

# WESTERN Recorder

May 28, 2013

Shine Like Stars \* Philippians 2:15

Volume 187, Issue 21

## Southern Baptists responding OKLAHOMA'S PATH OF DESTRUCTION



Little remains of homes in the path of a tornado that carved through Moore, Okla., May 22. (Photo by U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Bradley C. Church/DOD)



Volunteers with Oklahoma Baptist disaster relief load hot food into Red Cross ERVs at First Baptist Church in Moore, Okla. (Photo by Bob Nigh)

### Luter: SBC ready to 'assist in any way'

**Moore, Okla.**—The tornado that moved through Moore, Okla., May 20, leaving at least 24 dead and many homeless has prompted the North American Mission Board to direct all incoming disaster relief funds to the area and calls for prayer from Southern Baptist Convention President Fred Luter.

"On behalf of the Southern Baptist Convention, our prayers and thoughts are with the families and victims of the tragic tornado in Moore, Okla.," Luter said in a statement May 21. "Not only our prayers but disaster relief teams from across the SBC are there to assist in any way possible. May God give the citizens of Moore, Okla., comfort, strength and hope during this trying time."

Many of the victims were children,  
□ See Oklahoma... Page 4

### 'Faith-based FEMA' to be 'huge part' of Okla. recovery effort

**Moore, Okla.**—Southern Baptists throughout social media took note that NBC News anchor Brian Williams and reporter Harry Smith mentioned on air the quick response of Southern Baptist Disaster Relief workers in Moore, Okla., May 21.

"In the briefings today it was apparent there's FEMA and then there's the faith-

based FEMA," Williams said, standing in front of rubble left by the tornado that devastated the area Monday. "There are no fewer—I counted—than 30 churches that are banding together, and that's going to be a huge part of this recovery."

Smith added, "As you and I have seen in so many different places in this country, if you're waiting for the government,

you're going to be in for an awful long wait. The Baptist men, they're going to get it done tomorrow."

Williams agreed, "They're already delivering food on the street."

Oklahoma Baptist disaster relief workers were in action immediately after the tornado hit, responding with feeding

□ See 'Faith-based FEMA'... Page 4

#### LIFEWAY SURVEY

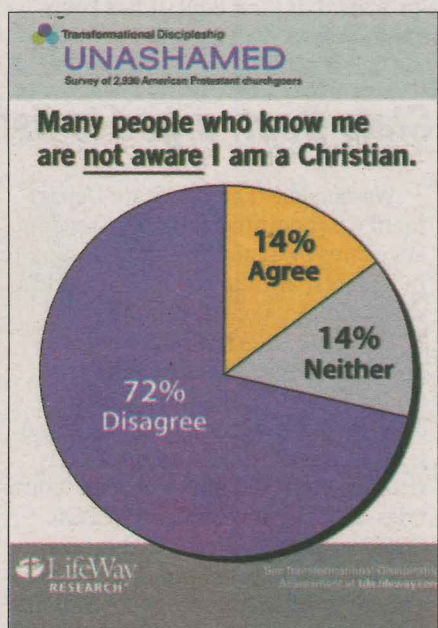
### Mature Christians unashamed of faith

By Russ Rankin

**Nashville, Tenn.**—While not all churchgoers are particularly transparent or open about their faith, mature Christians are consistent in character and identity around non-believers, LifeWay research reveals.

The survey of Protestant churchgoers identifies "unashamed" as one of eight attributes of discipleship that consistently show up in the lives of maturing Christians. Being unashamed connotes a boldness to stand for one's

□ See Unashamed ... Page 5

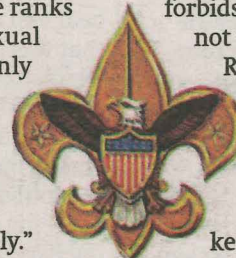


### Scouts overturn ban on gay members

By Gregory Tomlin

**Grapevine, Texas**—Delegates to the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America May 23 approved new membership guidelines which open the ranks of the organization to homosexual members. Young men who openly claim to be homosexual may now participate as Scouts.

The decision, the BSA leadership said in a statement, was based on "growing input from within the Scouting family." That input led to a national review of policy, or a "comprehensive listening exercise," resulting in a resolution to remove the restriction "denying membership to youth on the basis of sexual orientation alone."



Some 1,400 delegates to the National Council approved the change in membership standards by a margin of 61-39 percent, but changes to the adult leadership policy of the organization, which forbids homosexual Scout leaders, was not up for vote and remains in place.

Rules on sexual misconduct, heterosexual and homosexual, also remain in place for Scouts and Scout leaders.

John Stemberger, who has waged a national campaign to keep the ban on homosexual Scouts in place through the website OnMyHonor.net, said the "most influential youth organization in America had turned a sad corner."

"The Boy Scouts of America have  
□ See Boy Scouts... Page 5

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# Re-launch brings new life for declining Henderson church

By David Roach

**Henderson**—Though it has dwindled to fewer than five in attendance, a western Kentucky church still has high hopes of impacting its community for Christ—thanks to a revitalization effort by the Kentucky Baptist Convention, the North American Mission Board and a sister church in the area.

Established in 1989 to reach the Countryview area of Henderson, Ambassador Baptist Church grew to about 50 attendees in its heyday. But in recent years the church gained a reputation as aging and unable to relate to young families. Combined with the departure or death of nearly all its members, it made effective outreach nearly impossible.



The former Ambassador Baptist Church building is being remodeled with funds from NAMB and Zion Baptist Church in Henderson, and will re-open as a satellite of Zion. (Photo provided by Charlie Cameron)

So Pastor Charlie Cameron approached Zion Baptist Church in Henderson about buying Ambassador's facility, assuming control of its assets and re-launching it as an evangelistic force once again in an area with great evangelistic potential. At Zion's request, KBC provided church consulting services and helped obtain a \$25,000 grant from NAMB for the re-launch. As a result, Zion Baptist Church's Countryview Campus is set to open in the fall in the facilities that formerly belonged to Ambassador.

"I always felt like we would do some new church starts in Henderson, and I

had shared that with the church family," Zion pastor Mark Galloway said. "I anticipated they would be new works in new locations. But over the last couple of years God has really burdened me for the churches in our association which are declining."

Galloway added that prior to Ambassador, Zion helped another small church.

## Seeking help

The decision to sell its facility wasn't an easy one for Ambassador. Cameron said the counsel and prayer support of Bill Patterson, director of missions for Green Valley Baptist Association, helped him realize that turning to Zion wasn't giving up, but represented a way to continue his church's vision to reach the lost.

Following a vote of the congregation, Ambassador sold all its assets to Zion in April for \$1.

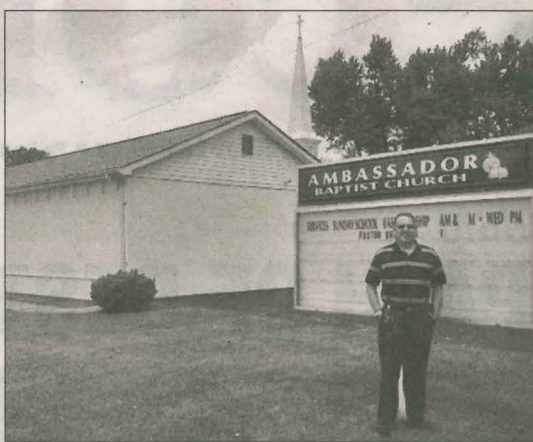
"Back in July they wanted to disband," Cameron said of his congregation. "I told them, 'This is God's house. This is God's property. And if you disband, then all this could be sold to a secular individual. And that wasn't the dream. The dream was ... to further the kingdom of heaven.' So they all voted to let Zion come in."

In addition to the money it received from NAMB, Zion plans to spend an additional \$50,000 to \$75,000 of its own money in the revitalization project. After some remodeling, Zion will hold a Vacation Bible School on the property in July, followed by a block party in August. Between now and then it will prayer-walk the area, conduct surveys in a nearby subdivision, and distribute 500 New Testaments as an outreach.

Galloway doesn't know whether the Countryview Campus will become an autonomous congregation or continue to be a satellite campus of Zion. He says he will wait for God's leading.

## KBC partnership

KBC's involvement in the revitalization is nothing short of providential,



Zion Baptist Church Pastor Mark Galloway has joined with the Kentucky Baptist Convention and the North American Mission Board to re-launch Zion Baptist Church in Henderson as a satellite campus. (Photo provided by Mark Galloway)

according to Galloway. One day he and his executive pastor were discussing the possibility of contacting KBC for help, but Galloway didn't know anyone on the Mission Board staff. That very afternoon, however, KBC executive director Paul Chitwood stopped by the church office unannounced to meet Galloway.

After hearing the vision to re-launch Ambassador, Chitwood put Zion in contact with Western Regional Consultant Todd Gray and Church Consulting and Revitalization Team Leader Steve Rice. They told Zion

about church revitalization funds available to churches from NAMB and helped the congregation apply for a grant.

Gray continued to consult with Zion, including arranging for a webinar with First Baptist Church in Woodstock, Ga., on revitalizing struggling sister churches—a process that First Baptist has been through before.

**AT LEFT:** Charlie Cameron, former pastor of Ambassador Baptist Church in Henderson, approached a sister church about assuming control of Ambassador's assets and re-launching as a new church.

"Zion is strong," Gray said. "They work hard at their own congregation and location. They'll do the same for this ministry."

KBC help has made such an impression on Galloway that he says his church plans to increase its giving through the

Cooperative Program now that it understands better some types of ministry help that CP funds.

