

WESTERN Recorder

October 15, 2013

Shine Like Stars * Philippians 2:15

Volume 187, Issue 39



Colleen Phillips helps lay a row of the vinyl floating floor in her Massapequa, N.Y., home with Ken Williams (right), a Sandy Rebuild team member from Asheville, N.C. (NAMB /Laura Sikes)

Southern Baptists are 'silver lining' after Sandy storm

By Laura Sikes

Long Island—"They came to not only repair my house, but they looked after my soul," said Colleen Phillips. Phillips is one of many Long Island residents who have been positively impacted by the Southern Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers who worked for several months on homes flooded by Hurricane Sandy.

"Southern Baptists were my silver lining in the storm," she said. Phillips's marriage ended after the storm. She

□ See Sandy volunteers ... Page 8

Murphy to lead Kentucky Changers

By Robin Cornetel Bass

Louisville—After nearly two decades swinging hammers alongside student volunteers and guiding their missions experience with Kentucky Changers, Peggy Murphy has been asked to take the lead in supervising the ministry after it transitions from Crossings Ministries to the Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union.

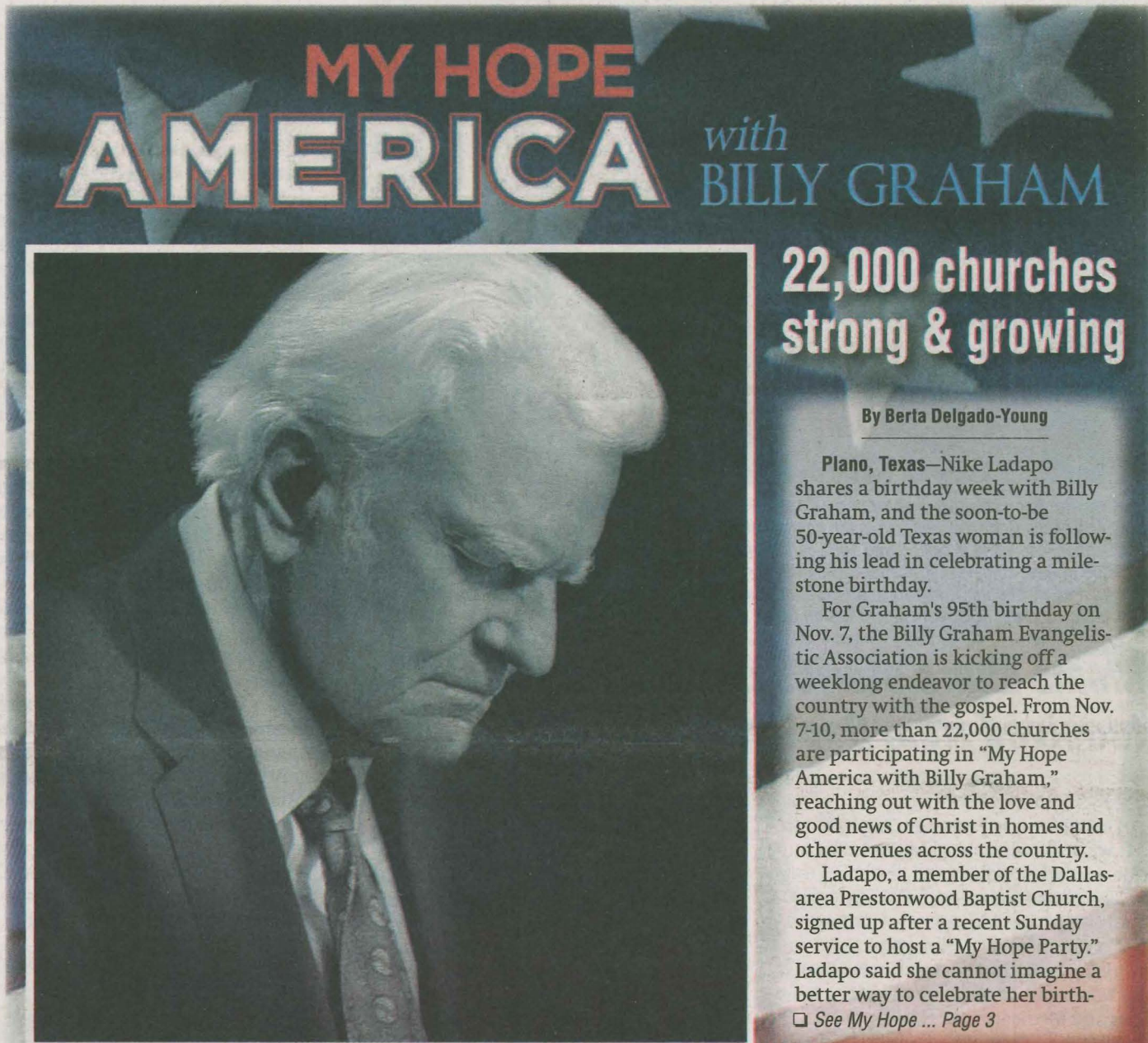


Peggy Murphy

Murphy will begin her duties as Kentucky Changers coordinator Nov. 1, said Joy Bolton, Kentucky WMU Executive Director. For the past year, Kentucky Changers has been under the leadership of Joe Ball, Crossings ministry resources and mobilization director.

