

# WESTERN Recorder

March 26, 2013

Shine Like Stars \* Philippians 2:15

Volume 187, Issue 12

## Chitwood: 'Could not disagree more' with veto

By Todd Deaton

**Louisville**—Reaction to news of Gov. Steve Beshear's veto of the religious freedom bill March 22 came swift and strong from Kentucky Baptist Convention leaders.

"When did the cherished, constitutional right of religious freedom become such a danger to our society?" asked Paul Chitwood, executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

"An overwhelming majority of our legislators obviously don't see it that

way, nor do Kentucky Baptists see it that way," he said.

The religious freedom bill, also known as HB 279, would strengthen legal protections for religious minorities by restoring "compelling interest" and "least restrictive means" as the legal tests by which the government must prove any action before restricting religious freedom. The bill, proponents argue, brings Kentucky back into line with federal court standards, after the U.S. Congress adopted a similarly worded Religious Freedom Restoration

Act in 1993.

In vetoing the bill, Gov. Beshear said the "overly broad and vague terminology" in the law would make its enforcement difficult and lead to considerable litigation.

"As written, the measure calls into question the scope and efficacy of many laws regarding public health and safety as well as individual civil rights," he said, adding that citizens are entitled to clarity in the law.

After the bill's passage, the  
 See Veto reaction ... Page 2

## Matter not over, Sunrise responds to Americans United

By Todd Deaton

**Louisville**—The State of Kentucky and Americans United for Separation of Church and State may have reached a "tentative" settlement regarding child care providers, but the legal matter isn't settled as far as Sunrise Children's Services officials are concerned, and reports to the contrary are "premature," according to the agency's attorney.

Meanwhile, the Kentucky Baptist Convention's executive director applauded Sunrise's decision not to participate in the proposed settlement and called on Kentucky Baptists to rally around their child care agency.

"The plaintiffs' declaration of victory is as premature as it is inaccurate," according to a statement from the Kentucky Baptist child care agency released by its attorney, John Sheller. Sunrise is currently awaiting a court decision regarding a summary judgment motion that was filed in November.

Americans United announced March 20 that Kentucky's government has agreed to change child care policies to ensure that religiously-affiliated  
 See Sunrise ... Page 2



*"The plaintiffs' declaration of victory is as premature as it is inaccurate."*

John Sheller

## Power of the Cross

Experience what it must have felt like for observers of Jesus Christ's death, burial and resurrection through "The Power of the Cross," an outdoor crucifixion drama produced by Stewart's Creek Baptist Church, in Lebanon. Three 30-minute performances will be held nightly March 29-30 beginning at 7 p.m., and feature recorded music by Stewart's Creek's choir heard through a short range FM broadcast. (Photo by Robin Cornet Bass)

■ For story, see page 6.

## 1st African-American VP on Exec Committee

By Diana Chandler

**Nashville, Tenn.**—Ken Weathersby will begin April 1 as vice president for convention advancement with the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee, the first African-American to hold an EC vice presidential position.

Weathersby, who most recently has served as presidential ambassador for ethnic church relations with the North American Mission Board, has held a  
 See Weathersby ... Page 5



Ken Weathersby

## Annie Armstrong Easter Offering Vulnerable women in NOLA meet with 'divine appointment'

By Sara Shelton

**New Orleans**—Homeless, pregnant and struggling with substance abuse, Melanie's life seemed hopeless as she slept under a bridge in Oklahoma City several years ago.

Then a newspaper article about the city of New Orleans' struggle to rebuild after Hurricane Katrina caught Melanie's eye. Desperate to rebuild her life as well, she set out for New Orleans and on the path to a divine appointment with LoveLoud missionary Kay Bennett.

"Melanie contacted me and came into

our transitional housing program," Bennett recounts. "She got a job, got into college and is working toward her social work degree now. She came to us because she knew she needed help, and we offered her the support she needed to succeed."

Melanie is just one of hundreds of women Kay Bennett is reaching through the Baptist Friendship House in New Orleans.

With a motto to "meet needs through love, action and truth," the Baptist Friendship House exists to serve and  
 See Vulnerable ... Page 4



**LEARNING & LOVING** Kay Bennett (left) directs the Baptist Friendship House in New Orleans. (Photo by Susan Whitley)

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## Ky students among those lifting spirits, debris of storm victims

By Laura Sikes

**Staten Island, N.Y.**—Staten Island resident Dominick Camerade was hard hit by Hurricane Sandy. Five months after the storm ravaged the area, Camerade and others in the community continue repairing their lives. Camerade's home in New Dorp Beach and his small engine repair shop next door were severely damaged by flooding.

After losing almost everything he had built over a lifetime, the recent retiree says his cries to God were answered when Southern Baptist Disaster Relief collegiate volunteers helped him clean up his properties and spent time with him to lift his spirits. Among the volunteers were students from the University of the Cumberlands in Williamsburg.

"These kids did more work in two days than I could have done in two months," Camerade said. "It's amazing that they would take their spring break to come and help us."

Students from Resonate Church in Moscow, Idaho and Pullman, Wash., worked with Camerade for two days cleaning up and moving hundreds of damaged lawn mowers, weedwackers, snow plows and other small engines that flood waters ruined. Camerade hopes to sell the damaged machines as scrap metal.

The group is one of seven student teams from states across the nation who took part in the SBC Collegiate Spring Break's recovery response to Staten Island. The project was coordinated by the North American Mission Board.

During the week, students worked on mud-outs, mold remediation, tear-outs, clean up and yard debris removal. They also installed insulation and hung sheetrock.

Judy Cape, NAMB events/logistics specialist, said on March 13, 136 students, staff and local student volunteers were working. The students were from Washington, Idaho, Virginia, Kentucky, Texas and Ohio.

"The students are willing to work and to do what needs to be done," Cape said of the students' whatever it takes attitude.

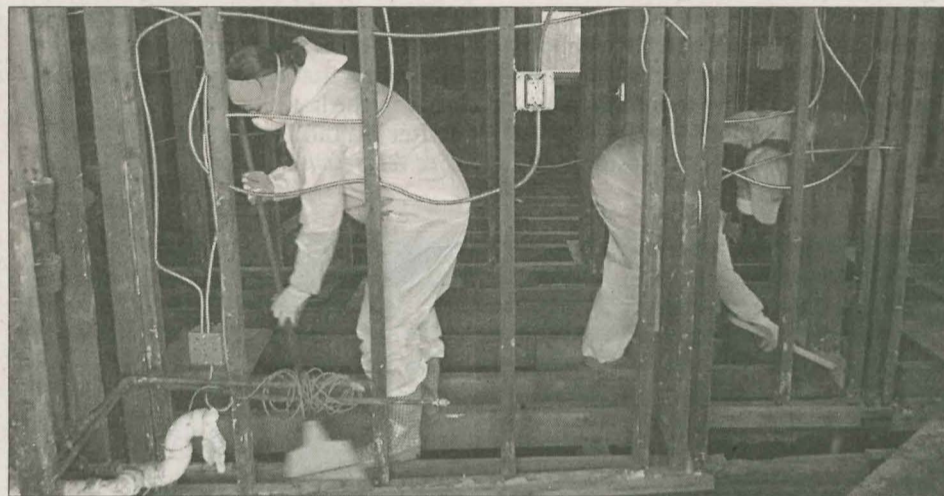
Eighteen-year-old Angeliccaa Williams came on her first mission trip with the Baptist Campus Ministry of the University of the Cumberland. Williams said

she felt led to serve and has seen things she never has experienced. Her team has worked on a mud-out for three days in a home in Midland Beach.

"The house was just floors, beams and a roof when we walked in. There was nothing inside," she said.

The group met the homeowner, a mother with two teenaged daughters. Williams said it was emotionally hard for her. "The woman almost cried before we lifted a finger," she said.

The appreciation from the community has been felt says NAMB Spring Break project coordinator Bruce Poss. "They didn't know much about Southern Baptists, but now they do." Poss said that NAMB plans a two-year presence for the area's recovery. (NAMB)



**UC CLEAN OUT** Christen Dierken (left) and Angeliccaa Williams help mud out in a home in Midland Beach, N.Y. Their team of eight students from the University of the Cumberlands, spent three days tearing out and hauling debris and cleanup. (Photo by Laura Sikes)

## Sunrise

Continued from page 1

organizations that receive state funds do not pressure children in their care to participate in religious activities or distribute unwanted religious material to them. The settlement still has to be approved by a federal judge.

### Long-standing battle

The proposed settlement stems from a 13-year legal battle between Americans United, along with the American Civil Liberties Union, and Sunrise Children's Service challenging that state funds were being used for religious indoctrination and proselytizing at Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children. Sunrise has repeatedly denied religious coercion takes place at any of its facilities.

"Rather than responding to our motion, which would finally put this lawsuit to rest, the plaintiffs instead sought a separate peace with the commonwealth that imposes unnecessary new burdens on Sunrise and the other agencies that contract with the commonwealth," said Sheller of Stoll Keenon Ogden PLLC. "But after 13 years of litigation, we deserve a ruling on the merits of our case," he said.