Rice noted that Ambassador's situation is atypical and that KBC tries to affect revitalization by working with a congregation's existing leadership.

He also stressed that KBC never helps a church unless invited.

"With our regional consultants on the ground, as we make strategic contact with every church in the Kentucky Baptist Convention," the Mission Board staff will "identify churches who are struggling and have great potential for revitalization," Rice said. (WR)

**'This is God's house.  
This is God's property.  
... The dream was ...  
to further the kingdom  
of heaven.'**

Charlie Cameron

## Minister in Jesus' name, Mohler tells grads

**Louisville**—More than 250 Southern Baptist Theological Seminary students received degrees ranging from certificates to doctorates during spring commencement on the seminary lawn.

"This great assembly is humbled by the knowledge that you will go where so many of us have never gone," Albert Mohler Jr., president of Southern Seminary, told the 210th graduating class.

"Our fervent prayer is that, as you go, you go with the longing to be asked the question that was so famously asked of

Peter and John: 'By whose power or by what name did you do this?' We long to hear you answer, 'This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.'"

Mohler presented the Findley B. and Louvenia Edge Faculty Award for Teaching Excellence to Russell Moore who will begin at the president of the Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission June 1. (BP)



## State Dept. urged to list religious liberty violators

**Washington**—The U.S. State Department disappointed religious freedom advocates by again failing to designate in its latest annual report the world's worst violators of the human right.

The 2012 International Religious Freedom Report, the first released under Secretary of State John Kerry, described the status of the exercise of faith in nearly 200 countries or territories, but it did not designate "countries of particular concern" (CPCs). CPC designation is reserved for countries that have practiced or permitted violations of religious liberty that are "systematic, ongoing, and egregious."

The State Department, which is required by a 1998 law to name CPCs annually, has not announced them since September 2011. The CPCs it named then were Burma, China, Eritrea, Iran, North Korea, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Uzbekistan.

Religious freedom advocates urged the State Department to announce CPCs quickly.

"Those who suffer religious persecution around the world are grateful for the support they get from the government of the United States, and for us to now be silent on this issue would be both tragic and a betrayal of those people who have risked their lives for 'soul freedom' in their countries of origin," said Richard Land, president of the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission.

The U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) commended the State Department for its "admirable work" in the report but also called for CPC designations.

USCIRF Chair Katrina Lantos Swett said, "Prompt CPC designations will send the signal that the United States prioritizes religious freedom." (BP)

## Why we owe a great debt to associations, DOMs

I owe a great debt that I have dedicated my ministry to fulfill. That debt is to associations and director of missions. Why? Because throughout my ministry, DOMs have helped me develop my skills, provided me opportunities to serve, and taught me how to best reach people in my particular area.

My first pastorate was in a small rural church in southern Mississippi. Even though I had previously served on a staff at a large church and was working on my Masters of Divinity degree, I needed help in serving as a pastor. The DOM in our association came alongside me to help and to teach key lessons about ministry.

The most important lesson he taught me was understanding people in a rural community. Being from the city, I did not understand the rural mindset, and he helped me to realize what was important to them and how to reach them.

A key lesson to remember is that principles translate across all churches and cultures, but one must understand their specific culture to implement the principles. Amazingly, we train our missionaries to understand the culture where they are going, but then we forget to learn the culture where we are serving. Principles never change, but we do need to understand our setting to apply them. The DOM in my first association taught me to understand my people better by understanding their culture.

He also taught me what resources were available in the state convention and the association to help our church. Being from a large church, I was accustomed to having any resource I needed by simply ordering them, but at that small church we had almost no resources. Our DOM helped me to

understand the importance of the Cooperative Program in providing help to smaller churches. Not only did he help me find resources, he introduced me to key leaders in our association and throughout the state to help me to grow and mature.

One of the best things he did was to provide me leadership opportunities. Even though I was 25 years old, with little experience, he trusted me enough to give me opportunities to serve. Because of his trust and guidance, I became the vice moderator at age 27 and moderator the following year. Again, this was leadership I learned not from a book, but in life.

The next few churches I served, each DOM was there to teach me about the community and the culture I was serving. They were there to be my pastor when I needed someone to talk with about any problems. Their experience and insights were instructive in helping reach more people for Christ.

I owe a debt to associations, and that is why in the churches I serve, we are always active in associational work. Now being a pastor of a large church, I want to help our association even more, both financially and through volunteers, so our DOM can help the other pastors—especially young pastors—in their journey.

When we talk about cooperating with one another, associational work is a part of that heritage. We can read many books and listen to lectures and sermons on our iPods, but we still need someone to teach us about our specific community, and that is where our DOM can help us best. Please support your local association in order to reach Kentucky for Christ.

*Dan Summerlin is president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and pastor of Lone Oak First Baptist Church in Paducah.*

### Guest Viewpoint



Dan Summerlin

## The other transfer tax

By Laurie Valentine

While most people know there is a federal estate tax payable by the estates of folks who die with taxable estates which exceed the unified credit amount (currently \$5.25 million), many do not know that gifts made during life can also trigger another transfer tax—the federal gift tax.

Like the federal estate tax, lifetime gifts to U.S. citizen spouses and charities incur no federal gift tax—no matter how much is given to your spouse or the charity. And, each person can shelter a total of \$5.25 million of lifetime taxable gifts with the unified credit. To the extent the unified credit is used up with lifetime giving, it will not be available to shelter the transfer of your wealth at your death.

The annual exclusion shelters from gift tax the first \$14,000 of gifts made in a given year to an individual other than your spouse. If total gifts in a given year to one individual exceed the annual exclusion amount, then a federal gift tax return must be filed to report the gift. You won't have to pay gift tax unless your total combined taxable gifts for the current and prior years exceed the unified credit amount.

You may also pay medical bills for any person of any amount directly to a healthcare provider and not be treated as making a gift. Likewise, tuition payments made directly to an educational institution on behalf of someone else are excluded from gift tax liability. Giving someone funds to pay their medical expenses or tuition doesn't qualify for these exclusions.

Spouses may "split" gifts made with assets owned by one spouse by filing a gift tax return in which each spouse reports a gift of one-half the value of the gifted asset.

*Laurie Valentine is trust counsel for the Kentucky Baptist Foundation*

## Help with couples' communication

By James Stillwell

*Q: My wife and I fight all the time. She smirks when I talk and interrupts me constantly. I have a lot to say 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. Essential for this interaction to work is for the listener to 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.*



FINANCIAL FORUM



FAMILY FORUM

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## Churches at the center

The new staffing structure at the Kentucky Baptist Convention is designed to accomplish the mission described by our new mission statement: "The Kentucky Baptist Convention—Created by churches, for churches, to help churches reach Kentucky and the world for Christ." Our goal

### Together We are the KBC



Paul Chitwood

is to keep the local church at the center of everything we do.

Why? Revelation 19 reminds us that the Lord Jesus is coming again not to claim denominations, mission organizations, Christian schools or homeless shelters. When gospel-centered, all of these can be effective ministries of the church but, again, Christ is not coming for these.

Christ is coming for His bride. Shouts from heaven declare: "Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come." (v 6-7)

The heavens then proclaim: "...his bride has made herself ready. Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear." (v 7-8) For the glory of Christ, we want to do everything we can to ensure the Bride, i.e., the church, is ready for her wedding day. To that end we serve to help encourage, strengthen and multiply churches.

To accomplish this mission, our new structure includes the addition of a Church Consulting & Revitalization Team as our largest ministry team. The team consists of five regional consultants along with 11 ministry consultants. The regional consultants are available to help directors of missions, associations, churches and church groups, but they are particularly assigned to help pastors. The five regional consultants live in the regions where they are privileged to serve. Here's a list of these five men:

- Jeff Crabtree, South Central Region
- Alan Dodson, South Eastern Region
- Todd Gray, West Region
- Ronny Raines, North Central Region
- Alan Witham, Central Region

In addition to the regional consultants, the CCR team has 11 ministry consultants. These consultants serve the entire state in their specialized ministry fields. They are available to work with directors of missions, associations, churches, church groups and pastors. Here's a list of the 11 consultants:

- Karl Babb, Transition/Conflict Resolution
- Peggy Berry, Ministry Transition
- John Bennett, Preschool/Children
- Shelly Johns, Women/Senior Adults
- Don Spencer, Church Financial Benefits
- Darryl Wilson, Sunday School/Discipleship
- Jason Stewart, Worship/Music
- Roger Palmer, Joe Ball, Patrick Greer, David Rouse—Youth (all serve with Crossings Ministries)

Team Leader Steve Rice, a long-tenured pastor whom God used to strengthen and revitalize the churches he served, gives credible and gifted leadership to this team and is also available to assist churches. Contact the CCR team at (866) 489-3571 or at (502) 489-3571, or at www.kybaptist.org/church-revitalization.

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

## High court to hear prayers case

**Greece, N.Y.**—The Supreme Court agreed May 20 to hear a case on whether sectarian prayers at the beginning of official government meetings violate the First Amendment.

Justices said they will review an appeals court ruling that found a town council in upstate New York at odds with the Constitution after 11-years of offering primarily Christian prayers at the opening of public meetings.

A lower court had upheld the council's practice, but the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals disagreed, saying the council should have found members of other faiths to pray.

Two residents of Greece, a suburb of Rochester, who were not Christian said they felt marginalized by the prayers and are represented by Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

Barry Lynn, Americans United executive director, told the Washington Post, "A town council meeting isn't a church service, and it shouldn't seem like one."

David Cortman, senior counsel of Alliance Defending Freedom, which is representing the town, told the Post the framers of the Constitution prayed while drafting the Bill of Rights. "Americans today should be as free as the Founders were to pray," he said.

