptist Church of Walton, will fill the second vice president post for the coming year.

Wilma Simmons was re-elected as KBC secretary for a 21st consecutive year. She is a member of Big Spring Baptist Church in Ekron. Pat Reaves, a member of Bethlehem Baptist Church in Louisville, will serve her third term as assistant secretary. (WR)

"I think it would be almost bizarre to think that there shouldn't be a strong and healthy relationship between the flagship seminary of the SBC and our beloved state convention," he said.

"I think the tension comes when trying to pit one against the other," Greenway suggested, "that being a Kentucky Baptist means we can't be a faithful Southern Baptist or vice versa."

On Calvinism

Discussion of Southern Seminary often provokes another hot-button issue among Southern Baptists—Calvinism. The topic has received a fair amount of attention nationally and within the state in recent months.

Frank Page, who delivered the convention's keynote address, said in an interview last month that Calvinism is one of the top challenges faced by the Southern Baptist Convention.

Also last month, a Kentucky Baptist association denied membership to a local congregation over the issue. A motivating factor, according to an associational committee, was that the church's confessional statement is "Calvinistic in nature. It affirms the doctrine of election and grace."

Greenway said the problem lies not with a belief in Calvinistic theology; it is with those who would make it a divisive issue.

"Calvinism cannot divide us," he stressed. "Only the partisans on either

side can bring about that unfortunate result."

Putting a theology ahead of God's command to share the gospel, Greenway said, highlights the wrong "ism."

"Any 'ism,' whether it's Calvinism or Landmarkism or dispensationalism, ... all of these things must be seen in light of the command of Jesus and the 'ism' that He emphasized repeatedly, which is 'evangelism,'" Greenway said.

And it's an emphasis on personal evangelism, he noted, that will help cure what ails the Kentucky Baptist Convention—namely, declining baptism rates, Cooperative Program giving and overall church involvement.

"Every Kentucky Baptist must see himself or herself as a personal evangelist," Greenway said. "They must own the Great Commission."

Now that he is president, Greenway said he will strive to unify Kentucky Baptists of all theological or political leanings. Having that freedom inside what he called the "tent of cooperation" is what being a Kentucky Baptist is all about.

"We don't fight over secondary issues. We don't find reasons to separate," he said. "We're always looking for reasons to cooperate, to reach our state and to penetrate the lostness that is here."

"And I don't see any other agenda or issue than, prayerfully, the Lord's agenda," Greenway added, "which is seeing every Kentuckian have a chance to hear about Jesus." (WR)

St. Louis partnership

Continued from page 1

for St. Louis Metro Baptist Association, and KBC President Floyd Paris.

The formal signing followed the approval of the partnership by the KBC Mission Board a day earlier. The missions relationship will last three to five years.

"The city of St. Louis is nearby, and the city of St. Louis is incredibly lost," Chitwood noted.

According to 2010 U.S. Census data, the Greater St. Louis area has a population of more than 2.8 million people; 2.2

million of them do not profess a faith in Jesus Christ or have any religious affiliation whatsoever, Chitwood said.

St. Louis "needs a faithful witness of the gospel," he stressed. "There are churches and an association there struggling to give that witness that need help. Kentucky Baptists are answering that call to help them."

The partnership stems from the North American Mission Board's newly adopted strategy, Send North America. St. Louis is one of 27 cities in five regions tabbed for "coordinated efforts" in evangelism and church planting, according to NAMB.

"The opportunities are numerous for church planting and multi-ethnic work," Scott Pittman, director of the KBC's partnership missions department, told the Mission Board.

Pittman added that St. Louis provides "tremendous possibilities" for missions in urban, suburban and rural settings and is only a few hours' drive for most Kentuckians, especially those in the western half of the state.

Chitwood said the KBC soon will make missions opportunities available for Kentucky Baptist churches. Those will include the ministry areas of evangelism, discipleship, construction,

leadership development and especially church planting.

NAMB's Send North America strategy is concerned primarily with getting established congregations involved in planting churches in its 27 "Send" cities. According to NAMB's website, one of the goals of the initiative is to increase Southern Baptist participation in church planting from 4 percent of SBC churches to 10 percent.

"If your church is looking for a place to carry out the Lord's charge to be a witness in your Samaria, we're going to make it easier for you to do that in St. Louis," Chitwood said. (WR)

2012-13 budget unchanged from current budget

Florence—The Kentucky Baptist Convention's 2012-13 Cooperative Program budget will look an awful lot like this year's budget.

Messengers to last week's annual meeting in Florence adopted a \$23.5 million operational budget for the next fiscal year, unchanged from the current one.

The budget calls for 52.46 percent of CP funds to be distributed to Kentucky Baptist missions; 43.54 percent will go to Southern Baptist causes; and 4 percent of the funds are considered shared expenses.

Like this year, the 2012-13 budget includes a "More for Christ" challenge goal that assumes 3 percent growth in Cooperative Program receipts among Kentucky Baptist churches—an additional \$705,000. Factoring that in, the total CP goal for 2012-13 is \$24,205,000.

The convention vote on the budget followed ratification by KBC Mission Board members a day earlier at Union Baptist Church.

There was discussion at the Mission Board meeting about the convention's goal of achieving a 50/50 split of CP funds between the Kentucky and Southern Baptist conventions over the next decade. That plan was adopted by KBC messengers last year as part of the Great Commission Task Force report.

David Roach, pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church in Shelbyville, asked if the 50/50 goal is dependent upon increased giving to the Cooperative Program.

KBC President Floyd Paris replied that the GCTF's recommendations allow for a 10-year window in which to achieve that percentage allocation.

The convention fell short of its 2010-11 budget goal by more than \$1 million. Kentucky Baptists gave more than \$500,000 less to CP than they did the year before.

Addressing concerns that the 2012-13 budget will not increase, Paris told messengers, "We didn't make budget last year; why increase it?"

Future convention site, preacher

Kentucky Baptists will gather for their annual meeting in Bowling Green in 2014, as messengers approved Living Hope Baptist Church as the host congregation. The convention last met in Bowling Green in 2006.

The pastor of Living Hope, Jason Pettus, will deliver the convention sermon at the 2012 meeting at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington. Greg Fauls, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Owensboro, is the alternate.

The 2013 convention will be held at Lone Oak First Baptist Church of Paducah. (WR)

Compiled from reporting by Drew Nichter and Dannah Prather

Page urges Kentucky Baptists toward unity

By Drew Nichter

Florence—The author of Hebrews in chapter 12 encourages believers to "run with patience the race that is set before us."

Highlighting the word "us" in that passage, Frank Page asserted: "The mission is a plural involvement."

"The plural pronoun is there for a reason," he added, "and I do believe that which we do best, we do together."

The president of the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee brought a challenge of unity as the keynote speaker at last week's Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting in Florence.

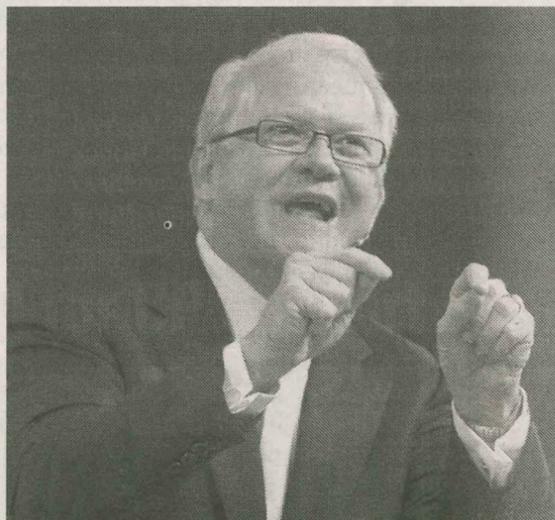
The cooperative spirit that runs throughout the SBC and its partner state conventions "runs contrary to a 21st century mindset" which is largely individualistic, Page said.

Southern and Kentucky Baptist missions and ministries only will succeed when "there is an attitude and a perspective of Christ-like selflessness," he added.

Citing Paul's letter to the church at Philippi, urging them to be one in spirit and purpose, Page challenged Kentucky Baptists to do the same.

"Let's set a model ... of working together, saying, 'I love you and I want to work with you, never against you,'" Page said.

For too long, churches have ignored the world, he lamented. In essence Christians have told the world through their actions, "Find your own way"—and "that's what the world is doing," he said.



Frank Page:

"Unity is more than just a nice, fuzzy feeling. It is a testimony to the lost. I believe our unity affects our evangelism."

But the world is indeed watching to see what the Southern and Kentucky Baptist conventions will do to reach the lost for Christ, Page reminded messengers.

"All across the convention, votes are being taken, decisions are being made," he said. All the while, "a lost world watches to see how we do it."

Reiterating the need for unity among believers, Page pointed to Jesus' prayer request in John 17:21: "that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you."

"When we cannot work together, we have forfeited the prayer request of Jesus," Page warned. "We have said to the world, 'Go to hell. We do not care.'"

"Unity is more than just a nice, fuzzy feeling," he added. "It is a testimony to the lost. I believe our unity affects our

evangelism."

But why is it so important to be unified? "So that we can be better Baptists?" Page asked.

"I'm not in this to build up a denomination, and I don't think Paul Chitwood is either," Page said, referring to the KBC's new executive director. "We're in this for the kingdom of God—and I don't believe the two are mutually exclusive."

Page concluded that increased unity among Southern and Kentucky Baptists could have unprecedented results in the world and leave an eternal mark on the kingdom of God.