"We are delighted to welcome Peggy

□ See Murphy ... Page 3



22,000 churches strong & growing

By Berta Delgado-Young

Plano, Texas—Nike Ladapo shares a birthday week with Billy Graham, and the soon-to-be 50-year-old Texas woman is following his lead in celebrating a milestone birthday.

For Graham's 95th birthday on Nov. 7, the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association is kicking off a weeklong endeavor to reach the country with the gospel. From Nov. 7-10, more than 22,000 churches are participating in "My Hope America with Billy Graham," reaching out with the love and good news of Christ in homes and other venues across the country.

Ladapo, a member of the Dallas-area Prestonwood Baptist Church, signed up after a recent Sunday service to host a "My Hope Party." Ladapo said she cannot imagine a better way to celebrate her birth-

□ See My Hope ... Page 3

It's not too late to get involved

By Elaine Helms

Charlotte, N.C.—If you are just now hearing about My Hope America, it's not too late!

My Hope is based on Jesus' call to Matthew, and Matthew's desire to introduce his friends to Jesus (Mark 2:13-17; Luke 5:27-32). Patterned after this gospel example, the My Hope steps include:

Look Around: Build a spiritual concern for those around you who need Christ; make a short list people you know who need Jesus.

Look Up: Pray every day for each name on your list.

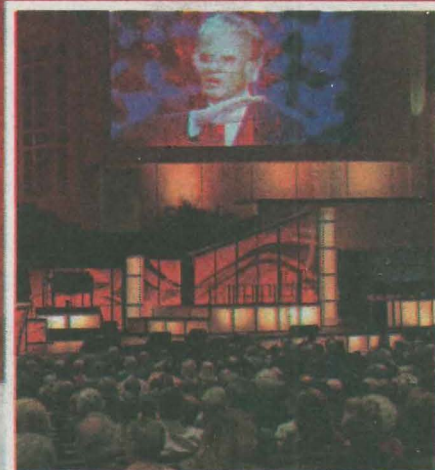
Look Out: Think of ways to build your relationship with each person.

Look Forward: Invite them to your home or other venue. Offer hospitality and food, and meet in a friendly atmosphere. Watch one of the My Hope video programs which provide a clear message of salvation. A Christian who is known to those listening should give a short salvation testimony. Then give a clear invitation and lead a prayer for people to receive Christ.

Look After: It's important to identify those who receive Christ so that follow-up can immediately begin with them. You can start with the My Hope free discipleship materials.

Here are a few ways to use My

□ See Get involved ... Page 3



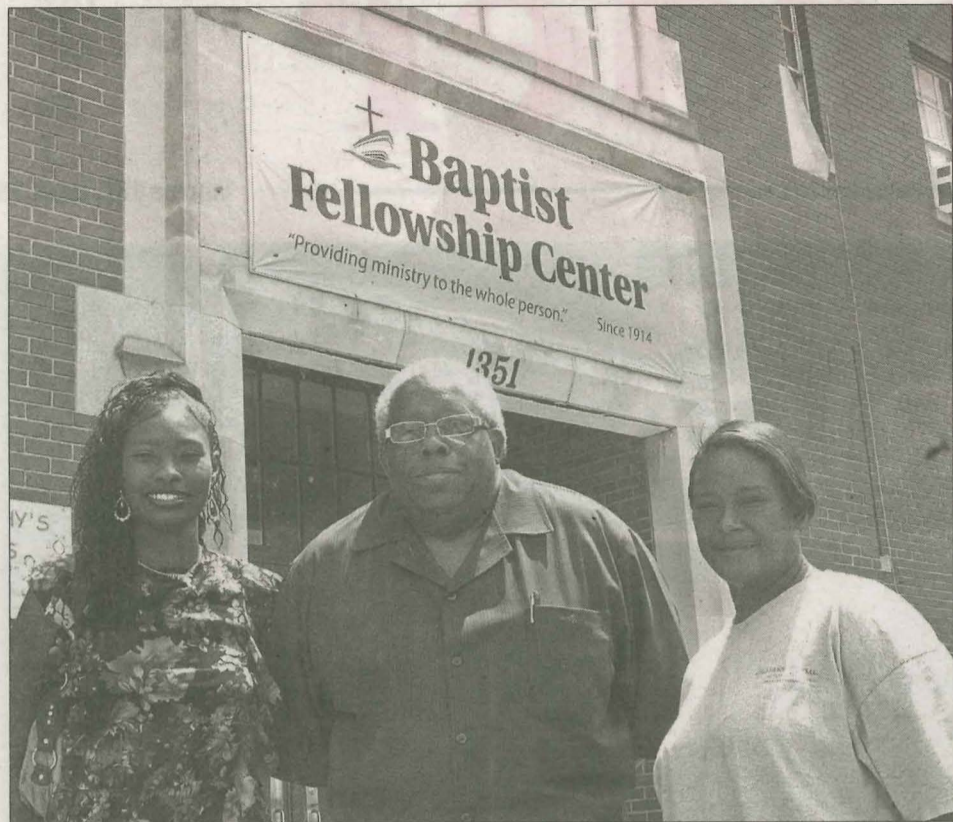
Thousands of Prestonwood Baptist Church members viewed the "My Hope America with Billy Graham" video to be shown in host homes Nov. 4-9 in an effort to share the gospel throughout the country. (Photo courtesy of Prestonwood Baptist Church)

Ditch the cord. **GO MOBILE** Kentucky Baptist news at your fingertips **WesternRecorder.org**