In the summary judgment motion, Sheller explained, Sunrise has asked the court to rule that the commonwealth's partial reimbursements to Sunrise for the secular services it provides to children who are wards of the commonwealth do not violate the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment.

"Recent rulings by the Supreme Court

and federal appeals courts make it absolutely clear that a government may provide benefits to faith-based entities without violating the Establishment Clause if the benefits are available to secular and religious entities alike," Sheller said.

The dispute between Americans United and Sunrise Children's Services dates back to a 2000 lawsuit following a decision by Kentucky Baptist Homes for Children, now Sunrise, to fire Alicia Pedreira, a residential counselor, in 1998 after leaders learned she was a lesbian.

Though Pedreira's discrimination claim was denied in 2001, she and three other plaintiffs continued legal action. Under a separate claim, they challenged state funding of agencies that teach religious beliefs to children violates the First Amendment.

### Sunrise 'singled out'

In addition to prohibiting agencies and foster families from pressuring children to participate in religious activities, the accord struck with Kentucky's Cabinet for Health and Family Services further requires exit interviews be conducted by caseworkers concerning religious activities and accommodations of child care agencies—specifically at Sunrise Children Services for seven years.

"We are pleased with this settlement," said Alex Luchenister, associate legal director for Americans United. "It will ensure that vulnerable youths in Kentucky's child care system are free to follow and practice their own faiths, or no faith at all, and that no religion is forced upon them."

Sunrise, however, has filed a motion to have the case dismissed and expects a

favorable ruling, according to its attorney.

While Sunrise doesn't necessarily object to certain aspects of the proposed settlement, it does object to being singled out. "The idea of coercing children in religious matters is something that Sunrise has never done from the beginning," Sheller stated.

In its statement, Sunrise objected to "mischaracterizations" by Americans United that children "feel pressured to accept a certain set of beliefs in exchange for help" from Sunrise.

### Chitwood 'applauds'

KBC Executive Director Paul Chitwood applauded Sunrise Christian Services for refusing to go along with the commonwealth's settlement, having been singled out from other private, faith-based care providers.

"Protections already are in place to ensure that a child is not coerced, and that his cultural and religious backgrounds are respected," he noted, urging Kentucky Baptists to rally behind their child care agency through prayer, financial support and becoming foster parents.

"What Sunrise has done for nearly 150 years is to create an environment where children receive holistic care: emotional, physical and spiritual," he added. "I think it is safe to assume that children removed from their home because of abuse and neglect need holistic care, the kind of care provided by Kentucky Baptists through Sunrise Children's Services."

"I'm concerned that the commonwealth's settlement would throw cold water on the essential responsibility of spiritual nurture," Chitwood said. (WR)

## Veto reaction

Continued from page 1

American Civil Liberties Union, Americans United for Separation of Church and State, various human rights organizations, and lesbian and gay advocacy groups have been among those urging the governor to veto the bill.

"Having heard the fear mongering of Gov. Beshear and the gay and lesbian special interest groups, I have to wonder if they have even read HB 279," Chitwood said.

"While I respect and pray for our governor, I could not disagree more with his veto of this important piece of legislation," he said, adding that he is optimistic the General Assembly will override the veto "for the sake of all people of faith in Kentucky."

KBC President Dan Summerlin and Mike Stacey, chairman of the KBC's Committee on Public Affairs, also reacted negatively to news of a veto.

Summerlin, senior pastor of Lone Oak First Baptist Church in Paducah, said he was "shocked and saddened" the governor vetoed a bill designed to help protect religious freedom.

"This bill was passed overwhelmingly by our legislators, and this bill was based on one passed by the federal Congress in 1993," Summerlin noted. "Many other states have passed a version of it because they understand the importance of upholding our constitutional rights when it comes to religious freedom."

"I have been amazed at the amount of misinformation from many groups on the content and the reasoning behind the bill," Summerlin said. He encouraged all Kentucky Baptists to read it for themselves, look at its history, and let state legislatures know what they think.

Stacey, pastor of Somerset's Buena Vista Baptist Church, said he, too, was saddened by the veto, and that the governor has "succumbed to the political persuasion of those who desire to push religious values out the window."

"It seems he has no real desire to equally represent all the people of this commonwealth," Stacey said.

Encouraging his congregation and others to call their representatives to override the veto, Stacey added, "We will continue to pray for our governor just like the Scripture tells us to do. At the same time, we will not sit back and be silent on this or any other issue that threatens our religious heritage and values."

In a statement following the veto announcement, Martin Cothran of the Family Foundation of Kentucky called the opposition to religious freedom by the American Civil Liberties Union and gay rights groups "a dangerous development."

"This puts churches around the Commonwealth of Kentucky on notice that the First Amendment religious freedoms they thought their government respected may now be negotiable," he said. "We just hope elected lawmakers in the legislature will act quickly to correct the governor's action."

State legislators were due back in Frankfort March 25-26 for the final two days of the current legislative session, during which they may vote on any veto overrides. (WR)

## Why does the afterlife bore us to death?

I have long suspected that many Christians dread not just death but heaven. We will not admit that, of course. Our hymnody, of whatever era, is filled with songs about the joy of the afterlife, and “what a day of rejoicing that will be.” We are glad we are not going to hell or to oblivion.

But most of our songs and sermon mentions are about that first few moments in heaven: when we see Jesus, when we’re reunited with our loved ones, and so on. It’s like the happy ending of the story. And that’s the problem.

The gospel tells us that Satan keeps unbelievers bound by fear of death (Hebrews 2:14-15). Believers, too often, dread death also, though not as much from fear as from boredom. We see the story of our lives as encompassing this span of 70 or 80 or 100 years. The life to come is our “great reward” in “the afterlife.”

But just think about that word “afterlife.” It assumes eternity is an endless postlude to where the action really happens. It’s “after.” Our “reward” happens after we’ve lived our lives. Here’s why this language matters:

Imagine a couple referring to their marriage as their “after-love.” They explain to you that years ago they met, fell in love, and married. The years since are their “after-love” years, since they follow their falling in love with each other. You would, no doubt, ask whether they still loved each other and, if so, why they would relegate their lives together now as “after” anything, and why they seem to put their “love” in the past tense. You would think they were downgrading marriage and missing out on joy by talking like that.

And you’d be right.

Too many Christians see the hope of resurrection life as a capstone on their lives now. We implicitly assume that our focus in the new creation is a backward focus on our lives as they are now.

We talk about all the questions we’ll ask about why this or that happened. We never think about whether we’ll be

too busy to care about that, just like we’re too busy in the prime of our careers to ask our kindergarten teacher why she had snack time after recess rather than before. We talk about our reunion with loved ones, but even they often implicitly have a past focus.

A high school reunion can be fun. You catch up with old friends, and remember good and bad times. But the focus is usually on “remember when” and “whatever happened to” conversations. That’s great for an hour or four, but 4 trillion years of that would be awful. That’s not what Jesus promised us. He promised us life.

If we miss this, then we become just like those with no hope. We talk about our “bucket lists” of what we have to do before we’re gone since “you only live once.” We worry about our future and we nurse grudges because we fear our lives can be ruined by circumstances, instead of by sin.

We essentially move into the same old “eat, drink, and be merry for tomorrow you shall die,” except that we cap it with “and then you’ll stand around with your loved ones singing songs and staring at a light for a quadrillion years and then some.”

God forbid.

Your eternity is no more about looking back to this span of time than your life now is about reflecting on kindergarten. The moment you burst through the mud above your grave, you will begin an exciting new mission—one you couldn’t comprehend if someone told you.

And those things that seem so important now—whether you’re attractive or wealthy or famous or cancer-free—will be utterly irrelevant in the face of an exhilarating new purpose; one that you were prepared for in this era, but one that is far more than a mere sequel to your best life now.

Let’s talk about eternity. But it’s no mere “afterlife.” Instead let’s start thinking of this little puff of time, the next 80 or so years, as what it is: the pre-life.

*Russell Moore is dean of the school of theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.*

### Guest Viewpoint



Russell Moore

## Great Commission update

After writing about our Kentucky Baptist Convention’s mission and values the past two weeks, an update to our ongoing transition seems timely.

### Together We are the KBC



Paul Chitwood

I began as KBC executive director-treasurer on July 1, 2011. After spending six months observing and asking questions, I assembled a team of pastors, directors of missions and laypersons from across our state to assist in planning a strategy for reorganizing. Three compelling reasons for reorganizing were the decline in Cooperative

Program giving, the Great Commission Task Force recommendations adopted during our KBC annual meeting in 2010, and the need to refocus the ministry of our mission board staff upon the needs of the local church.

I am fairly certain the KBC was the first state in the Southern Baptist Convention to adopt “Great Commission Resurgence” type initiatives. The GCTF recommendations in Kentucky sought to move our CP budget to a 50/50 split between KBC and SBC missions causes, including a CP promotional budget item we refer to as Cooperative Program Resourcing (CPR: Giving Life to the Great Commission).