"I believe the 21st century could see a turnaround such as we've never seen before; that we could do more for Christ," Page said. But that only will happen when believers begin to "do what we do for a master, our Lord Jesus." (WR)

Chitwood's challenge

Continued from page 1

"Might we hear the bad news that we are directly in the path of the enemy, and be not deceived that he comes with full assault," Chitwood urged. "And might we then count it as good news because it allows us to ready, to rally together and respond."

A part of the stewardship that God has been entrusted to the Kentucky Baptist Convention is to sound the trumpet, Chitwood observed. "So tonight, let that sound be heard."

"If we continue to act as we have acted, to give as we have given, to serve as we have served, to sacrifice as we have sacrificed, we will continue to surrender kingdom ground in Kentucky—because that is what we are doing," he warned.

But if Kentucky Baptists will hear the words of warning and heed the call, Chitwood urged, "Together we can storm the gates of hell and push back the darkness."

"Soldiers of Christ, will you ready yourselves for battle? Will you rally together? Will you respond? ... Will you answer the call to do more for Christ?"

In the Mission Board report earlier that day, Chitwood detailed some of the challenges facing Kentucky Baptists.

"Our mission field is indeed a growing mission field," he observed, citing census data that shows that over the last 40 years the state's population has increased by more than 1 million people.

"We should also keep in mind that

our mission field is becoming much more diverse," Chitwood said, adding, "If Kentucky Baptists are going to reach our state—our Judea—for Christ, we must be better positioned to reach the growing African-American, Hispanic and ethnic populations of our state."

Chitwood also highlighted that, according to the North American Mission Board, an estimated 65 percent of Kentuckians do not have a saving relationship with Jesus Christ.

"If anything, I am convinced that estimate is low," he said. "But even that low estimate reveals to us that nearly 3 million Kentuckians are lost and destined for hell if they do not place their trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior."

"These are our neighbors, these are our co-workers; these are our friends and members of our own families—of every color," he emphasized.

"How effective are we in reaching our mission field?" he asked. As the population has increased by 1.1 million, or approximately 25 percent, during the past 40 years, the number of Kentucky Baptist churches only has increased by roughly 200, or about 8 percent.

To further understand the challenge before Kentucky Baptists, Chitwood said the current ratio of KBC churches to residents is roughly 1:1,600, and that the average church attendance is 72.

Calling attention to the drastic percentage decline in Cooperative Program receipts from Southern Baptist churches over the past two decades, he warned, "That drastic reduction in partnership ... along with the desire of Kentucky

Baptists to commit more of our CP resources to those nations without a gospel witness is about to have a dramatic impact on the ministry of the Kentucky Baptist Convention."

While Kentucky Baptists should be excited about sending more missionaries to the nations, Chitwood added, "If CP gifts from our churches do not significantly increase, we simply cannot continue to fund all of the ministries and programs that we have funded in the past through our Mission Board. Nor will we be able to continue to support our institutions and agencies to the degree that we have supported them in the past, because we simply can't spend money we don't have."

"The time has come for Kentucky Baptists to make hard decisions, to ask of the things that matter to us, what matters most?" he continued. "How will we continue to allocate resources knowing that they are shrinking and knowing that the needs are growing?"

Chitwood closed with three requests:

- Pray that God will demonstrate to us what the convention churches' ministry should entail in the coming years.

- Reacquaint congregations with the ministries of the Cooperative Program and partner together in ministry.

- Take advantage of the ministries funded through CP.

"You see, together we are the Kentucky Baptist Convention, and we stand side by side to answer God's call on our lives and as a convention of churches," Chitwood said. (WR)

With additional reporting by Drew Nichter

Annual meeting was a blessed, humbling first experience

Thank you, messengers to the annual meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, for your sweet spirit!

Together We are the KBC



Paul Chitwood

My wife, Michelle, and I were blessed to spend time with you and watch you conduct your business with grace and dignity. We were encouraged by your warm greetings, kind words, and assurances that you remember us often in your prayers.

I was incredibly humbled by the commissioning time. To be encircled by our pastors and associational missionaries took me back in time to my ordination service 20 years ago when my home church expressed affirmation of God's call on my life to gospel ministry. I sensed that same affirmation as our leaders laid hands on me and prayed for me during the annual meeting.

The continual confirmation of God's call on my life to serve as your executive director is a source of great comfort and a constant reminder of my need to be a faithful steward of that call. Knowing that I am surrounded by the caliber of faithful, gifted leaders as God has given us in Kentucky is also a source of great encouragement to me.

Florence Baptist Church at Mt. Zion was a marvelous host. From those who directed traffic in the rain to those who held the door and offered hugs and handshakes, and a choir that did an amazing job on one of my favorite anthems, the host church for our annual meeting was far more than a host church. They were a host family opening their arms to loved ones. My appreciation goes to the membership and staff for helping make this year's meeting one of the most enjoyable I have attended.

I was pleased to see the retiring pastor of Florence Baptist Church, Tim Alexander, in attendance at the meeting. Tim has served his congregation faithfully for more than 25 years. His ministry has been marked by significant growth and a facility relocation that has the church poised to reach countless more people in the Northern Kentucky area for Christ over the years to come. If you have driven along I-75/71 through Boone County recently, then you have surely noticed that beautiful facility. The image of the lighted steeple at night is majestic.

Tim shared with our messengers that his ongoing battle with cancer has forced him into retirement. Would you join me in praying for this beloved friend and faithful servant?

To that prayer request let me add this praise. I praise God for the spontaneous offering for His Kingdom work! Seeing our messengers place more than \$7,000 on the altar to be invested in mission work through the Cooperative Program was yet another testimony to the willingness of Kentucky Baptists to give More for Christ.

Paul Chitwood is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Memorable moment not on KBC program

Sometimes memorable moments are ones that are unplanned. They just sort of happen. Such was the case at this year's annual meeting in Florence.

This isn't to say there weren't plenty of highlights at this year's meeting. For example, there were some stirring addresses, including a sermon by Bowling Green pastor Tom James, a call for unity by SBC Executive Committee President Frank Page, and a charge by KBC Executive Director Paul Chitwood to "light the beacons" across our commonwealth.

But all of these were slated on the day's agenda. What really struck me wasn't. It was a moment in which a spontaneous outpouring of the Spirit moved Kentucky Baptists to step up in giving "More for Christ," and the theme from John 3:30—"He must increase ... I must decrease"—became more than words.

Finding the convention about 20 minutes ahead of schedule, KBC President Floyd Paris began telling stories from his missions experiences, presumably just to fill time. But by the time he finished, messengers were streaming down the aisles to give "More for Christ."

"I started to mention the sacrifice of the American people back home to supply the war effort," he began, referring to his address earlier that day. He recalled how Americans had willingly rationed gasoline, rubber, sugar and other items. "The people back home sacrificed for the war effort, for the soldiers who were going over there," he noted. "Beloved, we are never going to win the world if we are not willing to sacrifice." Paris pointedly asked, "Can we really stand before our Lord and expect Him to say to us, 'Well done, good and faithful servant,' when we are standing there with large bank accounts and money in escrow, ... and we are standing by that person who has died on the street with nothing?"

Paris shared a humorous conversation from a business meeting in which he discovered that a very small church he was serving in Mississippi had several certificates of deposit, ranging from \$24,000 to \$60,000. "Why do we have all this money?" he asked. "My bookkeeper pulled out the checkbook and said, 'Because there are too many zeroes to put on that line there,'" he laughed. Another member retorted, "Well, preacher, you never know. Why, we could have a tornado ... or a fire?" Paris replied, "We have insurance, don't we?" He probed further, "What are y'all going to do with this money?" They replied, "We're just holding

it." "For what?" Paris asked. "Well, until we find something to do with it," a member answered.

"Beloved, the church isn't a business to make money, or to save money," he explained. "Listen, if you haven't figured this out already, the streets of heaven are paved with gold; He doesn't need any more," he quipped. "He wants us to use our money here to win the lost." Paris then appealed: "To give \$20 to the Cooperative Program tonight, I doubt very seriously that is going to be a hard sacrifice for anybody here. Why is it that we think serving the Lord means we will never have to sacrifice, that it will never cost us anything?"

He then told about taking nine youth on a mission trip to the Dominican Republic. "We went to a place where the government had said, 'We will send a teacher, if the village can build a school here,'" Paris recounted. But a missionary told the group that they could not afford tin for a roof. "The kids said, 'Pastor, we can't let this go,'" Paris recalled. "They said, can we give the money right now and go and buy the tin?" When he told them it would cost about \$3,000, the youth announced, "We just pooled all of our money that our parents gave us for souvenirs and what not, and we've got \$3,200. Can we put a roof on it?"

"Absolutely, you can!" Paris exclaimed. And, when the group returned home, they gave a report to the church. With tears in their eyes, they told about the children and providing a roof for a school. The church took up an offering that added several rooms to the school. "All you have to do is expose people to the needs and they will give," Paris concluded. "You can't give 20 bucks?" he pleaded.

At that moment, a messenger—Jay Padgett, minister of music at Graefenburg Baptist Church in Waddy—did something unexpected. He rose, walked forward, and placed an offering on the pulpit. Other messengers followed, and before long a steady stream poured down the aisles. When the impromptu offering was over, \$7,423 had been given for the Cooperative Program. KBC officials said it was the first such offering at an annual meeting in about 15 years.

"As moving as this scene is, can you imagine the picture in heaven when we see the people who were reached because of what you did here, as they line up to say 'thank you' for what you gave," Paris remarked. Indeed, KBC messengers led the way in giving "More for Christ." It was a moment worthy of being repeated in churches all across our commonwealth.

