

WESTERN Recorder

October 16, 2012

Shine Like Stars * Philippians 2:15

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30 churches, 1 mission

To share love of Christ with Corbin's hurting & hungry

By Robin Cornetet Bass

Corbin—The message wasn't just loud, it was pervasive: Corbin churches love their community.

More than 800 volunteers representing 30 churches put aside their individual pursuits and denominational preferences to focus on the single purpose of sharing Christ's love with people in need.

Thousands were touched in some way by the multi-church missions venture that operated under the banner "LoveLOUD." The more than 80 service projects organized in late September included: home improvements, free dental cleanings and gas "buy downs" where volunteers offered to pay the first \$5 for motorists at fuel stations.

Residents across the tri-county area were treated to car washes, legal advice, medical screenings and haircuts—all for free. Volunteers passed out stamps at the post office, dropped quarters in machines at laundromats, and hosted block parties at several low-income apartment complexes.

After several hours of standing up and squatting down to check tire pressure on a seemingly never-ending line of cars, one teen readily voiced his exhaustion. But it was a good kind of tired, the young man said, because his labor was really for the kingdom of God.

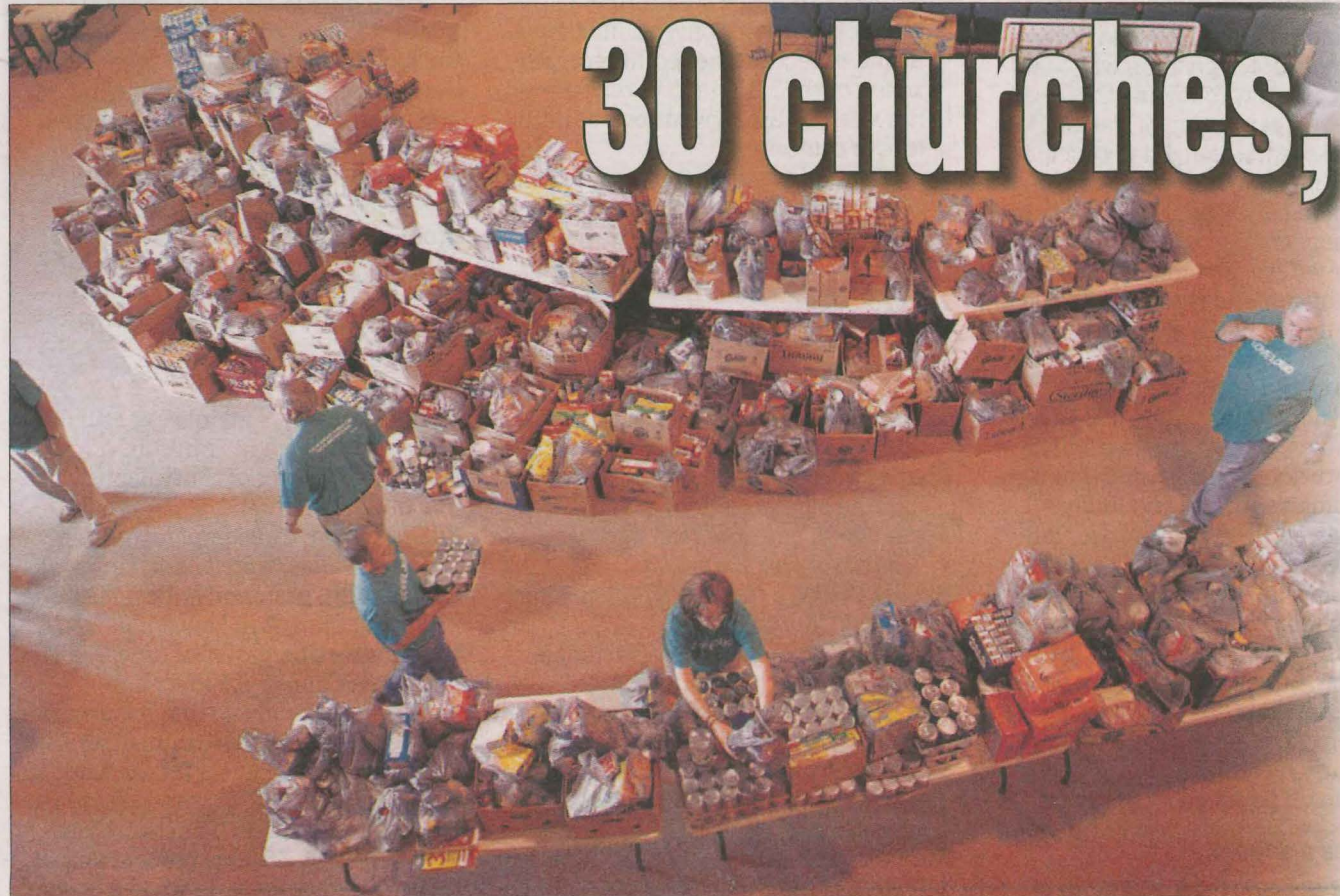
"I don't know how much our people get worn out serving Jesus anymore," said Chad Fugitt, pastor of Corbin's Central Baptist Church. "The tendency in our churches today is to look at poverty and say, 'It's so big there's nothing we can do.' Obviously, we can't do everything we'd like to do, but we can all do something. Everybody can use the talents, blessings and resources God has given them to do something for God's glory and for the people we are trying to reach."

Approximately 23,000 people living within the three counties surrounding Corbin are considered "food insecure," according to a 2010 report by Feeding America. Among the three, Knox County has the highest number of residents with inadequate access to food and nutrition at 21.7 percent. Whitley County is close behind at 19.5 percent; Laurel County is at 16.8 percent.

The numbers reflect similar statistics across the state. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 19 percent of Kentuckians—including more than one in four children—lived in poverty in 2011. That number is up from 17 percent in 2008.

Nestled at the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains, Fugitt described Corbin as being mostly middle class, but with a growing segment of people falling below the poverty line. Rather than

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More than 800 volunteers representing 30 Corbin-area churches participated in LoveLOUD last month and reached out to their community with 83 different service projects. Above, volunteers sort and box more than \$24,000 in food that was collected following a reverse offering at several churches. Worshipers were each given \$1 and challenged to use their "talents" to feed 5,000 people in their community.

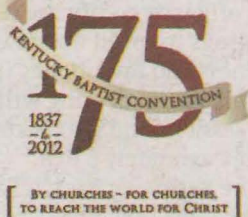
Kentucky Baptists to mark 175 years of ministry Nov. 13

By Dannah Prather

Lexington—A ministry with roots deep in the fabric of the commonwealth's history will mark a milestone Nov. 13 as Kentucky Baptists gather at Lexington's Immanuel Baptist Church for the 175th annual meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

In 1769, Squire Boone II, brother of explorer Daniel Boone, was the first Baptist preacher to enter what would become the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Sixty-eight years later, messengers from 20 congregations formed the General Association of Baptists in Kentucky "to supply the destitute

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Church planter reaches out to Africans in Chicago

By Tobin Perry

Chicago—For months he slept in someone else's apartment while his wife and four children slept 5,800 miles away. For Eric Aidoo, penetrating lostness in the city of Chicago isn't just an abstract idea—it's a calling worth giving up everything.

Aidoo had been a Baptist minister in his home country of Ghana for 17 years before he felt God's call to a seminary in Maryland three years ago. While there, God began to point him toward Chicago.

"God laid on my heart that there are no Ghanaian African Baptist churches in all of Chicago," said Aidoo, a North American Mission Board church planter. "I was a student. I had no money, but I knew if God called me to do this, He would provide."

And He has. God has brought people to the new church, which



CONNECTING North American Mission Board church planter Eric Aidoo talks with a woman at an African grocery store in Chicago. Before starting Calvary Baptist International Ministry earlier this year, Aidoo got the word out by putting up flyers at African markets around the city. (Photo by Jim Whitmer/NAMB)

has averaged 50 in attendance since launching earlier this year. God also provided through Southern Baptists, whose Cooperative Program and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering gifts have helped

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Western Recorder 10-16-2012

Group studying KBC's agencies, institutions meets for first time

By Todd Deaton

Louisville—A group tasked with studying how the Kentucky Baptist Convention relates to its agencies and institutions met for the first time last week.

Executive Director Paul Chitwood informed the KBC's administrative committee Oct. 9 that members of the advisory group, approved in May by the Mission Board to evaluate the work of the KBC's 10 agencies and institutions and their relationships with the convention, had been appointed.

The advisory committee met Oct. 10 to review covenant agreements and the financial investment Kentucky Baptists make to each of the agencies and institutions through their Cooperative Program offerings, Chitwood told the Western Recorder.

"Committee members celebrated the great work of those agencies and institutions, expressed deep respect and gratitude for the longstanding relationships, and began to pray for God's wisdom as those relationships are evaluated," he said.

In selecting the committee's 15 members, Chitwood said his criteria included:

- Representatives from churches with solid Cooperative Program commitment.
- Individuals who understand the history of the state convention's work and appreciate the significance of its relationships with its institutions and agencies.
- A diversity of pastors, directors of missions and laypeople.

The study committee's purview entails implementation of the KBC Great

Commission Task Force's recommendations, exploring the financial realities of the current economy and the reduction of Mission Board staff, and discovering ways to better take advantage of and strengthen relationships with the agencies and institutions to advance the Great Commission, Chitwood noted.

The committee's creation was announced in May following the approved reorganization of the KBC Mission Board staff, which did not include any recommendations related to the agencies and institutions. It is the first of two advisory committees to be formed. The other will be appointed to study collegiate ministry and is expected to be in place by the end of the year.

The KBC's agencies and institutions include Baptist Healthcare Systems, Campbellsville University, Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, Crossings Ministries, Kentucky Baptist Foundation, Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union, Oneida Baptist Institute, Sunrise Children's Services, University of the Cumberland and the Western Recorder.

The organizations will be evaluated extensively over the next year, Chitwood said in May, because of the "huge investment of Cooperative Program funds" they receive. The advisory group may bring future recommendations to the Mission Board based on its findings.

Committee members

Kentucky Baptists named to the advisory committee are:
Roger Alford, bivocational pastor of Long Ridge Baptist Church in Owenton.

Mission Board committees renamed

By Todd Deaton

Louisville—Revised names for three of the six standing committees of the Kentucky Baptist Convention Mission Board, reflecting the recent reorganization of the KBC staff, were approved last week by the convention's administrative committee.

The Church Development and Evangelism Committee will be renamed the Consulting and Revitalization Committee; the Leadership Development Committee will be called the Evangelism and Church Planting

Committee; and the Missions Growth Mobilization Committee will be the Missions Mobilization Committee.

The names of the other Mission Board standing committees remain unchanged, while a previous seventh committee, Resource Development and Communications, was eliminated as part of the restructuring.

Administrative committee members also approved reducing that group's size from 15 to 12 members, comprised of the six chairpersons of the standing committees and six at-large Mission Board members. (WR)

Howard Atkinson, director of missions for West Union Baptist Association.

Charles Barnes, a member of Hurstbourne Baptist Church in Louisville.

Norm Brock, pastor of First Baptist Church of East Bernstadt.

Brenda Cooke, a member of Greensburg Baptist Church.

Benita Decker, a member of Farmdale Baptist Church in Frankfort.

Ron Edmondson, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington.

