

# WESTERN Recorder

August 13, 2013

Shine Like Stars \* Philippians 2:15

Volume 187, Issue 30

## N.C. Baptist named president of Georgetown

By Robin Cornetet Bass

Georgetown—Dwayne Greene did something last Monday he could not imagine doing just a few short months ago. The North Carolina Baptist removed his



Dwayne Greene

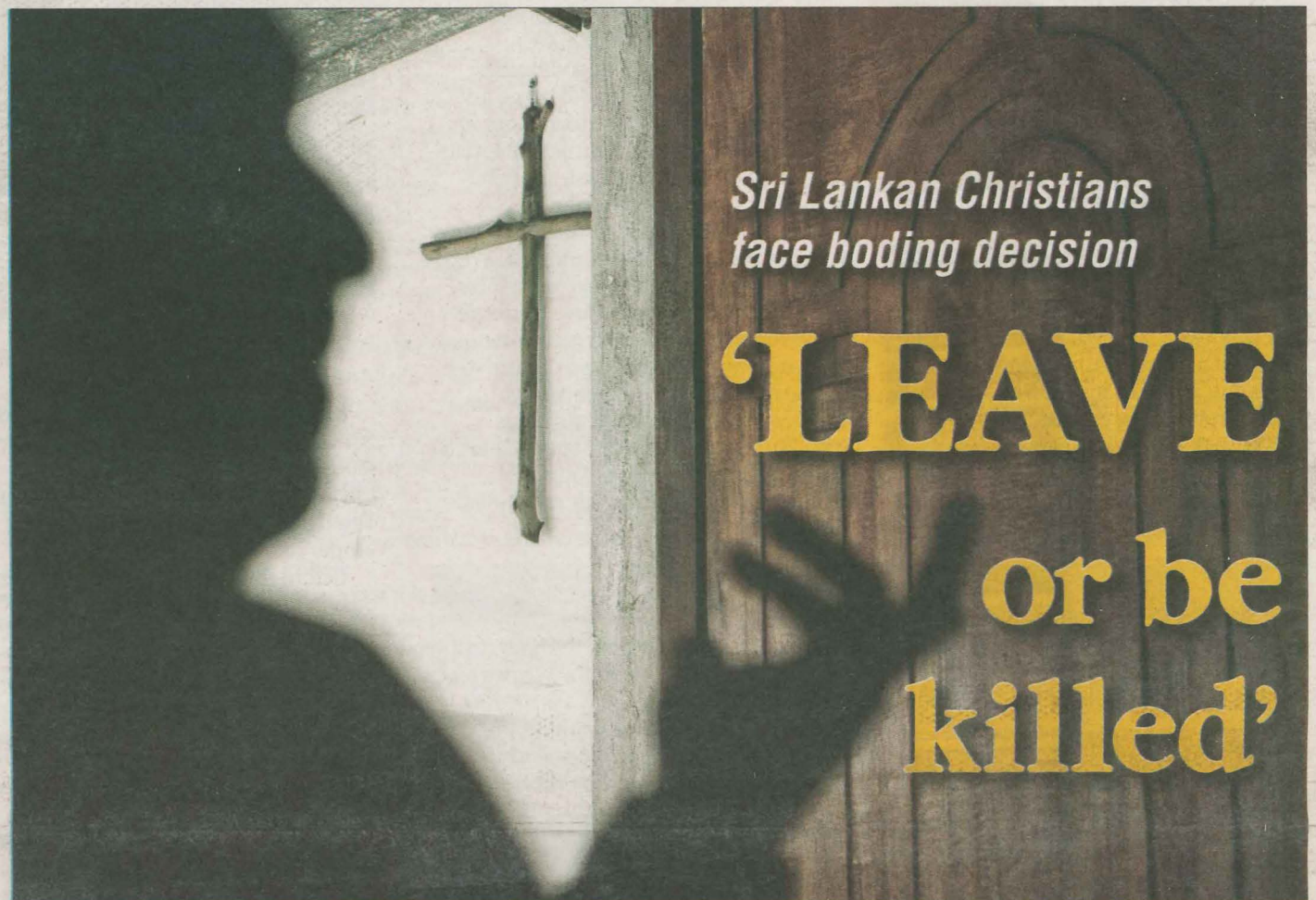
Campbell University lapel pin—from his beloved alma mater—and replaced it with one from Georgetown College.

It would be hours before the official announcement was made, but in that one symbolic move, Greene said, he wholeheartedly became the 24<sup>th</sup> president of the university with historic Kentucky Baptist ties.

“I believe in the will of God and were it not for that I would not be here,” said Greene, 56, to the crowd of curious faculty and staff who gathered at Georgetown’s Ensor Learning Resource Center Aug. 6. Greene assumes the role of president Oct. 21, succeeding Bill Crouch, who retired June 30 after 22 years. Granetta Bingham Blevins will remain interim president until that time.

Greene said as Campbell University’s academic vice president he was not looking to make a change. Buies Creek was home to Greene and his wife, Caroline, and they were members of Memorial Baptist Church, which is located

□ See Georgetown ... Page 2



Sri Lankan Christians face boding decision

# ‘LEAVE or be killed’

Pastor Ruan Ranatunga\* explains how training his church members in personal evangelism and discipleship has reduced persecution in their local communities. Persecution by Buddhist extremists included attacks by mobs wielding sticks and stones. \*Name changed (BP)

By Susie Rain

Sri Lanka—It was just a normal Sunday. Around 75 people gathered in the house rented as their church building for worship. Praise music wafted out the door. Prayers lifted to heaven. Pastor Saman Perera\* stood behind the pulpit and asked the congregation to open their Bibles.

That’s when “normal” came to a crashing end.

Local Sri Lankan authorities stormed in from every exit, demanding the church service stop. Church members sat in shock until a bald man in saffron robes appeared. With the entrance of the village’s head monk, people hid in back rooms, jumped out open windows or knocked chairs over to get out the

door only to meet up with an angry mob of nearly 1,000 yielding sticks and stones.

“Leave or be killed,” the mob chanted.

That was nearly four months ago, yet Perera recounts the story as if it happened yesterday. In a way, it did—he relives it with each visit to the courtroom where he must face those who

□ See Sri Lanka ... Page 5



Volunteers with Kentucky Baptist’s Disaster Relief have been active this summer, recently helping victims of wildfires in Colorado. (Photo provided by KBC Disaster Relief)

## Busy season for Kentucky Baptist DR responders

By Robin Cornetet Bass

Louisville—Flooding, tornadoes and wildfires—oh my, this has been a busy season for Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers. And Kentucky Baptists have faithfully responded right alongside other state conventions as Southern Baptists seek to meet the physical—and spiritual—needs caused by natural disasters wreaking havoc across the United States.

While home now getting some much deserved rest, 22 Kentucky Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers spent a total of three weeks last month serving the victims of Colorado’s wildfires. Much of the work included sawing down scorched

trees and demolishing what was left of homes. Occasionally, volunteers were asked to help homeowners sift through the charred remains.

Kentucky Disaster Relief Coordinator Coy Webb said “every situation is different” when it comes to relating to homeowners in need. Some are welcoming and unthreatened by the prospect of a bunch of Baptists offering free labor. Others are much more suspicious, like one of the families helped by Kentucky Baptists in Colorado Springs, Colo.

“They were almost reluctant to have the team work there, but they needed the help,” Webb said. “They were very nervous about having Christians there

and having (the gospel) pushed on them.”

In a job that would normally take a day to complete, equipment failure ended up prolonging the chainsaw team’s time with the reluctant family. By midway through the second day, “God began opening the door,” Webb said.

Hearts began to soften, Webb continued, and on the third day the 70-year-old homeowner accepted Christ as her savior. Her adult son and daughter, while not ready to make the same commitment, “shared that they needed to reevaluate their lives and what they were living for,” Webb said.

In all, Kentucky DR volunteers took

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Ditch the cord.

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## Disaster Relief

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advantage of 17 opportunities to present the gospel in Colorado and celebrated in four professions of faith.

Volunteers from the commonwealth continue to serve in New York following Hurricane Sandy's devastation to the eastern coast last fall. Webb said that many are serving as part of Kentucky Baptist churches through the North American Mission Board. Four Disaster Relief teams working through the Kentucky Baptist Convention spent July providing hot meals to the steady stream of volunteer laborers working in the recovery effort on Long Island.

In addition to short-term ministry efforts, Webb said "four (Kentucky DR) leaders are serving on the long-term recovery team, two with a one-year commitment and two with a two-year commitment, and will stay in New York during the rebuilding process."

Kentucky DR volunteers also have responded this summer to flooding in Illinois and Michigan.

Cutting trees and serving food are not

the only ways Kentucky Baptists have been able to help victims of natural disasters. Recently, the KBC forwarded more than \$50,000 donated by Kentucky Baptists to help the Oklahoma Baptist Convention with continuing recovery efforts in Moore, Okla., and surrounding communities after being struck by tornadoes in May.

"Kentucky Baptists have been very generous over the years," Webb said, noting that more than \$100,000 was donated by individuals and churches toward helping Missouri, Alabama and other states after massive tornadoes in 2011. One year earlier, Kentucky Baptists gave nearly \$500,000 in cash contributions after Haiti's earthquake.

