

WESTERN Recorder

September 17, 2013

Shine Like Stars * Philippians 2:15

Volume 187, Issue 35

ERLC's mission to 'speak' the gospel, says Moore at inaugural address

By Tom Strobe

Washington—The mission of the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission is not primarily to declare biblical morality, but to proclaim the gospel of Jesus, Russell Moore said upon his inauguration as the entity's new president.

Moore was inaugurated Sept. 10 at Capitol Hill Baptist Church in Washington, about six months after ERLC trustees elected him in March to lead the commission. He took office in June.

Members of Congress, at least one Obama administration official, religious

leaders, advocacy organization representatives and most of the Southern Baptist Convention's entity heads participated or observed as Moore received encouragement and challenges from speakers in a service marked by hymn singing, Bible reading and prayer.

The ERLC addresses moral, social and church-state issues—and their public

policy implications—on behalf of Southern Baptists, but Moore said in his inaugural address the gospel is the focus of the entity's charge.

The mission of God's people and the ERLC, Moore said, "is not simply to speak about what the law of God has revealed. It is not simply to speak of the ethical

norms that the Scripture has given to us. It is to speak primarily with the gospel of

God's kingdom "is not made up of the moral, (but) the crucified."

Russell Moore

□ See Russell Moore ... Page 2



Russell Moore speaks at his Sept. 10 inauguration in Washington. (BP/Tom Strobe)

Student ministries Change hands

Louisville—Joy Bolton, executive director of Kentucky WMU and David Melber, president of Crossings Ministries, have announced that Kentucky WMU will assume responsibility for Kentucky Changers and Creative Ministries Festival effective immediately.

As part of the 2012 restructuring of the Kentucky Baptist Convention staff, Crossings Ministries assumed responsibility for youth ministry consulting as well as operation of Kentucky Changers and the Creative Ministries Festival. After leading the programs for a year, Crossings approached Kentucky WMU about

□ See Changing hands ... Page 3



Responsibility for Kentucky Changers and the Creative Ministries Festival will transfer from Crossings Ministries to Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union. Above, a student (left) participates in a Kentucky Changers event held in Bowling Green this summer. Last spring, students and ministry leaders learned about beginning puppetry and other imaginative evangelistic strategies during the Creative Ministries Festival. (Photos provided by Crossings Ministries)

TENTTWO Prayer initiative gaining momentum

By Joe Conway

Alpharetta, Ga.—Luke 10:2, the biblical admonition to pray workers into the Lord's harvest, is driving a national prayer strategy quickly approaching a major milestone. The North American Mission Board's TenTwo prayer initiative invites churches to join in focused prayer for laborers on Oct. 2 and beyond.

"I learned about the TenTwo prayer initiative on Twitter and followed the link to NAMB's website," said Daniel Ausbun, pastor of First Baptist

Church of Moreland, Ga. Ausbun watched the online video, liked what he saw and decided to share it with the church.

"We showed the two-minute video and read Luke 10:2," said Ausbun.

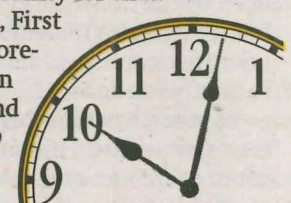
"(Everyone) was nodding their heads in agreement that we have an abundant harvest and we need to ask God to send workers into the harvest field. Everyone knows we need to pray, and TenTwo provides an organized opportunity for that."

On Oct. 2, First Baptist of Moreland will join Canadian and

□ See TenTwo ... Page 3

"(It is) a vital and welcomed 'alert'... to remind me of the lostness."

Gary Frost



NAMB encourages churches to honor pastors, provides resources

By Tobin Perry

Alpharetta, Ga.—With Pastor Appreciation Month on the horizon, the North American Mission Board is providing laypeople with resources to encourage and support their churches' shepherds.

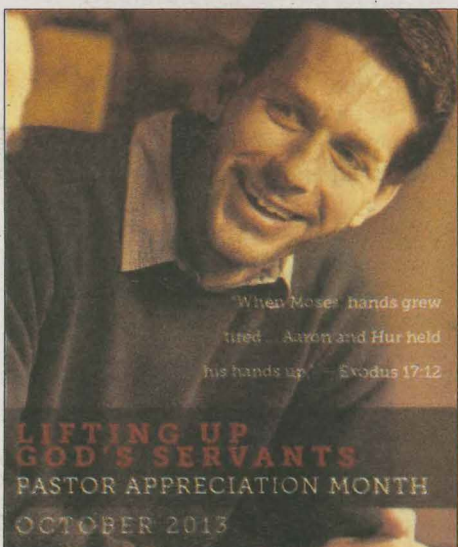
"NAMB's mission is to penetrate lostness in North America," NAMB President Kevin Ezell said. "Local pastors are the ones who lead churches to focus on that mission. We strongly encourage every local congregation to celebrate and affirm their pastors because we believe

their role is critical in the expansion of the kingdom."

Looking toward Pastor Appreciation Month, NAMB is encouraging churches to pick one Sunday in October—or a Sunday in a different month if the schedule doesn't permit—to lift up their pastors during a worship service.

At namb.net/honoring_pastors, NAMB is providing a variety of resources to help churches do this. Posters and bulletin inserts at the website share 50 practical specific ways lay leaders can lift up and

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Making music

Annual chorales, orchestra retreat this week, Sept. 20-21

By Chelsea Beville

Campbellsville—This weekend, men and women from all over the state of Kentucky will gather at Campbellsville University for an overnight retreat of musical proportions.

The Kentucky Baptist Convention's annual Men's Chorale, Women's Chorale, Wind Orchestra Retreat, Sept. 20-21, is a time of great encouragement and fellowship for ministers of music and lay people involved in their church's music ministry.

The event will consist of rehearsal, fellowship time, devotional and Bible study time, and a closing concert.

"It's always nice to be under the directorship of someone else," said Mark Murphy, minister of music at First Baptist Church of Mt. Sterling.

Murphy said he enjoys being able to "see their techniques and how they conduct rehearsals and be able to take that back and apply that to my choir and

my ministry."

While the weekend does promise plenty of singing and musical skill sharpening, many look forward to the fellowship aspect of the retreat.

"The chorale retreat is a time to get away from your everyday stresses and demands and simply sing for God's glory. It's a time to meet others who are walking similar paths, dealing with some of the same struggles and issues you are dealing with. It's a time of encouragement as you share and gather exciting ideas for your music ministry," said Dave Love, minister of music at Beechland Church in Louisville.

"We all need to sharpen our axes," said Jason Stewart, worship and ministry consultant for the KBC. "We all need the encouragement and prayers from other ministers of music."

"So often we as ministers of music—and other ministers as well—get so involved in our work at our churches that we isolate ourselves, accidentally," said Bob Blankenship, minister of music at Edgewood Church in Nicholasville.

Russell Moore

Continued from page 1

Jesus Christ."

Satan "is more than happy to have a world in which there is no pornography, in which there is no abortion, in which there is no malaria, in which there is no trafficking, in which there is no poverty, as long as there is no cross," Moore said. "He cannot be longing for Mayberry. We must have a voice that speaks to the conscience, a voice that is spattered with blood."

The kingdom of God, Moore said, is "not made up of the moral. The kingdom of God is made up of the crucified."

In an address based on Luke 4:14-30, Moore also delivered words of caution for American Christians. "(F)or too long we have assumed that the church is a means to an end to save America," he said. "America is important."

"But the end goal of the gospel is not a Christian America. The end goal of the gospel is redeemed from every tribe and tongue and nation and language" dwelling in the new Jerusalem, Moore told the audience.

"We will stand as good American citizens, and we will fight for justice, and we will fight for liberty, and we will fight with our forefathers for all of those things that have been by the Constitution as Americans, but we will also remember that we are not Americans first," he said. "We belong to another kingdom."

Baptist Christians "can no longer pretend that we are a moral majority in this country," Moore said. "We are a prophetic minority who must speak into a world that is not different" than other historical eras.

The message Jesus shared, and His followers should share, is one of judgment and of hope, not fear, Moore said.

"The word that Jesus has given to His

church is a word that is filled with optimism and joy," he told inaugural guests. "We are not slouching toward Gomorrah; we are marching to Zion."

Engaging the culture, however, requires the church of Jesus to be transformed from within, Moore said.

The Southern Baptist Convention's name reflects "the fact that we were founded, at least partly, to justify man-stealing and kidnapping, slavery and lynching," he said. "We stand here only by God's grace and mercy."

Regarding sexual ethics, Southern Baptists "need to see the ways in which we have already capitulated to the culture that we rail against," Moore said.

"(T)he red line that we set keeps moving further, further, further, further down," he said. "That cannot stand."

Albert Mohler Jr. and Robert George, in their remarks, both commended Moore's qualifications and the timing of his ascendancy to the ERLC presidency.

"I believe that the providence of God is today demonstrated in the intersection of a man and a moment" in Moore's inauguration, said Mohler, president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

"He is not a self-made man, but he is a man well-made for these times," said Mohler, who called Southern Seminary's former dean of the school of theology an "ethicist by reflex, by training and by experience."

George, a Princeton University professor and the new chairman of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, described Moore as "the right man in the right place at the right time."

It is a time when every foundational principle—the dignity of every human being, the union of a man and a woman as the only understanding of marriage, and religious liberty—is in peril and is under assault," George said.

George expressed gratitude "on behalf

of the larger Christian community to the Southern Baptist Convention" and the ERLC that selected Moore.

SBC President Fred Luter said he has no doubt Moore "will stand boldly and speak loudly" to the issues because the new ERLC president is a man of conviction, compassion and courage.

"(T)he churches of the Southern Baptist Convention will stand with you," Luter told Moore.

ERLC adds five new staff members

Washington—Trustees of the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission have approved three executive staff members to serve alongside the ERLC's newly inaugurated president, Russell Moore.

In their annual meeting Sept. 11, trustees voted in support of Phillip Bethancourt as executive vice president, Daniel Patterson as chief of staff and Dan Darling as vice president of communications.

The ERLC also announced the appointment of two other new staff members: Joe Carter as director of communications and Trillia Newbell as consultant for women's initiatives.

Bethancourt previously served as associate vice president of enrollment management and student life at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and remains an assistant professor of Christian theology at the Louisville school. He holds both master of divinity and doctor of philosophy degrees from Southern.

Bethancourt "has demonstrated a truly amazing track record for innovation and creativity, along with a deep burden to see the kingdom of God transform people, families and churches," Moore said.