Find us on **Facebook** and on **twitter** as **westernrecorder**

Western Recorder 10-15-2013

Born through civil disobedience, center reaches 100th year



Matthew Smyzer, executive director of the Baptist Fellowship Center, is joined by Nesha Richardson (left) and Alisha Conn, two women in the community who have received assistance from the center. The Baptist Fellowship is celebrating 100 years of missions and ministries to the Parkland neighborhood in west Louisville. The inter-racial ministry partnership was formed in 1914 and continues as a joint effort of Long Run Baptist Association, Central District Association, the Kentucky Baptist Convention and the North American Mission Board. (KBC/Drew Nichter)

Moms share stories of blessings they received from Baptist Fellowship Center

By Drew Nichter

Louisville—Five years ago, Alisha Conn left work for what she thought was a routine doctor's appointment.

The doctor she received was anything but routine: Her kidneys were failing.

Conn is now on a transplant list, awaiting new kidneys. Her medical bills are taken care of through disability benefits and Medicare.

But when Conn was diagnosed, she was uninsured. "And I really didn't have a back-up plan," she recalled.

The Baptist Fellowship Center, with which Conn had been involved since she was a child, stepped in to help.

The center's prescription drug assistance program kicked in for Conn's life-saving medications, which cost upward of \$1,000 a month.

"Baptist Fellowship (Center) ended up being my back-up plan," she said.

Conn is a single mother who lives around the corner from the center. Her daughters, Jasmine, 13, and Makayla, 8, are involved in a number of the activities offered to neighborhood children.

Makayla recently wrapped up her second year at the Baptist Fellowship Center's day camp for kids ages 6-12.

Thanks to the program, Makayla's future seems just a little bit brighter.

The center has established a partnership with Campbellsville University that provides \$500 scholarships to all of its day campers, should they choose to attend CU after high school.

With two years of day camp under her belt, Makayla now has \$1,000 set aside to attend Campbellsville.

The partnership is designed "to plant a seed and then help some children see for themselves the advantage and the

importance of thinking about going to college," said Matthew Smyzer, executive director of the Baptist Fellowship Center.

Alisha Conn's story is representative of the center's mission of meeting educational and health needs of residents in west Louisville.

Many households in the area are led by single mothers struggling to make ends meet.

"I'm a single mother who tries to work hard, tries to maintain and live a Christian life and to show my kids that you can do whatever you want if you put your mind to it and stay focused," Nesha Richardson said.

Richardson came to the center a couple of years seeking help to pay her electricity and gas bill. She also has received clothes for her three children through the center's clothes closet.

Richardson said it wasn't easy to seek help, but workers at the center never made her feel uncomfortable for asking.

In fact, Richardson said the love and support she has received from the center has empowered her to improve her and her children's lives.

"I told myself I'm going to live better as a mother, but also for my children," she said, "because I want my children to have the best things in life."

Richardson and her children also have become involved in a local church, West Chestnut Baptist.

Smyzer pointed to Richardson and Conn as success stories and powerful examples of the Baptist Fellowship Center's mission in action.

"All people need is just a little nudge to get over the hump," he said. "So, when people are really trying to help themselves, then what little we're able to do to help out actually goes a long way." (KBC)

Black & white churches disregard prevailing prejudices and work together to help needy

By Drew Nichter

Louisville—In 1914, the City of Louisville passed a housing ordinance that essentially prohibited racial integration within the city's neighborhoods.

That same year, black and white Baptists from Louisville churches disregarded the city's order of segregation and came together to launch a neighborhood ministry for families in need—no matter their racial background.

Three years later, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down Louisville's housing ordinance as unconstitutional, and nearly 100 years after that decision, the Baptist Fellowship Center continues to thrive.

"African-American Baptists and white Baptists came together when that kind of thing wasn't happening much," said Louisville pastor Lincoln Bingham, a former executive director for the center.

The Baptist Fellowship Center is gearing up to mark a century of serving Louisville residents in September 2014.

The center is a cooperative partnership of Central District Baptist Association, a group of 150 predominantly black churches in the Louisville area, and Long Run Baptist Association. The ministry also receives support from the Kentucky Baptist Convention through gifts to the Eliza Broadard Offering, and the North American Mission Board.



"You have these two cultures, these two groups of Christians ... though their programmatic approach may differ ... they've worked together."

Lincoln Bingham

"From the beginning, it has been an intentional cooperative effort, because predominantly African-American churches and predominantly white churches are working together," said Larry Martin, a former KBC missions leader.

The center is a "model of cooperative ministries for the nation," he added.

The center's visitors come seeking help for any number of needs, including funds to pay for household utilities, child care, school supplies, counseling services and prescription medi-

cation assistance.

While the Baptist Fellowship Center serves all of Louisville, most of those who enter its doors come from the Parkland neighborhood in west Louisville.

The center relocated to 1351 Catalpa Street, the former of Parkland Baptist Church, in 1965 during a time of great transition for both the ministry and the neighborhood.

With many of its members moving out of the city to the suburbs, Parkland Baptist followed suit, making its new home in south Louisville.

Shiloh Baptist Church, a leading black congregation in Louisville, purchased the old Parkland Baptist sanctuary, while the Baptist Fellowship Center moved into the vacant educational building.

Today, more than 95 percent of the neighborhood's households are African-American. Many of them are headed by single mothers living at or below the poverty line, according to Matthew Smyzer, the Baptist Fellowship Center's executive director.