After Thought

By Todd Deaton



Separation good for both

The Lexington Herald-Leader on Oct. 29 carried the headline, "Dependence on Almighty God' upheld." The article noted the winning appeal of a state law requiring "the Office of Homeland Security publicize God's benevolent protective powers in its official reports and on a plaque posted outside the entrance to the state Emergency Operations Center."

The article notes that a Southern Baptist pastor "placed the 'Almighty God' language into the law." Why would a Baptist pastor promote such a law? Historically, Baptist John Leland

and others supported James Madison, who championed the Constitution's Bill of Rights, which begins with the clause: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion."

Baptists learned from experience the problems of a secular state defining spiritual positions. Madison and Baptists knew that only weak religion needs government support. State-required "faith-based" practices (an oxymoron) result in faithless practice.

Judges who approved the appeal for the law noted it was alright because it had little religious meaning. "A generic 'God' acknowledges religion in a

general way," wrote Judge VanMeter in the majority opinion. Now Kentucky will pay legal expenses defending a law about a generic god, who's position needs government props. State enforced faith expressions always result in meaningless spiritual script.

We who by faith live in dependence on an almighty, benevolent and just God believe that we must live within His will. In a democracy, Christians hold responsibility to use their influence for just relationships. Failure's result: "The Lord corrects the people he loves and disciplines those he calls his own" (Hebrews 12:6).

Leslie Hill
Lexington

WESTERN Recorder

Box 43969
Louisville, KY 40253

DR. TODD DEATON
Editor

DREW NICTER
News Director

THOMAS C. TOWNSEND
Marketing & Business Manager

Board of Directors:

Floyd Price (chairman), Richmond;
Duane Bolin, Murray;
Bill Edmonds, Louisville;
Dan Francis, Erlanger;
Chip Hutcheson, Princeton;
Lanna Kilgore, Bowling Green;
Paul Nunn, Prestonsburg;
Willis Polk, Lexington;
Linda Polley, Elizabethtown;
Wayne Spivey, Harrodsburg;
Dan Summerlin, Paducah.

Shine Like Stars * Philippians 2:15

Western Recorder is published weekly 49 weeks a year by Western Recorder Inc., an agency of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253. It will not be published the first week of January, the week of Independence Day or the week of Christmas. Periodicals postage paid at Louisville, Ky. (USPS 679-380)

For general information or to give news tips, call (502) 489-3535; or email: news@westernrecorder.org.

POSTMASTER: Send address corrections to: Western Recorder, Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253.

To subscribe: Send \$15 for a one-year, individual subscription or visit our Website and subscribe to our Electronic-Only edition at \$10 per year. Group subscriptions (church budget plan) are \$10 per year.

WesternRecorder.org



Scan this QR code with your smartphone to subscribe to Western Recorder.

Kentucky Baptist Pastors' Conference

Pastors, scholars encourage peers to 'Fan the Flame'

Florence—During the 2011 Kentucky Baptist Pastors' Conference, pastors and Bible scholars from across the country challenged their peers in Kentucky Baptist churches to "Fan the Flame" for spiritual renewal in the commonwealth.

Many of the messages heard Nov. 14 at Florence Baptist Church at Mt. Zion focused on the three points of the theme: purity, preaching and passion.

Adam Greenway, a professor and associate dean at Southern Seminary in Louisville, preached from 2 Chronicles 7:14.

Kentuckians "have not seen genuine spiritual awakening for 150 years," Greenway said. "Many think we're never going to see revival again because the culture has changed."

Greenway speculated that if Jonathan Edwards preached his famous sermon, "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God," today, "the church would be shocked and angered."

The newly elected convention president said believers must demand purity among themselves for revival to come.

Humility is another component he said is missing in the today's church. "If we make that commitment to be pure and holy people before the Lord God (He) promises that He will send revival."

Native Kentuckian **Tony Merida** spoke on "Christ-Centered Preaching" from Colossians 1:28-29. Merida is lead pastor of Imago Dei Church in Raleigh, N.C.

"There seems to be a misunderstanding



OFFICERS ELECTED Wesley Noss (left), pastor of New Hope Baptist Church in Versailles, was elected president-elect of the 2013 Kentucky Baptist Pastors' Conference. Jeff Noffsinger, pastor of Dripping Spring Baptist Church in Olmstead, will preside over the 2012 conference. Kevin Milburn, pastor of Union Baptist Church, was elected secretary. (Photo by Robin Bass)

ing about what Christianity is about today," said Merida, a University of the Cumberlands alum. "It is about Christ. Preaching Christ is to preach Christ incarnate, His person and His work."

Preaching Christ is about "preaching authentically," Merida said, citing four

challenges from the Apostle Paul.

He encouraged pastors to "preach Christ from His word. ... The minister of the word is known as a steward. It is about taking what has been delivered to us and delivering it to the people."

Pastors also should "preach Christ pastorally" through proclamation, warnings and teaching.

He also encouraged preaching with energy. "Preaching is work."

Preaching from Mark 8:27-30, **Jim Shaddix**, senior teaching pastor of Riverside Baptist Church in Denver, posed the question: "Is there a time that you ought not to preach?"

In the passage, Christ warns the disciples not to tell anyone that He is the Messiah. Speculating on several reasons why, Shaddix said unless a preacher is prepared to proclaim the unvarnished truth of Christ's sacrifice on the cross, the message of salvation will be compromised.

"Our Christ-centered preaching must be rooted in the cross-centered preaching," he said. "There's (no) greater danger than a salvation message that is not rooted in the cross."

Shaddix cautioned against a salvation message "that doesn't involve death. In our recent Christian culture, we've risen to worship the God of application."

"The gospel is not a crutch to boost your self-esteem," he added.

Kevin Smith, pastor of Watson Memorial Baptist Church in Louisville, spoke about how pastors must stay committed to the cause of Christ even during tough times. He preached from Matthew 11:1-6.

"I want to see if I can encourage you to press on to the glory of Christ despite your particular circumstances," he said.

Having the attitude of a "supporting" cast member is necessary to shift a believer's focus from himself to Christ.

As an example, Smith said John the Baptist once "had been on center stage," but eventually took on the roll of "a supporting character."

Although John had said publicly about

Jesus, "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world'... later (John) had to ask if Jesus was the Messiah," Smith noted.

In the Scripture passage, "We are looking at the inconsistent passions of a man Jesus commended as a great man of the faith. Sometimes God doesn't change our circumstances because it's not that important to the mission," Smith said.

Ted Traylor, pastor of Olive Baptist Church in Pensacola, Fla., spoke of the need for believers to be "branded for Christ." From Galatians 6:17, he quoted the Apostle Paul who wrote, "I bear on my body the brandmark of Jesus."

Branding is "how our light shines, our works produce," he said.

There are four "brandmarks" that God wants to see in His followers. The brand of holiness means "you are either full of the Holy Ghost or full of yourself."

Traylor said the brand of humility is so vital that Jesus mentioned it three times in the New Testament. Paraphrasing, Traylor said, "He that exalts himself is coming down, and he that humbles himself will be lifted up."

The brand of pain also is important. "God never wastes a hurt," Traylor said.

The final brand Traylor spoke of is the brand of passion. "We've got to get passionate about our Lord," he said, encouraging pastors to embrace ministry among "the least" of society.

"I got into this for transformation," Traylor noted. "The only thing (that transforms) is Jesus. It's time we boast on the cross."

Tullian Tchividjian, senior pastor of Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., preached from Colossians 1:9-14.

The grandson of Billy Graham, Tchividjian said longtime believers, including pastors and ministers, often compartmentalize the ministry of the gospel primarily to evangelistic endeavors.

The common attitude is "people outside the church need the gospel; people inside the church need something else," Tchividjian said.

"What I've come to discover is that once God saves us, He doesn't move us (somewhere else), He moves us more deeply into the gospel," Tchividjian said. "The gospel doesn't just ignite the Christian life, it is the fuel that keeps Christian people going and growing."

Believers must come to learn that "we need the gospel just as much today as we did the day we were saved," he said.

As Christians strive to live holy lives, often they become "morbidly introspective," Tchividjian said. Using himself as an example, he said he finds that "the sin I need removed most on a daily basis" is that "I think way too much about how I'm doing and if I'm growing."

"The more I focus on my need to be better, the worse I actually get."

Returning to the truth of God's "undomesticated grace," which requires nothing from a believer but everything from Christ, frees followers to live more closely to God.

"When you realize you don't have to do anything for Jesus, you begin to want to do everything for Jesus," Tchividjian pointed out. (KBC)

SUNRISE
Children's Services
Helping children in crisis shine.

OF COURSE, HE KINDA NEEDS YOUR HELP TO DO IT.
"THE LORD HEARS, AND RESCUES THEM FROM ALL THEIR TROUBLE." PSALMS 34:17

There are a lot of ways to help rescue these children who find themselves in troubled homes. Please thoughtfully consider bringing in a child and sheltering them from their storm. Or perhaps you can be generous with your support of those who do. Visit www.sunrise.org or call 1.855.33.ICARE.

OPEN YOUR HEART TO FOSTER CARE.

We hold ourselves to the highest accountability standard. We are the only private child care provider in Kentucky offering a full array of services that is accredited by the Joint Commission, the premiere health care accreditation organization in the country.