T.J. Francis, pastor of First Baptist Church of Walton and KBC first vice president.

Bill Fort, pastor of First Baptist Church of Richmond.

Adam Greenway, a member of First Baptist Church of Mount Washington and KBC president.

Vaughn Murphy, a member of Millville Baptist Church in Franklin.

Floyd Paris, pastor of Unity Baptist Church in Ashland.

Bill Patterson, director of missions for Green Valley Baptist Association.

Kevin Smith, pastor of Watson Memorial Baptist Church in Louisville.

Dan Summerlin, pastor of Lone Oak First Baptist Church of Paducah.

"I believe the group that has accepted the task to review these ministries will do so with great respect for the work of Kentucky Baptists," Chitwood said in an Oct. 10 news release. "I am confident they will approach this process with a clear commitment to do what is in the best interest of our churches in their efforts toward kingdom advancement in Kentucky and beyond." (WR)

KBC annual meeting

Continued from page 1

with the preaching of the gospel."

Today, there are approximately 2,400 congregations from the Mississippi River to the Appalachian Mountains, with more than 750,000 members.

"The Kentucky Baptist Convention is actually eight years older than the Southern Baptist Convention," KBC President Adam Greenway said. "Kentucky Baptists have a heart for the gospel and a history of working together to share that message with the world."

A series of banners also will be unveiled at the meeting highlighting touchstones in Kentucky Baptist history.

The 175th anniversary comes at a time of great change for the convention, Greenway noted. "The annual meeting will be an opportunity to celebrate our history, but it will also be a time to look forward."

In recent years, Kentucky Baptists have voted to send more money to the North American and international mission fields. In response, this year the KBC Mission Board began restructuring its staff to make the most of the monies staying in Kentucky.

Kentucky Baptists support missions and other causes through a unified fund, the Cooperative Program.

"Through the Cooperative Program, every contributing Kentucky Baptist church plays a part in sharing the gospel here at home, across North America and around the world," said KBC Executive Director Paul Chitwood.



ANNUAL MEETING FACES

Jason Pettus (left), pastor of Living Hope Baptist Church in Bowling Green, will deliver the annual meeting sermon; KBC President Adam Greenway (center) will address messengers; and Dan Summerlin, pastor of Lone Oak First Baptist Church of Paducah is the sole presidential candidate.

"The people who formed the General Association in 1837 had a great sense of urgency about sharing the gospel with everyone in Kentucky," Chitwood added. "By sending more CP dollars to Southern Baptist causes, I think Kentucky Baptists have demonstrated an urgent desire to share Christ with the world while staying faithful to the mission in Kentucky."

Chitwood noted that Kentucky Baptists' missions support through the Cooperative Program was keenly felt this year as CP giving increased from the previous year for the first time in four years.

"This increase isn't just because the economy has seen some modest improvement compared to four years ago," he said. "The increase is a result of Kentucky Baptists' sacrificial giving and dedication to supporting missions through CP."

The annual meeting exhibit hall always has been a place where Kentucky Baptists can discover how Cooperative Program dollars are used. This year, KBC staff are offering a complimentary coffee shop to encourage Kentucky Baptists to stop, chat and learn more about the staff restructuring.

"We have consultants dedicated to specific ministry areas, and we have

consultants who live and serve across the state," Chitwood explained. "We have additional staff to help with starting new churches, meeting physical needs while sharing Christ with others, and with creative ideas to introduce themselves to everyone in their neighborhood and community."

This year's convention sermon will be given by Jason Pettus, pastor of Living Hope Baptist Church in Bowling Green. KBC President Greenway also will address the convention.

Leading in worship will be the gospel trio, Greater Vision; the praise team from First Baptist Church of Mount Washington; the host church's praise team; Kentucky Baptist chorales; and the Oneida Baptist Institute choir.

In addition to Chitwood's report, Kentucky Baptists will receive updates from the 10 agencies and institutions of the KBC, such as Kentucky's Baptist colleges and universities and Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union.

Convention business will include electing new officers, considering budget goals for fiscal year 2013-14 and a recommendation to conclude KBC's ministry partnership with Georgetown College.

The lone announced candidate for convention president is Dan Summerlin, pastor of Lone Oak First Baptist Church of Paducah. He will be nominated by Bob Ehr, pastor of First Baptist Church of Lawrenceburg.

The first and second vice president candidates are Tom James, pastor of Eastwood Baptist Church in Bowling Green, and Tommy Tapscott, associate pastor at First Baptist Church of East Bernstadt, respectively. To date, they are the only announced candidates.

Messengers also will hear recommendations for revisions to the KBC's Constitution and Bylaws. Among the proposals is to officially codify the use of electronic meetings to speed up between-session business and save money in travel costs.

This year's meeting will contain only two sessions and is expected to conclude at approximately 6 p.m.

The Kentucky Baptist Pastors' Conference begins Nov. 12 at 2 p.m., also at Immanuel Baptist. For details, visit www.KyBaptist.org/PastorsConference.

Messengers may register for the annual meeting starting Nov. 12 at noon and extending through the Pastors' Conference and on Nov. 13 through the beginning of the last session. Messenger cards will be available at the registration table and will not be mailed in advance.

The KBC will provide care for children, 8 weeks to 5th grade, during the Pastors' Conference and annual meeting for \$10 per child per day or a maximum of \$25 per family per day. For details, visit www.KyBaptist.org/AnnualMeeting and click on "child care." (KBC)

With additional reporting by News Director Drew Nichter

Memorial for Kentucky's unborn babies to be dedicated Nov. 3

By Drew Nichter

Frankfort—A dedication ceremony for a memorial honoring unborn children will be held Nov. 3 at the Kentucky Cemetery in Frankfort.

The memorial, set on a hillside overlooking the Kentucky State Capitol, has been in the works for several years now, according to Kathy Rutledge, committee chairman for the Kentucky Memorial for the Unborn.

According to its website, the memorial is an "outreach to those who are grieving over the painful loss of an unborn child by providing a special place of remembrance and closure."

Rutledge had the idea for such a place several years ago after attending a healing program for women dealing with the grief associated with abortion. Years earlier, at age 18, she had made the difficult choice to abort her child.

Rutledge said she wanted a way to remember her child the same way anyone else would honor a loved one who has died. That search led her to the national Memorial for the Unborn in Chattanooga, Tenn. She said she felt Kentucky needed a memorial of its own.

Originally thought to be a three-year project, that timetable has more than

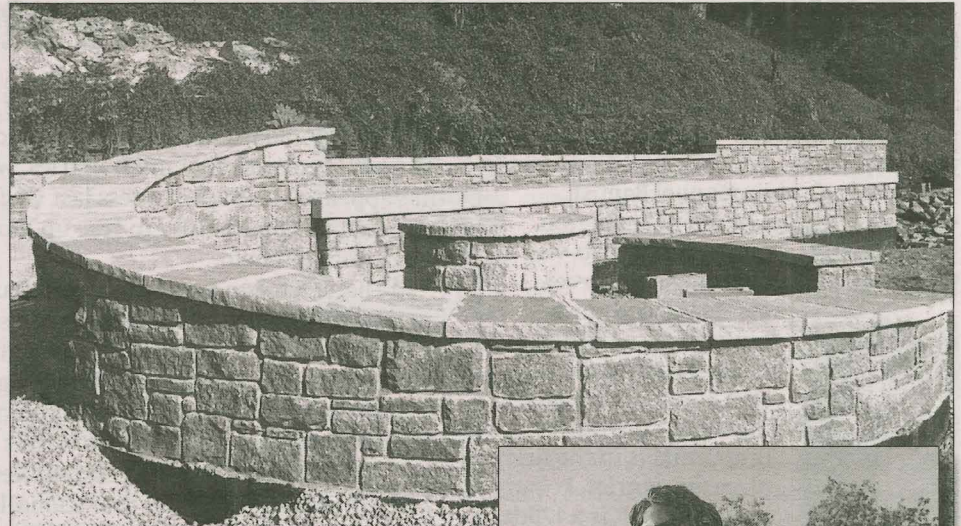
doubled, but Rutledge said the added time has been a blessing. "We needed that time to share the information about this type of memorial and to get people used to the idea."

Initially, Rutledge said, many people were shocked at the idea of such a memorial. Over time, though, "it became more and more recognizable as something that was an important thing to do."

After years of getting the word out, response to the Kentucky Memorial for the Unborn has been overwhelmingly positive, Rutledge said. Many women who have lost children, either through abortions or miscarriages, have embraced the project as a way to honor their children, many of whom they were unable to give a proper burial.

"There are many mothers and families who have felt the pain (and) the disconnectedness of what to do with the grieving," Rutledge noted. She said being able to have a place to go and, for some, no longer to be ashamed of these children is important in the healing process.

At the center of the memorial is a statue of Rachel weeping for her children, which comes from Jeremiah 31-15:17. At its base are engraved bricks bearing the names of organizations and individuals who support the project.



'PLACE OF HEALING' The stone wall (above) at the Kentucky Memorial for the Unborn at the Frankfort Cemetery nears completion prior to a dedication ceremony for the site Nov. 3. The bronze statue (right) of Rachel weeping for her children (from Jeremiah 31:15) will be in place at the memorial for the ceremony. (Photos courtesy of Kathy Rutledge)

Near the statue, a granite wall will feature the engraved names of unborn children. Rutledge said the memorial committee still is accepting names to be added to the wall through Oct. 25.

The dedication ceremony begins at 11 a.m., at the memorial site inside the Kentucky Cemetery in Frankfort. For more information or to add a child's name to the wall, visit www.KyMemorialfortheUnborn.org, or call (859) 255-2000. (WR)



Corbin LoveLOUD

Continued from page 1

churches looking directly at problems in their communities, Fugitt said the tendency is to look past the "invisible people" or worse, pass judgment on them.

"Our churches are not impacting the folks that really need to be impacted with the gospel," Fugitt noted. "There's a disconnect between the average church and the community they are serving ... because we have organized our churches and our ministries to accommodate the people who are already coming, and we're not looking beyond our walls at the needs of the people outside."

Multidenominational effort

Fugitt and Allen Bonnell, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church, also in Corbin, decided a year ago it was time to look past said walls and truly make an impact in their community. They solicited the help of other church leaders—even reaching outside of Southern Baptist circles to include other Protestant churches.

In addition to Calvary and Immanuel, some of the 30 Corbin-area churches participating in last month's LoveLOUD included: West Corbin Baptist Church, Calvary Baptist Church, Sojourn, Greenland Baptist Church and Grace Community Church.

Churches kicked off their efforts with the goal of feeding 5,000 needy people in their community. Bonnell suggested fellow pastors preach the parable of the talents (Matthew 25: 14-30) and challenge members with a reverse offering. He estimated Immanuel and Calvary handed out a combined \$1,200 in \$1 bills to worshippers Sept. 2.

"Every person, it didn't matter what age—even babies—were given a dollar"

Bonnell said, "We let out early and car-pooled over to Walmart. It was crazy. We had traffic backed up almost a mile—but it was so much fun."

Cole Caven, pastor of Greenland Baptist Church, said it was a highly emotional scene when the dollar bills were passed out at his church.

"This was probably the first time in the history of the church where they were prompted to go and do and live out the word that was preached that morning," he recalled. "It was awesome to see the determination in the faces of so many of our church members."

