

WESTERN Recorder

May 21, 2013

Shine Like Stars * Philippians 2:15

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MEMORIAL DAY

Documentary tells Vietnam vet's post-battlefield spiritual journey



Greg Tomlin is hoping his documentary, "The Man Left Behind," about Vietnam veteran Paul Longgear will help deepen relationships between veterans and their children. Longgear was a Special Forces officer in command of a Mobile Strike Force (MIKE Force) made up of Montagnard fighters during the Vietnam War. The image above is taken from the DVD cover.

By David Roach

Fort Worth, Texas—Greg Tomlin will always remember the day he and his father Jerry, a Vietnam veteran, visited the site where Jerry was wounded in combat.

All day the elder Tomlin was withdrawn. Then on the battlefield he spoke to his comrades who died the day he was wounded, telling them, "So long, boys. I'm never going to think about this again." After that, Greg Tomlin says his father was different, like a burden had been lifted. Since that day their relationship has been stronger than ever.

Tomlin hopes that a documentary he has produced, written and directed similarly



Paul Longgear

deepens relationships between other Vietnam veterans and their sons and daughters by encouraging them to discuss what happened in the war. Such discussions will help veterans' children "understand what their dads went through and what made them who they are," he said.

"I always wanted to sit down and talk with my dad about this stuff, but I knew it was painful and I knew some of the stuff he did there was hard for him," Tomlin told Baptist Press. Yet the trip to Vietnam shed light on "an integral part of who he is."

Tomlin's documentary, "The Man Left Behind," follows retired Army colonel Paul Longgear, along with his wife and three children. See 'Man Left Behind' ... Page 6

Did IRS targets include Graham, Baptist newspaper?

By Todd Starnes

New York—The ministry founded by famed evangelist Billy Graham and a 180-year-old Baptist newspaper, the Biblical Recorder, say they were targeted by the Internal Revenue Service, Fox News has learned.

The revelations involving the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, Samaritan's Purse and the Biblical Recorder newsjournal of the North Carolina Baptist State Convention seem to indicate the IRS was targeting more than just Tea Party groups and conservative political organizations.

Franklin Graham wrote in a letter to President Obama on May 14: "I am bringing this to your attention because I believe that someone in the Administration was targeting and attempting to intimidate us." Graham described the IRS audits as "morally wrong and unethical—indeed some would call it 'un-American.'"

"(S)ome would call it 'un-American'"

Franklin Graham

Graham is president of the ministry his father founded as well as the international charity known as Samaritan's Purse. Both organizations were notified of the IRS audits on the same day—not long after BGEA ran advertisements supporting North Carolina's marriage amendment.

The ads encouraged voters to "cast our ballots for candidates who base their decisions on biblical principles and support the nation of Israel." The ads concluded with these words: "Vote for

See IRS 'targets' ... Page 7

AFFINITY EVANGELISM

Churches focusing on communities within communities

By David Roach

Louisville—Reaching a community for Christ can be more natural and less confrontational than some Kentucky Baptists may imagine.

That's what hundreds of church leaders are learning as they receive training in affinity evangelism through the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Affinity evangelism is a strategy that helps congregations identify "communities within

their communities" and engage them with the love of Christ and the message of the gospel.

Affinity groups may include outdoorsmen, classic car enthusiasts, scrapbookers and more. College campuses, military posts, large local industries, and cross-cultural neighborhoods also are natural affinity groups.

"I'm excited about what we're going to begin to see happen as churches begin to get engaged with their communities," said Chuck See affinity evangelism... Page 2



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Affinity evangelism

Continued from page 1

McAlister, leader of the KBC Evangelism and Church Planting Team. The approach "gets the churches outside the four walls."

The Kentucky Baptist Convention offers workshops, phone and e-mail consultations and a free workbook with the affinity evangelism strategy mapped out.

The workbook, available via free download at www.kybaptist.org/get2know, includes three different surveys that churches can conduct among their leadership, their congregation and their community.

These surveys also help identify:

- affinity groups in the community.
- gifts and passions among church members.

■ which groups the church is best equipped to reach.

The point at which the results of the three surveys overlap "is what we would call the sweet spot for evangelism in the community—the opportunity for the church to reach out into the community with the smallest number of barriers," McAlister said.

Three of the most promising affinity groups in Kentucky are archery enthusiasts, hunters and families with children in public school, he said, noting that churches can start ministries that appeal to each group.

Some cross-cultural groups, such as Hispanic, South Asian and deaf/hearing impaired may require that the church seek assistance from KBC or another resource to develop an effective strategy, McAlister explained.

"We don't want churches to become intimidated by something as big as a language barrier," McAlister said. "Come to us for help. We will work together to reach that important group in your city, county or association."

College campuses also are a unique mission field that KBC can assist churches in serving. According to Brian Combs, collegiate evangelism strategist for KBC, the partnership between each Baptist Campus Ministry and local churches could impact far beyond the commonwealth.

"With local churches coming alongside our campus ministers, we can better reach our colleges with the gospel, and that includes the ever-growing population of students from other countries attending Kentucky colleges," Combs explained.

"Many of those international students who meet Christ through BCM and a local church, will be inspired by the Holy Spirit to return to their home countries—some where the name of Jesus has never been spoken—to share the gospel," he said.

Many already 'doing' affinity evangelism

Rolling Fork Baptist Church in the Nelson Baptist Association was dwindling in attendance when Pastor Bruce Nichols arrived 14 years ago. But through several affinity-based outreaches, it has seen attendance and baptisms increase. A classic car show in partnership with a sister church, a community appreciation event at a local park, and a "coon hunt" dinner are just a few of the ministries Rolling Fork has done.

Though the congregation's focus on affinities pre-dates the KBC emphasis, Nichols said he is excited about what will

11 steps to affinity evangelism for your church

Louisville—Are you interested in developing an affinity-based approach to evangelism at your church but don't know how to get started? Try these 11 steps adapted from the Kentucky Baptist Convention's free affinity evangelism workbook:

1. Assess where you are. What is your first impression of the affinity group that presents the greatest opportunity for outreach in your community?

2. Establish a strategic leadership team.

3. Disciple and be discipled. Your strategic leadership team won't help the church lead others to Christ effectively unless its members are growing in their own relationships with Christ.

4. Identify your community's affinities. There are more than you may realize. Do people like hunting and fishing, motorcycles, classic cars, horses, quilting, scrapbooking or cooking? And don't forget to think about affinity groups that are not based on an activity. Your community may have people from different cultures and languages, the deaf/hearing impaired, military families or colleges.

5. Locate the "least of these." What needs of these people groups are not being engaged by your church or other community ministries? How

can your church start to engage these people groups?

6. Listen to your community. Ask neighbors and local leaders about the greatest interests and needs in your area.

7. Host a creative vision session. Ask church members to share their ideas for helping the community. No suggestions are out of bounds at this point.

8. Analyze intangible forces. What forces are at work behind the scenes in your community (social, economic, political or religious)? How have these forces previously been a barrier to your church's outreach? How

can your church leverage these issues and address them with an affinity evangelism event?

9. Choose your focus ministry.

10. Commit and plan.

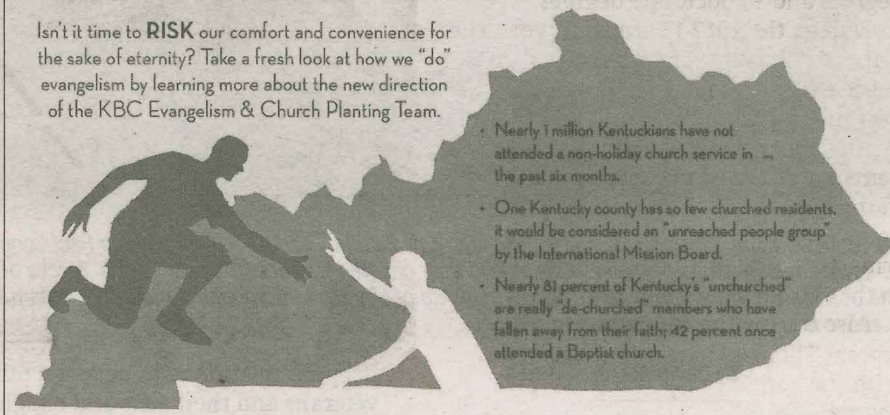
11. Conduct follow-up. How will your church visit those who pray to receive Christ? How will you encourage personal discipleship?

With prayer, planning and hard work, perhaps your church can reach people for Christ more effectively.

Download the free affinity evangelism workbook from KBC at www.kybaptist.org/get2know. (KBC)

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.



happen as more Kentucky churches center their evangelism on community interests and needs.

Affinity-based outreach "makes everybody aware of the fact that they can be involved with the ministry without having to be specialists in Bible translations and theology," he said.

"They don't have to be professionally trained," Nichols continued. "They can be involved in a volunteer work and be able to show Christ's love through services and different types of outreach programs."

In Paducah, a member of First Baptist Church, Kijisa Housman, has discovered how she can reach middle school and high school girls through art. Once or twice a month, she invites girls to do an art project with her and shares Scripture with them in the process. First Baptist helps by sending invitations and hosting some of the art gatherings in its facilities.

"Affinity evangelism is helping churches find any interest group that they can identify or that comes to the surface naturally through connections or interests that a church member would have," said Kristen White, a KBC Evangelism and Church Planting Team staff member who has trained churches to use art for outreach.

"As Kijisa says, she (used to) think of her art and her faith as separate, and it's just amazing how the Lord keeps bringing opportunities for her to use art as the avenue for her to build relationships and introduce people to Christ."

Near the Fort Campbell Army Post, military families are an important

affinity group. So, First Baptist Church of Oak Grove planted a church designed to reach them. Assisted by the KBC and Christian County Baptist Association, the plant—called The Church at Oak Grove—had 29 people at its first service in late March.

"It was great," Heather Gentleman, the wife of Pastor Carlo Gentleman, told the Eagle Post newspaper in Hopkinsville. "A couple of families were new visitors for that morning, and almost everyone was military, which is great."

The Church at Oak Grove wants to "be a support for military families, so it was a thrill to see them led to come that way," Gentleman added.

Church plants centered on affinity groups are nothing new, and McAlister said he anticipates Kentucky Baptists will see more of these congregations.

"In the old paradigm, a church planter is placed within a community to develop relationships which serve as the catalyst for the new church," he said. A more effective approach is for a church planter to "identify special needs and interests ... and to help meet needs within a community. The relationships necessary to plant a church are greatly accelerated."

Examples of affinity-based church plants are easily found in the Bible.

"People with natural affinities were engaged by the Apostle Paul and others to launch churches in their midst," McAlister continued. "Whether the people engaged were worshipers at Pentecost, leaders in Athens or members of a particular household, they all shared a particular affinity or interest which

served as a catalyst to launch a church."

Celebrates unity within diversity

A concern McAlister sometimes hears from church leaders is that affinity-based outreach and church planting could lead to a segmentation of the body of Christ. He believes that the affinity approach actually can reach people across a broad array of socioeconomic and racial groups.

