

# WESTERN Recorder

April 30, 2013

Shine Like Stars \* Philippians 2:15

Volume 187, Issue 17

## McAlister called to 'ignite a fire of evangelism'

By David Roach

Louisville—As Paul Chitwood was being nominated for chairman of the International Mission Board, fellow board member Chuck McAlister sat in his chair praying about whether to let a friend nominate him, too.

Then, McAlister recalled, God spoke to him as clearly as if it had been in an audible voice: "I don't want you to challenge this man. I want you to help him." So McAlister looked at his friend



Chuck McAlister

and shook his head no, indicating that he didn't want to be nominated. Chitwood was elected unopposed.

That was 2008. Little did McAlister know how far God would call him to go to help Chitwood.

First, Chitwood appointed McAlister

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## Bush library a testimony to faith and family values

By Tammi Reed Ledbetter

Dallas—Faith and family are foundational elements guiding a visitor through the newly dedicated George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum in Dallas. Just a few feet into the exhibit area is the testimony to the 43rd U.S. president's faith in God that turned his life around in 1986.

"At age forty, I finally found the strength to (quit drinking), a strength that came from love I had felt from my

## 'Faith changes lives'



TOP: Biographical displays in the George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum portray strength of family and power of faith that led to Bush becoming the 43rd U.S. president. ABOVE: Bush established the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives by executive order in 2001. (Photo by Tammi Ledbetter/Southern Baptist TEXAN)

earliest days, and from faith that I didn't fully discover for many years," Bush wrote. "Faith changes lives. I know because faith changed mine."

As requested by Bush, the museum is a tribute to the principles that guided the president in his public life, Bush

Center senior editorial director Brendan Minter told the Southern Baptist TEXAN newsjournal.

"If you know anything about the Bush family, you know that family is very important to them and how

□ See Bush library ... Page 6



## The 'other side of the box'

By Robin Cornetet Bass

Danville—Kathy Kendrick and Nicki Johnson have often imagined the smiling faces who would receive the love-stuffed shoeboxes they collect as part of Operation Christmas Child. After volunteering with the ministry for nearly a decade, the two women have been selected to experience the gift of giving as they travel to Africa this spring with Samaritan's Purse distribution teams.

"We never thought we'd have this kind of opportunity to see first-hand the other side of the box," Kendrick told the Western Recorder last week before leaving for Kampala, Uganda

□ See Shoebox ... Page 2

Kentucky Baptist Kathy Kendrick left Saturday to hand deliver Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes in Africa. (Photo provided by Kathy Kendrick)

## CU responds to critics in social media

By Todd Deaton

Campbellsville—Campbellsville University officials responded April 22 to recent accusations concerning the school's theology and science faculty, stating they are "perplexed by the unfounded charges" and "saddened by level of rhetoric" and political labeling.



"Campbellsville University has not changed and has not wavered in our strong and historic commitment to the Kentucky Baptist family," President Michael Carter and university officials maintained in a written statement, adding that they "strongly disagree with those who choose to engage in political rhetoric and use of labels."

□ See Campbellsville ... Page 3

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## McAlister

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committee chairman to lead in IMB's reorganization. Three years later, after Chitwood had become KBC executive director, McAlister found himself in a meeting with Chitwood and his wife, Michelle, about becoming leader of the KBC Evangelism and Church Planting Team. McAlister said God reinforced the call to help him in an unmistakable way.

"Michelle looked at me and said, 'Are you going to come help my husband or not?'" McAlister said. "And it was like God just spoke to my heart again and said, 'I told you to help this man. You're supposed to help him make a difference for My Kingdom.'"

McAlister accepted the position following a vote of the KBC Mission Board. Less than a year into the new ministry he has already helped Kentucky churches find new ways to win people to Christ by introducing affinity evangelism—a method of sharing Jesus by bringing people together based on common needs or interests—from military and

cross-cultural communities to hunting, quilting and dozens of other possibilities.

"We're utilizing affinities to try to ignite a fire of evangelism in churches across the state of Kentucky," he said. "We're helping them come to understand that the day of their reaching their community

is not over. You just need to change your approach in terms of how you do it.

"You can't just stick a sign out in front of your church and announce that you're having a revival and expect people to show up," McAlister continued.

"Unchurched people won't come. But there are things that you can use to draw them to your church."

McAlister was well equipped for the new job. Over the past two decades his personal evangelistic ministry has led

## Reaching Into the State of Kentucky

Isn't it time to **RISK** our comfort and convenience for the sake of eternity? Take a fresh look at how we "do" evangelism by learning more about the new direction of the KBC Evangelism & Church Planting Team.



- Nearly 7 million Kentuckians have not attended a non-holiday church service in the past six months.
- One Kentucky county has so few church residents, it would be considered an "unreached people group" by the International Mission Board.
- Nearly 81 percent of Kentucky's "unchurched" are really "de-churched" members who have fallen away from their faith; 42 percent once attended a Baptist church.

thousands to faith in Christ, giving him a wealth of evangelism knowledge to share with Kentucky Baptists.

As pastor of The Church at Crossgate Center in Hot Springs, Ark., he launched a national cable television program called "Adventure Bound Outdoors." A magazine-style hunting show, ABO included a "truth segment" explaining

how to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

At the height of the show's popularity, it was the highest-rated program on The Outdoor Channel and yielded 300 professions of faith each month out of its 2-3 million weekly viewers.

Eventually McAlister left his church in Hot Springs to focus on the show and other evangelistic ventures fulltime, including wild game dinners where unchurched men are exposed to the gospel as they hear about hunting. McAlister has travelled the country speaking at wild game dinners in hundreds of churches.

In 2011, he became director of constituent relations for Baptist Global Response. He helped promote and

encourage others to participate in international relief projects and community development efforts to improve the quality of life of others and also demonstrate God's love.

McAlister said he is very grateful for the opportunity to serve on a global scale.

"This was a significant time of helping make a difference in many lives internationally," he said.

McAlister's denominational service, combined with his evangelistic ministry, led Chitwood to conclude, "Wow! That guy could help us reach the lost in Kentucky. ... Here's a man who leads by example. Here's a man whose passion is

contagious."

As part of his work in evangelism and church planting, McAlister also helps coordinate collegiate ministry on Kentucky college campuses. According to Chitwood, it is another ministry for which McAlister is well equipped.

"His leadership is going to greatly impact our collegiate ministry team in charge of evangelism," Chitwood said. "I'm very optimistic about what we'll see on the college and university campuses."

Chris Turpin, chairman of the KBC Mission Board's evangelism and church planting committee agrees that McAlister is God's man to lead Kentucky Baptists in reaching the lost.

"He wants to see the churches be more effective in making disciples and reaching people," Turpin, pastor of Donaldson Baptist Church in Farmersville, said.

"He has a heart for that and knows what it's like to be a local church pastor," Turpin continued. "He served as a pastor in Arkansas and really saw a church flourish and grow under his leadership. So he knows how to develop pastors."

McAlister said he is excited about the task ahead.

"My primary job description is to ignite a passion for evangelism in the state of Kentucky," he said, "not only in existing churches but by planting new churches and by reaching the college campuses for Christ." (KBC)

## Get to know Chuck

Daily devotional:

[promiseofhope.tumblr.com](http://promiseofhope.tumblr.com).

Weekly radio show:

[www.blogtalkradio.com/promiseofhope](http://www.blogtalkradio.com/promiseofhope).

Twitter: @chuckmcAlister

Facebook: [facebook.com/promiseofhopeministries](http://facebook.com/promiseofhopeministries).

## Shoebox

Continued from page 1

on Saturday, April 27. Johnson is scheduled to travel with a distribution team on May 18 to Ndola, Zambia.

Kendrick, who serves as OCC's Danville area coordinator and project leader at First Baptist Church of Junction City, said the foreign missions trip would be a first for both women and, according to Kendrick, would make them the second and third volunteers in the nine-county area to serve on distribution teams. Kendrick's son, Ben, was the first from central Kentucky when he traveled to Mongolia last July with the Samaritan's Purse Youth Team.

Kendrick said she has always known that "lives were being changed and souls were being saved through these simple shoebox gifts"—and has been content playing a minor role in the expansion of God's kingdom. But now, Kendrick said she finds herself looking forward being on the front lines of the mission field and sharing her testimony.

"I expect when I see the need for the gospel and the work that God is doing in Africa, I will be even more motivated to do more to further His kingdom on both

sides of the box and on both sides of the world," Kendrick said. "It's like God blesses our service by giving us more faith and then we give that faith back to Him through more service. It's an amazing cycle."

Johnson, OCC's Danville area community relations coordinator and member of First Baptist Church of Liberty, anticipates the experience to be "life changing."



Nicki Johnson

"I have never felt the call to any sort of international mission work," Johnson said, but "it's been revealed to me that maybe I have hid behind the box a bit."

Johnson said she feels God using the experience to help her to step out in faith—both in trusting Him to meet the financial needs of the trip and giving her the courage to share the gospel message one-on-one. Through Samaritan's Purse, Johnson said she is being equipped to present the gospel message to children in Africa if the opportunity arises.

"I'm a bit nervous of the changes that will be inevitable to my Christian walk," Johnson added. "Whatever they may be, I know He will give me the boldness I need



Nicki Johnson helps female inmates at the Campbell County Detention Center prepare their shoeboxes for shipping with Operation Christmas Child. Johnson and fellow volunteer Kathy Kendrick have been selected to be a part of a distribution team to hand delivery shoeboxes to children in Africa. (Photo provided by Nicki Johnson.)

to walk in the path He sets before me. My prayer is that I be found worthy of the great blessing He has planned for me."

Samaritan's Purse, an international Christian relief and evangelism organization, began the Operation Christmas Child ministry in 1993 with the distribution of 28,000 shoeboxes. Last year, OCC had more than 8 million gospel presentation opportunities in 105 countries through the distribution of shoeboxes and celebrated its one millionth delivery.

Through gift-filled boxes, OCC hopes to let suffering children know they are loved and not forgotten. Each child receiving a shoebox—often stuffed with small toys, school supplies and toiletries—is also presented with a booklet of stories about Jesus in their own language and an invitation to attend a discipleship course with a nearby church or ministry.

This year's national collection week will be held Nov. 18-25. For more information, go to [SamaritansPurse.org](http://SamaritansPurse.org)

## Georgetown College president search narrowed to 3

Lexington—Georgetown College has announced three finalists to replace retiring President William Crouch, who steps down June 30 after 22 years.

The finalists are Cheryl Kimberling, president of Multicultural Alliance in Fort Worth, Texas; Jim Newberry, vice president at Georgetown; and Jason Rogers, vice president for administration and university counsel at Belmont University in Nashville, Tenn.

Kimberling has held administrative

positions at Texas Wesleyan University School of Law, the University of Texas at Arlington and the University of North Texas Health Science Center.

Newberry is the former mayor of Lexington who joined the Georgetown staff in 2012 as general counsel and special assistant to the president.

Rogers was special assistant to President Obama and director of the Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. (ABP)

## Four Kentucky Baptists set to serve long-term after Sandy

### Disaster Relief volunteers will be helping New York 'get back on its feet'

Louisville—Two Kentucky Baptist couples have accepted long-term volunteer positions in New York to assist residents who are still recovering from last year's Superstorm Sandy.

"These men and women have made a huge commitment to help the people of New York recover from this terrible disaster," said Coy Webb, director of Kentucky Baptist Disaster Relief. "They are some of our best leaders and I know they will do an outstanding job."