Since at least 2011, sectarian prayers by government bodies in Maryland, North Carolina and Virginia have faced legal challenges. In two cases, courts ruled that while official opening prayers are permissible, the First Amendment requires that they be non-sectarian.

The Supreme Court case, *Town of Greece vs. Galloway*, will be argued this fall. (ABP)

## Late-term abortion ban proposed nationwide

**Washington**—Rep. Trent Franks, R-Ariz., announced May 17 he would expand his bill to prohibit abortions on babies 20 weeks or more after fertilization from the District of Columbia to the entire country. Franks' legislation, the Pain-capable Unborn Child Protection Act, would ban abortions based on evidence a child in the womb experiences pain by that point.

Franks' announcement came four days after a Philadelphia jury convicted Kermit Gosnell of the first-degree murder of three born-alive babies as well as 21 counts of violating a state ban on abortions after 24 weeks of pregnancy. Gosnell, 72, received three consecutive life sentences without parole for the murder convictions.

Southern Baptist ethicist Richard Land commended Franks for giving

attention "to the humanity of unborn children. There is extremely convincing evidence scientifically that unborn babies feel pain when they are burned alive in saline solution abortions and when they are torn asunder in other methods of abortion."

Franks previously had introduced the bill as a ban affecting only the District of Columbia, which the U.S. Constitution has granted Congress authority over. Last year, Franks sponsored a similar ban in D.C., but it failed to gain congressional approval.

A hearing was held May 23 before the House Constitution and Civil Justice Subcommittee, which Franks chairs. Nine states have enacted bans similar to Franks' proposal, according to the National Right to Life Committee. (BP)



A man wanders slowly through the rubble of what remains of a home, May 21, after a devastating tornado killed 24 people in Moore, Okla., May 20. (Photo by U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Mark Hybers/DOD)

## 'Faith-based FEMA'

Continued from page 1

units, debris cleanup and chaplains.

Sam Porter, director of disaster relief for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, said "anywhere from 24 to 40 chaplains were on the ground every day all across the storm track just to give emotional and spiritual care to people and give them hope because that's where we find a great place to minister in disaster relief."

Oklahoma Baptist chaplains were at the two destroyed elementary schools with the families as they searched for their children, Porter said, and the leader of the chaplaincy effort was involved in several official notification visits.

Porter reported that 5,500 Oklahoma Baptists were trained in disaster response before the Moore tornado hit, "and today is the day. It's game-time in Oklahoma with disaster relief."

Residents of Moore were allowed back into their demolished neighborhoods Wednesday afternoon, and the death toll stood at 24, including at least 10 children.



Sam Porter, director of disaster relief for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, discusses response plans to the tornado that devastated Moore, Okla., with incident commander Wes Johnson. (Photo by Bob Nigh)

Early estimates indicate the cost of damage from the tornado could exceed \$2 billion.

Though security in the affected area remained tight, Oklahoma Baptist feeding and laundry units were in place. As of Wednesday, 105 Oklahoma Baptist disaster relief volunteers had prepared more than 9,000 meals and made nearly 270 ministry contacts.

"We will need cleanup assistance for four to five weeks at a minimum," Porter

said. "Because of the nature of the storms there will not be a lot of chain-saw work, but the debris cleanup will be big."

Fritz Wilson, executive director for disaster relief at the North American Mission Board, said a multistate response is expected in support of Oklahoma Baptist efforts and he anticipated out-of-state crews working in the affected areas by the weekend.

Wilson asked Southern Baptists to continue praying for survivors and volunteers and to give to the efforts to help sustain the disaster relief ministry.

"The heart of Southern Baptists comes through in ministry like this," Wilson said. "Oklahoma Baptists went into action immediately following the storm."

First Baptist Church in Moore, which served as a ministry center in response to the 1999 tornado that struck the community and has been instrumental in relief efforts from the earliest moments of this storm, is hosting an Oklahoma Baptist feeding kitchen and will host a NAMB command center. (BP)

To give to the Oklahoma Baptist Disaster Relief fund, visit [okdisasterhelp.com](http://okdisasterhelp.com).

## Oklahoma

Continued from page 1

after the tornado severely damaged two elementary schools. The number of injuries climbed to the hundreds after the two-mile wide tornado stayed on the ground for 40 minutes, cutting a 22-mile path in a heavily populated area. The National Weather Service rated the tornado as an EF5 with estimated winds at 200 miles per hour.

Anthony Jordan, executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, circulated a letter last Monday night saying he was "deeply devastated by the destruction and loss of life" caused by the Moore tornado as well as those that struck Sunday in nearby areas.

"I pray God gives us the strength to pull together, as His people, to turn this tragedy into a moment that gives Him glory," Jordan wrote. "Our disaster relief teams are on the scene of every area affected in Oklahoma, and we will not leave the scenes until every family is served."

Jordan asked Southern Baptists to pray for victims of the disaster and to consider making a contribution to the Oklahoma Baptist Disaster Relief efforts.

"May we be the hands and feet of Christ during these crucial days," Jordan said. (BP)

To support Southern Baptist Disaster Relief, visit [donations.namb.net](http://donations.namb.net).



An American flag flies above debris in Moore, Okla., May 21 as a member of the Oklahoma National Guard surveys the destruction. (Photo by U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Kendall James/DOD)

## NEWS BRIEFS

**Sovereign case dismissed**

Montgomery County (Maryland) Circuit Court Judge Sharon Burrell dismissed a lawsuit against Sovereign Grace Ministries May 17, citing technicalities including the statute of limitations. The suit's 11 plaintiffs had alleged years of sexual abuse and a subsequent cover up by SGM officials. Their attorney said the decision will be appealed.

The suit accused ministry leaders, including founder C.J. Mahaney, of failing to report accusations of sexual molestation to police, and even counseling those accused of committing the crimes on how to avoid arrest.

**Credentials Committee**

Southern Baptist Convention President Fred Luter has named members of the Credentials Committee for the June 11-12 annual meeting in Houston. Serving from Kentucky is Brian Burkhead of Cornerstone Baptist Church in Lexington.

**VT. OKs assisted suicide**

Vermont became the third state to enact physician-assisted suicide when Gov. Peter Shumlin signed legislation May 20. It joins Oregon and Washington as the only states to permit terminally ill citizens to take their own lives by using lethal drug doses prescribed by doctors. Vermont is the first to legalize assisted suicide through the legislature. Southern Baptist ethicist Richard Land called Monday "a sad day for America."

**Boy Scouts**

*Continued from page 1*

demonstrated that values are not timeless," Stemberger said in a statement after the vote. "The Boy Scouts are now teaching kids that when your values are no longer popular, change them."

Stemberger added that BSA leaders had succumbed to the pressure of special interest groups by making the change to the membership policy.

Thursday was the last day he would wear a Boy Scouts of America uniform, Stemberger said, and he plans to call a coalition together to discuss creating a new youth organization centered on biblical values, a call echoed by many religious leaders.

"We had hoped to keep sex and politics out of Scouting," Stemberger said. "We grieve today not because we are leaving the Boy Scouts of America, but

**Pastors challenged to leave legacy for missions**

Richmond, Va.—Opportunities for pastors to deepen their churches' missions involvement and leave a legacy will be highlighted during an IMB-sponsored breakfast and luncheon during the SBC annual meeting in Houston.

At a luncheon June 11, IMB President Tom Elliff will share his vision for missions in this century. Also, attendees will hear from pastors where members are using legacy giving to help reach unengaged, unreached people groups with the gospel.

On June 12, pastors interested in taking their churches to a deeper level of missions involvement can attend a breakfast where Elliff will share his vision for IMB's Embrace initiative and attendees will hear from others already involved in the effort.

"Legacy planning enables people to meet genuine family needs and, at the same time, impact the world for the cause of the gospel—a legacy that will continue until Jesus returns," said David Clippard, IMB associate vice president of development.

Englewood Baptist Church in Rocky Mount, N.C., worked through its state convention's foundation to establish a legacy giving fund.

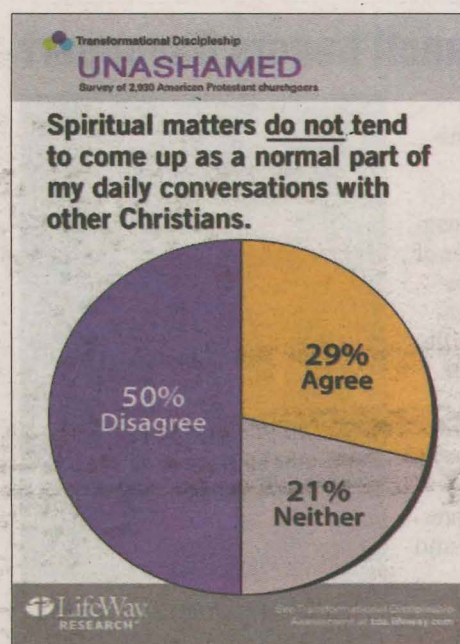
"I started this journey wanting to help this church take a step of faith in their giving and living," says Michael Cloer, Englewood's pastor. "I was so encouraged in what God could and would do through this that I wanted my wife and me to be the first ones to make a will and establish a charitable trust where we could not only leave something

to our posterity but also invest in God's kingdom."

Breakfast attendees will hear from pastors whose churches are already taking a direct role in "embracing" a UUPG. The breakfast will be held from 7-8:15 a.m. at the George R. Brown Convention Center, Grand Ballroom A, level 3.