Changes to last year’s budget and the next two budgets will find us at that 50/50 with 7 percent going to CPR. When compared to budgets adopted by other state conventions across the SBC, we will now be forwarding a higher percentage of CP to SBC missions than any convention, except the Southern Baptist of Texas Convention.

To make that shift, we reduced our full-time staff by about 25 percent through an early retirement and resignation incentive offering. We are also preparing to present recommendations to our board in May that will adjust the CP allocation to our in-state agencies and institutions over the course of the next two budget years to complete the shift of funds to SBC missions.

While difficult, we have streamlined our operations and re-prioritized our work in ways that we believe will make us more relevant and effective when it comes to serving our churches. While we have lost a few dozen positions in Kentucky, the International Mission Board has lost well over 700 hundred front-line missionaries. Given the scarcity of a gospel witness among so many people groups around the world, we count our sacrifices here in Kentucky as small and accept them with the deep joy of knowing that God will be glorified among the nations.

Because of these changes, we sent additional funds to the IMB this past year that would support another 16 missionaries than our previous CP allocation percentage would have allowed us to support. That number will continue to grow over the next two budget years.

Thank you, Kentucky Baptists, for the sacrifices you make to get the gospel to the nations.

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

## Are your old financial records in need of spring cleaning?

By Jeremy White

One of the most common questions I receive is, “How long do I have to keep old financial records?” Is your bulging



file cabinet or overstuffed drawer ready for a spring cleaning? Perhaps your computer is bogged down by more data than needed as well.

What should you keep and what to throw out? Do you really need bank statements from 10 years ago? Should you keep retirement plan statements from each quarter?

Let me give you two general guidelines. The first is to keep financial records that may have meaningful information for nostalgic reasons or legally contested matters. But never keep records just to keep them.

The second guideline is saving records for tax purposes. The IRS has a statute of limitations for three years from the date of filing. For example, your 2008 federal income tax return cannot be audited after April 15, 2012. Kentucky’s statute is four years.

An exception is if the IRS finds in an audit that you understated your income by at least 25%, then they can go back six years and audit. If you have not filed a return, then no statute of limitations applies. This means the IRS could assess tax for any unfiled year.

- Bank statements—7 years
- Cancelled checks—4 years
- Charitable contribution receipts—7 years
- Real estate deeds and purchase documents—permanently
- Income tax returns—permanently
- Supporting documentation for income tax returns—7 years

- W-2’s, 1099’s—4 years
- Investments—annual reports and prospectuses—read and dispose
- Investments—IRA’s quarterly or annual statements—As long as you wish to track information
- Insurance policies—permanently (while in force)
- Mortgages and loan documents—permanently (while outstanding)
- Utility bills—dispose of, unless supporting a tax deduction
- Social Security earnings estimate benefit statements—1 year

As you purge your records, use shredding or other disposal methods to protect your identity. Also, remember to back up all electronic records and keep the back-up copy at another location. Your back-up will not help you if it’s stored in the desk drawer and your house burns down.

*Jeremy White is a CPA with BlytheWhite in Paducah.*

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## Luter addresses CP, Calvinism, gay marriage

By Shawn Hendricks

**Pleasant Garden, N.C.**—Speaking to a group of mostly African-American pastors and church leaders, Fred Luter recently voiced both encouragement and concerns regarding a few issues Southern Baptists face today.

Luter, pastor of Franklin Avenue Baptist Church in New Orleans and president of the Southern Baptist Convention, spoke at a breakfast that preceded the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina's 2013 State Evangelism Conference at Pleasant Garden (N.C.) Baptist Church.

The first African-American to be elected as SBC president, Luter talked about everything from Calvinism to pastors standing up against societal pressures on issues such as gay marriage. He also encouraged them to consider a 1 percent-of-budget increase in Cooperative Program giving. It's worth the investment, he said.

While the convention has been a proven spiritual leader in evangelism, discipleship and disaster relief, Luter said, Southern Baptists are increasingly distracted by the debate over Calvinism and what some call a "traditional Baptist" view of salvation.

"We have a major, major issue with Calvinism," Luter said. "That issue can



Fred Luter speaks to African-American pastors and church leaders in North Carolina.

possibly ... split this convention."

SBC Executive Committee President Frank Page formed a special advisory team last year to address the Calvinism debate. The advisory team is expected to report on the issue during the Southern Baptist Convention's annual meeting in June.

"There's going to be a proclamation given out that hopefully will satisfy everybody," Luter said. "It's an issue that has to be dealt with, and unless we deal with it in a Christian-like manner, I really believe the enemy can come and divide us."

Pastors and church leaders need to take more of a stand, he said, against the pressures of today's politically correct culture.

"We've got preachers (who) are compromising the Scriptures," Luter said. "We need pastors and preachers in this convention who are going to stand on the word of God."

Luter mentioned an interview the day after being elected as SBC president. During the interview a journalist asked about his view of same-sex marriage.

"Folks, we're either going to be people of the Book or not," he said. "There's just some things in Scripture that we cannot compromise on."

"We've got to preach it, we've got to live it, and we've got to stand on it."

Another way Southern Baptists can stand together, Luter said, is through supporting the Cooperative Program, which he described as "the engine that runs our convention."

"That's what helps students in our seminaries," he said. "That's what helps North American Mission Board do what they are doing... That's what helps start churches, helps plant churches. That's what helps International Mission Board to put more missionaries (overseas). ... That's how we cooperate to do ministry." (BP)

## Portman 1st GOP senator to endorse gay marriage

**Columbus, Ohio**—Sen. Rob Portman became the first sitting Republican U.S. senator to endorse same-sex marriage March 15, saying homosexuals should be allowed to marry.

"Knowing that my son is gay prompted me to consider the issue from another perspective: that of a dad who wants all three of his kids to lead happy, meaningful lives with the people they love," the Ohio senator said in an opinion piece in *The Columbus Dispatch*.

Portman wrote that he "wrestled with how to reconcile" his Christian faith.

"Ultimately, it came down to the Bible's overarching themes of love and compassion and my belief that we are all children of God," Portman wrote.

Tony Perkins, president of the Family Research Council, commended Portman for his unconditional love for his son.

"Unconditional love, however, does not mean unconditional support in choices that are both harmful to them and society as a whole," Perkins said. (BP)

## Vulnerable

Continued from page 1

support vulnerable women and children as they transition to new lives. The ministry offers housing to homeless women and children as well as life-skill training, from literacy and computer skills to GED and college preparation.

"The important thing to realize is that these women often get stuck in vicious cycles of addiction or abuse, and if there's not someone there to help them break the cycle they have a hard time breaking free," Bennett said.

In addition to the transitional housing program, Bennett and her team host numerous outreach events to meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the community. At the crux of Bennett's ministry is a desire to reach the whole person, starting with their physical and emotional needs toward seeing them spiritually transformed.

"We see people that come to us with deep needs, and many have never even heard who Jesus is. If I walk up to that person and start just quoting Scriptures without offering to help with their immediate needs, they'll never hear it," Bennett says. "When they come in and see us simply being Christ to them, that starts building a bridge to share the gospel and see life change happen."

Bennett has been reaching the hearts of New Orleans through Baptist Friendship House for the last 15 years. Originally from Mississippi, she came to the city more than two decades ago to complete her master of divinity degree at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. She served as a missionary at the Brantley Baptist Center for nine years before taking on her current role at Baptist Friendship House in 1997.

This year's Week of Prayer for North

American Missions and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering provide support for Bennett and other missionaries like her who serve on behalf of Southern Baptists in North America. With a goal of \$70 million, this year's offering theme is "Whatever It Takes—Reaching the One."

"For more than 20 years the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering has provided for my salary as a missionary here in New Orleans," Bennett notes. "I have not had to worry about raising funds to support me while I do the ministry that God has called me to do, and this allows me to totally focus on His work."

In boldly ministering to the needs of those needing rescue from the darker side of the city, Bennett has become part

of the rapidly expanding battle against human trafficking in the United States and, in particular, New Orleans.

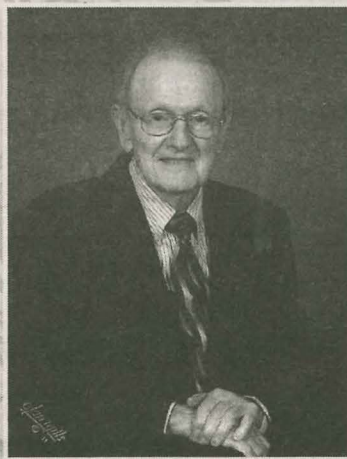
Through her ministry, Bennett is able to provide an alternative to those vulnerable to trafficking as well as directing those already victimized to safe havens in the city.

Though it can seem risky at times, Bennett believes she is where she is supposed to be: on the front lines combating the problems that plague the women and children in the darkness of New Orleans.

"In this work, I know I am in the center of God's will," Bennett says with assurance, "and there's no safer place to be." (NAMB)



MEETING NEEDS NAMB missionary Kay Bennett (right) meets with a client at Baptist Friendship House in New Orleans. Bennett oversees the ministry's efforts to meet the needs of clients and show them the love of Christ.