Despite having about 250 volunteers working the last couple of months, Webb said, "We can definitely use more folks," and added that he would love to connect individuals and church groups interested in serving in this type of ministry.

The next opportunity to receive disaster relief volunteer training is Sept. 20-21 at Springfield Baptist Church in Springfield. Register online at [kybaptist.org/drtraining](http://kybaptist.org/drtraining), or call (1-866) 489-3527. (WR)



About 250 individuals have volunteered to assist with Kentucky Baptist Convention Disaster Relief efforts this summer, responding to natural disasters in several states. (Photo provided by KBC DR)

## Georgetown

Continued from page 1

practically on the university campus where they first met. Memorial Baptist in Lillington, N.C., is affiliated with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

But then this summer, Georgetown College began to actively pursue the Campbell University provost, an action that "deeply honored" him, said Greene.

Earl Goode, chairman of Georgetown's Board of Trustees, said the presidential search committee was impressed by Greene's leadership ability, professional accomplishments and academic background. Yet, it was his relationship with God that elevated Greene above all others. Goode noted that 62 applications were received and at one point the search committee narrowed the field to three, but when two finalists withdrew the committee opted to start fresh.

"After 200 plus years with the heritage that this is a Christian college that provides an exceptional academic opportunity for young men and women, we wanted someone who would not only respect that heritage, but would be the kind of person who would grow and enhance it," Goode said. "That is the reason (Greene) will be a great president for Georgetown College."

**"Georgetown College has played a tremendous role with Kentucky Baptists, so I would hope we would strengthen that relationship."**

Dwaine Greene

### KBC ties

Last November, the Kentucky Baptist Convention Mission Board voted to postpone an end to a partnership agreement with Georgetown College. Instead opting to "see which direction they're going to go" in finding a new president, said Floyd Paris, then KBC administrative committee chairman, in a Western Recorder article dated Nov. 20.

One of the mission board's concerns was a vote by the Georgetown's trustees to forego a requirement in the college bylaws that 75 percent of its board members be Kentucky Baptists.

Other considerations by the KBC leadership included,

- the broader revision of Georgetown's "Christian identity" statement, and

- the 2010 relocation of Georgetown's campus to the Baptist Seminary of Kentucky, which is affiliated with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

Georgetown College is the oldest Kentucky Baptist-affiliated educational institution, dating back to its founding in 1829. An agreement between the KBC and Georgetown inked in 1942 allowed the convention to select the school's trustees in exchange for annual funding.

In 2005, the school and the convention negotiated a deal that allowed

## Chinese students share cultural exchange through Campbellville ESL



Beijing University of Agriculture ESL students were honored at a ceremony at Campbellville University. From left: (front)—Dongmei Wang, Yijing Shi, Mengchen Xu, Yixin Wang and Chenyang Liu; (back) Chris Sanders, assistant dean of international education; Yuanqing Cao, Lihe Huang, Maryann Matheny, ESL endorsement specialist; Andrea Giordano, assistant director of ESL; and Chenge Shi. (Photo by Drew Tucker)

By Drew Tucker

**Campbellville**—For a group of Campbellville University Chinese students studying in the English as a Second Language Program, July 1 was special day—they graduated and were going home.

Before the event, the students were busy taking pictures with friends. Many stories and jokes were shared. They wanted to remember this day.

"They're heading back to China at 3 a.m. tonight," Tetyana Oliynyk, a visiting professor of Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Language, said.

"The first time I saw you," Chris Sanders, assistant dean of international education, said, "you all were so excited to come to America. During this four-week summer exchange program, I hope you all have improved your English."

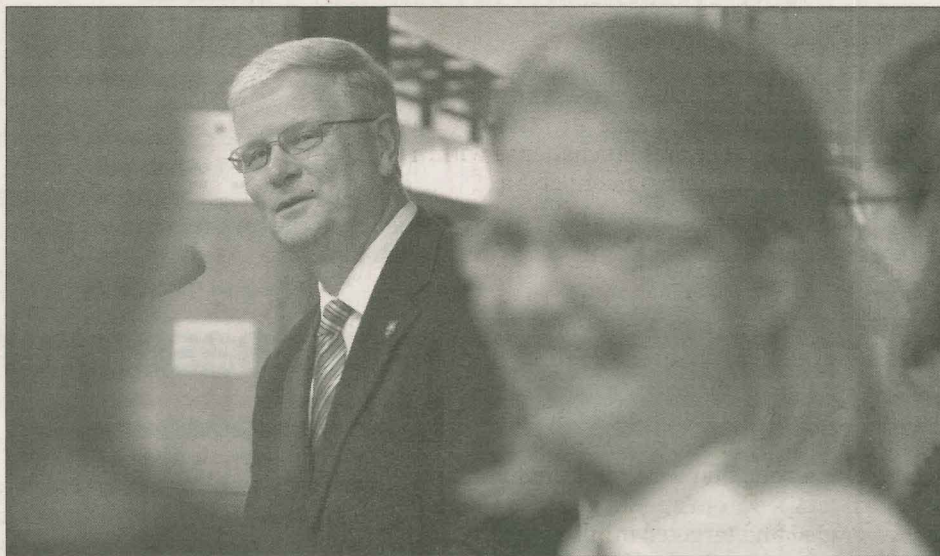
Not only did they improve their English, they also got to see Kentucky.

Various trips were taken to Kentucky landmarks: Stephen Foster's My Old Kentucky Home in Bardstown; Cumberland Falls in Corbin; Abraham Lincoln's Birthplace in Hodgenville; Green River Lake in Campbellville; and Mammoth Cave in Cave City, which was "very cold," the students said.

"We've had a lot of fun times," said Elaine Tan, international activities assistant.

They also experienced classic American cinema, from "Gone With the Wind" to "Transformers," at a drive-in theater. Afterward they would share stories of classic Chinese cinema.

"You've taught me so much about culture," Tan said. "With this exchange in culture, you learned from us, and us from you. (CU)



Dwaine Greene, newly appointed president of Georgetown College, introduces his family to faculty and staff at a press conference Aug. 6 in the school's library. Greene will begin his role as president Oct. 21 succeeding Bill Crouch, who retired in June after 22 years. (Photo by Robin Cornet Bass)

Georgetown to revert back to an independent, self-perpetuating board of trustees. Yearly Cooperative Program contributions to the school were phased out over four years, ending in 2009, leaving only the existing ministry partnership.

When asked about his plans for maintaining a working relationship with the KBC, Greene told the Western Recorder, "I hope those relationships will be good and strong. My understanding is that Georgetown College has played a tremendous role with Kentucky Baptists, so I would hope we would strengthen that

relationship."

"The main goal I see is to move Georgetown College forward. I expect Georgetown College to flourish as a Christian institution of higher education," Greene said.

Greene and his wife, Caroline, have been married for 33 years and they have two daughters, Patricia and Meredith, both graduates of Campbell College. Patricia will be attending Wake Forest Divinity School and will be ordained as a Baptist minister Sept. 22. Meredith is pursuing a doctorate in molecular medicine at Wake Forest University. (WR)

# Where have all the young adults gone?

By Jason Allen

Why young adults leave the church is one of the most vexing questions facing the church today.

A LifeWay Christian Resources survey from 2007 indicated that 70 percent of 18- to 22-year-olds stop attending church for at least one year. Surveys by The Barna Group repeatedly have shown that a majority of 20-year-olds leave church, often never to return.

Citing a study by the Brookings Institution, author Rachel Held Evans recently suggested, in essence, that millennials are leaving evangelical churches in search of more progressive fellowships because of dissonance with the more conservative doctrinal stances and cultural convictions of their former congregations.

Yet it seems to reason that if compromising biblical convictions attracted millennials, then mainline denominations would be teeming with young adults. On the contrary, mainline churches are proof positive that liberal theology does not magnetically draw young adults to church.

Causation for young adults exiting the church has been studied for decades, yet little has been accomplished in the way of reversing it. As a gospel preacher, seminary president and father of five young children, to me this is more than a theoretical concern.

At the risk of being overly simplistic, I want to suggest three factors that often are overlooked in this discussion.

## Never joined spiritually

Many young adults leave the church because they were never truly converted to Christ in the first place. John the Apostle warned us, "They went out from us because they were never of us; for if they had been of us, they would have no doubt continued with us."

In His sermon on the mount, Jesus soberly warns, "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord!' will enter the kingdom of heaven; but he who does the will of my father in heaven."

In fact, this is a troubling but recurring theme throughout the New Testament. Jesus frequently warned of pseudo-converts, most memorably in His parables of the four soils, the wheat and the tares and the sheep and the goats. This grievous occurrence is why Paul exhorted the Corinthian church to "examine yourselves to determine whether you be in the faith."

This predicament is as old as the church itself, and it is no respecter of age. Young adults have not cornered the market on unregenerate church membership, but with so many other pressures and opportunities associated with their life stage, their exit ramp is more predictable and more pronounced.

In other words, young adults are just one bloated demographic slice of an ever-present challenge within the church today: unregenerate church membership.