Paducah - Lexington - Danville - Bowling Green - Owensboro - Elizabethtown - Mt. Washington - Somerset - Morehead - Ives - Hazard

President's address

'Get off the beach, and move inward,' Paris exhorts KBC

By Todd Deaton

Florence—"Seeing Jesus makes all the difference in the world. Sometimes we forget that," convention President Floyd Paris told Kentucky Baptists, encouraging them personally to be involved in doing "More for Christ."

"That means praying more, repenting more, giving more, going more and doing more," the pastor of Unity Baptist Church in Ashland explained to those attending the annual meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention in Florence.

In addressing the convention theme, "He must increase ... I must decrease" from John 3:30, Paris noted that the growing ministry of Jesus did not diminish John the Baptist's role whatsoever. "He was still called to do what God called him to do," Paris emphasized.

"The temptation that they brought to John was to argue among themselves," Paris explained. "John said, 'What? I told you (that) I'm not the Christ. To be jealous of Him? No.'"

Assuming the character of John for a few moments, Paris continued, "Man, you tell me that Jesus is getting more people and you want me to be upset. I'm excited. Praise God, He is getting more people."

Likewise, pastors should not be jeal-

ous of but joyous for another congregation's numerical growth, Paris said.

After sharing some of the odd names of churches and places where he had served, Paris observed that one can find "good and godly people everywhere—even Chicken Switch, Ark." He then

spoke pointedly: "Don't be defeated because you are not the pastor of First Baptist Church, Large City, America. You do what God has called you to do.

"You tell people about the Lord Jesus. That's what is important," he urged.

Reminding them of their roles in leading

churches to do more for Christ, Paris charged, "Pastor, you are key in everything that happens."

Cota's heroics

Paris told the story of one of the heroes of the D-Day invasion, Maj. Gen. Norman "Dutch" Cota, who commanded the pinned-down troops—who were dying by the thousands—to move inward, off the bloody beaches of Normandy.

"Gen. Cota knew if the war in Europe was going to be won, it was going to be won at this moment," Paris said. Cota reached down and grabbed a machine gun and shouted to an Army Ranger regiment, "Follow me!" And he charged, Paris recalled.

Floyd Paris:

"I do not care how big your church is, you cannot win this world alone. I don't care how small your church is, you can have a part in winning the world."



'LET'S GET GOING' Kentucky Baptist Convention President Floyd Paris compels KBC messengers to action with the heroic story of Maj. Gen. Norman Cota at the D-Day invasion of Normandy, France, during World War II. (Photos by Robin Bass)

Cota found a weak point in the Nazi's defenses where the Allies could break through the barbed wire and move past the machine-gun nests, and he led the charge, Paris noted. The testimony of the soldiers who were there, he said, was that in seeing the presence of a general boldly standing and shouting "follow me," they were given the courage to move forward, in spite of the unrelenting crossfire and heavy casualties.

"We have a greater commander than Gen. Cota. We have a greater mission than storming the beaches of Normandy. We have a more formidable foe than the Nazis," Paris assessed. "And we cannot do it by ourselves.

"I do not care how big your church is, you cannot win this world alone," he continued. "I don't care how small your church is, you can have a part in win-

ning the world," referring to Southern Baptists' opportunity to support world missions through the Cooperative Program.

"Let's get off the beach, and let's get going to win the world for Christ," he charged.

"He is worthy"

Declaring the need for Kentucky Baptists to willingly sacrifice in order to do more for Christ, Paris intoned the words of the 24 elders in Revelation 4 who gathered around the throne of God: "Thou art worthy, thou art worthy, thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory, glory and honor, glory and honor and power."

"He is worthy of our best; He is worthy of our most; He is worthy to increase while we decrease," Paris affirmed.

"More for Christ," beloved, may that be our heartbeat." (WR)

Christ's blood necessary for forgiveness, Bowling Green pastor affirms

By Todd Deaton

Florence—In a convention sermon titled "No other fount I know"—drawn from Zechariah 13:1 and 1 Peter 1:18-20—Tom James, pastor of Eastwood Baptist Church in Bowling Green, affirmed that "nothing but the blood of Jesus" can cleanse one from sin and make one whole again.

Recalling an article he read recently about Maurice Creswick of South Africa, who earned a world's record last year by having donated 380 units, or 45.2 gallons, of blood since 1944, James noted that Creswick's blood likely had saved dozens of lives.

"That's impressive," he concurred, "but I want you to know, I know somebody whose blood has saved millions of lives," he exclaimed to a peal of "amens."

"I'm convinced if we are going to have 'More for Christ,' then our churches must be hearing more from Christ through us," James continued, lamenting that "too much psychology (is) handed down from our pulpits."

In tracing the requirement of a blood sacrifice in atonement for sin throughout the Old Testament, James refuted statements made by several scholars denying the necessity of Christ dying on a cross.

"The Bible says, without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sin," James countered.

"You can have a Ph.D. on the wall, but if you don't have G-O-D in your heart, that just makes you a smart devil," he quipped.

"If you were to take this body and drain the blood out of it, you would have nothing but a corpse," he observed. "Likewise, if you were to take the church, the body of Christ, and remove the blood from it, you have nothing but a dead faith and a dead church.

"We've been called a people of the book, but we are also a people of the blood," James declared.

Jesus' death of the cross was a costly but effective sacrifice, James asserted.

After reading an article about anti-hydrogen, a substance which is said to be so rare that an ounce is valued at \$1.75 quadrillion, James recalled, "I thought, 'That's pretty valuable.'

"But I know something more valuable ... more precious: It's the blood of Christ," he added, explaining that through the blood, believers not only have been set free from sin, but also have been adopted as children of God.

"Our adoption was free, but it wasn't cheap," James emphasized. "It cost the Son of God His place in heaven, His position, His power, ... but He did it for you and me.

"It wasn't that He could get off (the cross), but that He wouldn't get off," James concluded. "His final words to us were etched on a cross, colored blood red. His final words simply said, 'I love you.'" (WR)



LIFE-SAVING BLOOD Tom James, pastor of Eastwood Baptist Church in Bowling Green, delivers the convention sermon at last week's Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting in Florence. He affirmed that "nothing but the blood of Jesus" can cleanse one's sins and make one whole again.

KBC messengers resolve to address payday lending practices

By Drew Nichter

Florence—Kentucky Baptists took aim at predatory lending practices last week, adopting a resolution to promote changes in the payday loan industry.

The resolution was adopted unanimously by messengers to the Nov. 15 Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting in Florence. It calls on the KBC and church leaders to encourage state and local governments to “restrain exorbitant interest” rates charged by payday lending companies and to promote further measures “necessary to protect individuals from lending abuse.”

According to the resolution, payday loans are offered at interest rates as high as 391 percent. They are “designed to

entrap households in debt through a combination of high fees and short repayment periods.”

A borrower in Kentucky typically is in debt for 160 days a year. In order to receive \$317 of credit, he or she will pay \$529 in fees alone, the resolution noted.

“It’s supposed to help people, but they are finding themselves in a deep hole they can’t get out of,” said Joseph Owens, a Lexington pastor who submitted the resolution.

In addition to leading Shiloh Baptist Church, Owens works closely with community-action organizations that seek to correct perceived injustices among local residents.

One of those groups is BUILD (Building a United Interfaith Lexington

through Direct action) which he co-founded. It is made up of 17 Lexington churches representing people of different denominational and socio-economic backgrounds.

Owens said he has been working with BUILD for a year now trying to get the message out to government leaders that changes are needed in payday lending practices.

“We are trying to bring energy to this and create awareness that this is an injustice that needs to stop,” he told the Western Recorder.

As the resolution notes, many states, including Kentucky, have maintained provisions against lending money at high interest rates, often enforcing two-digit rates and capping them at 36 percent in order to limit abusive lending practices.

Kentucky law even states that borrowers can have no more than two

outstanding payday loans in his or her name at one time. Owens said in his research, he has found that the average customer of a payday lending business has an average of 10 unpaid loans.

With laws in place to prevent these unscrupulous practices, Owens said he cannot understand why the state allows them to continue.

“Our push is to get our legislators to recognize there is a problem,” he said.

And creating that awareness about payday lending abuses among lawmakers and the public ultimately is the responsibility of the church, just the same as its many other ministries, Owens charged.

“We do good going to church and feeding the hungry,” he said, “but we are falling behind when it comes to fighting injustices. We don’t need to drop the ball on this one.” (WR)

With additional reporting by Robin Bass.



CAST YOUR VOTE Messengers to last week’s KBC annual meeting raise their ballots during one of the business sessions held at Florence Baptist Church at Mount Zion. (Photos by Robin Bass)



HONORED Kay Underwood (right), smiles at husband, Bud, after the couple was commended by Kentucky Baptist Convention messengers through a unanimously adopted resolution. Bud Underwood will retire next March after 18 years as president of Oneida Baptist Institute.

Underwood recognized for ‘excellent service’ to Oneida

By Drew Nichter

Florence—As he does every year, Bud Underwood thanked Kentucky Baptists for their continued support of Oneida Baptist Institute.

This year, he did it for the last time as president.

Next March, Underwood will retire from Oneida Baptist Institute, the eastern Kentucky boarding school he attended and has served for the past 28 years—18 of those as president.

Messengers to last week’s Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting adopted a resolution commending Underwood and his wife, Kay, for their service to the school.

“Dr. Underwood will leave a legacy of faithfulness that will be long reflected in the lives of the many students who have passed through the doors of Oneida Baptist Institute,” the resolution states.

Eschewing his tradition of allowing students to present Oneida’s report to the convention, Underwood stood before messengers one last time, thanking them for their support of the school in any number of ways.