If you wish to make a gift, Bill requests donations to:

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## Life's lessons help prepare 62 new IMB missionaries

By Tess Rivers

**Las Vegas**—Amid a celebration with a South African flair rivaling a Las Vegas stage show, International Mission Board trustees appointed 62 men and women as overseas missionaries.

The Feb. 27 service at Hope Church in Las Vegas increased to 4,894 the number of IMB missionaries worldwide and highlighted the commitment of new appointees who shared how God used European vacations, parental loss, milky water and chili peppers to teach them to value a lost world.

Jason and Jennifer Vanover are one example. A financial adviser and a graphic designer from Nashville, Tenn., the Vanovers know the value of the American dream. Vacationing in Europe, they began to understand their call to be God's heart to the nations. Training in the church reinforced it.

"We saw many religious sites had been forgotten," Jennifer Vanover said. "Cathedrals—adorned with intricate sculptures and stained glass windows—are dark, cold and filled with tourists."

The young couple's first exposure to international missions was at Brentwood Baptist Church in Tennessee, and they soaked up training offered there. Leaders encouraged them to spend at least 10 hours a week building gospel-focused relationships with non-believers.

The couple chose a place in their community where non-believers frequently gather, a local gym. They set apart time each week to pray specifically for those they met, and they consulted several times a month with church staff who offered advice, counsel and support. Through the process, the Vanovers, gained confidence to share Christ daily and came to understand that God had called them to a greater purpose. Serving internationally was the next logical step.

For Jessica Breckenridge, God used the painful experiences of her mother's death from cancer and her father's subsequent suicide to help her understand the urgency to be God's hands to those who are spiritually dying. Although her



**HIS HEART** New International Mission Board missionaries Nicholas and Alyssa Peveto share God's call to be His heart, hands and voice in sub-Saharan Africa. (Photo by Thomas Graham)

mother was a Christian, her father didn't claim to follow Jesus. His death in particular made "heaven and hell very real," Breckenridge said.

"I never want to waste this precious life that God has given me," Breckenridge said. "I want people to experience the restoration and deliverance I have experienced in knowing God."

While Breckenridge learned the urgency of her calling through the deaths of her parents, others like Henry Baker\* and Caroline Anderson\* came to understand God's heart growing up as children of international missionaries.

Baker, a third-generation missionary, learned as an 11-year-old that his African friends would not drink water to which he had added a few drops of milk. Put off by the discoloration, Baker's friends couldn't accept that the water was fit to drink.

Years later while sharing the gospel with a young man in Asia, "the image of the rejected, discolored water came leaping into my mind," Baker said, who noted that even a few drops of sin makes us unfit before a holy God.

This experience helped Baker, who will serve among North African and Middle Eastern peoples, realize how

God called him from childhood and prepared him to be His voice.

While Baker's childhood memories of discolored water solidified his call, Anderson's memories are, quite literally, spicier.

"My childhood consisted of two very important ingredients: loving Jesus and braving hot Chinese chili peppers," said Anderson, who grew up in Asia.

Anderson learned from a young age the importance of stepping out of her culinary comfort zone to build cross-cultural bridges, recalling a banquet where, as a child, she risked tasting the chili peppers. As her mouth burned and her eyes watered, she tugged at her mother's sleeve, whispering, "Mommy, have we told them about Jesus yet?"

Such experiences prepared these appointees for God's special purpose of reaching the nations, said John Brady, IMB vice president of global strategy.

"It may be hard. It may be long.... You will go through suffering," Brady said. But, "there will be results" because Jesus has already paid the price. ... That is why we go to the world, to make sure they know this Good News." (BP)

\*Names changed. Tess Rivers is an International Mission Board writer.

## NAMB spends day thanking 8,000 Southern Baptists

By Tobin Perry

**Alpharetta, Ga.**—With many Southern Baptist churches focusing on North American missions during the month of March, North American Mission Board staff made nearly 8,000 personal contacts with Southern Baptists to express appreciation for continued partnership.

All of NAMB's Alpharetta staff spent March 12 making phone calls, writing letters and note cards and sending personal emails to Southern Baptists. Throughout the day staff members expressed appreciation to churches for their partnership through giving through the Cooperative Program and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering and their efforts to reach their communities with the gospel.

Of the 8,000 contacts, NAMB staff had conversations with more 1,300 church leaders. Many had the opportunity to pray for those they called.

"As I thanked the people, many thanked me as well for what I'm doing," said Matt Smith, a senior accountant at NAMB. "It was great to hear that from them and to hear the partnership between us, knowing they're out on the front lines and we're supporting them and they're supporting us." (NAMB/BP)

## Weathersby

*Continued from page 1*  
series of trail-blazing positions with various SBC entities over the past two decades.

Weathersby will work in his newest role to increase ethnic participation and grow relationships with demographic subsets within the SBC such as young ministers and pastors of small churches and mega-churches, along with overseeing the EC's Global Evangelical Relations ministry.

Executive Committee President Frank Page said Weathersby "brings a level of experience that will be beneficial to the Executive Committee. ... Ken is a friend and a man who is trusted and respected across our convention."

Weathersby replaces Thomas Hammond, who has resigned to accept the pastorate of First Baptist Church in Alpharetta, Ga.

Weathersby was the first person to fill the role of presidential ambassador, has held a series of leadership roles at NAMB, and in 1999 was the first African-American pastor to hold a full-time associate professorship at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

He also has served the Tennessee Baptist Convention as evangelism specialist and team leader for evangelism strategies and director of the black church extension and multihousing office.

The National African American Fellowship honored Weathersby in 2012 for his denominational service with the Kennedy Boyce Award and in 2009 with the "Best Friend of Pastors" award for his work in facilitating relationships between the SBC and black pastors.

Weathersby has planted and been pastor of churches in Kentucky, Alabama, Ohio and Louisiana. (BP)

### DEVELOPING & MANAGING PEOPLE

Training for Staff and Volunteers

April 23 2013,  
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Questions? E-mail [ministries@kybaptist.org](mailto:ministries@kybaptist.org)  
or call (502) 489-3530 or (866) 489-3530 (toll-free in KY)



## Looking back

**Celebrating the past and pressing on toward the future**

The study of history is something I did not enjoy 30 years ago. However, the older I get the more I enjoy studying the practices of those who have gone before.

Recently, our staff has been looking back at our history from the last 30-40 years. During that time, Jonathan Creek and Cedarmore were both filled with numerous examples of wise decisions in ministry—and some perhaps some not so wise.

The value of looking back provides immeasurable benefits. First and foremost, we can clearly see how God has

ordained steps along the way that have preserved these properties, grown the respective programs at each camp, and in all that touched thousands of lives.

Secondly, looking back provides tangible case studies of times we should have made different decisions. Even in spite of these poor decisions, we can again see how God uses our misplaced steps to work things for our good, as stated in Romans 8.

Thirdly, in looking back I am always challenged to be thankful for so many people who have contributed to this ministry—people I will never again meet this side of glory.

As we study the Bible, we are seeing

another part of history, a redemption history. Because of historical fact, we have hope today as Christ followers. Because of recorded history we see God's faithfulness lived out over and over. When you think about it, our future is certain and proclaimed because of historical fact.

Each day we are faced with battles and the most challenging seem to be those that come out of nowhere. When we face these challenges we have hope because of Christ, because of who He is and what He has accomplished historically.

You may not want to study history. I have six kids that I am constantly trying to instill the value of history and, like me at that age, they do not always see the value. But as believers we can look back in time and be encouraged by what has taken place and trace the faithfulness of our heavenly Father throughout history and throughout our lives. We, at Crossings, are grateful for the chance to stop and reflect on God's provision and protection over this ministry and for the redemption story over each of our lives. To God be the glory, great things He hath done.

David Melber is president of Crossings Ministries. Contact Crossings at (502) 491-7000 or [www.GoCrossings.com](http://www.GoCrossings.com)

**Crossings Ministries**

David Melber

## Standing in the gap

**Join the cause with Sunrise and help take a stand for children**

Before you get to the last sentence of this short article, it is likely that somewhere in Kentucky a child has fallen victim to abuse or neglect.

Records from 2012 indicate that child abuse shows no signs of abating across the state. In fact, figures released by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services reveal that there were more than 34,700 reports of abuse and neglect investigated in Kentucky, an increase from previous years.

Last year, 22 children died from abuse and neglect, and another 33 suffered near-fatal injuries.

Childhood is supposed to be a time of innocence, laughter and love, but for too many of our children their lives are filled with pain, fear and loneliness.

Since 1869, Sunrise Children's Services has been standing in the gap for Kentucky's children. They arrive to us wounded, broken and often feeling worthless. Our mission is to provide them a safe refuge, stability, and a sense of worth that can propel them to great potential. Our ultimate goal, however, should be to heal families in an

effort to prevent abuse and neglect before it ever occurs.

You can join in this cause by helping us recognize April as Child Abuse Prevention Awareness Month. The most important way you can help is to take a stand if you see or suspect child abuse

or neglect. In Kentucky, you can notify your local police, your county attorney, or you can call the Kentucky Child Abuse Hotline at (800) 752-6200.