Bill and Donna Johnson of Grayson have agreed to serve for two years as rebuild coordinators for the New York post-Sandy response. They will work with other disaster relief volunteers from across the country to help residents repair or completely rebuild their homes.

Ron and Greta Wilson of Bardstown have volunteered to serve one year as warehouse coordinators for the New York rebuilding effort. They will arrange housing, meals and provide other logistical support for volunteers as they come to serve in the rebuild effort.

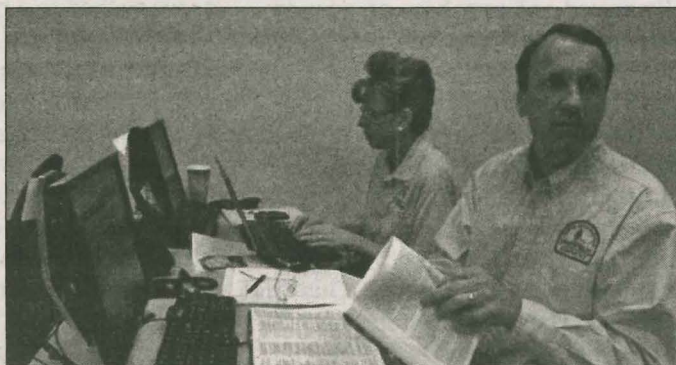
The Johnsons are members of Liberty Baptist Church in Ashland. The Wilsons are members of Parkway Baptist Church in Bardstown.

Webb said Southern Baptist Disaster Relief estimates hundreds of homes need major repairs or a completely new structure before residents can move back in. Thousands of homes were damaged or affected by the "super-storm" last fall.

"It's very difficult for us, as Kentuckians, to fathom how great the need for help is because the population density is so different from even our most-urban areas here at home," Webb said. "There will be a lot of work for a lot of volunteers for a

**"It's very difficult for us, as Kentuckians, to fathom how great the need for help is because ... (it's) so different from ... here at home."**

Coy Webb



Four Kentucky Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers, Bill Johnson (above) and his wife, Donna, and Ron and Greta Wilson (at left), have accepted long-term missions assignments to help with the rebuilding of New York after Hurricane Sandy. (Photos provided by Coy Webb/KBC Disaster Relief)

long time before New York is back on its feet."

Further information and volunteer registration is available at [www.namb.net/sandy](http://www.namb.net/sandy).

In other Kentucky Baptist Disaster Relief news:

Residents of West Liberty continue to need assistance in the ongoing recovery efforts from last year's tornadoes. For

details, or to volunteer, contact Steve Howard by email at [svhoward@mrtc.com](mailto:svhoward@mrtc.com)

or by phone at (606) 496-8756.

Southern Baptist Disaster Relief is monitoring flooding in the Midwest and Kentucky Baptists may be called upon to assist, Webb said.

"Right now we have no alerts or call-outs, but we encourage our trained volunteers to stay close to Facebook and email because that could change quickly," he said.

For information on how to become a Kentucky Baptist Disaster Relief volunteer, visit [www.kybaptist.org/dr](http://www.kybaptist.org/dr) or follow the ministry on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/kentuckydr](http://www.facebook.com/kentuckydr). (KBC)

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Ethicist: Drop the 'i-word'

Robert Parham, executive director of the Baptist Center for Ethics, said it's time for churches to stop using the word "illegal" when talking about immigration.

More than two years ago the United Methodist Church launched a "Drop the I-Word" national campaign calling for the elimination of the word "illegal" in such discussions.

Recently, the Associated Press dropped the term "illegal immigrant" from its stylebook used by media across the country. The AP now tells users that "illegal" cannot describe a person but only an action, such as living in the country illegally.

Amid all the talk during the last year about comprehensive immigration reform, Parham noted that politicians on both sides of the aisle continue to use the phrase "illegal immigrant."

Parham said churches have "a different duty, a moral role, on the immigration front."

### Chief sorry for city's racist past

Montgomery, Ala., Police Chief Kevin Murphy apologized to U.S. Rep. John Lewis during a March 2 speech on behalf of the city's police department, which stood down while Lewis and other Freedom Riders were beaten by a mob at the local Greyhound station May 20, 1961. After apologizing, Murphy took off his badge and presented it to Lewis, moving the congressman to tears.

Lewis was beaten several times as he pursued civil rights. He was hit in the head with a wooden crate during the Montgomery skirmish, and Alabama State Troopers beat him on "Bloody Sunday" in Selma on March 7, 1965. He was arrested and jailed more than 40 times in America and four times in South Africa.

## Campbellsville

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"The commitment to Christ-centered higher education, in the great tradition of our Baptist heritage, has never been stronger ...," they insisted.

Reports on social media—swirling around a New Testament and Greek professor who allegedly was told his contract would not be renewed because of his conservative beliefs—have drawn the scrutiny of key Kentucky Baptist Convention leaders.

In an April 20 blog, KBC Executive Director Paul Chitwood announced that a group of "judicious and respected" KBC leaders was being formed to engage representatives of the university in an "open and honest dialogue." Eight Kentucky Baptists have been chosen to meet with Campbellsville's president, Michael Carter, and five others.

Chitwood has emphasized that the group's purpose is not to delve into "inherently private personnel matters," but he said claims by current and former students that some professors there

reject biblical authority and others affirm evolution are "difficult for many Kentucky Baptists to swallow."

The full text of the statement received April 22 from Campbellsville University follows:

"Needless to say, we are perplexed by the unfounded charges that have been thrown at Campbellsville University. We are saddened by the level of rhetoric, political labeling, and name calling that has appeared in the blogs and internet-based venues. We have chosen to not engage in such tactics and will continue to rise above such rhetoric and labeling that are not in keeping with the spirit of our Christian faith.

"We cannot comment on personnel decisions other than to point out that no one has been fired, and the professor was told he would have an additional one year to teach. Such decisions are difficult and never made lightly.

"Campbellsville University has not changed and has not wavered in our strong and historic commitment to the Kentucky Baptist family. We have never worked harder to connect with the churches and leaders of our convention;

we have never worked harder to prepare Christian servant leaders who will become world changers for Christ—even with the ongoing reduction of Cooperative Program funding; and we strongly disagree with those who choose to engage in political rhetoric and use of labels.

"The commitment to Christ-centered higher education, in the great tradition of our Baptist heritage, has never been stronger as evidenced by our 'Vision 2025' blueprint for the future—which very clearly states CU's commitment to remain centered in Christ and based in the Baptist tradition.

"Campbellsville University has more than 400 employees, more than 3,300 students (spring 2013), and more than 10,000 alumni around the globe. Our budget is more than \$53 million for 2012-2013, we are providing Kentucky Baptist students more than \$7 million in institutional financial aid as part of nearly \$45 million total from various sources of financial aid, and CU is a comprehensive, Christ-centered university offering more than 80 academic options for our students.

"CU's accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, as well as the respective unit accreditation, requires that certain topics and issues be explored in the classroom. Our goal for all of our students is that they will come to know Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord and they will be world changers and servant leaders for Christ in all fields of endeavor.

"We ask that Kentucky Baptists take a look at the end of year report that we have recently distributed ([www.campbellsville.edu/04222013carter](http://www.campbellsville.edu/04222013carter)). The year of 2012-2013 has been one of the best in the 107 year history with a record enrollment, record number of graduations, a number of professions of faith among our students, mission trips around the world, and numerous examples of Christian servant leadership among our students, faculty, staff, and coaches.

"Finally, CU is very appreciative of the support we have received from Kentucky Baptists through the years. Our commitment is very clear to the 'whosoever will gospel' (John 3:16), Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20), and Great Commandment (Matthew 22:37-38). (WR)

## Bless the undershepherds

The Bible says, "Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life" (1 Samuel 7:15). While the phrase "all days of his life" may not seem terribly significant, I contend it is remarkably significant. Staying

### Together We are the KBC



Paul Chitwood

committed and faithful in ministry, over the long haul, can be incredibly challenging.

One study estimates that the number of ministers who resign their ministry position each month hovers around 1,500. Another survey reveals more than half of seminary graduates have left the ministry within five

years of graduation and less than 20 percent of those who begin serving as pastors will continue in that role until retirement. The reasons for such high attrition rates in vocational ministry are many but, regardless of those reasons, the numbers are startling.

A New York Times article summarized the plight of many in pastoral ministry: "Members of the clergy now suffer from obesity, hypertension and depression at rates higher than most Americans. In the last decade, their use of antidepressants has risen, while their life expectancy has fallen."

Every Sunday I have the privilege of preaching in a different church in Kentucky. The pastor is usually present. While a few minutes of interaction before worship and casual discussion over lunch afterward does not provide the opportunity to see deeply into any man's heart, what I have seen gives me a growing love and appreciation for those who serve as undershepherds of the Good Shepherd.

I see men who love people and have a God-given desire to serve others. I see men who love the Lord and want desperately to please Him with their lives. I see men of conviction, who would be willing to lose all of their worldly possessions before they would stop "speaking about what they have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20). I see men who eagerly proclaim the gospel with the confidence that God will use even their stutterings to bring the lost to Himself.

I also see men who carry heavy burdens. They carry the grief of those who grieve. They carry the pain of those who hurt.

They carry the brokenness of children whose parents are divorcing, the confusion and sorrow of parents who must bury a child, the emotional devastation of a man whose wife has been unfaithful, the fear of a young mother diagnosed with cancer, the regret of a man who looks back on the wasted years of his youth, and the concern of a grandmother for her lost granddaughter.

Yes, they cast their cares upon the Lord (1 Peter 5:7), but they do not have the privilege of turning off their love and concern for His sheep when they say "Amen" and close their eyes hoping for sleep.

God, thank you for our pastors. Bless them. Use them. Protect them. Reward them.

Paul Chitwood is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

## Social media and the Campbellsville flap

You have probably seen the insurance commercial in which a man is using a "pocket agent" app to diagram an accident. A young woman expresses her surprise that the insurance company has an app. She had heard otherwise.

"Where did you hear that?" the man asks.

"The Internet," she replies.

"And you believed it?" he asks.

"Yea, they can't put anything on the Internet that isn't true," she explains.

"Where'd you hear that?" he asks.

"The Internet," she answers.

Then her date, whom she met on the Internet, arrives. "He's a French model," she boasts. The punch line is his "bonjour"—in an obvious American accent.

The commercial may have a good deal to say to Kentucky Baptists regarding the recent Campbellsville flap. For the most part, the hubbub seems to be social-media driven. And, from the emails, blogs and tweets that I have seen, much of it appears to be propagated by people with strong ties to Southern Seminary who know the professor whose contract was not renewed. As such—and I think they would agree—they are naturally biased and may have an agenda: to defend a friend or colleague who, from their perspective, was treated unfairly.

Is this to say that their accusations regarding Campbellsville's faculty are not credible? No, they could be—but Campbellsville officials strongly disagree. We must recognize that for now it is only opinion, someone's perspective, and not established fact.

KBC Executive Director Paul Chitwood wisely counsels us to exercise prudence and not rush to judgment. Quoting Proverbs 18:17, he cautions us: "The one who states his case first seems right, until the other comes and examines him." There could be more to the story—additional details, new information, other considerations—to which we are not privy.

Chitwood has formed a group of Kentucky Baptists to check out the accusations made by former students concerning other faculty members. We cannot simply discount and dismiss the accusations. Because Campbellsville

receives support through our missions offerings, Kentucky Baptists deserve an answer, an explanation. And, that is where we are—no further—at this juncture.