The luncheon, hosted by Sagemont church and IMB, is from noon to 1:30 p.m. in Houston's Hilton Americas Hotel, Americas Ballroom E/F, Level 2.

Both events are free of charge, but tickets are required for admission. To register for the breakfast, go to [regonline.com/SBC\\_Breakfast](http://regonline.com/SBC_Breakfast). To register for the luncheon, go to [regonline.com/SBC\\_Luncheon](http://regonline.com/SBC_Luncheon). For additional information, call 1-800-999-3113, ext. 1405, or email [lconnerley@imb.org](mailto:lconnerley@imb.org). (IMB/BP)

**Unashamed**

*Continued from page 1*

beliefs in conversation and lifestyle, LifeWay Research director Scott McConnell said.

Churchgoers also seem to think they live out their faith in a manner that is evident to others. Just 14 percent of churchgoers agree with the statement: "Many people who know me are not aware I am a Christian," while 72 percent disagree with the statement.

Churchgoers often leave important elements of faith unspoken, the survey shows. Nearly a third (29 percent) agree that "spiritual matters do not tend to come up as a normal part of my daily conversations with other Christians," while 50 percent disagree.

According to the survey, 66 percent of

American churchgoers believe Christians should seek out honest feedback about their spiritual life from other Christians. Similarly, 57 percent of churchgoers say they openly discuss their difficulties with Christian friends. Only 1 in 4 does not, according to the survey.

"It is easy for Christians to put their 'church' face on at church and pretend everything is fine," McConnell said. "But without transparent interaction among followers of Christ, blind spots are left unattended and opportunities for change are unsupported."

The research uncovers characteristics that best predict being unashamed, including reading the Bible frequently, spreading the gospel, being disciplined or mentored one-on-one by a more spiritually mature Christian, confessing sins to God and praying for fellow Christians, McConnell said. (LifeWay/BP)

because the Boy Scouts left us." He believes the BSA can expect to lose no fewer than 200,000 members and \$30 million in funding.

**'Incompatible' with Scout Oath**

Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee President Frank Page, who had met with Scouting leaders and had urged them to maintain the current policy, said he was "deeply saddened" that the BSA overturned its "constitutionally protected expressive message that homosexual behavior is incompatible with the principles enshrined in the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

Page said the vote "ushers in a sea-change in the credibility of the Boy Scouts of America as a viable boys' organization for millions of Americans who believe strongly in the principles of biblical morality. To claim that the Boys Scouts is the nation's foremost youth program of character development and

values-based leadership training suddenly rings hollow."

Page encouraged prayer for a country "in desperate need of a genuine spiritual awakening" and expressed his gratitude for voting members in the minority that stood up to political pressure.

**Land: 'Mass exodus'**

Southern Baptist ethicist Richard Land predicted a mass exodus of religious groups from the organization.

"Frankly, I can't imagine a Southern Baptist pastor who would continue to allow his church to sponsor a Boy Scout troop under these new rules," said Land, president of the Southern Baptist Convention's Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission. "I predict there will be a mass exodus of Southern Baptists and other conservative Christians from the Boy Scouts."

The "supposed compromise" satisfies no one and signals the BSA will only become more inclusive of gays, Land said.

"The supposed compromise takes away their best defense. In the year 2000, the Supreme Court ruled the Boy Scouts did not have to have homosexual Scout masters because the homosexual lifestyle was contrary to the core values of Scouts. If you're going to allow opening gay Scouts to participate in Scouting, then it's no longer a core value," Land said. "And so what we're going to see now is a flood of litigation by pro-homosexual groups arguing that the continuing ban

on gay Scout Masters is ... prejudice and they will win. They will win, because the Boy Scouts have stripped themselves of their defense the Supreme Court used."

Land advised Southern Baptist churches to withdraw their support of Scout troops and support the Royal Ambassadors ministry to boys.

Russell Moore, president-elect of the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, said the decision lands the "sexual revolution's onward march" square in the middle of Scouting.

"Few, if any, are suggesting the Boy Scouts kick out boys based on their particular temptations. We don't, and shouldn't do that in our churches, much less in the Scouts," Moore told Baptist Press. "But this change is more than this. It doesn't speak in terms of temptations but in terms of the claiming of a sexually politicized identity as morally neutral."

The statement from the BSA leadership said the new membership policy is effective Jan. 1, 2014, allowing the organization enough time to implement the policy and communicate it to its 116,000 units. The statement also said the organization would not be distracted from its mission by a "single, divisive and unresolved societal issue." Leaders said there are no plans to review the issue further.

The BSA statement ended by acknowledging the different opinions held on the matter of homosexuality, but said children were "better off when they are in Scouting." (BP)

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## 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.

## MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

■ **CADIZ**—Cadiz Church will hold Senior Summer Kickoff for graduating high school seniors, families and friends May 31, 7:30 p.m. Seniors could win a flat screen TV, dorm refrigerator, microwave or gift cards. **Kyle Noffsinger** is pastor.

■ **CLARKSON**—Clarkson Church will host Take Note Community Choir June 2, 6 p.m. For more information, call (270) 242-4567. **John Whittaker** is pastor.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Green Acres Church will hold a Towne Hall Meeting with guest speaker **Alan Witham** June 2, 4 p.m. Discussions will be led by the revitalization team. **Phil Ellis** is pastor.

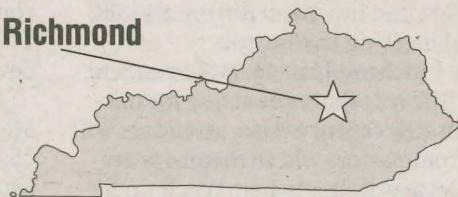
Hurstbourne Church will hold Fish Fry and Fellowship June 5, 6:30 p.m. **Mike O'Neal** is pastor.

Parkland Church will hold a RA pinewood car workshop June 1, 9 a.m., for RAs and parents to build a pinewood derby car. **Tom Curry** is pastor.

Ralph Avenue Church will hold a block party June 1, 11 a.m. **Samuel Vance** is pastor.

## Spotlight on ...

## Richmond



Red House Church will host Reaching the Summit: Avoiding and Reversing Decline in the Church conference June 1, 10 a.m. **George Yates** is pastor.

■ **STAMPING GROUND**—Cedar Grove Church will celebrate Pastor **Darrell Taylor's** 40th anniversary in service to the church June 2, 11 a.m., with music and a banquet roast.

## Campbellville's church relations council honors Davenport

**Campbellville**—Former Campbellsville President Randy Davenport was presented a leadership award May 17 for creating the Campbellsville University Church Relations Council in 1978.

Michael Carter, current president, read the plaque to Davenport and his wife, Janet, in their living room, surrounded by Charles Hedrick, one of the original members of the CRC, and John Chowning, vice president for church and external relations and executive assistant to the president.

Carter said Davenport led Campbellsville University during an important era and that "his understanding of the importance of Christian higher

education has enabled CU to move forward as a vibrant university in the 21st century."

Davenport also began the President's Club for donor recognition and initiated a number of other efforts that have continued to enhance the Christ-centered mission of Campbellsville.

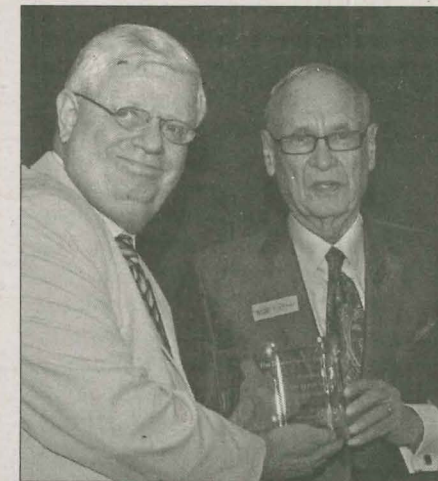
"We are very grateful to Dr. and Mrs. Davenport for their dedication and lives of servant leadership," Carter said.

Carter said the Davenports have touched thousands of lives through their work with CU and the Gideons. Davenport was president of CU from 1969 to 1988 and has been a life-long educator having served in Arkansas, Missouri, Indiana and Michigan. (CU)



CU President Michael Carter (bottom, left) presents Randy Davenport with a leadership award. Also pictured are Charles Hedrick (top, left) and John Chowning. (Photo by Joan McKinney)

## UC President honored with visionary award



Terry Forcht (right), 2012 Visionary Award recipient, presents UC President James Taylor with the Daniel Boone Visionary Award.

**Williamsburg**—The Mountain Laurel District of the Bluegrass Council of Boy Scouts honored University of the Cumberland's President James Taylor May 14 as the 2013 recipient of the Daniel Boone Visionary Award.

"The Daniel Boone Visionary Award is presented to an individual who, like Daniel Boone, has changed the landscape of their region with an unparalleled vision of what could be, and then made that vision a reality," said Terry Forcht, CEO and Founder of Forcht Group of Kentucky.

Forcht, 2012 Visionary Award recipient, presented Taylor with the award during a ceremony on the UC campus.

"I am humbled to receive this award," said Taylor. "I can't take credit for doing anything but hiring smart people with a great work ethic."

Since his tenure, Taylor has been the driving force behind the construction and acquisition of 24 buildings on the university campus. (UC)

## Be a child's hero

Father's Day, a day to remember  
Kentucky kids who need dads

"Hey, Dad, wanna play catch?"

Thousands of men come home each day after work to be greeted by such a question from a young son eager to spend time with the hero of their life.

For those fortunate enough to have a little girl, the question may be "Daddy, can you fix the door on my dollhouse?"

Whether he is handy with tools or not, most men cannot say no to such a sweet cry for help.

