

# WESTERN Recorder

April 16, 2013

Shine Like Stars \* Philippians 2:15

Volume 187, Issue 15

## Ky. Baptists 'step out in faith'

### Team catches vision of new ministry partnership in Africa

By Ken Walker

**Louisville**—Five Kentucky Baptists who took a recent "vision tour" of Sub-Saharan Africa see a limitless number of mission opportunities in the 41-nation region.

"We can help people in these areas not only respond to a disaster, but also better themselves," said Bob Perkins, a member of Simpsonville Baptist Church and a key leader for Kentucky Baptist Disaster Relief.

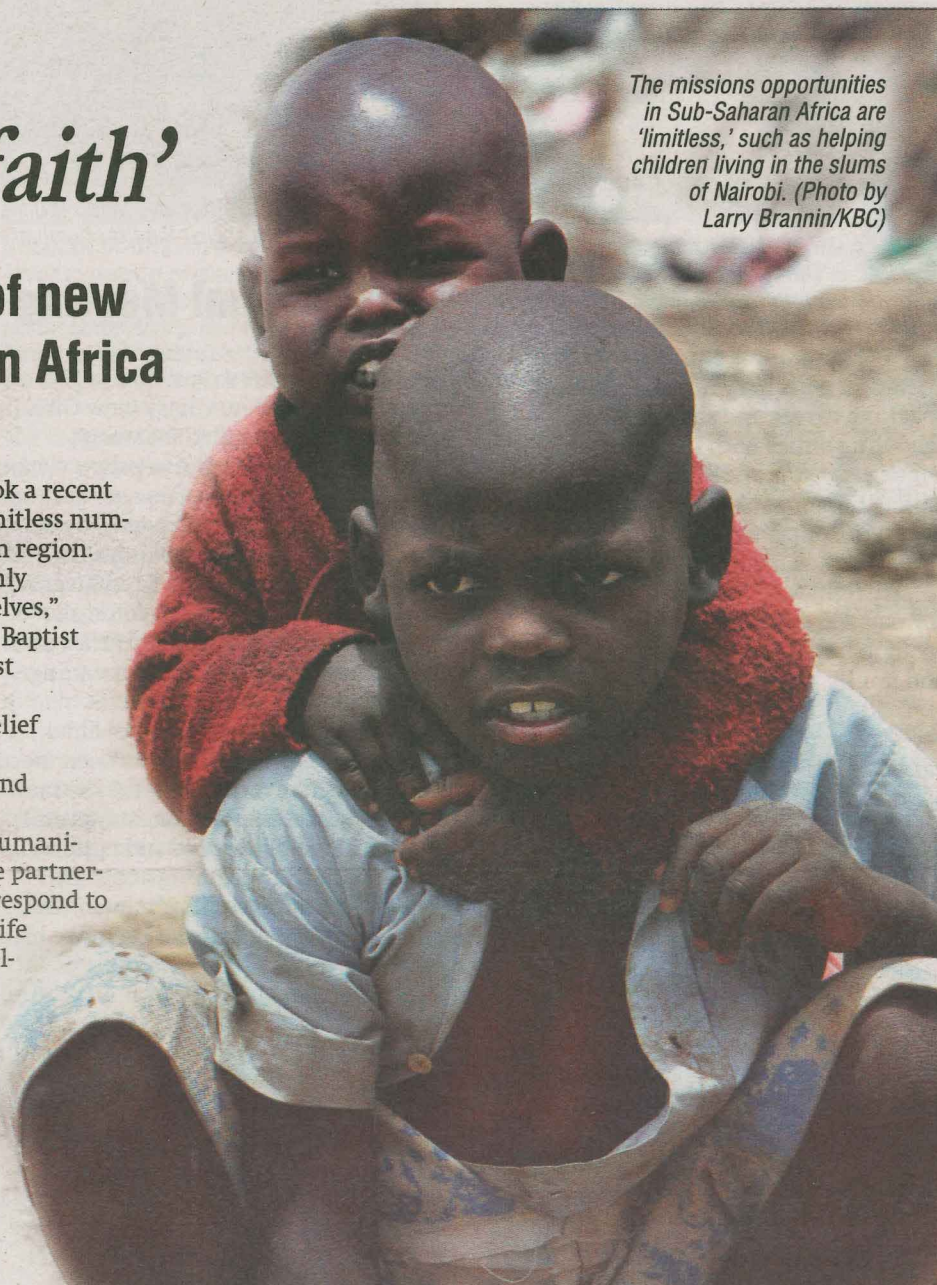
The trip was the next step in a disaster relief and community development partnership between the Kentucky Baptist Convention and Baptist Global Response.

Coordinated through Southern Baptist humanitarian workers Mark and Susan Hatfield, the partnership will help Sub-Saharan Africans better respond to disasters and also enhance their quality of life through improvements in agricultural development, job training and housing construction. In the process, those life changes will help them understand how much God loves them.

#### No. 1 need

Perkins said the tour of seven sites in Kenya, Tanzania and Madagascar clearly revealed several specific service

□ See Africa vision tour ... Page 7



The missions opportunities in Sub-Saharan Africa are 'limitless,' such as helping children living in the slums of Nairobi. (Photo by Larry Brannin/KBC)

## WMU story 'lives on' through lives of its members

By Whitney Jones

"Our story can live on if we share it," Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union President Linda Cooper told WMU members April 5.

Throughout 125 years, the Women's Missionary Union has stayed constant—to support, pray for and send people on missions—and Cooper encouraged those attending the annual WMU banquet to share their stories with the people in their daily lives.

"My challenge to you is share your story," Cooper urged. "God will put them in your path, let me tell you. Just be faithful and tell it, tell the story of Jesus."

Between sessions, participants did just that and shared their personal connections with WMU. They read an illustrated history of Kentucky Baptists and the WMU and were then asked to write their story and tack it to the appropriate slot on a timeline.

#### WMU stories

For some, like Cindy Hurley of Smithland, WMU hasn't always been a part of their life story. Although she was a

□ See WMU Annual Meeting ... Page 2



Linda Cooper

## SBC President challenges college, seminary students

By Robin Cornetet Bass

**Campbellsville**—With a bronze cast medal draped around his neck and wooden plaque in hand, Southern Baptist Convention President Fred Luter said he was honored to receive the Campbellsville University Leadership Award.

Luter, SBC's first African American president and senior pastor of Franklin Avenue Baptist Church in New Orleans, was greeted with the accolade while visiting Ransdell Chapel April 10 as a guest speaker.

The SBC president made a second Kentucky stop the following day at the Southern Baptist Theological Sem-

inary in Louisville.

Michael Carter, president of Campbellsville University, said the award his school presented Luter was created several years ago to "recognize leadership that goes well beyond what we believe to be human potential" and exhibits Christian servant leadership. "Dr. Luter is one such individual," Carter said.

**"Every choice leads to a consequence and that consequence can be a blessing or a curse. Think about your choices."**

Fred Luter

CU's president praised the spiritual influence Luter exhibited in New Orleans following a devastating hurricane in 2005 that took more than 1,800 lives and

resulted in more than \$80 billion in property losses.

"Katrina came and stole the heart and soul of New Orleans," Carter continued. "Brother Fred not only gave inspirational leadership after the storm, but he stayed true to the cause. He inspired other pastors. They joined together and realized the spiritual community of New Orleans must come together to bring life to the people. Fred was right there in the middle of it, making it happen."

In the years that followed, Luter's ministry at Franklin Avenue has swelled to more than 7,000 members.

Preaching from the Apostle Paul's epistle to the church of Philippi, Luter encouraged Campbellsville University students to live lives victorious in Christ and spoke about the importance of having renewed minds.

□ See Fred Luter ... Page 3



**LUTER VISITS** Fred Luter, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, preaches on having a renewed mind at Campbellsville University's chapel service April 10. (Photo by Christina Kern/CU)

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## 'Love Worth Fighting For' tour comes to Valley View in Louisville

By Robin Cornet Bass

Louisville—Kirk Cameron said he has an "amazing life" with his wife and six children. But being happily married with kids does not come easy—especially for a celebrity.

"Marriage is something that is good and right and true because God made it. It's not a 'you make me happy' contract," the 43-year-old actor said.

Cameron, star of popular Christian films "Fireproof" and the "Left Behind" series, will be leading a marriage event at Valley View Church in Louisville Sunday, April 21, with Christian artist Warren Barfield as musical guest.

Marriage, Cameron continued, "is a school where you keep learning to become more like Jesus. It's a school where you learn to die to yourself and serve others even when you don't feel like it—even when they don't deserve it."

Cameron hopes that Sunday's marriage event, called "Love Worth Fighting For," will not only help couples in struggling marriages, but adults and teens in all stages of life.



Kirk Cameron

The tour drew more than 65,000 people in 2012. Louisville will be one of 30 stops across the country this year.

In an interview with the Western Recorder, Cameron said truly happy marriages are more about being healthy than achieving some temporal emotion. He described healthy marriages as a union "where holiness is the goal."

"My wife and I are trying to live that out," Cameron said, "Not perfectly, but increasingly."

His experience is that when couples learn to be faithful to God and serve each other, "happiness is one of the fruits."

Between his busy filmmaking and speaking career and sharing homeschooling duties with his wife Chelsea, a former co-star of ABC's "Growing Pains," Cameron said he makes a point of carving out time to nurture his marriage relationship.

"We fight for a lot of things through the day and there should be nothing we fight harder for than our marriage and family," Cameron said.

Tickets for "Love Worth Fighting For" can be purchased at FeedYourFaith.org. (WR)

## Saddleback Pastor Rick Warren, wife, grieving over son's suicide

By Art Toalston

Nashville, Tenn.—The suicide of Matthew Warren continues to reverberate not only in Christian circles, but also in the culture which his parents, Rick and Kay Warren, have sought to impact since the founding of Saddleback Church in 1980.

Matthew Warren, 27, died April 5 at his home in Mission Viejo, Calif.

Warren released an emotional statement to Saddleback's staff after the suicide. The statement has since been broadly published:

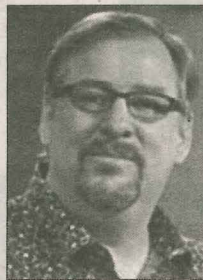
"Over the past 33 years we've been together through every kind of crisis. Kay and I've been privileged to hold your hands as you faced a crisis or loss, stand with you at gravesides, and prayed for you when ill. Today, we need your prayer for us.

"No words can express the anguished grief we feel right now. Our youngest son, Matthew, age 27, and a lifelong member of Saddleback, died today.

"You who watched Matthew grow up knew he was an incredibly kind, gentle, and compassionate man. He had a brilliant intellect and a gift for sensing who was most in pain or most uncomfortable in a room. He'd then make a beeline to that person to engage and encourage them.

"But only those closest knew that he struggled from birth with mental illness, dark holes of depression, and even suicidal thoughts. In spite of America's

best doctors, meds, counselors, and prayers for healing, the torture of mental illness never subsided. Today, after a fun evening together with Kay and me, in a momentary wave of despair at his home, he took his life.



Rick Warren

"Kay and I often marveled at his courage to keep moving in spite of relentless pain. I'll never forget how, many years ago, after another approach had failed to give relief, Matthew said, 'Dad, I know I'm going to heaven. Why can't I just die and end this pain?' but he kept going for another decade."

On April 7, Warren voiced gratitude via Twitter for the concern and prayers for his family: "Kay and I are overwhelmed by your love, prayers, and kind words. You are all encouraging our #brokenhearts."

The previous day via Twitter, Warren had stated, "We pray 'Thy WILL be done on earth AS IT IS IN HEAVEN' since in heaven God's Will is done #always. On earth, it's done rarely."

The Orange County Register reported that Warren was slated to begin a new sermon series, "Surviving Tough Times," at Saddleback, one of the Southern Baptist Convention's largest churches. The first message in the series, for April 7, was titled, "What Do You Do on the Worst Day of Your Life?"