Patterson formerly was executive assistant to Moore in his capacity as senior vice president for academic

This past Christmas, Goforth's daughter, Joy, died unexpectedly. The chorale will perform an anthem, "Serve the Lord with Joy," in her honor at the Saturday concert. The anthem was arranged by composer Mary McDonald and "will be a tool of healing for him and many that knew Joy," said Stewart.

Joy Goforth was a ministry assistant at Hurstbourne Baptist Church in Louisville.

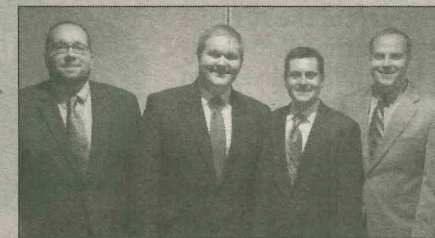
The retreat will close Saturday with a free concert beginning at 3 p.m.

"Whether you're a volunteer music director, or part time, or full time, small church, large church, it doesn't matter. Let me encourage you to be a part of the chorale retreat," said Love. (WR)

If you are interested in learning more about music ministries, go to kybaptist.org/worship.

Frank Page, president of the SBC Executive Committee, challenged Moore to be a giant-killer like David of the Old Testament.

"We need leaders," Page said. "Persecution is coming, and we need someone to stand strong. ... As families are falling apart all over the land, we need somebody to be a giant-killer. When racism raises its ugly head, we need somebody to stand in the gap." (BP)



From left are) Dan Darling, Daniel Patterson, Russell Moore and Phillip Bethancourt. (BP)

administration at Southern Seminary before becoming ERLC president. Patterson also served as assistant editor of The Southern Baptist Journal of Theology at the seminary.

Darling, a Chicago-area pastor and well-known Christian communicator, has written for Christianity Today, Leadership Journal, HomeLife and Focus on the Family. The author of five books, he also maintains a popular blog among evangelical Christians.

Darling will work from the ERLC's Nashville office while Carter will work out of the Washington office.

Carter is an editor for The Gospel Coalition and senior editor at the Action Institute. An author, Carter also is a popular blogger for The Gospel Coalition and has served as web editor for First Things and director of communications for both the Family Research Council and the Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity.

Newbell, formerly a freelance journalist with The Knoxville (Tenn.) News-Sentinel, is a popular writer at various evangelical websites. (BP)

World Hunger Sunday Oct. 13

Syrian refugees thankful for food, help from Baptists

By Mark Kelly

Middle East—At home in Syria, he was a lawyer. Today, he is a refugee in a neighboring country, looking for any type of work to support his wife and children and his nieces and nephews who had fled the country—20 in all.

They found their way to a makeshift refugee town, where 20 families had used feed sacks, plastic bags, cardboard—anything they could find—to create shelters. The community, now with 100 families, has found some vacant farm land and worked out an agreement with the owner to grow some food there.

“With more than 5 million people displaced, either outside or inside the country, the challenges continue to mount as to where to respond,” said Jeff Palmer, executive director of Baptist Global Response. “While there are some official sites and camps for refugees, the majority of those displaced are still in makeshift locations, such as with friends or families, or they are just finding anywhere relatively safe to lay their heads.”

Palmer met the refugee lawyer just two days after the family had arrived from Syria. He was able to share an emergency food packet provided by Southern Baptists through Global Hunger Relief



Southern Baptist relief efforts are touching lives in significant ways as an estimated 2 million refugees have fled Syria for neighboring countries. One makeshift refugee town has grown from 20 families to 100 families. Southern Baptists are facilitating ongoing projects with Syrian refugees in four countries that are distributing food packets, hygiene kits and temporary shelter. (BGR)

(formerly the World Hunger Fund).

“They were so thankful for the small amount of help we gave them,” said Palmer. “We promised we would be back the following week with more.”

An estimated 2 million refugees have fled Syria for neighboring countries, such as Jordan, Lebanon, Turkey and Iraq. The prospect of Western powers entering the conflict has dramatically increased the outflow in recent days, Palmer noted.

“Our relief and development efforts among the refugees are into the second year,” Palmer said. “To date, we have helped mobilize over \$750,000 in relief goods to this crisis—a small amount compared to the ongoing need, but we have been able to direct what we have to some key areas and through some key partners.”

Working primarily through partners on the ground who can mobilize critically needed items to refugees as well as internally displaced persons, BGR is helping mainly in the area of emergency food packets, hygiene kits, basic shelter materials and some small amounts of medicines through ongoing projects with Syrian refugees in four countries, Palmer reported.

“Most of these are the distribution of

food packets, hygiene kits and temporary shelter needs to sustain families who literally have walked away from pretty much everything they own,” Palmer said. “All of them are done in the love and name of Christ to help these who have no one else to turn to.”

In the face of such great need, it is hard to only be able to share a small amount, Palmer added.

“I thought about the miracle of the fish and loaves. I wondered how God would multiply the small amount of food that each of them received,” he said. “I then thought about the generous donors in my home country. Even though many gave small amounts, God had multiplied their gifts and blessed them so that so many this day were blessed.”

“We ask continued prayer for wisdom and knowledge—to find the most effective and efficient places and people in need that we can help, to choose wisely,” Palmer said. “We also pray for continued safety and guidance for our partners who put so much at risk to respond. And we pray for peace—true peace—that can only come from above for all of those caught up in this terrible tragedy.” (BP) World Hunger Sunday is Oct. 13. For resources on promoting hunger awareness in your church, visit worldhungerfund.com.



Staple foods like these have been received by Syrian refugees from Baptist Global Response. (BGR/file photo)

Changing hands

Continued from page 1

accepting responsibility for the two programs.

“We came to realize that our biggest growth opportunities are through more traditional types of camping programs with expansion into more kid’s camps,” said David Melber, president of Crossings Ministries. While Kentucky Changers and Creative Ministry Festival are both excellent ministries, he said, they are “not the best fit” for Crossing’s style of programming.

“Because of the missions components and the utilization of volunteers, we felt that these programs might be a better fit for WMU,” Melber added.

Kentucky Changers is a youth missions opportunity that allows youth and leaders to work with families in need and learn hands-on construction skills.

When Melber approached Bolton in early August, she said her initial reaction was, “We can’t handle another thing.”

“But the more I thought about it, the more I knew it was a good opportunity for us,” Bolton added.

Information about the proposal was sent to the Kentucky WMU Executive Board, and in a Sept. 9 conference call, the board agreed to accept responsibility for Kentucky Changers and hire a program coordinator soon.

The WMU board also accepted responsibility for the Creative Ministries Festival, which trains leaders and youth in drama, interpretative movement, puppetry, clowning and other arts. However, no event will be held in 2014.

Instead, WMU will invite representatives from the KBC, Crossings and WMU to develop either a new event or a repurposed festival that will include training both in creative ministries and youth missions.

“Crossings could not be more thankful for the decision from the WMU,” Melber said. “Our hope was that Kentucky Changers and Creative Ministries would continue to provide programs that serve our churches and minister to those in

need throughout our state.

“The WMU family of constituents match so well with the family of these two ministries, which will allow for ministry and missions to continue in a significant way to produce Kingdom growth,” he said.

Joe Ball, who directed Kentucky Changers in 2013, will work with WMU to ensure a smooth transition. He will be transitioning into a new role within the Crossings Center for Youth Ministry.

Promotional material about 2014 Kentucky Changers events will be released as soon as available, Bolton said.

“We welcome Kentucky Changers to the WMU family,” Bolton said. “We want to assure all of those who have worked with Kentucky Changers as volunteers as well as those who have brought youth groups, that Kentucky Changers will continue its fine traditions of intergenerational hands-on missions, worship and local impact.

“We want this ministry to continue making a difference in Kentucky,” she said. (WR)

TENTWO

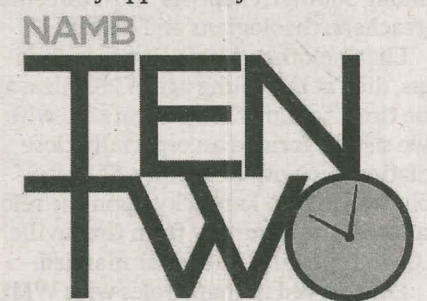
Continued from page 1

Southern Baptist churches across North America in praying for workers for the harvest. Many, like Moreland, are intentionally taking their normal Wednesday evening activities and focusing them on prayer.

“We are going to replace our Wednesday night Bible study with an hour-long prayer service,” said Ausbun. “No sermon, no songs, no testimonies—only prayer—a true prayer meeting. Everyone is welcome to come and pray. On Wednesday, Oct. 2 at 10:02 a.m. and 10:02 p.m., we want our entire church to pause and pray, wherever they are.”

Gary Frost leads NAMB’s national prayer strategies. He is excited about the prospect of Oct. 2 and what it means for bringing the gospel to communities throughout North America and beyond.

“Penetrating lostness in North America is a huge task,” said Frost, Midwest region vice president for NAMB. “Everywhere I go I hear a ‘TenTwo buzz,’ sometimes literally. Baptists everywhere are setting their phone alarms to 10:02 a.m. or p.m. to remind them to pray for God, by His Holy Spirit, to stir the hearts of harvesters to leave their comfort zones and work the fields. Personally it has become a vital and welcomed ‘alert’ for me every single day to remind me of the lostness of our world and the urgency of sharing the love of Christ in every opportunity.”



LUKE 10:2

Churches like First Baptist Church of Rose Bud, Ark., are not letting the fact that they do not have a prayer meeting on Wednesday keep them from participating. The central Arkansas church will use the entire month of October to pray and promote TenTwo.

“We plan to kick off our efforts on the last Sunday in September,” said Kathy Moss, ministry assistant at the church. “We will have home prayer meetings the first Sunday night in October and have other activities planned for the month using the TenTwo DVD and prayer guides.”

“I’m planning to preach from Luke 10:2 on Sunday, Sept. 29 (the Sunday before October 2),” said Ausbun. “I’d like to encourage other pastors to remind their people who ‘the Lord of the harvest’ is. I believe prayer evangelism is something we’ve gotten away from in the SBC. God sometimes has to remind me that only He can save a soul. Without prayer, our evangelism is fruitless. Pray for God to send workers to share Christ with the lost and pray for God to save lost people.” (NAMB)

To view a TenTwo video, visit namb.net/video/tentwo/. To explore other resources for TenTwo, visit namb.net/TenTwo.