You can also make a difference by continuing to support Sunrise as we strive to serve the kids who are in dire need of adults to show them love, support and guidance. Each day there are more than 600 children in our care, most of whom have been scarred emotionally

or physically. We take seriously our responsibility to show them the love and support they deserve, but it would be impossible without the prayers and support we receive from people like you.

To learn more about partnering with Sunrise to help the children of Kentucky, visit [www.sunrise.org](http://www.sunrise.org).

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

**Sunrise Children's Services**

Bill Smithwick

## Witnessing the 'Power of the Cross'

By Robin Cornet Bass

Lebanon, Ky.—Draped in a thin white cloth, Pat Burdette shivered as the frigid wind swept across his bare chest and outstretched arms.

The unrelenting winter wind seemed to poke fun at the words "dress rehearsal," as Burdette and about a dozen amateur actors from Stewart's Creek Baptist Church positioned themselves around the three wooden crosses.

Burdette, who will be portraying Jesus in an outdoor crucifixion drama called, "The Power of the Cross," said the pain of being cold caused him to contemplate what Christ endured on the cross.

"I thought what if nails really were in my hands and feet? What if I wasn't just standing here?" Burdette said. "What (Jesus) went through, He chose to do."

The Lebanon church will be presenting the Easter message outside their walls for the first time with three nightly performances of "The Power of the Cross" March 29 and 30, beginning at 7 p.m. The church is located at 145 Stewart's Creek Road.

The 30 minute production will feature a narration of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross and recorded musical perform

-ances by the Stewart's Creek choir. A mini FM transmitter will allow visitors to hear the production through their car radios while in the church parking lot.

Dan Dunham, pastor of Stewart's Creek, said his church has been working on the Easter drama since January and members are becoming increasingly excited about sharing Christ's message of hope with their rural community.

Members of all ages and abilities have participated in the outreach effort, Dunham said. One man developed a traffic pattern for the large number of cars expected to flow in and out of the small parking lot. Others are praying each day for a different aspect of the production. The effort has even drawn assistance from relatives of members with construction, musical and acting skills.

"We had 30 in Sunday School last week, but we'll have 30 to 40 people working on this production," Dunham noted, adding that they were already making notes for improvements to next year's outdoor drama.

"I want people to know God really did this for us," Dunham said. "I also wanted to get across to our people here, and to other churches, that small churches can do big things—amazing things." (WR)

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**FOR RENT:** Get-away condo in Myrtle Beach, S.C. Beautiful, two bedrooms, two bathrooms, sofa bed. Go to [www.MBVacationCondo.com](http://www.MBVacationCondo.com), or call (803) 566-0214.

**FOR RENT:** Two condos for rent in Destin, Fla. Check our website [HarmonyVentures.net](http://HarmonyVentures.net) for more information, (423) 309-4422.

**SEEKING:** Blue River Island Baptist Church, Battletown, Ky., seeks God's man to serve as pastor. Send testimony, resumé and place you are currently serving to [office@OneChurchAllPeople.org](mailto:office@OneChurchAllPeople.org).

**SEEKING:** DeHaven Baptist Church in La Grange, Ky., is seeking a full-time pastor. Interested applicants are invited to submit resumé either by email to: [dehavensearch@gmail.com](mailto:dehavensearch@gmail.com), or by regular mail to: Pastor Search Committee, c/o David Fendley, 3100 Rock Creek Dr., Louisville, KY 40207.

**SEEKING:** Forest Park Baptist Church is seeking a pastor. Please submit resumé to Forest Park Baptist Church, 520 Old Morgantown Rd., Bowling Green, KY 42101, Attn: Search Committee. We will accept resumé until April 30.

**SEEKING:** Congregation seeking a pastor for a full-time position; strong in church planning; mission minded; evangelistic; community oriented. Located in Paris, Ky. For more information, visit [www.cbcparis.org](http://www.cbcparis.org). Please email resumé to [searchcbc@bellsouth.net](mailto:searchcbc@bellsouth.net) or mail to Pastor Search, 107 Greystone Court, Paris, KY 40361.

**SEEKING:** Tunnel Hill Baptist Church in Elizabethtown, Ky., seeks an experienced pastor who ascribes to the Southern Baptist Faith and Message. Resumé must be postmarked by April 25, 2013. Pastor Search Committee, 799 Franklin Street, Radcliff, KY 40160.

**SEEKING:** Irvington Baptist Church is seeking a part-time minister of music. Must read music, play piano. Experience preferred. Send resumé to Shirley Pate, Music Minister Chairperson, P.O. Box 313, Irvington, KY 40146.

## To place an advertisement:

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



**SEEKING:** New Hope Baptist Church, West Liberty, Ky., conservative congregation (45-50), is seeking a bivocational pastor. Parsonage provided. Inquiries: (606) 743-7437. Send resumé/sermon DVD to: 175 Beacon Hill Drive, Morehead, KY 40351, ATTN: Fleshman.

**SEEKING:** Sunnyside Baptist Church in Shepherdsville is seeking a part-time music and youth minister. Responsibilities include outreach and program development for youth, expansion of music ministry, and transition to blended style of worship. Time requirement: 10-15 hours/week. Compensation: House (new), all utilities, plus stipend. Email resumé to Pastor Bruce Truman at [bruce@sunnysidebc.com](mailto:bruce@sunnysidebc.com), or send to: 2722 Knob Creek Rd., Shepherdsville, KY 40165.

**SEEKING:** Ebenezer Baptist Church, Cordele, Ga., is seeking a full-time minister of music and youth. We are a growing church, average attendance 100, seeking a devoted follower of Jesus Christ and effective Christian leader. Three years experience preferred. Email resumé and references to [sandrafmckinney@gmail.com](mailto:sandrafmckinney@gmail.com) by May 1, 2013. Call (229) 273-8307 for details.

**SEEKING:** Parkland Baptist Church is seeking a full-time minister of music to lead worship, age-graded music programs, choirs and orchestra. Resumé can be sent to the Personnel Committee, 7206 Shepherdsville, Road, Louisville, KY 40219.

WESTERN Recorder + Your church newsletter

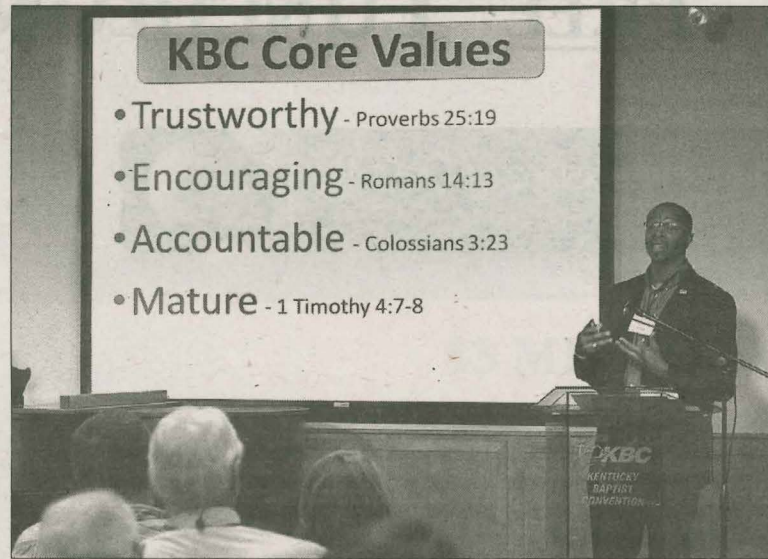
TWO GREAT PUBLICATIONS, ONE LESS POST OFFICE HEADACHE



## April

- 5 Ky. WMU Annual Meeting, First Baptist Church, Hopkinsville.
- 6 Affinity Evangelism, Farmington Baptist Church, Farmington.
- 9 Reaching the Summit, First Baptist Church, Mount Washington.
- 12 Disaster Relief Chaplaincy Training, First Baptist Church, Monticello.
- 12 Team Leader Training for International Missions, KBC building, Louisville
- 12 Changing the Channel, Cedarmore, Bagdad.
- 13 Seminary for a Day, Greenwood Baptist Church, Bowling Green.
- 13 Youth Bible Drill, Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown.
- 13 State High School Speakers' Tournament, Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown.
- 13 High School Bible Drill, Severns Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethtown.
- 14 Women's Choral Concert, Central Baptist Church, Paris.

## 'Get Acquainted Day'



**WELCOME PASTORS** Curtis Woods, KBC associate executive director for convention relations & communications, leads a group of Kentucky pastors through the Convention's core values during "Get Acquainted Day" March 19.

### KBC Core Values

- Trustworthy - Proverbs 25:19
- Encouraging - Romans 14:13
- Accountable - Colossians 3:23
- Mature - 1 Timothy 4:7-8

## Georgetown brings home NAIA title

**Kansas City, Mo.**—Georgetown College men's basketball team defeated Southwestern Assemblies of God University March 19 earning the Tigers their first national title since 2001 and first in men's basketball since 1998.

Thirteenth-seed Georgetown (28-8) easily cruised to a 88-62 victory over fourth-seeded SAGU (33-5) with a commanding performance. The Tigers snatched 61 rebounds to the Lions' 31, and shot 58 percent from the field.