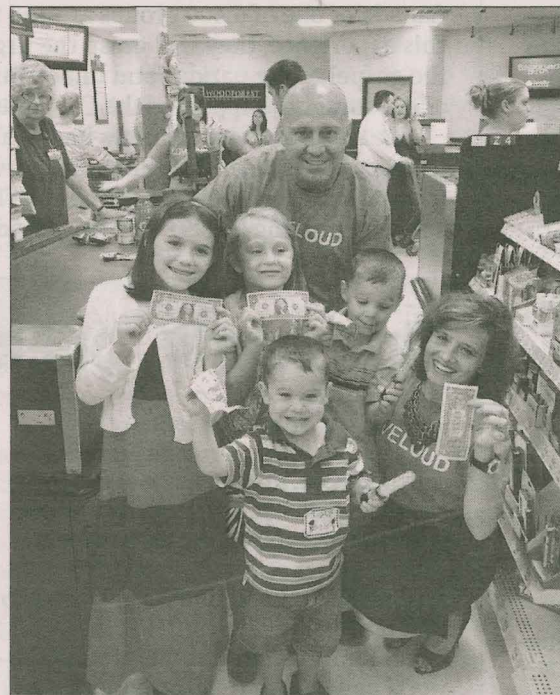
Worshippers from Greenland, West Corbin and other churches joined members from Immanuel and Calvary at the store and soon there were people everywhere dressed in green LoveLOUD T-shirts pushing shopping carts of food.

"People didn't know what church people were from, and it didn't matter," Bonnell said. "It was just one body going after one mission and one purpose, and that was to feed 5,000 people in our community."

Bonnell said Walmart representatives told him the retailer averages \$3,000 in sales per hour. On the first Sunday in September, more than \$24,000 in food and merchandise was purchased. Later, Walmart would give some of that money back by supplying all of the oil filters needed for volunteers to perform nearly 100 free oil changes for single mothers and widows.

It took one mud flap-dragging box truck and seven pickup loads to haul all the food back to Immanuel where volunteers sorted and boxed items for the next couple of weeks. At LoveLOUD, Bonnell estimated 1,600 people received enough food to last three days. Another 3,000 were fed lunch during the main event Sept. 22.

Later that day, 60 people would give



FAMILY MISSIONS

Brent and Jenni Lou Jackson, members of Immanuel Baptist Church in Corbin, check out at Walmart with their children (clockwise from left) Nancy, Mary, B.J. and Jack. Each individual at the Sept. 2 worship service was given \$1 in a reverse offering and encouraged to multiply their gift to help feed those in need throughout Corbin. Thirty churches from across multiple denominations participated in the event, which spanned three counties in southeastern Kentucky, all of which rank among the top in the commonwealth for "food insecurity" among families.

their lives to the Lord after hearing a message from speaker Brent Crow. Christian artists Rush of Fools provided worship music.

"We could do this event every week and it would be packed," Bonnell said. "But we don't want to just do an event. We are praying and hoping this will be a catalyst for an everyday mentality to serve people for Christ."

Caven said the eyes of his congregation were opened to needs in the community, and he has witnessed a growing desire to share the gospel through missions. As a direct result of members being involved in a tutoring project at LoveLOUD, Greenland Baptist is in the process of putting together an after-school tutoring ministry for a nearby elementary school.

Members at Greenland, like so many churches, are "seeing that God does have

a plan and a purpose for them," Bonnell said. "They don't have to be a scholar teaching Bible study to be used by God. They are fully equipped to engage their community with the gospel of Jesus Christ just by meeting practical needs and making themselves available to the hurting in our community."

Fugitt said he hopes the event is an encouragement to churches in other communities.

"I heard several times that this has never happened before, churches working together at this level and to this extent," Fugitt noted. While he said the process was not without difficulties, it was like each church shared the same heart for reaching the lost.

"Jesus never commanded us to have a come-and-see kind of mentality," Fugitt said. "He commanded us to go and tell and make disciples. That is our mission."

Have you ... ?

Ever been part of a dodransbicentennial celebration? No? Well then, here's your chance.

On Nov. 13, at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington, Kentucky Baptists will come together to celebrate the dodransbicentennial of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. If you are wondering what a dodransbicentennial is in the first place, no worries, I looked it up: It is a 175th anniversary. That is how long Kentucky Baptists have been working together to advance the Great Commission. That is a milestone worth marking. Join us!

Ever questioned the value of your church's Cooperative Program investment or wondered if it still is necessary to be a part of our denomination's missions partnerships?

If so, the annual meeting of the Kentucky Baptist Convention will be an especially important opportunity for you. This year's convention will give you the opportunity to see how your CP dollars are being spent. You will be able to find out about the ministry of your Mission Board staff here in Kentucky and the mission work being accomplished through the North American Mission Board and the International Mission Board.

Our Baptist schools in Kentucky will update us on their ministries as will Sunrise, the Kentucky Baptist Foundation, Kentucky WMU, Crossings Ministries and the Western Recorder. Through the CP, churches in Kentucky are doing remarkable kingdom work worth learning about on Nov. 13—come join us!

Ever wanted to have a part in something bigger than you, something so big that if God wasn't in it, it was doomed for failure?

The annual meeting of the KBC affords you that opportunity by giving you a way to be involved in the combined Great Commission efforts of 2,400 churches. Every messenger can have a voice in the direction and decisions of the convention. Every messenger has a vote and the right to present motions and/or ask questions. Be part of the eternal work God is doing through the KBC. Join us!

Ever enjoy sitting under good preaching, participating in inspirational worship or hearing gifted vocalists and musicians sing praises to your King?

The annual meeting of the KBC guarantees you the opportunity for each of these as members of the Kentucky Baptist family will be blessed to spend a significant part of our day worshipping together.

Join us Nov. 13 at Immanuel Baptist Church in Lexington.



Paul Chitwood is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Helping more students answer God's call to serve

Two recent news releases from the North American Mission Board are significant strides in developing a new generation of missionaries, while a third story that appeared on Baptist Press last week points toward a tremendous opportunity to free up more students to serve on the mission field.

At their October meeting, NAMB trustees heard about a four-tiered strategy—the creation of a sort of “farm system”—to provide training to those expressing an interest in making a commitment to serving as church planters (see full story on page 6). “Missionaries don't just happen,” NAMB President Kevin Ezell explained. “We must intentionally pray for and build the next generation of missionaries.” The new strategy allows for various levels of commitment, ranging from exploring the church-planting process as a student missionary or an intern in a specific church setting to involvement as an apprentice with a church plant to full deployment as a church planter in a strategic location.

Ezell's pointed challenge is right on target: “We must do better.” With 45,000 churches and millions of Southern Baptists, we currently only have 600 student missionaries, he noted. NAMB officials are to be commended for their vision of providing a systematic approach to recruiting, preparing and supporting our students and other missionary candidates for the rigors of doing evangelism and starting churches in metropolitan areas.

In another innovative step, NAMB will seek to instill in the DNA of each new church “a heartbeat for penetrating lostness” in North America and around the globe. Funds are being set aside to provide opportunities for church planters to take vision trips to minister to one of the 570 unreached people groups within the United States and Canada or one of 6,400 groups around the world. Through this experience, they will grasp the urgency of carrying the gospel to the nations and understand the importance of encouraging support of the Cooperative Program.

The third noteworthy news item was an appeal to help free up more students for missions service by dealing with soaring debt due to escalating costs of higher education. At a recent meeting, Albert Mohler, president of Southern

Seminary, told members of the SBC Executive Committee, “If your concern is to get young people into the churches or on the mission fields, the greatest enemy other than Satan himself is educational debt.” He observed that “there are far too many young people graduating who are slaves to that debt when they need to be unfettered slaves to Christ.”

The article noted that student loan debt had surpassed \$1 trillion in late 2011, eclipsing even credit cards as the leading cause of debt. The average student will amass more than \$25,000 in educational loans—and that estimate is probably on the low side. Accumulating a debt load of this magnitude at the onset of any career is a powerful deterrent to answering a call to missions and ministry. And sometimes students do not respond to a call until they have gone on a mission trip with a Baptist campus ministry group.

Unfortunately, much of this article came across as chiding parents and students that they should plan better. As one member of the Family Research Council advised, “It's time for us all to get real about college education and what it is, what it entails and what it's going to cost us and what it produces.” Sound advice, yes, but hardly helpful in addressing the underlying problem: the soaring cost of Christian higher education. It also misses seeing an even greater opportunity for Southern Baptists to make a difference, not just in improving the lives of struggling students oppressed by debt, but potentially on a new church, a city and possibly an entire unreached people group that they may serve one day.

More endowments for substantial scholarships need to be available to potential church planters and missionaries. And, perhaps our mission boards, colleges and seminaries could team up to offer something akin to what the military and medical professions do in recruiting promising students for service in areas of great need: offering to forgive a portion or all of their educational loans in exchange for willingness to serve. If Southern Baptists are really serious about freeing up more students to become church planters or sending them to the mission fields, then the cost of higher education must be addressed so even more will have a true opportunity to go make disciples.

After Thought

By Todd Deaton



This month, open your hand to help feed the hungry

By Barrett Duke

In October, many Southern Baptist churches focus on the tragedy of world hunger. Most of us probably have very little experience with hunger. Our stomachs rumble a little, and we put a stop to that pretty fast.

Yet for millions of people around the world and here in the U.S., hunger is a daily, unquenchable reality.

Surely, we all can do more to help those who are less fortunate. In Deuteronomy 15:11 God tells His people, “For there will never cease to be poor people in the land; that is why I am commanding you, ‘You must willingly open your hand to your afflicted and poor brother in your land.’”

Truly opening our hearts should lead us to open our hands. Can you sit by while millions go hungry and children die for lack of food? If it were your child and you had no way to feed her, what would you do? Mothers and fathers around the world are cradling dying children, feeling helpless and hopeless. Imagine the guilt they feel, the sense of failure, the sheer terror. You can help that desperate parent and her child.

Many of us worry that our kindness and generosity will be used to pay for outrageous bureaucracies and that very little will actually put food in people's mouths. I share your concern.

There are many reputable ministries that do everything they can to keep costs down. If you already give to one of

them, I hope you will consider an especially generous gift this year.

If you are looking for a hunger ministry to support, I encourage you to give to the Southern Baptist World Hunger Fund. Every penny of every dollar you give to the hunger fund will go to meeting the needs of the hungry.

I hope you will open your hand and give generously to save a life. Visit WorldHungerFund.com to help feed a hungry person today. Mercy is the mark of the compassionate person. I hope you will have mercy and provide life-saving food for a hungry person. May God bless you for your kindness. (BP)

Barrett Duke is vice president for public policy and research of the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission.

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Shine Like Stars * Philippians 2:15

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Lessons from Lewis' 'All My Road Before Me'

By Duane Bolin

C.S. Lewis, the Oxford scholar, Christian apologist and writer of children's stories and science-fiction novels, found what was, for him, the "narrow road that leads to life," a "road less traveled," but only after he had journeyed along for some time. He documents his own experience in a conversion autobiography, "Surprised by Joy."

Long before he wrote "Surprised by Joy," he began a long narrative poem in 1922 which he titled "Dymer." The poem, published in 1926, more than four years after it was begun, "had many favorable reviews, but few readers."