"You look at an affinity like the local school in a rural community," he said. "You have grandparents that want to be involved in school; you have parents that want to be involved in school. You have every socioeconomic level involved in the school."

All effective affinity ministries highlight "the unity that results in the midst of the diversity that we enjoy as Christians," he added.

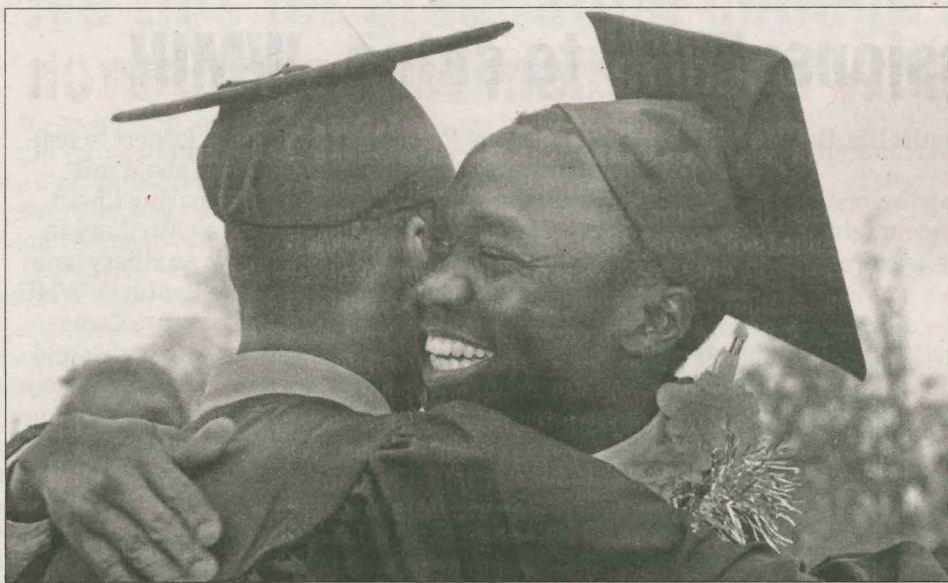
Contact the KBC Evangelism & Church Planting Team for more information on affinity evangelism:

■ Kris White for outreach to women: kris.white@kybaptist.org or (502) 489-3349.

■ Brian Combs for Baptist Campus Ministry: brian.combs@kybaptist.org (502) 489-3347 or 1-866-489-3347

■ Chuck McAlister for other inquiries, including workshops: chuck.mcalister@kybaptist.org or (502) 489-3417 or 1-866-489-3417 (toll-free in Kentucky).

Read part one of this story series, listen to presentations on affinity evangelism from this year's Risk conference, and download the free affinity evangelism workbook at www.kybaptist.org/get2know. (KBC)



University of the Cumberlands students celebrate graduation May 4 with hugs of joy. (UC)

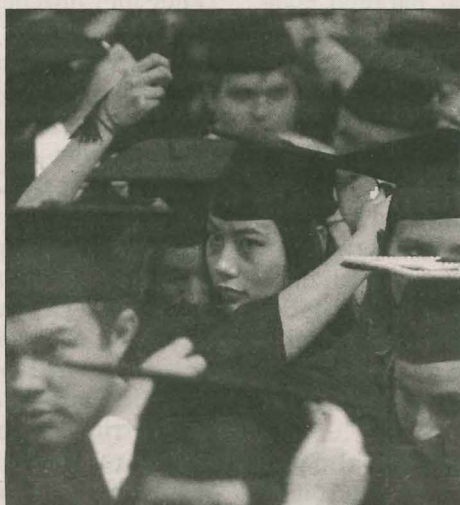
Cumberlands confers 536 degrees

Williamsburg—University of the Cumberlands conferred 536 degrees May 4 during a commencement ceremony—166 baccalaureate degrees, 357 master's degrees and 13 doctorate degrees.

During the 2012-13 academic year, the university has conferred a total of 1,109 degrees, making it the most successful year in Cumberlands' history.

All Cumberlands undergraduate students are required to complete a minimum of 40 hours of community service before graduation. The class of 2013 contributed a total of 30,198 hours of service to the Williamsburg community.

Also during the commencement ceremony, Thomas Haggai was honored with the honorary Doctor of Divinity degree. (UC)



Graduates change their tassels from the right to the left to symbolize their graduation. (UC)

Campbellsville students put summer break on hold for missions work

By Heather Hensley

Campbellsville—Classes have ended for most Campbellsville University students, but that doesn't mean all of the students are beginning summer break quite yet.

Twenty-five students will be attending mission trips, sponsored by the Baptist Campus Ministry, this month and next.

Trent Creason, campus ministries intern, will be leading 10 students to Niamey, Niger in Africa.

"We're hoping for a great trip and safe travels," said Ed Pavy, director of campus ministries. Pavy said the students will be working with Mark and Parker Hill Phillips, both 2002 graduates who have served in Niger for a few years.

Pavy said they will be working in two or three remote villages outside the capital, assisting with medical, health and hygiene items.

"They will also simply be looking opportunities to share the gospel amidst their trip," Pavy said.

Charity Powell, campus ministries graduate assistant, will be leading a trip to the Philippines with 10 students. Powell made contacts there several years ago while completing The World Race, a Christian mission trip excursion.

Powell said they will be working with an organization called Kid's

International Ministries.

She said while there for two weeks, they will be working with two children's homes, helping at a local school, painting new classrooms, and working with a food ministry, along with several other ministries such as one that aids people who live in the slum areas.

"We're really excited to see what God is going to do with 10 willing hearts," Powell said. "It's going to be an incredible trip!"

Pavy will also be leading a group of five students from CU and five from Lindsey Wilson College to Honduras. They will leave June 3.

"This is the first time CU and LWC students have done a joint mission trip, to my knowledge," Pavy said. "We are all looking forward to our work together."

Pavy said their work in Honduras will consist of doing street evangelism, working with children and helping to lead worship services. They will also be doing projects in and around a missionary house in Agua Caliente, working in a landfill area where "the poorest of poor live," according to Pavy.

This academic year alone, more than 140 students have participated in mission trips through Campbellsville, who were able to help lead 112 people all over the world to Christ, Pavy said. (CU)

Specific Mission Board recommendations vary for agencies, institutions

Louisville—The Kentucky Baptist Convention Mission Board approved specific recommendations for each of its affiliated agencies and institutions, prefacing each statement by expressing gratitude for their partnership.

Adam Greenway, chairman of the administrative committee, explained to board members that the recommendations are non-binding and were compiled by a 14-member study group of Kentucky Baptist leaders formed last year by KBC Executive Director-Treasurer Paul Chitwood. The group was charged with reviewing the convention's relationship with each affiliated agency and institution.

During the May 6-7 meeting, Mission Board members approved a two-year step-down of approximately \$700,000 in Cooperative Program allocations to the agencies and institutions, beginning with the 2013-14 fiscal year. The change will enable Kentucky Baptists to send more CP support to the International Mission Board, North American Mission Board and other SBC causes.

Chitwood said he hopes that the next two budget cycles, with the changes to the agencies' and institutions' CP allocations, will be the final step in the process.

Specific recommendations for each agency or institution are as follows:

Woman's Missionary Union

The report called Kentucky WMU "one of (KBC's) most strategic partners."

At the Mission Board meeting, WMU

Executive Director Joy Bolton released the Eliza Brodus Offering allocations projected for the 2013-14 fiscal year. Among the allocations, if the \$1.25 million offering goal is met, are that \$855,000 will be given to the KBC Mission Board to be used for the work of the Missions Mobilization, Evangelism & Church Planting and Church Consultation & Revitalization teams.

An additional \$5,000 is earmarked for Crossings Ministries, and another \$125,000 for Kentucky Baptist Associations and various other ministries.

A total of \$265,000 is budgeted for WMU to produce missions education materials, organize missions-ed camps and overnights for children, young adults and adults, and to promote the EBO offering.

Campbellsville University and University of the Cumberlands

Because the two universities receive the largest piece of the agencies' and institutions' CP pie, the report noted that the study group and the board's administrative committee intend to continue discussions with the schools to determine if there are recommendations that can be placed before the Mission Board in November "to assist in compensating for the reduction in CP funding."

The changes in CP allocation "should in no way be interpreted as a lack of appreciation for the ministry" of the universities, the document said.

Clear Creek Baptist Bible College

The report had no recommendations

for Clear Creek beyond those addressed to all agencies. The study group and administrative committee challenged the Mission Board to seek "new and creative ways" to partner with Clear Creek.

The report states that the committees consider Clear Creek to be "an incredibly strategic partner, particularly in church planting and evangelism in many of the unreached counties of eastern Kentucky."

Kentucky Baptist Foundation

The foundation was encouraged to embrace a more focused role, as "the development agency for local churches, the Cooperative Program and other Kentucky Baptist causes, including associations. Committee members believe the ministry of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation can be instrumental for undergirding the future of Kentucky Baptist Convention churches and their mission causes."

The committee recommended that KBC Mission Board staff work in concert with KBF to help churches garner the necessary resources to reach Kentucky and the world for Christ.

The study group and administrative committee "recommend that the Mission Board consider changes to allow KBF to undertake appropriate fundraising efforts to undergird its ministry and offset its CP allocation reduction ... (and) explore all avenues for increasing Kentucky Baptists' financial support through legacy giving."

Western Recorder

The report conveys concern for "the

skyrocketing subsidy provided by the Cooperative Program ... in light of the perception that the Western Recorder is an independent news source."

The study group recognized "the global downturn in the newspaper industry," and encouraged "the WR Board of Trustees to continue expanding its resource base."

Sunrise Children's Services

The report encouraged "churches to explore ways to be more involved in, and supportive of, the ministry of Sunrise."

Oneida Baptist Institute

Similar to the recommendations for Sunrise Children's Services, the committees encourage Kentucky Baptists as individuals and churches to "explore ways to be more involved in, and supportive of, the ministry of OBI."

Crossings Ministries

The report had no recommendations for Crossings, other than those given to each agency and institution. It states that the ongoing partnership with KBC "will result in more effective ministry to teens among KBC churches."

Baptist Health

KBC Executive Director-Treasurer Paul Chitwood noted Baptist Health's ongoing financial support of the annual Shepherding the Shepherd conference for pastors and their spouses.

The report states: "We hope the ongoing partnership in Shepherding the Shepherd can be matched with other ministries to help ensure the health of church leaders across the state." (KBC)

A real American hero

Editor's note: Tom James, first vice president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, fills in this Memorial Day week for KBC Executive Director Paul Chitwood.

I recently had the privilege of honoring my dad, a Vietnam veteran, with a brick in the courtyard of the Warren County courthouse. My dad is a real life American hero!

Together We are the KBC



Paul Chitwood

Heroes today are not ballplayers who can hit a baseball 500 feet or dunk a basketball to win a title. Heroes are certainly not movie stars who might "play the part" of a hero.

Men and women who bravely serve their country and protect freedoms here and abroad are the real heroes. Those freedoms are especially precious to us as people of faith.