Meet Eliza

The partnership between the Kentucky Baptist Convention and the Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union is a wonderful example of impacting lostness through cooperating together.

In addition to missions camps, missions education and hands on mission work, the WMU labors to promote and ensure the success of the Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions that now totals more than \$1 million dollars each year. The offering funds ministries of the KBC Mission Board, local associations, state missionaries and more to resource vital kingdom ministries.



Paul Chitwood

One hundred years ago, Eliza Broadus led Kentucky WMU to promote taking an annual offering for state missions in KBC churches. At that time, Baptist churches in Kentucky had, albeit been working cooperatively for more than 75 years but had not been collecting a special offering to be used exclusively to do mission work within the state.

Eliza moved to Kentucky with her father, John Broadus, when she was 26 years old. Her father not only baptized Lottie Moon during his years as a pastor, but also became a member of the founding faculty of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and served as the seminary's second president. He is counted among Southern Baptists' most esteemed preachers, theologians and leaders.

Eliza's mother, Maria Harrison Broadus, died at the young age of 26. Eliza, at the time a child of only 6 years old with two sisters, formed an especially close relationship with her father. She later followed him to Kentucky upon the relocation of the seminary from Greenville, S.C., to Louisville. She never married.

Eliza served in many roles with WMU at the state and national levels. She was widely known to have a heart that burned for the cause of worldwide missions, but also understood the need of her neighbors to hear the gospel. Thus, Kentucky Baptists are proud to have our state missions offering named in her honor.

Today, the Eliza Broadus Offering provides vital support for church planting and evangelism and mission work in Kentucky. The lives of unborn children are being saved by crisis pregnancy centers funded by EBO. Inmates are hearing the gospel, trusting Christ, and being baptized by local churches thru ministries funded by EBO. Women in the "adult entertainment industry" are being shown a pathway to freedom and salvation by ministries funded by EBO. Extra support is being provided to local associations, church plants, collegiate ministries, disaster relief ministries, and a host of other gospel-centered works in our state.

The Eliza Broadus Offering is an opportunity for Great Commission and Great Commandment giving. Will you join my family and be a part of what God is doing through these ministries by giving thru the EBO this year?

Paul Chitwood is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

EBO: 'More than ever, make a difference'

Small seeds can make a big difference in the right soil. The past two springs, we have tried to create several small flower beds along a wooden fence in our backyard. For days, I chiseled the hard ground with a dull shovel until I had blisters planting some hydrangeas, butterfly bushes, miniature roses and azaleas. At first, the plants looked good. But because the top soil was shallow, when the hot summer months came, many of the young plants withered. They had not taken root. In frustration one day, I cast some wildflower seeds that I had been given onto one bed just to see what, if anything, would grow. Nothing! The weeds grew faster and choked the seed. Here is what I've learned: Good soil makes a big difference!



After Thought

By Todd Deaton

In this year's sermon for the Week of Prayer for State Missions, Paducah pastor Dan Summerlin, president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, arrives at the same conclusion, based on a parable Jesus told in Luke 8. "There is power in the small," Summerlin asserts. "Seeds are very small things, but what a big difference they make when planted in the right place." Jesus, of course, was speaking of casting the seed of the gospel far and wide, and of how in hearts that are receptive, the message takes root and produces fruit.

In Jesus' parable, there is nothing wrong with the seed. "The same seed that the birds eat is the same seed that produces a good crop. And it is the same seed that produces a plant that withers away or gets choked by the thorns," Summerlin reminds us. "The issue is never with the seed, but where it is planted." Thus, to make a difference, we need to sow plentifully and patiently. "Our job to make a difference, more than ever," he urges, "is to be like the sower and broadcast the message everywhere" and in everything we do.

Through giving to the Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions, Kentucky Baptists have opportunities to make a big difference by sharing the gospel across the commonwealth. For example, more than 150 volunteers from 13 states served this summer alongside churches in Paducah and Henderson, assisting in FamilyFEST outreach events, such as prayerwalking, construction, home repairs, block parties, Vacation Bible Schools, food and clothing distribution and health care ministries. "As the volunteers served,

doing a variety of tasks and ministries, they had opportunity to share Jesus and why they had come," Joy Bolton, executive director of Kentucky WMU, explained then. "Their encouragement to our local churches was vital."

The gospel seeds sown then are producing fruit even now. "I'm still hearing good things from FamilyFEST," Bill Patterson, director of FamilyFEST, told me last week. At Cash Creek Church, where he became interim pastor this month, a child who received Christ during Vacation Bible School at Hyland Church was baptized recently. A few weeks ago, Bolton shared an email from Patterson in which he gave a quick update on some of the work accomplished through FamilyFEST events. Here is an excerpt:

"Hyland Baptist, where FamilyFEST crews painted and prepared for VBS, including passing out brochures in the neighborhoods, had more than twice as many children in VBS as compared to last year. Their pastor, Kenny Kidd, told (Patterson) they are following up with 19 children who made spiritual decisions as a result of VBS.

"At Water's Edge (a church plant), because of the FamilyFEST activities during the week and at the block party, four additional families are now attending their worship services. They also have begun an adult Bible study at an apartment complex.

"At Airline, where Jim Murphey and his grandson visited with Pastor Nathan Whisnant, a lady accepted Christ during their surveys. They also found eight other prospect families during their block party. Pastor Whisnant called (Patterson) ... to say that in a subsequent visit to the home where the lady received the Lord, the husband also received Christ!"

"FamilyFEST was a wonderful event that changed lives, built churches, and challenged our people to be more missional," Patterson said. "Thank you, thank you, thank you WMU (and EBO) for giving the opportunity to folks to do mission work through FamilyFEST."

The good reports from Green Valley provide further evidence that "the right soil, with the right seed, cast by the sower will make a big difference in the world." And, they encourage us to "more than ever, make a difference."

Are you teaching your child to sleep in church?

By Diana Davis

I sat behind a cute little boy in worship last Sunday. He was wearing stylish headphones and intently playing game after game of Angry Birds on his smartphone. For the entire hour, he never even looked up. An older girl nearby was sprawled out napping on the pew. Both children's parents were engaged in worship, yet they missed the opportunity to help their kids worship God.

Christian parent, are you intentional about engaging your child in true worship? As soon as he is past nursery age, you have the privilege of training up your child to worship. Try these fresh ideas:

- Commit to God today that you'll

prepare, pray and persist in teaching your child.

- Talk about the worship service during the week. Your sincere anticipation of Sunday worship is contagious.

- Create a church bag to hold a children's Bible (with pictures if possible), a journal book and a pen or markers.

- As you drive to church, show excitement. Chat about why we go to church.

- Allow your child to get his own worship bulletin. Glance at it to explain special happenings today. If your church provides a kids' bulletin, help your child use it.

- Be seated before worship begins, selecting a seat near the front so your child can see and participate well.

Fresh Ideas



Diana Davis

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Shine Like Stars * Philippians 2:15

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CALL TO PRAYER: Let us pray for our family

By Roger Oldham

A high agenda item on my daily prayer list is prayer for my family. In every family, some are unsaved. Their greatest need is to know Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Many wayward wanderers have been wooed to faith in Christ through faithful prayers of a mother, brother, daughter, husband or grandparent.

Family members who are already saved are not immune to the struggles of daily life, the relentless pull of the world and its values, or the crosshairs Satan has painted on their backs. Satan wants to blind us, bind us and grind us in his mill just as he did Samson. So, how do we pray for our family?

The paragraph-long prayer in Philippians 1:9-11 is an example of how to pray for loved ones who are already followers of Jesus. This short, but pithy prayer contains three purpose clauses followed by a statement of certainty. These four elements of Paul's prayer reveal a dynamic, positive illustration of how to pray for those we love the most.

Pray for a deepening devotion in matters of conscience. Paul prayed the Philippians would grow in their love, that it would abound. But he did not pray for an unfocused love; he prayed it would "keep on growing in knowledge and every kind of discernment" (1:9).

As we pray for our families, we don't pray a syrupy prayer from a shallow love measured in terms of mere sentimentality. We pray that our loved ones will reflect a robust love, a Christ-like love that grows, stretches and deepens until it matures "with a stature measured by Christ's fullness" (see Ephesians 4:13).

Pray for a discerning spirit in matters of choice. The fear of the Lord is still the beginning of wisdom. The Preacher wrote, "When all has been heard, the conclusion of the matter is: fear God and keep His commands,

because this is for all humanity. For God will bring every act to judgment, including every hidden thing, whether good or evil" (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14).

Those we love will be confronted with a wide range of choices. Our prayer is that they will make wise choices, that they will test the various winds of doctrine, the various codes of behavior, the dominant worldviews—and choose God's way!

The enemy of the excellent is not always the bad; it is often a willingness to settle for what is merely good. Knowing that we will stand before God to give an account, Paul teaches us to pray that our loved ones will "approve things that are superior" (1:10).

Pray for steadfast obedience in matters of conduct. Blamelessness in this context does not point to perfection; it points to the surrendered obedience of a genuine Christ-follower that results in personal holiness.

The word translated "pure" in verse 10 strengthens the concept of blamelessness. It is the word for "sun-tested." When our lives are held up against the bright sun, does the light reveal cracks in our character? We are to pray that our loved ones will pass the sun-test, but even more, that they will pass the Son-test.

Give thanks for the righteous fruit that transforms our hearts and homes. The only way one's life can reflect the character of Christ is when that one has been "filled with the fruit of righteousness which comes through Jesus Christ." In other words, we cannot work up the Christian life; we can merely live out the life of Christ within us.

When we see the character of Christ reflected in the lives of those we love, we bow our heads in gratitude, thanking the Savior of the world that He has brought our loved one into a faith-relationship with Himself. (BP) Roger "Sing" Oldham is vice president for convention communications and relations with the SBC Executive Committee.

Sarcasm in marriage

By Valarie Vincent

My spouse complains that I am sarcastic. This is how my family talked to each other. We didn't mean anything by it.

Sarcasm is defined as saying the opposite of what you mean with the intent to cause hurt, a cutting remark. Some view sarcasm as a joke that is not really meant. But jokes are supposed something humorous everyone can enjoy. Call it what it is—a put down.

James 3:5 declares, "A word out of your mouth may seem of no account, but it can accomplish nearly anything—or destroy it!" In this light, sarcasm might be a weapon of mass destruction in marriages.

Proverbs 18:21 says, "Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit." The warnings instruct us to take great care with what we say.