A line from the poem, however, came to serve as the title for a published collection of Lewis' diary entries from the mid-1920s, "All My Road Before Me: The Diary of C.S. Lewis, 1922-1927." The title is taken from these lines:

*You stranger, long before your glance can light
Upon these words, time will have washed away
The moment when I first took pen to write,
With all my road before me—yet to-day,
Here, if at all, we meet ...*

These were heady days for the young Lewis, and he did have all the road before him. In two years, he would take a "first" (a rare A+ at Oxford University) in classical moderations (the Greek and classical writers), and he was then, in 1922, studying for another exam in "Greats" (Greek and Latin historians and philosophers). He yearned for an Oxford fellowship to teach and write.

These were Lewis' pre-Christian days and, as he wrote in his diary on that "beautiful spring" April Sunday, sitting in his "bedroom by an open window in bright sunshine," struggling to begin his poem, how

could he have known what twists and turns his road would take?

Robert Frost, a more accomplished poet, wrote familiar lines about a "road not taken":

*Two Roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;*

*Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that, the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,*

*And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!*

*Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.*

*I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference."*

Along with Frost, Lewis himself chose "a road less traveled," and what a difference that choice made for us, later readers of "The Chronicles of Narnia," "The Screwtape Letters," "Mere Christianity" and the rest.

We, too, have all our roads before us. What choices will we make? Where will the roads take us? May we be led by the Holy Spirit to make choices that glorify the Father and lead others to Him through Jesus Christ.

Duane Bolin teaches history at Murray State University and is a member of First Baptist Church of Murray.

A Letter from the Laity



Duane Bolin

Giving in an e-commerce world

In the annual "State of the Plate" survey by pastor Brian Kluth, 42 percent of churches allow members to give through automatic electronic fund transfers from banks. Some congregations have embraced technology fully and allow giving by cell phone applications (7 percent) and through card-swipe kiosks in the lobby (3 percent).

As a member of our church's finance committee, we have explored ways to make giving easier. Electronic giving is more comfortable and convenient for many younger members. It can allow consistent giving even when missing the church service due to travel or sickness.

Electronic giving may be easier for the church to process—no offering envelopes to count, lock up, deposit in the bank, etc. However, certain types of giving, such as credit cards or automatic monthly withdrawals, may incur service charges and involve new internal control procedures.

The Bible focuses less on the "how" of giving and more on the motivation. Jesus confronts those who give in front of others as a show of their piety. Just imagine someone strutting to the front of the church with a bag of coins clanging in the offering plate.

Personally, I still prefer giving with an envelope in the worship service. I like to hold my envelope during the offertory prayer as a reminder that God gave me the ability and opportunity to earn it. I acknowledge His ownership over all the resources He's entrusted to me. I pray that God will multiply the offering and do more with it than I could. Granted, a similar prayer could be prayed when giving electronically.

When my daughters were younger, they could learn the lesson and habit of giving more effectively by watching me give with an envelope approach during the service. Giving by the offering plate is not going away any time soon—92 percent of churches do so. Whatever method is used, give generously, proportionally and cheerfully.

Jeremy White is a certified public accountant with Blythe, White & Associates in Paducah.

Will Southern Baptists rise to the challenge?

By Tom Elliff

One billion is a big number. It would take 37 years to count to 1 billion at one number a second.

Seven billion is an even larger and more significant number. That is the number of people currently inhabiting the globe. In 1804, the world reached its first billion in population. Now we are adding about 1 billion to our population every 12 years.

This is the harvest Jesus wants us to lift up our eyes and see—7 billion people, 330 million in the United States and 6.67 billion outside of our borders. Yet more than half the world's population has only a slight chance to hear the gospel. In fact, 1.7 billion people are likely to die without hearing the name of Jesus.

And they are dying; two people die each second. The equivalent of a city of 150,600 people disappears into eternity every 24 hours. Without Christ, they will enter hell, forever lost. This is why Jesus said the fields are white unto harvest.

The simple facts above are why I am so deeply concerned about our Southern Baptist giving through the Cooperative Program and our Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for world missions. Last year's Lottie Moon offering was the fourth highest in history, yet the decline in CP giving eclipsed that gain, resulting in a net loss.

Is this how Southern Baptists will be remembered? Will it be said of us that at the hour of greatest

need for the gospel, we did not rise to the challenge? Will it be said that as people groups become increasingly closed to the gospel and countries become more difficult to enter, we just turn to our own interests? Have we really concluded that we can accomplish more by ourselves

than we can together? The International Mission Board seeks to provide the best screening, training, sending and supporting of missionaries available anywhere in the evangelical world. Yet the IMB does not determine the number of missionaries we deploy; Southern Baptists make that decision each time they give. Churches and state conventions make that decision each time they approve their budgets.

Does anyone in the darkest corners of this broken world have a legitimate reason to believe that, if they can hold on just a little longer, we will get there with a message of hope and salvation? This is the question with which each Southern Baptist individual, church and state convention must grapple. I shared this recently while standing before a group of missionaries who had returned from the field for a brief time of respite, training and connecting with churches and families.

People are eager to go to the ends of the earth. Each year I am privileged to speak to multiplied thousands of college students. They respond with passion, dedication and sacrifice, eager to go out with the good news. In record numbers, young couples, many with families,

seminary training and experience, tell us of their call to missions. Maturing adults, having enjoyed success and wanting to exchange mere success for kingdom impact, are asking if we have a way to train and deploy them to the ends of the earth.

New IMB initiatives

The IMB's assignment to "assist the churches" through a great missionary enterprise means that we are inviting all to the Great Commission table. Through "Embrace," churches and entities are being mobilized to reach unengaged, unreached people groups. Through global strategic mobilization, business professionals are discovering how to join forces with us in venues all over the world. "Ready Reserves" now will strategically mobilize former IMB personnel in key areas when and where specialized skills and experience are needed. We now are training others around the world in evangelism, discipleship and church planting. Soon our "School of Prayer for All Nations" will generate a "blast furnace" of constant prayer.

But the question remains: How will we answer the Lord, the lost and those eager to share Jesus with them? Let's make it personal. Does anyone in the darkest corners of this broken world have a legitimate reason to believe that because you care, someone will soon be there with the gospel? (BP)

Tom Elliff is president of the International Mission Board.

How do I talk with my kids about sex?

When our children ask questions about sex, we often get uneasy. We're not sure they need to know just yet. We tend to tell them something less than the truth and put them off or suggest they ask someone else. However, our children do need to know about sex. The truth is, they are going to know about sex, and we need to be the ones to tell them.

In "How to Talk Confidently with Your Child About Sex," Lenore Buth says, "When parents fail to communicate information and their own values, their children simply go elsewhere. They ask their friends, they avidly watch television and movies, and they may read dirty books. So we parents have to weigh our own awkwardness in talking with our children against the misinformation and distorted values they'll almost surely gather elsewhere."

Concordia Publishing House has an excellent set of books called the "Learning About Sex" series that parents and church leaders may find helpful. The books teach the following truths:

- Sex is something good. It was God's plan from the very beginning.
- God's greatness can be seen as we learn information about our bodies.
- Something about the changes that occur as we grow—what to expect and how to act responsibly.
- The importance of family, love and commitment.
- Although sex is something private and personal, it also is something we can and need to talk about.
- Jesus wants control of every area of our lives. Our love for Him should show in all relationships, including those with the opposite sex.

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



Ezell to NAMB trustees: Envision next generation of missionaries

By Adam Miller

Chicago—North American Mission Board President Kevin Ezell underscored the need to develop the next generation of Southern Baptist missionaries during NAMB's trustee meeting Oct. 10 in Chicago.

"We have 45,000 churches, millions of Southern Baptists, and we have 600 student missionaries. That is unspeakably poor. We must do better," Ezell told the board. "Missionaries don't just happen. We must intentionally pray for and build the next generation of missionaries."

Citing a Southern Baptist church death rate of about 900 churches a year after NAMB's regional vice presidents reviewed North America's lostness, Ezell set forth NAMB's missionary development process, which he refers to as a "farm system."

The four-tiered process will allow for multiple age groups and levels of commitment. Training centers, established in conjunction with local churches, will be geared toward providing hands-on training while helping individuals discern their levels of commitment and calling.

"Student missionaries," serving terms of a few weeks up to a year, will explore their ministry callings while serving in a church or other ministry setting. Similarly, a missionary "intern" role provides aspiring church planters with hands-on experiences in a church context under the guidance of a pastor or church planter. A church planter "apprentice" role allows men called to church planting to move to their particular ministry contexts and serve with an existing church plant as they begin building a core team. This role would develop into a church start, with a church planter serving at a strategic location in the same area.

Individuals in the farm system would primarily be placed in regions outside the South, with an emphasis on the 30 cities that are part of NAMB's Send North America initiative.

Trustees saw firsthand the impact of



■ **Above:** Scott Venable (left), a North American Mission Board church planter in Chicago, discusses his church's ministry in the Windy City with a group of NAMB trustees, including Ferrell Wiley (center), a member of Schomburg Road Baptist Church in Columbus, Ga., and his wife, Barbara. ■ **Right:** NAMB President Kevin Ezell addresses trustees at their Oct. 10 meeting in Chicago. (Photos by Susan Whitley/NAMB)

such mentorship opportunities Oct. 8 as they met with Chicago church planters who were themselves building churches in the inner city while mentoring younger planters for the purpose of multiplication.

In other business:

■ Trustees approved the transition of Steve Davis from Midwest regional vice president to the role of vice president for the South region. Walter Mickels, associate vice president to the South, now will serve multiple regions. Ezell said he plans to present a new Midwest region vice president to trustees during their February meeting.

Ezell said Al Gilbert, NAMB's Love Loud executive director, now is serving as interim vice president of evangelism.

■ Trustees approved the establishment of NAMB Canada, which will allow the organization to more



effectively conduct ministry in Canada through its Send North America efforts. The process for establishing NAMB Canada next moves to the SBC Executive Committee for approval.

■ Trustees approved a pastor advisory board that will serve to inform NAMB leadership of the needs and opinions of pastors. "Churches plant churches and pastors lead churches," Ezell said. "We need to keep our ear to the ground to listen to pastors' concerns and what's on their hearts as we attempt to plant churches all over North America." (NAMB/BP)



Ghanaian church planter Eric Aidoo came to the U.S. to study in Maryland and then became burdened about the need for an African Baptist church in Chicago. Earlier this year he started Calvary Baptist International Ministry to reach mostly African immigrants in the city. (Photo by Jim Whitmer/NAMB)

Church planter

Continued from page 1
support Aidoo's work.

With more than 8.7 million people in the metro area (10 Illinois counties surrounding the city), Chicago is one of the largest of NAMB's 30 "Send North America" cities. Southern Baptists currently have 275 congregations engaging the area, but many more are needed, according to the locals formulating the Send North America: Chicago strategy. So far, the local team has identified 161 locations in the Chicago area that need new churches.

Send North America is NAMB's strategy to help churches and individuals become active in all regions of North America to lead people to faith in Jesus Christ and to start new churches.

While Aidoo isn't limiting his ministry to Africans, his natural affinity for those who've immigrated from Africa—and particularly Ghana—has made it an especially fertile field. Seventy-five people showed up when the church started. Seven months later, it is still growing.

"Just like everyone, African people have lots of needs," Aidoo said. "We know only God is the solution, so we get together regularly to pray. We pray that God would draw people to the church."