Sadly, there are many children across Kentucky each day who long to have a reliable father figure in their lives who will demonstrate love, patience and compassion. While the ache

in the heart of little lives longing for a dad is bad enough, the long-term impact of fatherlessness on young people is a pain felt by society as a whole.

Sons without fathers are much more likely to end up in prison than those raised in stable, two-parent households. Daughters without a strong relationship with daddy often end up in failed, sometimes violent relationships. Statistics show that on average, fatherless children struggle academically, socially

and economically and it is a cycle that is often repeated in subsequent generations.

Thankfully, many men across Kentucky have stepped up to become foster parents, providing the love, security and stability that children crave. These

modern day heroes may not have superpowers, but they do have the willingness to share themselves and their time to help a child or teen in need.

As Father's Day approaches, we hope you can look back fondly on the experiences you've had with your own dad, or perhaps another man in your life who filled a void when you needed it most. As you realize how much that man meant to your life, remember that there

are children in Kentucky today who need the strong, steady and loving hands of a dad to play catch, fix dollhouses, and mend lives.

To learn more about becoming a foster parent, contact Sunrise Children's Services at [www.sunrise.org](http://www.sunrise.org), or call us at (855) 33-icare.

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

Sunrise  
Children's  
Services

Bill Smithwick

## Finding peace in chaos

Tending to last minute camp  
details, a true test of patience

Dragon Lake.

That's two words not spoken often today, but ones that certainly conjure up memories from the Cedarmore faithful.

While Dragon Lake remains a memory, its existence continues to provide great benefit. As the history goes, the lake became full of silt and needed dredging. The cost of dredging seemed expensive at the time and the decision was made to breach the dam.

I must admit that I wish we still had the lake, but what the lake left behind is incredibly valuable. We have an endless supply of the best topsoil from the dreaded silt that I think you could find anywhere.

I know we are in camp ministry, not the topsoil business, but in many areas at Cedarmore we have very poor soil. In fact, aside from the old lake bed, all other dirt at Cedarmore is poor.

Now, we make use of this resource. What was once considered a nuisance is now used for good. Those who come to Cedarmore this year will notice the effects of our plan to renovate the

grounds with quality turf for camping activities.

As believers we can look back at our life experiences and possibly see a lot of pain, but God can use these past experi-

ences for good. I have seen this throughout my life. When I'm in the moment I feel like there is nothing good that can come from certain events, but the future always changes my perspective.

My parents have always been faithful to remind me that God works all things together for good for those who love Him and are called according to His purposes.

I am so thankful for the truth of God's Word. It is the source of encouragement and comfort in a world full of the unexpected. While I do hope to see a lake again along Six Mile Creek, today we will enjoy the topsoil that God has blessed us to use.

Crossings  
Ministries

David Melber

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

## Poster testimonies

### Graduating students proclaim lives changed after OBI

The Class of 2013 consisted of 46 individuals born in nine American political regions—the District of Columbia, Illinois, Kentucky, Massachusetts, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Texas and Virginia—and nine foreign nations—China, Ethiopia, Germany, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Korea, Nigeria, Senegal and Thailand—and bore succinct testimony to the impact of their Oneida Baptist Institute experience in a recent chapel service.

Each graduating student made a poster. On one side of the poster was a self-description of the student's life before coming to OBI. On the other side was a description of herself/herself now. Here's a sampling of their testimonies.

- I was selfish; now I put my friends before me.
- I was lost; now I'm found.
- I was a complainer; now I'm content.
- I didn't know where I was going; now I'm trusting God to lead the way.
- I was complacent; now I'm determined.
- I had a lot of regrets; now I've learned from my mistakes.
- I was lost; now I've found myself and I'm proud of who I am.
- I didn't believe in myself; now I see my full potential.
- I was uncaring; now I'm motivated.
- I had one friend; now I have many friends and memories not to be forgotten.

■ I was failing in everything; now I'm passing in all.

■ I had so much anger; now I've found peace with God.

■ I was defiant, conforming, self-centered, alone, no relationship with parents, godless; now I'm blessed by God, thankful for family, for companions, and for being saved by grace.

■ I didn't appreciate my family; now my family is the most important thing in my life.

■ I was drug-addicted; now I'm sober.

■ I was trapped, insecure and lonely; now I'm free, happy and loved!

■ I was on the road to a GED; now I'm on the road to EKU.

■ I was scared of the future; now I'm knowing what I want.

■ I had no future; now I'm going to college.

■ I didn't want to go to school; now my only wish is to go to college.

■ I didn't want to go to school; now I don't want to leave school.

■ School was just a building; now school is a family.

Does God use OBI to make a difference in teenagers' lives? According to them, the answer is "Yes!"

Please pray for them as they leave us and go forward with the adventure of life.

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

### This is Oneida



Paul Davidson

## Next great adventure

### Graduate expresses appreciation, excitement about transition

I always like to hear from our graduates about how their time at Clear Creek has equipped them for their next ministry transition as they prepare for what God has next for them. Graduate Eric Sutton is excited for the next season of ministry God has planned for him.

"My time at Clear Creek has really been a great adventure for me," Sutton said. "God certainly has moved in my time here. I just cannot imagine being anywhere else these past few years in my life."

Sutton came to us from Fruitland Baptist Bible Institute in Hendersonville, N.C., which offers a two-year associates degree in ministry. Clear Creek has a partnership with Fruitland that allows their students to transfer all their associate degree credits toward a bachelor's degree in ministry.

"I initially was led to Fruitland Baptist Bible Institute when God placed a call on my heart to pastor a local church," Sutton said. "While I was there, God also placed a call on my heart to teach. The partnership with Clear Creek was affirmation for me that God was opening the door for me to further my ministry training so I

could work toward the academic preparation needed for me to be able to teach, while also serving as a pastor of a local church."

"As I think back over my time here at Clear Creek, I am thankful for academic preparation in general education classes like philosophy and history that were all taught from a Christian worldview," Sutton continued. "I never thought I would enjoy a class like philosophy, but I have realized how beneficial it has been to me in helping me to deal with the people I minister to. I also enjoyed looking at historical events that applied to the church and how it chal-

lenges us to try and do better today."

As I write this article, Sutton has just been called as pastor of a church in the area.

"I do know more academic studies are in my future," Sutton said. "I just don't know when. Right now I'm just seeking God's will and getting ready for my next adventure with Him."

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

### Clear Creek Chronicle



Donnie Fox

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**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 for it. Dr. Charles L. Burton, (859) 913-4048.

**NEEDED:** Jeffersonville Baptist Church, Jeffersonville, Ky., is in need of a van. A 15-passenger, no CDL, preferably the bus style. Would be interested in either. If your church has a van you are no longer using or are updating, we may be interested in your old van. Please contact Pastor Paul Hubbs, (859) 398-8231, or Roy Trimble, (859) 398-8829.

**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 to [home@woodlawnbaptist2serve.org](mailto: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](mailto:donna@ferncreekbaptist.org). Questions? Call Pastor Linda Barnes Popham, or Eddie Howell, minister of music, at (502) 239-0316.

**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](mailto:safeharborpastor@gmail.com).

**SEEKING:** Franklin Crossroads Baptist is seeking a full-time senior pastor. Please see website for details: [franklin-crossroadsbaptist.com](http://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](mailto:ovesenheightsbaptistchurch@windstream.net). Deadline for submission of resúmes 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. Resúmes can be sent to the Personnel Committee, 7206 Shepherdsville Road, Louisville, KY 40219.

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

**SEEKING:** Central Baptist Bearden, in Knoxville, Tenn., is seeking a minister of children and families. Position is full-time, salaried with benefits. The ideal candidate will be called by God for this specific area of ministry, hold a bachelor's degree in education, hold a seminary degree (or equivalent) with a focus on Christian education with children, and have at least three years experience with children in a church setting.

Central Baptist Bearden is a mid-town, dually aligned CBF/SBC congregation of 2,900 resident members. Average weekly SS attendance is 1,100, which includes 100 children, grades 1-6. Position Profile. Personal and Professional Profile (application) and Recommendation Form are all available under Employment at [www.cbcbearden.org](http://www.cbcbearden.org). If questions, contact Dr. Chuck Chance, chair of the CMSC, at [cchance@utk.edu](mailto:cchance@utk.edu).

**SEEKING:** Emmanuel Baptist Church is seeking a pastor. Please send resúmes to Emmanuel Baptist Church, Attn: Search Committee, 108 Hillcrest Drive, Marion, KY 42064.

**SEEKING:** Burlington Baptist Church, a contemporary, vibrant & growing church in Burlington, Ky., is seeking a full-time young adult pastor & worship leader. Responsibilities include working with college age & young adults, ages 18-25, and leading worship for a contemporary, young adult-type service on Sunday nights. Please refer inquiries to [gttoole@yahoo.com](mailto:gttoole@yahoo.com) by June 30.

**SEEKING:** Beacon Hill Baptist Church, Somerset, Ky., is prayerfully seeking a full-time pastor. Please send resúmes to the Pastor Search Committee, P.O. Box 3205, W. Somerset, KY 42564. For more information see our website at [www.beaconhillbaptist.com](http://www.beaconhillbaptist.com).

**SEEKING:** Hayti First Baptist Church is seeking a full-time student minister. Please submit resúmes by July 1 to [haytifbc@gmail.com](mailto:haytifbc@gmail.com), or 201 East Lincoln Street, Hayti, MO 63851.