I have seen pictures of Americans celebrating the return of World War I and WWII veterans. But I also watched firsthand as Vietnam veterans returned home and often were not given the thanks they were due from what should have been a grateful nation.

I'm reminded of a story I read about Babe Ruth, who hit 714 home runs during his baseball career. Playing against the Reds in one of his last major league games before retirement, Babe, no longer as agile as he had once been, fumbled the ball hit to him and then threw it wildly. In that inning alone his errors were responsible for most of the five runs scored by Cincinnati in the game.

As Babe headed toward the dugout at the end of the inning, a crescendo of booing reached his ears. Just then a boy jumped over the railing onto the field. With tears streaming down his face, he threw his arms around the legs of his hero. Without hesitating, Ruth picked up the boy, hugged him, and set him down on his feet, patting his head gently.

Suddenly there was no more booing. In fact, a hush fell over the entire park.

In those brief moments, the fans saw two heroes: Babe, who in spite of his dismal day on the field still cared about a little boy; and the small lad, who cared about the feelings of another human being. Both had melted the hearts of the crowd.

Many booed the Vietnam veterans as they returned. I didn't understand that as a little boy whose dad went not once or twice, but four times fighting for the freedom of people halfway around the world.

But while these brave men and women returned to a chorus of jeers from those they served, I will always be the child who grabs hold of the leg of his father with great pride and says, "Dad, you are a hero in my book no matter what those in the crowd may say. Thank you dad—maybe not from a grateful nation, but definitely from a proud son!"

Paul Chitwood is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

125 years of missions: Time to shine, WMU!

May 14 is a significant date in Baptist life. Do you know why?

Here's a big hint: 125 years ago an organization was formed that has led the way in encouraging Southern Baptists in giving to, praying for, learning about and doing missions.

About 130 women with a passion for reaching a lost world for Christ and a commitment to do what they could to support missions met in Richmond, Va., in 1888 to start what would soon become known as ... the Woman's Mission Union.

Last week, members of Kentucky WMU staff celebrated with a birthday cake—and well they should! They also arranged a bus tour for 46 women to visit the national WMU offices in Birmingham, Ala., May 9-10.

From the first offering goal of \$2,000 to send two women missionaries to China, WMU has been involved in raising money to support the international, national, state and local missions causes of Southern Baptists. Eliza Broadus, who served as the national organization's first vice president from Kentucky, was influential in Kentucky WMU work for 50 years, starting a state missions offering in 1913. The offering, later named in her honor, is celebrating its centennial this year with a goal of \$1.25 million.

In Kentucky since 1991, WMU has encouraged missions giving that has totaled nearly \$82 million for international missions, more than \$36 million for North American missions, and more than \$22 million for state missions. "If I could go back to when these offerings—Lottie Moon, Annie Armstrong, and Eliza Broadus—began, the totals would be much more, and that's just in our state," notes Kentucky WMU Executive Director Joy Bolton.

Beyond these special missions offerings, WMU also promotes giving through the Cooperative Program, and "it has been noted that on average, churches of all sizes with WMU organizations give more to missions than those without," Bolton emphasizes. While Kentucky WMU does receive CP support, through the Eliza Broadus Offering they give back more than twice as much to support the work of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Baptist associations and various benevolent ministries across the state.



After Thought

By Todd Deaton

It didn't take long for those early women leaders to realize the importance of teaching our children about missions, instilling in young hearts a love for sharing Christ with others. They began the Young Women's Auxiliary in 1907, Royal Ambassadors in 1908, and Girls Auxiliary (now Girls in Action and Acteens) in 1913. Today, Kentucky WMU also provides Missions Adventure Camps and overnight retreats for young girls and boys at the Jonathan Creek and Cedarmore Baptist Assemblies, as well as Camp Courage for Royal Ambassadors, GA JAM for Girls in Action, and Exalt and 4:GO for youth and students.

"WMU teaches missions to preschoolers through adults," Bolton explains. "WMU recognizes that learning drives every other response to God's call to live a missional lifestyle." Kentucky WMU's staff is at the forefront in training missions leaders across the nation. Last year, Bolton wrote the "WMU Missions Guide for Churches," and this year she wrote the "WMU Missions Guide for Associational Leaders."

But, WMU's passion for missions doesn't stop with learning, giving, praying and training. These women are doers. "Whether it is called personal service, community missions, or mission action, the idea is the same: Each member of a WMU organization is responsible for doing missions," says Bolton. "From local missions to global opportunities, WMU encourages everyone to do missions."

Among upcoming missions projects for Kentucky WMU are: FamilyFESTs in Henderson and Paducah in July; Bucket Project for Africa to assist families of AIDS victims; sending teams to assist Tabitha ministries in Sub-Saharan Africa in providing care for adults and children with AIDS; and a return trip to a seminary in Malawi to train pastors' wives.

"Churches without WMU should take another look and ask themselves, 'What is it about WMU that makes its members so passionate about missions?'" Bolton says. "The answer is something every church needs!" It's obvious: WMU strengthens churches, increases giving, raises the level of missions involvement and provides prayer support for missions around the world.

Happy 125th Birthday, WMU—and many more! It's time to shine ... like the stars.

Make drills a priority

Just how many of our children and youth would take the time to read the Word and memorize Scripture unless we involved them in Bible drills?

Bible drills are not only the desires of most parents, but it is the desire of the Lord. We are instructed in Psalm 119:11 to do just that. I am praying that our leaders at the Kentucky Baptist Convention will see Bible drills for children and youth as a priority.

I have been involved in leading Bible Drills for many years. I have been told by children numerous times that the memory verses learned have not been forgotten. They are still able to recall them.

Concerning the State Youth and High School Bible Drills, my association, along with a few others, was not informed soon enough this year to participate at the state level. We, however, had been informed that there would be

no state level to participate in. I found out later that our surrounding associations were concerned enough to continue drills and did offer a state level. In the future, it would benefit us all if we could be notified well enough in advance to prepare. Many of us begin drill practices in August or September.

The youth of our association were still interested enough to want to participate in the Bible drills, even though they thought there would only be church and associational levels to compete in. Now folks, this is true dedication! Let's not let them down. Let us strive to encourage the KBC to continue what was started many years ago, to make sure we make available the Word that is "a lamp unto thy feet and a light unto thy paths."

Sue Fields
Bible drill leader
Laurel River Association

Work together

As an Advancement Board member of Campbellsville University since 1991 and a 1967 graduate, I have had the privilege of serving under Dr. Winters and Dr. Carter. I think CU is doing a great job in educating our fine young students. I have attended the chapel and have heard quality speakers, and I have also served on committees in electing outstanding professors, which is done by our board. Dr. Carter also has outstanding assistants in helping him carry out his duties as president. I hope KBC can work with CU and we can work together for the same cause.

Roy Rich
Elizabethtown

Forum Disclaimer: Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Western Recorder's editorial staff, its Board of Directors, or the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Letters should be no more than 300 words in length and will be edited for style, clarity and space. Letters must reflect a spirit of Christian civility.

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Five tips for graduating college students

By Erich Bridges

It's graduation season, when bright young students must endure one final, mind-numbing lecture before collecting their degrees: the commencement address.

This speech seldom contains advice you can actually use. The speaker often receives a generous check for his or her remarks, but dares not utter anything that might offend someone for fear of being protested, "disinvited" or black-listed from future graduation ceremonies.

Not being a celebrity, a politician or a rich donor, I have little chance of ever being invited to deliver a commencement address, much less disinvited. But I'll share a few practical tips for you grads anyway, at no charge:

If you need to move back home for a while—or delay moving out—it's OK. Millions of others share your plight. But make your bed and help with the dishes.

Don't check your text messages during job interviews. Trust me on this one.

If you're graduating with significant student loan debt (2011 grads walked the aisle owing an average of nearly \$27,000), pay it off before you incur more debt. Don't start your adult life in bondage to creditors. It will set a pattern you might never escape. Stay available to God. As long as you are servicing debt, you won't be fully available to serve Him.

You've probably heard about that.

The unemployment rate for older teens and post-college 20-somethings hovers around 16 percent and tops 25 percent if you include young adults who have given up looking for work or are underemployed part-timers.

Don't lose hope while waiting for your dream job. Any honest work is honorable work in God's economy. He will open the right doors in His time if you follow Him. In the meantime, learn everything He wants to teach you where you are.

The research about Millennials, the generation born between 1980 and 2000, says you want to experience the wider world up close—to see it, touch it, interact with it. OK, now is your opportunity to do that, unfettered by the family and school commitments of the past or the major adult responsibilities you will face in the future. Go out there and find a place to serve God and others for a year or two, or more, regardless of whether it specifically contributes to your career path.

"One of the characteristics of Millennial life has become the image of the traveler," observes David Kinnaman, president of the Barna Group, which has exhaustively studied Millennials and their relationship to spiritual life. "They want to wander the world, both in real life and in digital ways. They want to feel untethered. There is a trend among young adults of delaying the pressures of adult life as long as possible; they want to embrace a lifestyle of risk, exploration and unscripted moments.

"This transience stands in contrast to the staid, predictable, and often overprotective experience that most churches seem to offer. The gap is simple: Millennials are a generation that craves spontaneity, participation, adventure and clan-like relationships, but what they often find in churches are featureless programs and moralistic content. Leaders who hope to alter the spiritual journeys of today's Millennials need to embrace something of a 'reverse mentoring' mindset, allowing the next generation to help lead alongside established leaders.... Millennials are more willing to be challenged than most church leaders are willing to challenge them."

If you recognize something of yourself in that generational profile, embrace it—even if Mom, Dad and your own internal clock are desperately urging you to get a job and settle down. But don't wander for the sake of wandering. Wander with a purpose: God's purpose.

He might lead you to the ends of the earth to proclaim His love to people who have never heard the name of Jesus. He might lead you to serve within walking distance of the street or the church where you grew up. He might lead you to do both.

Follow Him. Those two words are the best graduation advice you will ever hear. (BP)

Erich Bridges is IMB global correspondent. To investigate the global possibilities of "wandering with a purpose," visit going.imb.org.

Help with couples' communication

By James Stillwell

Q: My wife and I fight all the time. She makes smirks on her face when I talk and she interrupts me constantly. I have a lot to say to her about her behavior, but she doesn't want to hear it. I feel like giving up.



A: Chances are, you and your wife were wired by your upbringing for the communication styles you have adopted. The good news is that we can learn new patterns

of communicating. Communication is equally about speaker and listener.

The speaker needs to learn to be brief. The speaker needs to try to know how he/she feels and make a request based on that need.

The listener needs to focus on how the speaker feels and put his/her agenda aside for the moment. Active listening is to reflect back, or paraphrase, what the listener has heard to the speaker's satisfaction. It is okay to ask questions for clarification. The listener validates the speaker's point of view.

Then the roles switch. For this interaction to work, the listener must know he/she will have a turn.

Also essential is for both parties to come to the interaction in as calm state of mind as possible. If either party feels threatened, it could derail the process. The party who wishes to talk can ask the other party if this is a good time. If not, set a time. This calms the person who needs to talk and gives the other person time to get into a good frame of mind.

