

WESTERN Recorder

December 6, 2011

Shine Like Stars * Philippians 2:15

Volume 185, Issue 47

HIS HEART HIS HANDS HIS VOICE



2011 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering®

National Goal: \$175 million

Week of Prayer for International Missions: December 4 - 11, 2011

Jesus gave His followers a task: to fulfill the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-19). He commissioned believers be His heart, His hands and His voice to share the gospel with the world.

Through praying for, giving to and going on mission, Southern Baptists have dedicated themselves to this legacy for more than 160 years.

Yet billions of people do not know Jesus as Lord. This calls for intentional prayer, sacrificial giving and direct responsibility for helping to reach the nearly 3,800 people groups in the world that have no active Christian presence among them. Learn how to adopt an unengaged, unreached people group at Call2Embrace.org.

The cities

More than 50 percent of the world's population lives in urban centers. People are migrating into cities in ever-increasing numbers, and that migration brings unique challenges to reach peoples of the cities.

Jesus' heart cried out for the peoples of the cities: "as (Jesus) approached and saw the city, He wept over it, saying, 'If you knew this day what (would bring) peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes'" (Luke 19:41-42). Jesus reached out to help the hurting. He declared the good news about the eternal peace He was offering.

Jesus' followers are called not just to do missions but be missions—to be an extension of His heart, hands and voice. Through praying, serving and unprecedented giving, all people can hear the gospel and have the opportunity to know Jesus as Lord.

Every penny given to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions is used to support nearly 5,000 Southern Baptist missionaries as they share the gospel overseas. Give to the offering through your local church or at IMB.org/Offering, where there are resources for church leaders to promote the offering. (IMB)

Jerusalem Searching for peace

By Reed Flannigan

Jerusalem—As Jesus approached Jerusalem for the last time, He wept. He thought about the people within its walls and said, "If you had only known on this day what would bring you peace." He knew within hours He'd be crucified by the very people for whom He wept.

Would Jesus still look over the city and weep 2,000 years later?

Most believe He would. Jerusalem is a city where stress runs high and the strain of so many people practicing so many

religions in such a small area makes the tension palpable. They seek a blessing or a healing or some connection with God through well-meaning, but mistaken, devotion.

Bitter division resides just below the surface. Christians, Jews, Muslims—each group would be pleased if the other two simply exited the city walls and disappeared into the barren countryside.

Rebecca* considers herself nonreligious.

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Louisville church honored for work in human trafficking awareness

By Drew Nichter

Louisville—Ronnie Caswell said he was shocked to hear about what was happening to victims of human trafficking.

The pastor of Louisville's Forest Park Community Church heard stories of adults and young children being forced into lives of prostitution and modern-day slavery. But these accounts weren't coming from a Third World country or even a large U.S. metropolitan area like New York or Los Angeles.

This was happening in suburban

Louisville, the neighborhood Caswell's church calls home.

Caswell wanted to let others in his community know what was going on around them. So in March, Forest Park hosted a seminar meant to raise awareness of human trafficking.

The church worked closely with Kentucky Rescue and Restore, a statewide coalition of organizations committed to eradicating human trafficking in the commonwealth and working directly with the victims of the crime.

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CHURCH HONORED

Ronnie Caswell (right), pastor of Forest Park Community Church in Louisville, receives the 2011 Liberation Award for the church's work in human trafficking awareness from Marissa Castellanos of Kentucky Rescue and Restore, at an awards banquet in Lexington. (Photo by Drew Nichter)

Survey: Pastors undeterred, will hold services on Christmas Day

By Chris Turner

Nashville, Tenn.—While 9 in 10 pastors plan for their churches to host Christmas Day services this year, there may be plenty of space in the pews for those who actually attend.

A recent LifeWay Research study shows that 91 percent of Protestant pastors surveyed plan to have services on Christmas Day while 69 percent said they plan to host Christmas Eve services.

"Having church on Christmas Day when it falls on a Sunday seems as if it would be as much of a given as having Thanksgiving on a Thursday, but this has been an issue of discussion and contention in recent years," LifeWay Research President Ed Stetzer noted.

"Also, just because an overwhelming majority of pastors think that way doesn't mean those in their con-

□ See Christmas services ... Page 7



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State's October CP totals lowest in seven years

Louisville—Kentucky Baptists' gifts through the Cooperative Program dropped from nearly \$1.8 million in September to \$1.46 in October.

In the second month of the fiscal year, CP giving is more than \$498,000 behind an annual workable budget goal of \$22,522,814.

Lowell Ashby, head of the Kentucky Baptist Convention's business services team, said it is not unexpected that October's CP receipts were low this year, given the month ended on a Monday.

When a month ends on a Monday, CP gifts from the previous Sunday often are not received until the following month.

This year's October total was the lowest in seven years. The highest during that same period was \$2.2 million in the 2007-08 fiscal year.

Ashby said November's CP receipts should reflect a carry-over from the previous month. "November will also end the first quarter of our fiscal year and give us an opportunity to compare quarterly 'More for Christ' Cooperative Program receipts with the previous year," he added.

This year Kentucky Baptists began "More for Christ," a three-year emphasis to challenge themselves as individuals and congregations to an increased commit-



Kentucky Baptist CP giving at a glance

COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

**Giving for Oct. 1-31, 2011
& Year-to-Date**

Monthly budget goal*:	\$ 1,876,900
Actual giving:	\$ 1,463,615
Under budget:	\$ 413,285
Year-to-Date goal*:	\$ 3,753,800
Year-to-Date actual giving:	\$ 3,255,557
Under budget:	\$ 498,243

*Based on annual workable budget \$22,522,814; Actual budget \$23.5 million

ment to Christ and the Great Commission.

Kentucky Baptists' total giving for missions through the Cooperative Program in October was \$1,463,615.

At the recent annual meeting, KBC Executive Director Paul Chitwood encouraged messengers to "become reacquainted" with the many ministries and services funded through the Cooperative Program.

"There are so many ways the Kentucky

Baptist Convention can assist our churches," said Billy Compton, the KBC's executive associate for Cooperative Program and resources. "I hope as the new year approaches, people will 'resolve' to make the most of what we offer."

"During this season of giving, we are grateful to Kentucky Baptists for their gifts to missions and ministries through the Cooperative Program," he added. (KBC)

Pro-life expert: Adoption blesses both children, parents

By Jennifer Hatcher

Washington—Faith Hill. Steve Jobs. Babe Ruth. They all have one thing in common. They were adopted.

There are an estimated 107,000 children and youth waiting in the United States' foster-care system to be adopted, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The actual number of children and youth awaiting adoption may be higher, however. For example, statistics from the HHS website exclude youth whose parental rights have been terminated or who are 16 years of age and older.

Ryan Bomberger, an adopted son and adoptive father, said an adoption's impact can be far reaching.

"Adopt. Be the hope. That's what adoption is. It provides hope not just for that child, because that hope that transforms affects the child; it affects the family; it affects the community," Bomberger said

recently in a speech at the Washington-based Family Research Council.

FRC invited Bomberger, chief creative officer for the Radiance Foundation, a pro-life organization, to speak in observance of National Adoption Month, which is every November.

"We all have intrinsic value that is not assigned to us by man or women but that's given to us from the moment of conception" Bomberger noted.

The Radiance Foundation is an organization that seeks to guide people to embrace the sanctity of all human life and to live meaningful lives. The organization's "emphasis is derived from Psalm 139 not just because we're planned," Bomberger explained. "In fact, I think some of the best things are unplanned."

During the last 10 years, there have been between 50,000 to 65,000 children adopted yearly out of the foster-care system, according to Bomberger's research.

While there are many families who would love to adopt and do adopt, Bomberger acknowledged that adoption requires sacrifice. By sacrificing not just personally but also financially, parents adopting and loving a child give that child a purpose in life, he said.

Bomberger's adoptive parents already had children and could have lived a comfortable lifestyle if they had not adopted the children they did, he said. By sacrificing many things, including finances, they were able to give love and a home to many other children. Bomberger's parents had three children biologically and adopted 10 more, himself included.

Because he was adopted and he and his wife have adopted children of their own, Bomberger encouraged others to get involved in helping kids—even if getting involved does not mean adopting but working with a pregnancy care center or youth organization. (BP)

Liberation Award

Continued from page 1

Because of Forest Park's efforts, Kentucky Rescue and Restore bestowed its annual Liberation Award on the church. The coalition gives out four such awards each year—for a student, volunteer, agency or business, and community advocate.

The Liberation Awards are given to those individuals or groups "who have made tremendous efforts to raise awareness and to serve victims of (human) trafficking in Kentucky," noted Marissa Castellanos, a representative with Kentucky Rescue and Restore.

Castellanos was a keynote speaker at Forest Park's March seminar. She said the congregation is the first church to receive a Liberation Award since the coalition was

formed in 2008. It was chosen because of its willingness to not only raise awareness of the human trafficking problem in their community, but also to become advocates for victims, Castellanos said.

Caswell said he was pleased to be part of the first church to receive a Liberation Award, but also is disappointed that more churches haven't gotten more involved.

"I understand people don't want to read about it and hear about," he said, "but I think we, as a church—as the body of Christ—ought to be at the forefront of this."

Whether it's mobilizing churches to stand against human traffickers in their communities or working alongside other organizations, Caswell said churches ultimately have what the victims need.

"We have the gospel. We have the hope of Christ to be able to bring total healing to these individuals," he noted.

One Southern Baptist group that is getting involved in the issue is Woman's Missionary Union. Through its Project HELP initiative, it is addressing the issue of human exploitation. The WMU's Kentucky chapter also is involved, noted Executive Director Joy Bolton. The initiative is focused on education and awareness, but also on prayer and action. More details can be found at www.WMU.com/ProjectHelp.

Caswell urged more churches statewide to get involved in helping human trafficking victims, and the problem is one that likely affects every Kentucky community.

"Most folks think this is not something happening where I live," Castellanos said, noting that she is available to speak with churches about specific incidents of happening in their communities.

To contact Castellanos, visit www.RescueandRestoreKY.org. (WR)

Greenway appoints chairs for 2011-12 KBC committees

Louisville—In his first official action as Kentucky Baptist Convention president, Adam Greenway last week appointed 15 Kentucky Baptists to chair convention committees for the coming year.

The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary professor and dean tapped 12 pastors, two laypersons and a vocational evangelist to head the committees through 2012. Three of the appointees are former KBC presidents.