## Never experienced corporately

To their own detriment, too many churches function like a confederation of parachurch ministries meeting under the same roof. For instance, many young adults traveled from children's church to children's ministry to the youth group and then to college ministry.

Amazingly, many young adults spend 20-plus years in a local church with the congregation as a whole always being an ancillary group and with their predominant religious attention focused from one subgroup to the next.

Age-graded and targeted ministries can be healthy inasmuch as they undergird the life of the church and facilitate strategic discipleship and family ministry. But when they displace the central and formative place of congregational worship and corporate gatherings as a whole, they prove detrimental to both the individual and the local church.

In fact, the beauty of the New Testament church is its

homogeneous diversity: Jew and Gentile, young and old, rich and poor, all united by the gospel and gathered around the common ministry of the word, the Lord's table, prayer and fellowship, together as the body of Christ.

## Guest Viewpoint



Jason Allen

There is a sweetness in God's people, and we rob our children of experiences of God's grace when we neglect to incorporate them into the corporate body. It is for this reason I want my children to know the saintly widow seated behind them and the contemporary adult couple seated in front of them as well as they know the children in their own classes.

When they are disconnected from the congregation, it should not surprise us that young adults, who have never known the church as a whole, are disinclined to embrace it when their age-graded group has run its course.

Do you want your children to participate in the church when they become adults? Then cultivate their participation as they travel life toward adulthood.

## Never came to love personally

Though the church is not perfect, it ought to be cherished, warts and all, by every member of the congregation, including our children. As parents, we cultivate this by esteeming the church—and the individuals who comprise it—before our children. As a parent, my wife and I have long since covenanted together to guard our tongues, especially before our children, about the ministers and members of the churches we have joined.

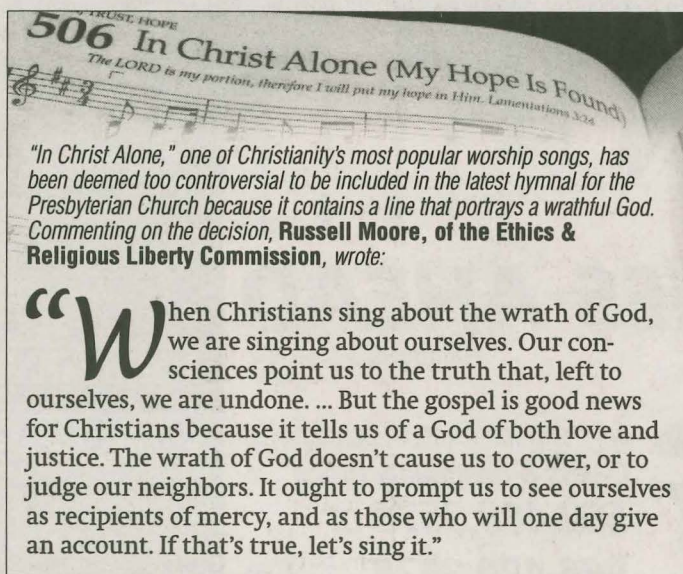
Granted, no church is perfect, and if you ever find the perfect church, don't join it, or you'll likely ruin it. At the same time, a spirit of criticism and sarcasm about the pastor and other members of the congregation mark the homes of too many church members.

In so doing, children are hearing reason after reason why they should doubt the word of God, not value fellowship of the saints, and be indifferent toward gathering with God's people. When this occurs, why should young adults commit their lives, time and resources to a pastor and group of people they have overheard their parents repeatedly denigrate?

Why do young adults leave the church? This is a pressing concern, but an often misplaced question. Instead of focusing so much on why young adults leave the church, let's focus more on how they enter the church and how they engage it along the way.

When you show me young adults who are truly converted, have ministered and worshiped with the church and have grown to love the people of God, I'll show you young adults who are less likely to depart the church anytime soon. (BP)

Jason Allen is president of Midwestern Seminary in Kansas City, Mo.



## Evangelicalism in Recession

I just finished reading John Dickerson's book, "The Great Evangelical Recession: 6 Factors That Will Crash the American Church...and How to Prepare."

Under that shocking title, Dickerson argues that the six downfalls of Evangelicalism in the United States are over-

## Together We are the KBC



Paul Chitwood

inflated numbers and influence, the reality of a post-Christian culture, division, financial strain, the inability to keep young people in the church, and ineffectiveness at making new disciples.

While I believe that Dickerson's doomsday projections are a bit overstated, no observing person could argue

against the realities of these struggles for churches in America. Southern Baptist churches are no exception.

The game has clearly changed in America. Reaching the lost and—apart from another Great Awakening—building strong, kingdom-minded churches will become increasingly difficult. In fact, in the not too distant future, proclaiming biblical truth and staying out of court and/or out of jail will become increasingly difficult.

Media outlets reported earlier this month that two men who practice homosexuality have filed suit against the Church of England to permit their marriage there. As history has proven, what is born across the Atlantic eventually migrates to the shores of North America.

Given the growing hostility towards Christianity in general and a biblical worldview specifically, we should not be surprised that making disciples is getting more and more difficult. But plowing hard ground isn't new ground for Christ-followers; it's old ground.

That's why the New Testament is sprinkled with verses like 2 Corinthians 4:8-10, where Paul states, "We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed. We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus..." And yet, Paul adds, "...so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body."

In the midst of intense persecution that would eventually cost Paul his life, lost people were saved.

While the downturn in baptisms and church membership definitely justifies a moment of lamenting among the Lord's faithful in America, let us take no more than a moment before we launch ourselves forward into a lost and dying land to share the life-giving message of the gospel of Jesus. His church may be rejected by the culture of our day just as He was rejected by the culture of His day, but the victory of the empty tomb assures us that His bride will not be overcome (Matt 16:18).

Might the words of George Duffield's 19th century hymn remind us of God's call upon every generation of believers: "Ye that are brave now serve Him against unnumbered foes; let courage rise with danger, and strength to strength oppose."

Paul Chitwood is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

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

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## Unique doors open to black missionaries overseas

By Susan O'Hara

Ridgecrest, N.C.—College junior Lauren Dugas had never met an African-American missionary prior to this year's Black Church Leadership and Family Conference. Neither had many of the other 900 people from predominantly black Southern Baptist churches recently at LifeWay's Ridgecrest Conference Center.

Of the 4,900 Southern Baptist workers serving overseas through the International Mission Board, only 26 are black; and eight of them were on hand July 22-26 to encourage others to engage in international missions.

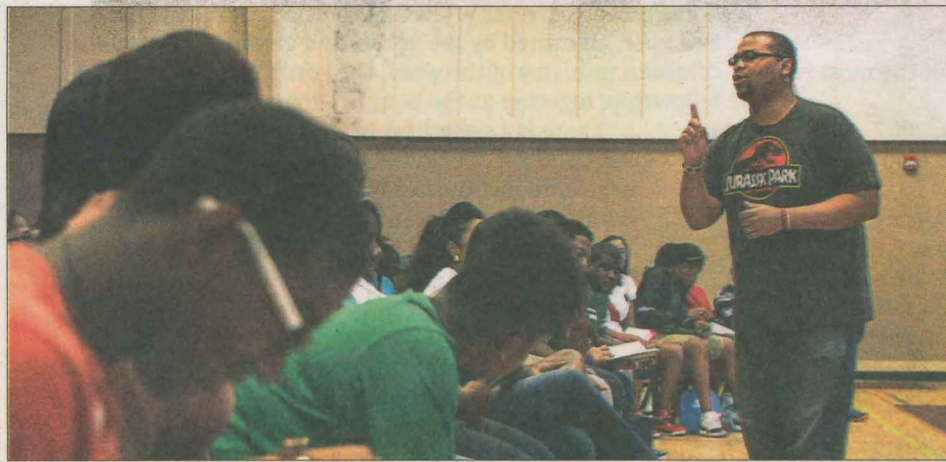
Also at the conference was Southern Baptist Convention President Fred Luter, who described when he met his first African-American missionary. David Cornelius, a retired IMB missionary and staff member, had urged Luter to visit the mission field. But Luter never did, believing he was too busy.

After his election, part of Luter's role included going on an international trip. He spent two weeks in Africa.

"It was one of the most rewarding times in my life," he said. "I regretted, pastors, that I didn't do this a lot sooner. ... Let's take up the commandment and the commission of our Lord Jesus Christ," Luter said. "Let's make disciples."

Dugas, a student at Louisiana College in Pineville, La., said she knows God has called her to the international mission field. As a child, she was called "little missionary" by one man in her church.

At an exhibit for Black Missions Link, a website of resources for African-



Fred "Chip" Luter III speaks to youth at Centrifuge, which took place at the Black Church Leadership and Family Conference at LifeWay's Ridgecrest (N.C.) Conference Center. (BP)

American pastors and their churches, Dugas spoke with IMB workers who encouraged her to apply for the Journeyman Program (for college graduates willing to commit to two years of overseas service).

Besides lack of exposure to black missionaries, Keith Jefferson, IMB's missional strategist for African-American churches, said other barriers include financial difficulties and fear of the unknown.

Nearly all of IMB's black missionaries are veterans who have served 12 years or more, he said. Just a few years ago that number stood at 31, but as workers completed their terms or resigned, there were no new African American missionaries to take their place.