The Warrens have two older children, Amy and Josh, and five grandchildren. Warren is the author of "The Purpose Driven Life" and "The Purpose Driven Church," two of the best-selling books in recent history. (BP)



CENTURY PLUS 10 Participants in the 110th annual meeting of the Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union met April 5-6 at First Baptist Church of Hopkinsville. (Photos by Whitney Jones/WR)

## WMU Annual Meeting

Continued from page 1

member of Girls' Auxiliary (now Girls in Action) as a young girl, she wasn't involved in the national missions organization until about 10 years ago—just one year before her husband passed away.

The time in between being a GA and eventually becoming the Ohio River Baptist Association's WMU director, she spent as a pastor's wife. But Hurley said throughout her whole life her calling toward missions never wavered.

"That passion (for missions) I had when I was 8 or 9 years old carried me all the years that I didn't have it," she said.

Hurley said she has gone on several mission trips to Ukraine and eastern Kentucky since becoming active in WMU. She said several women in the Ohio River Valley Association make blankets, scarves and hats for children with cancer all over the Southeast for a ministry called "God's Comforters."

Hurley came to the annual meeting dressed in a long, red dress and small, black hat, much like the clothes women wore when WMU began 125 years ago.

Anna Mary Byrdwell of Louisville came to the meeting in similar attire—a long purple dress with an intricate lace collar—to celebrate the organization's anniversary. But unlike Hurley, Byrdwell's history with the WMU started even before she was born.

Byrdwell's mother and grandmother were involved in WMU. In fact, her paternal grandmother taught the GA class that her mother attended as a little girl. Since being hired by WMU in 1967, Byrdwell has headed the Sunbeam Band and Acteens across the state as well as doing general consulting for Kentucky WMU.

But just because she no longer works for the WMU office doesn't mean her work is done. Byrdwell is now active in Friendship International, where she loves to teach English and other skills to Indian women.

"God didn't call me to be a missionary in India, but He has brought Indians to Kentucky. He is giving us the opportunity to relate to them and show them how Christians love and act," she said.

### WMU history

Many women at the annual meeting have a rich history with WMU, which could be seen by the many scrawled sheets of paper tacked to the organization's timeline.

National WMU Recording Secretary Rosalie Hunt said stories like those—both

personal and ancestral histories—are important for Southern Baptists.

"Baptists need to know what their legacy is," she said. "That is handed to you as a gift from the Lord."

She stressed the importance of giving by sharing the WMU's history of mite boxes, which were used to collect coins for missions and other ministries, and the story of Adoniram and Anna Judson.



SERVANT'S HEART Sandra Williams is presented the Kentucky Baptist Missionary of the Year award by Eric Allen, KBC Missions Mobilization Team Leader.

### Missionary of the Year

A woman known for her dedication to ministries in Lexington was named "Missionary of the Year" at the annual meeting. Sandra Williams is the director of church and community ministries for Elkhorn Association.

Williams coordinates hot meals for the hungry every week, teaches struggling children how to read, provides tax assistance for the needy and directs many other events and programs aimed at reaching out to those in need in Lexington and surrounding areas. Her ministries even include a center at Irishtown, which is in the shadow of Rupp Arena.

Williams said she thinks the best way to convey God's love to others is to serve them at all times.

"It's just not coming in and saying Jesus loves you and then walking away from it," she said. "You're there to walk with them and to cry with them and to laugh with them and to be with them."

She does that every week by continuing to serve the most basic needs of people hurting in central Kentucky.

"Williams is the personification of missions in that she is doing missions ministries with people in need," Bolton said.

Bolton added that Williams reflects what WMU exists to support: people sharing the gospel and educating others about missions. (WR)

# Florence church rallies around pastor's church planting vision

By Tobin Perry

**Florence, Ky.**—The first year of a new pastorate can be full of challenges, as the new pastor finds his way around a community, builds new relationships and casts his vision to the church.

For one new Kentucky Baptist pastor, a vision to penetrate lostness in North America and around the world through evangelistic church planting has made the job much easier.

"When you rally your people around a God-sized vision, they'll work with you to accomplish it," said Corey Abney, who accepted the pastorate at Florence Baptist Church at Mount Zion in Florence just over a year ago.

"Our vision is to fulfill the Great Commission by making disciples in the context of the local church. Given the fact that a majority of North Americans live in or around major cities, we need more churches to reach the growing urban population," Abney said.

In the past year, Abney has led Mount Zion to significantly increase the church's role in church planting. Abney will be leading a workshop at the Send North America Conference at Prestonwood Baptist Church in Plano, Texas, on July 29-30. The workshop will include what he has learned in the past year.

The church's increased involvement is more than just a matter of finances. Abney has taken steps toward a five-part church planting vision for Florence Baptist Church.

First, the church increased its church planting budget, on top of its giving to



**OPENING DOORS** Florence Baptist Church at Mount Zion's commitment to church planting has included support of church plants like Red Door Church in Cincinnati. Participating at a recent meeting at Red Door were (from left) Florence operations director Travis McNair, Florence lead pastor Corey Abney, Red Door lead pastor Joshua Lenon, Red Door operations director Brooklyn Mesward, Red Door director of equipping and integration Liz Pieniasek, Red Door creative director Ivo Oliveira and Florence teaching pastor Travis Kaiser. (Photo by Patrick Clark)

the Cooperative Program. The church, which averages about 1,400 in attendance most weeks, now financially supports two Send North America: Cincinnati church plants.

Second, the church will be providing people to help church planters through short-term mission teams. They plan to send a team to Philadelphia this summer to help a church plant with Vacation Bible School. In the future they plan to send small teams—maybe a couple or two at a time—to visit church planters in the field and provide childcare and relational support for isolated planters.

They also are making plans to send teams regularly into nearby Cincinnati

to support church planting efforts through "Send North America: Cincinnati." Just 50 minutes away, Cincinnati will be a special emphasis for the church. The Cincinnati metro area has only one Southern Baptist church for every 10,861 people. Within the city limits, that figure jumps to one SBC church for every 59,245 people.

"We have an opportunity to connect with a 'Send' city where 2.3 million people live, most of whom are without a personal relationship with Jesus," Abney said. "So I wanted to start our church planting strategy with a local emphasis on Greater Cincinnati."

Third, the church is in the process of

sending out its own members to plant churches throughout North America. Abney says he has two church members currently in the North American Mission Board process. Both hope to start planting churches in Cincinnati later this year.

Fourth, the church recruits other churches to get involved in Cincinnati and other Send North America cities. He points, as an example, to an opportunity he had last fall to preach at a small church in Kentucky. After Abney preached on what the Bible says about being a good neighbor, the church got involved in Send North America: Cincinnati, and it now partners with a church plant in the city.

Fifth, his church plans to be active in training future church planters and mission leaders. The church has several interns coming this summer who'll learn about ministry in an urban context as they prepare for potential future urban ministry involvement.

Abney believes Southern Baptists will make their biggest dent in North America's lostness as they work together to plant churches.

"We're in this together as Southern Baptists," Abney said. "We take advantage of the power of multiplication when we partner together. One church cannot do everything, but every church can do something. This is one of my biggest takeaways from the past year. We can all do something. When you concentrate on doing your part to fulfill the Great Commission, you spend less time focusing on less important matters." (NAMB)



## KIDS' LIVES SAVED HERE

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Paducah - Bowling Green - Louisville - Lexington - Danville - Florence



**LEADER AWARD** Fred Luter (center), with his Campbellsville University Leadership Award, is pictured with (from left) John Chowning, Joseph Owens, Michael Carter and Frank Cheatham. (CU)

## Fred Luter

Continued from page 1

"God didn't just save us to give us fire insurance from hell. God saved us so we could have an impact on this society," Luter said. "The problem is many of us are struggling to live this Christian life."

There is not a week, a day, or an hour that ticks by when the mind of a Christian is not being tempted, bamboozled, or even "punked by the enemy," Luter said. "And none of us are exempt from the attacks."

Citing 1 Peter 5:8, Luter warned students to "be sober, be vigilant: your adversary, the devil, is a roaring lion, walking about, seeking brothers, seeking sisters whom he may devour."

To have an impact on this world and live victorious lives for Christ, Christians must renew their minds, Luter said, and their thoughts must be molded to the mind of Christ. Philippians 2: 5-8, he added, provides a glimpse into Christ's attitude as a divine being in human form.

"Even though He was fully God, He became fully man for you and me," Luter said. "Jesus did not allow His heavenly position to affect His earthly decisions. Every choice He made here on earth He did it to please the Father."

And like Jesus, we should make choices that are pleasing to God said the SBC president.

"It's all about choices because every choice leads to a consequence and that consequence can be a blessing or a curse," Luter said. "Think about your choices."

Luter closed his message at both schools by singing the refrain of the hymn "At the Cross."

While in Louisville, Luter congratulated Russell Moore, dean of the school of theology at SBTS, for his election as president of the SBC's Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission and expressed confidence that Moore would faithfully fill the role. (WR)  
Matt Damico of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary contributed to this story.

## Serving together in Haiti

The Chitwoods, minus our six year old daughter, Cai, had the privilege of spending spring break on a mission trip in Haiti earlier this month. With the approval of Michelle's doctors (she is

### Together We are the KBC



Paul Chitwood

doing great), we signed up for Crossings International Mission Camp.

Not only did the trip allow us to serve the Haitian people and work with Crossings, one of our strategic ministry partners, we also had the privilege of spending the week with dozens of teens and adult leaders from several of our Kentucky

Baptist Convention churches. Team members came from Central Baptist Church in Corbin, FBC La Center, FBC Lawrenceburg, FBC Brandenburg, FBC Sturgis, and Raymond Baptist Church in Meade County.

The Crossings International Mission Camp gives teenagers a fabulous opportunity to get overseas tremendous spiritual and physical needs. Haiti is an impoverished, third world country that was struggling long before the devastating 2010 earthquake took the lives of 250,000 people and damaged and destroyed tens of thousands of buildings and homes. That earthquake and repeated hurricanes have elevated the suffering of a people who have known little else since being abducted from their African homeland by slave traders and shipped to the Caribbean island to work on France's coffee and sugar plantations.

Yet, even as a people whose history is marked by enslavement, poverty, and natural disasters of biblical proportions, the Haitian people are not without hope. The faithful witness of Southern Baptists and other Great Commission Christians has found soft hearts and listening ears among many of the 9 million people who inhabit the island.

Our team of Kentucky Baptist teens and adults worked alongside our brothers and sisters from Baptist churches in Haiti, conducting Vacation Bible Schools and upgrading a youth camp owned by Baptist Haiti Mission, where thousands of Haitian children and teenagers hear the gospel each year. I was very impressed by the maturity of our team members. Choosing to spend their spring break sweating, swatting mosquitoes, and serving, these young people were a powerful testimony to the faithfulness of the churches who have disciplined them and challenged them to take the gospel to the nations.

Michelle and I were also gratified to watch our son and oldest daughter be used by the Holy Spirit to lead lost Haitians to Christ. While I've never hesitated to show pictures of my son posing with his latest bow kill or yell from the stands at my daughter's track meet or soccer game, the feelings of joy I experience when I see them living out and sharing their faith are incomparable. We are so grateful for the grace God showed us in Haiti.

Paul Chitwood is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

## Are you tough enough to go ... even there?

W e sing the words heartily, "Wherever He leads, I'll go," but one missionary dares to challenge us: "Are you tough enough to follow Him, especially in the hard places?"

What if following Jesus meant living where the horrors of war surround you daily? What if following Jesus meant watching your teenage son die from an asthma attack? What if following Jesus meant seeing your closest friends martyred? What if following Jesus meant observing the fruits of your ministry dwindle away to almost nothing? Are you tough enough ... to go?

Nik and Ruth Ripken\* are.