The individuals appointed to chair the KBC's seven standing committees are:

Rodney Alexander, pastor, Little Flock Baptist Church, Shepherdsville, Committee on the Annual Meeting.

Ed Amundson, pastor, High Street Baptist Church, Somerset, Committee on Nominations.

Chip Hatcheson, member, Southside Baptist Church, Princeton, Committee on Public Affairs.

Scott Lawless, member, Beacon Hill Baptist Church, Somerset, Committee on Constitution and Bylaws.

Floyd Paris, pastor, Unity Baptist Church, Ashland, Committee on Committees.

Chip Pendleton, pastor, Westport Road Baptist Church, Louisville, Committee on Resolutions.

Steve Rice, pastor, First Baptist Church, Shelbyville, Committee on Credentials.

The Kentucky Baptists appointed by Greenway to chair KBC Mission Board committees are:

Paul Badgett, pastor, First Baptist Church, Pikeville, missions growth committee.

Brian Burkhead, pastor, West Corbin Baptist Church, Corbin, agencies and institutions committee.

Alan Dodson, pastor, Cornerstone Baptist Church, Lexington, and KBC first vice president, administrative committee.

Chad Fugitt, pastor, Central Baptist Church, Corbin, leadership development committee.

Don Mathis, vocational evangelist, member, Eastwood Baptist Church, Bowling Green, business and finance committee.

Ronnie Mayes, pastor, Rose Hill Baptist Church, Ashland, church development and evangelism committee.

Ben Stratton, pastor, Farmington Baptist Church, resource development and communications committee.

Tommy Tapscott, associate pastor, First Baptist Church, East Bernstadt, nominating committee. (WR)

Pastors say denied visa part of God's plan in Mexico City

By Ken Walker

Bardstown—While Bardstown Baptist Church has long been involved in Hispanic ministry, the Kentucky Baptist Convention's "More for Christ" emphasis has helped expand the church's vision to reach the ambitious goal of starting more than 1,000 preaching points in Mexico.

Over the next decade, church leaders say they hope to see that many new groups of believers meeting throughout the 16 boroughs of Mexico City.

"When we drove through the city, I said, 'If we could start 1,000 churches, it may not be enough,'" said Pastor Dylan Mays, who first visited Mexico in 2009 with Job Juarez, a regional Hispanic strategist for the KBC, who is part of the Bluegrass Baptist Hispanic Ministry Corporation.

The first two groups already have formed. One meets in the courtyard of a home on Friday evenings. The other is aimed at reaching current and former homosexuals and meets in a beauty salon on Monday nights.

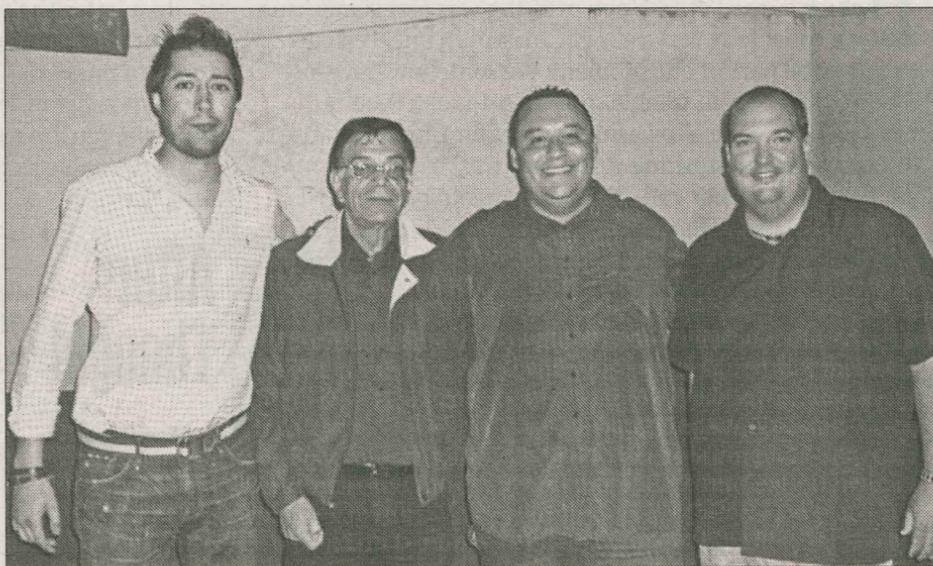
Bardstown Baptist played a role in forming those groups through its partnering with pastor Sharaf Gamiochipi, who had to return to Mexico from Kentucky last year when his religious visa expired.

Meanwhile, the Bardstown congregation's efforts to develop a partnership with a church in Mexico City never came to fruition.

"We still had a heart to do something in Mexico City," Mays said. "Sharaf and his family began meeting in a house church setting, and we said, 'We need to support this work.'"

In addition to investing several thousand dollars a year in Mexican ministries, the church investigated other ways of helping plant churches.

In September, Juarez (who is certified by the North American Mission Board)



CROSSING BORDERS Sharaf Gamiochipi (third from left) once served the Hispanic community in Kentucky but returned to Mexico when his travel visa was not renewed. The relationships Gamiochipi developed with Kentucky Baptists made possible a church plant he now leads in the city's Azcapotzalco Borough. Pictured with Gamiochipi are (from left) Job Juarez, regional Hispanic strategist with the Kentucky Baptist Convention; Brother Job, a deacon in the Mexico City church plant; and Dylan Mays, pastor of the sponsoring congregation, Bardstown Baptist Church. (Photo courtesy of Bardstown Baptist Church)

returned to teach a church-planting class at the Mexican Baptist Theological Seminary. Dozens attended the training, and the seminary has asked Juarez to return to teach more about techniques, including the use of planting teams.

Bardstown Baptist is planning a mission trip next March to do repair and construction work at the seminary. The hope also is to teach church planters how to organize an Upward Sports flag football league to enable them to reach more people with the gospel.

Joining God at work

The church has named its effort Daniel Ministry Communities, after the Old Testament prophet who served God despite being held captive in Babylon.

Mays described the initiative as an "Experiencing God" moment. The

Kentuckians recognized—as Henry Blackaby describes in his best-selling study—that God was at work through Gamiochipi's house church, so Bardstown Baptist should join Him there.

Its long-term goal is to double the number of new groups started each year, which over 10 years would mean 1,024 plants. Mays said they avoid using the word "church" because too many people think that means having a building. The expenses involved can inhibit groups from becoming a congregation, he said.

"It's a big step for us," the pastor said of the 196-year-old Bardstown Baptist Church. "We've never done this before. When you look at an area of 32 million (people) and so many being lost, the enormity of (the task) put a burden on my heart."

At present, 40 to 45 adults and

children gather weekly at Gamiochipi's grandmother's home in Azcapotzalco, located in the northwestern part of Mexico City.

While many in this core group are extended family members, the pastor said most of them have been lukewarm about their relationships with Christ and need restoration of other relationships. "At least 14 adults and five children never attended a Christian church and had much less interest in knowing more about God through Bible study.

"God has been good and allowed us to reach several neighbors. I am convinced that many more will soon have a personal encounter with Jesus Christ."

In addition to starting the home group, Gamiochipi has taken two mission trips to other states in Mexico, while his wife has helped organize some worship ministries.

Seeing God's hand in struggle

After spending two years in Kentucky, the Mexican pastor said initially he struggled to understand the problem in getting his visa renewed. However, what has happened since has shown him that God is faithful and in control.

"We have begun a new work in Mexico City," Gamiochipi said. "We can see the hand of God providing and guiding. We trust that this experience, even though it was difficult, has made us grow and learn to trust and rely more on Christ."

The whole experience has shown Mays that More For Christ can mean far more than what is humanly possible.

"For a small Anglo-speaking congregation to go to the largest city in the world and start 1,000 preaching points in 10 years, there's no way we can do it without God," Mays said. "God plants big visions and gives us big tasks, but He also makes it possible to complete those tasks if we depend on Him." (KBC)

Bivocational pastors needed for church planting

By Mickey Noah

Alpharetta, Ga.—If the North American Mission Board's "Send North America" evangelistic church planting initiative is to succeed, it must include thousands of bivocational pastors who are willing to plant churches, NAMB leaders say.

"We must leverage the laity to plant churches," said Aaron Coe, NAMB's vice president of mobilization, "and we need to do it through a bivocational church movement.

"There are thousands of men sitting in church pews listening to their pastors each week who more than meet the qualifications for being pastors and church planters," he added. "We need to mobilize them to be involved in church planting if we're serious about the Great Commission."

NAMB church planting leaders and members of the Bivocational and Small Church Leadership Network have begun to explore ways for bivocational pastors to become involved.

Ray Gilder, the BSCLN's national coordinator and a retired bivocational pastor himself, described a bivocational pastor

as one who has another source of income over and above his church. Gilder said an SBC church running a weekly attendance of 100 people or less probably has a bivocational pastor—and 75 percent of SBC churches run 75 people or less. Most of them are in rural areas.

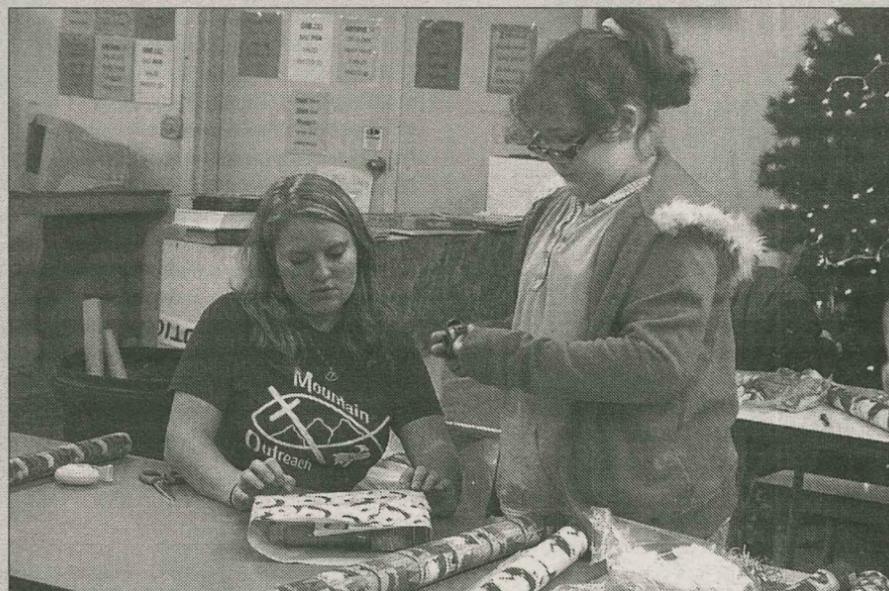
"Until Send North America, bivocational pastors have not had church planting on their radar," Gilder said. "They haven't thought of starting another church because they've worried more about the struggles of surviving as a small church and part-time pastor."