At the heart of sarcasm are issues of respect, value, kindness and caring, and honoring God's creation. Sarcasm is a destructive habit that avoids taking responsibility for one's true feelings and avoids responsibility for the hurt inflicted on another. There is no good excuse for using words to criticize, belittle, demean, hurt or offend.

Even if you think it is not a big deal, you are still responsible for every word that comes out of your mouth. Ephesians 4:29 says, "Don't let even one rotten word seep out of your mouths. Instead, offer only fresh words that build others up when they need it most. That way your good words will communicate grace to those who hear them."

Valarie Vincent is a Christian counselor with Hardy Day & Associates in Louisville.



Unconventional wisdom

By Jeremy White

Whenever I hear "conventional wisdom," I've learned to be skeptical. Such skepticism is based on life experience that the commonly-accepted, worldly-wise thinking is often wrong.



It can be rather challenging to strike a balance between timeless, principle-based wisdom and accepted notions of the day. Challenging the what-seems-to-be-wise view of the world with a different perspective, however, can lead us back to truth-based wisdom.

Jesus did just that. He turned religious conventional wisdom on its head. He said to save your life by losing it and be first by being last. He taught even giving a small amount with great sacrifice is better than giving a great amount with small sacrifice.

Your financial decisions may improve if you challenge conventional wisdom of the media, family members, bankers, insurance agents or accountants. **Financial conventional wisdom to rethink:**

- *Keep a mortgage for the tax deduction.* Although interest is deductible if you itemize deductions on your tax return, you are still in a negative cash flow position. Spending \$1,000 on mortgage interest, only yields \$200 of a tax benefit. I have not met anyone who later regretted paying off their mortgage.

- *Real estate will continue going up in value because they are not making any more land.* Ask an owner of real estate in Florida, California or Detroit if land can go down in value.

- *If I can afford the monthly payments, then I can afford (fill in the blank).* Don't fall for this. Taking on debt involves assumptions about the future.

- *An investment in (fill in the blank) will always do well.* No investment, in any particular asset, will always do well. Gold, stocks, bonds or baseball cards go up and down in value.

Because God's ways are different than mankind's ways, we should be reluctant to accept easily mankind's ways in all areas of life.

Jeremy White is a CPA with BlytheWhite in Paducah.

True love and self-reliance: 'Need Kidney 4 Wife'

By Kelly Boggs

In a day when people concoct almost any excuse for failing to keep a commitment, and would rather give up than give all, someone like Larry Swilling stands out.

Swilling, 78, spent almost a year walking hundreds of miles around South Carolina with a sandwich board sign that read, "Need Kidney 4 Wife." His efforts finally paid off when a donor came forward.

Swilling's wife of 55 years, Jimmie Sue, was born with only one kidney and it began failing last year. When tests showed Swilling and his three children all had the wrong blood type to be donors, Swilling hit the streets.

Jimmie Sue, 76 and on a transplant list, could have waited years for the right organ to come along. He husband was not willing to wait. He did what we could; he hit the streets with his sign.

Swilling walked the main thoroughfares of Anderson, S.C., toting his sign with one thought in mind, "We're just hoping every day, every minute, we get the call to head to Charleston for a transplant."

In heat, in cold, in rain, Swilling walked with the sign that stated his very specific need along with his phone number. As media coverage drew attention to his wife's plight, calls started coming in from all over the world.

Some people offered money, Swilling said, but the couple turned

down monetary offers. "I just want my kidney," Swilling said. "That's going to save my wife."

The Medical University of South Carolina has informed the Swillings of a viable, willing donor. Jimmie Sue received the new kidney Sept. 11.

Among lessons to glean from Swilling's story is the fact that love is a commitment, not a feeling. This husband was committed to the point of doing whatever he could to help the woman he calls "my heart."

When marriages break up for almost any reason, many times for seemingly no reason, it is encouraging to see a couple totally and completely committed to one another.

It is not only the longevity, but the intensity of the Swillings' marriage that is impressive. "I love her more now than, I believe, when I married her, because we're not two; we're one," Swilling told CNN. "We need each other, and we've been together so long."

It is Swilling's commitment of love, not the fleeting feeling some call love, that drove him to don a sandwich board sign and walk, and walk, and walk, day after day in the hope that someone would see his message and respond.

Swilling's love for his wife caused him to ignore what anybody might think about his actions. I am sure there were people who thought his quest was foolish or futile, but he was not swayed. He just faithfully walked whenever able.

What people thought or how

great the odds were against him finding a suitable donor mattered not. Swilling's commitment motivated him to do what he could for his ailing wife. "Till death do us part" was not just a poetic and perfunctory part of a wedding ceremony; to Swilling they were words of ironclad commitment.

Aside from the lesson that real love is a commitment and not some fleeting feeling, another lesson is also evident. The choice of self-reliance is more hopeful than self-pity.

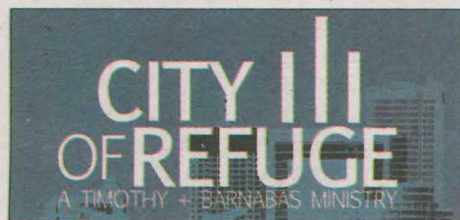
There were not many things Swilling could do to address the situation he faced. Rather than focus on what he could not do, Swilling dedicated himself to what he could do. He could construct a simple sandwich board sign that succinctly communicated his need. He could walk along streets in public view. He could hope his message would be seen and yield results.

Swilling refused to quit. He kindled hope. He persisted. He could not do much to change his wife's situation, but he did what he could. He made a sign. He walked and refused to give up.

Yes, in a day when commitments are like pie crusts, easily made and easily broken, and the path of least resistance well worn, a man like Larry Swilling stands out. He has simply and poignantly given us a living picture of true love and self-reliance.

Kelly Boggs is director of the Louisiana Baptist Convention's office of public affairs, and editor of the Baptist Message, newsjournal of the Louisiana Baptist Convention.

Ministry designed for 'pastors in crisis' expands nationwide



By Tobin Perry

Woodstock, Ga.—When pastor Paul Anderson* stood before his Southern Baptist church more than a decade ago and confessed a moral failure before resigning, he figured it would be his last time behind a pulpit. Full of regret and shame, Anderson and his family planned to head back to his hometown and out of ministry forever.

But God wasn't finished with Anderson yet. Through participation in City of Refuge at First Baptist Church in Woodstock, Ga.,—a restorative ministry for pastors in crisis—Anderson and his family found healing and new opportunity for ministry. Four years after his resignation, he began pastoring again. Today, Anderson is making plans for a new ministry to help pastors and their families in the hopes of preventing others from making the same mistakes.

"City of Refuge absolutely rescued us," Anderson said. "At the time we had no idea where we were going to go and what we were going to do. We would have been left out on our own to figure it out."

But with more than 200 applications and 10 or fewer open slots a year through City of Refuge, the vast majority of hurting pastors have nowhere to turn during a crisis. To help provide more opportunities for restoration, the North American Mission Board is partnering with First Baptist Woodstock to expand the ministry to other churches.

"Pastors spend their lives helping

others with their issues," said Hunt. "But who helps the pastor? That's what City of Refuge is all about," said Johnny Hunt, pastor of First Baptist, Woodstock.

The long-term residential ministry brings hurting pastors and their families into First Baptist, Woodstock, for potentially multiple years. While families are in the program, the City of Refuge provides housing, child-care, counseling and small group support at no cost to the family. Throughout the program, the City of Refuge focuses on helping pastors develop healthy relationships with God, themselves, their families, those they've hurt and with ministry itself.

In an effort to help more hurting church leaders, First Baptist Woodstock will host a Sept. 27-28 conference called Restore, which aims to help church leaders develop a culture of restoration in their churches. Special breakout sessions at the conference will focus on sexual brokenness, substance addictions, church ministries and the life of a leader.

Expectations are that other churches will commit to hosting City of Refuge ministries in other regions of North America.

Michael Lewis, who serves as NAMB's pastor for pastors, said the entity believes expanding the ministry of City of Refuge will play a crucial role in NAMB's efforts to help Southern Baptists start 15,000 churches over the next decade through Send North America.

"It takes healthy churches to plant healthy churches," Lewis said. "Healthy churches are led by pastors with healthy relationships. City of Refuge is a place where pastors can come and become healthy so they can play a part in penetrating lostness in North America." (NAMB/BP)

*Name has been changed to protect privacy.

provide pastors with opportunities for self-guided date nights with their wives and self-guided spiritual retreats.

Lewis pointed to statistics from H.B. London's book "Pastors at Greater Risk" showing that a large number of pastors in a variety of denominations struggle to deal with job stress, family pressures and emotional issues. This must change, he said, in order for Southern Baptists to make a larger impact on North America.

Lewis referenced the support Aaron and Hurr provided Moses in Exodus 17 as exemplifying the significance of encouraging and supporting spiritual leaders.

"As the Israelites fought against the Amalekites, whenever Moses would lift his staff, the Israelites would prevail," Lewis said. "When he got tired, Aaron and Hurr put a stone under him so he could rest and lifted his arms when he needed help. Spiritual leaders today need people like that in their lives, people who love them, care for them and support them as they lead God's people to impact the world for Jesus."

On namb.net/pastorforpastors, church leaders can also find information about Pastors-in-Covenant groups, Galatians 6:6 retreats for ministers and their wives, Church Renewal Journey, church revitalization, the www.flourish.me ministers' wives community and more. (NAMB)

Pastor appreciation

Continued from page 1

"bless" their pastors and their families. The ideas range from encouraging a pastor's marriage and celebrating his children to supporting his ministry. Some of the ideas are activities for the entire church to do together while others are ministry ideas that a lay member or a family might do on their own.

Lay leaders additionally can find information at namb.net/honoring_pastors about planning a retreat for their pastor and his wife at Christian bed-and-breakfasts for a significant discount. Churches that choose to do this will have the opportunity to print out a gift certificate in a manner suitable for a formal presentation during a worship service.