**SEEKING:** The Kentucky Baptist Convention is seeking a webmaster to work in concert with the communications team to help deliver excellent user experiences for visitors to all of our websites. Proficiency with WordPress, HTML, CSS, PHP and other tools is required. Successful candidates will also enjoy working with a diverse team, will be eager to identify and contribute solutions and will be committed to learning and adapting. Send resumé, cover letter and references to [curtis.woods@kybaptist.org](mailto:curtis.woods@kybaptist.org), or mail to the attention of Curtis Woods at Kentucky Baptist Convention, 13420 Eastpoint Centre Drive, Louisville, KY 40223-4160.

**SEEKING:** Calvary Baptist Church, 111 N. McWhorter Street, London, Ky., is seeking a part-time minister of youth. For more info, call (606) 864-7071, or email us at [calvarybapt2000@yahoo.com](mailto:calvarybapt2000@yahoo.com). Website: [calvarybaptistlondonky.com](http://calvarybaptistlondonky.com).

**SEEKING:** Southern Heights Baptist Church is seeking a full-time youth and music minister. The position includes working with the senior pastor in developing a biblical based, church involved youth program, as well as leading choir and congregation with a blend of traditional and contemporary music. Send resúmes to [pam.southernheights@gmail.com](mailto:pam.southernheights@gmail.com), or to Southern Heights Baptist Church, 3408 Clays Mill Road, Lexington, KY 40503.

## 'More churches' is NAMB's goal



SEND > NOR

NAMB President Kevin Ezell emphasizes to trustees the importance of penetrating lostness and planting churches. (Photos by John Swain/NAMB)

By Adam Miller

Alpharetta, Ga.—“We have to plant more churches,” North American Mission Board President Kevin Ezell emphasized to NAMB trustees during their May 14-15 meeting in Alpharetta, Ga.

“The Book of Acts makes it very clear that this work never ends,” Ezell said. “We have a lot of work to do, and in 10 years my hope and my goal would be to stand here and say we have to plant more churches.”

Highlighting ministry areas within NAMB's overarching Send North America strategy, Ezell reiterated that the mission board's purpose is to mobilize Southern Baptist churches to penetrate lostness in North America. Send North America is NAMB's church planting and evangelism strategy prioritizing Southern Baptist missions efforts on those areas of North America with the greatest spiritual lostness and the smallest number of Southern Baptist churches.

“We want to start a movement not an emphasis. Not a program,” Ezell said. “And the thing about a movement is you can't control it. You set it free. You don't try to hold on to it. Let's stop holding on to things and let a movement of God take place.”

Aaron Coe, NAMB's vice president for mobilization and equipping, reported that 2,544 churches have been mobilized for missions engagement in the last two years and nearly 800 of those are directly connected to a church plant. Coe highlighted two upcoming events that will give Southern Baptists an opportunity to engage with the North American mission field.

NAMB will host a free luncheon for pastors at the upcoming Southern Baptist Convention Pastors' Conference on June 10. More information is available at [www.snaluncheon.com](http://www.snaluncheon.com). NAMB's Send North America conference July 29-30 will provide churches another opportunity to connect with the North American mission field. For information, visit [www.sendconference.com](http://www.sendconference.com).

Al Gilbert, NAMB's vice president for evangelism, reported that NAMB is actively involved in preparation for Crossover, the evangelistic outreach preceding the SBC annual meeting in Houston. “We are doing Crossover this year like never before,” Gilbert said. “We'll be a part of Crossover Saturday with 20-plus block parties and everything else going on with Loving Houston,” a long-term outreach by the Union Baptist Association there.



Gary Frost, NAMB vice president for the Midwest Region, speaks to trustees about the importance of prayer as a foundation to NAMB's efforts. Frost was emphasizing NAMB's TenTwo prayer initiative May 14-15 in Alpharetta, Ga.

Gilbert also highlighted NAMB's ongoing Bible distribution efforts to Southern Baptist churches as well as the launch of a new volunteer opportunities website ([namb.net/volunteer-opportunities](http://namb.net/volunteer-opportunities)).

Carlos Ferrer, NAMB's chief financial officer, reported to trustees that giving to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering is 3.7 percent above budget for the year while Cooperative Program allocations are 1.5 percent below budget.

Emphasizing the need for prayer, Ezell introduced NAMB's vice president for the Midwest Region, Gary Frost, who spoke to trustees about NAMB's upcoming prayer focus.

“People are in darkness and while we need all these strategies, I believe the thing lacking is the power of prayer,” Frost said. “You can't penetrate darkness with good ideas.”

Frost shared NAMB's plans to emphasize the TenTwo Prayer Initiative at the upcoming SBC annual meeting as well as a convention-wide prayer focus on Oct. 2. (NAMB/BP)

### Interested in applying for a journalism internship with Western Recorder?

Candidate must be proficient in Word, InDesign and Photoshop. Internship will be a paid, 10-week position, focusing on page layout and design. Preference is given to college students from Kentucky Baptist churches.

Send resume to [todd.deaton@kybaptist.org](mailto:todd.deaton@kybaptist.org).  
Deadline May 31.

## Elliff: Great Commission moment is now

By Don Graham

Rogers, Ark.—It's a question that both haunts and drives Tom Elliff, the kind that sometimes wakes him in the middle of night. But IMB's president won't answer it until he dies, stands before the judgment seat of Christ and hears it fall from his Savior: “What did you do with what I entrusted to you?”

Elliff posed that question to IMB trustees during their May meeting in Rogers, Ark., saying it should be lodged in the mind of every Southern Baptist.

“There are over 7 billion people on this globe, and unless something changes drastically, radically, it is estimated that fewer than half will ever have the slightest connection with evangelical Christianity in their lifetime,” Elliff said.

Declining Cooperative Program and missions offering support has impacted the number of Southern Baptist missionaries serving overseas under IMB appointment, dropping below 5,000 to 4,850 at the end of 2012. But the drop isn't for lack of qualified applicants, Elliff said, noting that many missionary candidates must be put on hold until a position becomes vacant or additional funding is secured.

“In a generation that could literally fulfill the Great Commission by taking the gospel to the ends of the earth, lack of missions support signals an impending retrenchment. That is unthinkable; in fact, it's unacceptable in light of the opportunity we have,” Elliff said.

As a “first step” toward combating these problems, trustees overwhelm-

ingly approved a resolution urging Southern Baptists to recognize and rally around the unique Great Commission opportunity which Elliff believes Christ has presented.

In addition to greater commitments to pray and give, the resolution calls on the SBC's Executive Committee for an “aggressive, proactive and prompt” response to the challenges of missionary mobilization and support. The resolution also asks the Executive Committee to offer “thoughtful and substantive proposals” that will enable the SBC to “operate at maximum effectiveness in taking the gospel to the ends of the earth.”

The resolution calls for the Executive Committee to begin providing these proposals for change as early as the SBC's 2014 annual meeting.

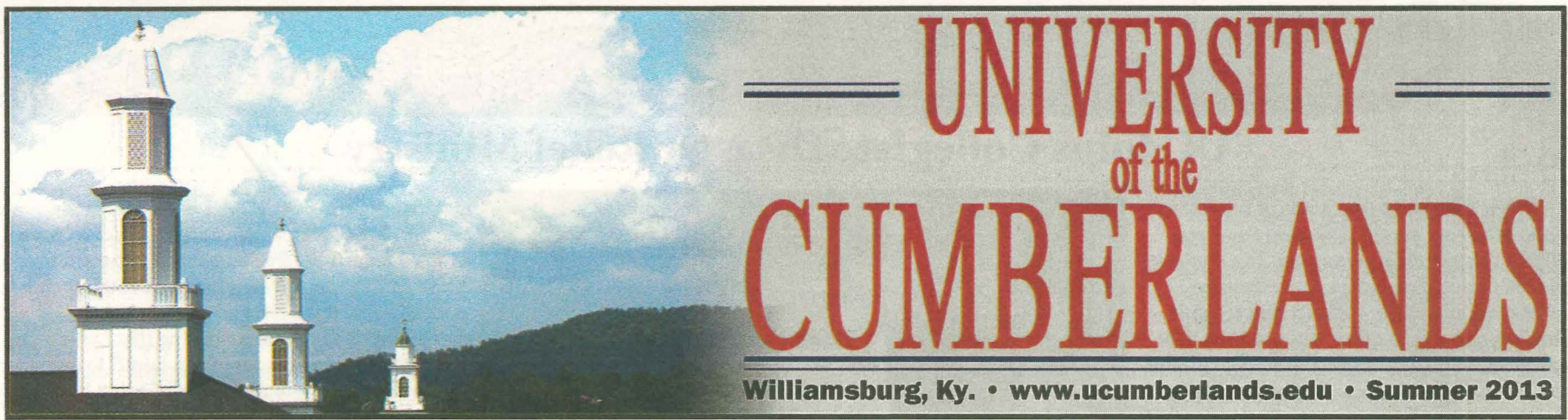
The resolution offers guidance on what such “substantive proposals” must do, including:

- Continue to effectively demolish every racial, ethnic and generational barrier that constrains us.
- Honor, support and utilize the education, training and the advocacy provided by all our SBC entities.
- Open the door to greater sacrifice, building trust through proven transparency at every level of our Southern Baptist life.
- Leave to the next generation a Southern Baptist Convention that is doctrinally, structurally, spiritually and passionately prepared to finish the task of global evangelization.

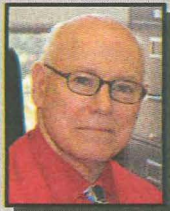
“The emphasis here is now,” Elliff said. (BP)

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## Faculty Spotlight



Kirby Clark joined the University staff in 2001 and serves as Associate Professor of Missions and Ministry. He has received a B.A. from University of New Mexico, a M.P.S. from Western Kentucky University, a M.R.E., Ed.D. and Ph.D. from

Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, with additional graduate studies at Wayland Baptist and West Texas A&M Universities. He has more than 45 years of experience as supply preacher; church administrator; associate, interim and senior pastor; as a college, university and seminary administrator and professor; and as an active lay leader in his local church.