William Gray, a director of missions in Tennessee, said Southern Baptists must kindle a passion for rural church planting.

"In rural America, only 10-20 percent of the population goes to church regularly," Gray noted. "In the counties I serve, an estimated 85 percent are unchurched.

"I've discovered in a rural community, laypeople make great church planters," he noted. "They have the passion and burden for their neighbors, and they already have contact with—and knowledge of—their communities." (NAMB/BP)

Mountain Outreach Gift Day



A University of the Cumberland's student helps a young girl wrap a Christmas gift she picked out for her mother during the Mountain Outreach organization's annual Kids' Gift Day event. Two dozen children attended, choosing and wrapping Christmas gifts for their parents or guardians. While the gifts will be given to adults, the event is all about the kids, Mountain Outreach Director Marc Hensley said. "The whole idea comes from the premise that we want children to experience the joy and happiness of giving," he said. "The families we serve cannot afford to buy gifts for their children, much less do they have money for children to buy for mom and dad." (UC)

Three keys to a viable future for the KBC

In my article last week, I wrote about the rapid reorientation of religious denominations. While no one is exactly sure what the outcome will be, the fact that we are witnessing a dramatic transi-

Together We are the KBC



Paul Chitwood

tion in the traditional roles of denominations is generally unchallenged. The pressing question: What does all of this mean for the Kentucky Baptist Convention?

For its future to be viable, I am convinced three things must hold true for the KBC.

First, the KBC must constantly strive to meet pastors and churches where they are. Our Lord's commission has not changed, but every generation is presented with unique challenges and kingdom opportunities as they seek to fulfill that commission. In order for the KBC to remain effective in its mission of helping our churches fulfill their mission, our mission board structure, staff and ministries must be poised to address the pressing issues of our day.

Along these lines, we must always reinforce our declaration that "we're here to serve you," with attitudes and actions that prove it. The tension between raising support for denominational mission work and being there to encourage, equip and exhort the pastors and churches who provide that support will never go away. Rather than hoping no one notices this tension, we must acknowledge it and seek to maintain a healthy balance and dialogue, always being responsive to comments and critiques, and always being careful stewards of the funds invested by the churches.

Second, the KBC must rise to the challenge of communicating its kingdom role. Pastor search committees still need assistance. Ministry students still need educational preparation. University campuses still need a gospel witness. Growing cities still need new church plants. The churches of the KBC, working together, accomplish all of these things and many more. Does the average member of a KBC church know it? I fear not. If these vital kingdom ministries will be sustained, we must find ways to effectively champion them.

Third, our state convention structure and ministries must respond to the current financial challenges by valuing the things Kentucky Baptists value most and by continually striving to offer strategic, high quality ministry support for KBC churches. That is to say, we must make hard choices between the "good" things we do and the "best" things we do and then do those things with excellence. An important part of this response to the current financial challenges includes our willingness to celebrate the commitment that Kentucky Baptists have made to get more of our resources to those places without a gospel witness.

Denominations still exist and I suspect they will remain with us for many years to come. I pray our Lord will see fit to use the KBC to extend His kingdom and glory until He comes.

Paul Chitwood is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Where are the Lottie Moons of our day?

For so many of us who grew up in a Southern Baptist church, the Lottie Moon offering was just something we collected every year at Christmastime. Perhaps that may be part of our problem: We somehow have lost touch with the remarkable story of a 4-foot-3-inch tall woman who made a towering impact for Christ because of her sacrificial commitment to share the gospel with others. We need to hear her call—the call for us to become "His heart, His hands, His voice"—once again.

Charlotte Diggs Moon, the legendary missionary whom we affectionately know as "Lottie," saw a need for more missionaries in China and passionately pleaded with Southern Baptists to provide resources to send them. Moon was a school teacher in Kentucky, Georgia and Virginia before being appointed to China in 1872. During her 39 years as a missionary, in which she served primarily in the Shantung province as a teacher for a girls school, she frequently wrote letters to Foreign (International) Mission Board presidents and other prominent Baptist leaders.

Moon was so passionate in her appeals for Southern Baptists to go to China or give so others could go that her words also were instrumental in encouraging women to organize a missionary union and to collect an offering of \$3,315. That first offering was used to send three missionaries to China. At the urging of Annie Armstrong, WMU named its annual Christmas offering for international missions after Moon in 1918.

In reading excerpts from her letters, one is overwhelmingly impressed with how God used her powerful pen to stir up greater zeal for missions among Southern Baptists. In "the letter that started it all," Moon wrote in September 1887: "I wonder how many of us really believe that 'it is more blessed to give than to receive?' A woman who accepts that statement of our Lord Jesus Christ as a fact, and not as impractical idealism, will make giving a principle of her life."

She also observed: "How many there are ... alas! alas! who imagine that because Jesus paid it all, they need pay nothing, forgetting that the prime object of their salvation was that they should follow in the footsteps of Jesus Christ in bringing back a lost world to God, and so aid in bringing the answer to the petition our Lord taught his disciples:

Thy kingdom come."

In a letter the following month, Moon pointedly inquired of Southern Baptists: "(W)hy this strange indifference to missions? Why these scant contributions? Why does money fail to be forthcoming when approved men and women are asking to be sent to proclaim the 'unsearchable riches of Christ' to the heathen.

"The needs of these people press upon my soul, and I

cannot be silent. It is grievous to think of these human souls going down to death without even one opportunity of hearing the name of Jesus," she lamented. "... It does seem strange that when men and women can be found willing to risk life—or at least health and strength—in order that these people may hear the Gospel, that Christians withhold the means to

send them."

In closing, she challenged, "Should we not press it home upon our consciences that the sole object of our conversion was not the salvation of our own souls, but that we might become co-workers with our Lord and Master in the conversion of the world?"

A few months later, Moon charged: "We are told that Jesus went about among the cities and villages 'preaching the gospel of the kingdom' and it is added that when he saw the multitude as sheep without a shepherd, he was moved with compassion. No heart that has truly caught the Master's spirit can look out on the vast multitudes of heathen and fail to be moved with a like pity.

"Not merely tens—nor hundreds—nor thousands, but millions are moving restlessly on in the downward path," she pleaded. "Who lifts a helping hand to stay their course? How are these people to be saved with the Gospel? 'How shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach except they be sent?'"

Where are the Lottie Moons of our day? They are the more than 5,000 international missionaries who willingly risk health and strength—their lives—to share the good news of our Savior. Because of her willingness to sacrifice to share the gospel, Moon's passionate words have inspired thousands to become "His heart, His hands, His voice." We honor these "Lotties" and our Lord by faithfully giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering so others may hear.

After Thought

By Todd Deaton



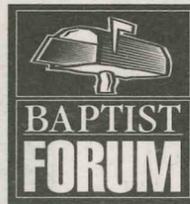
Calvinism opposed

A recent issue of the Western Recorder illumined again, the nerve endings of those who disagree with Southern Seminary's academic stance as it relates to "Calvinism." For some this school, once the guiding light of Southern Baptist educational forums, has become a fundamentalist institution of cloned ideas that manifests itself in the Baptist Faith & Message.

Years ago, Dale Moody, professor of theology, was on the "hit list" of those who cringed when he implied that, with freedom of choice, one could walk away from God after accepting His grace.

His mentor, A.T. Robertson, the giant of Southern Seminary's faculty,

provided the convention with optional interpretations of Scripture, but never encountered the reckless judgmental spirit of the last 30 years that still runs beneath the bridges of gracelessness.



Today, the seminary administration, in media comments, affirms that "election and grace" has merit and one can only wonder what faculty members are "expected" to teach.

The new Kentucky convention president suggests that the theology is not bad, but the problem lies with those who use it as a divisive issue. One has but to look at the carnage that occurred in this seminary when the fundamentalist majority fired professors out of hand. If we are to accept the president's premise then a new mean-

ing for divisive will be needed.

Then, it was "once saved, always saved," but the ship didn't sink. Today, it is "election and grace" and the seminary, however quietly expressed, seems to embrace the theological tenet. Long ago, professors at Southern taught what the Bible seemed to imply and left room for interpretive nuance. Today, they teach what the Baptist Faith and Message demands and our ship is sunk.

Edward Clark
Danville

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WESTERN Recorder

Box 43969
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DR. TODD DEATON
Editor

DREW NICTER
News Director

THOMAS C. TOWNSEND
Marketing & Business Manager

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Shine Like Stars * Philippians 2:15

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BCM opening eyes to God's work among nations

By Bill Noe

To much of the state, the University of Louisville may be known as "that other school." But, to much of the world, the University of Louisville is known as a destination that promises a better life through an American education. Students from every continent, numerous nations and many languages have converged at UofL (as well as other universities in our state), giving your Baptist Campus Ministry an exciting opportunity to reach the nations for Christ here in our own backyard.

This article, however, isn't about international students. It is focused on the movement of God in the lives of some American students who have opened their eyes to the reality of God's amazing work among the nations through their involvement with the Baptist Campus Ministry.

Take Matt, for example. Matt entered college as a driven student, with his eyes set on conquering business school and emerging with a coveted position in finance or consulting. All along the way, Matt grew in his desire to minister to others, but he never thought about going overseas or felt compelled to see God's glory made known among the nations ... until last summer.

God worked in his heart until about this time last year he began to feel burdened for those who had never heard the gospel. He wondered how his passion for business could intersect with his desire to take the gospel to the nations.

Through prayer and seeking out opportunities, God's answer to Matt seemed to be "go to East Asia, use your passion for business for missions." Matt found a business internship with a ministry-minded company and off he went.

Consider Jocelyn, a student whose passion was to study abroad and travel. Again, through a desire to

combine her passion with sharing the gospel, she heard God say, "Go to East Asia, use your passion for travel for missions." So, Jocelyn found a university in East Asia, studied there for a semester and partnered with missionaries and churches to minister to other students while she was there.

Or, consider Chandler. Chandler's passion is for learning languages. It seems like a great fit, and once again, God took that passion and said, "Go to East Asia, use your passion for missions." Chandler traveled to East Asia with his language class to be immersed in the language and now plans to go abroad for a longer term to teach English and engage non-believers with the gospel.