According to Georgetown Athletics website, the Tigers

"join an elite group of 15 teams to ever win this championship more than once. They snap a 13-year drought and a 16-year absence from the finals."

GC's Monty Wilson, who led his team with 23 points, was named tournament MVP.

The Tigers have appeared in 32 NAIA tournaments—including a record 22 straight—and have 59 tournaments in the win column tying Oklahoma Baptist for the most ever.

Compiled with reporting from Georgetown College and Lexington Herald-Leader.

## MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

### Spotlight on ...

#### Fulton



First Church will host a Wild Game Supper March 23, 6 p.m. **Jeff Keith** is pastor.

■ **CORBIN**—First Church will hold a Good Friday lunch and service March 29, 11:30 a.m. **Jim Hunter** is pastor.

■ **ELIZABETHTOWN**—Severns Valley Church will hold Good Friday Experience, a self-guided, multi-sensory tour of Jesus' last days, March 29. Tour lasts 45 minutes and is open all day. **Bill Langley** is pastor.

■ **GREENVILLE**—Second Church will host a health screening by Life Line April 2.

■ **HODGENVILLE**—First Church will celebrate Christ in Passover March 28, 6 p.m., with a meal and a comparison of Jewish rituals and Christian symbolism. A community Good Friday service will be held March 29, noon. **Paul Richey** is pastor.

■ **LEBANON**—Stewart's Creek Church will hold "The Power of the Cross," a live outdoor crucifixion drama, March 29-30, 7 p.m. Presentation will be broadcast locally through automobile radios. **Dan Durham** is pastor.

■ **LEXINGTON**—Grace Church recently called **Steve Price** as pastor.

Southern Heights Church recently called **Bill Boldt** as pastor.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Deer Park Church hold "The Blooming of the Cross" March 31, 10:45 a.m. Participants in the Easter service are encouraged to bring fresh cut flowers to decorate the cross, which later will be displayed outside. **David**

**Platt** is pastor.

■ **SCOTTSVILLE**—Scottsville Church will hold Holy Week services March 27-29, 12:05 p.m. featuring a different guest speaker each day. Services will be followed by a meal. **Dale Darley** is pastor.

*Editor's note: This Bible crossword will resume April 2. The puzzle was suspended this week due to the issue size.*

### Last puzzle's solution

1	B	A	R	S	4	G	L	A	S	8	D	O
2	E	H	A	I	11	D	I	E	13	E	X	
14	E	N	P	R	A	17	R	E	A	P		
20	N	O	T	E	D	E	N	D	R	O	P	
26	S	O	S	27	L	E	A	D	30	E	R	R
31	B	E	S	T	32	P	L	E	A	D	34	T
35	E	S	E	A	L	37	D	Y	E	D		
39	A	S	P	I	E	T	42	N	A	M	E	
45	S	T	E	R	A	47	S	U	E			
49	T	O	L	D	51	T	I	R	E	54	B	A
56	D	I	E	T	58	N	E	A	R	60	N	O
61	A	G	F	A	D	63	E	R	A	65	S	R
66	W	Y	I	E	L	D	68	M	A	D	E	

## Do not keep OBI a secret

### Oneida needs your help to spread the news about school's offerings

Some secrets should not be kept as secrets. For example, there should not be any secrets about Jesus, the one and only Savior. Unfortunately, one well-kept secret is Oneida Baptist Institute. Often people see me wearing the OBI logo and tell me they have never heard of us. How is that possible?

If people do not know about OBI, then God cannot use us to fulfill the ministry of pointing students to Jesus. Like the gospel, OBI should not be a secret. The lit lamp should be put on the lampstand.

We are working in a variety of ways to let others know about OBI and the light of Christ's love which shines forth here. You can help us by sharing the good news about OBI when you see someone who needs it. Here are a few of the things which students find at OBI:

■ **Acceptance.** No one is perfect. People can change, find divine forgiveness for past failures, and start over on a better path in a better direction. At OBI, we believe that maturing is a process, not instantaneously. We do our best to patiently guide students through that process of becoming responsible adults who have something and Someone to offer to the world.

■ **Affordability and need-based**

financial assistance. OBI costs Kentucky residents about \$600 per month. No U.S. teenager who qualifies for admission will be denied that privilege simply because of a family's inability to pay.

### This is Oneida



Paul Davidson

■ **"Rolling"** admission throughout the year.

■ **Accredited academics** with personalized assistance.

■ **Athletics** with a "no-cut" policy for all teams.

■ **Many opportunities** in music, drama and art.

■ **Trust, responsibility and accountability** for assigned after-school and on-campus work.

■ **Activities** through mentored clubs/organizations and supervised recreational times.

■ **A wide array** of U.S. and international students.

■ **A Christian moral/spiritual foundation and framework for life.** OBI is passionately Christian in its orientation to life, but students do not have to be Christians to attend OBI. Seven chapel services each week lift up Jesus as the Son of God who said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life, and no one comes unto the Father but by me."

Do not keep OBI a secret. The world is waiting to hear.

Paul Davidson is president of Oneida Baptist Institute, Box 67, Oneida, KY 40972; [www.oneida.school.org](http://www.oneida.school.org); e-mail: [president@oneidaschool.org](mailto:president@oneidaschool.org).

## Serving during spring break

### Students and families participate in spring break mission trips

Some of our faculty, staff and students recently spent their spring break serving on mission trips.

One team traveled to Memphis, Tenn., to serve for a week. This particular mission trip was a family mission trip.

Students who have families were able to go to do ministry as a family or a couple. We had 25 people go, 14 adults and 11 children (ranging in age from less than one year to 17 years old). There were three members of Clear Creek's faculty and staff in the group.

Some of the group served at Birmingham Community Church and went out daily with Pastor Shun Abram to canvas and evangelize. They focused on prayer while walking the community, knocking on the doors, and sharing the gospel message.

While visiting they were able to lead a man to Christ.

Others in the group served at Impact Community Church where they canvassed the area and bathed it in prayer. They also conducted a Bible Camp during the week. They taught lessons called, "Creation to the Cross," and had a craft and game time with the local kids.

The Bible Camp was held at an old

community fire station that was given to Impact Ministries to use as a community center. Michael Ellis is the pastor of Impact.

The trip greatly impacted those who participated.

"Inner city ministry has tugged at my heart for a long time," said Shane Kahkola, director of computer services. "Being in Memphis gave me a clear view of why it's so needed. Dr. Michael Ellis's faithful work in their community is a premier example of how to execute such a ministry. Impact Baptist Church refuses to separate itself from the community."

Student Ian Watkins said, "God really worked in the hearts of my wife and me. He gave us a God-sized love for the people of Memphis. I have been on several mission trips and this by far was my favorite or the one I enjoyed the most because God did the most work in my life and the lives of others."

Jeremy Anderson, dean of administrative affairs, said, "It is amazing to see God work in context in the lives of people that are on mission!"

### Clear Creek Chronicle



Donnie Fox

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



# ASTORS "FREE" LUNCHEON

The Last Full Measure of Devotion  
Your Missions & Ministry Legacy



**Date:** June 11, 2013

**Time:** Noon - 1:30 PM (Central Time)

**Location:** Southern Baptist Convention Annual Meeting  
The Hilton Americas Hotel  
Houston, Texas

**Hosted By:** International Mission Board, SBC

**Speaker:** President Tom Elliff

**Benefit:** The IMB is going to provide every pastor who attends this special luncheon a confidential, customized estate plan with PhilanthroCorp at no cost or obligation

**Partners:** Kentucky Baptist Foundation  
Various State Baptist Foundations  
PhilanthroCorp - Legacy Giving Services

## RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Please register online at [http://www.regonline.com/SBC\\_Luncheon](http://www.regonline.com/SBC_Luncheon)

The "free" luncheon will be at the same time the pastor's wives' luncheon is held, which is Noon - 1:30 p.m. in the Hilton Americas Hotel.