And He has. A few months back, Aidoo invited Mavis Afum to the new church. Afum grew up in a Christian family in Ghana and came to the United States in 1993 with them. When she had a baby as an unwed teenager, she felt ostracized from her family and her African roots.

Her life grew more and more rebellious. Homeless for a time, she and her son moved in and out of shelters as they "grew up together," Afum said.

"Along the way, I got into a lot of trouble," she recalled.

When she first came to Calvary International Baptist Ministry she was afraid the other Africans in the church would judge her. Yet she found the opposite. The new church embraced her. Eventually, Afum said, she began to understand the gospel and was born again.

"I had been through so many problems and gotten myself in so much trouble. I knew only Christ could deliver me," Afum said. Today she teaches a children's Sunday School class.

Aidoo said he wants to bring that kind of deliverance to as many people as possible.

"My heart is for reaching lost souls," Aidoo said. "If other churches partner with this ministry, it'll help us reach more people." (NAMB/BP)

NAMB to help church planters engage people groups at home, abroad

By Tobin Perry

Chicago—The North American Mission Board wants more Southern Baptist church plants to engage unreached people groups around the globe. To do that, the entity has set aside \$1 million to help church planters.

"We want every Southern Baptist church plant to have a heartbeat for penetrating lostness here in North America and all over the world," NAMB President Kevin Ezell said. "Not only will this build a vision for global missions involvement, our hope is that it will increase the offering base for the (International Mission Board) and international missions."

The new initiative will provide up to \$1,500 per church plant to

purchase plane tickets for a planter and a spouse or another team member to take a vision trip to minister to an unreached people group. Church planters taking part in this effort will need to complete the appropriate training with the IMB.

NAMB trustees approved funding for the initiative during their Oct. 10 meeting in Chicago. Underspent funds from NAMB's budget that closed out Sept. 30 are being used to cover the costs.

According to the IMB, there are approximately 570 unreached people groups within the United States and Canada, as well as more than 6,400 in others parts of the globe. The IMB defines a people group as unreached if the number of evangelical Christians is less than 2 percent of its total population.

"IMB and NAMB are working diligently to create relationships that expand the kingdom, both in the U.S. and around the world," IMB President Tom Elliff said. "As IMB personnel minister in North America, while on stateside assignment or with special agreement from NAMB, they are encouraged to bring their experience in cross-cultural church planting to NAMB's table."

Church planters must be a part of NAMB's Send North America Support Network to receive the vision trip funding. To register with the network, visit www.NAMB.net/CPprofile. Church planters who already are part of the network should contact the IMB at IMB.org or (800) 999-3113 to begin the process of adopting an unreached people group. (NAMB/BP)

Majority of Protestant pastors back Romney, many still undecided

By Daniel Burke

Nashville, Tenn.—A majority of Protestant pastors plan to vote for GOP presidential nominee Mitt Romney, according to a new survey, but nearly a quarter still are undecided less than a month from Election Day.

Just 17 percent of Protestant pastors said they would vote to re-elect President Obama, with 57 percent favoring Romney and 22 percent undecided, according

to a new survey conducted by LifeWay Research.

The results are remarkably similar to a LifeWay survey conducted in October 2008, which found that 55 percent of Protestant pastors planned to vote for then-GOP nominee John McCain, 20 percent for Obama and 22 percent were undecided.

Among the Protestant pastors who will not vote for Romney, just 15 percent said his Mormonism factored into their

decision. Six in 10 undecided pastors said their hesitation is not related to Romney's membership in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

A 2011 LifeWay survey found that 75 percent of Protestant pastors do not consider Mormons to be Christians.

"If agreement on matters of faith was a necessity for pastors' voting decisions, Romney would have little support from pastors," said Scott McConnell, director of LifeWay Research. "In fact, Romney's

Mormon faith has led very few pastors to select a different candidate or remain undecided."

Party preference played a strong role in determining pastors' political choices, the survey found. More than 80 percent of Republican pastors plan to vote for Romney, and a nearly identical number of Democratic pastors plan to vote for Obama. Independents break toward Romney (47 to 16 percent).

The survey found significant differences between mainline Protestant and evangelical pastors. Two-thirds of self-identified evangelical pastors plan to vote for Romney, with just 9 percent backing Obama. Among mainline Protestants, 54 percent say they will vote for Romney, 28 percent for Obama and 25 percent are undecided.

Younger pastors, meanwhile, are far less likely than their elders to vote for Obama. Just 14 percent of pastors age 18-44 say they will vote for the incumbent. They also are more likely to be undecided than pastors 55 and older.

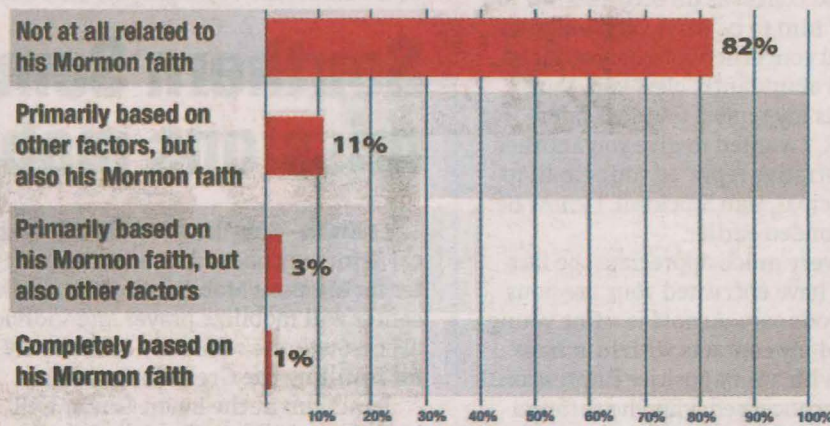
Donovan Golden, the community pastor at Metro Church in Rogers, Ark., is among the young evangelicals who will not vote for either candidate. The 27-year-old Liberty University graduate said Obama's liberal policies and Romney's religion both give him pause.

"Our values are based on our theology," said Golden, who has studied the distinctions between Mormonism and mainstream Christianity. "So, our leaders' theological stances are vitally important. Our theology shapes our values—not vice versa." (RNS)



Among Protestant pastors

To what extent did Mitt Romney's Mormon faith affect your choice of a presidential candidate?

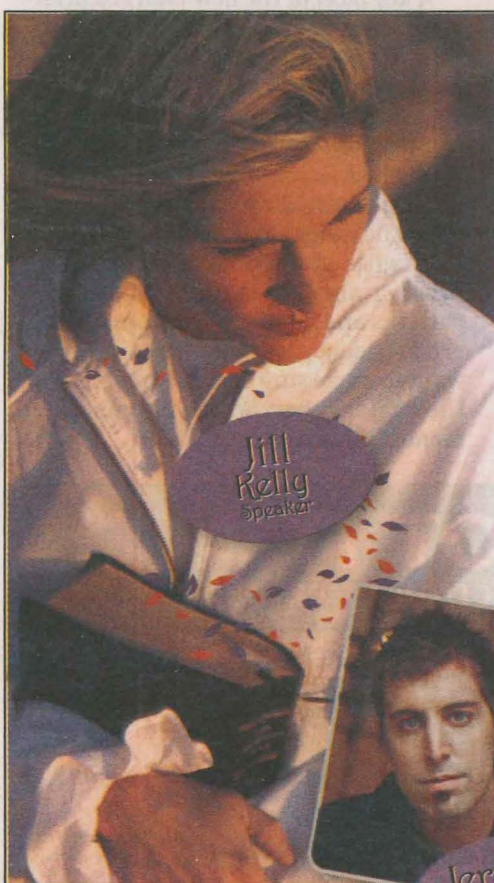


3% Not sure

Note: This question was asked to those indicating they planned on voting for someone besides Mitt Romney.

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Poll: Abortion remains primary issue for one of every six voters

Washington—Nearly one in 10 registered voters in the United States say they will only support pro-life candidates who share their position on abortion, a number that is larger than the corresponding data for pro-choice voters, according to a new Gallup poll.

Specifically, 9 percent of registered voters say they will only support pro-life candidates who oppose abortion while 7 percent of all registered voters say they will only back pro-choice candidates who support legalized abortion.

All total, about one in six voters in the U.S. are single-issue voters on abortion.

Gallup's Lydia Saad called it a "slight pro-life tilt, albeit one that could potentially benefit pro-life Republican candidate Mitt Romney."

Gallup's historical data shows the issue has benefited pro-life candidates in every presidential election dating back to 1996, with pro-lifers ahead by 2 percentage points in every election except for 2004, when 12 percent of voters said they support only pro-life candidates and 5 percent said they support only those who are pro-choice. In 2008, the issue favored pro-lifers, 7 percent to 5 percent.

Two other questions on the survey also favored the pro-life community:

- 27 percent of pro-lifers and 39 percent of pro-choicers say they don't see abortion as a major issue.

- 49 percent of pro-lifers but only 43 percent of pro-choicers say a "candidate's position on abortion" is "one of many important factors" they consider. (BP)

Lives saved through '40 Days for Life'

Fredericksburg, Va.—The latest 40 Days for Life campaign received reports of 51 babies not being aborted during the first five days of this fall's outreach.

The 40-day effort—which focuses on peaceful, pro-life prayer vigils outside abortion clinics—began Sept. 26 at locations throughout the U.S. and Canada, as well as several other countries.

- In Austin, Texas, a woman stayed only a brief time at an abortion clinic where a prayer vigil was being held. "I

can't do it. I just can't do it," she told a 40 Days volunteer as she left.

- In Oakland, Calif., a woman told a volunteer after she left a clinic that she had no health insurance and could not afford the expense of giving birth. The volunteer shared with her that help is available through pregnancy help centers and social services. "She said that she changed her mind," the volunteer reported. "She went back inside and got her money back." (BP)

Hospitalized, part 1

Family, school officials experience difficulties when student falls ill

One of the most difficult times in an OBI student's experience—for the student, the family and OBI caregivers—is being hospitalized. This week we begin a multi-part article chronicling one such episode for a recently arrived student, Arnold K., starting with the initial correspondence from Arnold's father to Principal Dan Stockton:

"Mr. Stockton, I'm sure you know my son, Arnold K., is in the hospital with pneumonia. I want to thank you and your staff for the love and support you all have given him through his medical crisis. Arnold has told us how much he loves it there and is very happy. Your school has been a true blessing to us watching him open up as he has.

"I do have a concern I want to share with you. I feel like Arnold fell between the cracks in the system you have in place monitoring sick students. I spoke with the dean of boys last night and he said that only students with a fever or with doctors' orders are put on mandatory bed rest. I understand that Arnold did not meet those requirements, but he should have had his activities strongly reduced.

"My last report was from Hazel on Wednesday of last week. Arnold, along with many others, was sick with a cold virus. We tried to reach Arnie several times over the weekend, but he was out playing. The houseparent at one time told us he was on the baseball field at 8:45 a.m. I know kids will push themselves as far as they can when they are having fun, but if they are sick, limits need to be put in place. Arnold's pneumonia, unfortunately, did not develop overnight.

"What can we do together to prevent this from happening again? I know that the flu season is yet to come. My last report from his nurse at the hospital said that he is very sick and may be there for a few days. We are currently making arrangements to come see him as soon as possible.

This is Oneida



Paul Davidson

"I thank you for looking into this matter and look forward to speaking to you soon."