We also have a recent graduate who is enrolled at seminary and has come back to help serve as an intern by ministering to international students. If asked, he would probably say his passion is the gospel, and once again God has spoken to this student, "Go to East Asia, use your passion for missions."

No matter the student's area of passion, as they seek to be faithful in their daily walks with Christ, again and again He is leading them to take the gospel to the nations. In the past year, on our campus, we have seen a unique connection with a specific country in East Asia, but we could talk about students going to Africa, South America, or any number of nations around the globe.

Consistently, when God brings gifted, passionate students in contact with His global plan of redemption, we see Him using their unique gifting and passions to reach a world in desperate need of knowing Christ. This works itself out in both ministering to international students on our Kentucky campuses as well as sending out Kentucky Baptist students all over the globe.

At UofL, we continue to see how God is keeping the connection with East Asia. Even now, more students are preparing to go to that country where others are so hungry to hear the gospel, but those aren't the only bridges He is building. Today, I sat at lunch with a student from Iran who said he was open-minded and believed in God. I pray he will come to know and believe the good news of the gospel and that God would keep building the bridge that will draw this student into a relationship that adds one more Iranian voice to the choir of voices that will sing of His worth for eternity.

Bill Noe is campus minister at the University of Louisville.

FAITH ON CAMPUS

Deviating from holiday traditions

By Scott Wigginton

Q: My husband and I have been married four years. Until now, we have spent every Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday with one or both sets of our parents. This requires hours of driving and usually spending one or more nights. We have a two-year-old son and a newborn daughter and would like to spend this Christmas at our home, but we are made to feel guilty. What advice do you have?

A: Honoring one's adult parents does not mean walking in lockstep with every family tradition. "Leaving" one's parents and "cleaving" to one's spouse does mean that the new couple has both the right and the responsibility to make decisions regarding what will contribute to the stability and health of their marriage and family.

Healthy families are not formed and maintained through the enforcement of inflexible traditions. Some young couples need to reject guilt and shame-based manipulation that suggests they are not loving sons or daughters if they change or deviate from family traditions. This kind of control is both ungodly and unloving and sends the message that "your acceptance in this family is conditional upon your willingness to be controlled."

Just as Jesus reminded the Pharisees in Mark 2:27 that "the Sabbath was made for man and not man for the Sabbath," we must remember that traditions are made to serve people and not the other way around. When this ceases to be the case, ties that are intended to joyfully bind instead become heavy handcuffs.

Young families need to prayerfully consider what will create meaningful, memorable, and reasonably refreshing and simple holiday traditions. This may mean inviting parents, siblings or extended family to a different venue or taking turns with hosting and attending. It may mean alternating between the families or creating something new.

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



'Does anyone care?' IMB president asks

By Tom Elliff

Recently I read the tragic account of a 10-year-old girl who suffocated in a box where she'd been placed as a disciplinary measure for "stealing" a persimmon from the refrigerator in her own home. Allegedly, the box was padlocked shut by her mother and other adults who subsequently forgot about the girl and went to bed. I grieve as I write this, wondering what it must have felt like to have lived in a home where no one cared.

Nearly 3,000 years ago, while hiding in the dark recesses of a Middle Eastern cave, David cried out, "No one cares for my soul" (Psalm 142:4).

How does that feel? What would that sense of hopelessness and helplessness do to a person? Does something deep in the heart just give up and die?

Does it grieve you to know that more than 300 million people are still in a spiritual plight that is shockingly similar?

The International Mission Board is calling Southern Baptists to become "His heart, His hands, His voice" by embracing the ends of the earth. This is a call for us to reach out to the world's 3,800 unengaged,

unreached people groups.

These people groups are scattered across the globe. They are in difficult places—the tops of mountains and deep in valleys. They often are in countries that are closed to a Christian witness. Who will implement a deliberate plan for reaching these people groups with the ultimate objective of seeing missionary boots on the ground, evangelizing, discipling and planting healthy, reproducing churches?

Shouldn't Southern Baptists rise to that challenge?

Shouldn't we respond to the plight of those who are imprisoned by sin, crying out from the recesses in a dark cave of lostness?

Does anyone care for these souls? Can we simply forget them and go to sleep at night? Will you lead your church to embrace at least one of the world's 3,800 unengaged, unreached people groups?

Will you give sacrificially to Lottie Moon Christmas Offering?

IMB is eager to come alongside local Southern Baptist churches willing to embrace the world's

remaining UUPGs. We will do everything necessary to provide the training, encouragement and overseas connections so churches can become vital links in God's Great Commission task.

Think of it! Our vision is a multitude from every language, people, tribe and nation knowing and worshipping our Lord Jesus Christ. This vision was intended to be fulfilled through the faithful obedience and tireless witness of the body of Christ, not by an organization.

That is why we are so eager to provide everything we can to encourage churches whose hearts beat with that same missionary zeal.

Would you like to join us on a mission that is clearly defined, biblically sound and accomplishable by the grace of God?

Together, let's put our arms around the world and our hearts to the task. Let's give more generously than ever to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering so that together we can embrace the ends of the earth.

Tom Elliff is president of the Southern Baptist International Mission Board.

Charitable contributions

By Don Spencer

The primary motive for charitable contributions is not based on tax benefits for Christians. But the tax benefits are a valid consideration as we try to be good stewards of all God has entrusted to us. This often means reviewing our contributions as we approach year end. Here are a few reminders:

■ Charitable contributions **must be to qualified organizations** to be deductible.

■ Charitable contributions are deductible **only if you itemize deductions for taxes**. If using the standard deduction, they are not.

■ You generally can **deduct cash contributions and the fair market value of most property** donated to a qualified organization. Special rules apply to items like clothing, household items, cars and boats.

■ **If you use something in return** you can deduct only the amount that exceeds the fair market value of the benefit received.

■ The value of **donated time or rent-free use of a building** is NOT deductible as a charitable contribution.

■ **Keep good records** of any contribution you make, regardless of the amount.

■ **Only contributions actually made (or mailed) during the tax year** are deductible. The date mailed (postmarked) or the date charged on a credit card determine the year of the deduction.

■ For any larger **cash contribution of \$250 or more**, you must have a written acknowledgment from the organization with the amount and whether the organization provided goods or services in exchange.

■ If you **donated property**, the acknowledgment must include a description of items given. For items valued at \$500 or more you must use Form 8283—Noncash Charitable Contributions.

■ You can **be creative**. Consider grouping larger charitable contributions in alternate years. Example: Make large contributions in January and December of one year and get the tax benefit of itemized deductions for that year. In the preceding and subsequent year, when contributions are lower, use the standard deduction for taxes.

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



Who was Lottie Moon?

Birth

She was born Charlotte Digges Moon Dec. 12, 1840, in Albemarle County, Va.

Salvation

Lottie rebelled against Christianity until she was in college. In December 1858, she dedicated her life to Christ and was baptized at First Baptist Church of Charlottesville, Va.

Education

Lottie attended Albemarle Female Institute, female counterpart to the University of Virginia. In 1861, she was one of the first women in the South to receive a master's degree.

Pre-missionary life

Lottie stayed close to home during the Civil War but eventually taught school in Kentucky, Georgia and Virginia.

Missionary appointment

Edmonia Moon, Lottie's sister, was appointed to Tengchow, China, in 1872. The following year, Lottie was appointed and joined her sister there.

Missionary work

Lottie served 39 years as a missionary, mostly in China's Shantung province. She taught in a girls' school and often made trips into China's interior to share the good news with women and girls.

Letters home

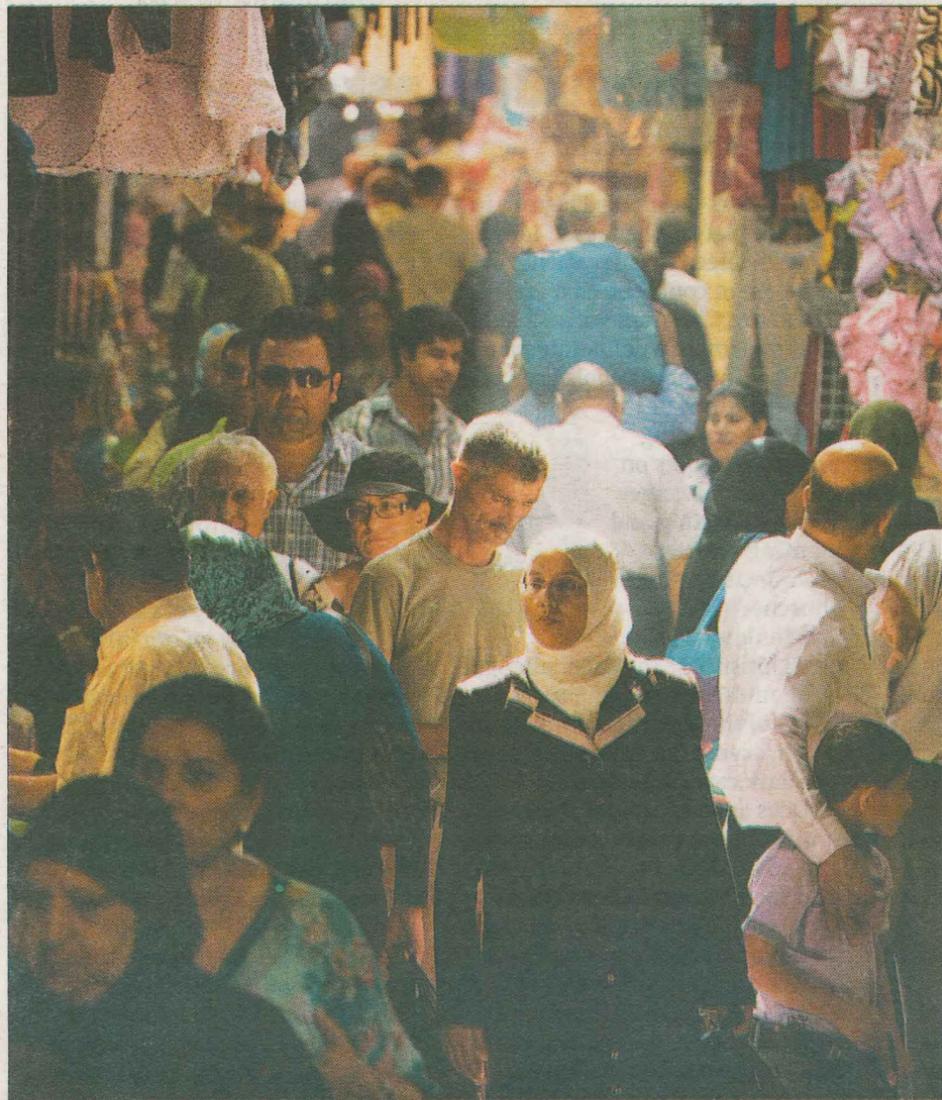
Lottie frequently wrote letters to the United States, detailing Chinese culture, missionary life and the great physical and spiritual needs of the Chinese people. Additionally, she challenged Southern Baptists to go to China or give so that others could go. By 1888, Southern Baptist women had organized and helped collect \$3,315 to send workers needed in China.