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**For additional information contact:**

Barry Allen, President and CEO  
[barry.allen@kybaptist.org](mailto:barry.allen@kybaptist.org)

Kentucky Baptist Foundation

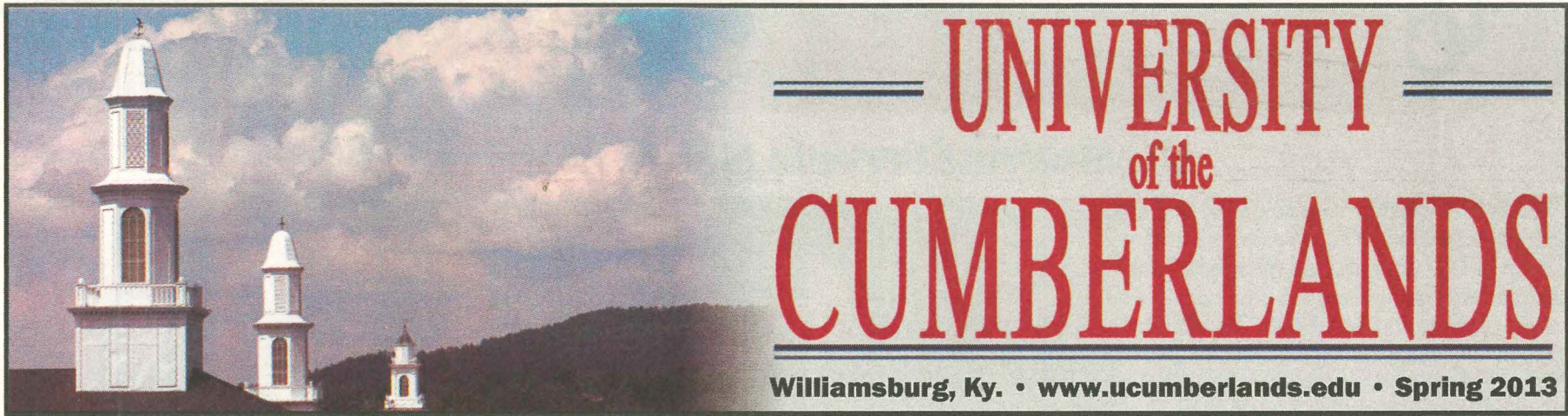
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Louisville KY 40253-6389

502.489.3533 or 866.489.3533 (Toll Free, KY only)

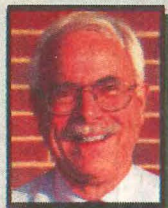
[www.kybaptistfoundation.org](http://www.kybaptistfoundation.org)





## Faculty Spotlight

The individuals teaching in the Department of Missions and Ministry and leading ministry organizations on campus bring with them a vast wealth of knowledge, education and ministerial experience. Recently, Dr. Bob Dunston and Dr. Keith Goforth were on the program for the KBC sponsored "Seminary for a Day" program held at Corinth Baptist Church, in London, Kentucky on March 23, 2013.



**Bob Dunston** joined the Cumberlands faculty in 1983 and serves as Department Chair and Professor of Missions and Ministry. He holds the Franklin P. Owen Chair of Missions. He received a Bachelor of Science degree

from Virginia Tech, a Master of Divinity degree from Midwestern Baptist Seminary, a Master of Theology degree from Union Seminary, and a Doctor of Philosophy degree from The Southern Baptist Seminary. "Dr. Bob," as he is known by students on campus, has more than 38 years of experience as a ministerial staff member, university instructor, supply preacher and Bible study leader. He is a frequent contributor for Life Way's publication Biblical Illustrator and leader in his local church.



**Keith Goforth** joined the Cumberlands faculty in 2010 and serves as Associate Professor of Missions and Ministry. He received a Bachelor of Science degree from Middle Tennessee State University, a Master of Arts degree from

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and a Doctor of Philosophy in Child Development and Family Studies from The University of Tennessee. Dr. Goforth is certified as a family life educator by the National Council on Family Relations and has more than 24 years of experience serving as a staff member with churches in Texas and Tennessee, as a university professor and as a lay leader in his local church.

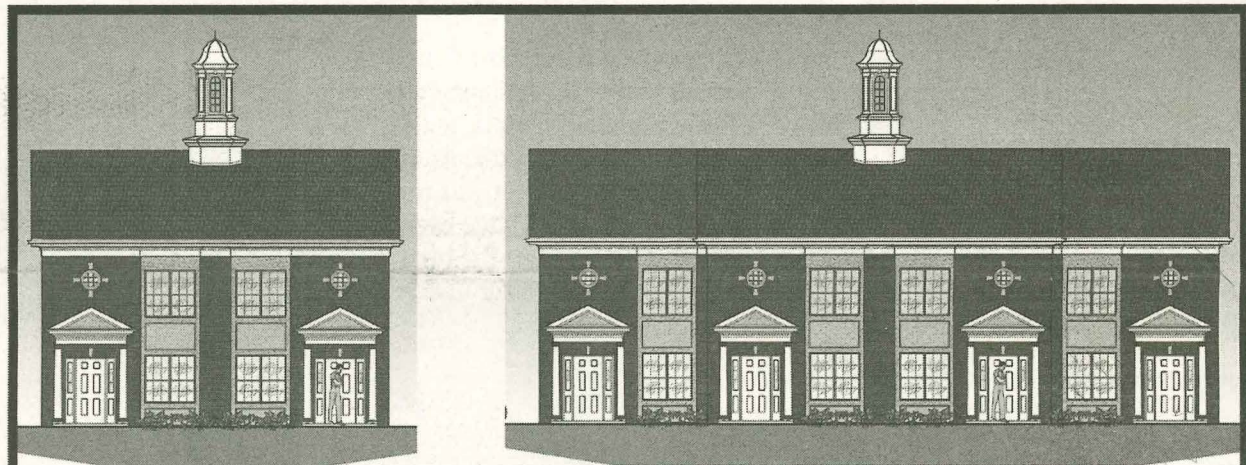
## \$3 MILLION CHALLENGE GRANT!

The Rollins Foundation has issued a \$3 million challenge grant on the cost of housing for our Physician Assistant students, graduate students, married students, faculty and staff. This is the largest challenge grant in our history. The catch is that we must raise \$3 million in cash by July 31, 2014 to receive their gift, so we have our work cut out. Since we only have \$413,400 in cash toward meeting this challenge, we need an additional \$2,586,600 million in matching money. We will work hard day and night and will need your prayers and support.

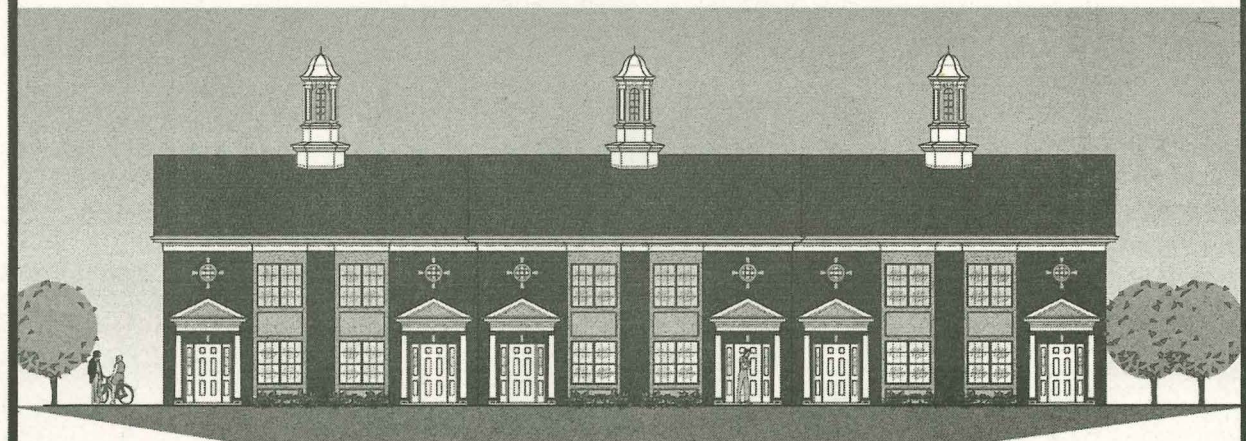
While we can't afford to forego gifts for our workshop, scholarship or Mountain Outreach programs, on the other hand we can't afford to allow the once in a lifetime \$3 million challenge to construct housing for our Physician Assistant students to slip away.

Cumberlands is growing. With the addition of graduate programs like the relevant and much needed Physician Assistant (PA) program, our faculty, staff and student population is expanding rapidly. Housing accommodations have always been at a premium here in these beautiful mountains, and now because of the growth in enrollment and the fact that most of our PA students are older, married, some with children, the need for housing is far greater.

*continued on pg. 4*



**2-Unit, 4-Unit and 6-Unit Townhouses**



### Description:

Living Room  
Dining Room  
Kitchen  
2 Full-size Bedrooms  
Laundry Room  
Storage

### Square Footage: 1,272

**Structure:** The townhouses will be brick and block structures with finished wallboard and wood interiors. The exterior is a blended detail and appropriate to the campus architecture.

### Estimated Cost:

\$125 per square foot  
2 Unit: \$318,000  
4 Unit: \$636,000  
6 Unit: \$954,000

## Recognitions

*UC Named One of "America's Best Universities" by U.S. News & World Report*

*Cumberlands Named Military Friendly School*

*Cumberlands named to America's Best Christian Colleges*

*UC Ranked by Washington Monthly College Rankings*

*President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll*

*NAIA Champions of Character 5 Star Institution*



## UC Students Serve in Northern Ireland

God's love speaks every language and although cultures may vary, the truth and word of God remains the same. This past winter break a group of UC students had the opportunity to share God's love with children and their parents in Northern Ireland.

The group volunteered with Adventure Leadership Training (ALT), a charity organization that shares the gospel and engages children in fellowship and worship through fun-filled events like archery, wall climbing, soccer clinics and kid's clubs.

Northern Ireland has a history of political and religious division and conflict, and the ministry of ALT is incredibly relevant there.