The native Kentuckians who met at one of our Baptist universities shared with Woman's Missionary Union members about their global pilgrimage to learn how believers in places of persecution not only survive, but also thrive. After the WMU meeting in Hopkinsville, we caught up with the Ripkens to hear more. Their unwavering zeal for engaging the lost with the gospel in some of the hardest-to-reach places on the planet is incredibly stirring.

The Ripkens now live in the Middle East, after having served for 27 years in Africa—Malawi, South Africa, Kenya and Somalia—enduring not only severe persecution, but also disease, war and famine. In his new book, "The Insanity of God," Nik relates their heart-wrenching story and what they since have discovered through interviewing hundreds of persecuted, yet victorious followers of Christ in more than 70 countries. (See book review by June Rice, page 8.) He is now working on a sequel, "The Insanity of Obedience."

Describing how humanitarian aid sites were attacked, how four close friends had become martyrs, and how fellow believers dwindled from 150 to less than a handful in only a few years, Nik said: "We met such disaster spiritually in Somalia. It was very difficult to pray, 'Greater is He that is in me than he that is in the world,' when that was nowhere evident in Somalia.

"We were just overcome with so much evil there," Nik continued. "We knew our obedience had taken us there, and obedience is the only thing that kept us there," he said. But add to the horrors the tragic loss of your 16-year-old son to a severe asthma attack on an Easter Sunday and the undue hardships become nearly unfathomable. Nik nat-

urally wondered "not whether or not God was a God of love in Somalia, but where in the world did the power come from for Him to change an environment like that?"

After returning to the States for much-needed respite and emotional healing, Nik embarked on a venture to develop discipleship materials on how to witness and plant churches in places where "just being friendly to Christians is enough to get you killed." Nik conducted more than 600 interviews with believers from Communist, Buddhist, Hindu, Muslim, atheist and post-modern backgrounds who constantly face the possibility of persecution. These believers, Nik said, are teaching us that "persecution is normal"—even expected.

"The No. 1 cause of persecution is people coming to Jesus," Nik confirmed. "So, if the

church continues to be brainwashed that persecution is bad, that we ought to stop it, and that we should punish the persecutors—none of which is biblical—then the only way for God to answer our prayers to stop persecution is to stop people from coming to Christ," he reasons.

Instead, believers in places of persecution can help American Christians understand what they should have known before going to these hard places: how to be victorious in spite of persecution. "Persecution is neither good, nor bad," Nik explained. "It just is—like the sun coming up in the east."

Even so, we shouldn't allow persecution to deter us. "When you look at the Great Commission, it is not a call," Nik asserts. "It is not something where we can say, 'Well, I would go across the street, go overseas, or go to Samaria ... if God calls me.'" When he read the Bible for the first time after becoming a Christian in a cheese factory in 1971, Nik understood Jesus to say, "All power is given to me under heaven and earth. Go!"

And, from his perspective, we don't have an option. "A call to witness, there is no such thing. A call to obedience, there is no such thing," Nik corrected. "It is a command: Jesus said, 'Go.'" Acknowledging that "the hardest task on the planet" is to send your children and those you love into difficult circumstances, Nik challenges: "Continue to raise your sons and daughters to be obedient to Jesus, to go wherever He leads ... whether it is across the street or to the unreached peoples of the planet."

\*Names changed for security reasons.

## After Thought

By Todd Deaton



## KBC's audit work group reports

The audit work group of the Kentucky Baptist Convention Mission Board's business and finance committee met Dec. 11 to perform its annual review and evaluation of the financial condition and practices of the KBC's affiliated entities and its Mission Board, as reflected in their 2012 audited financial statements.

This annual audit review process is an important way Kentucky Baptists receive an accountability report from the convention and its affiliated entities. Kentucky Baptists can be pleased that this procedure exists whereby the convention and its institutions and agencies can give an accounting of the stewardship of the resources entrusted to them.

These entities include Campbellsville University, University of the Cumberland, Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, Oneida Baptist Institute, Kentucky Baptist Assemblies, Sunrise Children's Services, Baptist Healthcare System, Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union, Western Recorder, Kentucky Baptist Foundation and the Kentucky Baptist Mission Programs and Subsidiary.

Kentucky Baptists also can be pleased and encouraged with the sound financial condition and stability of the institutions and agencies and the level of cooperation demonstrated by them. The work group complimented the board and administrative leadership of the

convention and each of its affiliated entities. Kentucky Baptists are encouraged to increase their support of these institutions and agencies prayerfully and financially.

Members of the audit work group were: chairperson Don Mathis, Jerry Anderson, DaWayne Capps, David Crowe, Charles Frazier, Bruce Gibbs, Brent Huggins, Jason Johnson, Business Manager Lowell Ashby, Administration and Executive Office Team Leader Jim Donnell and Accounting Services Director Cathi Roy-Sanders. A certified public accountant met with the group.

The work group's report was made to the full business and finance committee on March 26, 2013 and approved.

Don Mathis, chairperson of KBC audit work group and business and finance committee

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## Rediscovering the art of being completely still

By Marc Webb

Have you ever been completely still? Can you remember a specific moment when you enjoyed complete silence?

In today's fast paced world, we rarely become still or even have the time to do it. With job responsibilities, family lives, appointments, cell phones, alarm clocks and traffic jams, we are constantly on the go. We are continually running and trying to fulfill the next mark on our personal checklist.

**"Being still can mean not moving or making a sound. It can mean being in a state of complete silence. Going even farther, stillness could also mean a feeling of deep comfort."**

In the dictionary, the word "still" features many different definitions. Being still can mean not moving or making a sound. It can mean being in a state of complete silence. Going even farther, stillness could also mean a feeling of deep comfort. All of these definitions describe what it means to truly be still.

As believers, stillness should be a vital part of our walk with Christ. Being still and reflecting in silence should be an important aspect of our day. In that, we

become still, we become silent, and we enter into the calming presence of our Lord, by devoting ourselves to Scripture, prayer and meditation.

However, I fully admit, for life in the 21st century, finding moments of stillness can sometimes seem impossible. Even when we make time for our Lord, we are usually bombarded with noise and distractions. Our phone rings and we run to answer it.

While reading through Scripture, we have Facebook or email up on the computer screen. When we pray, our mind wanders to the events of the day or stresses of tomorrow. While trying to enjoy a time of peace or quiet, we hear the sounds of police sirens and car horns.

For me, when thinking about this chaotic and loud

world, I am reminded of Psalm 46. Throughout this chapter, the author describes a life filled with stressors, headaches, and catastrophes. We are told of the earth giving way, mountains falling into the sea, waters roaring, and nations battling in war. The author of Psalm 46 illustrates a moving scene of immense confusion and trouble.

### FIRST PERSON

Yet, even through these intense struggles and descriptions, we are still given a calming word from the Lord. In the midst of wars and natural disasters, God says, "Be still, and know that I am God." Be still. Shut off the noises and distractions. Get rid of the stress and overwhelming tension. Silence the loud and powerful screams of this world. Disregard the chaos around you. Ignore the worries of life for just a moment, and focus on Me.

As believers, stillness can serve as a time of refreshment. It can act as a personal worship experience. Solitude can be an amazing time of learning and empowerment. Finding solace in the quiet moments can serve as beautiful times of peace.

Even more importantly, silence and solitude allow you to hear the words of your Savior. Whether you are studying Scripture, or praying or simply being still, you have the opportunity to fully dwell in the arms of your Lord, and truly recognize Him.

In 1 Kings 19, when speaking to Elijah, God was not in the powerful earthquake. He was not in the wind or the towering fire. When interacting with Elijah, God was not within the noise or commotion. Instead, He was whispering in a still, small voice.

Today, if your mind is dominated by thoughts and distractions, if your mind is filled with the worries and noises of this world, you might just miss the powerful whisper of your Lord. Be still. Find silence and refuge. Wait on the calm and quiet presence of your heavenly Father. For the Lord says, "Be still, and know that I am God."

Marc Webb is pastor of Victory Baptist Church in Shelbyville.

**"As believers, stillness should be a vital part of our walk with Christ."**

## Can your child survive criticism?

By David Garrard

Panel one has Lucy calling Charlie Brown the most wishy-washy person she has ever known.



Panel two brings more criticism, with Lucy describing Charlie Brown as weak, dumb, boring and hopeless—not much use to anyone.

Panel three shows Lucy and Charlie Brown standing side by side, not speaking.

Panel four brings things to a close with Lucy saying, "Incidentally, how come I never hear you sing anymore?"

Could your child survive "American Idol"—not from a talent standpoint, but from the standpoint of taking the criticism the show dishes out? Randy can be pretty mean. One night he's your best buddy; the next, he's ripping you to shreds. How would your child respond? Children must learn to receive criticism without letting it destroy them. Constructive criticism motivates and instructs, but even helpful criticism has to be heard in order to be helpful.

Shows like "American Idol" can provide opportunities to talk with your child about criticism. Ask, "How do you think so and so feels when Simon says those things to her? How would you feel?" Use these conversations to reinforce basic biblical truths about self-worth and self-esteem. Teach your child that their ultimate sense of worth and value comes from knowing that God made them and loves them more than they can imagine. Their value does not depend on what they do, how well they do it or what someone else thinks. Help your child learn to listen to some criticisms and ignore others. When you find it necessary to criticize, remember that children hear and receive criticism best within the context of encouragement and praise.

In the end, self-worth grounded in God's love enables all of us to keep singing, even if some of the notes are off key.

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

## Generational challenge confronting the global church's future

By Erich Bridges

The global spread of democracy doesn't look nearly as promising as it once did.

High hopes for lasting freedom appear to be fading in Russia, Afghanistan, Libya, Iraq, Egypt and Tunisia, to name a few countries where authoritarianism, extremists, corruption and other forces have undermined fledgling democratic institutions. Dictators have fallen like bowling pins in some places, but the vacuum they left behind hasn't necessarily been filled by freedom. Elsewhere, police states have proven surprisingly resilient in the face of challenges from globalization, demands for change and the spread of social media.

In the Middle East, epicenter of massive movements for change, "observers are increasingly cynical about the prospects for democracy, arguing that the Arab Spring has turned into an Islamist winter," the journal Foreign Affairs reports. Radical Islamism is the biggest threat to liberty in the region. However, Foreign Affairs argued that "instead of fretting over Islamists, the international community needs to have a more nuanced conception of political transition in the Arab world and should strive to bolster institutions and economic reforms in post-Arab Spring countries."

Maybe, but diplomats and democracy activists said the same thing when now-deposed dictators were still in power. Building durable democratic institutions and reforming national economies take time, even under favorable conditions.

Meanwhile, there are larger demographic forces at work worldwide.

New York Times columnist Thomas Friedman

recently compared three major countries: China, India and Egypt. Very different societies, very different governments. "But there is one thing that all three have in common: gigantic youth bulges under the age of 30, increasingly connected by technology but very unevenly educated," Friedman wrote. "(T)he one that

### FIRST PERSON

will thrive the most in the 21st century will be the one that is most successful at converting its youth bulge into a 'demographic dividend' that keeps paying off every decade, as opposed to a 'demographic bomb' that keeps going off every decade. That will be the society that provides more of its youth with the education, jobs and voice they seek to realize their full potential."

India counted 560 million people under the age of 25 in 2011. Of that number, 225 million were between the ages of 10 and 19. In Egypt, the largest country in the Middle East, a million people are born every nine months, according to one estimate. Sixty percent of all Egyptians are under 25. The total population of the Middle East and North Africa surpassed 430 million in 2007. It's expected to top 700 million by 2050. One in every three people in the region is between 10 and 24. Asia, by far the largest demographic region of the globe with more than 4 billion people, likely will increase to 5.3 billion by mid-century.