Here is Mr. Stockton's reply: "Dear Mr. K., Thank you for the warm regards and suggestions contained in your email. I know Dr. Davidson, the president of OBI, is personally planning a visit to Arnold in the hospital. I will kindly forward your

email and concerns directly to him. You will find him to be very compassionate, open and concerned for every student. May God abundantly bless you, Dan."

Here is my reply a few days later: "Mr. K, I wanted to give you another 'administrative reply' to your email to our principal, Dan Stockton. I know he has responded earlier.

"I do very much appreciate the fact that you have entrusted your precious son into our care. Arnold is a fine young man, and my contacts with him have left me with a very positive impression. I was very concerned when he suffered from homesickness to the extent that he went for some days without eating and lost his strength and even his consciousness. When he came back from the hospital/doctor (I forget which he went to; I know it was an emergency situation from our point of view). I saw him in the hallway and we talked about how he was feeling emotionally and physically."

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

Keeping the 'main thing' the main thing

All of Clear Creek's functions must only be tied to training ministers

There was a wedding on the Clear Creek campus, and the wedding party was assembled near the prayer chapel. It had been rainy, but the weather that day was beautiful—the perfect scenario for pictures, since that meant the waterfall behind the chapel was really showing off.

As the photographer assembled the group, one of the bridesmaids offered her insight. "You know, if they really want to capitalize on the wedding business, they ought to develop this area in front of the waterfall more." The bride, a Clear Creek staff member's daughter, responded. "I don't think they are interested in capitalizing on the wedding business. They train ministers."

The bridesmaid is right. Clear Creek has a magnificent campus, a beautiful chapel and countless photo opportunities. With some promotion and development, we could have the most popular wedding spot around. But the bride also was on target with her reply: We are not in the wedding business.

We are, however, in a wonderful business at God's appointment. We pursue many related activities: conferences, student activities, outreach events, community-service projects and much more. But those must be tied to the

Clear Creek Chronicle



Donnie Fox

"main thing." Anything we do must pass the test of being related to our task of partnering with churches to provide educational preparation for those called to Christian service.

That endeavor involves nurturing students as they prepare for the Lord's work; providing a quality, Bible-based education with an emphasis on Christian service; building and maintaining relationships with individuals, churches, associations and conventions; and managing the resources God gives us toward those objectives.

Ecclesiastes says, "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might." We are proud to be the KBC's Bible college. Our goal is to do that with our might. Thank you for helping us.

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.ccbcc.edu; e-mail: dfox@ccbcc.edu.



MISSIONS CENTER Southern Baptist Theological Seminary President Albert Mohler speaks at the opening of the Bevin Center for Missions Mobilization. At right are Matthew and Glenna Bevin who provided an endowment for the center in honor of their daughter Brittiney, whose missions aspirations were cut short by a fatal auto accident. (SBTS photo)

Southern Seminary introduces missions mobilization center

Louisville—Southern Baptist Theological Seminary opened its new Bevin Center for Missions Mobilization Oct. 9. The center will mobilize prayer and individuals through the seminary community for fulfilling the Great Commission.

Functions at the Bevin Center will include a major missions conference at the seminary, training events, affinity-group fellowships, cultural immersion experiences, hosting missionaries in residence and an expanded missions week on campus, as well as expanded mission trips around the world.

Matthew and Glenna Bevin provided an endowment to fund the center in remembrance of their late daughter, Brittiney, whose passion for the gospel drove her life. Matthew Bevin, speaking at the dedication, used the biblical phrase "salt and light" to describe his daughter's compassion for "the least of these."

At age 14, Brittiney sensed a call to pursue missions. The Bevins sent her on overseas mission trips that further confirmed her calling. In 2003, Brittiney, 17, died in a car accident in front of the Southern Seminary campus.

Bevin said Brittiney's desires are

being fulfilled by the legacy now being left to a generation of young Christians ready to answer the call to world missions. "We have confidence that Southern is an institution that will steward this in a way that will serve God best."

New strategic plan

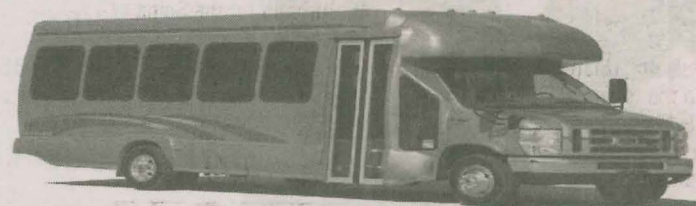
Southern Seminary trustees also met Oct. 9 during which the board approved a new strategic plan and voted to form a task force to review the seminary's administrative structure.

A key facet of the new plan is a priority to improve theological writing. Further, it will encourage faculty development, scholarship and churchmanship; strengthen local church relationships; equip students for degree completion; strengthen Boyce College; expand and develop external education; and implement the campus master plan.

"Higher education is being changed by new technologies, different student patterns and new opportunities," Southern President Albert Mohler said. "We want to make sure that the structure of the seminary best fits the accomplishment of our mission. (SBTS/BP)

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Bible Crosswords

By Janet Adkins

Across

- 1 ___ water
- 4 One of Shem's children (Genesis 10:22)
- 8 Business correspondence abbr.
- 12 That (Sp.)
- 13 Latvian monetary unit
- 14 Composer Stravinsky
- 15 Becoming slower, in music (abbr.)
- 16 Layer
- 17 ___ of the above
- 18 "___ not at the matter: for he that is higher ... regardeth" (Ecclesiastes 5:8)
- 20 ___ culpa
- 22 Person concerned with (suffix)
- 23 Evergreen tree of the cypress family, known for its berries
- 27 "Thou shalt be missed, because thy ___ will be empty" (1 Samuel 20:18)
- 29 Source of poi
- 30 Norma ___, Oscar-winning movie
- 31 "So Manasseh made Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to ___" (2 Chronicles 33:9)
- 32 "So will I do for my servants' ___ that I may not destroy them all" (Isaiah 65:8)
- 33 Carbohydrate (suffix)
- 34 Resinous substance of South Asia
- 35 Canned (colloq.)
- 36 Not brand new
- 37 Son of Uzziah (Nehemiah 11:4)
- 39 One (Scot.)
- 40 Mountain stat.
- 41 "He is ___ of death" (Matthew 26:66)
- 44 He helped build the towns of Ono and Lod (1 Chronicles 8:12)
- 47 Steel beam used in construction
- 49 Biblical exclamation
- 50 Presidential power
- 51 Alley Oop's girlfriend
- 52 Paving substance
- 53 "The land is as the garden of ___ before them" (Joel 2:3)
- 54 Joyeux ___ (holiday greetings in Grenoble?)
- 55 Sea eagle

- 7 "But their scribes and Pharisees ___ against his disciples" (Luke 5:30)
- 8 ___ Peninsula
- 9 Time past
- 10 "Unto us a child is born, unto us a ___ is given" (Isaiah 9:6)
- 11 Before (poet.)
- 19 Profession of the late James Herriot (colloq.)
- 21 Son of Seth
- 23 Father of Agur (Proverbs 30:1)
- 24 "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees ... ye compass sea and land to make one ___" (Matthew 23:15)
- 25 At ___ (heard at boot camp)
- 26 Bane of oboist?
- 27 Actress Ward
- 28 He was (Lat.)
- 29 "He exacted the silver and ... gold ... of every one according to his ___" (2 Kings 23:35)
- 32 Breeze along
- 36 Iowa institute of higher learning (abbr.)
- 38 "And Moses told ___ all the words of the Lord" (Exodus 4:28)
- 39 Related to the sense of hearing
- 41 Strong wind
- 42 Speed along
- 43 Seafarer's woolly tale?
- 44 Whom the serpent beguiled, ever so subtly
- 45 Hotel room requirement
- 46 Summer on the Seine
- 48 Startling sound

Last puzzle's solution

1	A	N	E	W		S	A	S	P		8	N	E	T	S			
12	T	E	R	I		M	I	L			14	E	L	O	I			
15	T	E	E	D		E	R	A			17	P	I	R	N			
				18	O	W	N			20	N	I	H					
22	S	H	E	W	E	D				25	K	E	E	P	E	R		
28	C	O	A	S	T	S				30	S	O	W	E	T	H		
31	O	R	G							32	T	H	E					
33	R	E	L	I	E	D				37	A	E	N	E	A	S		
40	E	M	E	R	G	E				41	S	M	Y	R	N	A		
				42	E	O	N			43	S	E	M					
44	M	U	N				I	R	E			P	Y	R	E			
53	A	R	B	A			E	A	R			H	A	I	R			
57	D	I	S	H			D	E	T						59	M	E	N

Down

- 1 Time in an elected office
- 2 "All they which dwelt in ___ heard the word of the Lord Jesus" (Acts 19:10)
- 3 "Let me freely speak unto you of the ___ David" (Acts 2:29)
- 4 Amend slightly
- 5 Complain bitterly
- 6 Gobbled up

A good time for giving

'Tis the season for giving financial gifts to advance God's kingdom

Now is a very good time for giving. With Thanksgiving right around the corner, it's a time to express gratitude to the Lord for all the ways He has blessed our lives, and giving financial gifts to advance His kingdom is a worthy way to express that gratitude.

The Advent season, which follows the Thanksgiving season, is another good time for giving. What better reason is there to give than "the reason for the season"? And, finally, the end of the calendar year is a good time for giving because you may be able to enjoy some tax savings, which could facilitate a larger gift(s) than you anticipated giving.

The most common asset used for charitable giving is cash in the form of cash, check or an electronic transfer. If you itemize your tax deductions, gifts of cash may be used to eliminate federal income tax on up to half of your adjusted gross income (AGI). You also may have state income tax savings.

Since the financial markets have

behaved rather well this year, you may own some stocks, bonds or mutual fund shares that are worth more than they cost you. Now could be a good time to gift those assets instead of cash because such gifts generally are deductible for

income tax purposes at the full market value if you've owned them more than one year. Such gifts can be used to offset tax on up to 30 percent of your AGI, and an added benefit is no capital gains tax is owed because the gift is not a sale.

On the other hand, if you own securities worth less than they cost, consider selling them and using the proceeds to make your charitable gift(s). You may

be able to deduct the loss on the sale, as well as the amount of the gift. Unused deductions in the year of the gift can carry forward for five future years.

To the extent you need assistance in what asset to give, please give us the privilege of assisting you. Call us toll free.

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

'Special ministry grants'

Kentucky Baptist ministries benefit from gifts to Eliza Broadus Offering

The Eliza Broadus Offering provides significant funding for ministries across our state through "special ministry grants." These grants are provided by EBO through an application process administered by Kentucky WMU. We currently are receiving applications for grants from the 2012-13 offering, and applications are due by Dec. 15.

Every grant provided by EBO includes the stipulation that the ministry that receives the grant must complete an accountability form to be eligible to apply for another grant. This helps us to be accountable to Kentucky Baptists for how the funds are used and also tell the stories of the offering's impact.

For example:

- Operation Hopkinsville involved 220 volunteers in community ministries through 13 ministry teams. EBO funds were used for evangelistic literature, backyard Bible clubs, block parties, nursing home ministry, a sports clinic, free care clinic and a cookie ministry.

- Grant County prison ministry had 3,551 people in attendance, 47 professions of faith, 46 baptisms and handed out 282 Bibles.