Still, all of this points out a key difference between responsible news reporting by respected journalists and relying on social media commentary. With the Boston Marathon bombing, early tweets, web posts and emails made everyone aware very quickly that something terrible happened, and they circulated photos and information about potential suspects to the public. However, in the days since, tweets and Facebook posts have sometimes been mixed with misinformation, rumor, speculation and opinion—through which we must carefully sift to arrive at the truth.

### After Thought

By Todd Deaton



Here is a personal illustration: This week, our dog became very sick after surgery. We turned to the Internet for quick information, rather than our vet. We became alarmed by dismal recovery statistics, horrifying complications, sad tales. Happily, our dog appears to be recovering. While our Internet search did make us aware of some potential negative outcomes, it also caused undue anguish as we rushed to a misinformed self-diagnosis.

Social media, while helpful in disseminating news rapidly, can also spread gossip and innuendo. Get the facts! A pastor recently told me that while he may skim an article or two, he doesn't read the newspaper anymore. Where does he get his news? The Internet, he replied. Now, if it is from a reputable and responsible news source, great! Although social media may provide perspective on how others feel about what is happening, the Campbellsville flap is a good illustration of why depending on the Internet alone for information may not be wise.

So, in reading and composing tweets, blogs and emails, keep in mind James' warning that it only takes a small spark to ignite a forest fire. Before pressing send or retweet, consider his counsel: "... (N)o man can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men who are made in God's likeness. Out of the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things should not be this way."

## Not surprised

As a former Campbellsville University student, I am not surprised at the accusations being levied against the school. Kentucky Baptists expect professors from their universities to teach according to the doctrines professed in their churches. When they give their funds to the Cooperative Program or send their children to these institutions, they assume professors will teach the essentials of the Christian faith.

Some professors at CU, however, teach in opposition to doctrines held by the churches of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Some theology professors deny article I of the Baptist Faith and Message, which states that "all Scripture is totally true and trustworthy" by denying aspects of the biblical narrative. In one class required for all theology students, the professor asks students to

close their eyes while writing down what God is saying to them. In the science department, professors are committed to evolutionary theory.

I am calling for action on the part of CU, the KBC, and its churches.

To CU: Hold your professors accountable to the Christian principles that Kentucky Baptists expect you to teach. By accepting money from the KBC, you agree to teach in harmony with the BFM. If you do not hold professors accountable for what they teach, then stop accepting KBC funding. You are not serving churches by propagating worldviews counter to the Christian faith.

To the KBC: You must hold administrators who are taking Kentucky Baptist money accountable for the teaching which stems from these institutions. You do not serve Kentucky Baptist churches by allowing their children to sit under heterodox teachers.

To Kentucky Baptists: You do not answer to the universities and colleges or to the KBC. You answer to the Lord Jesus Christ, who bought you at the high price of his own blood.

I was raised in a Kentucky Baptist church, graduated from CU, and am attending a Southern Baptist seminary. I care for the future of Kentucky Baptists because I am one. Friends, stand against the fallacious teaching at such institutions as Campbellsville. The health of our churches and doctrine depends on it.

Daniel Motley  
Scottsville

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## WESTERN Recorder

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### Shine Like Stars \* Philippians 2:15

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

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

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

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## Kingdom prayer perspectives from John 17

By Chris Schofield

While preparing to speak at a conference, I went into a small Sunday School classroom to pray. Sitting there in meditation, I noticed numerous prayer requests listed on a white board. I thought it was interesting that all the prayer requests on the board were focused on upcoming health tests and various physical needs in people's lives. In fact, not one was focused on spiritual issues or the Father and His work in these peoples' lives.

We spend much of our time praying toward temporal issues that are focused on our circumstances and desires. But if North America is to be penetrated with the gospel, our prayers must focus on our Father and His purposes and desires. In His High Priestly prayer during the last week of Jesus' earthly ministry, Jesus shows us how to pray toward the Father (John 17). Despite the intense circumstances of what is historically called "passion week," His prayer was focused on the Father and the fulfillment of His mission.

### Father-focused

The God-centeredness of Jesus' prayer is evident in the opening word of the prayer as He addresses God as "Father." He repeats this endearing term six times in this poignant prayer—verses 1, 5, 11, 21, 24, and 25—addressing God as "Holy Father" and "Righteous Father" in two of those instances. This term represents intimacy and relationship. Jesus teaches believers that prayer is relational and is not just something we do, like a ritual or task. As Christians, we are not praying to

some impersonal deity in the heavens. He is our Father and our access to come boldly into His presence cost Him greatly (see Hebrews 10:19-20).

### Mission-driven

The phrase "the hour has come," points to Jesus' awareness of the significant times that were near. He was sensitive to the Father's hour and was praying with a view toward what the Father was accomplishing in His world. What hour of the Father's is it today in your life, your family, your city, your nation, your world? How is the Father's hour impacting the way you pray? Are you praying toward the Father's hour?

**"We spend much of our time praying toward temporal issues ... focused on our circumstances and desires."**

### Christ-exalting

Jesus' prayer "Glorify Your Son, that the Son may glorify You" demonstrates selfless praying. His desire was that all would recognize who the Father was through the glory that would be revealed through the Son's righteous act of obedience. This act of obedience is linked to the three "lifted up" sayings in John's Gospel—John 3:14, John 8:28 and John 12:32. The Father is glorified as the Son is lifted up on the cross, out of the grave, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, where He ever lives to make intercession for those who believe (see Hebrews 7:25). The Father is thus made known (glorified) as Jesus obeyed and was lifted up. Surrendering to the cross was the first step toward the completion of the work of the Christ that continues beyond that historical event.

### Kingdom-building

As Jesus is glorified, the lost world is redeemed and the Father is made known as His followers tell the story of the Christ down through the ages (see John 17:20). Warren Wiersbe correctly comments, "We glorify our Father in heaven by being what Jesus told us to be: salt in a decaying world and light in a dark world (Matthew 5:13-16)." God-centered praying produces passionate and effective witnesses. It did then and it will now! How then shall we pray? (BP)

Chris Schofield is director of the office of prayer for evangelization and spiritual awakening with the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.

## Using real estate in charitable giving

By Laurie Valentine

If you own a home or other real estate that you no longer want to live in or manage, and you are thinking about making a charitable gift to your church and/or other Baptist cause(s), consider using that real estate to accomplish your charitable giving objectives.

An outright gift of real estate that has appreciated in value can provide double benefits—an immediate income tax deduction equal to the current market value of the property gifted and avoidance of the capital gains tax that would be owed if you sold the property.

If the property's value has depreciated, a sale of the property followed by a gift of all or a portion of the sale proceeds may provide both a charitable income tax deduction and the capital loss deduction on your income tax return.

Like gifts of other types of assets, gifts of real estate do not have to be an "all or nothing" proposition.

If you are not comfortable with giving up the full value of the property, a bargain sale to the Baptist cause you wish to benefit may be the answer. In a bargain sale you agree to sell the real estate to the charity for a price which is less than its current market value. The transaction is part gift (the difference between the market value and the sale price) and part sale. You get a charitable income tax deduction equal to the gift portion of the transaction and only incur capital gains tax on a the sale portion; and the charity gets the property for a below market price.

Real estate may also be used to fund a charitable remainder trust. A CRT pays an income stream to the giver and/or others for life or a term of years, with the remainder passing to the causes you designate at the end of the trust's term.

When considering a gift of real estate, consider its marketability, current value and whether there is a mortgage. These issues may affect the way in which your gift should be made to be most beneficial to you and the causes you wish to benefit.

Laurie Valentine is trust counsel for the Kentucky Baptist Foundation.



## Blessing your graduate

By Scott Wigginton

**Q:** As our teenager graduates from high school this spring, how might we best communicate our delight as well as our hopes and dreams for her in the next stage of life?



**A:** Some of the best graduation gifts will not be available for purchase in any store. Wrapped up in the sacrificial love and attentive wisdom of parents, these costly investments are often represented

at graduation by meaningful rituals and blessings.

Several years ago our student minister, Dave Colie, challenged parents of graduating seniors to write out a blessing which was read in a special portion of our morning service at Campbellsville Baptist Church. The following is our written blessing to our daughter, Hope:

"God has given you a name that fits your spirit. As you have discovered and embraced your identity in Christ, your smiling presence has radiated the hope we have in Him. Now, knowing your true identity, may you go out in joy to discover the answers to the two most important questions left in life. As you answer the questions, "Where am I going?" and "Who will go with me?" may you find a mission and a mate and may you serve your master all the days of your life. Always keep coming back to God and the white picket fence. We love you, Hope.

*-Dad, Mom, Auburn & Caleb*

Remember that while a blessing should be spoken, if you write it out your child will be able to keep it and read it over and over. Keep in mind that there is no right or wrong way to construct your blessing. The key is that it lets your teenager know that he or she is of high value to you. Make sure to choose a special time and place to share it.

A great resource for parents who desire to think more about this idea of blessing is the Focus on the Family website. An excellent book by Gary Smalley and John Trent is entitled "The Blessing."

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

## '10 Commandments' for guest-friendly churches

By Thom Rainer

I travel a lot and spend a lot of time in different churches. Sadly, many times I do not feel welcome as a guest when I visit churches.

The Bible is replete with admonitions of hospitality and servanthood. I just wish our church members understood that the servant-like spirit should also be manifest when we gather to worship. Guests are often uncomfortable, if not intimidated, when they visit a church. We are to be gracious and sacrificial servants to them.

In response to this need for more guest-friendly church members, I have devised the 10 greatest needs, at least from my perspective. I will reticently call them "commandments" and throw in a little King James English for effect.

**1. Thou shalt pray for people in the services whom you don't recognize.** They are likely guests who feel uncomfortable and uncertain.

**2. Thou shalt smile.** Guests feel welcome when they see smiling people. (You can resume your somber expressions when you get home.)

**3. Thou shalt not sit on the ends of the rows.** Move to the middle so guests don't have to walk over you. You'll survive in your new precarious position.

**4. Thou shalt not fill up the back rows first.** Move to the front so guests don't have to walk in front of everyone if they get there late.

**5. Thou shalt have ushers to help seat the guests.** Ushers should have clearly marked badges or shirts so that the guests know who can help them.

**6. Thou shalt offer assistance to guests.** If someone looks like they don't know where to go, then they



Photo by Mike Johnson via sxc.hu/profile/mikecco

probably don't know where to go. Get out of your comfort zone and ask them if you can help.

**7. Thou shalt not gather too long in your holy huddles.** Sure, it's OK to talk to fellow members; but don't stay there so long that you are not speaking to guests.

**8. Thou shalt offer your seats to guests.** That family of four can't fit in the three vacant seats next to you. Give it a try. You might actually feel good about your efforts.

**9. Thou shalt not save seats.** I know you want to have room for all of your friends and family, but do you know how a guest feels when he or she sees the vacant seats next to you occupied by three hymnals, one Bible, two coats, and an umbrella? You might as well put a "Do Not Trespass" sign on the seats.

**10. Thou shalt greet someone you don't know.** Yes, it's risky. They may actually be members you don't know. And you may get caught in a 45-second conversation. You'll be OK; I promise. (BP)

Thom Rainer is president of LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention.