About one in every five people on earth is between the ages of 15 and 24. Eight in 10 of them live in Africa and Asia. As population growth rates stabilize or even decline in the West—particularly Europe—future growth will come almost entirely in the global East and South. That doesn't have to be a bad thing. The

"demographic dividend" Friedman identified could benefit many countries—if young workers can fuel productivity and prosperity in once-poor areas of the global East and South.

They want jobs. They want better lives. But prosperity alone isn't enough for them. Even freedom and democracy aren't enough. They want something more—and they are absorbing ideas from all directions.

"We're sitting on a tectonic plate that is shifting," a mission leader in the Middle East told me last year. "If expectations continue not to be met, we'll see another earthquake. But this is a really good time for anybody who wants to discuss ideas. The marketplace of ideas has changed radically. For the gospel, we need to be in the conversation."

Another Christian worker in the region put it this way: "People here are craving life. They're craving change and not just political and economic change. Their deep heart cry is for answers. What they grew up with is not giving them answers. (The current political turmoil eventually) will create even more of a spiritual harvest. What men meant for evil, God will use for good."

Most of the people groups currently unreached or unengaged by the gospel live in the vast eastern and southern regions experiencing rapid population growth. Most of the countries in those regions have a high percentage of children, teens and young adults.

Making disciples among them is the great generational challenge facing the 21st-century church. (IMB/BP) Erich Bridges is IMB global correspondent

**"They're craving change and not just political and economic change. Their deep heart cry is for answers. What they grew up with is not giving them answers."**

## AU: Reject 'conscience exemption' and grant access to birth control

Washington—A Washington-based religious-liberty watchdog group says the Obama administration should reject demands of conservative religious groups seeking to curb access to contraceptive coverage in the name of religious liberty.

"Americans want and deserve access to safe and affordable birth control," said Barry Lynn, executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State. "Put simply, the decision to use contraceptives is a personal matter and should be governed by the individual, not powerful religious lobbies."

Americans United filed comments April 8 with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services opposing the expansion of rules that exempt houses of worship from a requirement that employers provide insurance coverage for contraceptives under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, also known as Obamacare.

The Obama administration also announced plans to create a broader category of religious organizations that would not qualify for the exemption but could receive accommodation to opt out of paying for contraceptive coverage if it is against their religion.

AU says expanding the original exemption is unnecessary and could pave the way for other accommodations that would violate the First Amendment.

"In the end, the provision of a comprehensive set of health-care benefits is really no different than the provision of a paycheck," AU asserted in comments drafted by legislative director Maggie Garrett. "Employees are free to utilize both kinds of benefits in any manner that they wish, and the employer cannot reasonably be perceived to support or endorse any particular use thereof."

Americans United argued against adding a "conscience exemption" for secular businesses like Hobby Lobby, whose Baptist owners object to paying for methods of birth control that they view as morally equivalent to having an abortion.

"For-profit organizations have entered into commercial activity as a matter of choice and as a way to earn money," AU said. "For-profit organizations should not be allowed to reap the benefits and profits of a commercial enterprise and also be exempted from the rules, restrictions and regulations placed on all other for-profit entities."

For-profit organizations are subject to federal, state and local laws on matters like Social Security taxes, Sunday closing and non-discrimination laws, whether or not their owners are religious, AU said. (ABP)

### POINT COUNTERPOINT



## ERLC: Abortion/contraception mandate is 'religious persecution'

Washington—The Obama administration's continued refusal to provide conscience protections in its abortion/contraception mandate is "a form of religious persecution," according to the Southern Baptist Convention's ethics entity.

The critique by the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission came in a comment submitted April 8 to the Department of Health and Human Services. The four-page letter from ERLC President Richard Land went to HHS on the final day of a comment period provided in response to the department's latest proposed rule change to address objections that the abortion/contraception mandate fails to protect religious freedom.

The mandate—which is a part of HHS regulations implementing the 2010 health-care reform law—requires employers to carry insurance plans that cover drugs defined by the Food and Drug Administration as contraceptives, even if they can cause chemical abortions.

The ERLC and many others submitted comments after HHS proposed Feb. 1 a change that religious liberty advocates acknowledge apparently protects churches and church ministries. They say, however, it will make other objecting employers—including many religious

organizations—unwilling participants in underwriting both contraceptive and abortion-causing pills.

Under the revision, dissenting employers would still have to be affiliated with an insurance plan connected to coverage of such pills and may end up absorbing increased costs for the drugs if the insurance companies pay for them and consequently increase rates.

"Through its mandate, HHS is abusing the authority of the federal government by forcing believers to choose between either offending their God and violating their consciences or facing crushing fines and possible imprisonment for adhering to their deeply held moral convictions," Land said. "This is, by definition, a form of religious persecution."

The proposed rule also fails to protect the consciences of pro-life Americans who do not object to non-abortifacient contraceptives, Land said.

The mandate "is the first time the government has forced pro-life citizens to fund, directly or indirectly, insurance coverage for abortion-causing activities," he told HHS. "This is an egregious abuse of federal power."

Land urged HHS to bring the mandate in line with the free exercise of religion clause in the U.S. Constitution's First Amendment.

"Anything short of protecting the freedoms of conscience and religious expression for all Americans ... is unacceptable," Land said. (BP)

## Federal judge rules morning-after pill sold to teenagers and young girls

By Michael Foust

Washington—An emergency contraceptive pill that can cause chemical abortions soon must be sold to teens without a prescription under a federal judge's order that removed any age restriction.

Previously, the Food and Drug Administration allowed the drug in question, Plan B, and its generic equivalent to be sold without a prescription only to women age 17 and over, and only over-the-counter with an ID. But the ruling by U.S. District Judge Edward Kornan allows Plan B to be sold to anyone, regardless of age. That means anyone, even teenagers, could buy the drug without parental involvement. About 10 percent of girls reach reproductive age at 11, although the average age is 12.

Kathleen Sebelius, the secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), had argued in 2011 that girls as young as 11 could not be trusted to use the drug properly.

But Kornan in his April 5 ruling said the "invocation of the adverse effect of Plan B on 11-year-olds is an excuse to deprive the overwhelming majority of women of their right to obtain contraceptives without unjustified and burdensome restrictions."

Under the previous rule, young girls could get the drug via a prescription. Kornan, though, ruled that was not sufficient because it has the "cumulative effect of preventing some women from

accessing the drug within the short time frame during which it will be effective."

Kornan said the drugs must be made available to girls within 30 days.

Plan B and its sister drug, Plan B One-Step, work in part by restricting ovulation or preventing fertilization. But it is their back-up mechanism that draws particular opposition from pro-lifers. According to the FDA website, the back-up mechanism works post-fertilization by "preventing attachment" of a tiny embryo to the uterine wall. Pro-lifers consider that a chemical abortion.

The drug sometimes is called a "morning-after pill" and to work, must be taken within three days of sex. According to the FDA, it fails to work one out of eight times.

It is not known if the Obama administration will appeal the ruling. In 2011, Obama supported Sebelius.

Anna Higgins, the director of the Center for Human Dignity at the Family Research Council, expressed April 5 concern not only about the unborn but also about the young women who take the drug.

"This ruling places the health of young girls at risk," Higgins said. "The involvement of parents and medical professionals act as a safeguard for these young girls."

Higgins also noted that in 2008—the last year for which data is available—there were 19,700,000 new sexually transmitted infections. (BP)

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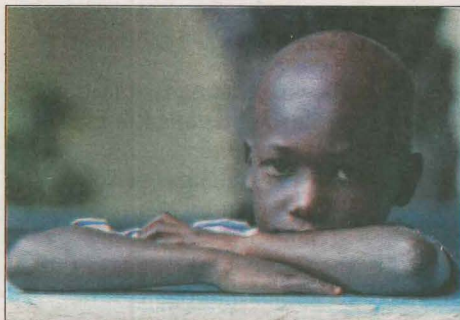
journey continues to Grand Tetons National Park with spectacular landscape; Jackson Hole, WY; Salt Lake City, UT with a city tour including the Great Salt Lake and opportunity to witness the Tabernacle choir rehearsal. Then travel West visiting the Utah Field House Museum; Dinosaur National Monument and explore the vast variety of fossils and Rocky Mountain National Park including a drive through the park on Trail Ridge Road. \*Price per person/double occupancy. Airfare is extra.

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**EYES SAY IT** A young patient waits to see a doctor in Kigoma Hospital run by the Tanzania Baptist Convention.

## Africa vision tour

Continued from page 1 opportunities.

"In Madagascar, the number one thing we found people need after a cyclone or other disaster is clean water," he said. "If we go now and drill some wells that can withstand hurricane force winds, then we've eliminated the problem."

Community development is an area perfectly suited to those who possess such skills as carpentry, mechanics, child care and construction, Perkins added.

"We have to convince our farmers, women and mechanics how badly they're needed to go on these trips and help people learn these trades," said the former law enforcement officer.

"We went to one baby center that has a need for cots and cribs so they can handle additional infants. They don't have anybody that can build them."

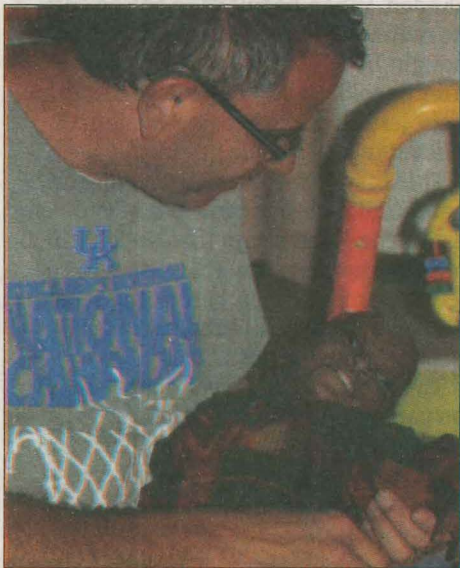
### 'Untapped mission skills'

Mark Hatfield, a native of eastern Kentucky, said he and his wife, Susan, are confident that Kentucky Baptists can help bring lasting change to the region through the partnership.

"We know there are many lay people in KBC churches who have the skills, gifts and desire to make a significant impact," Hatfield said. "We hope that BGR can be that link between real needs on the field and who can meet those needs."

"Susan and I hope to see several long-term partnerships develop between churches or associations and ministries where deep relationships can be built," he added.

KBC Missions Mobilization Team Leader Eric Allen said the community development aspect of the partnership could draw on previously untapped mission skills of some Kentucky Baptists.



**BABY LOVE** KBC's Eric Allen spends time with an orphan at Limuru Baby Home in Nairobi.



**VILLAGE VISITOR** Kurtis Jones, a North American Mission Board missionary, talks with village residents in Madagascar. The island country is often struck by cyclones that approach the African coast from the east. Jones was hoping to discover what kind of needs the villagers have in the wake of a cyclone. (Photos by Larry Brannin/KBC)

"I think it will help us see the benefits of long-term involvement by believers and the development of transformed lives, rather than just a temporary fix or short-term relief for those in need," he said.

Registration remains open at [kybaptist.org/hope](http://kybaptist.org/hope) through April 20 for KBC's Sub-Sahara Disaster Relief and Community Development Training. The April 26-27 event will be held at Highview Baptist Church's east campus in Louisville.

Baptist Global Response leaders Pat Melacon and Jeff Palmer will lead the training. The vision trip team and the Hatfields will be on hand to share their insights of the needs of the people in Sub-Sahara Africa.

Coy Webb, director of Kentucky Baptist Disaster Relief, said in a region with such economic struggles as Sub-Saharan Africa, disaster preparedness sometimes is non-existent. Through the partnership, Kentucky Baptists may find themselves responding to crises in addition to helping locals develop response plans for disasters yet to occur.

"We will have to adapt and be very flexible," Webb said. "We will have to sleep in tents and maybe fix our own food. We will have to use hand tools, where in the U.S. we're used to using power tools."