Even as the area's demographics have shifted over the years, the center's mission has not wavered, Smyzer said.

With a bare-bones staff of just two full-time and two part-time employees, Smyzer estimated the Baptist Fellowship Center reaches approximately 10,000 people a year.

Through its emergency assistance funds for things such as electricity, gas and water bills, the center contributes approximately \$100,000 to area residents each year.

Three years ago, the center began a prescription drug assistance program. Smyzer said, in that time, more than \$4 million has been distributed to help individuals afford life-saving medicines.

The center depends on the work of more than 300 volunteers annually. They serve in a variety of ways, including at a daily clothes closet, day care and food pantry.

To connect the center's visitors to Jesus Christ, the center is also home to a church plant, Life Changers Creation Church.

"If you can get here to ask for a basket of groceries, then you can also get here to meet Christ," Smyzer said.

Bingham, who previously led the KBC's racial reconciliation ministry efforts, said after a century of missions and ministry under its belt, the Baptist Fellowship Center's ultimate legacy lies in its "inter-racial cooperation from a Christian perspective."

"You have these two cultures, these two groups of Christians, whose theology is basically the same, though their programmatic approach may differ," Bingham said, "but they've worked together—and that's a legacy right there."

Learn more at www.bfcenter.org.

Get involved

Continued from page 1

Hope, whether you've been planning this for months or just starting to prepare:

■ **Homes.** Everywhere the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association previously carried out My Hope, the most effective way was in homes. The close and informal relationships of a home are especially conducive to introducing family, friends and neighbors to Jesus.

■ **Youth groups.** Young people like to hang out together. Food, fun and friendship—with fervent prayer—are steps for bringing young people to Christ. These meetings can be held in homes, church buildings or other gathering places.

■ **Small group meetings.** A small group ministry leader can study the My Hope materials and train others to pray for and reach out to family, friends and neighbors. Group members can bring the people they're praying for to a "party."

■ **Meetings in the church building.** Train believers to reach out to family, friends and neighbors by bringing them to the My Hope meeting.

■ **Community meetings.** Some churches plan to reach out to their entire community via My Hope through a gathering in a home or community center in every block or section of the city. Several families work together to convene their family, friends and neighbors for something like a block party, and there they show a My Hope video.

■ **Informal gatherings.** My Hope fits well into personal evangelism. Videos can be shown on a smart phone or tablet and open the way to ask if they want to pray to receive Christ. You may be happily surprised when they may say, "I was waiting for you to ask." (BP)

My Hope

Continued from page 1

day than by inviting family, friends and neighbors to her home and sharing what Christ has done in her life and how He can transform their lives.

Ladapo was among the thousands attending services at three Prestonwood campuses who viewed a 29-minute video to be shown in the homes of those across the country hosting a "My Hope Party." Produced by the Graham evangelistic association, the video weaves footage of classic Billy Graham crusades with the testimonies of people who found God while broken and in misery.

"Billy told several of us months ago that he believed God had given him one last message to preach to the country, and 'My Hope America' was born out of that conversation," said Jack Graham, pastor of the 33,000-member Prestonwood Baptist Church. "We are praying that millions will hear the gospel of Jesus Christ across America and that hundreds of thousands are going to be born again into the family of God."

Currently, the pastor said, Prestonwood has nearly 700 homes registered to host a party, with a goal of 1,000.

Last weekend, Prestonwood posted large maps in the atriums of all three campuses showing where members were already registered to host a party.

Chance and Blanca Oliver were among those who registered to host a party.

"We have to start evangelizing at the community level, then the city, and from there it just grows," Blanca Oliver said. "When we make it personal, through the sharing of our stories, it reaches more people. People want to connect."

Renee Fuller, who also is planning to host a party, said she has no doubt the film will help lead many to Christ.

"It's such a powerful video that I



Prestonwood Baptist Church members view the map showing the location of "My Hope America" host homes. (Photo courtesy of Prestonwood Baptist Church)

believe people who normally wouldn't listen or attend a service will be moved by it," Fuller said.

The video features vignettes of Billy Graham sharing the gospel in his winsome Southern resonance.

"Millions are crying, 'What can I do to be saved from the pressures of life; the pressures are just so great,' Graham says in the video. "We want to scream at life; we want to escape from life. Adlai Stevenson once said, 'It's not the days of your life, but the life in your days that counts.'"

"You have so much time, but for what? The things that are broken in your heart and life can be restored in Christ if you put your faith and your confidence in Him. He died on the cross; He rose from the dead for you. He wants to give you guidance in your life; He wants to give you a peace and joy and assurance that if you die, you'll go to heaven. But first, there must be a change. You must turn around; that's called repentance in the Bible.

"Repent," he says, his voice fading in the video, "repent, repent." (BP)

To learn more about participating in My Hope America with Billy Graham and view the evangelistic video programs, visit myhopewithbillygraham.org. My Hope resources also are available in Spanish.

Murder suspect not affiliated with KBC

By Robin Cornelet Bass

Danville—The Baptist minister charged in the shooting deaths of three people in Danville Sept. 20 has no direct ties to the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Prather, KBC's marketing & media relations associate said, "according to convention records, neither the pastor nor the church are affiliated with the Kentucky Baptist Convention."