### FIRST PERSON

# FCC may drop ban of nudity, expletives on broadcast TV

By Michael Foust

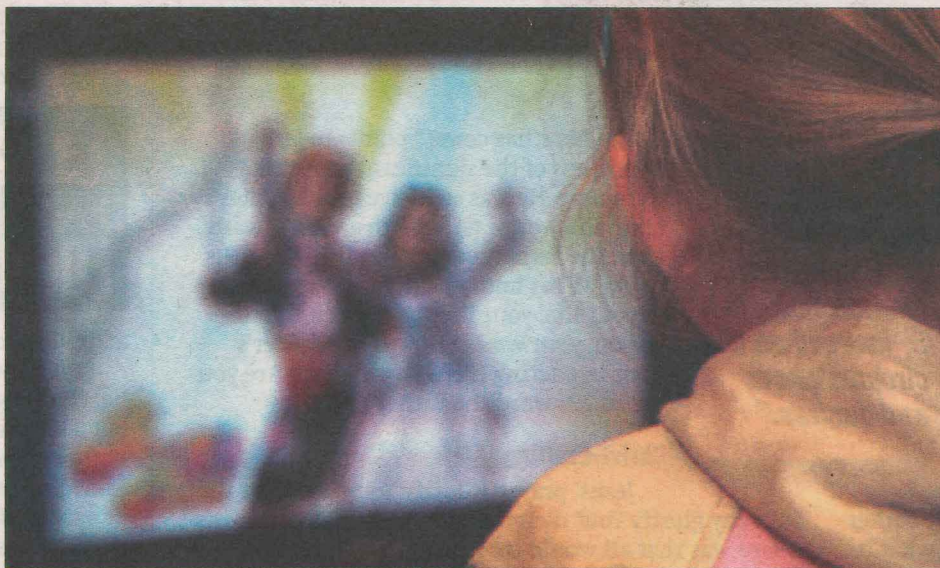
**Washington**—Nudity and expletives normally reserved for cable television would be allowed on broadcast TV under a proposal from the Federal Communications Commission.

In an announcement that received little attention, but could have a major impact on America's families, the FCC said April 1 it is considering changes to the current broadcast indecency policies that would permit "isolated expletives" and isolated "non-sexual nudity" on broadcast TV, something that currently could draw a fine.

Dan Isett, director of public policy for the Parents Television Council, said the proposal—if passed by the FCC's five commissioners—would lead to dramatic changes on TV.

"Broadcast television would look like HBO—more nudity, more language, more everything," Isett said.

In its three-page public notice April 1, the FCC said it is seeking public comment on whether the commission should treat "isolated expletives" as it did in a 1987 case—in which an expletive had to



Public comment ends today on a proposed change to nudity and expletive policies by FCC on broadcast TV. (BP)

be "deliberate" and "repetitive" to be considered a violation—or as it did in a 2004 case in which the use of an expletive, even if isolated, could draw a fine.

On nudity, the FCC asked, "Should the Commission treat isolated (non-sexual)

nudity the same as or differently than isolated expletives?"

Families have reason to be concerned. The FCC is considering the change at a time when the commission is lacking enforcement of broadcast standards,

Isett said.

The outgoing FCC chairman, Julius Genachowski, did not enforce indecency standards, Isett said. (Genachowski announced in March he was resigning.) The FCC commissioners are appointed by the president.

"It's going to be incumbent upon the president to nominate an FCC chairman that will prioritize this, that will enforce the law and will not ignore it just because they don't like the law—which essentially is what the outgoing chairman has done," Isett said.

In its April 1 public notice, the FCC said Genachowski had told the FCC's enforcement bureau to focus its "indecency enforcement resources on egregious cases" involving complaints against broadcast indecency, thus cleaning out a "backlog" of complaints. That could be a preview of what is to come.

"If the American people think that standards of decency mean something," Isett said, "that it's important to protect children at certain times of day on the airwaves that we own, then they must file a public comment, and it's really easy to do so on the FCC's website." (BP)

## Frank announced as Pastors' nominee

**Houston**—Bruce Frank, lead pastor of the Asheville-area Biltmore Baptist Church in Arden, N.C., will be nominated for president of the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference, according to an announcement by Arkansas pastor Ronnie Floyd.



Bruce Frank

Floyd, a former Pastors' Conference president, stated in an April 23 announcement: "As I have had the privilege to get to know Dr. Frank, it is obvious that his life and work are dedicated to the gospel of Jesus Christ."

"According to Outreach Magazine, under Dr. Frank's leadership the Biltmore Church has been one of America's 'Fastest Growing Churches' three of the last four years. They are a multi-campus church that has seen over 1,300 people baptized in the past three years. Additionally, they have a strong commitment to advancing the gospel globally."

"Dr. Frank is the gifted Pastor-Leader of one of the great churches in the Southern Baptist Convention," Floyd, pastor of Cross Church in Springdale, Ark., stated. "I wholeheartedly believe he and the Biltmore Church have the capacity to provide outstanding spiritual leadership to our 2014 Pastors' Conference."

The Pastors' Conference will be June 9-10 in Houston's George R. Brown Convention Center preceding the Southern Baptist Convention's June 11-12 annual meeting there.

Baltimore will be the site of next year's Pastors' Conference and SBC annual meeting.

Frank, 48, has led Biltmore Baptist Church, with campuses in Arden and Swannanoa just east of Asheville, since 2008. (BP)

## Bush library

Continued from page 1

important faith was in President Bush answering the call to service to run for office," Miniter said. "One of the things he wanted to do in his presidency was to help shape the culture in a way to lead people to engage their community. His faith helped guide him in public life to policies that were characterized as compassionate conservatism."

Located at the entry to Southern Methodist University, the 226,000-square-foot facility houses the library, museum and George W. Bush Institute. The museum features a series of biographical panels portraying the strength of family, power of faith, call to service and a campaign of character.

Bush encouraged museum planners to give the public a picture into key decisions during his two terms, including the War on Terror, the response to Hurricane Katrina, the surge in military troops in Iraq and management of the financial crisis, former first lady Laura Bush said during an April 24 news conference.

"One of the things George really wanted was for people to realize and know how many decisions come to the desk of the president," she said. "Nearly every world problem comes to the desk of the president of the United States."

She pointed to an interactive "decision points theater," allowing visitors to consider options based on facts and advice offered.

"The idea was to show people what it's like to have to make decisions quickly, with the press hounding you on when you're going to decide and what you're going to do," she said, "information given from every source, from his own advisors and many other sources as well."

She spoke from the Texas Rose Garden enveloped within a 15-acre urban park outside the museum, which she said provides "a chance to refresh" after



President George W. Bush flashes a "thumbs up" to someone in the crowd at the opening of the George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum in Dallas. In attendance were all five living U.S. presidents and their wives—the honoree and his wife Laura, President and Mrs. Obama, George H.W. and Barbara Bush, Bill and Hillary Clinton and Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter. (Photo by Charlene Ensley/Southern Baptist TEXAN.)

walking through the Sept. 11th portion of the museum.

As the chronology is told, the upsetting events of 9/11 came on the heels of a state dinner with the president of Mexico. The bright red ball gown the first lady wore to the dinner is overshadowed by a towering beam from the ruins at Ground Zero in New York City.

The exhibit area highlights priorities Bush intended to be the hallmarks of his presidency, including education reform, tax relief, an enhanced relationship with Mexico and care for AIDS victims around the world.

The library's 43,000 artifacts include a full-sized Oval office, the bullhorn President Bush used to encourage first responders working in the rubble of the Twin Towers on Sept. 14, 2001, and a custom-designed dress worn by the first lady for a state dinner honoring Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom.

Permanent exhibits in the entry feature just a few of the gifts to the president from every continent, including such items as a steel dog bowl with

paw-shaped feet, an eagle sculpture and an artillery shell casing commemorating a successful military operation.

Hands-on displays are geared to every age, with a kid-friendly finale featuring the Bush family dogs, Scottish Terriers Barney and Miss Beasley, as well as Millie, Barbara and George H.W. Bush's English Springer Spaniel.

President Bush's conviction that "each individual is equal and equally important" is communicated in displays honoring volunteerism and neighborly concern.

"Laura and I share the same basic values. We share a West Texas upbringing that taught us that each individual is equal and equally important, but also that each individual has a responsibility to be a good neighbor and a good citizen," he said.

One panel quoted Bush's words from 2008: "We followed a principle rooted both in our Constitution and the best traditions of our nation. Government should never fund the teaching of faith, but it should support the good works of the faithful." (Southern Baptist TEXAN/BP)

## Texas church, after the blast, worships

By John Hall

**West, Texas**—As pastor John Crowder stepped onto the makeshift altar in a field, the sun peeked through the overcast morning in West, Texas.

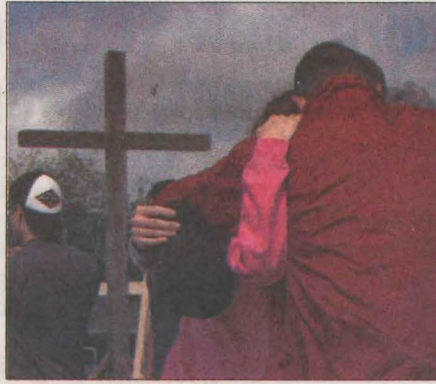
Words of hope pierced through the cool morning air as members of First Baptist Church gathered for their first worship service since an April 17 explosion at a local fertilizer plant.

Preaching from Psalm 46, Crowder emphasized that God is the refuge for West's citizens. In the midst of losing friends and homes, the townspeople will continue to suffer, the pastor confessed as he struggled at times to hold back his emotions.

"We have more questions than answers," Crowder said. "As scary as this has been, we don't have to be afraid. ... When you reach the point where you are on your knees crying for help, you have just reached the point of your greatest strength."

God already is bringing a variety of support for the community, Crowder noted. Texas Baptists' Disaster Recovery, of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, already has been providing assistance for Crowder, his family and the congregation and has committed to help for the long-term.

Church architecture staff from the BGCT have examined First Baptist's facilities. The convention currently has a list online ([www.texasbaptists.org](http://www.texasbaptists.org))



Mothers and fathers of First Baptist Church of West, Texas, put their arms around their children after the church's first worship service since the April 17 fertilizer plant explosion. (Photo by John Hall/Texas Baptists Communications)

disaster) of drop-off locations for supplies for West, especially for school-children.

Numerous Texas Baptist Men volunteers were present during the worship service. The organization has a laundry and a shower unit in the area, and a childcare unit is in operation. More than 1,500 boxes have been distributed to residents for salvaging their belongings as they return to see their damaged homes for the first time. Chaplains also are on location.

The pain West residents are feeling is deep and difficult, Crowder said. Nothing can change what happened. Only God can carry the community through this situation. "What happened here on Wednesday is awful. But God is bigger than this." (BP)

John Hall is news director for the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

## Scouts propose allowing youth identifying as gay to join

By Michael Foust

**Irving, Texas**—Members at the Boy Scouts national convention in May will consider a proposal that would leave in place the prohibition on homosexual Scout leaders, but would allow youth who identify as gay to join, it was announced April 19.

The proposed policy, unanimously approved by the Boy Scouts executive committee, differs significantly from a proposal that was discussed in February that would have allowed openly gay leaders and youth to join. That policy would have made it a "local option," whereby each sponsoring organization would decide the policy. Under the new proposal, there is a national standard and no local option.

"No youth may be denied membership in the Boy Scouts of America on the basis of sexual orientation or preference alone," the proposed resolution states in part.