Lottie's death

Lottie died aboard a ship in the Japanese harbor of Köbe on Dec. 24, 1912. She was 72 years old.

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

In 1918, Woman's Missionary Union named the annual Christmas offering for international missions after the woman who had urged them to start it.



Jerusalem

Continued from page 1

She's a bus driver expecting her first child and is married to a devout Jew. She said the relationship works. She ponders the question: What would it take for peace to come to Jerusalem?

Peace "between the Jewish people or between everybody?" she asked. "It's a good question because there is no peace between the Jewish people. The religious (don't) accept the not religious. The religious people themselves, they have a few groups they don't like or don't accept each other. And with the Arabs I think when we have the peace between us, it will be easy to make the peace with them, I hope."

Many who actually want peace see it as something to be brokered; something that's been pursued by leaders for decades, yet to date has proven elusive. Still many hold out hope for a negotiated solution.

"We all want peace," said a local rabbi. "In order to achieve this goal, we must realize that Jerusalem is holy for the Jews, for the Christians and for the Muslims, and let's think about a solution

BUSTLING OLD TOWN TRAFFIC *The midday sun breaks through canopies that cover a busy section of the Muslim Quarters in Old Town Jerusalem. The Old Town is split into four quarters—Muslim, Christian, Armenian and Jewish. (IMB photo)*

Meno Kalisher:

"The situation in Jerusalem will decide ... the situation in the rest of the world."

that all the three monotheistic faiths will be OK with."

Waging peace through sharing the gospel is not without its challenges. Bitter persecution is coming to those proclaiming the same good news Jesus shared along the stone streets.

"We work toward peace, we work toward bridging the gap between cultures and between the differences in people, but really it's God's grace and only God's grace that will ever appear," one Southern Baptist worker explained.

Faithful followers of Jesus are preaching His resurrection and reconciling men to God through Christ, just as Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 5.

"The situation in Jerusalem will decide ... the situation in the rest of the world," said Meno Kalisher, a local Messianic pastor. "The reason the Bible says pray for the peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122:7) is because it's like praying, 'Jesus come soon.' And when He comes soon, there will be peace in Jerusalem ... and there will be peace in the rest of the world."

**Name changed for security reasons*

Sister servants

Ormsby Heights siblings honored for 120 years combined service

By Robin Bass

Louisville—Sisters Pat Brown and Betty Pfuelb knew someone was going to be surprised at church that Sunday. Neither suspected it would be both of them.

With their children and grandchildren in attendance, the sisters recently were honored at Ormsby Heights Baptist Church in Louisville for nearly 120 years of combined service. Staff members brought the women in front of the congregation and showered them with four dozen roses. Brown, 75, received a framed print of the original church location, while Pfuelb, 84, was presented with a glimmering gold watch.

"It was so nice," Pfuelb said. "I was kind of surprised they would choose me. I felt like there were so many others that were also due recognition."

For more than half her life, Pfuelb has been impacting little hearts for Christ while serving as a preschool Sunday School teacher. And despite having her daughter in the lead teaching position these days, Pfuelb still can be seen warmly, but firmly guiding 4 and 5 year olds to stay on task or quietly listen to the Bible lesson.

Senior Pastor Rick Bowden called Pfuelb's commitment to service invaluable and inspirational.

"She has always considered the children's ministry her calling and her top priority. And for 60 years she has been in the classroom every Sunday—only missing when sick or on vacation—modeling and teaching the love of Jesus and a love for God's word," Bowden said.

"I can only dream of what children's ministry would be like—or a whole church for that matter—if one had a congregation full of Betty Pfuelbs and Pat Browns," Bowden added. "They are great examples of what it looks like to live out one's faith by using one's gifts and talents."

While Pfuelb prefers quietly working behind the scenes, her younger sister found God calling her to the stage. Perched behind a bellowing church organ, the diminutive Brown effortlessly glides her fingers across the keys—one shoeless foot deftly working the instrument's pedals.

"After 60 years, they are kind of in my head," Brown said of the hymns she has been playing each week since she began playing the pipe organ in church at the



FAITHFULLY SERVING SISTERS Betty Pfuelb (left) and Pat Brown recently were honored by Ormsby Heights Baptist Church in Louisville for their combined 120 years of service to the congregation. Pfuelb is a children's Sunday School teacher; Brown is the church's organist. They have been serving in those roles for 60 years apiece. (Photos by Robin Bass)

age of 15. "Every Sunday and Wednesday night, I've done it for so long my fingers kind of know where to go."

With all the changes through the years, such as new pastors, new music leaders and even a new church location, interim music minister Ken Rutledge said he is most amazed by Brown's faithfulness.

"Any one of those things can sometimes derail someone from serving, but she has continued throughout," even while Brown raised five children, worked at a bank and suffered the loss of her husband. Rutledge said.

"Pat is a delightful person and I have thoroughly enjoyed working with her," Rutledge added. "What a privilege to work with someone who understands what commitment means. I guess that is the difference. She knows what commitment means and demonstrates it each Sunday."

For these sister servants, volunteering at church has been a way of life and one that was modeled by their parents. The

sisters said their parents met, courted and married at West Ormsby Baptist Church. When their father wasn't delivering milk for Grand Avenue Dairy, he was dutifully fulfilling his role as deacon. When their mother wasn't caring for the family, she was preparing meals for church dinners.

"My folks were really good people and our lives revolved around church. That's just the way we were raised," Brown said. "Sure I was busy, but never too busy for church."

"I love (playing the organ) and I feel like that's my calling," Brown continued. "When God calls you to service, you follow it. You do what God wants you to do. Be faithful and be there when you are supposed to be."

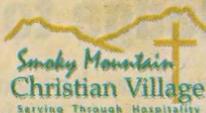
Pfuelb said she has been equally happy in her calling. "I just enjoy being in there with the kids. I enjoy teaching them, loving them and listening to them. The kids are just wonderful and they keep you going," she said. "I've loved every minute of it." (WR)

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Christmas services

Continued from page 1
gregations necessarily share their perspective," he added.

According to a December 2010 LifeWay Research report, 74 percent of Americans agreed that "Christmas is primarily a day for religious celebration and observance," yet 67 percent of all Americans also agree that, "Many of the things I enjoy during the Christmas season have nothing to do with the birth of Jesus Christ."

"Churches see these conflicting values, and we wanted to know how many churches plan to conduct services on each day, since that is also such a family day, particularly the morning," Stetzer said.

Pastors were asked, because Christmas and New Year's Day both fall on Sunday this year, if they planned to hold services on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

Six percent of Protestant churches say

they plan to have a Christmas Eve service but no service on Christmas Day. Twenty-eight percent plan to have a Christmas Day service but no service on Christmas Eve. Almost two-thirds (63 percent) plan to host both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services.

Protestant pastors in the South are the least likely (62 percent) to host a Christmas Eve service compared to pastors in other regions. Full-time (71 percent) and part-time (74 percent) pastors are more likely to be planning a Christmas Eve service than bivocational or volunteer pastors (53 percent). Those pastors identifying themselves as Mainline pastors (87 percent) are more likely to have a service on Christmas Eve compared to those identifying themselves as evangelical (70 percent).

Nearly as many Protestant pastors plan to host services on New Year's Day (88 percent) as Christmas Day (91 percent). Far fewer are planning New Year's Eve services. By comparison, only 26 percent said they were planning for their churches to host a Dec. 31 gathering. (LW)

Lives turned upside down

In midst of devastating news, it is important to pray, focus on Christ

By Paul Davidson, OBI campus minister

I might have seen it coming if I'd been looking for it, but I wasn't. One of our girls had not been feeling well for a couple of weeks and had gone home to see her family doctor. We all had been waiting for a report. It finally came to me through one of her roommates who came into my first period Bible class: "Please pray for Vera. She has thyroid cancer."

That news would have been difficult for any school to take, but here friends become even more like family, and news like this is even more emotionally devastating.

To make the impact more deeply felt, one of our boys had gone home the previous week to have a serious knee injury cared for. He had not returned, and there was real concern about what the MRI would show. A prayer request the previous day had been: "Please pray for Mitch. He's not doing well."

How would I minister to sensitive young hearts and minds in this kind of situation, especially when I knew that in the chapel service that morning I was going to make an announcement about my own serious health issues that would only add to their concerns?

I knew some of these students remembered the death of their previous campus minister from cancer, and that the majority of our student congregation didn't yet know Jesus as Savior and Lord. I only could pray and lead the service, trusting that the Lord would do His own special work.

We began by refocusing our

thoughts on the God who loves and blesses us by reading the opening verses of Psalm 103 and singing "10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)," "Because of Your Love" and "Wonderful God."

We then reminded ourselves of what we had learned when we watched the movie "Soul Surfer" and talked about the six scriptural reasons the Lord allows our worlds to be turned upside

This is Oneida



W.F. Underwood

down: to show unbelievers His authority and His power and call them to Himself; to discipline rebellious and disobedient "believers;" to test and display the genuineness of a Christian's faith; to make one's faith stronger and more complete; to display the power of God more fully in and through a Christian's life; and to display His love, wisdom and power as He makes all things work for the Christian's good while He makes him or her more like Jesus.

I then told the students that my own life, like Vera's and Mitch's, had been turned upside down a few weeks ago with a diagnosis of prostate cancer, that would require me to have surgery and take me away from my normal duties for the rest of the calendar year.

I shared the encouragement the Lord had given me from the Scriptures and then spoke to the students about the more deadly spiritual cancer of sin which would, like thyroid or prostate cancer, kill a person if it were not removed from his life.

Please join us in prayer. Life goes on. Needs continue. God is near. He cares. He hears. He answers. Hallelujah!