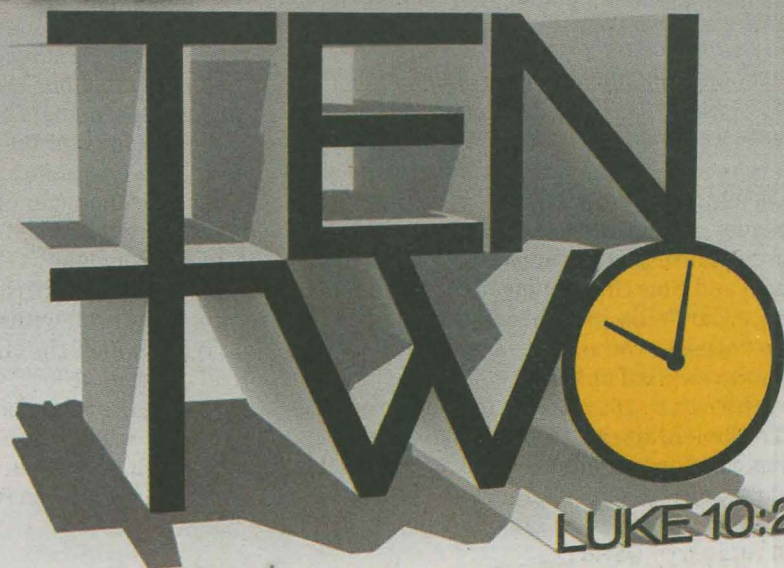
NAMB is mailing churches information, addressed to its lay leaders, about how they can access the resources.

"Too many pastors are secretly struggling in their marriages," said Michael Lewis, NAMB's pastor for pastors. "We wanted to give churches an opportunity to do something that'll support their pastors and their families. A weekend getaway is a great opportunity for that."

NAMB also is providing Reboot Marriage and Reboot Spiritual Life apps that

IT'S TIME TO PRAY

NAMB



"He told them: 'The harvest is abundant, but the workers are few. Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest.'"

October 2, 2013

Lead your church to join churches across North America on **Wednesday, October 2,** in praying Luke 10:2 for workers in God's harvest.

Learn more at namb.net/TenTwo

NEWS BRIEF

New ERLC website, logo

The Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission unveiled a new website and logo Sept. 10, the same day Moore was inaugurated as the entity's eighth president. The new logo features images of a crown at the center, an open book below and three stars above.

The crown symbolizes the kingdom of God; the book signifies the Bible; and the stars stand for the state or government.

The number of stars, three, represents the entity's emphases: kingdom, culture and mission. The website has four channels: life; liberty; family; and culture. It includes pages that provide biblical perspectives, news articles and resources on moral, social and religious freedom issues.



Md./Del. names exec.-director

Will McRaney, a former Florida Baptist church planting and evangelism strategist and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary professor, has been elected as executive director of the Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware. With the BCM/D search team "wholeheartedly" recommending him, the convention's General Mission Board voted unanimously Sept. 10 to call McRaney to fill the position vacated by David Lee, who retired from the Columbia, Md.-based convention July 31.

Abortion clinic closings on rise, 44 tallied to date

By Tom Strode

Washington—For Abby Johnson, the closing of a single Planned Parenthood center demonstrated her dramatic reversal from abortion clinic director to leading pro-life advocate.

But for pro-lifers, it marked another exhibit in a hopeful trend—abortion centers are shutting down at an unprecedented rate. The total so far this year is 44, according to a pro-life organization that tracks clinic operations.

None was more telling for Johnson than the mid-July closing of the Planned Parenthood center in Bryan, Texas. It came less than four years after Johnson, burdened by her involvement with abortion, walked out of that clinic as its director and into the offices of the Coalition for Life.

"Knowing that the former abortion clinic I once ran is now closing is the biggest personal victory of my life," Johnson said after the announcement of the shutdown. "From running that facility, to then advocating for its closure, and now celebrating that dream ... it shows that my life has indeed come full circle."

Since her celebrated conversion from Planned Parenthood director, Johnson has started a ministry to help workers leave the abortion industry. She has pledged to "fight until every abortion clinic in this country has shut its doors."

'Pattern is clear'

This year, 42 clinics that provided surgical abortions have shut their doors, and two that offered chemical abortions by drugs also have closed, according to Operation Rescue, which monitors closings and health and safety violations by clinics nationwide. That number far surpasses the 25 surgical clinics shutdown last year and the 30 in 2011, by Operation Rescue's count. While others estimate a smaller number of closings, the pattern is clear.

The reasons given for the upswing in closings are varied even among pro-lifers. They include:

- the increasing state regulation and oversight of clinics;
- a growth in pro-life opinion and



The sign outside Planned Parenthood in Bryan, Texas, comes down in August, marking another of 44 abortion clinic closings this year. (Photo courtesy of 40 Days for Life and Coalition for Life)

activity, and

- a decline in the abortion rate.

In some cases, clinics have shut down when abortion doctors retired or were no longer licensed.

Upswing of pro-life laws

State legislatures enacted 69 pro-life laws this year, according to a report released Sept. 5 by Americans United for Life. In all, 48 states considered about 360 such proposals in 2013, AUL reported.

The legislative action this year continued a recent trend in states: 70 "life-affirming measures" became law in 2011 and 38 in 2012, according to AUL. Some measures have targeted making the procedure and clinics safer for women, and have helped escalate the number of clinic shutdowns.

While pro-lifers assert the laws are for the protection of women, abortion rights advocates argue their purpose is to stop abortion. Regardless, the result appears to be abortion clinics are being held accountable in ways they have not been previously.

"Considering the growing body of medical evidence confirming the health risks of abortion for women, abortion cannot be left in the hands of an unmon-

itored, unregulated and uncaring industry feeding off fear and federal subsidies," AUL President Charmaine Yoest said.

While the actions of state legislatures and agencies appear to have contributed to clinic shutdowns, the growing activism of pro-lifers also has been an important ingredient, said David Bereit, national director of 40 Days for Life.

"I believe the increase in closures is due to record numbers of Christians praying for an end to abortion, and getting actively involved in pro-life efforts where they live—recognizing that change is not going to come from politicians in Washington, D.C., anytime soon," Bereit said.

Since 2007, 40 Days has conducted its semi-annual campaigns of peaceful prayer vigils outside abortion clinics in more than 500 cities nationally and internationally. More than 575,000 people have participated, and 40 Days reports 39 clinics have closed permanently after their campaigns.

Bereit believes even more clinic closures are in the offing.

"The momentum is shifting dramatically in the pro-life direction ... (answering) the call for those who cannot speak for themselves." (BP)

Join us in honoring ...

Doug Strader

Sunday, Sept. 29
Farmdale Baptist Church
1238 Durrett Lane
Louisville, KY 40213

Our beloved pastor, Doug Strader, has announced that his retirement will be effective Sept. 30.

His ministry began when he was called to pastor in 1960 at Independence Baptist Church in McHenry, Ky. Through the years, he also has served at New Cypress Baptist Church, Greenville; Benton Baptist Church, Harrodsburg; First Baptist Church, Junction City; Little Flock Baptist Church, Shepherdsville; and Beacon Hill Baptist Church, Somerset.

In 1984, he was appointed to The Kentucky Baptist Convention as director of Discipleship and Stewardship. He retired from the KBC in 2003 after 19 years of service and accepted the call to be the pastor of Farmdale Baptist Church.

Pastor Doug's last official sermon will be Sunday, Sept. 29 at 10:50 a.m. Immediately following the morning worship service will be a celebration of Doug and Esther's ministry with a meal served in the gym. The meal will be followed by a cake and punch reception at 2 p.m.

We want everyone who is able to have the opportunity to share in this day. If you need any further information please contact the church office (502) 366-1434.

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the difference

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A cup of fancy coffee can cost \$11 a week, but home-brewed joe can be had for around a dollar. **The difference? \$10**

A night out at the movies for a family of four can easily top \$75, but an evening at home with a DVD can cost well under \$10. **The difference? \$65**



Consider forgoing some of your usual luxuries and donating the difference to the World Hunger Fund.

Give now or give through your local Southern Baptist church.
www.kybaptist.org/hunger



Missions Mobilization Team
502-489-3530
ministries@kybaptist.org

The need for hunger relief is huge. One out of every six people in the world is undernourished; one out of every six people in the U.S. don't get enough food to be healthy. Poverty among children is on the rise, and 18.4 percent of Kentucky's children live in poverty.

The eternal impact of the World Hunger Fund is tremendous. Last year, 192 people in Kentucky professed faith in Jesus Christ as a direct result of hunger relief ministries.

Here to serve

Retirement doesn't exist when it comes to serving the Lord

As I look out my office window at D. Chester Sparks Hall, I wonder if the man for whom the building was named ever thought a building on our campus would bear his name. I wonder if he ever envisioned students taking classes and playing sports in a building bearing his name.

Last week, I told you about our new principal, David Robinson, and his return to Oneida despite a recent leg injury. I asked one of our teachers, Dean Wilson, to serve as our interim principal until Robinson is ready for full-time work. His response was, "Sure, I'm just here to serve."

Wilson is a retired Kentucky public school teacher and administrator. He understands what it means to serve the Lord with gladness, and is doing a tremendous job in his new servant leadership role.

Retiring from regular work can open new doors of ministry if we will allow the Lord to use our time and talents. It is odd to talk about allowing Him to do anything, but we do get to decide if we want to take part in the Lord's work. His work goes on and His will is accomplished with or without our participation. We decide if we want to be blessed by Him.

So many folks, like Sparks and Wilson, have given of themselves, their time and their talents to serve the Lord at Oneida Baptist Institute. Ministering here is not easy. It is very rewarding and gratifying, but it is not easy.

If our Lord had decided to stop serving when it was not easy, I wonder if I

would even be writing this article or if you would be reading it.

So many have given so much during the last 114 years to make this special place we call "Oneida" such a unique and wonderful ministry. As I observe our faculty and staff, I see people who love the Lord, young people and this ministry. The only thing I believed I could promise our faculty and staff as I came on board was that I would do my best. When we do our best, the Lord will do the rest. We are an imperfect people doing our best to serve a perfect Lord and Master who is the perfecter of our faith. We strive

daily to glorify Christ as we do our best to help our students see Christ in us and in this place.

Christ gave us all the ultimate blueprint of what it is to be a servant. In today's world, young people are taught to serve themselves, not others. At OBI we do our best to teach students by example what it means to live a life of service for the Lord.

I spent many years as a coach, and there came a point when I realized I had to tell my players what to do and not show them, because I could no longer show them the right way. Praise the Lord that we can always show others how to serve Him rather than simply telling them. We walk the walk until He calls us home. We don't have to retire from the Lord's work. We can do our best to serve Him and others until we leave this earth. May the Lord bless you today and always as you do your best to serve Him.

Larry Gritton Jr. is president of Oneida Baptist Institute, a Christian boarding and day school. Website: oneidaschool.org. Phone: (606) 847-4111

This is Oneida



Larry Gritton

Built by God

Stone structures on campus are reminders of God's blessings

When the Israelites had finished crossing the Jordan, the Lord instructed Joshua to build a monument and teach a lesson.