The resolution criticizes sexual activity by youth, saying Scouting "is a youth program, and any sexual conduct, whether homosexual or heterosexual, by youth of Scouting age is contrary to the virtues of Scouting." Two paragraphs later it further says that "youth are still developing, learning about themselves and who they are, developing their sense of right and wrong, and understanding their duty to God to live a moral life."

Also on April 19, the Boy Scouts released the results of a series of surveys it conducted. Among the findings:

- 61 percent of adult Scout members favor the current policy.
- 61 percent of Boy Scout parents support the current policy.
- 51 percent of major donors support the current policy, but a majority of Fortune 500 companies want to see the policy changed.

The Boy Scouts also said that parents, teens and the Scouting community "do not favor" a local option as proposed in February. (BP)

### NEWS BRIEF

#### States OK gay marriage

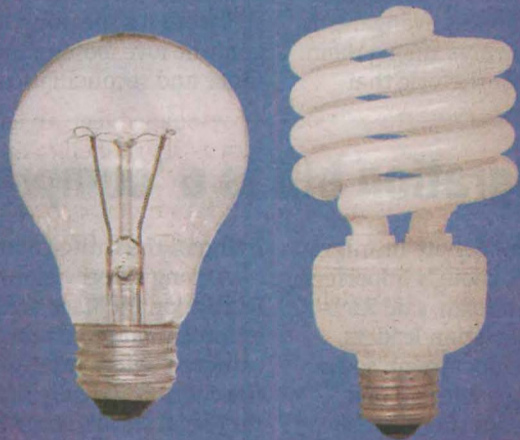
Rhode Island's Senate passed a bill April 24 that would legalize gay marriage by a vote of 26-12. The House must pass it again. Gov. Lincoln Chafee, an Independent, has said he would sign it.

The Delaware House passed a gay marriage bill April 23, by a vote of 23-18, sending it to the state Senate. Democratic Gov. Jack Markell has said he would sign it.

Three other states—Illinois, Nevada and Minnesota—also are considering legalizing gay marriage.

## CONTAGIOUS CHURCHES & LEADERS

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## Southern announces new school

By Aaron Cline Hanbury

**Louisville**—Southern Baptist Theological Seminary announced the formation of a new school, named new academic leadership and approved an expanded budget at the spring meeting of its board of trustees April 16.

### New school

In August the seminary will launch a new school: the Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism and Ministry. The school, which combines the current Billy Graham School of Missions and Evangelism established in 1994 and the School of Church Ministries established in 2009, will serve students of both international and domestic missions, church planting, worship leadership and both local church and educational leadership.

"This new school will bring together a comprehensive ministry vision and Great Commission passion," said Albert Mohler Jr., the seminary's president.

Mohler noted the seminary will retain all faculty in the current Graham School and School of Church Ministries and will retain and even expand the entire curriculum. The seminary plans to name the dean of the new Graham School in coming months.

### New academic leadership

With Russell Moore's election to the SBC Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, Mohler has named Randy Stinson as senior vice president for academic administration and Gregory Wills as dean of the School of Theology. Moore,

the dean of the School of Theology, will assume his duties at ERLC June 1.

Mohler said separating the roles of academic administration and dean is now necessary due, in large part, to increased enrollment.

Stinson became the founding dean of the School of Church Ministries at its inception in 2009. He is also the former executive director and current senior fellow for the Council on Biblical Manhood and Womanhood.

Wills becomes the 10th dean of the seminary's oldest and central school since its formation in 1954. Wills joined the faculty of Southern Seminary in 1997 after serving as the seminary's first full-time archivist starting in 1994. He is now a professor of church history, an associate dean in the School of Theology, vice president for research and assessment and director of the Center for the Study of the SBC.

### Expanded budget

Trustees voted to approve a budget for the 2013-14 academic year that represents a 3.3 percent increase from 2012-13.

"We are thankful for God's continued blessing on Southern Seminary in terms of enrollment, the support of our donors and most importantly the support of Southern Baptists through the Cooperative Program," Mohler said.

Trustees approved the promotion of both Adam Greenway and Heath Lambert to associate professorships, and Robert L. Plummer to a full professorship. (SBTS)

## Making a difference

### Leading students to care for other children around the world

The story isn't new, but it does not have to be. All it has to be is true in its essential message:

An old man had a habit of early morning walks on the beach. One day after a storm, he saw a human figure in the distance moving like a dancer. As he came closer he saw that it was a young woman and she was not dancing, but was reaching down to the sand, picking up a starfish and very gently throwing them into the ocean.

"Why are you throwing starfish into the ocean?" he asked.

"The sun is up and the tide is going out. If I do not throw them in they will die."

"But young lady, do you not realize that there are miles and miles of beach and starfish all along it? You cannot possibly make a difference."

The young woman listened politely, paused and then bent down, picked up another starfish and threw it into the sea, past the breaking waves, saying, "It made a difference for that one."

The old man looked at the young woman inquisitively and thought about what she had done. Inspired, he joined her in throwing starfish back into the sea. Soon others joined, and all the starfish were saved.

Making a temporal and eternal difference in the lives of children is what OBI is all about. There will always be more children than we can personally touch who need to hear about and see the love of Christ. Who better to enlist for the ministry of reaching out to children in need than those teenagers who themselves are being touched by Christ

and thereby being prepared to be world-changers in the future?

With that thought in mind, we recently welcomed David Mupenda, a citizen of the Democratic Republic of Congo who works with the ministry of International Christian Bible Reading under the auspices of Commission to the Nations, to share about his work in DRC, Rwanda and Burundi with orphans who lost their parents through AIDS, civil war or genocide. After learning about the scope of the need, our Baptist Campus Ministry students sponsored a silent dessert auction to raise funds among our students and ministry team members to assist with

the needs of the 108 orphans to whom Mupenda is currently ministering in Burundi. In one hectic hour, we were able to collect \$950—a generous sum considering that most of our students receive less than \$3 personal spending money each day.

To prepare our students to make an ongoing difference in the world, we will need to do something more than just have a silent auction from time to time. We plan to encourage students to "adopt" needy children around the world and ask them to donate \$1 of their school fees each month to sponsor a Christian aid organizations. We also will be leading the students to write the letters, send gifts, and communicate with the children on a regular basis. If they can learn to care for others in need, who knows what the Lord will do in their own lives, too!

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

### This is Oneida



Paul Davidson

## Saying goodbye

### Week of festivities provide time with graduates, families

Clear Creek's graduation week is filled with many activities that give our faculty and staff an opportunity to spend time with, and say goodbye to, our graduating seniors and their families.

This is really a wonderful time of the year for us as we get to see the culmination of many years of hard work for this group of students and their families. It also is a time when we can encourage them as they transition to a new season of ministry.

Each day of graduation week has scheduled activities for the seniors and their families that lead up to our graduation ceremony, which will be held May 10 at Binghamtown Baptist Church in Middlesboro at 6:30 p.m. This year, we are excited to have Fred Luter, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, as our graduation speaker.

Graduation week is both a happy and sad time for all of us who have grown to love these students and their families. We are excited about a new season of ministry for our graduates, but also a little sad as we will miss their presence on our campus, which we have grown

accustomed to over the years. We look forward to hearing how God will use these graduates through the years ahead.

Most of our graduates are already serving in a local church as pastor or staff member. Some are already serving on a mission field, while others will continue with their graduate studies for more training. We have a few who are still seeking the Lord's direction for a place of service. Please pray for these graduates as they seek the Lord's leadership.

As I think about the end of this particular season of ministry for these Clear Creek graduates, I want to say thank you, Kentucky Baptists. Your support for Clear Creek Baptist Bible College through your Cooperative Program giving is an investment you have made in all of these graduates for the Kingdom of Christ. We could not do what we do without you. Your Cooperative Program support enables us to fulfill our mission and will enable these graduates to impact the kingdom all over the world.

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

### Clear Creek Chronicle



Donnie Fox

## Moore, new ERLC leader, addresses environment, immigration issues

By Erin Roach

**Nashville, Tenn.**—Russell Moore, president-elect of the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, addressed immigration, the environment and other issues in a series of short videos with Baptist21.

Jonathan Akin, who interviewed Moore, founded B21 along with several other younger Southern Baptists to address issues relevant to Southern Baptists in the 21st century.

Moore talks about how Southern Baptists should engage the culture. That is done first, he said, by genuinely loving the people with whom they disagree.

"We believe that God loves them. We believe that Jesus died for them. That means that we are going to have a sense ... of affection for the people who are around us," Moore, who officially begins his duties June 1, said.

As an example of engaging the culture, Moore spoke of how Southern Baptists should address the debate over same-sex marriage. It's a debate, he said, where "we don't simply step back and say, 'That's somebody else's discussion. We're not going to be involved in that.'"

While entering the debate, though, Southern Baptists must remember that the people they're arguing against are no more evil than "any of us as sinners," he said. "So I think we speak with kindness, but we speak with very clear conviction because marriage and family is so critically important."

On immigration, Moore said most people agree more than they think they do on the issue. Very few people, he said, are for completely open borders, and very few people believe 11 million illegal immigrants should be deported.

"I'm for comprehensive immigration reform that would include a path to legal status, including a path to citizenship for those among us who are willing to play by the rules and come out of the shadows and move forward," Moore said.

More important than a policy understanding, he said, is the way evangelicals must think of the sojourners among them.

"The kind of nativist rhetoric that

often will happen toward immigrant communities reminds me very much of what we see happening in the abortion debate where it's easy for those who support abortion rights to do so once they depersonalize the child," Moore said.

Rather, Southern Baptists must lead in proclaiming that "the stranger among us fits exactly into that category that Jesus speaks of as the least of these," Moore said.

Akin asked Moore how Southern Baptists should think about environmental protection.

In the Book of Genesis, God assigned humans as stewards of the creation, Moore said, which is not the same as a dominion that destroys the environment with no consequences.

Christians will disagree about the best way to move forward, he said, but an extended dialogue is needed about what it means to be stewards of the earth.

On another topic—the younger generation's thoughts on abortion—Moore noted there are a lot of young adults who are exhausted by the abortion debate and want to move on and talk about other issues without addressing abortion.

"Abortion must be centrally before us because it deals with the number one responsibility of any society, and that is to maintain and to protect the right to life for the most vulnerable among us," Moore said in a B21 video.

Once a person realizes that all unborn children are created in the image of God and therefore worthy of life, "that changes the way that you see an entire range of issues from human trafficking to poverty to immigration to pornography to a list of other things," he said.

As he leads Southern Baptists to engage all of these issues, Moore has said he hopes his dialogue with the broader world will be characterized by "convictional kindness." In a B21 video, he explained that such kindness is not passivity but it's speaking to people with a genuine love, hoping they come to repentance and reconciliation. (BP)

## Land: Immigration bill is a 'compromise'

**Washington**—The new Senate immigration bill marks a solid, though imperfect, start to immigration reform, said Richard Land and other Christian leaders.

"It is a compromise document, so no one is going to be happy with all of it," Land, president of the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, said. He was especially dissatisfied with the low levels of guest workers allowed.

The long-awaited legislation—a product of about three months of negotiations—arrived in the Senate April 17 as the Border Security, Economic Opportunity and Immigration Modernization Act, S. 744.