If you practice these techniques, your chances of success in communication go up greatly. The Apostle Paul's word in Colossians 4:6 applies to marital communication as well: "Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone." When we learn to talk and listen to our spouse, of course, God is glorified and His kingdom has a chance to rule and reign within that home.

James Stillwell is pastoral counselor at the Interfaith Counseling Center in Lexington.

How much is enough?

By Jeremy White

A frequent question I receive is, "How much is enough for retirement?" The process of answering the question is valuable because it involves other challenging areas of spending, contentment, goal-setting, giving, work and lifestyle preferences. How much is enough to save? How much is enough to give? What is your finish line? Will there be a point where you've reached your maximum lifestyle and can give far more?

King Solomon, regarded as among the richest and wisest men, had something to say about this topic. Despite the fact that Solomon was going through a mid-life crisis and a bit depressed perhaps, he concluded, "Whoever loves money never has money enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with his income. This too is meaningless" (Ecclesiastes 5:10).

It is so ingrained in us that the more we make, the more we spend. When there is a raise in pay, you are "supposed" to change neighborhoods, get a boat, save more for retirement, and enjoy yourself. This is just what prosperous Americans do, and it is rarely questioned—even in the church.

Who defines your level of "enough"? Are you allowing advertising to persuade you to strive for more and more? Are you letting the generation before you who lived through the Great Depression turn you into a hoarder?

If we let anyone else besides God lead us in determining how much is enough, then we are likely to be out of balance.

Jeremy White is a certified public accountant with BlytheWhite in Paducah.

Welcoming newcomers to your neighborhood

At least one-fifth of all Americans move one or more times each year, according to the U.S. Census. A study by LifeWay Research indicates that 82 percent of unchurched people are likely to attend church if invited. That number might be even higher for people who recently moved. Statistics like these reveal a staggering mission field of new move-ins, right there in your church's neighborhood.

Why not make a church plan to welcome, serve and invite newcomers to your town?

First, establish a church-wide "Moving Van Alert." Every single church member is part of the team. You'll be amazed at how effective watchful church members can be. The assignment? To be constantly on the lookout for a moving van unloading in their neighborhood or community, and then immediately text, call or email that address to the church office. That call triggers the entire action plan, and the new resident may be welcomed before the moving van leaves the driveway.

A church may also obtain additional new move-in contacts through a newcomer service or weekly list of sold homes.

Your church's action plan could include two or more of these welcome ideas:

Fresh Ideas



Diana Davis

"Nearly Neighbors" contact. At least two or three church members who live near the newcomer receive an email or call, requesting they walk, bike or drive by the newcomer's home before Sunday. They merely introduce themselves as neighbors and invite them to Sunday worship. To simplify

these assignments, Google Fusion Tables, a free resource, can be used to plot a map of church members' addresses.

"The Pizza Posse" or "We Take the Cake" team. Make a quick delivery, on short notice. A church may purchase gift cards for a pizza delivery, or a church member who loves to bake could prepare a homemade dessert. The pizza card or dessert is presented with a church brochure and a note: "What's even better than pizza on moving day? The warm welcome you'll receive when you worship at Living Faith Church this Sunday! Hope to see you there."

Welcome Basket delivery. A team of friendly church members prepares and delivers a newcomer basket containing a well-designed church brochure, area map and

community info, and a small gift. The gift might be a Bible, a local product (i.e. Smuckers jam in Orville, Ohio), or a handmade gift, such as a "God bless this home" plate or "Welcome to Wilkesboro" ornament.

Welcome note. A pre-prepared welcome note from the pastor is addressed to "our new neighbors at ..." It will be one of the new resident's first pieces of snail mail.

Timing is critical, but with planning and delegation, your church may greet new residents within days or hours of their move. Those brief, personal contacts may establish friendships and meet needs. God could use your invitation to impact eternity.

Now that's worth baking cookies. Diana Davis is author of "Fresh Ideas" and "Deacon Wives." She is the wife of North American Mission Board's vice president for the south region, Steve Davis.



(Photo by Jeffrey Collingwood/sxc.hu)

Gosnell waives appeal, avoids death penalty

Washington—Abortion doctor Kermit Gosnell has waived the right to appeal his murder convictions in order to avert a possible death sentence.

Gosnell received three consecutive life terms without parole for the first-degree murders of three babies after their deliveries at his Philadelphia abortion clinic, The Philadelphia Inquirer reported. Judge Jeffrey Minehart sentenced Gosnell to two of the life sentences May 14 and the third May 15.

The longtime abortion doctor, 72, faced the possibility of capital punishment after the May 13 murder convictions.

The Philadelphia Common Pleas Court jury that convicted Gosnell was scheduled to begin the sentencing phase of the trial May 21, but his decision to forego his appeal rights for life sentences



Kermit Gosnell

made those deliberations unnecessary.

The three babies Gosnell was convicted of murdering were only some of hundreds at least six months into gestation who were killed outside the womb after induced delivery at a clinic marked by deplorable, unsanitary conditions, according to a 281-page report issued by a grand jury in 2011.

Gosnell, who destroyed the records in most of those deaths, or a co-worker typically killed the living children by a technique he called "snipping"—jabbing scissors into the back of a baby's neck and cutting the spinal cord.

In a trial that began March 18, jurors also found Gosnell guilty of involuntary manslaughter, instead of third-degree murder, in the 2009 death of Karnamaya Mongar, 41, after an abortion. In addition, the jury convicted him of 21 of 24 counts of violating a state ban on abortions after 24 weeks of pregnancy and of 210 of 227 counts of transgressing the state's 24-hour waiting period, according

to The Inquirer.

Both pro-life and pro-choice advocates applauded Gosnell's convictions, but pro-lifers—unlike the abortion rights defenders—contended his crimes were not isolated incidents.

Richard Land, president of the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, said, "The grotesque atmosphere of Doctor Gosnell's clinic stands as a graphic reminder of what is happening to our unborn and newly born citizens in similar clinics across America."

Republicans in Congress are calling for investigations of abortion clinics and cooperation from states to prevent the kind of murderous and horrific practices described at the trial by former Gosnell employees and other witnesses.

The 2011 report by the grand jury said a "regulatory collapse" by Pennsylvania and city agencies enabled Gosnell to maintain what was described as a "house of horrors" for more than three decades. (BP)

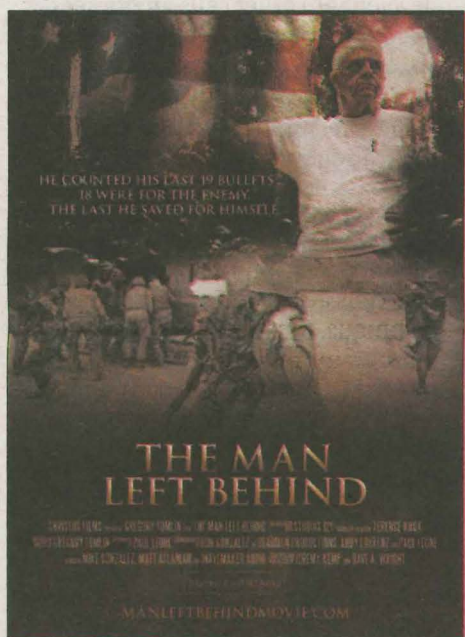
Fla. editor, Smith, takes Southern post

Louisville—James Smith Sr., executive editor of Florida Baptist Witness, will begin duties by Aug. 1 as executive editor and chief spokesman at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville. He will oversee the editorial content of seminary publications, supervise the seminary's news operation, and lead public and media relations.



James Smith

Smith, 48, has served the Witness since 2001. He previously served at Southern Seminary from 1997-2001 as news director and later as director of public relations. Previously he was news and information director at Midwestern Seminary, 1995-1997, and director of government relations at the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission, 1989-1995. (BP)



"The Man Left Behind" is available at www.manleftbehindmovie.com. (BP)

'Man Left Behind'

Continued from page 1

adult children, back to the Vietnam jungle where he was wounded and, amid the anguish, turned to Christ 45 years ago during the Battle of Lang Vei.

The film has received critical acclaim, including selection as a finalist at the San Antonio Independent Christian Film Festival in February following its summer 2012 release.

"We encourage other young men—and by young, I mean in their 40s by now—whose dads fought there, if their dad's willing to take them back, to explore that very important part of their father's life with them," Tomlin, a Southern Baptist, said.

The Man Left Behind is narrated by actor Terence Knox, whom Tomlin has known for 25 years. Many Vietnam veterans will remember Knox from his role on CBS Television's Vietnam War drama, "Tour of Duty."

'God appeared'

On Feb. 7, 1968, Longgrear lay wounded on the battlefield and thought he was dying.

At the sound of approaching footsteps, he turned expecting to confront an enemy soldier. But what he saw changed his life. Longgrear says God appeared, in a form so bright he couldn't look at it, and asked, "What are you going to do now?" Recoiling into a fetal position, Longgrear realized with tears in his eyes he had to submit his life to Jesus as Lord and Savior.

As quickly as God appeared, He was gone. But peace and a sense of being loved has remained with Longgrear the past four decades. In fact, the once-hardened soldier went on to become a minister.

Such an unusual conversion story "was difficult for me at first, and it took a lot of conviction on my part from the Holy Spirit," Tomlin said. Ultimately, he decided the story was both credible and consistent with Scripture.

"There was one point when was telling his story the first time I'd ever talked to him," Tomlin said. "I thought, 'This is ... hard for me to believe.' Then I thought, 'Is this any different than what God did in the Bible?' And the answer was no. And then the other question was, 'Do you not think God is big enough to do this? Do you not still think that God works miracles?' And I do. Because it's never happened to me, that doesn't mean that it didn't happen."

The Man Left Behind also tells how Longgrear's wife Patty promised to pray for him before he deployed and kept faithfully her promise. Longgrear said his wife's words, "I'll be praying for you," echoed in his mind throughout the battle at Lang Vei. Patty Longgrear's brother was killed in the war, and the film includes the family's reflections on his death as well.

A neglected group

One of Tomlin's goals with the film is to share the gospel with Vietnam veterans, a group to whom he believes ministry has been neglected. While veterans of other wars were welcomed home with parades and celebrations, Vietnam veterans often faced scorn, he said, a reality that exacerbated the spiritual and emotional wounds of war.

As a ministry to Vietnam veterans, Tomlin's church in Fort Worth,



Paul Longgrear and his family visit Loch Ninh, Vietnam, near the site of a helicopter crash that claimed the life of his wife Patty's brother, Capt. Fred Jackson, in September 1969. Longgrear and Jackson were in Vietnam at the same time. (BP)

Texas—Travis Avenue Baptist Church—rented a theater and showed The Man Left Behind. At the end there was a gospel presentation. Though no one professed faith in Christ that night, veterans said the film was powerful. Several other

churches have shown it as well.