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

There's no place like home

Seiber thankful for Clear Creek's Christian learning environment

First-year student Tebra Seiber, from Middlesboro, never gave Clear Creek much thought as far as college, even though she just lived a few miles from the campus.

"Clear Creek was not really an option for me since it was so close to home," Tebra recalled. "I was valedictorian in my high school class, and I had a lot of offers to go to other schools with full scholarships."

"As time drew near for me to get ready for college, though, I felt God was calling me to a Christian college with the type of environment where I could grow in the Lord," she said. "My brother and sister-in-law already attended here, so I talked to them and visited the campus. After my visit, I felt God leading me to attend Clear Creek."

Even though she is only 20 years old, Tebra already had a lot of ministry experience before she got to Clear Creek.

"I accepted Christ when I was 8 years old," Tebra said. "I started helping in our children's ministry when I was 10 and then helping teach Sunday School when I was 14."

"In high school, I was a leader in our First Priority campus group. It was a good experience for me to reach out to my fellow students and show them what God had done in my life. Our campus group was really serious about serving the Lord and we felt led to go on a mission trip. We started raising funds and were able to go on the mission trip between my sophomore and junior years of high school."

"During the mission trip, God affirmed His calling on my life to be a missionary," Tebra said. "I connected with the people very well. God put me in a village where I got to teach first through fifth grades. The children were drawn to me, and I loved being around them. It was a very humbling experience and something that I knew God wanted me to devote my life to."

"I am studying for a degree in missions here at Clear Creek," Tebra said. "I feel God has also called me to teach. I want to get my teaching degree and go to a Third World country to help teach children and share the gospel."

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

Clear Creek Chronicle



Donnie Fox

CBS News profiles Louisville church's refugee ministry

Burmese settled in Ky. find place of worship at Crescent Hill Baptist

By Bob Allen

Louisville—Media attention to the recent groundbreaking visit to Myanmar by Secretary of State Hillary Clinton included a network news story featuring a Kentucky Baptist church that has become a spiritual home for resettled refugees in the country historically known as Burma.

A CBS Evening News segment last week focused on how refugees from Burma are settling into life in the United States, how Crescent Hill Baptist Church in Louisville has been changed by the arrival of refugees, and what people there think about warming relations between the U.S. and Myanmar's authoritarian military government, considered one of the world's most oppressive regimes.

Crescent Hill is one of many Baptist congregations across the U.S. encountering Burmese refugees because of connections to the Baptist faith traced back to American Baptist missionary Adoniram Judson, who arrived in Burma in 1813. Burmese Baptists were some of the earliest converts to Christianity in Southeast Asia, and the Baptist witness grew quickly among minority ethnic groups such as the Karen and Chin.

About 3,000 refugees from Burma have resettled in Kentucky since 2006 after living in refugee camps along the Myanmar-Thai border. In 2007 some of those refugees remembered that a mission team from Crescent Hill Baptist Church had ministered in one of those camps and were eager to connect with fellow Baptists who knew about them and their plight.

Rather than asking Crescent Hill to sponsor an ethnic mission where they could worship in their native tongue, the refugees insisted on worshipping alongside the rest of the congregation, even though they didn't understand a word of English.

"That was one of the first lessons they taught us—and this was their choice—was that for them it was very important

that we all be together in worship," said co-pastor Jason Crosby. Though he can't speak for them, he speculated, "I think they're of the belief that God will move among us even if we can't understand the words that are said."

Crosby, a Kentucky native, had been working with Burmese refugees for three years as interim pastor of First Baptist Church of Battle Creek, Mich., before moving to Louisville just a few months after the first Burmese refugees were settling in and looking for a church home.

Since then Crescent Hill has welcomed large numbers of Burmese refugees. Church members have worked to help meet physical, emotional and spiritual needs of those from Burma. In return, the refugees have inspired fellow

church members with their testimonies of maintaining faith and hope amid dire circumstances.

Crosby said the transition from what once was a flagship church for nearby Southern Baptist Theological Seminary to one that now is on a given Sunday roughly half Anglo and half Burmese has had its ups and downs.

"It's not easy, and feathers get ruffled when you're trying to worship and people don't speak the same language or people have radically different expectations of what worship should look like and what worship should mean," he said.

"Now, four years later large numbers of folks in Karen and Chin communities have significantly better English skills," Crosby added. "We've kind of turned a corner in terms of what was an initial barrier, and we're now getting to the point where language is not a much of an issue. It hasn't always been easy, but we're really in a fantastic spot right now."

Crosby said people in his church have mixed feelings about Clinton's trip to Burma last week, the first by a U.S. Secretary of State in more than half a century. While encouraged by recent reforms like the release of a small number of political prisoners, they say they don't want the U.S. to enter into any trade agreement that fails to account for ongoing human-rights violations that still need correction. (ABP)

Jason Crosby:

"I think they're of the belief that God will move among us even if we can't understand the words that are said."

2012 candidates called on to sign pledge to uphold religious freedom

Washington—An advocacy organization for persecuted Christians has asked the 2012 presidential candidates to sign a pledge stating they would make religious freedom a priority in the United States and overseas if they win the White House.

Open Doors USA joined with religious freedom activist Tom Farr of Georgetown University to draft the pledge, which was unveiled Nov. 28.

"The right of religious freedom must be applied equally to all religious

communities in America, including Christians, Muslims, Jews, Hindus, Buddhists, and others," the pledge reads.

"At the same time, religious freedom does not mandate belief, but protects the right not to believe."

The pledge, endorsed by prominent conservative organizations and individuals, defends the right to use religious arguments when debating laws about abortion and traditional marriage. It also supports "religiously motivated" charitable work. (RNS)

Charitable giving up slightly but still ailing

Bloomington, Ind.—Charitable giving is trickling back up as the economy heals, but it could take years to return to pre-recession levels, nonprofit leaders say.

Giving totaled \$291 billion in 2010, according to the 2011 annual report by the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University. That's up 3.8 percent from 2009 and follows two consecutive years of declines.

This year shows little change. Charity Navigator, a Glen Rock, N.J., organization that evaluates nonprofits, anticipates donations will be flat during the holiday season.

About 35 percent of nonprofit contributions come from state, federal and local government grants and contracts, and those gifts are declining, CEO Ken Berger said. Only 15 percent is from individuals.

"Staying the same is generally not a great place to be when you've got increases in demand and operational costs because of inflation and so on," said Patrick Rooney, executive director of the Center on Philanthropy.

If the recuperation continues at its current rate, it will take U.S. charities six years to return to where they were financially in 2007, Rooney warned. "We are not out of the recession, and we are not recovered from the recession."

The Center on Philanthropy report said Americans contribute 2 percent of their disposable income, a figure that has remained constant for decades. (USA Today/RNS)

One-third of shelter residents newly homeless

Washington—Nearly one in five clients of Christian rescue missions said they were victims of physical violence within the past year, a 6 percent jump from the previous year, according to a new survey.

"It's quite possible that the uptick in physical violence ... is due to a friend or family member's feeling of desperation and helplessness accompanying their unemployment and underemployment," said John Ashmen, president of the Association of Gospel Rescue Missions.

The Snapshot Survey of the homeless is conducted annually by AGRM, North America's oldest and largest network of independent homeless shelters and rehabilitation centers.

Nearly 19,000 individuals took the survey in October at 114 rescue missions; 17 percent of those surveyed were not currently homeless, but all had received services offered at the missions.

Although a quarter of those surveyed said they had been homeless three or

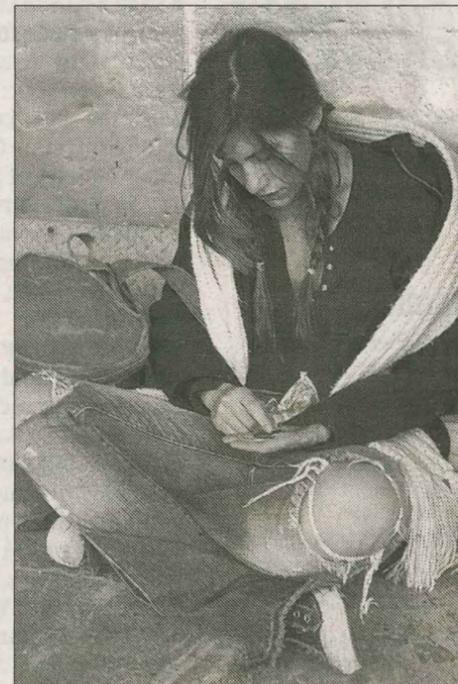
more times before, an even higher figure—35 percent—said they had never before been homeless.

Bill Roscoe, director of Boise (Idaho) Rescue Mission, said his shelter housed more than 2,000 people in the past year who never had been homeless before.

"We've seen quite a significant increase in numbers with women and children. In two years the average daily population in our women and children's shelter more than doubled," Roscoe said.

Aside from the increases in reported violence and numbers of women and children, the survey found that 80 percent of those using the rescue missions preferred receiving assistance from an agency with a spiritual emphasis.

"Unfortunately, nothing in the report is a huge surprise," Ashmen said. "Some public figures like to give the impression that government programs are curbing homelessness and hunger. We certainly aren't seeing it." (RNS)



Amid rubble in Turkey, prayer accompanies aid

By Ava Thomas

Ercis, Turkey—As the room buzzed around her, relief worker Lynn Meadows sat rocking an infant in her arms, silently praying over the tiny baby boy.

At 20 days old, he already was fatherless, along with his twin sister. Their father didn't make it out of the shop where he was drinking tea when a 7.2-magnitude earthquake shook Ercis, Turkey, Oct. 23.

Their uncle, however, took a hands-first dive toward the door; 10 hours later, rescuers saw his fingers sticking out and pulled him alive from the rubble.

It came down to seconds. Many lived; some weren't as fortunate.

More than 600 people died and one-third of Ercis' buildings were lost that day. Multiple-story buildings collapsed to piles of rubble, and an aftershock Nov. 9 brought down dozens more damaged buildings in the area, killing even more people. About 50 "micro" to "minor" quakes happen daily.

"The people are afraid and desperate," Meadows said. "They don't know what the future holds."

The twins' surviving family members live in a climate of constant fear. They drink tea with mourners in their stove-heated house during the day, but after the sun sets and the temperature drops well below freezing, they huddle into tents in the backyard to sleep.