Joshua passed the following message along: "Take up stones from the middle of the Jordan, and carry them over with you and lay them down in the lodging place where you will lodge tonight. Let this be a sign, so that when your children ask later, saying, 'What do these stones mean to you?' Then you shall say to them, 'Because the waters of the Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the Lord; when it crossed the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off.'"

God wanted a memorial that would remind future generations what He had done for them before they were born. He chose stones as the material of the monument, Joshua as the means by which He would place it there, and the banks of the Jordan as the location.

Stone is lasting, so that choice is obvious. It was readily available, so it was a logical choice. It came from the exact river whose water God had cut off, so it was fitting that it be used.

Joshua was as fitting a choice as

were the stones. He had proven his loyalty early in his ministry. God could count on him to lead His people; surely He could count on him to engineer that small project. His obedience recommended him for the job. And where else should a reminder of a great work of God be placed if not at the site of the miracle?

I am not the first to make a connection between the story of Clear Creek and this passage. You can scarcely escape the image as you look around at the sandstone structures that cover our campus. Sandstone was readily available for building here, found right in the streams that come together on campus. It is durable; not one stone has rotted or worn away yet.

God knew He could count on the obedience of L.C. Kelly, and the place He chose was exactly where the work was needed.

We remain proud to be your Bible college, built by God and still standing for Him. Think of Him whenever you walk this way.

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

Clear Creek Chronicle



Donnie Fox

Q&A with author Heath Lambert: 'Finally Free' of pornography

Louisville—"You don't have to wait until heaven to be free from pornography."

Heath Lambert sets forth his case for a pornography-free life in his new book, "Finally Free: Fighting for Purity with the Power of Grace."

Lambert, a biblical counseling professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's undergraduate school, Boyce College in Louisville, also is executive director of the National Association of Nouthetic Counselors.

Lambert was interviewed by Matt Damico, book review editor for Towers, Southern Seminary's news magazine.

Q: What's the danger involved in viewing pornography?

A: Internet pornography kills us softly. The women that you fornicate with on the screen are as silent as the grave. And a lot of times you don't find out that someone you love has a problem until they are lost in the abyss.

Q: What's at risk when people think they can maintain a life of Christian discipleship while continuing to view pornography?

A: The lie of Internet pornography says, "I'll do this little thing over here, and it's nasty and ugly, but when it's done I can cover it up and go back to the rest of my life." The problem is that sin doesn't stay covered up. You think you can control it, but you can't.

The worst consequences are the ones stored up over a long period. So the men who are doing this are sipping on poison that will eventually kill their ministry

efforts and their marriage and family.

Q: In "putting off" the old man and "putting on" the new, what are some of the thoughts and actions people struggling with pornography should seek to put on?

A: One is gratitude. Men who look at porn are greedy for things they don't have. Gratitude says, "Whatever the Lord has given me is what I'll be thankful for."

Another is humility. The only people who look at pornography are arrogant people. James tells us that selfish ambition leads to

every vile practice. So, if viewing pornography is a vile practice, then viewing it stems from a heart that is selfish. It's arrogance; it's a prideful attitude. And one of the main virtues we can use to fight that is the fruit of humility.

Q: How are pastors particularly vulnerable to pornography?

A: There's a recent statistic that says 75 percent of pastors do nothing to make themselves accountable to anyone in regard to pornography. I think that, in this pornographic age, it's reckless and irresponsible.

Q: What hope do people have to overcome the struggle with pornography?

A: Romans 6 says our old self was crucified so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. You don't have to wait until heaven to be free from pornography. You have the Spirit right now who gives life to your mortal body so you can walk in victory. In perfection? No. In victory? Yes. (BP)



Heath Lambert

SUNRISE
Children's Services

Helping children in crisis shine.

"THE HARVEST IS PLENTIFUL, BUT THE WORKERS ARE FEW." Matthew 9:37

There are a lot of ways to help rescue these children who find themselves in troubled homes. Please thoughtfully consider bringing in a child and sheltering them from their storm. Or perhaps you can be generous with your support of those who do. Visit www.sunrise.org or call 1.855.33.iCARE.

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Youth pastors join in call to prayer for revival and spiritual awakening

By Sharayah Colter

Fort Worth, Texas—Youth pastors are joining in to pray for revival and spiritual awakening at an event later this month.

Two student ministry professors and a local church youth pastor have begun organizing a simultaneous prayer event for youth pastors in conjunction with a senior pastor prayer meeting Sept. 30-Oct. 1 in Southlake, Texas, at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth.

"I believe the church in America needs a mighty move of God, and I believe it starts with prayer," said Johnny Derouen of Southwestern Seminary and one of the youth prayer meeting's organizers along with professor Richard Ross and youth pastor Keith Harmon.

"We just sensed the need to pray simultaneously alongside our senior pastors. We want to support our pastors in this 24-hour prayer event. We are encouraging student pastors all over America and the world who cannot join us in Texas to pray simultaneously with us wherever they are," Harmon, of Cross

Church in northwest Arkansas, said.

Ronnie Floyd, also of Cross Church, and the group of fellow senior pastors have banded together to hold the senior pastor's prayer meeting from a conviction about dedicated and persistent prayer and the role it can play in the revival for which they are praying.

"This is not a 'come and go' event or a place to 'come and be seen,' nor is it a denominational or political meeting," Floyd wrote in an Aug. 14 blog titled "Call to Pray," which can be read in full at www.ronniefloyd.com. "It is a serious spiritual experience of prayer with pastors nationally."

The prayer meetings will be held from 6:30 p.m. Sept. 30 to noon on Oct. 1 in Southlake and in Fort Worth. The youth pastor prayer meeting will be held in Price Hall on the seminary campus, and organizers ask that those planning to attend register by emailing ross@swbts.edu or jderouen@swbts.edu.

For more information on the youth pastor gathering, go to www.youthleaderprayer.com. Pastors wanting to register for the senior pastor prayer gathering can do so at www.ronniefloyd.com/blog/5392/pastors-a-call-to-pray. (BP)

Back to basics

Start new church year with a new focus, renewed energy

September is the beginning of the fiscal year of the Kentucky Baptist Foundation. It's also the beginning of the church year for many churches and the beginning of the school year for many schools. So, it's a normal time to get back to the basics and start a new process with a new focus and with renewed energy and enthusiasm.

The first basics upon which the KBF board and staff has focused in this new fiscal year are the Great Commission found in Matthew 28:18-20 and the Acts 1:8 challenge. A few days after our Lord gave His disciples the Great Commission, and as He was about to depart from them and to return to the Father, He left to His disciples then—and to us His disciples today—the challenge to be His witnesses not only at home but also to the ends of the earth.

I like how GuideStone Financial Resources President O.S. Hawkins summed up the Lord's explicit commission to us His disciples. We are "to make" new disciples by leading people to Jesus Christ; we are "to mark" these new disciples through baptism; and we are "to mature" them by "teaching them to observe" all those things Christ

commanded.

Inherent in the mission of the KBF is discipleship, and specifically, "to mature" Jesus' disciples. And, at the heart of discipleship is financial stewardship. And, that aspect of financial stewardship to which the KBF is committed to facilitate the maturation process is estate stewardship.

Since we believe for most Christians estate planning is the single most important act of stewardship that one will ever perform, our mission is "to mature" Kentucky Baptists, who are disciples of Jesus Christ, in the Christian discipline of estate stewardship.

The most effective way to mature Kentucky Baptists is to equip Kentucky Baptist churches in how to encourage, educate, enable and engage their adult members in estate stewardship. So, as we enter this new year together, let's get back to the basics of discipleship, which includes stewarding from one's estate a portion of that which the Lord has entrusted to us.

And, please give your KBF the privilege of assisting you and your church.

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

Ky. Baptist Foundation

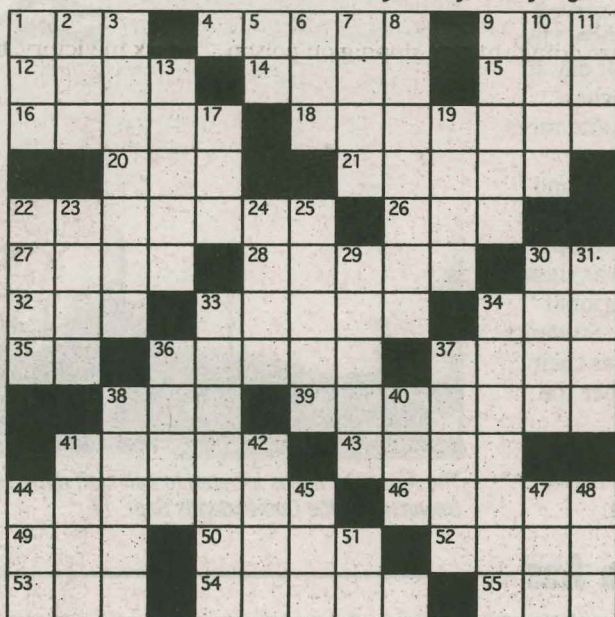


Barry Allen

Bible Crosswords

Across

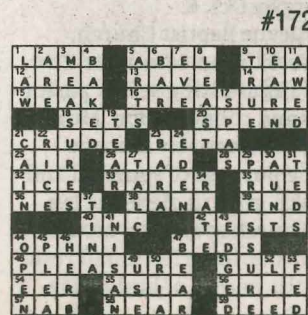
- 1 Kitchen measure (abbr.)
- 4 "Let her ____: against the day of my burying hath she kept this" (John 12:7)
- 9 Baden-Baden is one
- 12 Titian's medium
- 14 "I have set before thee an ____ door" (Revelation 3:8)
- 15 Possesses
- 16 Evening wrap
- 18 "The ear trieth words, as the mouth ____ meat" (Job 34:3)
- 20 Strive for dominance
- 21 Rows
- 22 Hardly worth commenting on
- 26 "Leah said a troop cometh: and she called his name ____" (Genesis 30:11)
- 27 Actor Auberjonois
- 28 "They were swifter than eagles, they were stronger than ____" (2 Samuel 1:23)



#173

- 30 Preposition
- 32 Univ. subj.
- 33 Collect collectibles
- 34 Verses to a Grecian urn
- 35 French conjunction
- 36 Diagram
- 37 Author unknown (abbr.)
- 38 Exclamation of achievement
- 39 "Thou ____ up the sum, full of wisdom" (Ezekiel 28:12)
- 41 Live like a longhorn
- 43 Leave out
- 44 Where ship is secured
- 46 Lake ____ (outdoor