Despite the challenges, Perkins said he hopes Kentucky Baptists will step out in faith and become involved in



**WATER TAXI** Traveling to the remote missions locations in Africa can be challenging. The team traversed wooden bridges with missing boards and used river ferries barely large enough for their vehicles. (Photo by Susan Hatfield/BGR)

the partnership.

"Once you go a time or two, you find Africa is a great place," he said. "When people are less fortunate and live in grass huts, they rarely have people come and help them. They are in awe. We need to take the good news about God's love there and let them know we are there to help."

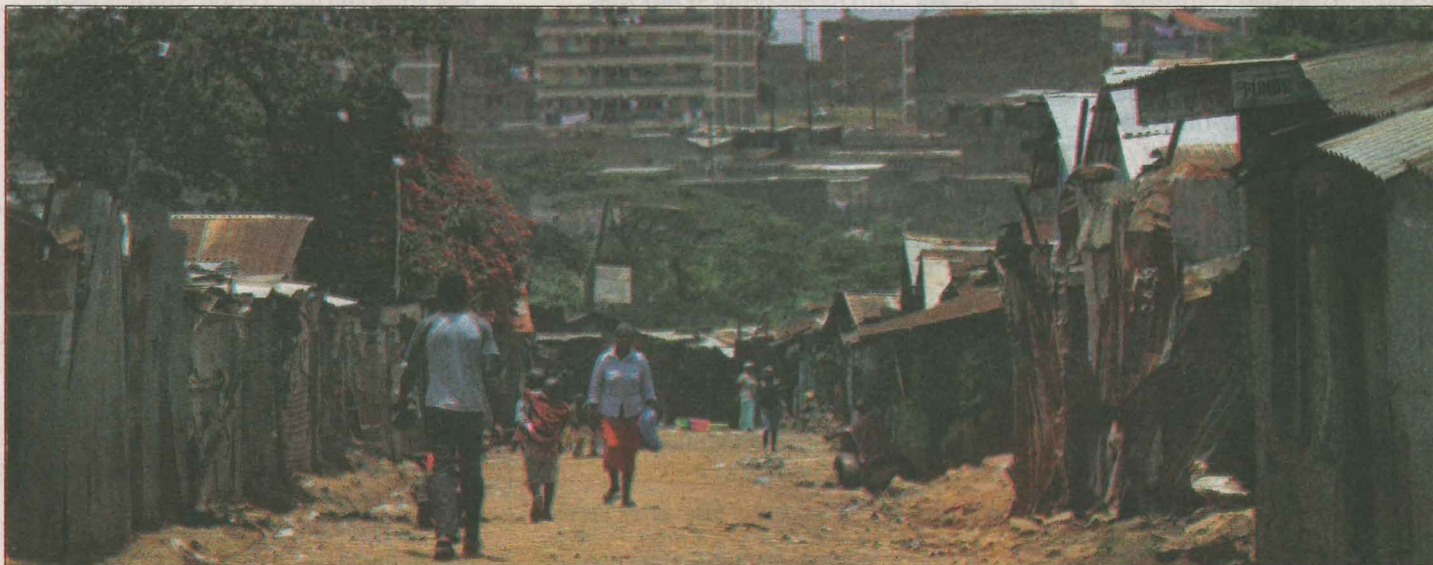
Kentuckians are already responding. In March, a four-member medical team led by Dr. Tom Ashburn of First Baptist Church of Barbourville traveled to Mali, where they treated more than 900 patients over 10 days.

Among other projects planned—a

group from Simpsonville Baptist intends to take a motorcycle repair team to Mozambique this summer. Porter Memorial Baptist Church of Lexington is considering working at Kigoma Hospital in Tanzania.

Each effort by Kentucky Baptists will meet a significant need and is a step forward in expanding ministry in Africa, Hatfield said.

"By partnering with Kentucky Baptists we will be able to support existing ministries," Hatfield said, and "open up ministries in new work areas where there has been little witness to God's goodness." (KBC)



**HUMBLE EXISTENCE** Some of Nairobi's poorest residents live in makeshift houses of scrap metal and cardboard.

## A camel, a python and other fun

### OBI students make personal sacrifices to attend field trip

Three and a half hours of chapel each week; an hour of Sunday School; optional Baptist Campus Ministry meetings; voluntary dormitory devotions; classroom devotions and prayer.

With all of these regularly-scheduled Christian possibilities for our students, would any of them really be interested in an all-day, no-credit Saturday field trip to the Creation Museum? Especially if they had to earn the right to go, pay for part of the trip out of their own money, ride on an ordinary school bus, and be grouped with a chaperone for the duration of the time at the museum?

Forty-seven of our students said, "Yes. Yes, I will watch the introductory video online to see what the museum is all about. Yes, I will earn a minimum of 250 points over the next eight weeks by attending Sunday School every week after the morning chapel service, bringing my Bible each week, and bringing a friend with me to Sunday School.

"Yes, I will bring my \$25 (if I have it), go to other Christian meetings during the week, memorize scripture, share my testimony, keep a Bible reading journal and a prayer journal, and do acts of service. Yes, I want to go to the Creation Museum, even if it costs me something."

One of our girls wrote: "I want to go on the trip because I want to know more about the Lord and how we became His children. Then I can come back and share what I learned with others. If they don't have a relationship with Christ, then maybe I can put them on the right path, show them the way to

go, and keep myself in the same way to the gates of heaven."

One of the boys said, "I want to go on the trip because I want to be introduced to the creation of life and learn more about Christ. The Creation Museum will be a great place to have fun and learn

about great people in the Bible by looking at the exhibits. I think it will bring me closer to the Lord and help me start living for Him more than I have been. Lately I haven't been living like a Christian and telling people about Him. I'm afraid of what other people will think of me. Also, I would like to find out how they lived and what all those people did for God. I just

want to know for sure that I'm saved. I wonder about it sometimes."

And so they went, traveling on two buses, accompanied by 12 chaperones, taking sack lunches packed by the food service team, and carrying money to pay for their entrance to the museum, the planetarium and to help pay part of the cost of their supper that evening.

Did they enjoy themselves?

"I really enjoyed the trip. The best part was the scavenger hunt."

"My favorite was riding the camel."

"I enjoyed the planetarium the most."

"My favorite thing was the petting zoo and feeding the animals."

"I really liked the videos."

"I liked the trip because I got to touch a python."

"I loved it, and with my mom coming, she made it better."

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

### This is Oneida



Paul Davidson

## Like us on Facebook

### Clear Creek provides pool for local cardboard boat competition

If you had mentioned "Facebook" to L.C. Kelly, Clear Creek's founding president, he would most likely have pulled out the family photo album. Social media in his day would likely be a party-line telephone, not the Internet.

The Internet was created "under the protection of a very special government institution that was created inside the Department of Defense in the 1960s," according to multitudes. samizdat.net/Finding-the-Finding-Fathers-of. How do I know that? I Googled it, of course! I won't even venture to think what Kelly would say if someone told him a future president of Clear Creek would be a "Googler."

Clear Creek, like every other modern day institution with roots deep in the past, has had to come to terms with modern methods. Professors have access to the Internet in all of our classrooms. Our students study and socialize online, and can even earn a Bachelor of Arts in Ministry at Clear Creek completely online. And yes, we do have a Facebook presence—and it is awesome. We think you would "like" it (pun

intended). Spend just a few moments on our Facebook page and you would be able to instantly catch up with your beloved school.

Here are some things you will find:

- We will be offering a scholarship for students who will take summer mission trips.

- Copies of "Born in the Heart of God: The History of Clear Creek Bible College, 1926-2008" are available.

- SBC President Fred Luter will be speaking at our commencement ceremony May 10.

- Articles about our work with the Kentucky Baptist Convention, NAMB and Appalachian Regional Ministries.

- Articles about our outreach efforts, like "Seminary for a Day."

All this and more is available for you to read right there online, and hundreds of people would be reading along with you.

We think Dr. Kelly would like our Facebook presence. We hope you will "like" us too. Find us at facebook.com/ClearCreekBaptistBibleCollege.

*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@ccbbc.edu.*

### Clear Creek Chronicle



Donnie Fox

## Land selected president of N.C. seminary

Nashville, Tenn.—Richard Land, president of the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, said April 11 that he has been selected as president of Southern Evangelical Seminary.

The seminary, based in Charlotte, N.C., was co-founded in 1992 by Norman Geisler, longtime seminary professor and apologist, and Ross Rhoads, former evangelist and then-pastor of Calvary Church in Charlotte. Geisler was the seminary's first president and dean.

Land's selection was tweeted by Geisler Thursday morning: "I wish to commend the Board of Southern Evangelical Seminary for its excellent choice of a new president Dr. Richard Land."

In a statement, Land said he would begin his new position July 1. He also will teach, he said.

"We share a mutual vision," he said of the seminary. "For most of my ministry, like SES, I have labored to reach the lost, to strengthen the local church, and to defend the faith. Over the years, it has become increasingly clear to me that the

way you spell evangelism, discipleship, missions, and Christian education in the 21st century is 'apologetics.'

"For over 20 years, SES has admirably maintained a dual commitment to evangelism and apologetics. I look forward to strengthening that commitment in the years to come and to making SES the place to go for the apologetics training needed to fulfill God's calling, to equip the saints, to reach the lost, and to edify the saved."

Land, 66, announced his retirement from the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission July 31 of last year. At the time, he scheduled his retirement to be effective Oct. 23, 2013—25 years from the date he assumed the ERLC's presidency in 1988.

ERLC trustees, on March 26, elected Russell Moore as the SBC entity's new president, effective June 1. Moore, 41, currently is dean of the school of theology and senior vice president for academic administration at Southern Seminary. (BP)

## 'Insanity of God': Buy one to keep, one to lend

By June Rice

Go out and buy "The Insanity of God: A True Story of a Faith Resurrected" by Nik Ripken, with Gregg Lewis. My daughter Cathy gave it to me on a recent Saturday with express orders to read it by Wednesday because she was going to pass it to someone else that night.

"The Insanity of God" is the best mission book I have ever read, and I have been reading books on missions about 60 years, and have taught many of them to Woman's Missionary Union groups.

This book was written by a former worker in Somaliland, an African nation ruled by Muslims. He was a Kentucky farm boy who did not grow up in church and was in high school when he got saved.

When Ripken (a pseudonym) read Jesus' last words to his disciples about going into all the world and preaching the gospel—he believed what Jesus said. Ripken gave up his dream of being a veterinarian and decided to major in religion. God had prepared a perfect mate for him who he fell in love with immediately. She was a preacher's daughter who had been a missions volunteer since she was a child. She has been his mentor and soul mate ever since.

The book does not have the names of any denominational organizations that he has been involved with. All the names have been changed except the names of the countries he has worked in.

The first half of the story is about his 15 years in a Muslim country in Africa, where he fed the hungry. Ripken left after the United Nations gave up and said it was no longer safe. The author expressed defeat because he experienced no conversions to Christianity.

Later, Ripken had the opportunity to visit the places where Christians had been persecuted and conduct interviews. He first went to Russia and interviewed church leaders that had been put in prison for their Christian activities. He found that they had been strengthened

by the opposition. He then visited the Ukraine and found inspiring stories.

Then he went to China where millions of Christians meet secretly each week in house churches—but not on Sunday. After they get more than 30 in a group, they divide, so as not to call attention to the meetings. They have to mouth the words of hymns, so that no one hears them praising God in song.

He also writes about a Muslim man in Asia. Everything was going wrong in his life so he went to the inman, the head of the local mosque, and asked if he would help him. The inman told him to bring him a white chicken, go home and fast and pray for three days, and all would be well.

He gave the inman the chicken, fasted and prayed three days, and at the end of the three days he was told by a Voice with

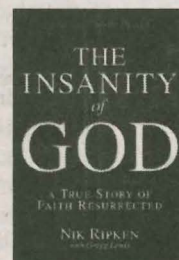
no body, "Find Jesus." He did not know who Jesus was. The Voice continued, "Go over the mountain to a certain town, (Ripken leaves out the name) and you will find two men. They will tell you how to get to (blank)street. You will look for number (blank). Knock on that door."