"The people here are in serious danger of illness from the cold and from burning fires in their tents and breathing the smoke," said Paula, a retired Christian nurse living in Turkey.

Quake victims are "on the brink of great suffering" because of their conditions, Baptist Global Response reports. It is providing trained local people with clothes, food, shelter and medicine for distribution.

"We do what we can to help—pray with them, provide better tents, give medicines, food and socks," Paula said. "But the needs are so great."

It's a crushing burden on a population already buckling under the weight of poverty.

"They are scared they will lose everything as the winter approaches,"

Meadows said. "One man I spoke with fears that all their animals will freeze to death without shelter. Without those animals, they will starve without help."

Many are starving already. Just before the first quake, on the first day of Muslims' Kurban sacrifice holiday, children carried empty plastic bags in hopes of taking meat home to their families.

Mehdi, who went in with six other people to have a bull killed for Kurban, said some people struggled to celebrate the holiday this year. "But people buy what they can, a sheep or a bull, or go in together with other families to buy them for the sacrifice."

Mehdi added: "We're hoping that because of the blood of these sacrifices, there won't be any more earthquakes."

That day, the twins' family used some of their Kurban meat to feed their guests—Meadows and others who had come to bring help and hope. As they visited and ate, the twins' grandmother, who wore a black dress and veil and clutched prayer beads, wept. "Thank you for making us laugh," she said.

As the group prayed over the family, Meadows prayed for more than laughter for the family—she asked that they would know Christ's salvation.

"As I held that little baby boy, I prayed fervently that his generation would be one that seeks the face of God," Meadows said. "Despite their desperation for shelter and protection, they have an even greater need for the Savior. Only in Christ can they find the peace and true shelter from any tragedy." (IMB/BP)

*Names changed for security reasons

Simplify ... multiply ... dignify

Experience full blessing of giving this Christmas with KBF's help

With all of life's complexities that we are bombarded with daily, the idea of simplifying anything sounds refreshing, does it not? Even though we Christians know the reason for the season, we still seem to get caught up in the complexities of shopping, cooking, entertaining and traveling and miss the full blessings of giving.

So, why not simplify your life, avoid some of the complexities of the holidays, do more for Christ and make sure your giving reflects the true spirit of Christmas?

And while you are at it, why not multiply your giving to make your gifts go further? If you are about to write checks to your church and other charitable organizations, let me suggest you consider instead gifting appreciated stocks or mutual fund shares, if that is an option for you. By gifting appreciated assets, you avoid the capital gains tax, and therefore, lower the cost of your gifts or multiply the value of what you give versus cash gifts.

In addition, why not consider establishing with the KBF a donor-advised fund to which you can make cash gifts

and appreciated stock gifts to take advantage of the tax deduction in 2011 but defer the distributions to your church and other charitable organizations to 2012 or later? This is another practical way to multiply your giving. Call Laurie Valentine or me toll free for more information on this simple but effective tax-advantaged giving option.

Finally, why not dignify your giving by considering a legacy gift that pays tribute to someone you love, or one that would perpetuate your own Christian witness beyond your lifetime? A legacy gift to the KBF to establish a permanent endowment

for the perpetual benefit of your church and other charitable organizations near and dear to your heart would be a wonderful way to dignify your 2011 giving. You could start with a modest gift and make additional gifts in the future, including a bequest or beneficiary designation in your estate plan. Laurie and I are just a toll-free phone call away to assist you.

'Tis the season to simplify, multiply and dignify.

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

Ky. Baptist Foundation



Barry Allen



AWAITING FOOD, HOPE

With plastic bag in hand, a young girl awaits the slaughter of a bull for a Muslim festival of sacrifice in eastern Turkey, hoping for the kindness of strangers as she waits in near-freezing temperatures and steady rain for fresh meat to take to her family. (Photo by Lil Brooks/IMB)



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.

6 Strength in Numbers Deacon Ministry Training, First Baptist Church, Danville.

MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

■ **CAMPBELLSVILLE**—Campbellsville Church's **Made for Praise** group will present "Arrest These Merry Gentlemen" Dec. 11, 6 p.m.

■ **CECILIA**—Cecilia Church's choir will perform its Christmas cantata, "Majesty of Heaven," Dec. 11, 11 a.m. **Erdie Carter** is pastor.

■ **CORBIN**—Central Church will hold a performance of "Journey to Bethlehem" Dec. 11-14, 6 p.m. **Chad Fugitt** is pastor.

■ **ELIZABETHTOWN**—Severns Valley Church will hold a FAM XP family Christmas brunch Dec. 10, 9:30 a.m., with crafts, caroling and storytelling. **Bill Langley** is pastor.

■ **FRANKFORT**—Buck Run Church's adult choir will perform its Christmas program, "A Brooklyn Tabernacle Christmas," Dec. 9 & 11, 6 p.m. **Hershael York** is pastor.

■ **HARDIN**—**Richard Edmiston** recently retired as pastor of Aurora Church after eight years of service. The church recently called **Dewey Dick** as interim pastor.

■ **HENDERSON**—Immanuel Temple will hold a children's musical, "The Christmas County Spelling Bee," Dec. 11, 10:15 a.m.

■ **LEBANON**—Woodlawn Church will present a "Live Journey Through Bethlehem" Dec. 9-10, 6 p.m. **Greg Haynes** is pastor.

■ **LEXINGTON**—Boone's Creek Church's choir will present its Christmas musical Dec. 11, 6 p.m. **Matthew Perry** is pastor.

Grace Church's choir will

present "The Colors of Christmas" Dec. 10, 7 p.m. **David Smith** is pastor.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Carlisle Avenue Church's worship choir will perform "A Song in the Air" Dec. 11, 10:45 a.m. **Jason Allen** is pastor.

Cloverleaf Church will host **The Blackwood Brothers** in concert Dec. 8, 7 p.m. For more information, call (502) 367-0218. **Geoffrey Lacefield** is pastor.

Farmdale Church's choir will present its Christmas musical Dec. 11, 5 p.m. **Doug Strader** is pastor.

Fern Creek Church will hold an instrumental Christmas service Dec. 11, 5:30 p.m. **Linda Barnes Popham** is pastor.

Hurstbourne Church's Dessert Theatre will hold its 10th anniversary program Dec. 10, 2:30 & 7 p.m.; Dec. 11, 2:30 p.m. **Mike O'Neal** is pastor.

Melbourne Heights Church's youth group will present its Christmas play, "The Christmas Movie," Dec. 11, 7 p.m. **Adam Schell** is pastor.

Parkland Church's adult choir will present "Hope Is Born—Emmanuel" Dec. 11, 3 & 6 p.m. **Tom Curry** is pastor.

South Jefferson Church will hold a Lottie Moon Christmas tea for senior ladies and widows Dec. 11, noon. **Richard Carver** is pastor.

St. Matthews Church's choir and orchestra will perform "The Wonder of Christmas" Dec. 11, 5:30

p.m. **Greg Barr** is pastor.

Walnut Street Church will present the Christmas musical, "The Story," Dec. 9, 7 p.m.; Dec. 10, 2 & 5 p.m.; & Dec. 11, 3 p.m. **Rusty Ellison** is pastor.

Woodland Church's adult choir will present "Repeat the Sounding Joy" Dec. 11, 7 p.m. The children's choir will present "Back to the Manger" Dec. 14, 6 p.m. **John Abel** is pastor.

■ **MAYSVILLE**—Central Church's sanctuary choir will present its Christmas cantata Dec. 11, 6 p.m. **Mark Powell** is pastor.

■ **MORGANFIELD**—First Church will hold a children's Christmas musical, "Dr. Newheart's Christmas Cure," Dec. 11, 6 p.m. **Tim Leadingham** is pastor.

■ **MOUNT VERNON**—First Church will hold its Christmas cantata Dec. 11, 7 p.m. **Eddie Nation** is pastor.

■ **MOUNT WASHINGTON**—First Church's adult choir will present "Rejoice! He Is Born" Dec. 10, 7 p.m.; Dec. 11, 2:30 & 7 p.m.

■ **MURRAY**—First Church's music ministry will present "The Gift of Christmas" Dec. 11, 3 & 6 p.m. **Sam Rainer** is pastor.

■ **OWENSBORO**—First Church will hold its First Christmas worship service Dec. 11, 7 p.m. **Paul Strahan** is pastor.

■ **PERRYVILLE**—Perryville Church's children's ministry will present "The Light Before Christmas" Dec. 11, 6 p.m. **Doug Davis** is pastor.

Spotlight on ...

Somerset



New Enterprise Church recently honored Pastor **Jim McKinney** for his 40 years in ministry. McKinney has served as pastor of the church since 1996.

■ **RICHMOND**—Red House Church will present the Christmas musical, "Light Looked Down," Dec. 11, 6 p.m. **Butch Tanner** is pastor.

■ **SPRINGFIELD**—Springfield Church will present the musical, "Down From His Glory," Dec. 11, 6 p.m. **Justin Compton** is pastor.

■ **VERSAILLES**—Versailles Church will hold its children's Christmas musical performance Dec. 11. The church's youth choir will perform its Christmas musical, "Objects in Christmas Are Closer Than They Appear," Dec. 11, 7 p.m. **John Brandon** is pastor.

■ **WAYNESBURG**—Pleasant View Church will host Lincoln County Association's Christmas dinner Dec. 12, 6 p.m. **Kyle Page** is pastor.

■ **WILLIAMSTOWN**—Williamstown Church will hold its Christmas program, "One Light," Dec. 11, 6:30 p.m. **Darrell Morgan** is pastor.

■ **WINCHESTER**—Central Church's worship ministry will present "We Have a Savior" Dec. 10, 7 p.m.; Dec. 11, 6 p.m.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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RESOURCES: Do you need a church pianist? Try our piano CDs for churches to sing by. Hymns, Christmas, praise and more. Special pricing; free demo. Worship Service Resources, (877) 977-6800. www.wsrpianocds.com.

RESOURCES: If your church is in need of help with sound, projection, theatrical lighting, go to jcamediadivisions.com; or call Jim Cottrell at (270) 862-9586 or 312-7492.

SEEKING: Senior pastor for First Baptist Church of Leitchfield, Ky., a beautiful rural town located approximately 75 miles from Southern Seminary, a mission-minded church that actively participates in local and foreign missions. Applicant must have a degree from one of the six Baptist seminaries, have minimum pastoral experience of 8-10 years and be a good communicator. This energetic, dynamic man must have a passion for community evangelism and soul winning, as well as a loving, caring heart for guiding the spiritual development of all ages. Because of his strong disciplined prayer life, he will know when God calls him to us. All applications must be received prior to Feb. 1, 2012. Please mail application to First Baptist Church, 106 E. Walnut St., Leitchfield, KY 42754, Attn: Larry Perkins; or email to perkins@bgtelco.com.