"We know there are roughly 1 million African Americans in the SBC, about 6.5

percent. If we were to represent in Southern Baptists' missionary force what we represent in the convention's membership, it would be over 300," Jefferson said.

Unique doors often are opened to African Americans sharing Christ overseas, Jefferson said. In East Asia, dark skin attracts interest, drawing people to listen to the gospel. In other countries, people with dark skin are eager to hear the gospel from black missionaries.

"When African Americans go to places that have people of color," Jefferson said, "there are people in those countries that say, 'You know, the white missionaries have always come, but when you come, the people here know that is not a religion for whites only, it's a religion for all the people of the world.'" (BP)

To learn more, visit [blackmissionslink.org](http://blackmissionslink.org), or call Keith Jefferson at (1-800) 999-3113.

### Missionary spotlight

Jerry Bates\* attracts a lot of attention because when people in Central Asia ask about his religion, they expect him to profess Islam because he is black.

"They say if you have darker skin, you're probably a Muslim. If you have lighter skin, you're a Christian," Bates said. It's a deep-seated belief in that part of the world, he contends.

But Bates sees people's curiosity as an opportunity to share his testimony and spread the gospel.

Bates has been bold in sharing about God, even when it's outside his comfort zone.

"It's a joy to see how sometimes I didn't feel like I was qualified to do things," Bates said, "but God put me in a certain place at a certain time to live a certain way that allowed people to grow closer to Him."

"He could have called a lot of other people, but He called me," Bates noted. "And sometimes I don't understand why, but it's all in His ultimate plan."

Bates said he believes more African-American missionaries are needed all over the world, especially in countries where people with dark skin are eager to hear the gospel from black missionaries.

"When African Americans go out and share the gospel ... they show that the Great Commission wasn't given to any one people. It's given to all Christians to make disciples from all the nations." (BP)

\*Name changed.

# FORWARD

## TO WHAT LIES AHEAD

Philippians 3:13-14

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# 176<sup>th</sup> KBC Annual Meeting

## Tuesday, November 12

### Lone Oak First Baptist Church, Paducah

The KBC Mission Board, Pastors' Conference, and other affiliated meetings convene on Monday, November 11. The KBC annual meeting on Tuesday, November 12 has only **TWO (2) sessions** – morning and afternoon – and will conclude by 5:00 p.m. CST.

#### Paducah Accommodations:

A	B	C
<b>Country Inn &amp; Suites</b> 145 McBride Lane 270/442.2201 \$89 (1-4 persons)	<b>Drury Inn Paducah</b> 3975 Hinkleville Road 270/443.3313 \$90-\$104 (1-4 persons)	<b>Fairfield Inn &amp; Suites</b> 3950 Coleman Crossing 270/442.1700 \$89-\$99 (1-4 persons)
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#### Paducah Accommodations for KBC Messengers - I-24, Exit 4

Rates do not include the current Paducah 13.42% hotel tax. Messengers are responsible for making their own reservations. Kentucky Baptist Convention must be mentioned and reservation deadlines met to receive blocked room rates. Please note that most room blocks do not include Tuesday evening.

## Sri Lanka

Continued from page 1

violently closed his church.

Lawsuits, filed by groups of pastors against the attackers, claim that Sri Lanka's constitution calls for freedom of religion and that their churches should be allowed to meet. The high court agreed, ruling in their favor Aug. 2.

Despite the favorable ruling, everyone is anxiously waiting to see whether the violent attacks on churches by Buddhist extremists will stop. The targeted attacks are becoming more and more commonplace and extremists have vowed in local newspaper reports to shut down every church in the South.

Open Doors USA, which closely monitors the persecuted church, reports that more than 30 churches have been attacked since Perera's.

### Closing churches

The pastor explains that when his church was attacked, local authorities ordered them not to operate any longer because they had not been authorized by the state. While registration of religious organizations is not mandatory in this island nation, the government has been contemplating bringing all religious groups under regulation for over a year.

According to the 2011 census, more than 70 percent of Sri Lanka's population of 20.8 million is Buddhist. Christians number around 7 percent—Catholic 6 percent and Protestant 1 percent—while Muslims make up a little less than 10 percent.

Sri Lanka is the world's oldest continually Buddhist nation, and extremists told a TIME reporter last month that they want it to stay that way. As a result, persecution is on the rise. Attacks on Muslims have hit the headlines, but the increasing incidence of Christian persecution has received very little attention.

"People are afraid to step foot in a church or any religious place," Perera said. "We cannot start new churches. Churches cannot rent or buy houses."

The judge's ruling gave the churches



Sri Lankan Pastor Saman Perera\* recounts the recent violent closing of his church by a mob of Buddhist extremists. \*Name changed. (BP)

in the court case permission to begin worship services again and registered their buildings as official churches. Perera added that the judge warned local authorities not to disturb their prayers again.

"Our constitution gives us freedom of religion, but in practice it is Buddhist and there will not be any other religion welcome," the pastor warned. "This is going to spread quickly from one district to another."

The veteran pastor is no stranger to persecution. The country suffered through two decades of civil war. Pastors had to walk the perimeter of their church building to check for landmines every Sunday morning. Before the 2004 tsunami hit the island, churches were burned, bombed and shut down. Things settled down and Sri Lanka disappeared off the World Watch List's top 50 persecuted countries.

But now, it has started up again. Almost every week, a church or Muslim business is attacked in some way or another. Despite this persecution, Perera assures

that the church closings and attacks have not hampered spreading the gospel.

"God has been preparing us for this

**"It's a crucial time right now in Sri Lanka. The gospel and churches could rapidly multiply or it could shut down completely."**

Archer Hullett\*



Perera\* shares one of his favorite Bible verses as he explains how God has used the persecution of the local church to bring new life and energy to Christian believers. (BP)

persecution all along," Perera said. "He opened our minds to a new way of doing 'church' last year. Before this even started happening, we were training lay leaders to lead house churches in their homes."

### God prepares a church

Pastor Thilak Jayawickrama\* nods his head and excitedly jumps in to explain that the traditional way of doing "house church" in Sri Lanka was for organized churches to just rent a house and convert it into a church building.

These are the types of churches local authorities and extremists are shutting down. But, with the discipleship and

church planting method called Training for Trainers (T4T) they began using last year, church is now in someone's house, business or even under a shade tree.

"The thing about persecution is that even if it doesn't happen to you, you are still afraid. In your mind, you know that it could happen," Jayawickrama said. "With this new method, we don't have buildings. There is nothing to shut down."

Perera's church now meets in 16 different homes and is growing for the first time in years. Jayawickrama's church is divided into eight. The groups are reproducing and starting new churches. Those who were once afraid to go to a religious place for fear of a mob or the monks asking questions are not concerned about going to a friend's home.

"It's comfortable and friendly. There's nothing threatening about a house," Perera said. "And the result is that every week, people are coming and accepting Jesus."

So far, widespread persecution has not come from sharing the gospel one-on-one. Christian worker Archer Hullett\* explains that the T4T model is based on sharing within your own relationship network—within your own sphere of influence.

Hullett said that there might be some persecution from a new believer's family, but nothing on the scale seen now against churches.

Pastor Ruwan Ranatunga\* said since he switched to training lay leaders in evangelism and discipleship, the incidence of even this kind of familial persecution went down among those he mentors. He credits it to the fact that as everyone becomes more active and involved in a house church, their faith grows and they become "doers of the word"—applying biblical truths to their actions.

Ranatunga said the entire community sees the genuine changes as Christians live out the gospel. Their friends and family become curious enough to not just ask questions but to listen instead of angrily objecting to Christianity.

### Church growth

Hullett and the pastors said they have seen more come to Christ in the last two years than ever before. More than 60 new house churches have started with many more small groups on their way to functioning as an "Acts" church. This number doesn't even include traditional churches that broke up into the smaller T4T house church groupings because of persecution.

"People here are hungry for the Lord," Hullett said. "It's a crucial time right now in Sri Lanka. The gospel and churches could rapidly multiply or it could shut down completely."

All three pastors said there is no way of knowing if the persecution of Sri Lanka's minority religions will subside or increase. The situation seems to change almost daily. Because of this uncertainty, Ranatunga asked for Christians around the world to pray for wisdom among the Sri Lankan Christian leaders.

"It is a time in our country when we need to adjust our traditional thinking of church and spread the gospel in ways that do not draw widespread public attention," Ranatunga said. "We need to adjust without endangering the work of spreading the gospel. Pray that we are able to follow the example set forth by churches in the Book of Acts." (BP)

\*Name changed.

**REVVING UP YOUR MINISTRY**

**August 17, Louisville Highview Baptist Church (Fegenbush)**

**August 24, Lexington Immanuel Baptist Church**

**September 7, Owensboro Bellevue Baptist Church**

9 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
(registration begins at 8 a.m.)