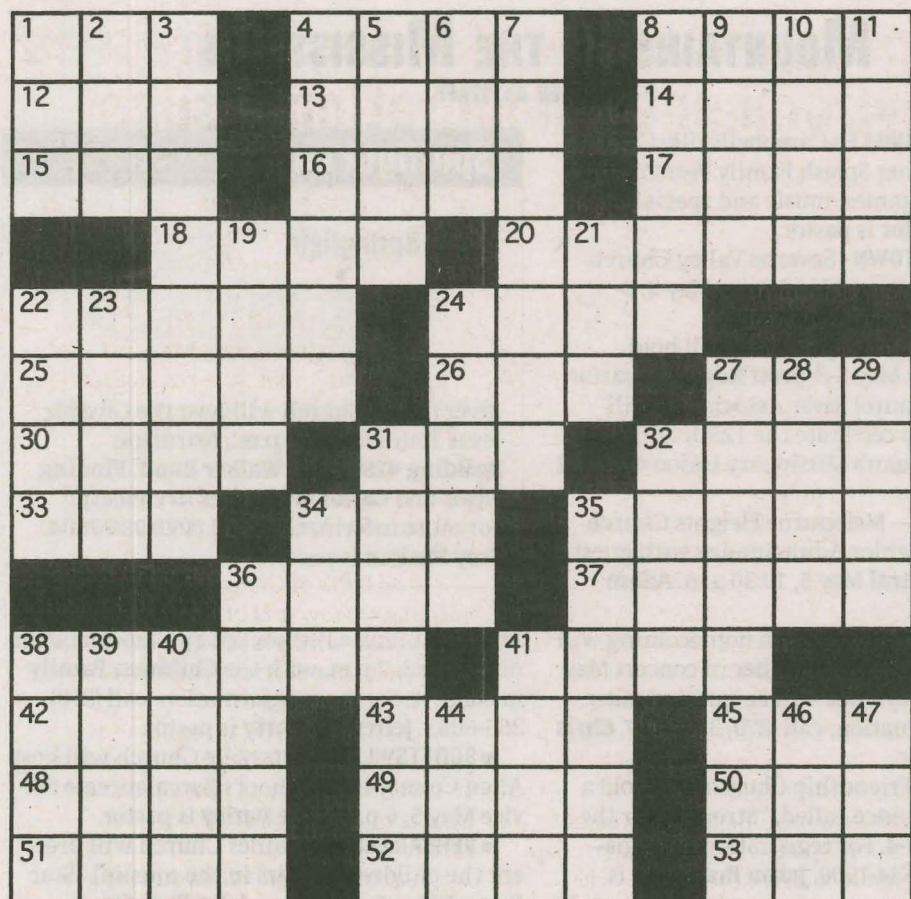
The bill's introduction marks the first serious congressional attempt since 2007 to repair what seemingly everyone acknowledges is a broken immigration system.

The lack of enforcement of the current system has resulted in an estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants

living in the United States illegally.

Among its provisions, the 844-page legislation includes border and other enforcement requirements that must be achieved before immigrants who are in the country illegally may gain temporary legal status, according to Senate supporters. The mandates include a universal employment verification system, as well as border security and fence plans and establishment of a commission to recommend when the security prerequisites are met.

When the border security plans are in place, undocumented immigrants can seek temporary status. To achieve such provisional status under the bill, each immigrant must, among other requirements, pass a background check, pay taxes and \$2,000 in fines, and wait at least 10 years behind legal immigrants who applied before him. He will receive no federal benefits during this provisional period. (BP)



#159

**Bible Crosswords**

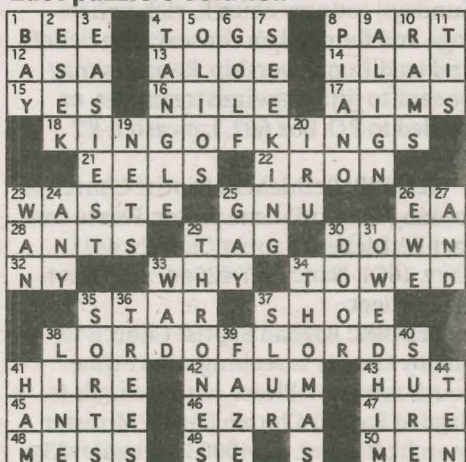
By Evelyn Boyington

**Across**

- 1 Deface
- 4 A seal or official stamp
- 8 Like a black pearl
- 12 Poetic before
- 13 Aesop's foolish fellow
- 14 Great Lake
- 15 Masculine nickname
- 16 Son of Jerahmeel (1 Chronicles 2:25)
- 17 Darius the \_\_\_\_\_, one-time ruler of Babylon
- 18 Far \_\_\_\_\_
- 20 Bane of insomniacs (pl.)
- 22 Grammar-school essay
- 24 Liquid measure
- 25 "They may teach the young \_\_\_\_\_ to be sober" (Titus 2:4)
- 26 Sheltered side
- 27 FBI agent, familiarly
- 30 Symbolic sign
- 31 Owns
- 32 Harsh breathing
- 33 Meditation by preacher (abbr.)
- 34 "My house shall be called the house of prayer; but ye have made it a \_\_\_\_\_ of thieves" (Matthew 21:13)
- 35 "Thou shalt not bear \_\_\_\_\_ witness" (Exodus 20:16)
- 36 Trench surrounding fortified place
- 37 "So I swear in my wrath, They shall not \_\_\_\_\_ into my rest" (Hebrews 3:11)
- 38 "Except ye \_\_\_\_\_, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3)
- 41 Make a judgment
- 42 "The fire shall \_\_\_\_\_ be burning upon the altar" (Leviticus 6:13)
- 43 "Father, save me from this \_\_\_\_\_" (John 12:27)
- 45 River or Sea
- 48 Close by
- 49 Ultimatum word
- 50 Blunder
- 51 "I beseech thee, look upon my son: for he is mine \_\_\_\_\_ child" (Luke 9:38)
- 52 "For ye have \_\_\_\_\_ of patience" (Hebrews 10:36)
- 53 Actress Laraine

- 6 Mine find
- 7 Common cents
- 8 Forgive or pardon
- 9 Greek god of war
- 10 Let it \_\_\_\_\_
- 11 Shoe sizes
- 19 "For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him \_\_\_\_\_" (2 Corinthians 1:20)
- 21 "One thousand shall flee at the rebuke of \_\_\_\_\_" (Isaiah 30:17)
- 22 Jesus sent His disciples out by \_\_\_\_\_ (Mark 6:7)
- 23 Base in baseball
- 24 "They shall \_\_\_\_\_ vineyards, but not drink the wine thereof" (Zephaniah 1:13)
- 27 Wavered
- 28 In addition
- 29 The \_\_\_\_\_ Slayer (J.F. Cooper novel)
- 31 "The idols of the \_\_\_\_\_ are silver and gold" (Psalm 135:15)
- 32 Throw a fit
- 34 Puzo's Corleone
- 35 "The Lord ... is to be \_\_\_\_\_ above all gods" (1 Chronicles 16:25)
- 36 "A \_\_\_\_\_ heart maketh a cheerful countenance" (Proverbs 15:13)
- 38 First woman to be U.S. Attorney General
- 39 "Let me be weighed in an \_\_\_\_\_ balance" (Job 31:6)
- 40 Ring out
- 41 Masquerade of sorts
- 44 Corrida cry
- 46 Age
- 47 "He turneth ... the watersprings into \_\_\_\_\_ ground" (Psalm 107:33)

**Last puzzle's solution #158**



**Down**

- 1 "They ... found the colt tied by the door ... where two ways \_\_\_\_\_" (Mark 11:4)
- 2 Linking verb
- 3 "I know that my \_\_\_\_\_ liveth" (Job 19:25)
- 4 "A good name is rather to be \_\_\_\_\_ than great riches" (Proverbs 22:1)
- 5 "Then shall the lame man leap as an \_\_\_\_\_" (Isaiah 35:6)

**Your church's foundation**

**Kentucky Baptist Foundation exists to assist Kentucky churches**

Did you know your church had a foundation? It's the Kentucky Baptist Foundation, which was established in 1945 to serve as the trust agency for all Kentucky Baptist churches so each church would not have to establish a separate foundation.

It was born out of the same concept as the Cooperative Program, namely, through voluntary cooperation Kentucky Baptist churches can reap the benefits of having one foundation versus multiple separate foundations. And, the benefits are many.

Just from an organizational point of view, there are significant cost savings and efficiencies derived from the economies of scale of size. Also, there is no duplication of effort, and most churches would not be able to fulfill the ongoing accounting, reporting, managing and legal responsibilities involved in having a separate foundation.

Some of the benefits available to your church from the Kentucky Baptist Foundation include assisting the church in the stewardship education of its members, particularly in the discipline of estate stewardship and leaving a lasting legacy through the church; serving as the trustee of charitable trusts for the benefit of the church; administering perpetual endowment

funds established by church members for the church's missions and ministries in the future; providing church members private consultation in the areas of estate stewardship planning, incapacity planning, legacy gift planning, long term care planning and wealth transfer planning; Christian based investment management and oversight service for the church's special purpose funds, which relieves church members of the day-to-day necessities of research, analysis, decision-making, transacting and reporting.

**Ky. Baptist Foundation**



Barry Allen

For your church to be successful in reaching for Christ your community, the state, the

nation and the world, it must be equipped to cultivate and secure estate gifts from its members. Offering plate dollars will not be sufficient. Equipping your church is why the Kentucky Baptist Foundation exists, and we stand ready to equip your church.

Please do not delay any longer taking advantage of the benefits of your church's foundation. Call Laurie Valentine, or me, for more information or to arrange a time for us to meet with the leadership of your church to discover how the Kentucky Baptist Foundation can best serve as your church's foundation.

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

**Orphan care more than adoption, author says**

By Russ Rankin

**Nashville, Tenn.**—For too long there has been a disconnect between the church and issues surrounding orphan care, according to Johnny Carr, national director of church partnerships at Bethany Christian Services.

Carr addresses the issues in "Orphan Justice: How to Care for Orphans Beyond Adopting," a book from B&H Publishing Group designed to provide education about and action plans to care for the estimated 153 million orphaned and vulnerable children in the world.

"Many churches have started orphan ministries, but this movement among churches is still very much in its infancy," Carr said. "It is my hope that this book challenges churches to take their involvement further."

Carr said he wrote Orphan Justice based on his own journey in understanding the instruction for "pure religion" defined in James 1:27, which calls believers to care for orphans. As a former pastor, Carr said he believes the church—not government programs or social service agencies—has the most potential and the mandate to address the world's orphan crisis.

Adoption is only part of orphan care, he said. HIV/AIDS, human trafficking and poverty are all in the picture.

Carr, who has three children who were adopted, weaves first-hand stories throughout Orphan Justice to explain data on the needs of orphaned and vulnerable children and to connect what many consider "liberal issues" together

as critical aspects of orphan care.

His overall theme throughout the book is to help the church discover its role in meeting these needs and to help develop an action plan using worldwide partnerships.

"Lest we think that orphans only exist in other countries, we must also look at our own problems. Here in the United States, there are nearly 400,000 children in the foster care system at any given time, and some of those foster homes are not exactly ideal. In addition, over 100,000 of those children are waiting to be adopted."

Carr is quick to say he is not advocating that everyone adopt a child.

"Adoption is not for everyone and I hope that is clear in the book," he said. "However, there are many other ways to be involved, such as supporting families who are adopting, offering to babysit, providing respite opportunities for families with special needs children ... those things are really important."

Organizations like "Bethany are not going to solve the orphan crisis, it's just a tool," Carr said. "The gospel is the answer. Professional organizations need to see themselves as partners with the church, fleshing out the gospel.