Dean Whitaker joined the University staff in 1997, and serves as Director of Campus Ministries and Adjunct Instructor. He received a B.A. from Alice Lloyd College and an M.Div. from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has more than 24 years of

experience as a campus ministry and family ministry intern, church staff member, Director of Campus Ministries and leader in his local church.

## UC Staff: Experienced and Ready to Serve

Recent Adjunct Instructors in the Missions & Ministry Department include: Dr. Paul Chitwood, (Executive Director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention); Dr. Bill Henard, (Pastor, Porter Memorial Baptist Church, Lexington); Dr. Chuck Lawless, (Dean of Graduate School and Professor of Evangelism and Missions, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Vice President for Global Theological Advance, International Mission Board, SBC.); and Dr. John Mark Toby, (Former Pastor, Beacon Hill Baptist Church, Somerset; Current DOM, Warren Baptist Association).

The members of Cumberlands' Missions and Ministry and Church Relations departments are available to serve the needs of KBC churches. For information about availability or to schedule someone to be in your church, please contact the Office of Church Relations at 606-539-4154 or contact Dr. Rick Fleenor at rick.fleenor@ucumberlands.edu

Since its beginning, University of the Cumberlands has maintained a strong tie with the Kentucky Baptist Convention. For nearly 125 years, the histories of Cumberlands and the KBC have been intricately woven together as both organizations have been...created by churches, for churches to help churches reach Kentucky and the world for Christ.

Cumberlands has always used this rich heritage as the foundation for building what has become one of the nation's premier Christian universities. As a Great Commission-focused university, here are some of the highlights we have experienced over the past academic year:



UC students lead children in worship

- More than 500 Christian commitments were made as a direct result of Cumberlands own outreach and ministry efforts. This number does not include responses from ministry efforts held on campus during the summer of 2012, which included 8 weeks of Life Way's Mission-Fuge Camps, Operation UNITE Camps and several other individually sponsored church camps and retreats.
- A large number of Cumberlands students have been actively providing leadership within local churches and approximately 50 student leaders participated in various regional ministry conferences throughout the year, including the Urbana Global Missions Conference, the Passion Worship Conference, and the Catalyst One Day conference.
- More than 210 families were assisted with gifts, food and clothing by our Mountain Outreach Program during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday season.
- 14 UC students were involved in international winter break mission trips to Northern Ireland and Guatemala.
- 53 students were involved in Spring Break Missions, serving through BCM in Kentucky, Illinois, Colorado, New York and Florida, and students in UC's Mountain Outreach program worked in Letcher County, Kentucky, assisting families in need by constructing ramps and providing accessibility to their homes.
- Approximately 30 UC faculty and staff members and 300 Cumberland students have participated in multiple missions and ministry activities throughout Kentucky, the US and internationally. Through Cumberlands sponsored programs, an additional 460 student and adult volunteers, from various churches throughout Kentucky and surrounding states, were engaged in missions activities throughout the year.
- To date, more than 70 students will serve in some form of summer ministry or mission effort near our campus, around Kentucky, throughout the nation and around the world.
- Students in our Mountain Outreach Program will construct 2 homes this summer, bringing the total to 143 homes constructed throughout the 31 year history of the program.
- With international students now representing 34 countries, our campus has become a global-missions outpost in ways that might not otherwise be possible.
- Our enrollment this year exceeds 4,300 students. Cumberlands continues to expand its academic programs to equip students for lives of meaningful service. Cumberlands currently offers more than 85 academic programs ranging from undergraduate majors and pre-professional tracks to graduate degrees and professional certifications as well as 2 doctoral degrees.
- We continue to explore new opportunities through our Northern Kentucky Center that will enable students great access to medical and mental health facilities for clinical rotations, as well as for our School of Lifelong Learning Adult Degree Completion Programs.



A summer 2012 Mountain Outreach home

Continued on pg. 4

## Recognitions

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

Cumberlands Named Military Friendly School

Cumberlands named to America's Best Christian Colleges

UC Ranked by Washington Monthly College Rankings

President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll

NAIA Champions of Character 5 Star Institution



## UC Joins Collegiate Disaster Relief Ministry

When disaster strikes, some of the first to respond to help are the dedicated Southern Baptist disaster relief volunteers. The Kentucky Baptist Convention has an active disaster relief program which works in concert with similar programs in other states and has now expanded to include university student groups in Collegiate Disaster Relief Ministry through Baptist Campus Ministry organizations across the state.

University of the Cumberlands became a part of the Collegiate Disaster Relief ministry in February 2013 when they first started training. "The focus right now is to get as many people trained as possible and ready to respond," said UC's BCM Director, Dean Whitaker. Training is necessary for anyone who wants to volunteer their time and helping hands in this ministry to disaster victims around the world. In order to be certified as a Disaster Relief Volunteer, all individuals must be 18 years or older, must complete the training program and submit to a background check. Southern Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers are required to be recertified every three years. UC currently has twelve trained and certified participants and is seeking to train more students to be prepared to serve whenever disaster strikes.

Kentucky volunteers can staff feeding units designed to deliver thousands of hot meals on quite a short notice, move in with chainsaws to help remove debris caused by the storms, do the dirty work of helping families remove mud from flooded homes, and provide many other common disaster relief services. The Collegiate Disaster Relief does so much more than simply rebuilding and performing cleanup duties. They also make certain to discuss God's love with the victims and others participating and do what they can to develop and improve their relationship with Jesus Christ.

The Collegiate Disaster Relief ministry was in full active force this past spring break as UC sent several student volunteers to serve in Staten Island, New York to help clean up the aftermath of Super Storm Sandy. "The people we worked with were amazed that we would want to spend our spring break there helping them,"



UC students stand in front of a home in New York that was hit by Hurricane Sandy.

missionary with UC's BCM, LeAnn Wright, is praying about going to Sub-Sahara Africa to work with women whose lives have been impacted by disasters. She was selflessly involved with mission work as a student at UC and served others at the hand of the Lord. It is amazing that LeAnn is wanting to journey so far from home, to an unknown territory, to fulfill a calling that has been placed on her heart and mind. God's grace has touched her and she will share that love with others through her experiences and possible travels."

God is continuing to work in the hearts of UC's students and BCM as they make plans to collaborate with others, train, and become more prepared to effectively respond to disasters as they occur. Even though UC is new to the Collegiate Disaster Relief ministry, amazing changes have already been made. Unfortunately, natural and man-made disasters will continue to happen around the world, and people will be faced with crisis and in dire need of assistance in various ways. UC's Collegiate Disaster Relief hopes to help these victims rebuild their lives, clean up their mess, provide food and shelter, comfort, love, and show them through words and actions that God is good. And, hopefully, as a result of these actions be able to lead them to salvation.



LeAnn Wright

## 2013 Mary Mildred Sullivan Award

Every year UC recognizes two students who exemplify dedication to service and education. The Mary Mildred and Algernon Sydney Sullivan awards are given annually to a graduating male and female senior who have demonstrated outstanding spiritual qualities, satisfactory academic achievement, a high degree of leadership ability and a willingness to participate to extra-curricular activities. This year's winners are Kelsey Day and Seth Stoffle.



Kelsey Day is the winner of the Mary Mildred Sullivan award. She is from Cumberland, Ky. and is the daughter of Luke and Donna Day and the fiancée of Jordan Infield. In May she was graduated with an English major and Christian Studies minor.

While at UC Kelsey ministered with Appalachian Ministries, Baptist Campus Ministries, Laurel Lake Baptist Camp and as far as New York City, Belize, and Guatemala. She served as president of Baptist Campus Ministries this past year and describes leadership as learning to work under pressure and accepting and loving those around her, even if those people have different beliefs and values. One person described

how Kelsey "genuinely cares about people, about living the Christian life, and about being an example of compassion and service to others."

Kelsey plans to work at M-Fuge on UC's campus this summer and then hopes to work in a children's home.



UC students participate in disaster relief at a home in New York that was devastated by Hurricane Sandy.

said team leader, Christen Dierken. "I never really thought anything about it. That is exactly where I felt I should have been and I'm glad I did it. I was overwhelmed with their appreciation."

"One additional component of Collegiate Disaster Relief, that is an exciting opportunity, includes students serving for a year or longer in Sub-Sahara Africa doing ministry with women, children, and families who have survived natural disasters - mostly famine," explains Whitaker. "UC graduate and semester



## Going to Chapel

Chapel services have been an important part of University of the Cumberlands' academic program since its founding in 1888 and throughout its history. The formal organization of the programs and time schedules have varied greatly through the years, but the primary role of reinforcing Cumberlands' purpose of preparing students for lives of responsible service and leadership, within the context of a caring Christian community has always remained constant.

**chap-el** - a chapel service or assembly at a school or college

As part of Cumberlands' emphasis on values and faith development our students have attended regularly scheduled chapel programs throughout each semester of enrollment. In our early history, these programs were held in the "Recitation Building" or in the auditorium of the "Grey Brick Building." Once the Dr. Ancil Gatliff Memorial Building was constructed in 1955, chapel services were held in the Gatliff Memorial Chapel which provided theater style seating.