Tomlin is in discussions about distributing The Man Left Behind in various markets throughout the world. It is available for purchase at Amazon.com or www.manleftbehindmovie.com. (BP)

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NEWS BRIEFS

Instant racing challenged

The Family Foundation has filed response briefs with the Kentucky Supreme Court laying out its argument for allowing discovery in the instant racing case. In January, the high court agreed to review a ruling by the state Court of Appeals that would send the instant racing lawsuit back to Franklin Circuit Court. The Franklin court ruled in 2011 that historical wagering, a form of electronic gambling on anonymous old horse races, is legal and pari-mutuel even though it resembles a slot machine. Slots are not legal in Kentucky. But the Family Foundation, which challenged the legality, appealed and argued it was not allowed to pursue questions about how the games actually work.

—Lexington Herald Leader

Philosopher, Willard, dies

Dallas Willard, Christian philosopher and author, died May 8 in Woodland Hills, Calif., from cancer. He was 77. Willard is best known for his work on Christian spiritual formation, which he described as "the process of establishing the character of Christ in the person." Willard taught philosophy at the University of Southern California since 1965 and headed its philosophy department from 1982-85. He was author of "The Spirit of the Disciplines," "The Divine Conspiracy" and "Renovation of the Heart."

Scientists clone human embryo for first time

By Tom Strode

Washington—Human cloning apparently has arrived, and critics are waving the warning flags.

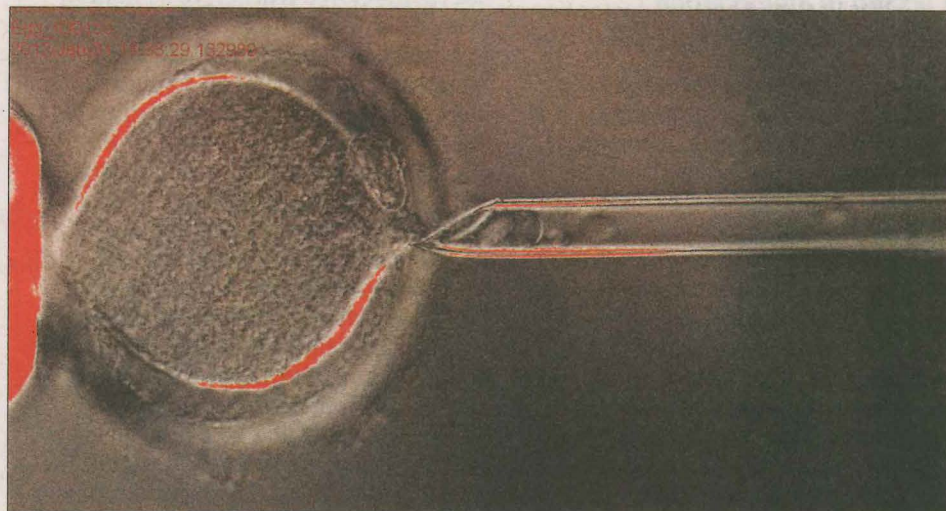
Oregon-based scientists reported May 15 they had cloned human embryos, reportedly the first successful attempt at such cloning, as a means of producing embryonic stem cells. The researchers extracted stem cells from the clones, destroying the days-old human embryos in the process.

The scientists used basically the same cloning method utilized in 1996 by Scottish researchers to create the first cloned mammal, Dolly the sheep.

News of the successful experiment seemed certain to revive the cloning controversy, which has been dormant in recent years. One of the battlegrounds likely will be in Congress, which could see new efforts to ban human cloning. Those efforts probably will involve debates on the extent of a prohibition—on cloning for reproductive purposes or for both research and reproductive purposes.

Critics—who point out cloning an embryo for experimentation is reproductive by nature because a new human being has been created—criticized the successful research announced in the journal *Cell* as both unethical and unnecessary. Supporters of the cloning technique sometimes call it "somatic cell nuclear transfer"—which simply is the scientific name for cloning.

"Let's be clear—what these researchers are doing is creating a cloned human



The extraction of a nucleus from an egg, seen here, is one of the steps involved in cloning. (BP)

being in order to destroy that human being to harvest its stem cells for the benefit of older and bigger human beings," Southern Baptist ethicist Richard Land told Baptist Press. "There are words for such activity—barbaric and uncivilized."

The cloning technique used by scientists at Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) and the Oregon National Primate Research Center was a version of somatic cell nuclear transfer, the method used to create Dolly. The researchers transferred the nucleus of a cell that contained a person's DNA into an egg that no longer had its nucleus. After stimulation, some of the embryos developed to a stage where they produced stem cells.

Daniel Sulmasy, a professor of medicine and a bioethicist at the University of Chicago, told National Public Radio (NPR), "This is a case in which one is deliberately setting out to create a human being for the sole purpose of destroying that human being. I'm of the school that thinks that that's morally wrong no matter how much good could come of it."


Opponents of cloning and embryonic

stem cell research (ESCR), which is lethal for the human embryos, pointed to other stem cell research that has surpassed ESCR in therapies in human beings and is not ethically controversial. Stem cells are the body's master cells that can develop into other cells and tissues, giving hope for the development of cures for a variety of diseases and other ailments.

Research with adult stem cells in human trials has produced therapies for more than 70 afflictions, including cancer, juvenile diabetes, multiple sclerosis, heart damage, Parkinson's and sickle cell anemia.





Work with induced pluripotent stem (iPS) cells also has shown promise. This technique, first used in 2006, involves reprogramming adult skin cells into stem cells virtually identical to those in human embryos. Research with neither adult nor iPS stem cells involves the destruction of embryos, unlike ESCR.


ESCR—though touted because of the capacity of embryonic stem cells to transform into any cell or tissue in the body—has yet to treat any disease in human beings and has been plagued by development of tumors in lab animals. (BP)



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IRS 'targets'

Continued from page 1

biblical values this November 6, and pray with me (Billy Graham) that America will remain one nation under God."

"I do not believe that the IRS audit of our two organizations last year is a coincidence—or justifiable," Graham wrote in his letter.

The Internal Revenue Service did not return calls seeking comment.

Mark DeMoss, a spokesman for Graham, told Fox News it was the first time the ministry had been audited.

"These certainly appear to be politically motivated since the ministry had run some newspaper ads—not mentioning any candidates—simply urging people to vote for candidates with biblical values," DeMoss said.

The Biblical Recorder, the official newjournal for North Carolina Southern Baptists, found itself in a similar situation in March. The newspaper garnered national attention last summer after editor Allan Blume published an interview with Chick-fil-A's president, Dan Cathy. In reference to his support of the traditional family, Cathy said he was "guilty as charged."

The Biblical Recorder also published the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association's ads supporting North Carolina's marriage amendment. And then came the telephone call from the IRS.

"It raised some red flags and made me wonder why we were being targeted for an audit ...," Blume told Fox News. "Putting it all together made me wonder."

Blume said the timing may have been coincidental—but "it didn't seem that way."

"There seems to be a very anti-Christian bias that has flowed into a lot of government agencies—oppression literally against Christian organizations and groups," Blume said. "It makes you wonder what's going on."

Blume said the newspaper was eventually cleared, but the audit consumed time and money. "It was a lot of time and energy that we didn't have," Blume said.

The IRS eventually cleared both the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association and Samaritan's Purse but Graham noted that the audit cost the ministries money.

"Unfortunately, while these audits not only wasted taxpayer money, they wasted money contributed by donors for ministry purposes, as we had to spend precious resources servicing the IRS agents in our offices," Graham wrote in his letter to Obama. (BP)

Showing gratitude

A lesson in appreciation for teachers and staff at OBI

Among the Yoruba-speaking people of Nigeria, expressing appreciation and giving thanks is of great importance. One of their ancient proverbs puts it this way: *Eni ti a se loore ti ko dupé, bi olósà-á kóni lérù ni.*

Translated: "A person to whom one does a favor but who shows no gratitude is like a robber who has stolen one's goods." In other words, ingratitude is comparable to robbery because it is like one person taking something from another without paying for it—not even a word of thanks.

In Luke 17:11-19, Jesus marvels that only one of the 10 lepers He healed actually came back to express thanks to Him. In His own speech and actions Jesus modeled an attitude of thanksgiving toward God (Matthew 11:25) and expressed His appreciation for those who assisted His ministry with a promise of future rewards (Luke 11:28-30).

For many years in our society and at OBI, it has been the custom to recognize teachers and the importance of their work in the lives of youngsters. Our principal calls each teacher to the platform during an extended chapel service, comments briefly on that teacher's unique contributions and abilities, and presents him/her with a token of appreciation. It is not uncommon—nor is it inappropriate—that as a teacher's name is mentioned, students will jump to their feet, loudly cheering and clapping

for their beloved teacher. To be honest, it is one of the highlights of a teacher's year to hear the noise made in their honor and receive that all too small, but honestly heartfelt gift accompanied by a hearty handshake or a friendly hug.

This year, we took a second step in encouraging students to appreciate the work that is done on their behalf outside the academic day. We not only had an Academic Team Appreciation Day, but we also had a Non-Academic Team Appreciation Day. We wanted to impress on the students that all adults on campus are an important part of the ministry of Christ. As our non-academic ministry team was

This is Oneida



Paul Davidson

recognized one-by-one, I reminded students that with the service of these people, we wouldn't have OBI.

Imagine if there were no cooks to prepare the food. Imagine if the farm did not raise our beef and pork. Imagine if there was no one to repair our facilities, or beautify the campus. Imagine if there were no houseparents, or no healthcare providers on campus. Imagine if there was no one to pay bills, process the donations, or coordinate the volunteers whose donated service helps to keep Oneida's school fees the lowest of any boarding school in the country.

Our students got the point; we all did. All who serve are important and all deserve thanks.

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

Senior memories, continued

Graduates reminisce about their time at Clear Creek

Editor's note: This column is a continuation from May 7.