"What if the church stepped up and adopted every kid in the foster system?" he said. "How about supporting women in unplanned pregnancies? That is being pro-life. I hope to see adoption move from being 'something some people do' to 'it's what we do as the church.'"

For more information, visit OrphanJusticeTheBook.com. (LifeWay/BP)



## May

- 4 Children's State Bible Drill, First Baptist Church, Bowling Green.
- 6 Mission Board, KBC, Louisville
- 8 DOM Leadership Event, Rough River Resort
- 11 Reaching the Summit, Marion Baptist Church, Marion.
- 18 WMU State Associational Leadership Training, First Baptist Church of Mount Washington, Mount Washington.

## June

- 1 Reaching the Summit, Red House Baptist Church, Richmond.

## CU's Louisville Center hosts Contagious Churches in May

Louisville—Campbellsville University's Louisville Education Center will host the Contagious Churches and Leaders conference, May 6-8, on intergenerational church leadership.

The event will feature Tim Elmore, Rick Howerton, Shane Garrison and Jon Weece.

Elmore, founder and president of Growing Leaders, has done extensive research into the study of generations and is a dynamic communicator who uses principles, images and stories to strengthen leaders.

Howerton, author, small group trainer and church consultant, is a leader in the development of small groups through his work in the local church and through both Lifeway Christian Resources and Navigators.

Garrison, assistant professor of educational ministries at Campbellsville University, is considered to be a voice for building healthy churches today, both as a professor and pastor, and is a consultant with churches across the Southwest and Midwest.

Weece, of Southland Christian Church in Lexington, leads one of the fastest growing churches in America.

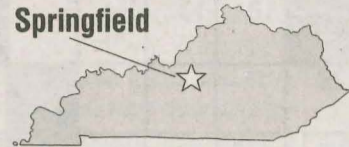
For more information, contact Chris Conner, at [cconner@campbellsville.edu](mailto:cconner@campbellsville.edu), or call (877) 428-4723 or (502) 753-0264. (CU)

## MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

### Spotlight on ...

#### Springfield



River of Life Church will host the Give Me Jesus Tour May 11, 7 p.m., featuring **Building 429, Rhett Walker Band, Finding Favor** and **Carlos Whittaker** in concert. For more information, call (859) 336-7604. **Troy Shelton** is pastor.

Abundant Praise Fest on Friday a month beginning May 3, 7 p.m. with the **Childress Family** in concert. For more information, call (270) 365-6062. **Jeffery McCarty** is pastor.

■ **SCOTTSVILLE**—Scottsville Church will host Allen County High School's Baccalaureate Service May 5, 6 p.m. **Dale Darley** is pastor.

■ **VERSAILLES**—Versailles Church will present the children's choirs in the musical "Star Factor" May 5, 10:30 a.m. **John Brandon** is pastor.

■ **CAMPBELLVILLE**—Campbellsville Church will hold Summer Splash Family Worship May 8, 6 p.m., with games, music and special guests. **Ted Taylor** is pastor.

■ **ELIZABETHTOWN**—Severns Valley Church will host a Red Cross blood drive May 2, 2 p.m.-7 p.m. **Bill Langley** is pastor.

■ **IRVINE**—Friendship Church will hold revival services May 5-8. **Scott Rogers** is pastor.

■ **LONDON**—Laurel River Association will host a parade to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the Woman's Missionary Union May 4, 2 p.m.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Melbourne Heights Church will celebrate Senior Adult Sunday with guest speaker **Guy Futral** May 5, 10:30 a.m. **Adam Schell** is pastor.

■ **MARION**—Second Church homecoming will be held with **Sons of the Father** in concert May 5, 10 a.m. **Rodney Cude** will be guest speaker. For more information, call (270) 388-7367. **Chris Lowery** is pastor.

■ **PADUCAH**—Friendship Church will hold a women's conference called, "Strength for the Journey," May 3-4. For registration information, call (270) 534-1900. **Jason Browning** is pastor.

■ **PRINCETON**—Northside Church will host

## Working together for the hungry



**ABOVE:** Volunteers from three South District Baptist Association churches pose for a photo with missionaries with God's Appalachian Partnership after unloading supplies at the mission in McDowell.

**AT LEFT:** Noah Maupin helps with the delivery.



**AT RIGHT:** Dick Lough picks up a food donation from Faye Hodges. Both are members of Southern Heights Baptist Church in Danville. During South District's food drive, supplies from local churches were collected and delivered to Harvest Hope Food Pantry, Grove Ridge Case County Food Pantry, God's Appalachian Partnership and several other eastern Kentucky food banks. (Photos provided by South District Baptist Association)



## 'Home Run' is a hit on opening weekend

Nashville, Tenn.—Another faith-based film marketed by Provident Films has enjoyed a solid opening weekend.

"Home Run," which tells the story of a Big League baseball player who falls from the spotlight due to his alcoholism and a DUI, finished No. 3 on a per-theater average, pulling in an estimated \$4,260 per theater.

Because it opened in only 381 theaters—as compared to the 3,000 or so theaters reserved for big Hollywood movies—the per-theater average is closely watched. Its total gross of \$1.6 million placed it at No. 12, while every movie above it was shown in at least 1,400 theaters.

Provident was the marketer behind "Fireproof" (\$8,148 per-theater on opening weekend) and "Courageous" (\$7,849), two films that were box office hits. Provident also marketed "October Baby" (\$4,352) and Grace Card (\$2,870). Home Run's opening weekend numbers are similar to those of October Baby, which Provident considered an opening weekend success.

Kris Fuhr, vice president of theatrical marketing for Provident, said, "People trust our films and they know that what we're going to bring them is something that not only is going to be personally inspiring, but is going to be a wonderful outreach tool," Fuhr said. (BP)

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**FOR RENT:** Get-away condo in Myrtle Beach, SC. Beautiful, two bedrooms, two bathrooms, sofa bed. [www.mbvacation-condo.com](http://www.mbvacation-condo.com) or (803) 566-0214.

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

**SEEKING:** Gilberts Creek Baptist Church in Lancaster, Ky. (Garrard County), is seeking a full-time or bivocational pastor. We are a small (60-65 on Sundays) country church, rich in heritage and founded on conservative beliefs and traditional worship. Resumés may be sent to [jjjj539@windstream.net](mailto:jjjj539@windstream.net), or mailed to P.O. Box 602, Lancaster, KY 40444.

**SEEKING:** Bethlehem Baptist Church is looking for a full-time pastor. Please contact Bethlehem Baptist Church, 4411 Hwy. 1664, Nancy, KY 42544, Attn: Morris Norfleet.

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

### 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:** Conservative, northern Kentucky, Southern Baptist church, approximately 200 active member, is seeking a full-time Southern Baptist pastor. Send resumés and DVDs to MJS at P.O. Box 18378, Erlanger, KY 41018, or [1tim3.2013@gmail.com](mailto:1tim3.2013@gmail.com).

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

**SEEKING:** Stanford Baptist Church, in Stanford, Ky., is seeking a full-time pastor. Contact information can be found on our website: [standfordbaptist.com](http://standfordbaptist.com).

# LifeWay: Many at church not helping others grow

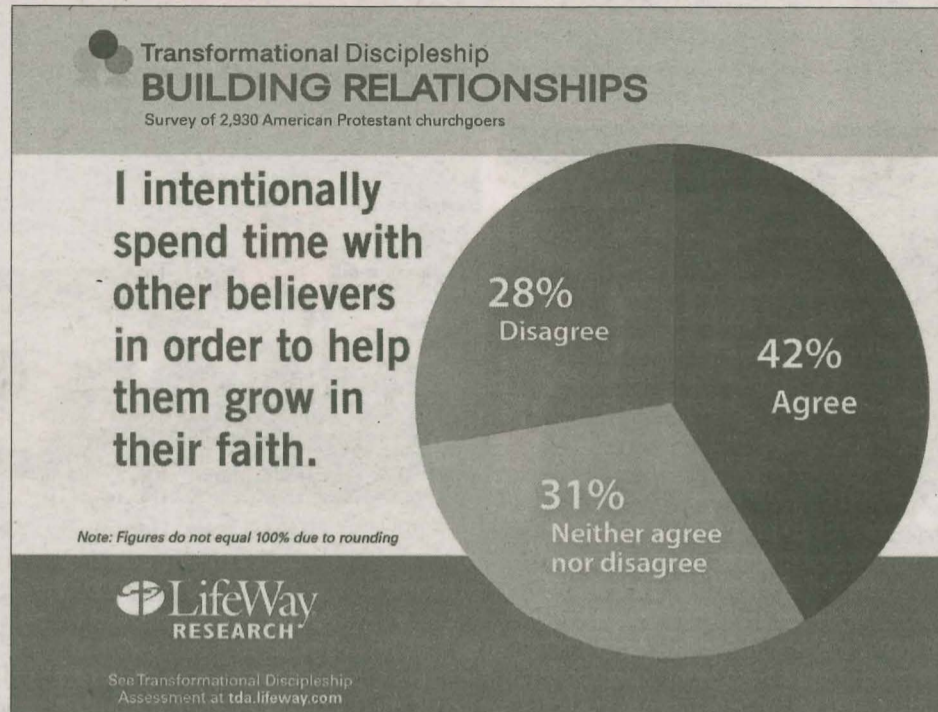
By Russ Rankin

**Nashville, Tenn.**—Almost three out of every four churchgoers say they have significant relationships with people at church, but less than half are intentionally helping other believers grow in their faith, according to a study by LifeWay Research.

The survey of Protestant churchgoers identifies "Building Relationships" as one of eight attributes of discipleship that consistently show up in the lives of maturing Christians. The survey is part of a larger study identifying traits of transformational discipleship.

Results of the "building relationships" questions reveal a seeming disconnect between churchgoers actually pressing into new relationships or participating in discipling other Christians.

While 74 percent agree they have developed significant relationships with people at their church, response to the statement "I intentionally try to get to know new people I meet at church" garnered 53 percent agreement, including only 1 in 6 churchgoers who strongly agree. Additionally, only 42 percent say they intentionally spend time with other believers in order to help them grow in their faith. Twenty-eight percent say they do not help others grow.



Scott McConnell, director of LifeWay Research, pointed out that, "Advertisers know it takes multiple introductions to get someone's attention. Unfortunately, a visitor to church may have to meet six people before someone cares enough to get to know them."

The research reveals the character-

istic that best predicts better building of relationships at church is attendance of small classes or groups of adults.

According to the survey, 33 percent of churchgoers attend classes or groups for adults (such as Sunday School, Bible study, small groups or adult Bible fellowships) four or more times in a typical

month. Fourteen percent attend two or three times a month.

The highest percentage—41 percent—indicate they do not attend such groups at all in a typical month, while 12 percent attend once a month. Four out of 10 churchgoers say they do not attend church groups.

"The Bible frames relationships among believers as a proactive investment in other Christians," McConnell said. "In fact, Hebrews 10:24 refers to the need to exhibit concern for other Christians in ways that encourage love and good works."

Other actions that predict more spiritual maturity in building relationships include praying in a group with other Christians more often, praying for one's church and church leaders, and having regular responsibilities at church.

"Most attendees have friends at church, but only a minority invest time to help other believers develop their faith," McConnell said. "It is as if churchgoers arrive to sit together as spectators for a game rather than arriving as player-coaches who work together and develop each other's game."