Kenneth Keith, 48, pastor of Main Street Baptist Church in Burnside, was arrested at his business, Gold Rush Gold Buyers in Somerset, Oct. 9, according to the Messenger Advocate.

He has been charged for the murders of Mike and Angela Hockensmith, who owned ABC Gold, Games and More in Danville, and Daniel Smith, a gold buyer from Richmond.

Mike Hockensmith, who was a bivocational youth minister with Mitchellsburg Baptist Church in Danville, had worked as a store manager for Keith at the Danville pawn shop before purchasing the business with co-owner Steve Divine.

Director of Missions Jim Clontz, of South District Baptist Association, expressed shock that a pastor was involved in the murders, but relief that police had a suspect in custody.

"Pastors are tempted just like other people. If you're not a member of a group, you're a lone ranger," Clontz said, referring to the lack of accountability that plagues independent, or unaffiliated, churches.

Brett Benton, pastor of Mitchellsburg Church, has been quoting Romans 6:23 when people ask how a Baptist minister could kill people.

"We can still stumble," Benton said. "No title excuses us from this." (WR)

Murphy

Continued from page 1

Murphy to the WMU staff," Bolton said. "Her experience with Kentucky Changers will help the transition of this ministry to Kentucky WMU go smoothly."

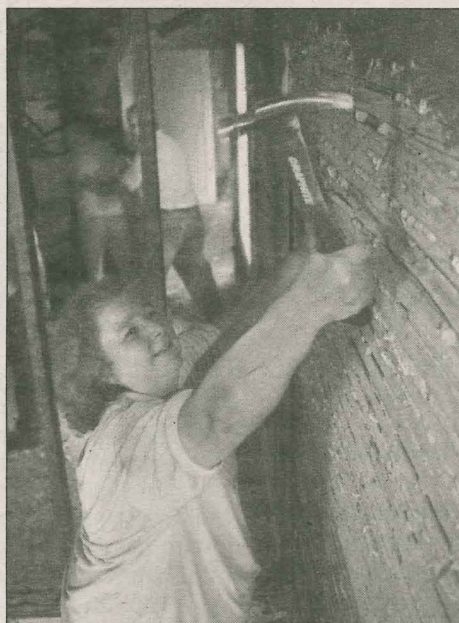
Murphy, who currently serves as the ministry assistant of Kentucky Baptist Convention's Missions Mobilization Team, has a long history serving with Kentucky Changers. She first participated in the ministry in 1995 as a youth leader.

Five years later, Murphy learned first-hand what it takes to organize the week-long missions outreach when she was asked to oversee one of two Kentucky Changers projects during the summer of 2000.

By 2002, Murphy was working full time as a KBC ministry assistant helping team leaders not only with Kentucky Changers, but also in training disaster relief volunteers and educating churches about partnership missions.

"She did this role with tremendous effectiveness," said Coy Webb, director of KBC Disaster Relief. "She has a passion for missions, young people and volunteers that was contagious and that inspired others to desire to be a part of this kingdom ministry."

Eric Allen, leader of KBC's Missions



Peggy Murphy removes plaster from an old house during a Kentucky Changers project in west Louisville. Murphy has been selected by Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union as coordinator of the house repair ministry. (WR file photo/Robin Cornelet Bass)

Mobilization team, said Murphy will be missed.

"I appreciate Peggy because she is not afraid of hard work or getting her hands dirty, and (she) understands that sometimes both are needed to share the gospel," said Allen.

Murphy said she long ago surrendered to the call into youth ministry and, to her, Kentucky Changers represents the whole package.

"God has given me a huge passion for missions and teens," Murphy said. "I appreciate Joy Bolton and everyone in WMU so much for giving me the chance to continue on with my passion."

Murphy said it is difficult to define what it is about Kentucky Changers that pierces her heart, but she knows it when she sees it. Like when she watches tears of appreciation run down the face of a homeowner or when she watches a student work so hard for someone they do not know. Then after eight hours in the hot sun, watching that same student "worshipping to the core" of his/her heart and, perhaps, surrendering to the call of full-time missions.

As coordinator, Murphy said she will be seeking ways to reach more for Christ through Kentucky Changers.

"I want to find new ways to open the eyes of teens and adults to the fact that Kentucky Changers is a lifestyle, not a location," Murphy said. "God says, 'Go and make disciples.' That can be anywhere from your back yard to the other side of the world. I want to see more

teens and adults have a heart for missions and the lost."

Among her plans for accomplishing this goal is connecting with volunteers across the state and helping them use their God-given talents through Kentucky Changers.

"I realized a long time ago that it is not who you have in the office, but who have you connected to in the field. This ministry will only be as good as the volunteers who are on the front lines," Murphy said.

Once Kentucky Changers is up and running under the WMU banner, Bolton said her attention will be turned toward the Creative Ministries Festival, which also transitioned from Crossings. Bolton said she plans to hold a meeting where invited participants are encouraged to

"dream the dream" and imagine what the event can, and should, be.

"It will continue to be an opportunity for youth and adults to learn about creative ministries, improve their skills and see top-notch practitioners," Bolton said, but "it will also be very missional. I hope to see the Creative Ministries Festival become a place where groups that want to serve can connect with those who need them." (WR)

"(Peggy) is not afraid of hard work or getting her hands dirty, and (she) understands that sometimes both are needed to share the gospel."

Eric Allen

Remember pastors' wives

Filling in for Paul Chitwood this week is Kentucky Baptist Convention President Dan Summerlin.