Register online at [www.kybaptist.org/supersaturday](http://www.kybaptist.org/supersaturday) Questions? 1-866-489-3571



## August

- 15 Administrative Committee, Kentucky Building, Louisville.
- 15 My Hope with Billy Graham Training, Old Cedar Baptist Church, Owenton.
- 17 Super Saturday, Highview Baptist Church—Fegenbush Campus, Louisville.
- 19 FamilyFEST, Boone's Creek Association.
- 19 My Hope with Billy Graham Training, Bethlehem Baptist Church, Cunningham.
- 20 Committee on Committees, Kentucky Building, Louisville.
- 22 Committee on Public Affairs, Kentucky Building, Louisville.
- 23 English as a Second Language Tutor Training, Westport Road Baptist Church, Louisville.
- 24 Super Saturday, Immanuel Baptist Church, Lexington.
- 29 Committee on the Annual Meeting, Kentucky Building, Louisville.

## September

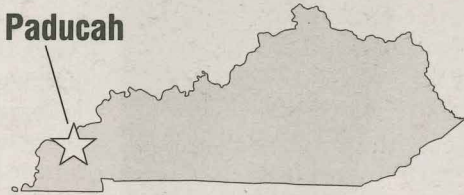
- 5 Committee on Constitution and Bylaws, Kentucky Building, Louisville.

## MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

### Spotlight on ...

#### Paducah



Lone Oak First Church will hold Adult Vacation Bible School Aug. 19-23, 10 a.m., with Bible study, games and snacks. **Dan Summerlin** is pastor.

■ **CAMPBELLVILLE**—Campbellville Church will hold Maroon and White Sunday Aug. 18 with special invitations for Campbellville University athletes and band members to attend breakfast and Bible study.

Lowell Avenue Church will host the Taylor County Association WMU Birthday Party Aug. 17, 2 p.m. with **Linda Cooper**, Ky. WMU president, as guest speaker. **Dave Walters** is pastor.

■ **CLAY CITY**—Clay City Church will hold revival services Aug. 18-21 with guest speaker **Dale Rose**. **Grider Denney** is pastor.

■ **COSLICK**—First Church recently call **Ric Frazier** as pastor.

■ **CORBIN**—First Church will hold a fish fry and game night Aug. 18, 6 p.m. **Jim Hunter** is pastor.

■ **CRESTWOOD**—Harrods Creek Church recently called **Eric Honeycutt** as pastor.

■ **DRY RIDGE**—Elliston Church will hold revival service Aug. 18-21 with guest speaker **T.J. Frances**. **David Butler** is pastor.

■ **FRANKFORT**—Crestwood Church will host a summer concert series with **Golden Girls of Gospel**, Aug. 18, 6 p.m., Crestwood's **Choir Gospel Hour**, Aug. 25, 6 p.m., and **Skyline Boys**, Sept. 15, 10:45 p.m. **Michael Hail** is pastor.

■ **FULTON**—New Hope Church will hold a homecoming Aug. 18 with guest speaker **Kenneth Yarbrough** and musical guests **Goodly Heritage**. **Randy McClure** is pastor.

■ **HEBRON**—Hebron Church recently called **Shawn Dobbins** as pastor.

□ See Mountains to Miss. ... Page 7

## One for the record books

### 794 accepted Christ at camp, \$162,000 in missions offerings

Well it is official—another year of camp has been recorded in the old record book. Speaking of records, to God be all the glory as it has been yet another record year. 2013 will be known for its record number of campers, record number given to missions and, most importantly, a record number of students and adults who now call Christ as Lord and Savior.

As this summer came to a close, I am more thankful than ever for God allowing me to be a part of Crossings. Words simply cannot express the joy and excitement our staff gets to experience in seeing how God works in the lives of thousands each year and, even more significantly, how He works through them once they leave camp.

To me, what takes place after camp is the most rewarding. The stories we hear of how students and adults are living out their faith once they are home is a real testimony to how God is calling out workers for His kingdom. While we rejoice and celebrate with each life that crosses from death unto life at camp, we anticipate with great excitement

what God will do through them after camp.

Each year, I find myself wondering what will these students be doing 10, 20, 30 years from now? Where might they be serving? What country will they call home? How will they raise their future families? Only God knows, but one thing I know for certain is that their life will be radically different.

While Crossings 2013 is barely over, we are anxiously planning now for Crossings 2014. The theme will be "Greater" from John 3:30. While you may think that is a long way off, many are already anticipating what God will do in this next camp season. As a matter of fact, before the 2013 camp season was even over, we had more registrations booked for 2014 than attended this year.

Camp is not strictly about the numbers that attend, but it is pretty exciting that God continues to give the increase at Crossings.

This year 794 accepted Christ as Lord and Savior, and our students and adults gave more than \$162,000 to missions.

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

### Crossings Ministries



David Melber



When you *open* your doors to the community...

...trouble sometimes walks in.



Jeff Laster  
Church Administrator  
Wedgwood Baptist Church

Jeff Laster was shot *in his church*. Now he encourages ministries like yours to be better prepared.

September 15, 1999 was like many ordinary Wednesday evenings at Wedgwood Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas. There was a youth rally and concert. But there was also an intruder with two guns and a homemade pipe bomb.

Seven were killed — four of them teenagers. Seven more were wounded. Jeff was one of them.

"What is the value of safety? From Wedgwood's perspective, you can't put a price on that," he says.

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## Moving mountains, part 3

### Following God's vision requires 'stepping out' of comfort zone

—Excerpts from Anna Davidson's valedictory address at OBI on May 18.

"As someone once said, 'It's not about what you do, but who you are.' Jesus was a friend to the friendless, a defender of the weak and unjustly treated, a patient teacher, a passionate speaker of the truth, a faithful, gentle leader who showed love to others even as they mocked him, and a healer of the physically and mentally broken.

"This should be our aim. A life filled with Christ, overflowing with these characteristics will truly result in a lasting and honorable success and a life well lived.

(Singing) "I hope you never lose your sense of wonder,

You get your fill to eat but always keep that hunger,

May you never take one single breath for granted,

GOD forbid love ever leave you empty handed,

I hope you still feel small when you stand beside the ocean,

Whenever one door closes I hope one more opens,

Promise me that you'll give faith a fighting chance,

And when you get the choice to sit it out or dance. I hope you dance. I hope you dance.

"May these words of St. Patrick's Breastplate Prayer be our heart cry as we go out from this place:

I bind unto myself today

The strong Name of the Trinity,

By invocation of the same  
The Three in One and One in Three.  
I bind unto myself today  
The power of God to hold and lead,  
His eye to watch, His might to stay  
His ear to hearken to my need.  
The wisdom of my God to teach  
His hand to guide, His shield to

ward,



The word of God to give me speech  
His heavenly host to be my guard.

Christ be with me, Christ within me

Christ behind me, Christ before me,

Christ beside me, Christ to win me  
Christ to comfort and restore me.  
Christ beneath me, Christ above me  
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,  
Christ in hearts of all that love me  
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.'

"The most important thing OBI has taught me is that success comes with hard work, not just by raw talent. Any goal one has must be earnestly striven for; opportunities must be keenly looked out for and taken advantage of when they arise. It boils down to this: when God gives you a vision of your role in His plan, He will provide you with the necessary opportunities to prepare you for that role, but you must be willing to work hard, step out of your comfort zone, and actively train for that future."

Oneida Baptist Institute, Box 67, Oneida, KY 40972; www.oneida.school.org.

## Coming home

### Alumni reconnect at Clear Creek's homecoming celebration

As I write this, I am newly encouraged and refreshed. A mutual ministry event that we call our Alumni Conference is just ending. I call it a mutual ministry because our alumni come onto campus to be revived, but end up being a blessing to us.

According to the dinner count, we had 168 participants in Alumni Conference and it was especially good this year.

In line with our theme, "Courage Under Fire," Bill Barker, of Appalachian Regional Ministries, brought two powerful messages from God's word and shared personal experiences from the field.

He reminded us that ministry can be tough, but God is greater. I believe many in the room believed God sent those messages just for them. Daniel Carmack, of Hawk Creek Baptist Church, called us to worship with music and Bill brought us God's word, and God spoke powerfully.

We are currently involved in a campaign at Clear Creek to pave our campus roads. It has been so many years since our roads were paved that many thought it would never happen, but we recently completed the worst section serving the "Bear Trail" housing area.

### Clear Creek Chronicle



Donnie Fox

At this year's conference, alumnus Harlan Avera (1986) brought members of his Woman's Missionary Union from Calvary Baptist Church who presented a check toward the campus paving project. Avera lived in a housing section we called Holly Hill when he was a student. The ladies had challenged the church with a \$7,500 goal and a big thermo-meter to mark the progress.

They recounted how they had met that goal, brought the red line back to the bottom, met it again, brought it down again, and topped it out a third time. The final amount was \$27,000. Now Holly Hill, our

second worse section of roads, will be paved.

I would mention one other thing—though much more went on in the last two days—our Alumni Association voted to change the name of the annual gathering from "Alumni Conference" to "Alumni Homecoming." That certainly works for me.

It has been great to have the family home again, and to see God at work in and through them. It is great to be a part of your Bible college.

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

## Puzzle returns next week

Due to a reduction in the number of pages in this week's Western Recorder, the crossword puzzle will not appear in this issue. It will return Aug. 20.