"My fondest memory was when God answered my prayers and took me to Guatemala in April of 2012. The mission field fit me like a glove and I was doing what I was meant to do." —**Christine Nicole Bledsoe**

"My fondest memory was marrying the absolute love of my life, Dana, which I know is the one God has given me to accomplish great things and bring Him glory." —**Brett Daniel Benton**

"My fondest memories are the times of prayer with friends in the prayer chapel." —**Ryan Martin**

"My fondest moments include the mini sermons in Greek class when the text of scripture really came alive; also the great times of discussion in the library and the various offices of faculty and staff members." —**Ian Keith Watkins**

"My fondest memories include the warm welcome we received upon arrival after the realization that I had just moved my family from the upper peninsula of Michigan to the Bible Belt; the close quarters with my family; and the late nights in the prayer chapel with friends." —**David Clarence Longstaff, Jr.**

"My fondest memory is how

everyone was so great to me during the loss of my father. My time at Clear Creek has been a great experience. —**David Pennell**

"My fondest memories are too numerous to list. Clear Creek Baptist Bible College will always be an incredible place for me." —**Larry Wayne Goad, Jr.**

"The fondest memories I have made at Clear Creek include the many lifelong friends I have made." —**Benjamin Edward Harr**

"My fondest memory would have to be the birth of our third child, Ruby, and the many lifelong friends we have made while at Clear Creek." —**Ben Swenson**

"My fondest memories are of the relationships I have built with other students, Clear Creek staff, as well as the late nights writing papers and doing homework." —**Robert Williams**

"My fondest memories are how God cared for all my family's needs at Clear Creek and used family, friends, neighbors, strangers, churches, and faculty and staff of Clear Creek to minister to our physical, emotional, financial, and spiritual needs. My time at Clear Creek will always be a reminder to me of God's faithfulness." —**Jeremy Lee Glenn**

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

the conventional wisdom:

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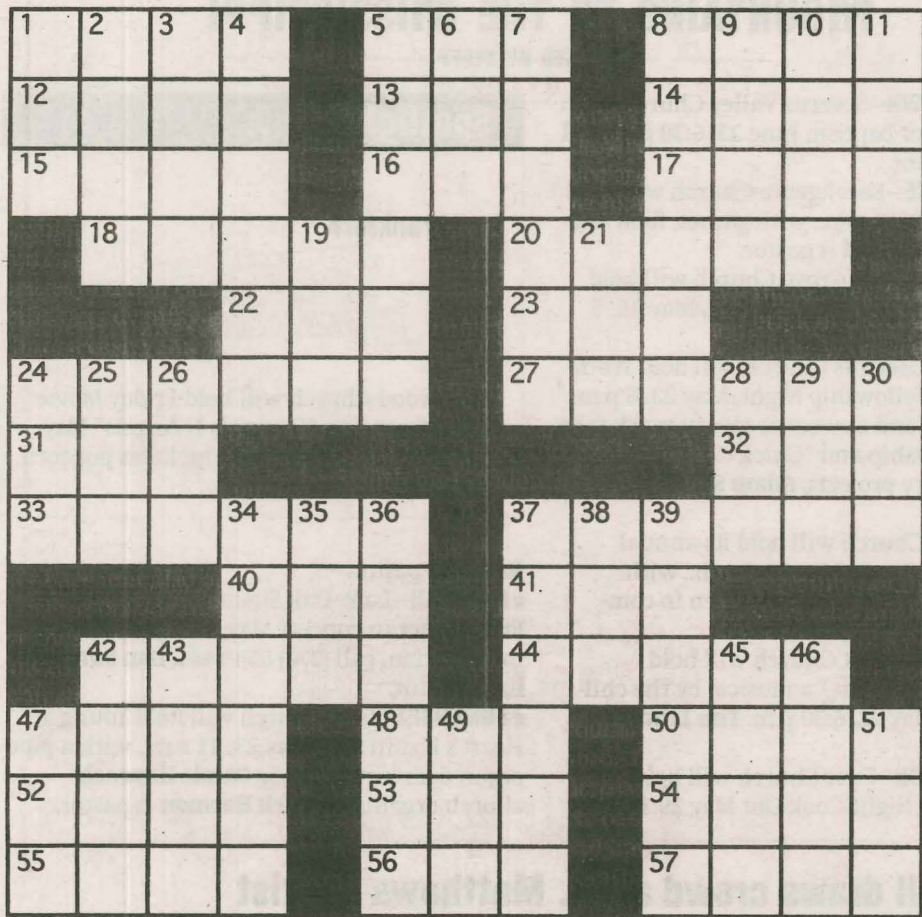
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#162

Bible Crosswords

By Evelyn Boyington

Across

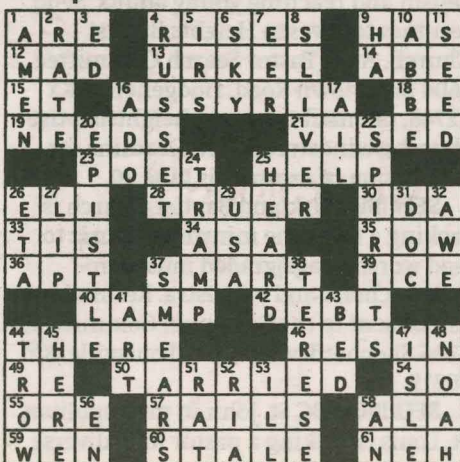
- 1 When a rooster rouses
- 5 Air (comb. form)
- 8 A. Hitchcock film classic
- 12 Operatic solo
- 13 Busy one
- 14 First garden
- 15 Tree house
- 16 Under the weather
- 17 Center
- 18 Was wary, with "away"
- 20 "When ye blow an _____, then the camps ... on the east shall go forward" (Numbers 10:5)
- 22 "But _____ thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen" (Luke 10:42)
- 23 Jesus likens the kingdom of God to _____ virgins (Matthew 25)
- 24 Makes payment for, as Jesus' sacrifice on the cross
- 27 "And as they were _____, Jesus took bread" (Matthew 26:26)
- 31 "A brother offended is harder to be _____ than a strong city" (Proverbs 18:19)
- 32 _____ classical style
- 33 Let go
- 37 Saul's exit "vehicle" out of Damascus (Acts 9)
- 40 Body part of priest on which the ram's blood was sprinkled (Exodus 29:20)
- 41 Employ
- 42 Times to "catch the worm"
- 44 Experienced labored breathing
- 47 Experience ennui
- 48 Where the good Samaritan left the wounded man
- 50 Lions' den
- 52 Sheltered side, nautically
- 53 "Deliver thyself as a _____ from the hand of the hunter" (Proverbs 6:5)
- 54 Firstborn of Isaac
- 55 Held or kept in, with "up"
- 56 "Be sober, and hope to the _____ for the grace" (1 Peter 1:13)
- 57 Niece and nephew, e.g. (abbr.)

Down

- 1 Tribe of Israel
- 2 Greek counterpart of Mars
- 3 "Let them be ... put to shame that _____ me evil" (Psalm 40:14)
- 4 "Let us cut it (Moab) off from being a _____" (Jeremiah 48:2)

- 5 Awaits; stays close to
- 6 Conger
- 7 Feel a kinship toward
- 8 Retract
- 9 Aroma
- 10 Salon service
- 11 Chemical suffix
- 19 Compass dir.
- 21 Grassy field
- 24 A piercing tool
- 25 "Is any thing _____ hard for the Lord?" (Genesis 18:14)
- 26 "The sons of ... Shamed, who built _____, and Lod" (1 Chronicles 8:12)
- 28 "He pronounced all these words ... and I wrote them with _____ in the book" (Jeremiah 36:18)
- 29 Born (Fr.)
- 30 Purchased
- 34 Mulberry, for one
- 35 Ages and ages
- 36 "I _____ to be present with you now" (Galatians 4:20)
- 37 "The bush _____ with fire, and the bush was not consumed" (Exodus 3:2)
- 38 Good king of Judah
- 39 Lydia was a _____ of purple
- 42 Burrowing mammal
- 43 "_____ me first" (former Kodak come-on)
- 45 "His soul shall dwell at _____" (Psalm 25:13)
- 46 _____ tone
- 47 Cartographer's product
- 49 Forget it, to Philippe
- 51 Masculine nickname (var.)

Last puzzle's solution #161



Memorial gifts

Further the mission of Christ through living memorials

Gifts made in memory of someone are among the most personal of expressions, and ones that occur most often in the context of very emotional circumstances.

Those who make memorial gifts are people who have given considerable thought to their decision to make those gifts. They are sensitive, thoughtful, caring people who want to make a meaningful donation in honor of someone special, like a spouse, a child, a sibling, a parent, a friend, a teacher, a minister, or other loved ones who have predeceased them.

A memorial gift is a way for you to establish a legacy in memory of that special one and, at the same time, provide financial resources to one or more charitable organizations for the effective fulfillment of their missions.

As you approach Memorial Day, I encourage you to prayerfully consider making a memorial gift in honor of someone who was special in your life. Consider the focus of your gift to be a living memorial to further the mission of Christ through one or more of the organizations with which you and/or

that special person have been affiliated.

Give Laurie Valentine and me the privilege of assisting you in your consideration. There are a variety of tax-wise giving methods available to you. In addition to cash gifts, gifts of appreciated securities and real estate have specific tax advantages. You may have a cash value life insurance policy, the original purpose for which you purchased it no longer exists. Gifts of life insurance provide an excellent way to make a memorial gift and to receive a tax benefit. A beneficiary designation of a retirement account also offers some important tax advantages.

In fact, for those over 70 ½ there is a special window of opportunity in 2013 to make tax-free memorial gifts up to \$100,000 from IRA funds. A charitable gift annuity, charitable remainder trust and a bequest in your will are ways to accomplish memorial gifts at your death.

Call Laurie toll-free for the details. Happy Memorial Day.

Ky. Baptist Foundation



Barry Allen

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

Meeting a need

Victory Baptist in Shelbyville receives a portable baptistry

This EBO story means a great deal to me personally because it is not about just any ministry, but one led by a young man ordained to the gospel ministry at my church, Clayvillage Baptist Church. It also is a story which began many years ago with a clothing ministry started by the Albright Baptist Women (now Women on Mission, and the group of which I am a member) at First Baptist Church, Shelbyville.

Eventually the clothing closet was located at Henderson House, a mission of First Baptist, Shelbyville. Henderson House operated a storefront ministry for many years, reaching people who live in downtown Shelbyville. Through hot meals, clothing, GED classes and other ministries, the mission met needs and shared the gospel.

Several years ago the congregation of Henderson House constituted into Victory Baptist Church. In November 2012, they called Marc Webb as pastor. Marc is the son of Coy and Cathy Webb. You know Coy as our state Disaster Relief director.

At Clayvillage, we watched as Marc finished college, prayed for him through some health problems, and were proud of him when he surrendered to the ministry and began seminary.

After his call to Victory, Marc began

leading the congregation to do more in missions. This year, their Annie Armstrong Easter Offering goal was \$200 and they gave \$900.

He also saw a need to be able to baptize people more readily than having to schedule a time with another church. Victory applied for an Eliza Broadus Offering grant to help them purchase a portable baptistry.

Victory received the portable baptistry in April and the congregation is excited about having their own baptistry.

Thank you Kentucky Baptists, for helping a small congregation, extend their ministry, including the ability to baptize new believers.

EBO at Work



Joy Bolton



Victory Baptist Church in Shelbyville, received a portable baptistry thanks to a grant from the Eliza Broadus Offering. (Photo provided by Joy Bolton)

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



June

- 1 Reaching the Summit, Red House Baptist Church, Richmond.
- 10 Mission Adventure Camp, Cedar Crest, Bagdad.
- 14 Mother/Daughter Overnight, Cedarmore, Bagdad.
- 14 Father/Son Overnight, Cedarmore, Bagdad.
- 16 All-State Youth Choir and Orchestra 25th Anniversary, Campbellsville University, Campbellsville.
- 17 Mission Adventure Camp, Cedar Crest, Bagdad.
- 21 All-State Youth Chor and Orchestra, Kentucky Baptist Convention, Louisville.
- 21 Mother/Daughter Overnight, Cedarmore, Bagdad.
- 21 Father/Son Overnight, Cedarmore, Bagdad.
- 24 Mission Adventure Camp, Cedar Crest, Bagdad.
- 27 Foundation Board of Directors Meeting, Kentucky Baptist Convention, Louisville.
- 29 Ky. Baptist Nursing Fellowship Summer Meeting, Elizabethtown.