Focus on the Family launched "Minister Appreciation Month" in 1994, suggesting churches set aside October as a time to say thank you to their pastors.

Together We are the KBC



Paul Chitwood

Since then, many churches have taken part in expressing appreciation for their pastor and for the work he does.

I would like to suggest that we also say "thank you" to the pastor's wife. As demanding as ministry is for the pastor, it is even more demanding for his spouse. Pastors' wives are among the unsung heroes in the local church.

Many church members do not understand the demands on the pastor and therefore cannot grasp the demands upon his family. A few years ago, Leadership Magazine reported the effects of vocational ministry on pastors' families.

The results were eye opening.

First was insufficient together. He is working on sermons, visiting the sick, working on administrative issues, doing counseling and evangelism, and it seems there is little time left for the family. A crisis in the church family means special events, such as vacations, concerts and other occasions have to be cancelled.

Another major issue was congregational expectations for the pastors' wife. Wives felt unprepared to fulfill their role and many times the congregation expected them to do a ministry they did not possess the talent or the gifts to do. This expectation led to low self-esteem and discouragement.

Another concern was the pastor's wife not having a pastor. Other church members have the option of going to their pastor and help, with the understanding he will be unbiased and keep everything confidential. The pastor's wife does not have a pastor to go to for these things.

Many pastors' wives also struggled with the lack of personal friendships. The pastor's wife may fear that if she has close friends in the church, those relationships might cause jealousy among the membership. Moreover, she can't help wonder at times if the friendship is because of her, or because of her role. She may feel anxious sharing problems because of her role.

This year, honor your pastor's wife. Thank her for helping her husband do his work. Thank her for being a crucial element in the church's ministry and treat her special, not just because she is the pastor's wife, but because of who she is in Christ.

I encourage all ministers' wives to attend the free Ministers' Wives Luncheon planned between the morning and afternoon sessions of the KBC Annual Meeting on Nov. 12 at Lone Oak First Baptist Church in Paducah. Visit kybaptist.org/ministerswives.

Paul Chitwood is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Grappling with religious liberty & church-state separation

Some information recently shared with me about a decision one of our Baptist-affiliated agencies may be facing has led me to reflect upon two of our cherished freedoms—religious liberty and separation of church and state—which are fast becoming two of the defining cultural issues of our day.

Andrew Walker, director of policy studies at the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, recently stated, "Religious liberty is a first freedom, because if you aren't free to believe and act on your beliefs, you're not a citizen in a free country." More and more, since the repeal of DOMA and the expansion of legalized gay marriage rights, Christian believers are seeing the erosion of religious liberties and intrusions by the state upon our freedom of conscience.

Cultural clashes are becoming more frequent, as our communities debate fairness ordinances, church-related agencies and Christian business owners are compelled to offer abortion-causing drugs as part of the HSS mandate, wedding photographers and bakers are told to participate in gay ceremonies, and church-based Scout troops are being required to accept homosexual members. Should Christians ever feel a necessity to compromise their biblical beliefs and values to comply with shifting cultural norms?

Issues related to religious liberty and the separation of church and state become murkier—more convoluted and complicated—as they become removed a step or two from the local church. Church-affiliated hospitals, colleges, camps, child-care and elder-care agencies are sometimes tempted to receive government subsidies to build new facilities, offer more services or expand their ministries—only to later find the use of their facilities for religious purposes restricted, limits placed upon whom they are able or not able to serve, and their long-standing employment practices challenged. Morally right choices may become harder to discern as the risks and potential losses for non-compliance with state demands escalate.

Sooner or later, though, it boils down to having to make a choice: Whom are we going to call Lord: Caesar or Christ? How we answer that question makes all the difference. And, this is exactly what Daniel and his friends discovered.

Many of us may recall from Sunday School stories about Daniel and the lions' den and how his three friends were thrown into a fiery furnace. Daniel and his friends, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were taken from their homeland to Babylon as captives. Because they were strapping youth from noble families, they were selected to serve in King Nebuchadnezzar's palace. They were to be taught the Chaldean language, instructed in the culture's wisdom and ways, and even allowed to eat from the king's table. It sounds like a sweet, cushy deal—one that certainly seems hard to refuse considering the alternative.

Daniel did. He and his friends—who for some strange reason we refer to today by their altered names, rather than their true Hebrew identities (Would you have recognized Hananiah, Misheal and Azariah?)—refused to partake of the king's fine food and drink. They opted for a healthier fare: vegetables and water.

Had they chosen to take the king's provisions, the story might have turned out very differently. For the more food one receives and the longer one eats from the king's hand, the more obligated one feels and the fuzzier one's judgments may become. Convictions fade; concessions appear. Some are persuaded to comply with the king's requests.

After all, what's the harm when so many others are doing it, and we need to retain the king's favor to survive, they may rationalize.

But Daniel and his friends knew they were called to be God's chosen people, and that meant being different from the rest. And, after 10 days, the benefits clearly showed.

They were stronger and healthier. God blessed Daniel and his friends with wisdom, understanding and an uncanny ability to interpret dreams. The king quickly found their counsel superior to that of his other advisors.