Chapel programs in the Gatliff Chapel were held weekly on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 10:00 a.m. and students were required to be in attendance. Students were assigned seats for chapel services and attendance was taken by noting whether someone was present in a seat or whether the seat was empty. Who knows how many upper class students may have actually received credit for attendance because some poor confused underclass student had selected the wrong seat?

Speakers for our Chapel programs have typically included faculty and staff members, local pastors, alumni, individuals who were elected annually to serve as president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, and the Executive Directors of Kentucky's Baptist Convention as well as those from other states. Each Chapel program



*Tony Nolan ministers to a packed audience in UC's Gatliff Chapel*

reading, prayer and special music. Over time, Cumberlands' "Chapel Program" expanded to include presentations from business leaders, educators and political leaders. Chapel style worship services were continued as the primary emphasis. Through all of these programs our goal has always been to nurture students spiritually, socially and academically in order to broaden each student's worldview. With the expanded programming, and the construction of the O. Wayne Rollins Center in 1989, the name for the overall program was changed to "Convocation."

**con-vo-ca-tion** - a ceremonial assembly of members of a college or university

For the next 14 years, convocation was held one day a week (Monday) in the O. Wayne Rollins Center at 10:00 a.m. for all students. Then in 2003 convocation was moved back to the Gatliff Chapel with freshmen meeting Monday and upperclassmen Wednesday. Occasionally, all students would gather for "Joint Convocation Programs" in the O. Wayne Rollins Center which allowed for expanded seating capabilities. Attendance was still required for all convocation programs, but modifications were made to allow for flexibility with the number of programs required. Some students continued to refer to the programs as "Chapel" and others coined the term "Convo" as a shorter version of convocation.

With the start of the Fall semester of 2012 changes were implemented in UC's convocation program to allow for greater flexibility and for a larger number of options for students to consider as they met their convocation attendance requirements. In making these changes, our priority continued to be on promoting quality programming that place a significant emphasis on Faith Development and campus worship experiences.

Through our new convocation format, events sponsored throughout the academic year bring to the campus Christian leaders, notable speakers, scholars and performers. All are quality programs in the areas of **Academic/Cultural Presentations, Faith Development Programs, General Interest Programs, and Major Campus Events.**

The modifications to the convocation program last fall presented some challenges, at first, to returning students, but once they adapted they seemed to appreciate having greater choice and flexibility in the programs they would attend. The most noticeable impact was in the general overall Christian spirit on campus throughout the academic year. Every program, regardless of its category, had some form of Christian emphasis (topic, prayer, scripture reading, music, etc.).

Throughout the academic year, our Faith Development Chapel services, led by nationally known student speakers such as David Edwards, Tony Nolan and David Nassar, resulted in over 400 Christian commitments. Our additional Baptist Campus Ministry Fall and Spring revival services, led by Brent Gambrell and local alumnus Albert Jones, saw more than 700 students in attendance and resulted in 30 additional commitments from students who were seeking to grow in their faith.

One can readily see that going to "chapel," or "convo," plays an important role as part of our overall General Education Curriculum and this program is certainly making an impact in the lives of our students. Cumberlands Convocation schedule can be found on our academic website at <http://www.ucumberlands.edu/academics/convocation/>. While programs are generally scheduled for student interests, other individuals are always welcome to attend.



*Dave Edwards speaks at UC*

## 2013 Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award

Seth Stoffle is the son of Bobby and Pamela Stoffle and is a native of Seymour, Tenn. In May he was graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting with a minor in Political Science. While at UC he maintained a high GPA and made the Dean's list 5 semesters.

Seth worked with Mountain Outreach on multiple projects while at UC and provided leadership for many youth activities, including Bible studies and Bible School programs at Pleasant View Baptist Church in Williamsburg, Ky., and at his home church in Seymour. Seth was also a guest speaker for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes on multiple occasions.

The faculty member who nominated Seth for this award stated that Seth displayed high moral character and wisdom, and shows a particular knack for encouraging others and developing their abilities.

The Algernon Sydney Sullivan Foundation, now located in Oxford, Miss., was chartered in New York State in 1930. Its purpose is to promote service to others and service to the broader community, values that were exemplified by Algernon and Mary Mildred Sullivan, the parents of the organization's founder.

In addition to providing support for financial aid to small private colleges, located primarily in the Appalachian region, the Sullivan Foundation also collaborates with 61 colleges and universities in the South to present awards in memory of Algernon and Mary Mildred Sullivan.



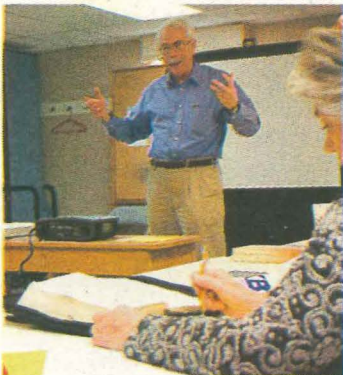
# UNIVERSITY of the CUMBERLANDS

Continued from page 1

- Our Master of Arts in Christian Studies Program continues to grow as it meets the needs of church leaders and others feeling a call for ministry. Our partnership with Clear Creek Baptist Bible College has enabled many of their recent graduates an opportunity to pursue graduate studies in this program through a special scholarship opportunity.
- We were pleased to partner with the Kentucky Baptist Convention and Clear Creek Baptist Bible College to promote and provide facilitators for the "Seminary for a Day" event held in London, KY this spring, and we are actively seeking other ways in which we can partner with other KBC agencies and institutions.



UC students and ministry leaders



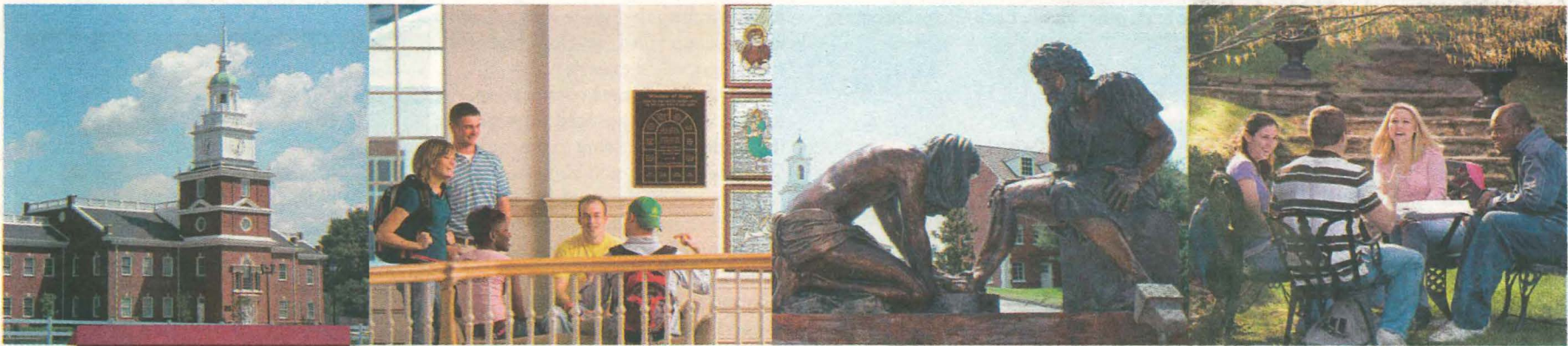
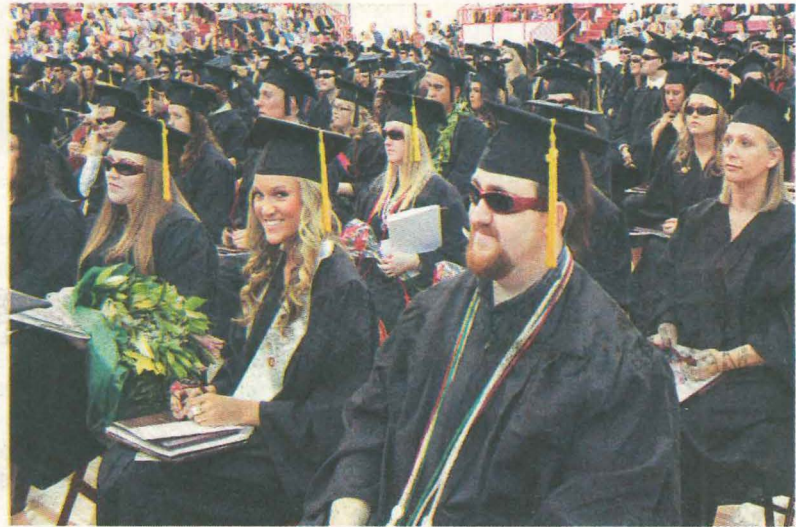
Dr. Bob Dunston teaches at "Seminary for a Day"

- As the largest, and yet the most affordable private university in Kentucky, 90% of our students receive some level of financial assistance through programs that recognize financial need and award Christian leadership, academic excellence and athletic achievement.
- Last year, Cumberlandds received \$1.2 million in direct Cooperative Program support, and we provided more than \$7 million in institutional aid to Baptist students.
- We ended the year with another record number of graduates in our history, granting 1,114 degrees to individuals who were equipped as Leader-Servants and prepared to make a difference in their world.

University of the Cumberlandds alumni can be found serving in every occupation imaginable, across the globe. As such, Cumberlandds has helped to extend the mission of Christian Higher Education to reach "the utter most parts of the earth."

It is very humbling to look back and see all that has been accomplished this year. We are grateful for the prayers and continued support of Kentucky Baptists as we fulfill the vital ministry of Christian Higher Education and equip Leader-Servants to make a difference throughout Kentucky and around the world for the cause of Christ.

*In May 2013 UC graduated its largest class thus far.*



UNIVERSITY of the CUMBERLANDS

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