- A six-day deaf vacation Bible camp was provided in June by the deaf ministry of First Baptist Church of Bowling Green. Deaf and hard-of-hearing children were exposed to the gospel in American Sign Language through Bible

studies, crafts, snacks and other activities.

- The Answer Center of Green Valley Baptist Association helped 579 people with food, clothing, household goods, school supplies and personal-care items.

The ministry's objective is to meet needs and share Christ.

- High Mountain Equine Outreach reaches at-risk teens through horses. By teaching relationship horsemanship, this ministry shares the beauty of walking in relationship with the horses and our Creator. EBO helped with supplies for the barn and other ministry expenses.

- Mercer Baptist Association provided materials for Kentucky Changers to complete 45 projects including decks, roofs, siding, paint, windows and more. Two dozen professions of faith and many more decisions were made during the week as students share the love of Jesus in the community.

- Muhlenburg County Baptist Association held a crusade at the local high school. The association also sponsored "youth night" during the crusade and provided pizza for more than 400 students, followed by a concert by Clay Crosse and preaching by Ronnie Owens. Eight young people gave their lives to Christ that night, with a total of 37 saved during the crusade.

Read more Eliza Broadus Offering reports at www.KyWMU.org/EBO.

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

EBO at Work



Joy Bolton



October

27 Women's Ministry State Leadership Conference, Kentucky Baptist Building, Louisville.

November

1 Church Revitalization Conference, Living Hope Baptist Church, Bowling Green.

2-4 Engage International Student Conference, Cave City Convention Center.

9-11 All-State Junior High Choir, Kentucky Baptist Building, Louisville.

10 GA Jam, St. Matthews Baptist Church, Louisville.

MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

■ **CADIZ**—New Hope Church will hold a "Revival Fires" event Oct. 23, 7 p.m., with **Corey Harrison** as guest speaker. **Mark Thweatt** is pastor.

Ponderosa Church will hold revival services Oct. 21-24 with **Bradley Cornelius**, pastor of West Union Church in Gracey, as evangelist. **Norman Cotton** is pastor.

■ **CAMPBELLSVILLE**—Saloma Church will hold fall Sunday revival services Oct. 21, 11 a.m. & 6 p.m., with **Kenny Rager**, pastor of Life Community Church in Owensboro, as evangelist. **John Chowning** is pastor.

■ **CENTRAL CITY**—First Church will hold revival services Oct. 21, 11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.; Oct. 22-24, with **Rick Stevens**, associational missionary for Cumberland Association in Clarksville, Tenn., as evangelist. **Bob Lowery** is pastor.

■ **CORBIN**—Central Church will hold

Mega Monday services Oct. 22, 6:30 p.m., with **Greg Fauls**, pastor of Bellevue Church in Owensboro, as guest speaker and special music by **This Hope**. **Chad Fugitt** is pastor.

■ **EDDYVILLE**—First Church will host Caldwell-Lyon Association's men and boys' breakfast Oct. 20, 8 a.m. The church also will hold revival services Oct. 21-24 with **Dale Rose** as evangelist. **Tim Perdue** is pastor.

■ **GHENT**—Ghent Church recently called **Matt Brawner** as youth director. **Graham Reynolds** is pastor.

■ **GREENSBURG**—Macedonia Church will host Russell Creek Association's WMU rally Oct. 18, 6 p.m. **Clifton Sullivan** is pastor.

■ **IRVINE**—Beech Grove Church will hold a fall festival and old-fashioned day Oct. 20, 4 p.m. **Marion Brewer** is pastor.

■ **JEFFERSONVILLE**—Jeffersonville Church will hold revival services

Oct. 22-26, 7 p.m., with pastors from Irvine-area churches as evangelists.

■ **LANCASTER**—Freedom Church recently called **Don Groce** as pastor.

■ **LONDON**—Providence Church will hold revival services Oct. 21-24, 7 p.m., with **Gerry Powell** as evangelist. **Sheila Gibbs** and **Final Call** will provide special music Oct. 21. **David Thomas** is pastor.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Deer Park Church will hold homecoming services Oct. 21. **David Platt** is pastor.

St. Matthews Church will hold a Chrismon party Oct. 20, 10 a.m. **Greg Barr** is pastor.

Walnut Street Church will hold a "Sensational Senior Adult Celebration" event Oct. 22, 9 a.m., with **Bob Russell**, former pastor of Southeast Christian Church in Louisville, as guest speaker and special music by **No Other Name**. The cost to attend is \$12. For more information, call (502) 589-5290. **Rusty Ellison** is pastor.

■ **MOUNT VERNON**—Fairview, First and Freedom churches will host Rockcastle Association's simultaneous revival services Oct. 21-24 with pastors from Tallapoosa Association in Jackson's Gap, Ala., as evangelists. **Vaughn Rasor** is pastor of Fairview Church; **Eddie**

Spotlight on ...

Beech Creek



Beech Creek Church will celebrate its 100th anniversary Oct. 21, 11 a.m., with a worship service and a meal to follow. **Chad Clark** is pastor.

Nation is pastor of First Church; and **David Sargent** is pastor of Freedom Church.

■ **POWDERLY**—Woodson Church will hold revival services Oct. 21, 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.; Oct. 22-24, 7 p.m., with **Leroy Rearden** as evangelist. **Travis Fox** is pastor.

■ **PRINCETON**—Southside Church will hold a Judgment House Oct. 20, 6 p.m.; Oct. 21, 1 p.m.; Oct. 24-27, 6 p.m.; Oct. 28, 1 p.m. **Mark Williams** is pastor.

■ **SOMERSET**—First Church will hold a dinner and reception Oct. 21, 6 p.m., to honor Pastor **French Harmon** and Music Minister **David Pendley** for their five years of service to the church.

■ **VERSAILLES**—Versailles Church's women's ministry will hold a "Souper Supper Tuesday" Oct. 23, 6 p.m., with **Ginger Gay** as guest speaker. **John Brandon** is pastor.

Your church newsletter

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WESTERN Recorder



Lawless moves from IMB to SEBTS

Wake Forest, N.C.—Chuck Lawless has been named dean of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary's graduate school, effective Nov. 1.

Lawless will leave his position with the International Mission Board as vice president of global theological advance. He joined the IMB as a consultant in 2008 after serving as dean of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's Billy Graham School of Missions and Evangelism in Louisville. Before that, he had been a professor of evangelism and church growth at Southern Seminary since 1996.



Chuck Lawless

Lawless holds Ph.D. and M.Div. degrees from Southern Seminary and an undergraduate degree from University of the Cumberlands.

Lawless "has a real passion for the nations and the gospel," Southeastern Seminary President Danny Akin said. "I believe he will bring enormous experience and expertise to Southeastern."

The IMB, in a statement, said it and Southeastern intend for Lawless to continue to be involved in global theological advance, in a limited capacity, including helping to train missionaries. (BP)

ERLC releases election voter guide

Nashville, Tenn.—While many Americans don't have the time or desire to get beyond the political attacks in an election season, Richard Land said he believes it is worth the effort for voters to go beyond the ads to determine who is the best candidate for office.

"Voters need to do their homework before they step into the voting booth," said Land, president of the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission.

"There is no excuse for any voter willingly forfeiting their right to vote because they don't know the candidates' positions on the issues," he added. "And even if none of the people seeking the presidency exactly square with what a person desires in a candidate, that doesn't give them a pass to

To that end, the ERLC has released a guide that compares the Democratic and Republican platforms side by side.

The ERLC's Party Platform Comparison Guide, available now at iVoteValues.com, is a valuable tool for voters who want to learn the differences between the two major-party presidential candidates.

The guide, which covers a wide range of issues, pulls excerpts directly from the platforms adopted by the Democrats and the Republicans at their conventions earlier this year and covers civil rights, human trafficking, immigration, justice and abortion, among other issues.

The guides are available to download for free. Full-color print copies also

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

SEEKING: Red House Baptist Church, a member of Tates Creek Association of Southern Baptists, is searching for a full-time, experienced senior pastor. Apply by sending a resumé and cover letter to Red House Baptist Church, Attn: pastor search team, 2301 Red House Road, Richmond, KY 40475.

SEEKING: Southern Heights Baptist Church, a member of Elkhorn Baptist Association, is seeking a full-time pastor. Send resumé to Southern Heights Baptist Church, Attn: Pastor selection committee, 3408 Clays Mill Road, Lexington, KY 40503.

SEEKING: Buck Creek Baptist Church of McLean County is seeking to hire a full-time youth director. We have an outstanding youth program for grades 6-12. The average attendance of our youth program at this time is 60-75 on Wednesday nights. Maybe God is calling you to be part of this wonderful opportunity. A full job description is available upon request. Resumés may be mailed to the attention of the youth director search committee at 3788 US Hwy. 431 N, Calhoun, KY 42327, or emailed to bcpastortom@bellsouth.net.

SEEKING: First Missionary Baptist Church of Wurtland, Ky., is seeking a bivocational pastor. Send resumé marked Attn: search committee to First Missionary Baptist Church, Wurtland, Ky., 600 Center Ave., Wurtland, KY 41144.

SEEKING: Stithton Baptist Church in Radcliff, Ky., is seeking a worship director FT/PT. Please call (270) 351-6055 or send resumé to Stithton Baptist Church, 95 Park Ave., Radcliff, KY 40160.

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: Walnut Grove Baptist Church in Russellville, Ky., is seeking a full-time student minister. Duties will include ministering to all children and youth with an emphasis on youth. Please send resumé to Walnut Grove Baptist Church, c/o search committee, 2941 Highland Lick Road, Russellville, KY 42276.

SEEKING: New Hope Community Church in Elizabethtown, Ky., is taking applications for a part-time children's ministry director. For more information, a ministry description is located on the church's website, www.newhopechurch.com under the section "children." Send resumés to k.quesenberry@newhopechurch.com; deadline to send a resumé is Oct. 27.

SEEKING: Part-time music minister at Brookside Baptist Church; please send resumés to Attn: music search committee, 1351 Wilmore Road, Nicholasville, KY 40356. Resumés can be emailed to pam@brookside-baptist.org.

SEEKING: Lewisport Baptist Church is seeking a full-time minister of music and discipleship. This individual shall possess some experience in leading an organized church music program, discipleship ministry and have a desire to teach and equip others; minimum of a bachelor's degree preferred. Please send resumés, videos and all other inquiries for a job description and compensation to lewisportbaptist@tds.net or Lewisport Baptist Church, 1115 Pell St., Lewisport, KY 42351. Attn: Brvan Napier.

'I have a really cool story'

Among Mongolia's nomads, new water wells lead to Living Water

Mongolia—All that can be heard for miles in the Mongolian grasslands is the sound of a shovel hitting ice and the voice of a woman telling an old, old story.

Bolormaa*, a Mongolian believer, tells the story of Jesus feeding 5,000 people with five loaves and two fish.

"I have a really cool story," Mönkhbat*, a young Mongolian well digger who has just heard Bolormaa's account, tells his girlfriend over the phone.

Bolormaa, while checking the progress of a well being drilled with assistance from Southern Baptists' World Hunger Fund, tells Mönkhbat* and two of his co-workers how she has experienced God's love.

She tells the story of creation and how men and women can have a relationship with God.