"I wanted to go to Northern Ireland to share God's love with people," said UC student and ALT volunteer, Kayla Smith. "The need there is not nearly as visible as in some underdeveloped countries, but it's just as great, if not greater, because the religious violence has turned people away from anything to do with God."

Although ALT ministries focus on children, parents are also reached. During UC's trip nearly 30 children and their parents heard God's word through Bible stories like Luke 15, the parable of the lost sheep, lost coin and lost son.

"It was an eye opening experience and a blessing," said UC student Tyler Bird. "It was a blessing to work with the people we ministered with. At times, it was very trying but it was more

a blessing than anything else. This is the third mission trip I have been on and it was completely different than Africa and Belize, but the hurt and need for Jesus was just as obvious. I learned so much culturally and spiritually while I was there."



The group also participated with a ministry called The Dock at the Titanic Quarter of Belfast, which is where the famous Titanic ship was built and set sail in 1912. The Dock targets college/university students, athletes and local business people, and serves tea and bread while fellowshiping with visitors.

"Going on this trip has really opened my eyes to see the needs of people I don't know more clearly and without a judgmental eye," said UC student Carla Fountain. "I would love to go back to Northern Ireland one day for a longer period of time if that's what God wants me to do at some point in the future."

UC students who attended: Tyler Bird (Burnside, Ky. - Cornerstone Community), Caroline Johnson (Bowling Green, Ky. - Morganfield FBC), Kayla Smith (Williamsburg, Ky. - Faith Baptist), Carla Fountain (Springfield, Ne. - Lifespring Church), LeAnn Wright (Waynesburg, Ky. - Double Springs Baptist), Angel Johnson (McKee, Ky. - Rock Springs Primitive Baptist), Joanna Collett (Georgetown, Ky. - Buck Run Baptist), and UC's Baptist Campus Ministries director Dean Whitaker (Williamsburg, Ky. - Main Street Baptist).

## Patriot Women's Basketball Team Go Barefoot for Bare Feet

On January 24th UC's Women's Basketball head coach Melissa Irvin and her team held their 2nd annual Barefoot For Bare Feet game. During the game, Coach Irvin and her staff went barefoot to help raise awareness for the millions of people across the world who do not have adequate footwear, and funds were raised for a shoe distribution to be set up in southeastern Kentucky to give back to the local community.

The team partnered with Samaritan's Feet, a humanitarian aid organization with over 70,000 volunteers who serve people in more than 60 nations by washing their feet, giving them a new pair of shoes and sharing a message of hope.

After a few weeks of collecting money for the shoe distribution, Irvin and her team were able to reach their goal of

\$3,000. This coming August, Samaritan's Feet will travel to Kentucky with shoes for children and help the team pass them out at one of the local elementary schools, and like Jesus washed the feet of His disciples to show servant leadership, Irvin and her

team will wash the children's feet before clothing them in brand new socks and shoes.

For more information on the University of the Cumberlands Women's Basketball team or their involvement with Samaritan's Feet you can visit the athletics website, [www.cumberlandspatriots.com](http://www.cumberlandspatriots.com).



Top, bottom and right: UC Women's Basketball players wash children's feet and dress them in new socks and shoes at a Samaritan's Feet event in December.



Melissa Irvin coaches the Patriots barefoot to raise awareness for bare feet around the world.

## Mountain Outreach Updates

### Midnight Shopping Spree

As always, the Mountain Outreach season of giving began with a midnight toy shopping spree at the Williamsburg, Ky. Wal-Mart. On a chilly Friday evening, 65 UC students, faculty, staff, high school students and children of staff met in the toy section and began a fast and laughter-filled spree to buy toys for children from infant to 14 years of age. The volunteers bought a total of 802 toys to serve 461 children from Whitley County.

The night was special for all involved, including members of the UC Golf Team. The team helped collect toys, bag them at the register and load the gifts into an awaiting 24-foot U-Haul truck. The toys were then taken to the warehouse where they were unloaded and set-up on display (by age and gender).

"Our program was honored to work with Mountain Outreach again this year with Midnight Shopping," said golf coach Chris



*UC students chat as they wait at checkout with carts full of toys.*

Kraftick. "Our players really enjoy the opportunity helping out young people in the community."

The local Wal-Mart also gave a helping hand, having prepared for the shopping spree by moving sale items to the aisle for easy access. In addition they provided cookies and hot chocolate for the shoppers.

MO Director Marc Hensley expressed gratitude for those that either helped shop or raise funds for the event. "Can you imagine four or five people trying to choose 800 gifts for children ages infant through 14? The event would not have been possible without those who reached out a helping hand to Mountain Outreach."

### Gift Day

The parents of 461 children, representing 233 registered families, were served during the Gift Day event. The weather was amazingly warm for December and a total of 130 volunteers assisted during the event.

Knowing children will have a gift to open on Christmas morning is a happy thought, and on Gift Day morning an air of excitement pervaded the two MO warehouses as moms, dads, grandparents and caregivers crowded in to choose toys and much-needed clothes and household items.

Families chose two toys per child, received a \$50 food voucher and Bibles for every member of the family. Each family was also offered free clothing and household items from



*A young girl visits with Santa (a MO volunteer) while her mother shops in the Community Distribution Center.*

the Community Distribution Center after they finished picking out their gifts. According to Hensley, the goal behind offering each of these things to these families is to allow them to have the "complete package" that Christmas season brings to families everywhere.

### Kid's Gift Day

"The message we are trying to communicate to these kids is the joy of giving," said Hensley of the annual event that allows children to choose gifts for their parents. "While



*A young girl shows her excitement as she returns to class with a gift for Mom and Dad.*

children certainly and rightfully get gifts during this time, our goal is to allow them to experience the joy of being able to give a gift."

This year Mountain Outreach volunteers took gifts to two rural schools. Children who had been identified as less fortunate were able to get and wrap one gift each for their mom and dad. In all, a total of 93 kids received gifts for their parents.

Along with the MO student volunteers, students from the Patriots archery and men's basketball teams assisted children in wrapping gifts.

Some of the children were shy and some

were exuberant, but all left with gifts for their parents and were able to experience the joy of giving.

### Building Projects

One recent project, in particular, that was very special to all involved was at the home of an elderly woman who had recently lost her 58-year-old son, and primary caregiver, to a heart attack. When the students arrived at her home on the first day, they could sense that she was very sad. The home was in bad need of exterior paint and the porch was in bad need of repair. Mrs. Flossie, as she came to be known by all the students, was so lonely, and she needed someone to talk to and someone to listen to her. And while the students did complete the home repairs, the biggest benefit was that Mrs. Flossie was able to mourn her son's passing and actually communicate her sorrow to our students.

When the group finally left the site four days later, she was a different person than when they had met her the first day. Our Mountain Outreach program is so much more than just building and repairing structures, it's about people...it's about sharing and caring and giving...it's about making a difference in someone's life!

MO also recently partnered with our local Community Action Agency in their annual Repair Affair event. This year, 53 students signed up for the five projects aimed at assisting the needy and senior adults in our community with much-needed repairs and modifications to their homes.

During the event, our students completed a handicap access ramp for a senior adult lady; built a ramp for a handicap youth confined to a wheelchair; painted the house and built a set of handrails for a senior adult lady; built a wheelchair ramp for a senior adult couple (the wife could not be released from a rehab center until a ramp was built); and built a ramp for a handicap female who attends adult daycare and had trouble each day navigating the steps on her home. With the exception of the wet and cold weather, the event turned out great and the students had a great time working together, and knowing that they were helping folks in need.



*UC students and MO volunteers work on a recent building project.*

# UNIVERSITY of the CUMBERLANDS

Challenge Grant, continued from pg. 1

According to Health Resources and Services Administration, by 2020 there will be a shortage of at least 55,000 physicians nationwide to assist our aging population. With 79 million people born in the United States between 1946 and 1964, we know increased medical services will be required, and our PA program will help ease this burden and lighten the load in this Appalachian area.

These apartments really aren't all that fancy, but they do provide decent housing to be built on campus. Currently we have a number of students, faculty and staff commuting long distances. Commuting costs money for gas and transportation and wastes precious time which could be used for study. It's also sometimes dangerous and time-consuming to travel many of the switch-back mountain roads built along the side of these mountains. When our new housing is built it will allow both students and some faculty and staff to cease long daily drives to and from campus and take a more active role in campus life as well as in our community.

This is the largest challenge in our history with the least time to match it in cash. Yet it will tremendously help meet health care needs here in Appalachian and beyond. Can we do it? Yes, with your prayers and God's help we can. Every gift is precious.

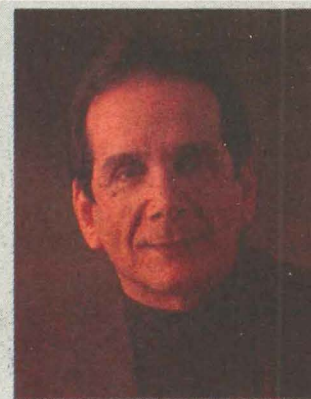
If you would like to contribute to this goal, contact Dr. Jim Taylor at 6191 College Station Drive, Williamsburg, KY, 40769, or call 606-539-4201.

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