- playground)
- 49 Hosp. facilities (pl.)
- 50 Affirm or attest to
- 52 Delhi "to go" garb
- 53 Born (Fr.)
- 54 African scavenger
- 55 Author Amy
- Down
- 1 Basketball blunders (abbr.)
- 2 Portraitist's command
- 3 "He was ____ with twelve yoke of oxen" (1 Kings 19:19)
- 5 KJV exclamation
- 6 Elect
- 7 Spiffy
- 8 Certain sailors
- 9 Broken piece of pottery, KJV style
- 10 Touches lightly
- 11 Tree type
- 13 Demetrius, in The Robe
- 17 The family of ____, descendants of Gad (Numbers 26:16)
- 19 Prince of Wales, and others
- 22 "I give to eat of the ____ of
- life" (Revelation 2:7)
- 23 Torn apart
- 24 Feminine name
- 25 Ananias and Sapphira, to name two
- 29 Bones (comb. form)
- 30 Big deals
- 31 Abraham's abode
- 33 Son of Ahab (1 Kings 22:40)
- 34 "He that ... meddleth with strife ... is like ____ (2 words) taketh a dog by the ears" (Proverbs 26:17)
- 36 Scorch
- 37 Witness Protection Program gift
- 38 Was no longer supine
- 40 Quantity (abbr.)
- 41 Former senator from Tennessee
- 42 Green monster
- 44 Door designation
- 45 Command to a horse
- 47 Mouth (pl.)
- 48 German article
- 51 TLC provider



#172

By Evelyn Boyington

The power of 'AND'

Through the Cooperative Program, be a witness here and there

The new Kentucky Baptist Convention Cooperative Program brochure is entitled "The Power of AND." It rightfully points out that in Acts 1:8 Jesus did not say "or" when He said, "You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea AND Samaria, AND to the ends of the earth." The Cooperative Program brochure makes the point that we can be witnesses here, there AND everywhere as we give through the Cooperative Program.

The Cooperative Program works best when individuals tithe and then churches tithe. The idea of a tithe of the tithe is referenced in Numbers 18:26 which says, "Speak to the Levites and say to them: 'When you receive from the Israelites the tithe I give you as your inheritance, you must present a tenth of that tithe as the Lord's offering.'" As we consider the power of AND, I would add another "and," as in tithes AND offerings. Both Deuteronomy 12:6 and 12:11 reference bringing the tithe and various offerings to the Lord. As Southern Baptists we teach tithing. We know that the tithe is the foundation of faithful stewardship. We also encourage sacrificial giving through missions offerings.

September is the month we receive the Eliza Broadus Offering for State

Missions. This is the 100th anniversary year of our annual state missions offering which was started in 1913 at the urging of Eliza Broadus. Kentucky WMU is the sponsor of the offering and named it in her honor starting in 1976. Our 2013 goal is \$1.25 million.

Tithing provides support for the ministries of your church. A tithe of all the tithes received by your church given through the Cooperative Program supports the work of Kentucky Baptists through the Mission Board, Christian education and Kentucky Baptist entities. The tithe of the tithe also provides funds for international missions, North American missions, Southern Baptist seminaries and other ministries of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Likewise, your offerings provide additional missions support for ministries in Kentucky and around the world as you participate in the Eliza Broadus Offering for State Missions, the Lottie Moon Christmas

Offering for International Missions, the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions and in associational missions.

More than ever, make a difference.

EBO at Work



Joy Bolton



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


**CALENDAR
OF EVENTS**
September

- 17 Pre-Retirement Planning Conference, Rosemont Baptist Church, Lexington.
- 18 Pre-Retirement Planning Conference, KBC Building, Louisville.
- 18 Missionary Retreat, Cumberland Falls State Park, Corbin.
- 20 Men's Chorale, Women's Chorale, Wind Orchestra Retreat, Campbellsville University, Campbellsville.
- 20 Disaster Relief Chaplaincy Training, Springfield Baptist Church, Springfield.
- 21 Children in Action Day Camp, Second Baptist Church, Hopkinsville.
- 21 Disaster Relief Training, Springfield Baptist Church, Springfield.
- 21 Men and Women Chorale Concert, Campbellsville Baptist Church, Campbellsville.
- 23 Reaching the Summit, Central Baptist Church, Hawesville.
- 24 Committee on Nominations, KBC Building, Louisville.

October

- 3 KBSA Training Workshop, KCB Building, Louisville.
- 8 Committee on Credentials, KBC Building, Louisville.

MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

■ **BARDWELL**—Mississippi Church will hold praise night Sept. 20, 6 p.m. **Mark Burnett** is pastor.

■ **BENTON**—New Zion Church will hold a homecoming service Sept. 22, 10 a.m., with guest speaker **Earl Cathey** and special music by the **Tribute Quartet**. Lunch will follow the service. **Rodney Wallace** is pastor.

■ **DANVILLE**—Willow Grove Church will hold revival service Sept. 22-25 with guest speaker **Jerry Browning**. **Johnny Thompson** is pastor.

■ **EDDYVILLE**—Pleasant Hill Church will host the Caldwell/Lyon Association annual meeting Sept. 23, 6 p.m., with guest speakers **Tim Perdue** and **Jeff McCarty**. **Eric Nelson** is pastor.

■ **GLENDAL**—Gilead Church will hold a homecoming service Sept. 22, 11 a.m., with guest speaker **Bryan Nelson**. Lunch will follow the service. **Sam Hinkson** is pastor.

■ **KEVIL**—Newton Creek Church will hold an annual fish fry Sept. 22, 5 p.m., with **The Better Way Quartet** in concert. For more information, call (270) 462-3353. **Wayne Carter** is pastor.

■ **LEBANON**—Lebanon Church will host Judgment House Sept. 19-21, 6 p.m. **David Whitlock** is pastor.

■ **LEXINGTON**—Grace Church will host **Van Berry**

and **Friends** in concert Sept. 22, 6 p.m. For more information, call (859) 252-1119. **Steve Price** is pastor.

■ **MOUNT VERNON**—Northside Church will hold See You After the Pole Sept. 25, 6:30 p.m. with pizza and guest speaker **Jordan Jeffers**. **Randy McPherson** is pastor.

Roundstone Church will hold revival services Sept. 22-25, 7 p.m., with special music and guest speaker **Clyde Miller**. **Rick Reynolds** is pastor.

■ **MOUNT WASHINGTON**—First Church will host the Nelson Association annual meeting Sept. 22, 4 p.m. First Church also will hold Student Unite 2013 Sept. 22, 6 p.m., with music by **Isaac Pitman** and guest speaker **Scott Long**. **Billy Compton** is pastor.

■ **OWENSBORO**—Macedonia Church will hold "Whosoever Will Preach" Sept. 23, 6:30 p.m. **Daniel Wigton** is pastor.

■ **PADUCAH**—Bellview Church will hold "Whosoever Will Preach" Sept. 24, 6:30 p.m., with guest speakers **Jerry Vines** and **David Allen**. **Mike Nolen** is pastor.

West Union Association will host ESL training Sept. 20, 6:30 p.m., and Sept. 21, 8:30 a.m.

■ **PRINCETON**—Eddy Creek Church will host the

Spotlight on ...**DEXTER**

Dexter Church will hold a senior adult rally Sept. 20, 4 p.m. **David Little** is pastor.

Caldwell/Lyon Association annual meeting Sept. 24, 9 a.m., with guest speaker **Doug Anderson**. **Leslie Joyce** is pastor.

■ **RUSSELLVILLE**—First Church will hold a talent show Sept. 22, 6 p.m. **Buddy Crabtree** is pastor.

■ **SPRINGFIELD**—Temple Church will hold revival services Sept. 22-25, 7 p.m., with guest speaker **Tim Post**. **Cal Adams** is pastor.

■ **STANFORD**—Stanford Church will hold revival services Sept. 22, 6 p.m., and Sept. 23-25, 6:30 p.m., with special music and guest speaker **Shane Garrison**. **Greg Hancock** is pastor.

UC pays respects to victims of 9/11

Williamsburg—On Wednesday, Sept. 11, University of the Cumberland held their annual Patriot Day ceremony in Patriot Park, located in front of the Hutton School of Business, in remembrance of the men and women that lost their lives on that tragic day.

The ceremony was attended by UC students, faculty, staff and local Williamsburg residents that wanted to pay tribute and honor to their fellow Americans that answered the call of duty to help the nation.

Judge Eugene Siler, a Williamsburg native, delivered an inspirational speech while standing next

to a section of steel from the Twin Towers remains. The steel memorial was donated to UC by Andy Croley.

"The tragedies of 9/11 cannot be forgotten," said Siler, who served the U.S. Navy from 1958-1960. "Too many lives were taken that day. It is another day in infamy when cowards attacked all ages and races of the American people."

Cumberlands marching band paid tribute during the event with patriotic songs for the ceremony. UC's ROTC Honor Guard was there as well to conduct an emotional retreat and flag ceremony. Students and attendees were quiet as their nation stopped to remember the victims on 9/11.

The 9/11 ceremony takes place annually in Cumberlands Patriot Park on or around Sept. 11.



The American flag is lowered to half staff during a 9/11 memorial service at the University of the Cumberland Sept. 11.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE: 15 passenger bus, 2005 Ford, 9,625 miles, excellent condition, \$29,000. Hurricane Baptist Church, (270) 350-1334.

FOR SALE: Sound/video/theatrical lighting. JCA Media, LLC, well known in KBC with 20+ years experience installing quality equipment at reasonable pricing. Contact: **Jim Cottrell**, owner, Elizabethtown, (270) 862-9586, or (270) 312-7492; **Rusty King**, project manager, Nashville, Tenn., (615) 972-8869; or **Amy Cottrell**, operations manager, Louisville, (502) 802-4310. jcamediaky.com. References available.

SEEKING: Second Baptist Church of Madisonville, is seeking a full-time pastor. Send resumés to Pastor Search Committee, Second Baptist Church, 633 Bishop Street, Madisonville, KY 42431-1379.

SEEKING: Liberty Baptist Church in London, is seeking a bivocational pastor. We are looking for someone who is an enthusiastic soul winner and has a vision for church growth; a man of God who loves to shepherd all ages and has good leadership skills. If you feel God's leadership in applying for this position, send resumé to smurray@napierlawoffice.com.