At right are the answers for the crossword (#169) that appeared Aug. 6.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
A	N	G	E	A	D	A	M	A	R	M
12	R	O	L	L	P	A	R	A	C	O
15	T	R	O	D	E	M	I	R	R	E
18	R	E	A	D	S	C	H	E	S	T
22	T	H	I	R	D	S	H	E		
25	R	I	O	S	E	A	T	A	M	O
33	E	L	U	L	D	Y	E	L	I	V
37	E	L	S	E	G	E	M	S	N	E
41	A	T	E							
45	S	H	A	P	E	F	L	E	E	S
50	O	E	R	A	R	I	A	A	T	A
56	R	A	M	C	O	S	T	R	E	B
59	T	R	Y	H	O	T	E	T	R	I

## Mountains to Miss.

Continued from page 6

■ **HOPKINSVILLE**—First Church will hold a Back 2 School event Aug. 18, 5 p.m., with inflatables and food.

■ **LA GRANGE**—DeHaven Church recently called **Ross Bauscher** as pastor.

■ **LEXINGTON**—Grace Church will hold a town hall meeting and potluck dinner Aug. 18, 6 p.m. **Steve Price** is pastor.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Parkland Church will hold a Drive-In Family Movie Night Aug. 16, 8:30 p.m. **Tom Curry** is pastor.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**EVENT:** Sunday School Summit Training event Aug. 29 at Lone Oak First Baptist Church, 3601 Lone Oak Road, Paducah, KY 42003. Soup dinner at 6 p.m. Training 7 p.m.–9 p.m. \$10 per person with \$100 max per church (will need individual names for an accurate count). Registration 6 p.m.–6:55 p.m., or send check payable to West Union Baptist Association, 2541 Olivet Church Road, Paducah, KY 42001. For more information, visit [westunionbaptist.com/events/summit2013](http://westunionbaptist.com/events/summit2013).

**FOR RENT:** Two condos in Destin, Fla., for rent. Two bedrooms, two bathrooms, sofa bed. Special for August-December \$595/week. No clean up fee. Contact Lew Brammer at [lbrammer@charter.net](mailto:lbrammer@charter.net) or (423) 309-4422.

**SEEKING:** Lewisport Baptist Church is seeking a part-time minister of music who is responsible for leading worship through working with choir and band. Send resumé and cover letter to [lewisportbaptist@tds.net](mailto:lewisportbaptist@tds.net).

**SEEKING:** Crittenden Baptist Church is seeking a part-time youth minister. Please send resumé to Personnel Committee, Crittenden Baptist Church, P.O. Box 132, Crittenden, KY 41030, or via email to [crittendenbaptist@fuse.net](mailto:crittendenbaptist@fuse.net).

**SEEKING:** Bethlehem Baptist Church, Louisville, is seeking a full-time senior pastor for non-reformed congregation. Send resumé, cover letter to Jerry Phelps, Bethlehem Baptist Church, 5708 Preston Hwy., Louisville, KY 40219. For more information, visit [bethlehem.com](http://bethlehem.com). Church profile listed under "Working with God/Pastor Search Committee."

**SEEKING:** Interim/part-time minister to students to lead youth Sunday night, Wednesday night Bible study and fellowship activities. Send resumé to First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 327, Paris, KY 40362, Attn: Gary Elcessor, or email resumé to [fbcbrogary@att.net](mailto:fbcbrogary@att.net).

**SEEKING:** Southern Baptist Church is seeking a part-time worship leader/pastor. Approximately 15 hours each week.

■ **OWENSBORO**—First Church will host "Follow Me Simulcast: The Cost of Discipleship" with **David Platt** Aug. 14, 6 p.m. **Paul Strahan** is pastor.

■ **PADUCAH**—Lone Oak First Church will hold a Night of Praise with the worship choir, orchestra and **Living Water** in concert. For more information, call (270) 554-1441. Aug. 18, 7 p.m. **Dan Summerlin** is pastor.

■ **RICHMOND**—Unity Church will hold a Back to School Bash Aug. 17, 11 a.m., with food, face painting, games and distribution of school supplies. **Dennis Brewer** is pastor.

## To place an advertisement in the Western Recorder:

Rates are available upon request.  
Call (502) 489-3428; or visit [westernrecorder.org](http://westernrecorder.org)



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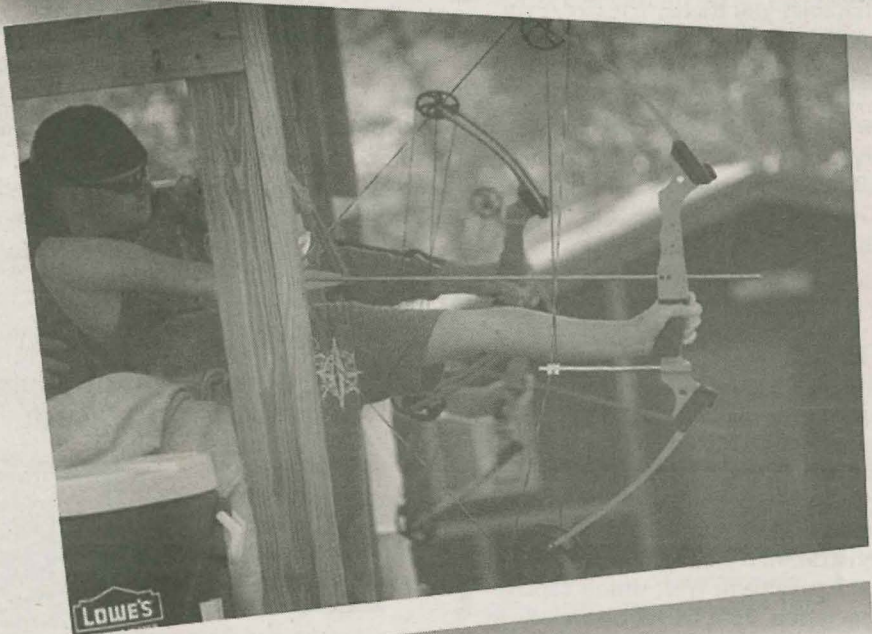
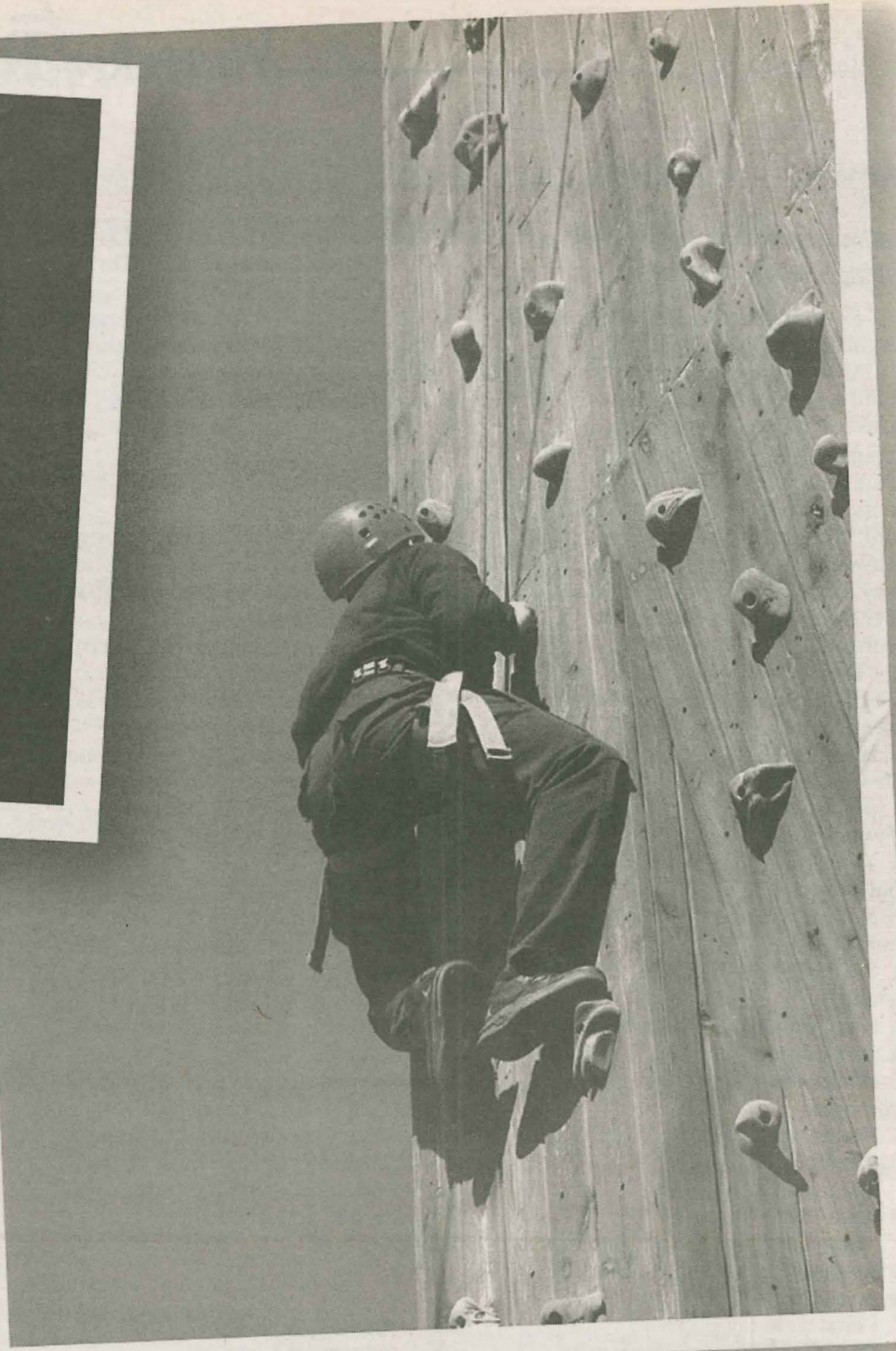
Must have a true heart for leading others in worship, flexible music styles, and able to lead choir and praise bands. Send resumé to [profile@youngerscreek.com](mailto:profile@youngerscreek.com).