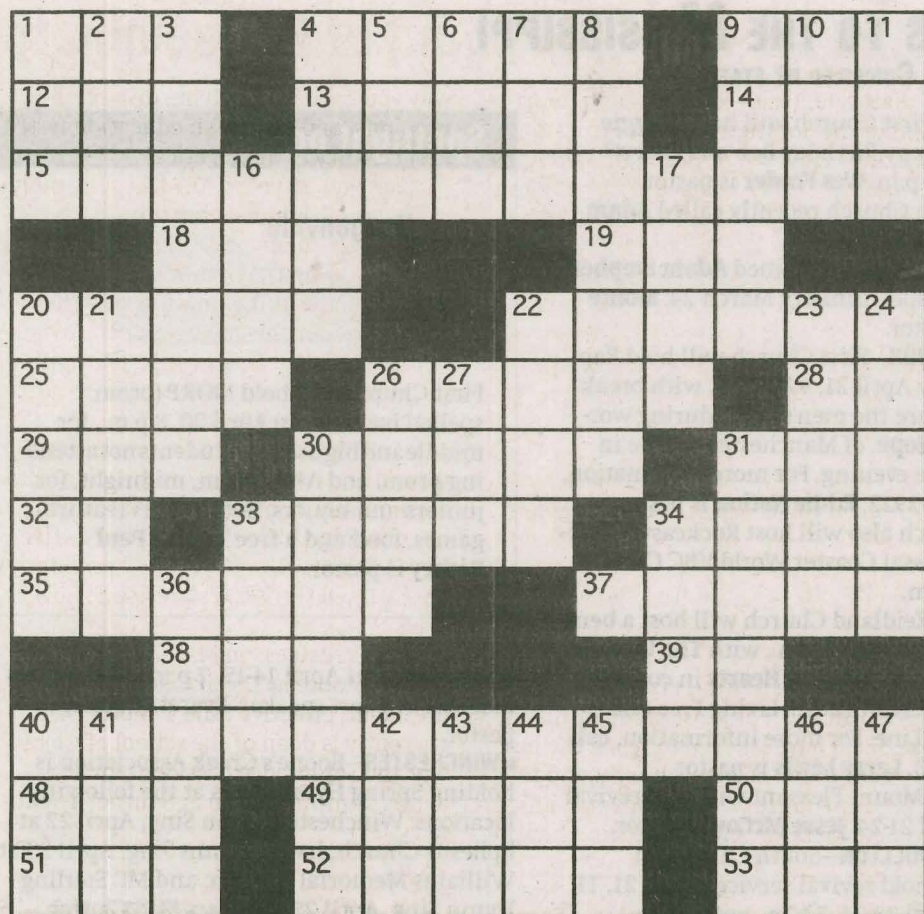
The man did as the Voice commanded. When he knocked on the door, the man who answered the door at first thought he was trying to spy on him. After he told his story, the host told him about Jesus, and he became the fourth believer in that people group.

This easy-to-read book is full of stories that sound like they came out of the New Testament. Ripken says that God is still working the same way He worked in the New Testament times. I am going to buy 10 to give away. I will keep two. One to keep and one to lend.

The book will make you rejoice that you can go to church, sing hymns as loudly as you want, read the Bible in any number of translations, and feel free to tell anybody you see about how Jesus saved your soul.

*June Rice, a former Western Recorder trustee, writes a column, "Education and Common Sense," for the Paintsville Herald and the Butler County Banner.*





#157

**Bible Crosswords**

By Evelyn Boyington

**Across**

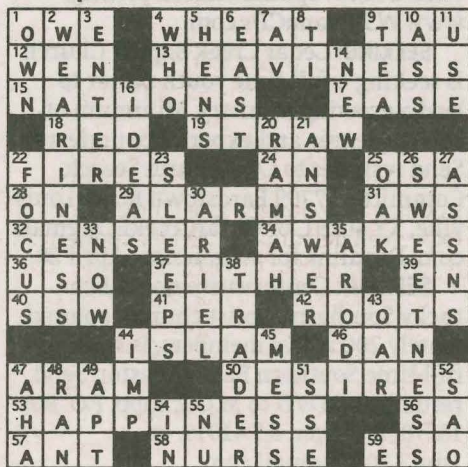
- 1 Linking verb
- 4 Prophets, such as Samuel and Isaiah
- 9 Occupy; control
- 12 Suitable; apt
- 13 Doctrine or belief held as truth
- 14 Poetic before
- 15 "\_\_\_\_\_ (3 words); and blessed be my rock" (Psalm 18:46)
- 18 Status in a group, slang
- 19 Decay
- 20 Loiters or lingers (colloq.)
- 22 Gets ready to face the day
- 25 Exclamation of dismay
- 26 Referred to
- 28 Greek letter
- 29 Unit equal to 1/1,000 inch
- 30 "One loaf of bread, and one cake of \_\_\_\_\_ bread" (Exodus 29:23)
- 31 "If we say that we have no \_\_\_\_\_, we deceive ourselves" (1 John 1:8)
- 32 Fifth or Park, e.g.
- 33 "When thou prayest, \_\_\_\_\_ into thy closet" (Matthew 6:6)
- 34 Act stubbornly
- 35 Orderly
- 37 Puts aside
- 38 Option at car dealership
- 39 City near Bethel
- 40 "\_\_\_\_\_ (3 words), O my soul While I live will I praise" (Psalm 146:1, 2)
- 48 Owns
- 49 "The house was filled with the \_\_\_\_\_ of the ointment" (John 12:3)
- 50 Western Native American
- 51 Chemical ending
- 52 Memos
- 53 Button on the VCR (abbr.)

**Down**

- 1 "The servant of the Lord must ... be ... \_\_\_\_\_ to teach" (2 Timothy 2:24)
- 2 Stadium sound
- 3 "The \_\_\_\_\_ God is thy refuge" (Deuteronomy 33:27)
- 4 Organ options
- 5 Poetic contraction
- 6 "Mark the perfect man ... for the \_\_\_\_\_ of that man is peace" (Psalm 37:37)
- 7 Kin (abbr.)
- 8 "They \_\_\_\_\_ up the people, and the elders, and the scribes" (Acts 6:12)
- 9 Certain sports competitions

- 10 "Rabbi, thou \_\_\_\_\_ the Son of God" (John 1:49)
- 11 O.T. minor prophet (abbr.)
- 16 "The \_\_\_\_\_ of the lame are not equal" (Proverbs 26:7)
- 17 "The earth was without form, and \_\_\_\_\_" (Genesis 1:2)
- 20 In the Book of Esther, Mordecai's nemesis
- 21 "In Christ shall all be made \_\_\_\_\_" (1 Corinthians 15:22)
- 22 Son of Hezekiah (Ezra 2:16)
- 23 John on Patmos, for example
- 24 Is unable to swim
- 26 Bigger than a borough
- 27 Destination pour les vacances
- 30 "There was a dead man carried out, the \_\_\_\_\_ (2 words) of his mother" (Luke 7:12)
- 31 "My spirit hath rejoiced in God my \_\_\_\_\_" (Luke 1:47)
- 33 Ornamental case
- 34 Idol of the Phoenicians and Tyrians
- 36 "Those that walk in pride he is able to \_\_\_\_\_" (Daniel 4:37)
- 40 Greek letter
- 41 Tore
- 42 Tokyo, formerly
- 43 Young one
- 44 Tint
- 45 Sounds of hesitation
- 46 Highway (abbr.)
- 47 "They shall wet thee with the \_\_\_\_\_ of heaven" (Daniel 4:25)

**Last puzzle's solution #156**



**'Last Full Measure of Devotion'**

**Register to attend pastor's legacy luncheon in Houston**

Something special is being offered to pastors of Southern Baptist churches across the country by the International Mission Board in cooperation with various state Baptist foundations, including the Kentucky Baptist Foundation, and our legacy giving partner, PhilanthroCorp. This could revolutionize and facilitate estate stewardship in those churches whose pastors choose to participate.

The results of a recent LifeWay survey confirmed what we have known for years; namely, many pastors do not have wills and other estate planning documents in place, and most churches make no effort to educate and sensitize their members about including the church and other Baptist ministries in their wills or estate plans.

To develop a biblically generous church, the church must have a pastor who is faithful in his stewardship. To that end, the IMB has arranged a free luncheon on June 11 during the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Houston, Texas, to the first 1,000 pastors who register. The luncheon will be held from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Hilton Americas Hotel, which is very convenient to the convention center. It is being held at the same time as the pastor's wives' luncheon as

an added convenience. IMB President Tom Eliff will speak and the focus will be "The Last Full Measure of Devotion: a Pastor's Missions & Ministry Legacy."

Reservations can be made online at: [www.regonline.com/SBC\\_Luncheon](http://www.regonline.com/SBC_Luncheon).

**Ky. Baptist Foundation**



Barry Allen

You also can register by calling (804) 219-1405 or emailing [lconnerley@imb.org](mailto:lconnerley@imb.org). Remember, it's first come, first served.

To those Kentucky pastors who register, please look for a Kentucky Baptist Foundation table when you arrive at the luncheon. I shall look forward to hosting you.

You will be pleased to know no Cooperative Program or Lotie Moon funds are being used

to provide this free lunch. The event is being made possible by a gift from an anonymous donor in the Houston area who believes the personal blessings, vision and materials shared with you can insure the ongoing expansion of the Great Commission.

If you are a pastor and attending the annual SBC meeting, please register for this luncheon today. If you are not a pastor, please make sure your pastor is aware of this opportunity and encourage your pastor's participation.

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

**Keeping camp fees low**

**Register now for EBO-funded camps for children and youth**

The Eliza Broadus Offering not only provides support for missions mobilization ministries, evangelism, church planting, language and collegiate work, but it also touches children and youth. Several opportunities are coming up this summer and this column comes as a reminder to make it possible for children and youth to participate. EBO allows us to keep participation fees lower by covering some of the event expenses.

**Mission Adventure Camps & Overnights** will be held at Cedar Crest, on the grounds of Cedarmore Conference Center near Bagdad in June. Three weeklong (Monday to Friday) camps for girls and boys in grades 3-6 and their leaders are offered in June.

There are also two **Mother/Daughter and Father/Son Overnights** for children in grades 1-3 and parents (or another adult). The 2013 camp theme is Fearless and campers will learn the importance of 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 and what it means for missions.

The early bird rate for weeklong camps is \$195 per student with a special rate of \$25 for required chaperones. The early bird rate for overnights is \$50 per person. These rates are in effect until May 24. While camps are coed, boys and girls stay in separate cabins and enjoy many gender specific special activities.

**Overnights at the Creek** will be held July 12-13 at Jonathan Creek Conference Center near Aurora. Three simultane-

ous overnights will be offered: **Mother/Daughter** for girls in grades 1-3 and moms (or another adult), **GA Overnight** for girls in grades 4-6 and leaders, and **Acteens Splash** for girls in grades 7-12 and leaders. The early bird rate for these overnights is \$50 per person until June 24.

**EBO at Work**



Joy Bolton

**Camp Courage** for Royal Ambassadors, Challengers, leaders and dads will be held at Laurel Lake Baptist Camp near Corbin, August 2-3. Courage provides opportunities for outdoor activities as well as missions learning and experiences that boys will enjoy.

All of the WMU sponsored camps and overnights include worship, Bible study, swimming, recreation, crafts, and more! Each week and weekend event includes a camp missionary and special times for campers and chaperones to interact with a "real live missionary." Learn more at [www.KyWMU.org/camp](http://www.KyWMU.org/camp).

In addition to camps and overnights, EBO is also a proud sponsor of Kentucky Changers, now under the direction of Crossings. This unique hands-on missions experience for youth is a great way to engage students in touching lives and making an impact for Christ. Learn more at [www.GoCrossings.org/missions/ky-changers](http://www.GoCrossings.org/missions/ky-changers).