“Because of your love, your financial support, your prayers, the used clothing that we use a lot at Oneida, the volun-

teers that have blessed our campus, and just because of who you are—God bless you,” he said.

After attending 13 schools in and around Dayton, Ohio, Underwood enrolled at Oneida in 1961 as a high-school junior. Even though his mother couldn’t afford the tuition, Underwood said that through the kindness of church members back home and in the commonwealth, he started down the path to where he is today.

“I was able to go to Oneida because of the generosity of Kentucky Baptists,” he said, “and I will forever be indebted to you for that.”

Underwood’s time at Oneida “has been marked by faithfulness to his Lord, humility and a dedication to the vision and work of Kentucky Baptists and Oneida Baptist Institute,” the resolution states.

At a school that has faced—and still faces—lean financial times, Underwood has helped increase the school’s endowment from \$1.5 million to \$28 million. It also has experienced improved facilities and a reduction in the turnover rate of students, faculty and staff during his tenure, according to the resolution.

Underwood will retire from the school March 31, 2012. (WR)

It's not too late to celebrate the holidays at Smoky Mountain Christian Village with our super saver special!

Make reservations right now for the weekdays, and save like never before on lovely mountain chalets in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. The chalets and lodges, located on 40 wooded acres, have fully equipped kitchens, gas fire places, large living and dining areas, and entertainment centers. Our property is quiet and secluded, yet we are right across from Dollywood and minutes from all Pigeon Forge attractions and shopping!

Mention promotion code: “Fun and Fellowship” and receive

Up to 8 people, two bedrooms, two week nights for only \$60 a night for each bedroom!*

For more information, visit our website at www.tsmcv.org or call us now at 1-866-947-7710
email: info@tsmcv.org, 2525 Goldrush Rd. Pigeon Forge, TN 37863

* Some restrictions apply: Special rates are for weekday stays (Sunday afternoon through Friday morning) only, subject to availability, two bedroom/ two night minimum stay, paid in full at the time reservations are made. Offer ends March 31, 2012. Promotion code must be used at the time of telephone reservations.

'I really wanted to thank you'

Assistance for new Oneida student results in both shoes and a smile

On the bottom of my mail basket was a sealed envelope with a letter from a student. It is not often that I get to the bottom of my basket, so I suspect the letter had been there for several days. It was from "Philip" (not his real name). I interviewed Philip when he enrolled in August as an incoming freshman.

He was being raised in a single-parent family after the accidental death of his father when Philip was a small child.

Philip was not able to make even average grades. He told me there were two primary reasons for this. First, he "didn't understand" what was being taught. Second, because his comprehension was so limited, he "didn't do much homework."

Philip was making mostly D's and F's. Philip is a quiet boy and is now doing much better academically. At mid-term of the second quarter, he was failing two classes, but doing improved work overall. He is receiving tutorial help, and I believe that by the end of the third quarter he will be passing all of his classes.

Here is part of what Philip wrote: "I really wanted to thank you for the ... shoes that you found for me at the Friendship House. I really appreciate them so very much because I ruined a pair of my old shoes trying to get the drain unclogged in back of the grill."

My wife, Kay, sometimes takes dorm girls to our used clothing store, the Friendship House. After the girls have had a turn, the boys can shop.

The clothes are provided to the

students free of charge. Philip had been to the Friendship House but could not find any shoes his size.

I had just helped unload some shoes a few days earlier, and I had seen several pairs of large shoes and boots. I asked Philip to return to the clothing store and showed him the shoes he had not seen. He went away very happy to have received three pair of shoes and one pair of boots.

This is Oneida



W.F. Underwood

God has blessed our lives with many wonderful things. I am grateful to the many friends who make all we do possible, including the used clothing we receive throughout the year.

Philip was not going around barefoot, but he did need some shoes. The fact that he took time to write a letter of thanks indicates how appreciative he was.

Like Philip, I want our friends to know of our appreciation for all that you have done for us.

The past three years have been very difficult financially. Yet we have carried on. We have paid our bills and we have not denied a single student scholarship funds if there were legitimate financial needs. In fact, the number of students on full scholarship has increased again this year.

To all our many friends, we say, "Thank you." May God bless each of you for the support you provide this ministry. I hope you have a very merry Christmas!

Reprinted from WR, Dec. 23, 2003.

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

God's call

Student finds peace in following God's direction, plan for his life

First-year student Gary Earl, from Covington, thought he had his life headed in the right direction.

"I came to know Jesus Christ as my personal Savior at a young age," Earl recalled. "During my teenage years, I know God placed a call on my heart to surrender to full-time ministry. As I would spend time around my pastor at the church I was attending at the time, I would constantly feel the conviction from the Lord that He wanted me to surrender to full-time ministry. I knew at that young age the direction God wanted for my life.

"As I look back at that point in my life now, I know I made a decision based on what I wanted," Earl said. "I had always wanted to get my music degree. I now know the problem was that I allowed myself to listen to others instead of listening to God. I had people around me who kept telling me that I really needed to go on and get my music degree, and I just simply listened to them instead of God.

"So, I followed my decision and

got my music degree, graduated and started working with high school bands and teaching music," Earl said. "But it didn't take me long to realize that I was not doing what I needed to be doing. Even with all that I enjoyed about working with music students and helping with the marching

bands, I still had something missing in my heart.

"When I started attending my home church, I once again began to see the excitement the pastor had about doing ministry," Earl recalled, "something I remembered seeing in my pastor when I was first saved. God began to really convict my heart about being obedient to His call, and I knew I had to do some-

thing. Now here I am ready for God to use me as a pastor.

"Make sure you are faithful to what God has called you to do," Earl encouraged. "Don't go back on it. Eventually you're going to be brought right back to what God has called you to do like I did."

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

Changes to KBC constitution, bylaws adopted at meeting

By Drew Nichter

Florence—A number of changes to the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Constitution and Bylaws were adopted at last week's annual meeting.

Messengers in Florence, with no discussion, approved eight recommendations from the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws. Most of the proposals were meant to improve the "parliamentary language," according to the committee's report.

KBC purpose reworded

The most significant change was made to Article VI of the KBC Constitution that identifies the convention's purpose. It previously was defined as a "medium through which the churches in their sovereign capacity can work together in promoting all denominational enterprises which they deem necessary in carrying out the Great Commission."

Article VI now reads: "The Body shall serve and assist the churches in their sovereign capacity by the providing of resources and the facilitating of cooperation so that both the Body and the churches may fulfill the Great Commission."

The rationale for the change, according to the committee, is to clarify that the KBC "serves the local church, not the other way around," and that the convention's stated mission should be "to provide resources and facilitate cooperation" among churches.

The change in Article VI reflects a statement in a report released by the Kentucky Great Commission Task Force last year that called on the KBC to become more of a "facilitator of shared advice, counsel and experience" among its churches "rather than a provider of those services."

Other actions included guideline changes for a pair of KBC standing committees and a first reading of constitutional changes that will be voted on next year.

■ Messengers unanimously voted to remove the Baptist Joint Committee from a list of groups with which the KBC's Committee on Public Affairs cooperates in its work.

According to the report, the BJC "is not officially affirmed or endorsed, nor directly funded by" the Kentucky or Southern Baptist conventions.

The BJC once was the SBC's primary voice for public-affairs issues in Washington and received funding through the Cooperative Program. Relations between the two entities eroded during the SBC's conservative shift of the 1980s. All ties between the two were severed in 1991.

Kentucky Baptists attempted to maintain relations with the BJC, voting in 1991 to continue funding the organization. That decision was rescinded two years later, effectively ending any official association between the two groups.

■ Messengers voted to allow the Committee on Committees to recommend more than one representative from the same association to serve on the Committee on Nominations.

Business for 2012

■ A trio of recommendations was given a first reading and will be voted on at the 2012 annual meeting in Lexington.

The highlighted changes include decreasing the minimum number of messengers a church can have from two to one; making Cooperative Program giving a requirement for receiving messengers; and adjusting churches' member criteria for additional messengers from every 250 members to every 250 "resident members." (WR)

KOINONIA

TRAVELS AND TOURS

Koinonia Travels and Tours

Invites you to join Dr. Billy Compton and Roger McCurry on a Life-Changing journey to The Land of Faith... The Land of the Bible... The Holy Land.

May 15th-25th, 2012.
"You Will Never Be The Same."

Information/Orientation Meeting Sunday, Dec. 6, 2011.

Contact Roger McCurry for complete details and itinerary @ 270-304-9062 or roger@koinoniatravelstours.com. Visit www.koinoniatravelstours.com to discover more about Christian travel opportunities plus check out the following 2012 tours: * Florida Winter Break-A-Way * Christian Snow Ski Adventure * Washington, D.C. * Cruises * New England Fall Foliage * Hawaii * Branson * * Alaska/Canadian Rockies * Marvelous Memphis * Smoky Mountains *

Koinonia is a faith-based tour company that specializes in planning Christian travel. Group Travel Leaders please give us a call and discover the difference we can make with your next tour.

Heads of KBC agencies, institutions report to messengers

Campbellsville University—As Campbellsville University marks its 105th year of Christian higher education, President Michael Carter said, "We could not be more excited about sharing the love of Jesus Christ with each of our students as we are this year." He reported that a school-record 172 decisions for Christ recently were made in one night at the campus chapel. CU also broke its enrollment record for the 23rd straight semester. Total enrollment for fall 2011 was more than 3,500 students. As the university continues its Vision 2025 initiative, improvements have included a new women's residence hall, four new online courses and three new bachelor's degree programs.