SEEKING: Bardwell Baptist Church is seeking a part-time youth pastor to lead

youth grades 6th-12th. For more information, contact pastor Rodney Bice at bbcpastor1@windstream.net, or call (270) 628-3645.

SEEKING: First Baptist Church of Lebanon Junction is seeking resumes from potential candidates for pastor. FBC is dually aligned with the Kentucky Baptist Fellowship and the KBC. Send resumés to the Pastoral Search Committee, P.O. Box 577, Lebanon Junction, KY 40150.

SEEKING: White Stone Quarry Baptist Church is now accepting resumés for senior pastor. Applicants must proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ and must uphold the doctrines of the Baptist Faith & Message 2000. A minimum of 1 to 3 years experience preferred. Need an energetic person to lead while working to reach the unchurched in a growing community. Send resumé to whitestoneapplicant@gmail.com, or mail to: White Stone Quarry Baptist Church, Attn. Search Committee, 2764 Blue Level Road, Bowling Green, KY 42101. Resumés will be accepted through Oct. 15.

SEEKING: Ferguson Baptist Church in Somerset is seeking a part-time minister of music. Submit resumé to fergusonkybapt@yahoo.com

or mail to: P.O. Box 247, Ferguson, KY 42533. For questions, call the church at (606) 679-1690.

SEEKING: Southside Baptist Church in Princeton is seeking a full-time student and children's minister. Seminary training and experience preferred. Email resumés to mark@southsidebaptist.com, or mail to: Southside Baptist Church, Attn. Mark Williams, P.O. Box 684, Princeton, KY 42445. For more information about Southside, visit southsidebaptist.com.

SEEKING: Okalona Missionary Baptist Church in Nancy is seeking a full-time pastor, called by God, to lead the congregation according to God's will. Send resumés to: Resumés, P.O. Box 99, Nancy, KY 42544. Deadline for receipt is Sept. 30.

SEEKING: Auburn Baptist Church is seeking a pastor. Email resumés to pastorsearchcommittee@tcorum@logantele.com.

SEEKING: Grace Baptist Church, in Lexington, is seeking a part-time minister of music to direct adult choir, lead worship service and guide children's music programs. Mail resumés to: Minister of Music Search Committee, 811 Bryan Avenue, Lexington, KY 40505, or email to [**To place an advertisement in the Western Recorder:**](mailto:dfoley@</p>
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Rates are available upon request.

Call (502) 489-3428; or visit westernrecorder.org



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gbclexington.org by Oct. 6.

SEEKING: Bellevue Baptist Church, Owensboro, is seeking an administrative pastor. Role entails assisting senior pastor in leading staff and congregation. Must have the ability to effectively manage resources for the purpose of spiritual and numerical church growth. Bellevue is a contemporary church averaging around 1,300 in combined ministries. Email resumés to **Greg Faulks** in care of kmidkiff@bellnet.org.

'Pick a card'

Playing cards segue to gospel

By Susie Rain

East Asia—The middle-aged man smiles and makes a quick bow of greeting to the small audience. He reaches into his left coat pocket and pulls out some cards.

Ben Lim's eyes twinkle as he shuffles the cards. He fans them out in his hands and tells a random person in the crowd to "Pick a card. Pick any card!"

A hush falls over the audience as a young Chinese man pulls one of the cards from Ben's hands. Ben instructs him to look at it, but not to show anyone. Then, Ben asks him to act out the picture on the card. The young man gets down on all fours, puffs out his chest and roars.

"LION!" the group screams in unison.

Ben smiles. He flips it over for everyone to see. It's the ace of clubs—but with a picture of three lions surrounding a man at the bottom of a den.

"Anyone know a story about a lion?" the Christian worker in East Asia asks. "No? Then, let me tell you the story of Daniel and the Lion's Den."

That's when God's word falls on ears that are hearing for the first time. Ben, a master storyteller, takes the audience through the trials of walking by faith and not sight.

The rise and fall of his voice depicts emotions and fears when confronted with problems (like hungry lions waiting to devour). His peaceful cadence and soft, confident tone assures that God is always present when we have problems and call on Him.

The story ends and everyone looks at Ben, waiting for another. He smiles and fans the cards out again. In his hands are 51 more pictures depicting the Old Testament. Another set of cards in his pocket has 52 stories from the New Testament.

The collection is a unique pictorial Bible covering everything from creation to Christ. The uniqueness isn't simply because this wordless Bible is found on a pack of cards but by the fact that Ben's teenage daughters Jasmine* and Jamie* (plus one of their friends) drew the pic-

Pictures depicting stories in the Bible on decks of cards are used as evangelism tools. The cards were created by American teenagers living in East Asia, and their parents use the cards with oral learners. More than 5,000 churches in East Asia have adopted the evangelism tool. Below, Jasmine Lim (center) shares a Bible story with East Asian students at an English camp. (Photo by Ben Lim*)*



tures on the cards.

"I can't begin to describe what it is like to use an evangelism tool developed by your own kids.... It's beyond our imagination because only God can do this," the church planter from Oklahoma said. "All over the world, people are using these cards as part of evangelism and discipleship training."

The teenagers spent hours last summer poring over the different Scripture passages that Ben uses as part of the Storying Training for Trainers program.

The S-T4T approach combines oral communication with methods of evangelism and discipleship, training local believers to share their faith with family



and friends.

Jamie explained that most of the people her family works with are more or less illiterate. While most reports show East Asia as having a literacy rate of more than 90 percent, this only tracks the ability to read 950 characters (or just under 1,000 words). In rural East Asia, word-of-mouth and pictures are the most common forms of communicating.

"There are so many people here who haven't found Christ. The burden is on us to spread the gospel," Jamie said. "If drawing pictures is the way to lead people to Him, then it's something you just gotta do!"

Playing games, especially cards, is a

big social activity in this part of the world, Jamie said, and pointed out that this love for games made it the perfect way to present a "picture Bible." Not to mention the fact that in some areas of East Asia (like China), it is illegal to give someone a Bible. But, Jamie added, you can give them a deck of cards.

Ben uses the cards to train local believers in sharing Bible stories and planting the gospel. They can use it as an "ice breaker" like he often does, as a game, as Bible story flash cards or there's even a short presentation from creation to Christ that only uses nine cards.

Ben's favorite way, though, is to teach about the character of God and life lessons through the pictures. He works his way from creation to Christ and even teaches how to become an "Acts church." Among the minority people groups that he works with, it has become so popular that Ben recorded all 104 stories as MP3s to accompany the card packs.

More than 5,000 churches throughout East Asia have adopted this unique evangelism tool, creating a new project for Jasmine and Jamie this summer—helping their parents train others to use the cards and share the Bible stories.

"People are going to see how creative God is and amazing He is through these stories," Jamie said, shuffling through the New Testament deck. "Just pull a card out of the deck and you can share about a different characteristic of God or a different Bible story. (BP)

*Name changed.

Giving church planters a 'global mission mindset' in their own city

By Tobin Perry

Toronto—Church planter Randall Edwards* not only had the 6 million people of metro Toronto in mind when he moved to the city. With immigrants comprising 52 percent of the population, he had the whole world in mind.

"We came here with the mindset of going global," Edwards said. "Toronto is the most multicultural city in the world and one of the most strategic places in the West to reach unreached people groups. We want to see them come to Christ here."

The church plant already has involved a variety of immigrants, Edwards said. With the hope of using his church plant to help penetrate lostness among an unreached people group in North Africa, Edwards and his wife Amanda* participated in a June vision trip to the conti-

nent through the IMB.

More people from that unreached people group live in Toronto than any other city in the world outside of Africa, said Edwards. He envisions not only mobilizing his church for onsite ministry in Africa among the people group, but also strengthening the church plant's own ministry among the group back in Toronto. Edwards' name and the name of this people group have been withheld to protect the church's future ministry opportunities in North Africa.

Edwards took the trip with the help of scholarship funds from the North American Mission Board. Southern Baptist church planters who are members of the Send North America Support Network are eligible for up to \$3,000 to purchase plane tickets for a planter and a spouse, or another team member, to take a vision trip to minister to an unreached

people group. NAMB makes the funds available to the planter when his church adopts a people group through IMB and receives the appropriate training.

"We believe these trips will help church planters gain ... a vision greater than just the city where they are planting," said Micah Millican, NAMB's director of church planter relations.

NAMB leaders hope the effort will encourage church plants to engage the 3,100 unreached people groups currently not being engaged with the gospel by any church or mission organization. So far, nearly 100 church planters have identified a people group and are going through the process of adopting a group with the help of NAMB and IMB.

Edwards expects his trip will have a lasting influence on his church, as he takes what he learned and begins to mobilize his church's involvement

among the people group.

"We have a global city in Toronto, but that doesn't necessarily mean the people here have a global missions mindset, and that's the key," Edwards said. "The global nature of the city means that it's a great launching point to the world."

Even though he grew up traveling the world and lives in one of the most international cities on earth, Edwards says his recent trip brought many realizations.

"Just seeing the work of God in a different region of the world impacted me greatly," Edwards said. "It gave me a renewed vision for what we are doing here. It put it in perspective. You can get so myopic that you forget that God is working in different ways all around the world. I got to see work being done that was completely distinct from what I had ever seen before." (NAMB)

*Names changed.

**High
School**

Dual Enrollment

College

ATTENTION: Parents, Pastors, Youth Pastors & Youth Leaders

Clear Creek Baptist Bible College is pleased to announce that it is now offering a "Dual Enrollment Program" for qualified High School Juniors and Seniors.

The program is designed to allow students the opportunity to:

- Enroll in college courses as a junior or senior in high school.
- Minimize the duplication of courses taken in high school and college.
- Significantly reduce the cost of higher education.
- Receive college credit while taking high school courses.
- Shorten the time required to complete an undergraduate degree.
- Receive a quality biblical college experience.
- Enroll in quality Bible courses to prepare for ministry.

WHAT IS THE CURRICULUM? Courses offered through the Dual Enrollment Program will present a rigorous curriculum and will introduce qualified students to college-level work for which they may earn both high school and college credit. All courses offered by Clear Creek Baptist Bible College are available to Dual Enrollment students; not all courses will meet the needs of high school credit. Each student will need to verify credit eligibility with their individual school.

WHAT ABOUT THE COST? The cost is \$200 for any on-campus or online course. The cost of dual enrollment significantly reduces the cost for your undergraduate degree.

For More Information Contact:

The Admissions Office

(606) 337-1072 or email: admissions@ccbhc.edu



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