But the story doesn't end there. One day, King Nebuchadnezzar built a giant, golden statue, and he commanded the people to bow before it or face a fiery furnace. The consequences of disobeying could not have been any more severe. Yet, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego courageously refused: "If the God we serve exists, then He can rescue us from the furnace of blazing fire, and He can rescue us from the power of you, the king. But even if He does not rescue us, we want you as king to know that we will not serve your gods or worship the gold statue you set up." God did deliver them through the flames.

Later, Daniel would be tested, too. King Darius' administrators became jealous of Daniel's abilities, and they hatched a plot. They passed an ordinance. For 30 days, anyone who prayed to any god, except the king, would be devoured by lions. Again, the consequences of disobeying could not have been more severe. Yet, Daniel courageously refused. Three times a day, he continued to get on his knees and pray to God, just as he had always done. And, God did deliver him—unharmfully.

Tough choices? Undoubtedly! But if Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego had taken of the king's provisions earlier, would they have had the courage to defy his orders when it mattered? Or, would they have been easily persuaded to compromise their convictions? If Daniel had chosen to eat the king's food, would he later have had the faith in God necessary to take a bold stand when it counted? Or, would he have complied? One thing is for certain, though, they would have lost their powerful witness for God. And, they would never have seen the beautiful declarations of faith made by these two kings recorded in Daniel 4:1-3 and 6:26-27.

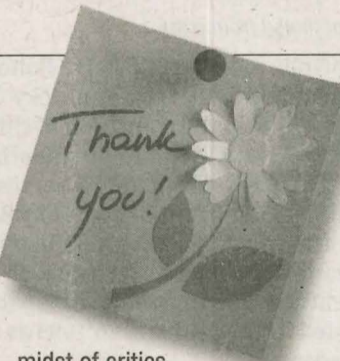
When it really matters, where does our allegiance lie? In whom will we place our trust for deliverance and security? The consequences may appear severe at the moment, but how we answer that question will make all the difference in the end.

When it really matters, where does our allegiance lie? In whom will we place our trust for deliverance and security? The consequences may appear severe at the moment, but how we answer that question will make all the difference in the end.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month

Let your pastor know just how much you appreciate his service to your family and the church. Here are a few simple ideas:

- Give a bookstore gift card.
- Write encouraging notes.
- Sincerely compliment the behavior of his children.
- Guard your pastor's schedule by making sure he has ample time to prepare his sermons.
- Do not remain silent in the



midst of critics. Defend your pastor. Offer to entertain the children so your pastor and his wife can have a special date night.

(Source: LifeWay)



After Thought

By Todd Deaton

WESTERN Recorder

Box 43969
Louisville, KY 40253

DR. TODD DEATON
Editor

ROBIN CORNETT BASS
News Director

THOMAS C. TOWNSEND
Marketing & Business Manager

Board of Directors:
Floyd Dickey (chairman), Richmond;
Bill Bartleman, Paducah;
Duane Bolin, Murray;
Bill Edmonds, Louisville;
Bill Ellis, Lexington;
Chip Hutcheson, Princeton;
Lanna Kilgore, Bowling Green;
Paul Nunn, Prestonsburg;
Linda Polley, Elizabethtown;
Rick Robbins, Elizabethtown;
Wayne Spivey, Harrodsburg;
Dan Summerlin, Paducah.

Shine Like Stars * Philippians 2:15

Western Recorder is published weekly 48 weeks a year by Western Recorder Inc., an agency of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, Box 43969, Louisville, KY 40253. It will not be published the first week of January, the week of Independence Day or the week of Christmas. Periodicals postage paid at Louisville, Ky. (USPS 679-380)

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

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

To subscribe: Send \$15 for a one-year, individual subscription or visit our Website and subscribe to our Electronic-Only edition at \$10 per year. Group subscriptions (church budget plan) are \$10 per year.

WesternRecorder.org



Scan this QR code with your smartphone to subscribe to Western Recorder.

Praying for "My Hope" with Billy Graham

By Elaine Helms

Thousands of SBC churches have now joined "My Hope America with Billy Graham" as a primary evangelistic strategy this fall. These churches' enthusiasm is contagious. In all, more than 20,500 pastors from many evangelical church groups have committed to mobilize their church members for relationship evangelism over the next 60 days.

Nov. 7, Graham's 95th birthday, he will present the gospel via television and will make it available via DVD, live streaming and online downloading.

My Hope is based on the biblical example of Matthew the tax collector. After he met Jesus, Matthew threw a party so his co-workers and friends could meet Jesus (Matthew 9:9-10).

Through My Hope, Christians across the United States are asked to be "Matthews." Between now and Nov. 7, we are asked to deepen our relationships with friends, neighbors and coworkers who don't know Jesus, and to commit to pray daily for each person on that list during the same time frame.

In November, participants will invite friends and family to their homes to watch the specially prepared My Hope programs, hear Christian testimony and receive an invitation to follow Jesus. It's relationship evangelism on a massive scale.

The first program created for My Hope is Defining Moments, which clearly presents the gospel. Already, many individuals have trusted in Jesus after watching this powerful video. The next video developed is The Cross, and both videos are available at MyHopeWithBillyGraham.org.

There is still time to get involved in My Hope. Sign up today to be a part of this nationwide movement at the above website. Take part in online training or take a look at the schedule of preparation meetings to find one near you, where you can learn and receive key materials.

Prayer is the foundation on which Graham has always based outreaches. Through prayer, we show our dependence on God's power to transform lives. The following are a few ideas to keep prayer for My Hope fresh

and ongoing.