Clear Creek Baptist Bible College—Through block parties, after-school mentoring, evangelistic outreach events, and serving at summer camps, students at Clear Creek Baptist Bible College are "learning the Great Commission by doing the Great Commission," said school president Donnie Fox. "This past academic year, our students traveled over 8,000 miles with their involvement in their ministry activities," Fox said in a video report. "They preached over 2,900 biblical messages, ... took advantage of over 1,700 witnessing opportunities, ... and our students were privileged to lead 98 people to faith in Jesus Christ."

Kentucky Baptist Assemblies—Fifteen years ago, some were debating the future existence and spiritual impact of camps at Jonathan Creek and Cedarmore,

recalled David Melber, president of Kentucky Baptist Assemblies' Crossings program. "If you follow the camping industry, there are camps all across this country that are closing left and right. Even in our denomination there are challenges," he noted. However, Crossings celebrated another record year in 2011 with 9,400 visitors—most of them students—giving more than \$108,000 to missions. Melber said the camps also are changing lives with 583 students making decisions for Christ over the summer and another 593 professing a call to some form of ministry. Crossings will go international in the coming year when it partners with Baptist Haiti Missions for three camps.

Kentucky Baptist Foundation—Barry Allen took care of a little housekeeping at the annual meeting this year. The Kentucky Baptist Foundation president told messengers an amendment was needed to correct an inconsistency between the KBF's articles of incorporation and the Kentucky Baptist Convention's constitution. The correction would remove a clause that required board members to be Kentucky residents. "Since there are many active members of KBC cooperating churches who live in contiguous states and are worthy of the consideration to serve," Allen said, "the foundation board recommends the following revision: 'All directors shall be members in good standing of a Kentucky Baptist church for at least one calendar year.'" Messengers approved the amendment.

Oneida Baptist Institute—Bud Underwood addressed messengers to the KBC one last time Nov. 15 as president of Oneida Baptist Institute. He will retire March 31, 2012, after nearly two decades at the southeastern Kentucky school. He was met with a standing ovation after thanking Kentucky Baptists to allow him to serve for 18 years. About 50 percent of Oneida's 6th through 12th grade students are native to Kentucky, 30 percent are from other states and the remaining 20 percent are from other countries.

Sunrise Children's Services—Bill Smithwick, president of Sunrise Children's Services, unveiled several promotional advertisements at the annual meeting last week intended to create an awareness of Kentucky's need for foster parents. Smithwick urged Kentucky Baptists to consider the foster-care system as a mission field and the young, innocent victims who cannot speak for themselves. "As we go on our way to the uttermost ends of the earth, we must not forget those right here in Jerusalem," he said. "We are on kingdom work, not social work. Get on board with us. There are a lot of ways you can help us." Last year, Sunrise provided care to more than 2,300 Kentucky children.

University of the Cumberland—In a video presentation, messengers learned that University of the Cumberland continues to move forward as it "prepares students for lives of responsible service and leadership." Students working with Mountain Outreach constructed three new homes and completed 29 repair projects this summer. Through Baptist Campus Ministries, hundreds of students have served to assist the impoverished, elderly and sick through various agencies and ministries. "None of us do much of anything alone,"

said Jim Taylor, university president, "Indeed, it takes many hearts, heads and hands to move an institution forward as we seek to do more for Christ. My friends, He's done it all for us."

Western Recorder—Western Recorder Editor Todd Deaton presented messengers at the annual convention with a video presentation of the year's top Kentucky Baptist news stories. "In two minutes you have seen 50 ways Kentucky Baptists shine like stars with the ways they have been doing more for Christ this year," Deaton said. He also noted the many recent improvements made to the state's Baptist newspaper, including increased type size, larger photos, stronger headlines and more use of color—all to "make your newspaper more appealing and enjoyable." New communication platforms being utilized by the Western Recorder are a website, Facebook page, Twitter posts, e-editions and QR (Quick Response) codes for smartphone users.

Woman's Missionary Union—Joy Bolton, Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union executive director, told messengers she is excited about recent changes in their office with the addition of four new staff members. She especially was honored to introduce Jon Auten, Royal Ambassadors consultant. "Kentucky WMU has said welcome home to RAs," Bolton said of the ministry WMU began in 1908. "We are in a transition year as WMU gears up to once again produce the RA materials starting next September. Jon is already at work training leaders and making plans for RA events and camps." The Eliza Broadus Offering fell short of its 2010-11 goal of \$1.2 million with slightly more than \$1,070,000. The 2011-12 goal is \$1.25 million and is themed "Chain Reaction."

Compiled by Robin Bass.

Alaska Cruise

& Canadian Rockies Vacation

Price Reduced
\$1000
per couple**

Hosted by Mississippi Baptist
Minister Billy Williams

15 Days Departs May 29, 2012 from \$1898*

Visit the last of the wilderness-like areas in North America all from the comfort of your deluxe motor coach and cruise ship. Fly into Seattle for a night, then drive through Washington's evergreen forests past stunning mountains to Vancouver, B.C., where you'll board your 5-STAR cruise ship the *ms Volendam*, for your seven-day **Holland America Line** cruise. Travel through a wondrous maze of forested-island and glacier-carved fjords, past charming coastal villages, migrating whales and calving glaciers to Juneau, Skagway, Glacier Bay, and Ketchikan. From Vancouver you'll start your scenic six-day motor coach tour to Calgary. You'll visit Kamloops, BC; Jasper and Jasper National Park; Banff and Banff National Park; Columbia Ice Fields; Lake Louise; Athabasca Glacier; Bow Falls; and Calgary. Your YMT Chaplain is Rev. Billy Williams, taking his ninth trip with YMT as a Baptist Chaplain. ** Price lowered by changing departure date from July 12 to May 29, 2012. *Price per person, double occupancy; includes taxes. Based on inside category M stateroom, and subject to availability; space is limited and cabins are confirmed on a first received bases with deposits. Airfare is extra.



For details, itinerary, reservations and letter from your chaplain with his phone number call 7 days a week:

1-800-736-7300

A time for reflection

Holiday season offers opportunity to praise God for camps' success

This is one of my favorite times of the year as the weather cools and the holiday season rapidly approaches. This fall has been our single-largest fall retreat season in our history with groups exceeding, at times, more than 500 guests at each property. As Thanksgiving approaches, I always seem to look back and celebrate what has taken place over the years.

As I reflect back over the past years since Kentucky Baptist Assemblies officially was formed, it is nothing short of a miracle in terms of all the milestones that have taken place. Some 15 years ago, the very future of the camps was uncertain, even to the point of closing Cedarmore.

Given the recent events surrounding LifeWay's Glorieta Conference Center in New Mexico, I am humbled that God has allowed our continued existence as a year-round ministry at both Cedarmore and Jonathan Creek.

I really don't have a great explanation of our attendance trends since our inception. They really defy all odds and logical thought. We have experienced 10 years of consecutive attendance

increases, and 2012 is looking yet again like another record year.

My short answer to all this is simply God's unmerited favor. Just as His grace to us through salvation is based solely upon His free gift, I acknowledge that all the "success" we have experienced is

100 percent the result of God's grace.

My prayers as we look forward is that we never take anything for granted, nor would we ever take any glory ourselves for what He is doing through this ministry. While I am thankful for our current staff and those who have served over the past 15 years, I realize each are a gift from Him, and their labors are a

result of the Holy Spirit working through them.

For those who remember the days of uncertainty surrounding Cedarmore and Jonathan Creek, thank the Lord for what He has done over the past 15 years. As we enter the holiday season, it certainly is a time for us to be very thankful for what God has done.

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

Ky. Baptist
Assemblies



David Melber



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December

12-13 KBC Mission Board Meeting, Kentucky Baptist Building, Louisville.

January

19-20 Disaster Relief Chaplain Training, Buck Creek Baptist Church, Calhoun.

19-21 Shepherding the Shepherd, Hilton Downtown Hotel, Lexington.

20 Disaster Relief Volunteer Training Phase I and II, Buck Creek Baptist Church, Calhoun.

26-28 Southeast Conclave, Chattanooga Convention Center, Chattanooga, Tenn.

February

3-4 Disaster Relief Chaplain Training, First Baptist Church, Shelbyville.

4 Disaster Relief Volunteer Training Phase I and II, First Baptist Church, Shelbyville.

MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

■ **CRESTWOOD**—Crestwood Church will hold its first-ever Mission Crestwood "Serve the Community" Thanksgiving Day meal Nov. 24, noon. **Donnie Patrick** is pastor.

■ **HODGENVILLE**—First Church ordained **W.L. McCoy** to the gospel ministry Nov. 20.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Sojourn Church will hold "A Heart for the Nations" missions event Nov. 30, 6:30 p.m., at its midtown campus with **Nate Irwin**, pastor of global outreach at College Park Church in Indianapolis, as guest speaker. St. Matthews Church will hold its annual German language

Christmas service Nov. 27, 6 p.m. **Greg Barr** is pastor.

■ **MAYFIELD**—High Point Church will host **Kelly and Ann Carruthers**, international missionaries to Botswana, as guest speakers Nov. 27 in the morning worship service. **Rick Hatley** is pastor.

Spotlight on ...

Central City



Mercer Church will host the South Central Kentucky Bible Conference Nov. 28-29. **James Branscum** is pastor.

Former KBC president Greenfield commended for CP support

Florence—Harold Greenfield, retired director of missions for Caldwell-Lyon Baptist Association, was presented the Distinguished CP Leadership Award during the afternoon session of the Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting Nov. 15 in Florence.