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



## April

- 22 Senior Living Celebration, Red House Baptist Church, Richmond.
- 23 Senior Living Celebration, Parkway Baptist Church, Bardstown.
- 23 Developing and Managing People, KBC, Louisville
- 24 Senior Living Celebration, Zion Baptist Church, Henderson.
- 26 Sub-Sahara Disaster Relief and Community Development Training, Highview Baptist Church-East Campus, Louisville.
- 26 English as a Second Language Training, Oak Grove Baptist Church, Monticello.
- 27 Children's State Bible Drill, New Hope Baptist Church, Cadiz.
- 27 Children's State Bible Drill, Calvary Baptist Church, Lexington.

## May

- 4 Children's State Bible Drill, First Baptist Church, Bowling Green.
- 6 Mission Board, KBC, Louisville

■ **BRADFORDSVILLE**—Bradfordsville Church ordained **Mike Bright** and **Dennis Mullins** as deacons April 7. **John Simpson** is pastor.

■ **CADIZ**—East Cadiz Church will host Colossal Coaster World VBC Clinic April 23, 7 p.m. **Lester Watson** is pastor.

■ **CAMPBELLSVILLE**—Saloma Church will host **Lonnie** and **Fran Turner** as guest speakers April 21, 11 a.m., as they share about their missions in Zambia. **John Chowning** is pastor.

■ **HICKMAN**—David's Chapel will hold revival services April 15-19 with **Jerry Rollins** as guest speaker and **Tim Langford** as worship leader.

■ **HOPKINSVILLE**—First Church's Creative Kids Choir will lead worship April 21, 6 p.m.

■ **FARMINGTON**—Bell City Church ordained **Clint Moon** as deacon March 17. **Presley Lamm** is pastor.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Fern Creek Church will hold Mission Honduras Dinner and Action, April 19, 6:30 p.m. **Linda Popham** is pastor.

Hillsdale Church will host the Long Run Association training for "My Hope with Billy Graham," a living room crusade, April 23. **Timothy Harris** is pastor.

Maple Grove Church will hold revival services April 18-20, 7 p.m., and April 21, 10:45 a.m., with a steak dinner 6 p.m. **Ron Davis** is guest speaker. **Raymond Hayes** is pastor.

Melbourne Heights Church will hold a Teddy Bear Picnic April 20, 10 a.m., with games and crafts. Bring a sack lunch and favorite stuffed animal. **Adam Schell** is pastor.

South Jefferson will host **Tribute Quartet** in concert April 21, 10:40 a.m. For more information, call (502) 937-2404. **Richard Carver** is pastor.

Westport Road Church will host **Guy Penrod** in concert April 20, 7 p.m. For more information, call (502) 425-2350. **Chip Pendleton** is pastor.

■ **MAYFIELD**—First Church will host "Veggie Tales Live! Happy Birthday Bob and Larry!" April 23, 6:30 p.m. **Wes Fowler** is pastor.

New Vision Church recently called **Adam Stephenson** as pastor.

Northside Church ordained **Adam Stephenson** to the gospel ministry March 24. **Monte Hodges** is pastor.

■ **MOUNT VERNON**—First Church will hold Baptist Men's Day April 21, 9:30 a.m., with breakfast and feature the men's choir during worship. **Chad's Hope**, of Manchester will be in concert in the evening. For more information, call (606) 256-2922. **Eddie Nation** is pastor.

First Church also will host Rockcastle Association's Colossal Coaster World VBC Clinic April 22, 6 p.m.

■ **PADUCAH**—Reidland Church will host a benefit singing April 18, 7 p.m., with **The Victory Men, Rejoice** and **Blended Hearts** in concert. Proceeds to benefit Ladies Living Free and Paducah Life Line. For more information, call (270) 898-6243. **Larry Lewis** is pastor.

■ **SOMERSET**—Mount Pleasant will hold revival services April 21-24. **Jesse McCoy** is pastor.

■ **SOUTH CARROLLTON**—South Carrollton Church will hold revival services April 21, 11 a.m., and April 22-24, 7 p.m., with **Jerry Spencer** as guest speaker. **Sharon Wilcox** is pastor.

■ **VERSAILLES**—Versailles Church will host **Boyce Vocal Band** in concert April 21, 6 p.m. For more information call (859) 873-7338. **John Brandon** is pastor.

■ **WACO**—Bethlehem Church will hold revival services April 21-24. **Mark McGuire** as pastor.

■ **WARFIELD**—Warfield Missionary Church will hold revival services April 21-24 with **Bob Varney** as guest speaker. **Jennings West** is pastor.

■ **WILLISBURG**—Brush Grove Church will hold

## Spotlight on ...

## Hodgenville



First Church will hold MORP (prom spelled backwards) April 20, 8 p.m., for middle and high school students not attending prom, and After Prom, midnight, for juniors and seniors. Both events feature games, food and a free T-shirt. **Paul Richey** is pastor.

revival services April 14-19, 7 p.m., with **James Collison** as guest speaker. **Everett Hood** is pastor.

■ **WINCHESTER**—Boone's Creek Association is holding Spring Hymn Sings at the following locations: Winchester Hymn Sing, April 22 at Ephesus Church; Irvine Hymn Sing, April 23 at Williams Memorial Church; and Mt. Sterling Hymn Sing, April 25 at Spears Mill Church.

Central Church is holding a Sisters in Christ tea for ladies April 20, 11 a.m. **Travis Drake** is pastor.

## Correction:

Dry Ridge revival services were listed incorrectly April 9. Crittenden Association was the promoter, not the sponsor. The revival was sponsored by four churches in the association.

## Upton, president of BWA, speaks at CU

By Samantha Stevenson

**Campbellsville**—Humans are experts at building walls, said John Upton, president of Baptist World Alliance, who centered his April 3 message at Campbellsville University around Ephesians 2:14: "For He is our peace, who made us one and tore down the dividing wall of hostility."

Upton displayed photos of famous walls from around the world that he has been able to see and experience while leading a fellowship of 223 conventions and unions in 120 countries. His final slide was a photo of the Great Wall of China—the only man-made landmark visible from outer space.

"Isn't it interesting that the only sign of human existence that can be seen

from outer space is a wall?" Upton asked.

He said humans are not only experts in building tangible walls, like the Great Wall of China, but people also build up invisible walls—which is dangerous.

"Our walls separate us from being our best selves, from each other, and from God," Upton noted.

The BWA president also discussed instances in which he has seen political, traditional and prideful walls broken by the power of Jesus Christ.

Upton concluded by offering the hope of Jesus Christ as the solution to the wall problem.

"There's something inside of us that tells us that these walls are wrong," Upton said. "That's Jesus Christ, and He is our peace. He is knocking down the dividing walls, and has made us one." (CU)

## Taylor to be honored by Boy Scouts of America

**Williamsburg**—James Taylor, president of the University of the Cumberland, will be presented the 2013 Daniel Boone Visionary Award May 14 from the Blue Grass Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

Taylor was selected for the award because of "his significant service to the youth in Southeastern Kentucky," according to a UC press release.

Terry Forcht, the 2012 recipient, will present the award to Taylor. The event will be held in the T.J. Roberts Dining

Hall at 5 p.m. on the UC campus.

Those wishing to attend the ceremony are encouraged to reserve a table by contacting Daniel Boone Visionary Award Dinner, P.O. Box 1450, Corbin, KY 40702, before May 3.

Proceeds from the event benefit the Mt. Laurel Boy Scouts of America serving Laurel, Whitley, Knox, Harlan, Bell and Jackson counties.

For more information contact Shane Anglin at shane.anglin@ucumberland.edu or at (606) 539-4364. (UC)

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**AVAILABLE:** Dean Stork, ebook author, available for speaking on his book, *Depression: Discouraged, Defeated, Depressed vs. Encouraging, Equipping, Edifying*. A Bible study using a workbook style, focusing on Bible leaders that faced depression, and dealing with it using biblical principles. Contact info: (859) 494-1172 or storktrips@hughes.net.

**FOR RENT:** Two condos for rent in Destin, Fla. Two bedrooms, two bathrooms and sofa bed. Available all year. May special is \$495 for a full week. lbrammer@charter.net. (423) 309-4422.

**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 SALE:** Do you need a church pianist? Try piano CDs for churches to sing by. Hymns, seasonal, choruses, etc. Worship Service Resources, (1-800) 977-6800. FREE DEMO! Special church pricing. [www.WSRPianoCDs.com](http://www.WSRPianoCDs.com).

**SEEKING:** Cedar Creek Baptist Church is seeking a full time youth pastor to lead a growing ministry. Minimum of college degree and experience preferred. Send resumés to CCBC Youth Search Committee, 7709 Bardstown Road, Louisville, KY 40291, or [CedarCreekBC@gmail.com](mailto:CedarCreekBC@gmail.com). Deadline for submission, April 28.

**SEEKING:** Conservative north Kentucky Southern Baptist church, approximately 200 active members, is seeking a full-time Southern Baptist pastor. Send resumé and DVD to M.J. Schopp, P.O. Box 18378, Erlanger, KY 41018, or [1tim3.2013@gmail.com](mailto:1tim3.2013@gmail.com).

## To place an advertisement in the Western Recorder:

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:** Bagdad Baptist Church in Shelby County is seeking a part-time youth minister. Please send your resumé to Bagdad Baptist Church (Youth Minister Search Committee), Bagdad, KY 40003, or [kwiley83@att.net](mailto:kwiley83@att.net).

**SEEKING:** Pleasant Grove Baptist Church is Shepherdsville, Ky., is accepting resumés for the following position: Part-time young adult minister (targeting college and career ages). Send resumés to [youngadultmin@pgbc.net](mailto:youngadultmin@pgbc.net). Deadline is April 26.

**SEEKING:** Trinity Baptist Church, Lexington, Ky., is currently accepting resumés for an interim youth minister. The qualified candidate will have a minimum of 5 years youth ministry experience. The strong candidate will possess a passion for Christ and a calling to work with youth. The interim will be considered for the permanent position. Resumés should be mailed to Trinity Baptist Church, ATTN: Personnel Committee, 1675 Strader Drive, Lexington, KY 40505, or emailed to [gmcclellan@yourtrinity.com](mailto:gmcclellan@yourtrinity.com).

## 91-year-old in Thailand: 'God sent me here'

By Marie Curtis

**Bangkok, Thailand**—Lorena Mayhugh's small classroom in Bangkok, Thailand, smells of tacos. She is teaching English to her adult students while incorporating Mexican cooking lessons.

Wearing paper aprons, students chop lettuce and tomatoes and engage in culinary discussions. Forty minutes pass before they realize that instead of speaking Thai, they are learning vocabulary by practicing conversational English.

As one of her older students—a man in his 60s—prepares to leave, he folds his apron and tells Mayhugh, "Every time I see this apron, I'm going to think about this class."

Mayhugh chuckled as she described some of her teaching methods. "(Learning English while eating) was good for them and I enjoyed it. I won't forget it, either."

Four nights a week, Mayhugh leaves the tiny dorm-style room she calls home and heads to her classroom at the Baptist Student Center in Bangkok. Most teachers at the school are volunteers like Mayhugh, but there's one major difference. Mayhugh is 91.

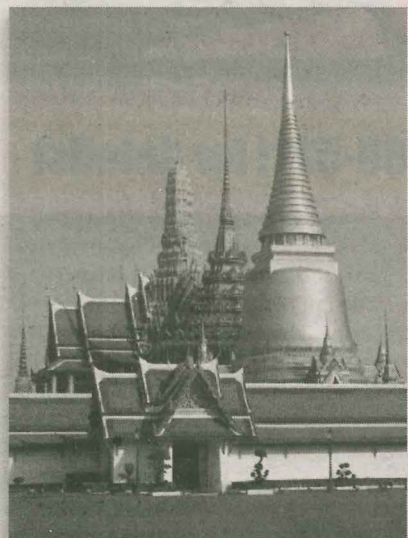
She laughs off looks of surprise when people hear her age: "I'm having fun! Why not?"