To learn more about the transformational discipleship research visit [LifeWayResearch.com](http://LifeWayResearch.com). The TDA is available at [TDA.LifeWay.com](http://TDA.LifeWay.com). (LifeWay/BP)

## DR teams deploy for Midwest floods

By Tobin Perry

**Alpharetta, Ga.**—Southern Baptist Disaster Relief teams in three state conventions are involved in ministry efforts following major Midwest flooding that has claimed four lives.

The suburbs surrounding Grand Rapids, Mich., have sustained some of the region's most substantial flood damage leaving many homes under water and in need of mud-out work.

Win Williams, disaster relief director for the Baptist Convention of Michigan, said he doesn't know how many homes have been affected, but projected that help from additional volunteers from other state conventions will be needed once a final count of damaged homes has been determined.

The Michigan convention also has deployed a feeding unit in Grand Rapids that is preparing 200 meals a day for the American Red Cross.

Bob Hayes, the feeding unit's team leader, asked Southern Baptists to pray for additional volunteers if those numbers increase.

Three Missouri Baptist Convention teams currently are involved in mud-out work in De Soto, Mo.

Illinois Southern Baptists, meanwhile, have set up a feeding unit in Peoria, and are preparing 1,000 meals a day and a mud-out team in Versailles, Ill. The state has declared 44 counties disaster areas.

The State Convention of Baptists in Indiana also is assessing flood recovery needs.

To donate to disaster relief, contact the Kentucky Baptist Convention or call 1-866-407-6262. (NAMB/BP)

## New church plants, like N.Y.'s Mustard Seed, birthed at Easter

By Tobin Perry

**New York**—Easter Sundays and new school years often are chosen as "birthdays" for church plants. The North American Mission Board expects to see Southern Baptists celebrate many more such birthdays in the coming years, especially in under-reached and under-served areas.

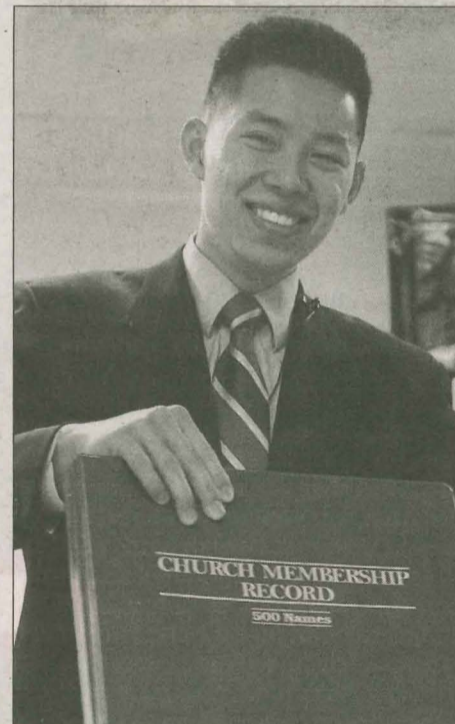
On Easter Sunday church planter Stephen Kim celebrated the public launch of Mustard Seed Church in New York City. Kim was a 3-year-old child when his family moved from South Korea to be part of an earlier church plant in the city.

The church's name encapsulates its vision. "(The mustard seed) is a seed that's not noticeable to anyone and insignificant to everyone," Kim said. "But in the process of time, God's hand germinates it, and it grows into a tree that not only reaches the lost coming into New York City, but it supports missions all around the world."

The church's Easter launch came after nearly a year of weekly meetings with a core group. With a strong focus on discipleship reflecting the need he sees for theologically sound churches in the city, Kim has a long-term view of church membership, in which prospective members participate in the fellowship for a year before joining. Church planter Stephen Kim says God led him to start Mustard Seed because of the great need for theologically sound churches in the city.

During the public launch, 20 people from the church's core team officially committed to and joined the church, as Kim preached on the comparison between marriage and the relationship to Jesus and the church.

"We had a small induction ceremony at the end of the service," Kim said. "It was very special. One lady commented that she felt like she was walking down



Pastor Stephen Kim displays the official membership record for Mustard Seed Church, which enrolled 20 members at its public launch service on Easter Sunday. As members of the church's core team, the new enrollees had met for nearly a year prior to the Easter launch. (Photo provided by Mustard Seed Church)

the aisle for her own wedding."

Kim said 30 prospective members and guests also attended the public launch.

A bivocational planter, Kim also works as a substitute math teacher. Because the church doesn't need to provide a salary for him, it is able to give half its budget to the Cooperative Program and other missions opportunities.

"The lostness in New York City and the world is so immense that I think we all have to roll up our sleeves and do whatever it takes to spread the gospel as

far as we can," Kim said.

### Also in Ontario & metro Indy

New Baptist churches were born on Easter in other underserved North American cities as well.

On Easter Sunday, 77 people attended the first preview service for Fellowship Streetsville in Mississauga, Ontario, located about a half-hour from Toronto. The metro area of Toronto has only one Canadian National Baptist church for every 167,000 people.

"We want to get a healthy expression of the church into every neighborhood we can get into," said John Worcester, the veteran church planter who has launched 20 churches throughout North America in the past 33 years. "And it is all through evangelism. Evangelism pushes everything we do."

In the Indianapolis-area, church planter Jeremiah Brown chose Easter to introduce Generation Church to Noblesville, Ind.

Since his move to Indiana two years ago, Brown has focused on building a core team and encouraging them to reach out to the Noblesville community. Attendance at earlier preview services was disappointing but this year nearly 60 people were in attendance for the Easter preview service—five times the size of the plant's core group.

One of the most exciting developments for Brown came when three neighbor couples showed up at the service after months of being invited to church activities. None of them were regular churchgoers and all said they'd be coming back.

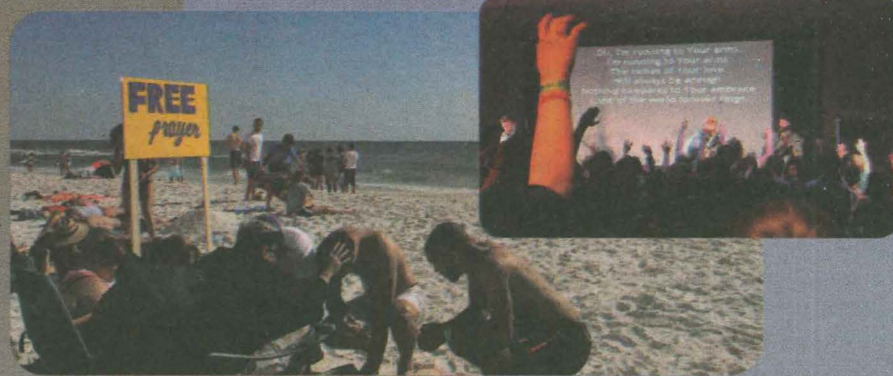
"We know God is getting ready to do something in Noblesville and the north Indy area," Brown said. "Something big is happening. We're just pursuing Him as deeply as possible." (NAMB/BP)

# UNIVERSITY of the CUMBERLANDS

## Baptist Campus Ministries: 2013 Spring Break



**NEW YORK TEAM:**  
Christine Dierken; David Dierken; Ethan Lake; Jessie Mosley; Jacob Ratliff; Jonathan Ssenkooto; Brian Stills; Angeliccaa Williams  
**Served at:** KY Baptist Disaster Relief on Staten Island doing mud out and other relief work alongside other volunteers through the SBC Disaster Relief workers, NYC



**FLORIDA TEAM:** Casey Hamm; Zac Kemp; Christine Moon; Cedric Muteshi; Katie Reid; Milagros Zamora  
**Served at:** NAMB's Panama City Beach ministry to peers using free, safe van rides, pancake breakfasts, prayer ministry, and outreach on the beach, Panama City, FL



**ILLINOIS/KENTUCKY TEAM:**  
Eddie Bernal; Katie Byington; Amber Dunn; Kenton Sulfridge; Kimber West; LeAnn Wright; Bethany Yonts  
**Served at:** Youth D Now at Kaskaskia Baptist Camp, IL; Refuge for Women, Lexington, KY; Jefferson Street Baptist Mission Center, Louisville, KY; KY Governor's Scholar Program, Galt House, Louisville, KY



**COLORADO TEAM:** Susan Albertson; Haley Ferguson; Kaitlyn Fothergill; Caleb McDonald; Kayla Smith; Tyler Sulfridge  
**Served at:** Bear Valley Church multi-housing ministry with children and youth in several housing areas doing carnivals, backyard Bible clubs and other outreach activities, Lakewood, CO

## Mountain Outreach: 2013 Spring Break

Student Volunteers: Zack Austin; Brandy Balkenbusch; Jamie Bengie; Brodie Craig; Sarah Donahue; Justin Dyer; Celeste Fields; Cory Fleenor; Jeremy Heming; Jenna Hensley; Brittany Holliman; Danielle Keith; Maddie Mitchell; Brandon Nance; Jordan Perkins; Riley Perkins; Obed Pierre; Kayla Sears; Lee Smith; Tristan Thomas; Kendall Vickers; Katie Wash. UC Staff: Marc & Wanda Hensley. Other Volunteer Staff: Jerry & Beverly Thomas; Ernie & Sue Bennett; Leslie Hensley.

During Spring Break Mountain Outreach traveled to Letcher County in far eastern Kentucky to the tiny community of Jeremiah. While there volunteers built a ramp/platform to aid a church food ministry, a bridge/wheelchair ramp, wheelchair ramp, yardwork and multiple house repairs.

## 2013 SUMMER LEADER-SERVANTS

**Whitley County, KY**  
**Appalachian Ministries**  
Tyler Bird  
Tom Crawford  
Haley Ferguson  
Hannah Gray  
Lisa Jones  
Nick Monroe  
Patrick Rowe  
Kayla Smith  
Eric Wright  
LeAnn Wright

**Mountain Outreach**  
Zachary Alan Austin  
Dirk Patrick Berta  
Jeremy Reed Berta  
Jonathan Bowman  
Brodie Kramer Craig  
Justin Dyer  
Cory Fleenor

Shawn Tyler Harris  
Danielle Keith  
Brandon Nance  
Jordan Perkins  
Tracy Nicole Taphouse  
Katie Wash

**Kentucky/USA/International**  
**Barbourville Youth Camp/Harvest**  
**Worship Center, Harlan, KY/ Honduras**  
Mary Beth Lee  
**BCM 1:8 Leadership**  
Sara Donahue—FBC Shelbyville & Russia  
Sarah England—FBC Murray & Zimbabwe  
Julie Paris—Bowling Green & Greece  
**Camp Nathanael**  
Tess Henderson

**CentriKid**  
Jordan Infield  
Caleb McDonald  
**Centro Christo Bethel, Dry Ridge, KY**  
Raul Maya  
**Crossings Camp**  
Luke Atkeson  
Austin Holland  
**Faithway Assembly of God, LaFollette, TN**  
Mark Partin  
**FBC Mt. Vernon**  
Deana Gabbard  
**FBC Waynesville & West Carrollton, OH**  
Melissa Fisher  
**First Freewill Baptist, Church Hill, TN, Youth**  
Katie Byington  
**Frankfort Baptist Church Youth**  
Justin Woods

**Honduras**  
Auburnleigh Debruler  
**M-Fuge**  
Kelsey Day  
**Mt. Vernon Baptist Church**  
Jake McPheron  
**Poland**  
Chad Lawson  
**Volunteer Ministry**  
Zach Austin  
Brandy Balkenbusch  
Abbey Cherry  
Elizabeth Davis  
Carla Fountain  
Jasmine Newport  
Lee Sharp  
Mark Watts  
Madison Wesley