The award is presented to individuals who have given long-term, significant support among Kentucky Baptists for the Cooperative Program, the unified program of funding missions across Kentucky, North America and the world.

Six congregations also were singled out as top CP givers in total dollars and per-capita giving, and 12 others were recognized for reaching giving milestones during the 2010-2011 fiscal year.

Much of Greenfield's 60 years in Christian ministry has occurred

in western Kentucky. He was Caldwell-Lyon DOM for 29 years and also led Little River Baptist Association, and was interim DOM for Muhlenberg Baptist Association. On his retirement in 2000, Greenfield had preached 180 revivals and 21 missions conferences in 80 Kentucky counties, 13 other states and seven countries.

In a 20-year period, every church in the Caldwell-Lyon Baptist Association gave to missions through the Cooperative Program. From 1972-99, CP giving in the association increased from 8.9 percent of undesignated receipts to 13.2 percent.

A past president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Greenfield was a charter member of the Kentucky Fellowship of Directors of Missions. (KBC)



GREENFIELD HONORED Retired director of missions Harold Greenfield (right) receives the Kentucky Baptist Convention's Distinguished CP Leadership Award from KBC Executive Director Paul Chitwood at the Nov. 15 annual meeting in Florence. (Photo by Brenda Smith/KBC)

CLASSIFIED ADS

AUDITIONS: The Lexington Passion Play is having open auditions (by appointment) for the role of Jesus (singing and drama skills) for performances March 28–April 1, 2012. Contact Gloria Gadd for appointment or more information: (859) 223-2569.

AVAILABLE: Pastor with 20-plus years experience available for pulpit supply or interim. Contact Art Hardin, (502) 863-1642, Georgetown, Ky.

DEGREE: Earn your seminary college degree at home. Ministry, biblical studies, pastoral leadership, more. Free academic evaluation. www.newburghseminary.com.

SEEKING: Kings Baptist Church is prayerfully seeking to fill the position of children's pastor or children's director. This individual must have a call to lead families to become gospel-centered in their walk. This individual must be willing to work with a team of pastors whose goal is gospel-centered ministry. The position is slated as part time, but as the ministry grows, this position has the potential of becoming full time. The ministry is in great spiritual and physical health due to a great former children's pastor and his wonderful team of volunteers. Our children's ministry teams stand ready to work with God's individual. If after prayer you are lead to inquire about this position in a growing SBC church, please email our elder team at kjoseph@kingsbaptist.net and you will be sent a detailed job description.

SEEKING: FBC Bethany, Mo., a conservative Southern Baptist church in Northwest Missouri, is seeking God's man for the position of associate pastor—worship and youth. Job description can be found on our website at www.fcbethany.org. Interested candidates may submit their resumés with cover letters to: Personnel Committee, First Baptist Church, 302 North 22nd St., Bethany, MO 64424; or email to: fcbethany@gmail.com. All resumés must be received by 12/30/2011.

SEEKING: Minister of music for Greenland Baptist Church in Corbin, Ky. Apply by submitting resumé to colecaven@greenlandbaptistchurch.com.

SEEKING: Full-time director of children for Elkton Baptist Church. We are looking for someone who is a team player, energetic, self-motivated, well-organized and can relate to children, parents and the rest of the church. A bachelor's degree is required and experience is a plus. Send or email resumés to: Elkton Baptist Church, PO Box 547, Elkton, KY 42220; or ericharris@mchsi.com.

SEEKING: Part-time associate pastor of a growing church. PO Box 248 Greensburg, KY 42743. Info: www.greensburgbaptist.com/job.php.

SEEKING: Full-time Southern Baptist pastor for Wickland Baptist Church, Bardstown. Contact pastorsearchwbc@gmail.com; or WBC, 510 Bloomfield Road, Bardstown, KY 40004.

SEEKING: Full-time senior pastor at Piner Baptist Church in Northern Kentucky. Our SBC church supports many ministries locally and internationally. Average Sunday attendance is 225. For more information, go to www.pinerbaptist.org. Resumés should be submitted by Jan. 1, 2012, to Pastor Search Committee, Piner Baptist Church, 15044 Madison Pike, Morning View, KY 41063; or by email to pastorsearch@pinerbaptist.org.

SEEKING: Bivocational pastor for New Liberty Baptist Church, located in the small town of New Liberty, Ky. Send resumé to Search Committee, PO Box 53, New Liberty, KY 40355.

SEEKING: Part-time minister of music and worship for Perryville Baptist Church in central Kentucky. PBC enjoys exciting, blended worship of contemporary music and hymns. Interested applicants may respond by sending resumés with cover letters to douglasdavis85@yahoo.com.

SEEKING: Part-time youth minister at Westport Baptist Church in Westport, Ky. (Oldham County). Individual selected for this position will work closely with the pastor in the leadership of the church's ministry to youth in the church and within the community. Ministry experience is helpful, but not required. Candidates for the position must have a deeply rooted faith in Christ and a strong desire to work with youth and children. A background check is required. Interested applicants should submit resumés with cover letters as soon as possible to taraws@insightbb.com.

SEEKING: Senior pastor, Glasgow Baptist Church. Prefer 5 years experience and seminary degree. Lead both contemporary and traditional services. Send resumé to Jesse R. Brown, 107 Karakal DR, Glasgow, KY 42141.

SEEKING: Permanent part-time children's ministry coordinator to lead ministries for K-5th grade in a church with great potential. Must have or be pursuing a degree in Christian childhood development. Send resumé to Mr. Ira Linville, Personnel Committee chair, Crestwood Baptist, 1006 E Main St., Frankfort, KY 40601. For information, call Ira Linville at (502) 226-6517.

SEEKING: Permanent part-time youth ministry coordinator to lead and grow youth ministry in a church with great potential. Must have experience in youth ministry and may have or be pursuing a degree in Christian youth development. Send resumé to Mr. Ira Linville, Personnel Committee chair, Crestwood Baptist, 1006 E Main St., Frankfort, KY 40601. For information, call Ira Linville at (502) 226-6517.

SEEKING: Full-time pastor for Airline Missionary Baptist Church. General attendance 120; parsonage available. Send resumés to Airline Baptist Church, 1942 Clay St., Henderson, KY 42420, Attn: Pastor Search Committee.

To place an advertisement:



Rates are available upon request. Call (502) 489-3428; or visit WesternRecorder.org. Claims made by advertisers are not necessarily those of the Western Recorder's staff or directors.

SEEKING: Full-time minister of music for Gardenside Baptist Church. Applicant must have two years experience, be an excellent, experienced musician, worship leader and educator, and must exemplify strong spiritual maturity. Please email resumé including references to gbcjobsearch@gmail.com. For more information about Gardenside and a full job description, go to www.gbclex.com. Resumés will be accepted through Dec. 31. If you have specific questions, please contact the church office at 1667 Alexandria Drive, Lexington, KY 40504; or call (859) 277-7391.

SEEKING: Minister of children and recreation for Shelbyville FBC. We are a Bible-driven ministry with a weekly attendance of 500-600 with great potential for continued growth. Candidate should be energetic, self-motivated, well organized, and a creative team player who can relate to children, families and other adults on a personal and spiritual level. A bachelor's degree is required and a master's degree with related experience is a plus. Send or email resumés by Jan. 8, 2012, to Dr. Stephen C. Rice, 1516 Midland Trail, Shelbyville, KY 40065; srice@shelbyvillebaptist.com. Phone: (502) 633-1317; website: www.shelbyvillebaptist.com.

SEEKING: Senior pastor for Canaan Baptist Church, a multi-staff church in St. Louis, Mo. Please email resumés to resumes@canaanst1.org; or mail to PO Box 511248, St. Louis, MO 63151.

Thankful, yes, but to whom?

"Pass the turkey, please."
You can hear the subtle scrape of the fork on the plate to get the last delicious bite of grandmother's dressing with giblet gravy. Can you picture the scene? Aunts, uncles, cousins, siblings, parents and grandparents all gathered around a table crowded with various casseroles, another new sweet potato recipe, cranberry sauce and of course, the majestic bird as the main attraction.

Just after everyone gathers at the table and way before the scramble for the best couch to nap on during the Cowboys game, someone announces, "Let's all say what we are thankful for."

Sure, it is a great idea, but is it more than just a family tradition?

For the secular mind, the whole holiday makes no sense. Thanksgiving? Thanksgiving somehow implies that I am not in charge of my own destiny. Thanksgiving somehow implies that a higher power not only exists but is in some way personally interested and personally involved in my life. To the secular mind, the very notion of "thanksgiving" is repulsive and must be replaced. So, the movement to the title of "Turkey Day" is no real surprise.

And in these economic times, one wonders whether the national celebration is for

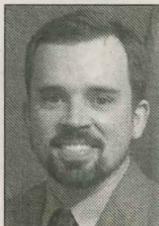
Thanksgiving or for the consumer spending on Black Friday. Since Christmas is really about the gifts, then

why wouldn't Thanksgiving be about the department store sales and the electronic deals?

As Christians, we know intuitively that we should resist the secular revisions. However, is our list of what we are thankful for, enough to be a significant contrast with the contemporary climate? Does our thanksgiving actually confess a genuine hope in the Lord?

Believers recognize that we are not just thankful for the good things that we have, but that we should direct our thanksgiving to God. If we do not add to whom we are thankful, then our thanksgiving becomes little more than a progress report or satisfaction quotient.

First Person



Jason Lee

So, it is not just that we are thankful for (i.e. happy with) our jobs, our homes or our health. We are thankful to God who is our provider, our protector and our sustainer.

But what if Grandpa's question is, "What are you thankful for?"