July

- 12 GA Overnight, Jonathan Creek, Hardin.

Former Recorder associate, longtime editor, Puckett, dies

By Bob Allen

Raleigh, N.C.—Career Baptist journalist R.G. "Gene" Puckett died May 12, months after being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.

Puckett, 80, worked as a Baptist journalist longer than any person in the 20th century. He was a founding director of Associated Baptist Press and chairman of the board.

A native of Kentucky, Puckett was a graduate of Western Kentucky University and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville.

After pastorates in Kentucky and in Ohio, at age 25 he became editor of the Ohio Baptist Messenger and director of Baptist student work for Southern Baptists in Ohio in 1958. He left in 1961 to become a pastor in Dunedin, Fla.

In 1963, Puckett began work with the Western Recorder, first as assistant editor and later promoted to associate editor. In 1966, he was named editor of the Maryland Baptist, which also published the New England Baptist and the Penn-Jersey Baptist.

Between 1979 and 1982, he was executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

He returned to journalism in North Carolina as editor of the Biblical Recorder in 1982.

In 1990, he and other Baptist state paper editors formed Associated Baptist Press.

Puckett credited his mentor C.R. Daley, who hired him at the Western Recorder, and contemporaries of Daley's with teaching him about the integrity it took to be a Baptist editor.

"Gene Puckett stood tall as a biblical and theological scholar; devoted churchman; exemplary husband, father and grandfather; and a professional journalist of the highest caliber," said David Wilkinson, ABP executive director.

Survivors include Puckett's wife, the former Robbie Lake of Mackville, two daughters and four grandchildren. (ABP)



Gene Puckett

MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

■ **ELIZABETHTOWN**—Severns Valley Church will hold an outdoor baptism June 23, 6:30 p.m. **Bill Langley** is pastor.

■ **INDEPENDENCE**—Beechgrove Church will hold Carnival May 25, 2 p.m., with games, food and music. **Daniel Hillard** is pastor.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Maple Grove Church will hold "Power Play," a children's musical, May 26, 5 p.m. **Raymond Hayes** is pastor.

Melbourne Heights Church will hold Women's Ministry Fellowship Night, May 23, 6 p.m. Bring a friend and a sweet or savory snack for a night of fellowship and "Chick Chat" about future ministry projects. **Adam Schell** is pastor.

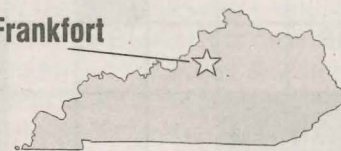
Woodland Church will hold its annual Memorial Day Picnic May 27, 4 p.m., with games, music and fellowship. Open to community. **John Abel** is pastor.

■ **MORGANFIELD**—First Church will hold "Estherordinary Faith," a musical by the children's choir, May 22, 6:30 p.m. **Tim Leadingham** is pastor.

■ **MOUNT VERNON**—First Church will hold Awana Family Night/Cook Out May 29. **Eddie**

Spotlight on ...

Frankfort



Crestwood Church will hold Friday Movie Night featuring "Cowgirls N Angels" May 24, 7 p.m. Free admission includes popcorn. **Michael Hail** is pastor.

Nation is pastor.

■ **PADUCAH**—Lone Oak First Church will host **Eric Horner** in concert May 26, 7 p.m. For more information, call (270) 554-1441. **Dan Summerlin** is pastor.

■ **SOMERSET**—First Church will hold Young at Heart's Hymn Sing May 23, 11 a.m., with a pipe organ demonstration by **Carole Hancock**, church organist. **French Harmon** is pastor.

Bible drill draws crowd at St. Matthews Baptist



The State Bible Drill at St. Matthews Church in Louisville drew a crowd April 26. Three-Year State Winners were Josh Norman, St. Matthews Church; Shalom Mhlanga, St. Matthews Church; Laura Kulscar, Westport Road Church; Parker Grant, Southeast Christian Church; Katie Hutchins, First Church of Mt. Washington; Jacob Smith, Holy Rosary Catholic Church; Jacob Hobbs, Gilead Church; Jake Ringstaff, Hopewell Church; Anissa Richer, Rockhaven Church; Owen Thomas, Yellow Creek Church; and Colton Stedam, Pleasant Ridge Church.

CLASSIFIED ADS

CAMP: Love God. Love others. Girls camp, June 10-14. For more information, go to laurellakebaptistcamp.com, or contact Laurel Lake Baptist Camp, (606) 528-3522.

FOR SALE: 1995 Eagle Model 15 bus for sale, 55 passenger, AC/heated comfort, restroom, DVD/VHS/P.A. system, large storage compartments. Call Hyland Baptist Church at (270) 827-1258.

FOR SALE: Pearl River 6-foot baby grand. Perfect for church, etc. Paid more than \$9,000. Looking to sell for \$6,000. Will consider all offers. Also selling a Dell DLP 3,200 lumen projector. Paid \$1,500. Would like \$1,000. Dr. Charles L. Burton, (859) 913-4048.

SEEKING: Woodlawn Baptist Church, a small/medium Southern Baptist church in central Ky., is seeking a full time pastor. Send resumé to Jerry Albertson at 620 George St., Lebanon, KY 40033, or email home@woodlawnbaptist2serve.org.

SEEKING: Part-time pianist for Fern Creek Baptist Church. The church has a very strong musical heritage and high expectations for this position. Music expressions include classical, sacred, gospel, traditional and contemporary. Send resumé by June 3 to Fern Creek Baptist

Church, Attention: Personnel Committee, 5920 Bardstown Road, Louisville, KY 40291, or to donna@ferncreekbaptist.org. Questions? Call Pastor Linda Barnes or Eddie Howell, minister of music, at (502) 239-0316.

SEEKING: Stanford Baptist Church, in Stanford, Ky., is seeking a full-time pastor. Contact information can be found on our website: stanfordbaptist.com.

SEEKING: Safe Harbor Baptist Church in Georgetown, Ky., is seeking a part-time minister of music and a youth minister. Call (502) 570-5851, or send a resumé to 519 Gano Avenue, Georgetown, KY 40324, or email safeharborpastor@gmail.com.

SEEKING: Union Missionary Baptist Church is seeking a bivocational pastor to lead church in Sunday worship service, Wednesday night Bible study, and lead its members to do God's work. Send resumé to Pastor Search Committee, 530 Graveltown Road, Lewisburg, KY 42256, or jon@rcomponents.com.

SEEKING: An American Baptist church in Huntington, W.V., is seeking a full-time, seminary-trained minister of music who is capable of blended worship styles. Fifth Avenue Baptist is a historical

church with a comprehensive music program, including children, youth, instrumentalists, handbells, ensembles and a chancel choir. For more information, contact Katherine Pyles at (304) 523-0115, or submit a resumé with three references to katherinep@fifthavenuebaptist.org.

SEEKING: Franklin Crossroads Baptist is seeking a full-time senior pastor. Please see website for details: franklin-crossroadsbaptist.com.

SEEKING: Ovesen Heights Baptist Church, a SBC congregation, is seeking a bivocational pastor with a heart for evangelism and reaching young adults. Send resumé to: Ovesen Heights Baptist Church, Attn: Pastor Search Committee, 1604 Bardstown Road, Hodgenville, KY 42748, or email to: ovesenheightsbaptistchurch@windstream.net. Deadline for submission of resumé is June 30.

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

SEEKING: FBC St. John in metropolitan St. Louis is seeking a pastor for a diverse

To place an advertisement in the Western Recorder:

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



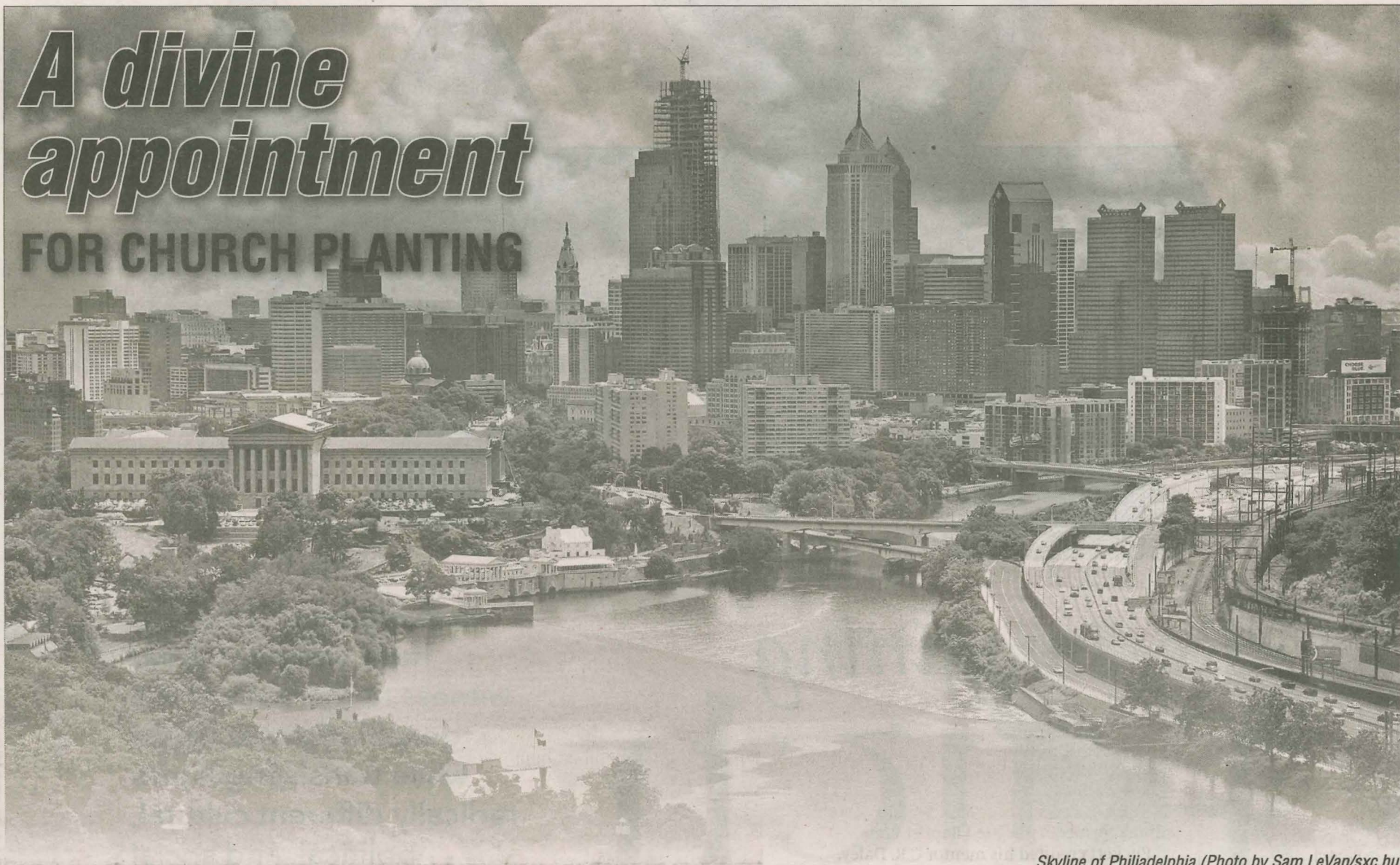
community with great growth potential and space to grow. Send resumé to: fbcs-jpsc@gmail.com.