SEEKING: Part-time music minister needed in Georgetown, Ky. Familiar with blending hymns, modern music and a choir. Send resumé to safeharborpastor@gmail.com.

SEEKING: Bivocational, God-called director of music for conservative Southern Baptist church. Applicant would be responsible for leading congregation and adult choir in traditional, Bible-based worship. Please submit resumé to Hedgeville Baptist Church, PO Box 626 Danville, KY 40423, Attn: Don Smothers. Resumés accepted until 1/31/2012.

SEEKING: Bivocational lead pastor for Colesburg Baptist Church, a small Southern Baptist church of around 60. Looking for someone who has a heart to grow with our church, a man who has the ability to effectively communicate the Word of God to our congregation. Candidate needs to have strong communication skills, a consistent prayer life and a passion to reach the lost in the community. To apply for this position, please send resumé and cover letter to Chrystal Baker, chairperson, Pastor Search Committee, 2772 Bardstown Road, Elizabethtown, KY 42701.

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 resumé to: Elkton Baptist Church, PO Box 547, Elkton, KY 42220; or ericharris@mchsi.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: 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 pastor for Airline Missionary Baptist Church. General attendance 120; parsonage available. Send resumé to Airline Baptist Church, 1942 Clay St., Henderson, KY 42420, Attn: Pastor Search Committee.

SEEKING: Full- or part-time minister of church administration. A degree in church administration is required with a minimum of five years experience. Shelby computer software experience is a plus, as well as the ability to provide pulpit relief for the senior pastor. Please submit your resumé and salary requirements to: personnel@calvarybapcbc.com; or mail: Personnel Committee, Calvary Baptist Church, 163 N. Jefferson Cir., Oak Ridge, TN 37830.

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.gbc-lex.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 resumé 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.



DONATION Central Baptist Church in Winchester recently donated a fifth Sunday of offering to six community interests. This was in response to a generous estate gift given to the church, which allowed the church's debt to be paid in full. Central is celebrating 100 years of service to God in the community. From left are Matt Gurney, youth associate pastor; David Douglas, Clark Christian Drug Coalition; Judy Crowe, Clark County Community Service Center; Michael Houchens, music/worship associate pastor; Flora Shelby, Operation Happiness; and Dennis Wainright, administrative associate pastor.



SHOEBOXES The University of the Cumberlands Patriot volleyball team assisted Operation Christmas Child for the third consecutive year to bring joy and hope to children around the world. The team collected shoeboxes and filled them with items during October and November. "This is such a great team event for us," said Head Coach Kara Clemenz. "I love watching the girls working together to serve 'the least of these' by showing God's love in such a practical way." Operation Christmas Child is a program of Franklin Graham's Samaritan's Purse organization.



UNDER CONSTRUCTION Todd Toole, (center) pastor of Burlington Baptist Church, and Buddy Rice, (right) a long-time member, look on as Carl Wilson, building committee chairman, goes over the architectural plans for a \$1.8 million atrium addition that connects the educational wing and sanctuary foyer. The two-story addition, which is expected to be completed in January, includes a welcome center, gathering areas for children and adults, a bridal room, breezeway, balcony overlook, an elevator and audio-visual capabilities.

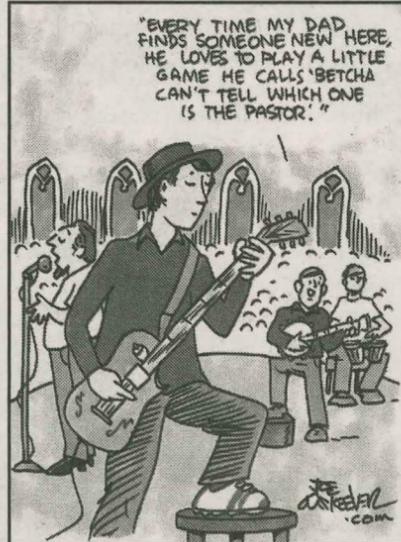
Smile! The Western Recorder showcases photos of people and events from Kentucky Baptist churches. Submit photos to news@westernrecorder.org or through our website at www.westernrecorder.org/info/submit-items.

Preacher's Kids

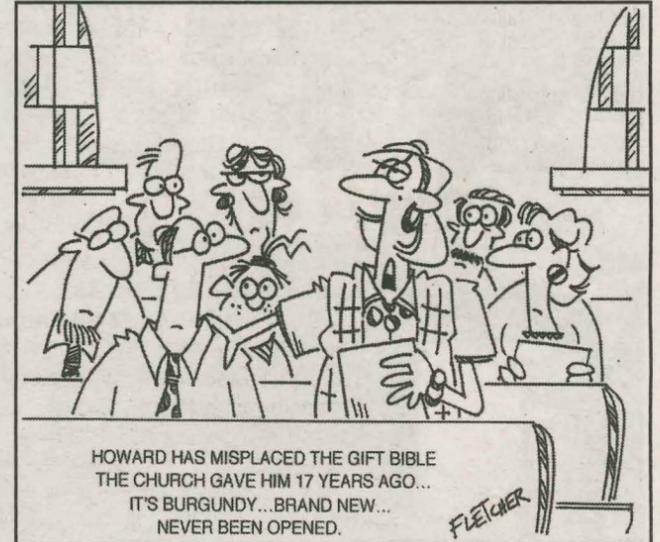
David Ayers



Joe McKeever



Fletch



Dennis Fletcher

Bible Crosswords

By Janet Kennedy

Across

- 1 "In the ___ God created the heaven and earth" (Genesis 1:1)
- 8 "And on the seventh ___ God ended his work" (Genesis 2:2)
- 11 "Generations of Esau, who is ___" (Genesis 36:1)
- 12 "The word of the ___ came unto Abram in a vision" (Genesis 15:1)
- 13 Prefix: again, anew, once more
- 14 Germanium, chem. symbol
- 15 "And Cain talked with ___ his brother" (Genesis 4:8)
- 18 Kiloliter, abbr.
- 19 Inches, abbr.
- 20 Jelly
- 21 Eager
- 23 "And I will put ___ between thee and the woman" (Genesis 3:15)
- 25 "Why make ye this ___, and weep? The damsel is not dead" (Mark 5:39)
- 27 "Cain went ... and dwelt in the land of ___" (Genesis 4:16)
- 29 Address abbreviation
- 30 Declare
- 31 Surrounded by
- 32 Once more
- 34 Contraction for I am
- 35 "I was afraid, because I was ___; and I hid myself" (Genesis 3:10)
- 37 A part of a curved line
- 38 Not bright
- 40 Car manufacturer, abbr.
- 41 6, Romans num.
- 42 Common era, abbr.
- 44 Compass point, abbr.
- 45 "And she (Eve) bare a son ... called ... another seed instead of Abel" (Genesis 4:25)
- 47 Not a liquid or a gas
- 49 Sound of a sheep
- 51 Hebrews, abbr.
- 53 The sun, Sp.
- 54. A young seed

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				53	
54			55			56			57		58
			59						60		

- 56. Edge of a roof
- 58. Northeastern U.S., abbr.
- 59. "Shew you a ___ upper room furnished and prepared" (Mark 14:15)
- 60. Snakelike fish

Down

- 1 "In the ___ was the Word, ... and the Word was God" (John 1:1)
- 2 "And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in ___; and there he put the man whom he had formed" (Genesis 2:8)
- 3 "___ ye therefore, and teach all nations" (Matthew 28:19)
- 4 "And God said, Let us make man in our ___ after our likeness" (Genesis 1:26)
- 5 Not well
- 6 "___ man hath seen God at any time" (John 1:18)
- 7. A sauce for potatoes
- 9 "And God said unto Noah, ... Make thee an ___ of gopher wood" (Genesis 6:13-14)
- 10 "Her feathers with ___ gold" (Psalm 68:13)
- 16 Nickname for Benjamin
- 17 A tree
- 21 "Can a maid forget her ornaments, or a bride her ___?" (Jeremiah 2:32)

- 22 "Obed: he is the father of Jesse, the father of ___" (Ruth 4:17)
- 24 "And Abraham called ... his son ... whom Sarah bare to him, ___" (Genesis 21:3)
- 26 Kingdom
- 28 One of Shobab's children (Genesis 36:23)
- 32 Confused, nervous
- 33 Virginia's neighbor, abbr.
- 36 "And Adam called his wife's name ___" (Genesis 3:20)
- 39 A group of songs combined to make one song
- 43 "___, everyone that thirsteth" (Isaiah 55:1)
- 45 "Then ___, (who also is called Paul.)" (Acts 13:9)
- 46 "___ leadeth me beside the still waters" (Psalm 23:2)
- 47 "One lawgiver, who is able to ___ and to destroy" (James 4:12)
- 48 Library Science, abbr.
- 49 "And God said, ... I do set my ___ in the cloud, ... a token of a covenant" (Genesis 9:12-13)
- 50 Avenue, abbr.
- 52 A honey maker
- 55 Fa, so, ___, ti
- 57 Electrical Engineer, abbr.

Last puzzle's solution

1	E	L	I	J	A	H		6	A	B	I	J	A	H
11	A	A	R	O	N		12	A	B	A	S	E	O	
	R	U	C	A	L		14	A	R		15	W	E	
16	T	O	H	H		18	N	A	P		20	E		
	H		21	F	E		22	A	N	A	K	I	M	N
25	Q	U	I	B	B	L	E		27	E	U	G		
U	N	E	I	T	H	E	R		31	S	H	E		
33	A	B	I	D	A	H		34	G	I	L	E	A	D
K	S		35	S	O	U	L	S		37	R	I		
38	E	C	H	O		41	U	N	A	S	K	E	D	
	H		42	B	I	G	H	A		E				
44	M	A	L	A	C	H	I	H	E	A	R	T		
49	A	R	L	E		51	L	A		52	G	M	O	

HIS HEART HIS HANDS HIS VOICE



Southern Baptist
i am missions

I A M S B M I S S I O N S . C O M

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connecting

2011 **Lottie Moon Christmas Offering®**

National Goal: \$175 million

Week of Prayer for International Missions: December 4 – 11, 2011