**SEEKING:** Urgently needed for Hispanic ministry: 2 basketball goals, 2 volleyball poles; portable preferred. Email [garnettbjones@gmail.com](mailto:garnettbjones@gmail.com), or call (859) 361-3169.

**SEEKING:** First Baptist Church of Barbourville, Ky., has an immediate opening for a full-time minister of youth and recreation. Submit resúmes to [minyouthsearch.fbc@gmail.com](mailto:minyouthsearch.fbc@gmail.com), or to FBC Search Committee, 201 N. Main St., Barbourville, KY 40906.

**SEEKING:** Bullittsburg Baptist Church, located in a suburb of Cincinnati near the Creation Museum, is seeking a full-time pastor to lead the church into our 220th year of ministry. Resúmes may be sent to the church Attn: Pastor Search Committee, 2616 Bullittsburg Church Road, Petersburg, KY 41080, or email [bullittsburg@juno.com](mailto:bullittsburg@juno.com). Deadline is Aug. 31.

**SEEKING:** Part-time music minister for First Baptist Church of Carrollton, Ky. This position varies between 12-18 hours per week with the majority of the time being served on the field. Responsibilities include two worship hours each Sunday and choir leadership. Send resumé to First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 296, Carrollton, KY 41008. Questions? Call (502) 732-4396.



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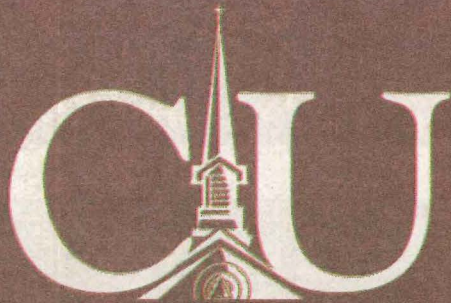
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Preparing Christian servant leaders  
through Christ-Centered higher education

August 2013

Campbellsville University is committed to the  
“whosoever will gospel” of Jesus Christ, following the Great Commission,  
practicing the Great Commandment.

## CU students changing the world for Christ through mission trips

Campbellsville University students sought to be world changers for Christ this summer, spreading the gospel in Niger, the Philippines and Honduras.

**Trent Creason**, a 2008 alumnus from Campbellsville, Ky., went on his second trip to Niger, Africa in May. The group worked health clinics and shared the gospel through a process called C2C, Creation to Christ. Many of the people in Niger have never been introduced to the gospel.

**Women's Missionary Union** (WMU) members in Kentucky made it possible for ministry team members to provide much-needed supplies at the health clinics.

While painting at a school there, **Katie Johnson** of Leitchfield, Ky., who graduated in May, connected with a boy who had been sold by his mother to pay a debt. The boy's mom had sold him to her boss to pay off her debt so he just lives wherever he can. Before she left, Johnson bought a Bible for him in his language and wrote a note in it, translated so he could understand it.

**Jordan Johnson** of Russellville, Ky. and **Melanie Jones** of Albany, Ky., both of whom graduated in May, worked in missions.

CU alumna **Makayla Jessie** of Edmonton, Ky., who graduated in 2012, said, “We really worked as servants, which was helpful because I learned that we can spread the gospel in many ways.”

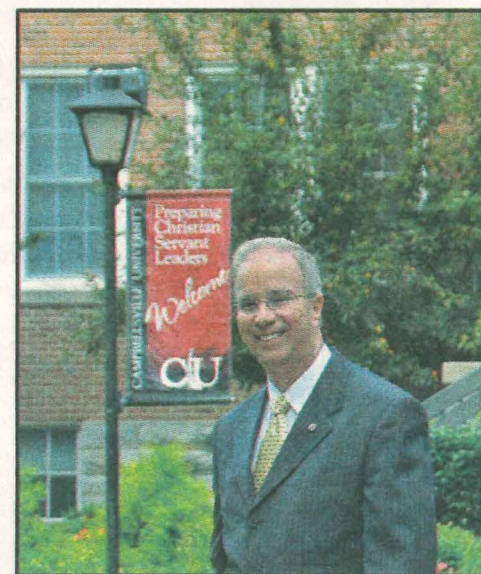
For more information on mission trips, contact **Ed Pavy**, director of campus ministries, at (270) 789-5227.

**Bethany Thomaston** (in the photo at right with a group of children) a sophomore from Auburn, Ky., traveled to Niger for her first mission trip.



She said of this first mission trip to Niger she witnessed that many of the villages they were in had “zero known believers and zero evangelical witnesses.”

She said, “It was amazing to see five men from one village come to Christ!”



Dr. Michael V. Carter

### Welcome to Campbellsville University!

Dear Western Recorder family,

Let us offer a tour through the eyes of students, friends and visitors and share what thousands have seen as they experience CU -- a university preparing Christian Servant Leaders who, in actions and words, proclaim the love and forgiveness of Jesus Christ to all the world.

Most cordially,

*Michael V. Carter*  
Michael V. Carter  
President

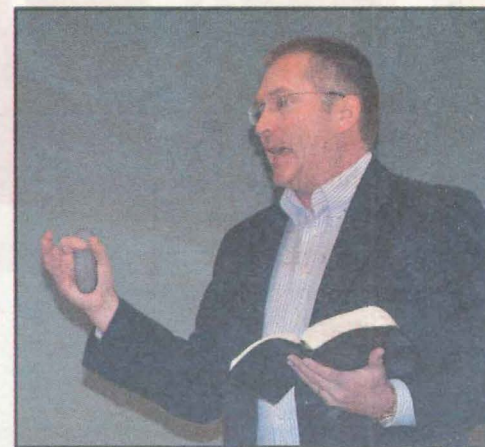
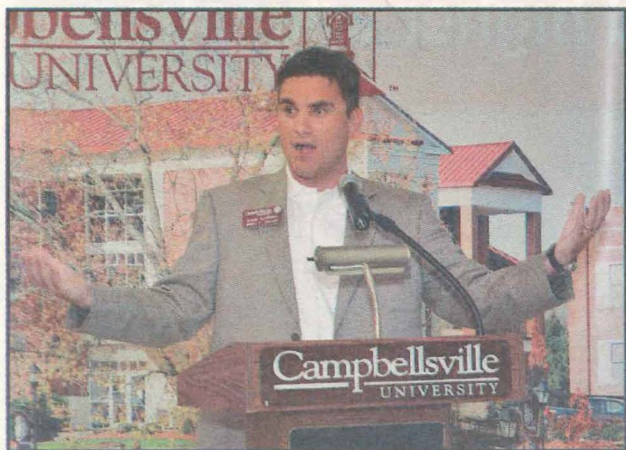
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## CU serving the local church with training workshops at TCMA

**The Rev. Alan Witham**, above right, a 1984 graduate of Campbellsville University who is pastoral ministry counseling group leader/central region consultant with the church consulting and revitalization team of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, presented "Essential Steps in a Church Revitalization Process" to the Taylor County Ministerial Association recently at CU. He offered nine basic how-to steps. **Dr. Shane Garrison**, above left, assistant professor of educational ministries in the CU School of Theology, presented "Church Life Cycles" including how-to steps for taking a church from one level of involvement to the next. He said that without redefinition and/or redevelopment, a church may slowly slip into decline. More on this story can be found at: [www.campbellsville.edu/04122013tcma](http://www.campbellsville.edu/04122013tcma)

## Top Baptist leaders coming to CU

### SUMMERLIN SEPT. 11 CHAPEL

**Dr. Dan Summerlin**, president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, will speak in Ransdell Chapel on Sept. 11 at 10 a.m. He is senior pastor of Lone Oak First Baptist Church in Paducah, Ky.

### PAGE SEPT. 25 CHAPEL

**Dr. Frank Page**, president and CEO of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, will speak at the university's Baptist Heritage Series Sept. 24 at 6:30 p.m. on the "Future of the Southern Baptist Convention." He will speak in Ransdell Chapel Sept. 25 at 10 a.m. He is the former pastor of First Baptist Church of Taylors, S.C.

### LAND OCT. 8, 9, KHIPP and CHAPEL

**Dr. Richard Land**, president emeritus of the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission and new president of Southern Evangelical Seminary and Bible College in Matthews, N.C., will speak at a Kentucky Heartland Institute on Public Policy event on "Primary Public Policy Issues Facing the United States in 2013 and Beyond" at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 8. He will speak in Ransdell Chapel, 10 a.m. Oct. 9.