SEEKING: Fordsville Baptist Church of Fordsville, Ky., is seeking a pastor. Accepting resumé through May. Send to: Pastor Search Committee, c/o J.L. Staples, 890 Hawesville Road, Reynolds Station, KY 42368.

TRAVEL: Senior adult tour to Niagara Falls and Toronto, Sept. 9-13, \$599, includes transportation, lodging, four breakfasts, four dinners, tour of Toronto, Canada, dinner at Skylon Towers, dinner theater in Canada, Maid of the Mist tour, Niagara on the Lake and much more. We have 10 spots available. For info, call Floyd Price, (859) 421-1418.

A divine appointment

FOR CHURCH PLANTING



Skyline of Philadelphia. (Photo by Sam LeVan/sxc.hu)

By Sara Shelton

Philadelphia—A divine appointment at a Starbucks in the Philadelphia suburb of Jenkintown led Mark Chripczuk into church planting. In late 1999, Chripczuk stopped in for a coffee break and met Aaron Harvie, a Louisville transplant new to the area and looking to plant a church in the Jenkintown area.

Chripczuk was looking for a fresh opportunity to serve the city and Harvie, who now serves as the North American Mission Board's church planting strategist for Kentucky, was looking for fresh faces to help launch a church plant. Nine months later, Riverside Community Church opened in Horsham, Penn., with Chripczuk on the team. But that was only the beginning.

"Being a part of Riverside Community Church gave me a taste of what it means to be a part of a church plant," Chripczuk said. "Just surveying the landscape around us, it became evident to me that there simply are not enough churches in the Philadelphia metro area to serve the huge population of people. The idea came back to me to plant a church in Philadelphia somewhere and it just felt like a calling the Lord placed on my life."

Harvie and the team at Riverside quickly jumped behind Chripczuk, offering their full support and partnership with him in this call to plant. They sent him to Southern Seminary where he completed his master's degree and formed another partnership relationship with Sojourn Community Church in Louisville.

"The support of Riverside, the teaching I received at Southern and my time serving with Sojourn Community Church all came together to shape the vision for



Mark Chripczuk



Aaron Harvie

what this new church would look like," he said.

Returning to the area in the summer of 2010, Chripczuk set to work with his core team to build the foundation for what would become Trinity Church.

"The very first time that Trinity Church got together as a core group there were six people," he recalled. "We committed to praying and pursuing the Lord and slowly continued to grow over time."

By June 2011, Trinity Church was ready to open their doors for weekly services. The fledgling congregation is still growing, bringing in about 60 adults and 20 children each week.

Chripczuk and his team are hoping to reach the growing suburban community of Fort Washington through their church.

"Fort Washington is a suburb just outside the city of Philadelphia. It is kind of a combination between a lot of conveniences of the suburbs but still the encroachment of the city," Chripczuk explained.

"At Trinity Church, we're attracting a lot of young families with kids, working professionals and commuters, internationals ... It's a diverse population to reach," he said.

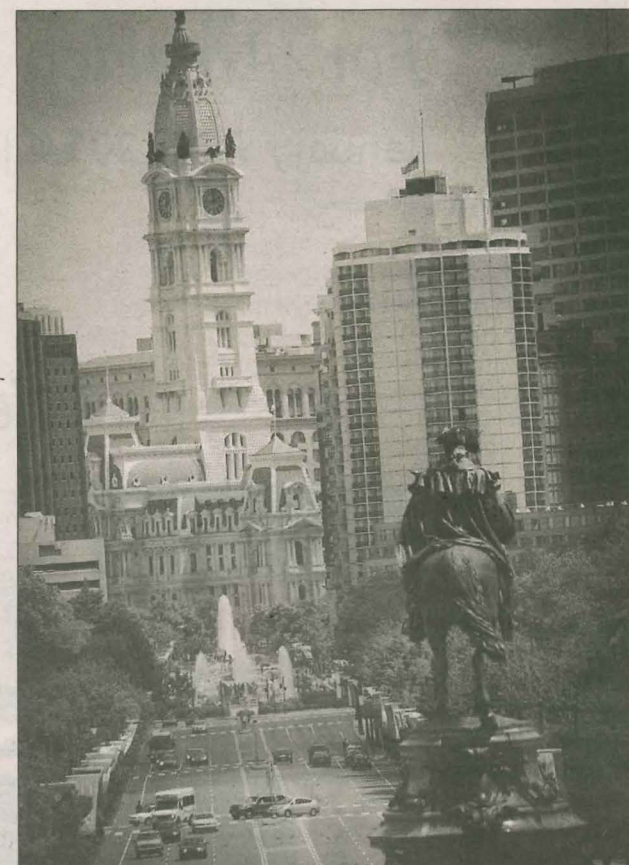
But if anyone can reach them, it's Chripczuk. He was raised in a Ukrainian Baptist church in Philadelphia where his father served as pastor. A native of the area, he recognizes better than anyone how great the need for a strong gospel presence in the Philadelphia metro area is.

"When you drive down any road in the Philadelphia area, you pass a lot of church buildings but just because there's a church building doesn't mean the gospel is truly being proclaimed there," he said. "That's one of the things that gives me the greatest joy in serving here: I know people need to hear about Jesus."

This heart for the lost in the Philadelphia metro area is driving not just the work Chripczuk is doing now at Trinity Church, but also his hope to continue to plant and multiply other churches throughout the area.

"Multiplication is the heartbeat of what we are all about," Chripczuk explained. "We want to pass on what we've learned and raise up leaders in our church."

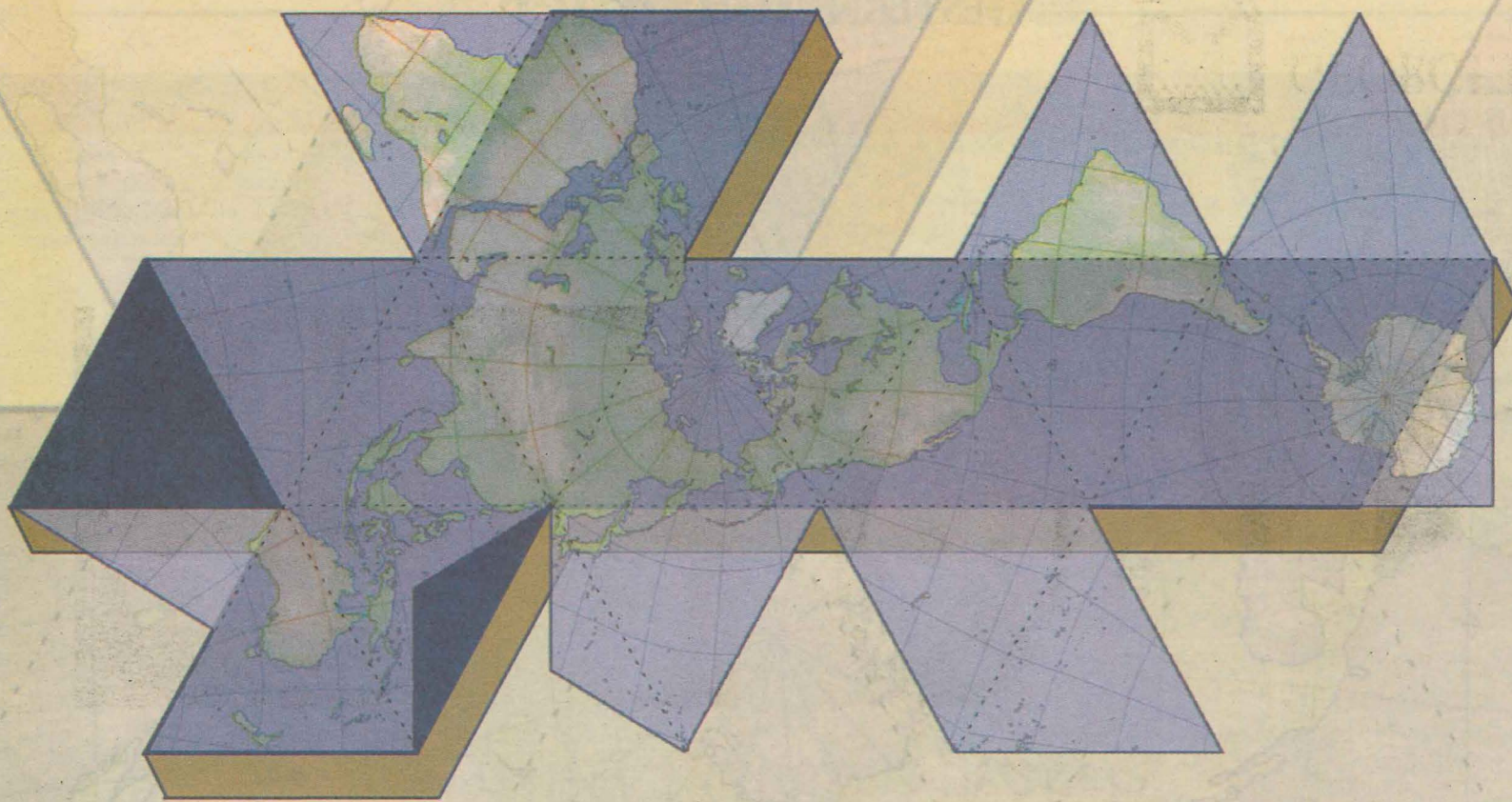
Chripczuk believes there is no better ground for church planting than in Philly. Here, the harvest is truly plentiful and the vision for more churches is



Downtown Philadelphia taken from the top of the stairs at the Museum of Art. (Photo by Chris Hurtado/sxc.hu)

strong in the hearts of leaders.

"Philadelphia is fertile ground. There's tremendous opportunity to lay a solid foundation for church planting so that in years to come many more churches will be planted, many more pastors will be sent out and many more souls saved," Chripczuk said. (NAMB) Philadelphia is one of 32 cities the North American Mission Board has chosen for specific evangelistic and church planting efforts through Send North America. As a part of Send North America, NAMB is working to involve more Southern Baptist churches directly in church planting in some of the most under-reached and under-served parts of the U.S. and Canada. For more information or to become involved in Send North America, visit namb.net/mobilize-me.



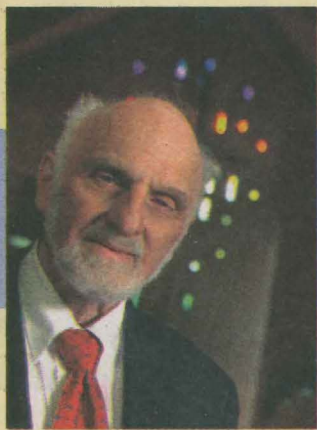
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