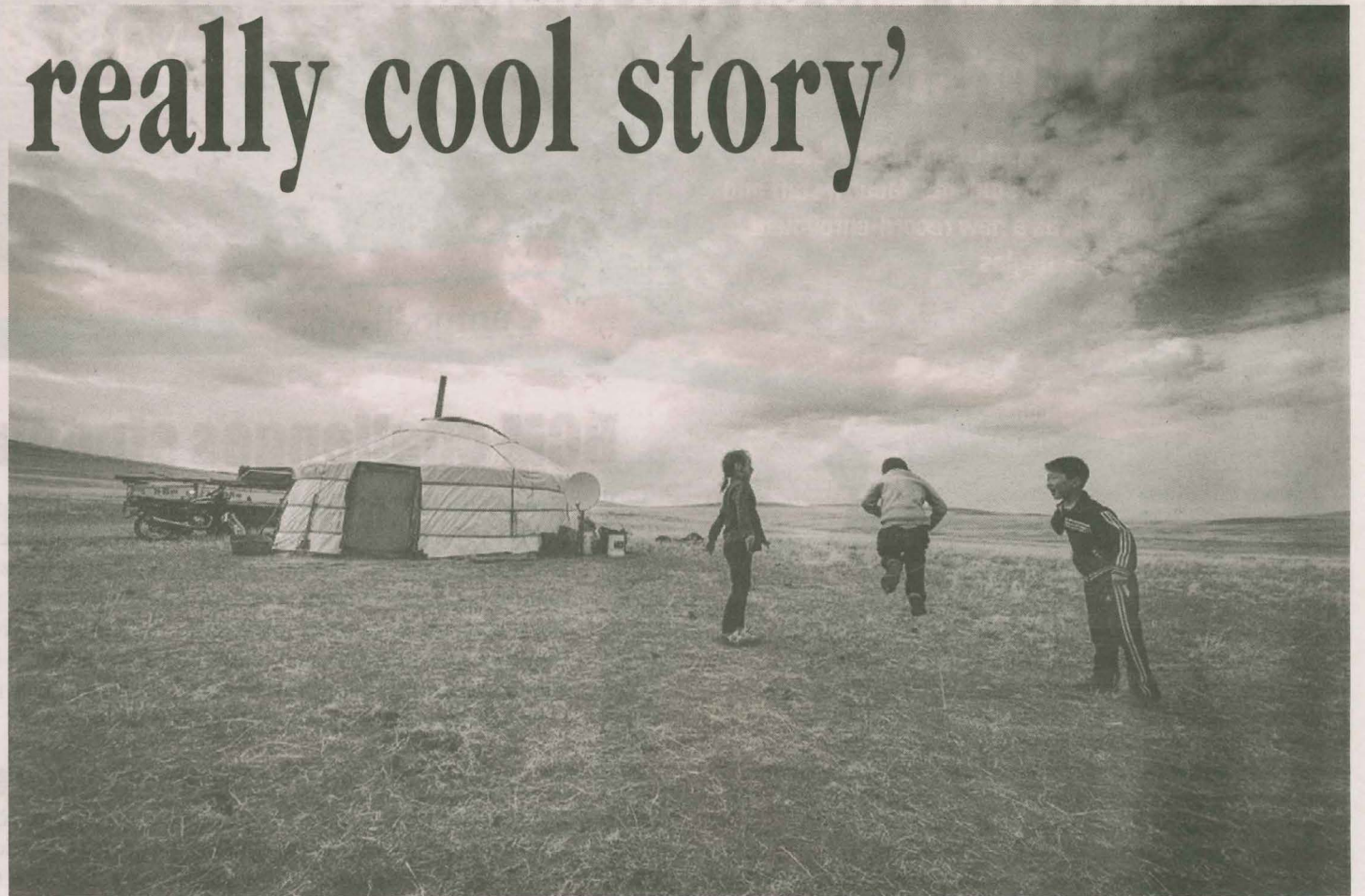
Mönkhbat pauses from digging and looks up as Bolormaa says, "He gives you joy, happiness and love. ... No matter where you are, He is with you."

Two of the workers say they believe the Bible's message.

Bolormaa has journeyed to eastern Mongolia with her husband Batbayer* and Seth and Sue Walker*, International Mission Board workers whose service in Mongolia is supported by Southern Baptists' gifts through the Cooperative Program and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

The separate World Hunger Fund provided the money for eight wells for eastern Mongolian nomads and their goat herds. Each well costs \$3,250 and will help around 480 people in the Asian country.

Visiting earlier in the homes of men and women in the area, Bolormaa and



ENJOYING EACH OTHER'S COMPANY Children of Mongolian herders play outside their tent-like nomadic home called a ger. For some families, the nearest neighbor may live miles away. (Photos by Hugh Johnson/IMB)

Batbayer heard of the need for new water sources. Miles of steppe remain unused and uninhabited by Mongolia's herders because either there are no water sources or lakes have dried up, according to IMB workers.

"Sometimes there are some good areas for pasture, but people don't move in to them because there isn't a ready source of water," Sue Walker said. "Water of course is key. (Building wells) helps those that are struggling to get their animals fed and provide them with water."

Batbayer, Bolormaa and the Walkers show God's love by meeting physical needs of Mongolia's nomadic herders.

Many herders live in remote areas isolated from national and international news. Batbayer and Bolormaa first built relationships with herders by bringing them news from the city, strengthening those bonds by volunteering to help herders with their chores.

Batbayer takes off work for several

weeks at a time so he and Bolormaa can travel to remote areas to help the herders experience the meaningful life God meant for them to enjoy. Many nights, the couple and their 7-year-old daughter sleep outside in their rented Land Cruiser.

"It's our calling," Batbayer said. They hope that as their family relates to others, those families also will find better lives.

The Walkers said they love telling about the free gift of water Baptist Global Response is providing and the gift of abundant life God gives.

"The money is being provided by Christians," Sue tells them, explaining that Christians support BGR because they love Jesus and Jesus loves the herders.

Later, near the well that is under construction, the smell of goat meat fills a ger, a traditional Mongolian home. Batbayer, Bolormaa and the Walkers pull

meat from the goat's jawbone, sip milk tea and chat with a Mongolian family the missionaries just met.

The couples talk about the new well and how it will make watering their herds so much easier.

Soon, Sue feels a leading to tell how God gave her life new meaning.

The men sit cross-legged on the floor. One nods as he listens, the other leans against a wooden chest painted the orange color traditionally used in Mongolian homes. He rolls a cigarette as he listens. One of the men in the ger says he's read a book about Jesus before.

Seth tells how, as an 18 year old, he felt something was missing in his life. His story drew the attention of one of the men's wives, who has been preparing milk tea and tending to her son.

"God filled the empty space in my life," Seth tells them. "Do you feel like there is something missing in your life?"

One man grunts affirmatively.

Seth asks the question again. The man of the house scratches his head, then agrees.

"God wants you to know Him," Seth tells them. "What do you think about what I told you? Do you think it is true?"

"It's true," the man of the house says, looking at his hands. He's heard a lot of stories and he thinks this is truth.

During the ride back into town, the missionaries talk excitedly about what happened in the ger. Sue said she knows the visit was inspired.

"You could tell that they were really open," she recalled. "When I was sharing with them, when Seth was, and Bolormaa, they weren't looking away. They weren't twiddling their thumbs. They weren't acting like they couldn't wait for us to leave.

"They looked like the spirit of God was at work in their lives," Sue added.

The herders now have access not only to the water that supports life, but also to the Living Water that supports more abundant life. (IMB/BP)

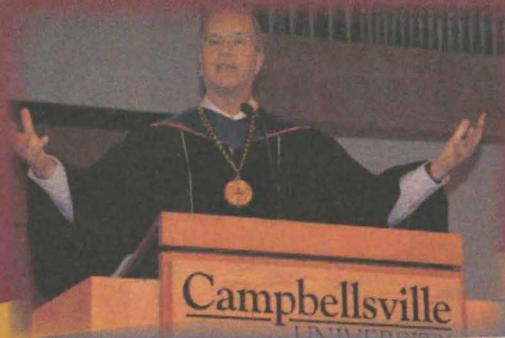
*Names changed for security reasons



LIFE-SAVING WORK In Mongolia, digging by hand through several meters of rain-sodden dirt and permafrost is the best way to construct simple but effective wells. Lined with wooden walls and void of any moving parts, these low-maintenance wells will provide local herder families with water for many years.

"Build Your Life on the Rock of Jesus Christ."

- Message from Dr. Michael V. Carter, President, to students, faculty, staff and coaches, as a new record-enrollment semester begins



BCM challenges students to 'Engage 24'

Campbellsville University through the Baptist Campus Ministry (BCM) challenged students to "Engage 24," a 24-hour period when college students recently made a coordinated effort to engage the campus with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The desire was to see every believing college student share the Gospel with one person on that day. "Our goal," said Ed Pavy, director of campus ministries, "was to have a result that, to the best of our ability on that day, not only did every Christian student share his/her faith, but that every student at the main campus heard the Gospel." Weekly prayer meetings are held on Tuesdays at 8 p.m. Contact Pavy at ecpavy@campbellsville.edu.

Campbellsville University gaining national/global reputation

For the first time, CU has been listed in the Chronicle of Higher Education among the nation's fastest growing campuses. This comes in addition to the 16th annual report of America's Best Christian Colleges® having included Campbellsville University for the sixth consecutive year, and most recently, CU has received rankings showing she has remained in the top regional universities in the South, by *U.S. News & World Report*. Campbellsville University is on track to meet its Vision 2025 goal of becoming one of the premier Christian universities in America.

Transformational Church Summit helps church leaders

President Michael V. Carter welcomed participants to Ransdell Chapel Thursday for the opening session of the recent Transformational Church Summit. In a brief update, he said that part of the mission of the university is to empower the local church. He introduced guest speaker Dr. Thom Rainer, president of LifeWay Christian Resources. Other speakers were: the Rev. Rusty Ellison, pastor, Walnut Street Baptist Church of Louisville, Ky.; Dr. Dan Garland, director of church consulting, LifeWay Christian Resources; and Dr. John Mark Toby, pastor of Beacon Hill Baptist Church in Somerset, Ky.



Campbellsville University junior Rachel Shannon, above left, from Shelbyville, Ky., serves Shelby Mattingly, a Versailles, Ky. freshman, right, at the Baptist Campus Ministry (BCM) annual picnic. Ed Pavy, director of campus ministries, is in back. Shannon is discipleship coordinator of BCM which opened the fall semester with its annual picnic Aug. 28 to welcome new and returning students. This event had a Hawaiian Luau theme. All CU students are encouraged to find areas in which they can serve others during their academic career. Students are also invited to select and sign up for ministry teams, including: "Disciple Now" Teams, Ministry Teams, CU Crew, Freshman Family and Community Units. For details about mission trips for the year contact Sarah Scott, Mission Coordinator, at the Office of Campus Ministries at 270-789-5227. www.campbellsville.edu/baptist-campus-ministries.

Coming: Preview Day Nov. 3; Tiger Round-Up Nov. 15-16.

CU is providing \$7 million in institutional financial aid to Kentucky Baptist students in 2012-2013.

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The Rev. Rusty Ellison, standing, above, spoke to a breakout session at the Transformational Church Summit at CU. The event is one of the regular opportunities provided for pastors and church leaders to help them have all the tools and training needed for their work for the Great Commission.

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