## SBC President Fred Luter receives CU award

**The Rev. Fred Luter**, center, the first African-American president of the Southern Baptist Convention and senior pastor of Franklin Avenue Baptist Church in New Orleans, La., was awarded the Campbellsville University Leadership Award at CU's chapel service April 10 where he was guest speaker. **Dr. Michael V. Carter** defined a true leader as someone who takes individuals farther than they can believe themselves. From left are: the **Rev. John Chowning**, vice president for church and external relations and executive assistant to the president; **Dr. Joseph Owens**, chair of the Board of Trustees; **Luter**; **Carter**, president of Campbellsville University; and **Dr. Frank Cheatham**, senior vice president for academic affairs.



Stay on top of CU Tiger Athletics at [www.campbellsville.edu/athletics](http://www.campbellsville.edu/athletics)

## Three programs of Christian studies are now offered completely online:

- Master's of Theology *online*
- Associate Degree of Christian Studies *online*
- Certificate in Christian Ministry *online*

[www.campbellsville.edu/online-degrees](http://www.campbellsville.edu/online-degrees)

## CU School of Music update

The Kentucky Baptist Convention All State Choir and Orchestra performed at Campbellsville Baptist Church. The choir and orchestra met for rehearsals on the CU campus.

CU's School of Music revamped the church music degree to offer a new emphasis—the bachelor of science in music worship arts emphasis. The National Association of Schools of Music, an organization that establishes national standards for undergraduate and graduate degrees and other credentials, recently accredited the new degree emphasis.

## Church Relations Council connects CU and churches

Campbellsville University's Church Relations Council met Aug. 1 on campus with one of the largest attendances for a fall meeting. **Dr. Mike O'Neal**, new senior pastor at Campbellsville Baptist Church, asked CRC members, as Paul did, to pray for knowledge and to know the hows and whys of life. "When you have Jesus you have the full knowledge of God in you," he said.

**Dr. Michael V. Carter**, who began his 15th year as president of CU Aug. 1, said Campbellsville University has kept local churches and those throughout the country together through the CRC. He called the CRC meeting "a day of reflection and renewal."

"Continue to pray for the ministry of CU," he said. He urged the members to pray for a superior academic program and to pray that every student comes to know Jesus while at CU.

About 40 people attended the **January Bible Study** on "Colossians: The Secret is Out: Christ in You is the Glorious Hope!" **Dr. John Hurtgen**, dean of the CU School of Theology, and **Dr. Shane Garrison**, assistant professor of educational ministries, led the Bible study.



**New leadership chosen at CU's Church Relations Council** pictured above include from left: Front row — **Helen Henderson**, secretary; and **Kenny Rager**, member at large. Back row — **Dr. Michael V. Carter**, CU president; the **Rev. Wilburn Bonta**, member at large; the **Rev. Jay Hatfield**, former chair; the **Rev. Steve Sholar**, chair-elect; the **Rev. Joel Carwife**, member at large; **Dr. Mike O'Neal**, chair; the **Rev. Dennis Bickers**, academics committee chair; **Anna Mary Byrdwell**, development committee chair; the **Rev. John Chowning**, vice president for church and external relations and executive assistant to the president at CU; and the **Rev. Matt Smyzer**, former chair. (Leaders not pictured are -- the Rev. David Cozart, the Rev. Mark Shelton, Mrs. Grace Bristow and the Rev. Michael Caldwell.)



**Dr. John Hurtgen**, dean of CU's School of Theology, standing, at left, focused on "Colossians: The Secret is Out: Christ in You is the Glorious Hope!" for the January Bible Study.

### Campbellsville University's "Vision 2025-Preparing Christian Servant Leaders"

calls for CU to become one of America's premiere Christian universities in the Baptist tradition; to increase enrollment to 5,000; to prepare a generation of Christian servant leaders; and to provide quality and excellence in Christian higher education for all students.



### Carver update

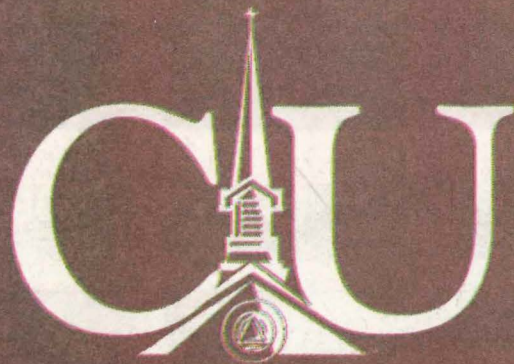
**Dr. Darlene Eastridge**, left, reported to the CRC that the Carver School of Social Work and Counseling is expecting its largest class for the master of social work since 2008 with 63 students enrolling in the fall. There are 15 students expected in the fall for the master of science in counseling at the Louisville and on main campus. Seven Carver faculty and 13 students presented at the Ky. Association of Social Work Educators Conference at Asbury University in April. Their research represented the largest group of students from any one institution presenting at the event. Thirty Carver students are going on a mission trip to New Orleans in October.

## CU and KHO partner to serve families

About 270 teenagers and adult leaders brought new roofs and decks to homeowners in need through a partnership with **Kentucky Heartland Outreach (KHO)**. At least five salvations and countless lives were changed. KHO's 2013 Summer Camp, "Fearless Faith" dealt with how to turn fears into acts of faithfulness in seeking God and His promises. Campbellsville University hosted the volunteers by providing lodging and several vans to help transport crews to their site each day. Lowell Avenue Baptist Church provided a place to feed the volunteers for breakfast and dinner, and South Campbellsville Baptist Church provided a place for volunteers to worship each night.



Volunteers begin assembling a deck for a homeowner in Campbellsville, who had an unsafe entrance on his home before the crew arrived. Pictured from left to right are: **Christa DeGross** with Main Street Baptist Church in Alexandria, Ky., **Josh Hensley**, volunteer crew chief, **Paige Oakley** with Wellspring Community Church in Liberty Township, Ohio, **Kelsey Phelps**, **Carley Johnson**, **Jaley Broughton** and **Peyton Ingram**, all with Eubank Baptist Church in Eubank, Ky.



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- Ranked by U. S. News & World Report:
  - As a top regional university in the south
  - 16th in the nation, 2013 Best Online Graduate Education Programs
  - 86th in the nation, 2013 Best Online Graduate Business Programs
- Among America's Best Christian Colleges
- Rated as a Military Friendly School
- Named a Five-Star Champions of Character Institution by the NAIA
- Named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll
- Listed in the Chronicle of Higher Education among the nation's fastest growing campuses

## NEW TO CAMPUS

CU students will see numerous changes and improvements when they return to start the fall semester on Aug. 27.

**Alumni & Friends Park** is nearing completion. The new main campus "front door" entrance is located on a one-half acre area at the corner of Broadway and North Columbia Avenue.

A **new residence village** for women will be open for the fall semester. It allows for 48 students to live in apartment style housing.

**North Hall**, a men's residence hall, is being totally renovated.

**Papa John's Pizza** and University Grill will share a new building on North Columbia across from Alumni & Friends Park.

A **new cosmetology program** is being offered through CU's Technology Training Center. The first class will begin Sept. 3. Financial aid is available for the program. For more information contact Carol Sullivan at csullivan@campbellsville.edu or (270) 789-5392.

**The Chowning Art Shop** remains open Tuesday-Saturday from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. for the sale of fine local artwork. This and the Turner Log Cabin are located within a new CU "Art Village" being conceptualized. Many other projects are working this summer.

## Campbellsville University

is a widely acclaimed Kentucky-based Christian university with more than 3,600 students offering 63 undergraduate options, 17 master's degrees, five postgraduate areas and eight pre-professional programs.

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 #CUXC  
 instagram.com/p/cfLLETM\_SY/

14 hours ago

**Thanks for sharing your CU memories!**

## Working for Baptist students

During the 2012-2013 academic year, CU received around \$1.2 million (about 2% of the total budget) from the Kentucky Baptist Convention, while **providing more than \$7.0 million** in institutional financial aid **to students coming from Kentucky Baptist churches.**

You can help make more opportunities available to students by calling the Office of Development at **(270) 789-5211.**

Jordan Ventresco, left, and Dr. Ted Taylor.



## Ventresco finds relationship with Jesus Christ in Oasis

**Jordan Ventresco**, a senior at CU from Dublin, Oh., has spent the past couple of years sharing his life-changing experience after accepting Jesus Christ as his personal Lord and Savior. The change happened during a **BCM Oasis** student-led worship.

Ventresco said his journey at CU started because of being awarded a scholarship for his academic achievements and for being accepted into the university's bowling team. He said he came in not wanting to learn any more about Christianity, but God had other plans. The Oasis speaker the night he accepted Christ said, "The main point of the devotion was not to put off God another day, for tomorrow is never promised." That touched his heart and changed his life.

**Dr. G. Ted Taylor**, professor of Christian studies and lead professor of the CU sports ministry program, said, "Jordan's is a story of faith development in Christ on the campus of Campbellsville University. He represents the transformation that takes place on our campus on a daily basis."

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