### 'Where I belong'

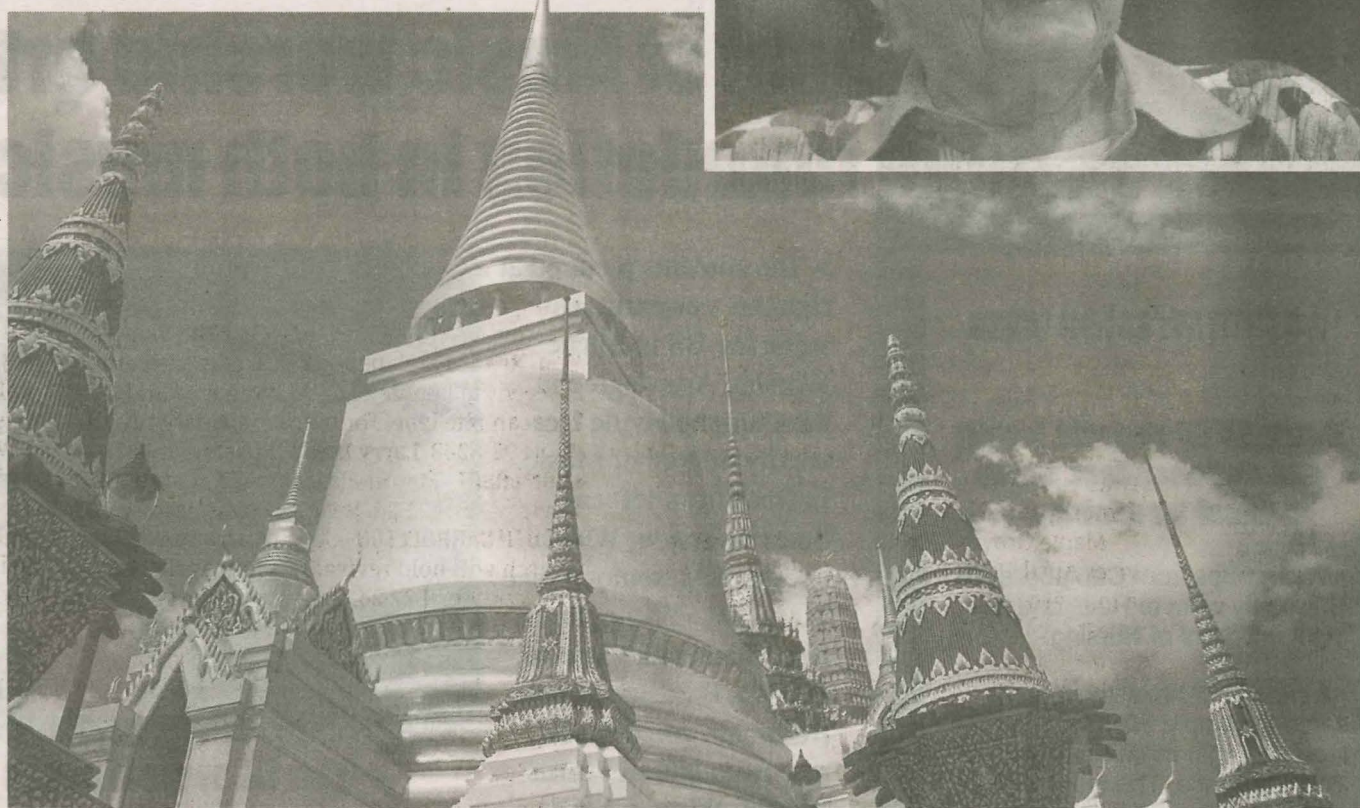
Mayhugh has been in Thailand 10 years, first as an appointed master's missionary with the International Mission Board and now as a volunteer. She has taught nearly 3,000 students, mostly professional Thais who come to learn English. She estimates she's gone through 200 brownie mixes and numerous batches of oatmeal cookies as teaching tools.

When others her age are slowing down, Mayhugh remains active. She's made the choice to serve, teach and disciple on the other side of the world from her only son and grandchildren.

"God sent me here. This is where I belong right now," she said. "When He wants me to go back home, I'll go. When He's through with me in Thailand, He'll let me know."



(Photo by Stock.xchng/DCWG)



Lorena Mayhugh, 91, says she's continuing to fulfill her call to missions until the Lord takes her home. Four nights a week, she volunteers as a teacher at the Baptist Student Center in Bangkok, Thailand. (Photo by Paul Lee)

Spires of Bangkok, Thailand. (Photo by Stock.xchng/Aood Dusit)

Despite her vigor, there are days Mayhugh feels the effects of living through nine decades. She's had a hip replacement, suffered through dengue fever and recovered from a fall. Her eyesight is growing worse from macular degeneration and cataracts. Reading small print is almost impossible.

But her spirit is indomitable. "My hip hurts when I'm sitting at home just as much, so why sit?" she shrugged. "And by now I've pretty well memorized the books I teach from, so I don't have to read them much."

Since all the apartment doors look alike where she lives, she put a mat outside hers so she can easily identify it. The problem is the trend caught on. "Everyone has their mat out now. But I can still tell which door is mine," she laughed.

In Bangkok, Mayhugh walks or rides public transportation. Living on the center's campus offers independence without the upkeep of a house or yard. In a culture where age is deeply respected, people including strangers are always ready to help "Grandma," a nickname she owns with pride.

Though she misses her family in California, Mayhugh considers her missionary friends and the Thai people she loves as her family. Jai, a former student, and his mother are Mayhugh's especially close friends. When the three eat out, "Jai orders for me," Mayhugh said, since she struggles to read menus. "He knows what I like." Well, except that time he ordered squid egg soup.

### Better, not bitter

Mayhugh's commitment to serving God began at an early age. Born in 1921 and raised in Missouri, she rarely missed a church event or an opportunity for service. "We went by Model T Ford to church," she said. "When it was muddy,

we went by wagon and when the snow was on, we went by sled!"

After college she married Carl Terwilliger, a pastor, and followed him West to plant churches. In Alaska, Mayhugh used her ongoing passion for missions and served 1958-59 as the Alaska state Woman's Missionary Union president.

She settled in California, taught elementary school and at age 42 gave birth to their son, Carl Jr.

Six years later, Mayhugh's husband died suddenly, leaving her to face one of the hardest times in her life as a 48-year-old single mother who didn't know how to drive.

"Bad things happen to everyone," she reflected. "When bad things happen, we can get closer to the Lord or we can get bitter."

She married George Mayhugh in 1971. When he retired from the Marines and she from teaching, they went back to college to become electricians and serve in that capacity at churches.

Both in their 70s, the Mayhughs were appointed in 1973 as Mission Service Corps volunteers through the then-Home Mission Board (now North American Mission Board). They traveled throughout California, helping maintain churches and Baptist campgrounds. They were serving at Jeness Park in the Sierra Mountains when George died of brain cancer. Heartbroken, Lorena wondered what the Lord wanted her to do next.

It was while attending a California Baptist Convention meeting in Bakersfield a few years later that she found the answer in an IMB job request for Thailand. In good health at 81, she applied.

"When I read they needed an MK

teacher for three boys, I knew as well as I knew my name. I knew I was supposed to go."

Her assignment was to teach Martin and Carrie Chappell's sons.

"She just loved our boys from the get-go," Carrie Chappell said.

Charlie, now 21, remembers how Mayhugh taught him and his brothers by telling stories from her own life—being a teenager during the Dust Bowl, living through the Great Depression and losing a brother during World War II. She and the boys had science fairs, cooking classes and graduations.

"She's a grandma to the boys," Chappell said. "We all just love her and think she's amazing." On a recent trip to the U.S., Mayhugh traveled an extra 2,600 miles to attend Charlie's college graduation, an event she said she just couldn't miss.

Mayhugh loves her life in Thailand but eventually would like to move closer to her son in California, where she's already discovered Vietnamese and Hispanics who

might need her English tutoring. She's also praying about taking classes at Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary.

And she's got other plans as well—places she'd like to travel, people she'd like to meet. In the past two years, she has hiked the Great Wall of China with Jai and snorkeled in the Andaman Sea off Thailand with her son. She doesn't think her adventures are complete.

"Jai thinks I'll live to 120, but I don't know about that," Lorena quipped, as if thinking through the possibility.

"We can't stop. When God is finished with us, He'll take us home." (IMB/BP)

**"God sent me here. This is where I belong right now. ... When He's through with me in Thailand, He'll let me know."**



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## The new CU School of Music worship arts program provides good foundation in both music and theology

### Recent mission trips

#### Nearly 50 CU students, faculty and staff sacrificed spring break for ministry.

- Two groups from Campbellsville University went to Haiti, one being the School of Nursing.
- A second CU mission team served in Neply, Haiti, a small village about 25 miles southwest of Port-au-Prince. The team worked with myLIFEspeaks, a mission organization which works to identify needs in the community, address them in an immediate way and also make a long-term prevention plan.
- A groups of students went to Panama City, Florida for Beach Reach ministry.
- Members of CU's football team shared the love of Christ in prisons throughout Central Florida through the game of softball.
- Four CU students ministered in New York City at Urban Impact working with English as a Second Language students.
- The Guatemala mission team worked with Prince of Peace Orphanage for Girls.

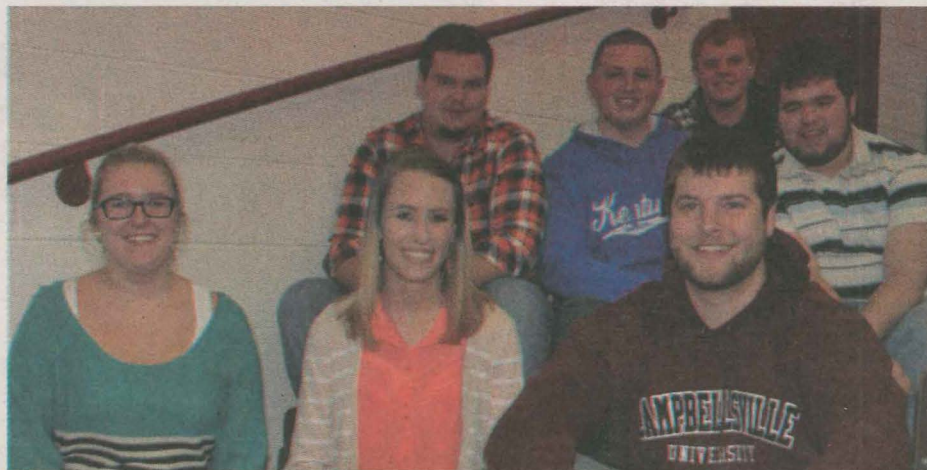
For more information on mission trips at CU, contact Ed Pavy, director of campus ministries, at (270) 789-5227 or [ecpavy@campbellsville.edu](mailto:ecpavy@campbellsville.edu).

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> The students pictured at right are currently pursuing the BS in Music Worship Arts degree in the Campbellsville University School of Music. In front from left are: Sarah Harrison, Winchester, Ky., senior, voice; Mary Kate Young, Paris, Ky., voice; and Clayton Brooks, Bardstown, Ky., freshman, voice. Back row from left are: Chris Wright, Williamsburg, Ky., sophomore, voice; Isaac Petty, Columbia, Ky., sophomore, voice; Devan Bishop, Greensburg, Ky., junior, guitar; and Cody Szymanel, Loraine, Ohio, sophomore, guitar. (Not pictured is Haleigh Lanham, Danville, Ky., freshman, voice.)



### The CU worship arts emphasis combines the best of the School of Music's church music degree with the best of the CU School of Theology's worship arts!

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