Should I correct him and say that the real question is not "what I am thankful for" but "who I am thankful to"? No, don't do that or you may be dismissed from the table before the pumpkin pie.

It is not just that we remember that we should be thankful to God, but that we are also thankful for God (e.g. Psalms 9:1-2).

It is true that we are often overwhelmed by the gracious and loving acts of God including His good gifts of material provisions and life/health for us or our family. We are truly amazed at His provision of spiritual benefits such as forgiveness of sins, the fruit of the Spirit or a loving community of believers.

However, we must never let our thanksgiving for the good provisions of God overshadow our thanks for God Himself. We need to thank Him because of

His glorious nature. There would be no possibility of wonderful things such as love, mercy, truth, righteousness, beauty and life, except through God who IS these things.

So, pass the rolls, but first remember to be thankful to God, for God.

Jason Lee is associate professor of historical theology at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas.



Photo by Nelson Oliver.

Smile! The Western Recorder showcases photos of people and events from Kentucky Baptist churches. Submit photos to news@westernrecorder.org or through our website at www.westernrecorder.org/info/submit-items.

WEB ADVERTISING

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

Preacher's Kids

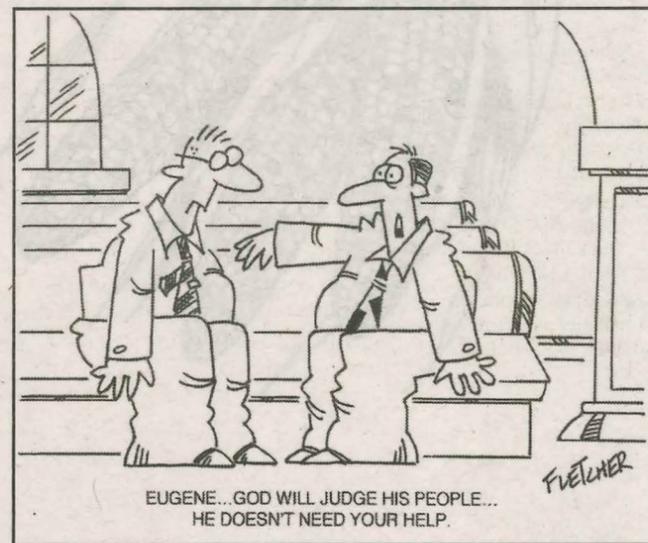
David Ayers



Joe McKeever



Fletch



Dennis Fletcher

Bible Crosswords

By Teri Grottko

Across

- 1 The prophet who went up to heaven in a whirlwind (2 Kings 2:11)
- 6 A son of Jeroboam (1 Kings 14:1)
- 11 Moses' brother
- 12 Humble
- 13 "Even unto Ithiel and ____" (Proverbs 30:1)
- 14 Capital of Moab (Isaiah 15:1)
- 15 "That ____ should be a kind of firstfruits" (James 1:18)
- 16 Preposition
- 17 His Highness, abbr.
- 18 A snooze
- 21 Iron, chem. symbol
- 22 Giants (Deuteronomy 9:2)
- 25 A minor objection
- 27 Europium, chem. symbol
- 28 "____ tempteth he any man" (James 1:13)
- 31 "____, supposing him to be the gardener" (John 20:15)
- 33 The fourth son of Midian (Genesis 25:4 NKJV)
- 34 "They came to ____" (2 Samuel 24:6)
- 35 There were 70 ____ (Exodus 1:5)
- 37 Smallest state, abbr.
- 38 Reflection of sounds
- 41 Not consulted
- 42 Ahasuerus' chamberlain (Esther 1:10)
- 44 Last book of the Old Testament

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10
11						12				
		13				14		15		
16			17			18		19		20
		21		22	23			24		
25			26				27			
		28				29	30		31	32
33						34				
			35		36				37	
38	39		40		41					
			42	43						
44							45	46	47	48
49			50			51		52		

- 45 "I will praise thee with uprightness of ____" (Psalm 119:7)
- 49 "To the dwelling of ____" (Numbers 21:15)
- 50 French article
- 51 Los Angeles, abbr.
- 52 General Motors, abbr.
- 19 Pastry crust and filling
- 20 "David ... dwelt in strong holds at ____" (1 Samuel 23:29)
- 21 "His hands shall also ____ it" (Zechariah 4:9)
- 22 "____ the works were finished" (Hebrews 4:3)
- 23 Nehemiah, abbr.
- 24 To become absorbed in thought
- 26 Prejudice
- 29 One of David's wives (1 Chronicles 3:3)
- 30 17th camp of Israel from Egypt (Numbers 33:5-21)
- 32 Less soft
- 36 "____ I make thine enemies thy footstool" (Psalm 110:1)
- 39 Scorch
- 40 A son of Joktan (Genesis 10:28)
- 43 "Out of whose womb came the ____?" (Job 38:29)
- 44 Pa's wife
- 46 For example, Lat. abbr.
- 47 "I ____ Alpha and Omega" (Revelation 21:6)
- 48 Preposition

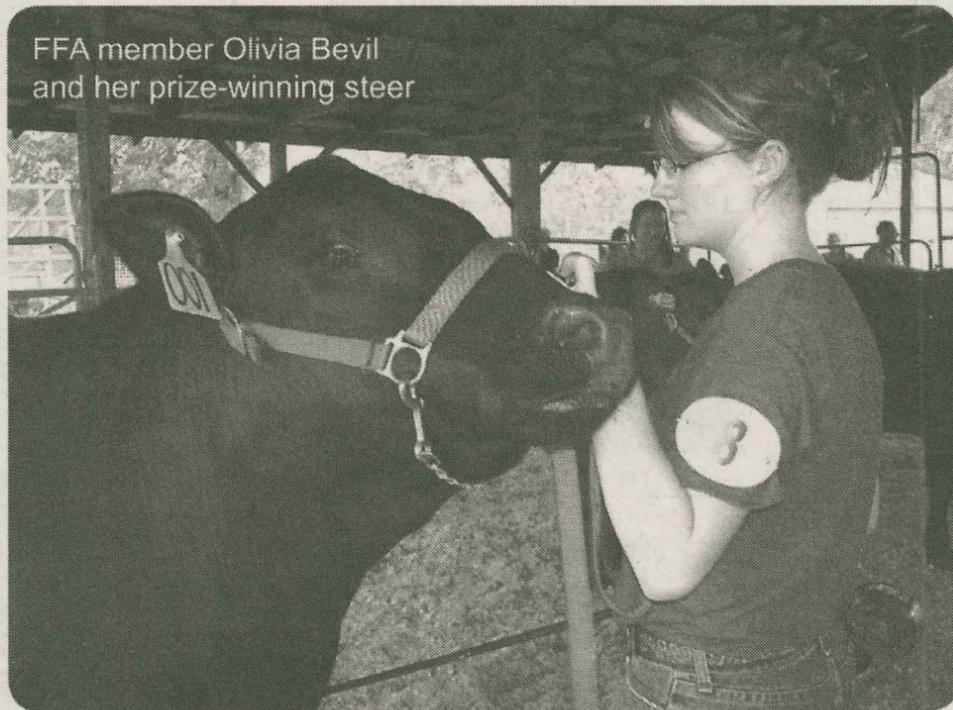
Down

- 1 "Two years before the ____" (Amos 1:1)
- 2 A note to follow So
- 3 Eldest son of Caleb (1 Chronicles 4:15)
- 4 Moses' mother (Exodus 6:20)
- 5 A son of Seir the Horite (Genesis 36:20)
- 6 A river of Damascus (2 Kings 5:12)
- 7 The general under Deborah (Judges 4:8)
- 8 "Surely the Lord ____ in this place" (Genesis 28:16)
- 9 "There is neither ____ nor Greek" (Galatians 3:28)
- 10 "____, every one that thirsteth" (Isaiah 55:1)

Last puzzle's solution

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
R	A	P	T		H	I	S		S	E
A	L	S	O		E	R	I	A	S	I
M	A	I	N		W	A	S		R	A
22	23	24	25	26	27	28				
B	E	T	T	E	R	R	A	I	S	E
E	R	R	O	R	S					
31										
A	I	E								
33										
S	T	E	A	D	Y					
40										
T	E	S	T	E	E					
44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52		
D	N	C	E	R	E	P				
53										
L	A	I	N		L	E	E	R	I	D
56										
D	Y	E	D		Y	E	S		S	P

We know Who owns the cattle on a thousand hills.



"I have no need of a bull from your stall or of goats from your pens, for every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills." ~ Psalm 50:9-10

At Oneida Baptist Institute we see God's gifts in abundance. The changing colors of the leaves, corn being harvested and frosty mornings on the farm all point to His creative power.

We understand that all of our many blessings come from the Lord above. We thank Him for the students He entrusts to our care. We are grateful for our gifted faculty and staff. We appreciate the many people who assist our ministry through campus visits, prayer, volunteering, telling others about the school, plus financial gifts and other donations.

Thank you, Kentucky Baptists, for your support. We wish for you a most blessed holiday season.

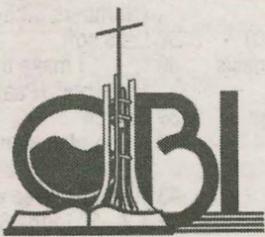
Would you like to learn more about Oneida? Contact us!

Oneida Baptist Institute

PO Box 67 Oneida, Kentucky 40972

Phone: (606) 847-4111 Fax: (606) 847-4496

Web site: www.oneidaschool.org



Education for Time and Eternity