Tips for churches

- Take a few minutes during Bible study to pray for the people on your Matthew lists (See 1 John 5:14-15).

- Invite the congregation to pray for those on their Matthew lists. Share a Scripture to guide the prayer (Ephesians 4:11-12). Include a testimony about those who have already decided to follow Christ.

- Show Defining Moments to your church. Some pastors are showing it in place of their Sunday morning sermon. New hosts may emerge after seeing it, and some may respond to the evangelistic invitation.

- Encourage small groups to meet weekly to pray that My Hope will be used by God to revive His people and expand His kingdom (See Colossians 4:2-4).

- Hold a church-wide prayer rally to encourage members to keep praying. Share praise stories of those who have come to know Christ or relationships that are being built (See Psalm 105:1, Galatians 6:9).

- Invite area churches to come together for a community prayer rally near the end of October, stirring enthusiasm and encouragement as Nov. 7 nears.

Tips for individuals

- Invite Christians to pray with you for your neighbors, co-workers and classmates. Gather in your home, workplace or school, or prayerwalk your neighborhood (See Matthew 18:19-20, 2 Peter 3:9).

- Pray that God will open your eyes to see your neighbors, family and friends as He sees them (See Matthew 20:34, Romans 2:4, 2 Corinthians 4:3-4, 2 Timothy 2:25-26).

- Ask God to give you sensitivity to the opportunities He provides for you to get to know the people for whom you are praying (See John 16:13).

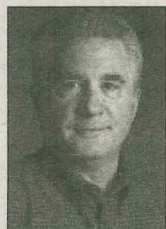
- Pray biblically and for boldness to build relationships and plan your Matthew party (See Luke 14:23).

- God is glorified when He does those things that only He can do. Pray big and expect great things (see Jeremiah 32:27, Matthew 19:26, Luke 1:37, Acts 4: 29-31, Ephesians 3:20). (BP)

Elaine Helms is now the prayer coordinator for My Hope America with Billy Graham and the director of ChurchPrayerMinistries.org.

FIRST PERSON

First Person



Erich Bridges

An American executive working for a major automobile company in Asia is just hitting his stride: top salary, big results, great industry contacts.

But it's not enough. He wants more than anything to tell the people around him—many of whom have never heard the gospel—about the joy and hope he experiences in knowing Christ.

What should he do? Quit his job and go into mission work? Maybe. On the other hand, maybe he's ideally positioned to do mission work. Maybe that's why God nudged his company to send him to Asia.

"I had to bite my lip a few times when I was talking to him," admits Scott Holste, IMB vice president for global strategic mobilization, who encountered the executive during a trip to Asia. "My gut reaction was to say, 'It sounds like God is calling you to be a missionary,' because that is so much a part of our thinking."

Indeed, God still calls people to be missionaries every day. But in a complex, economically interconnected world where thousands of Americans live and work in places missionaries can't access, there are other possibilities. He can use all kinds of folks to accomplish His purposes.

"God may indeed be calling you out of a vocation as an engineer, for example,

and calling you into full-time missions," Holste says. "But He may be wanting to build on the fact that you are an engineer—that you have the skill set, the

problem-solving ability and the creativity to bring to the task of expanding the Kingdom of God."

Holste is heading up an effort to encourage and equip "marketplace professionals": business people, teachers, medical workers, artists, students pursuing degrees abroad and others already working overseas or open to the possibility. The marketplace is the world. Countless American Christians already practicing their vocations have the professional skills the world wants—and the hope the world needs.

More than one-third of the world's nations impose "high or very high" restrictions on religious activity, including mission work, according to the Pew Research Center, which tracks such restrictions in 197 countries. About 75 percent of the world's approximately 7 billion people live in those nations. The trend toward increasing restrictions, even in supposedly democratic countries, appears to be accelerating, Pew reports.

But God, the ultimate Creator, is endlessly creative. Governments, cultures and borders may prevent certain types of traditional mission work, but they cannot stop the spread of the gospel. Church

history has demonstrated that again and again, when merchants, teachers, artists, explorers, even slaves, have taken the Good News with them along the globe's trade routes—they transform the places and peoples they met along the way.

There are other spiritual principles here. Work is holy, beginning with God's own labor: "The heavens are telling of the glory of God; and their expanse is declaring the work of His hands" (Psalm 19:1, NASB). Work done unto God glorifies Him. And work and mission need not be separate; they can be an integrated whole. We often forget that in our fragmented, hyper-compartmentalized lives.

Johann Sebastian Bach provides one of the most inspiring examples of integrating work, worship and mission. Bach was a towering creative genius, but he also was a working musician. Many of his hundreds of works were composed for the regular worship services in the German churches he served. Perhaps it felt like a grind at times, even for the great master. But every note he wrote was dedicated to God.

"In a simple way, such consecration is seen in Bach's own hand," Southern Baptist theologian Jason Duesing wrote in a column on Baptist Press. "As he started each composition, he would mark 'J.J.' at the top of each page as an abbreviation for Jesu Juva or 'Help me, Jesus.' Once he completed the work, Bach routinely concluded with the initials 'S.D.G.'"

Mature vs immature faith

By Scott Wigginton

Q: How can I help my teenager understand the difference between an immature and a mature love for God?



A: Almost 900 years ago in France, there lived a monk named Bernard of Clairvaux whose writings have had a profound in many lives. Martin Luther called him "the best monk who ever lived." In perhaps his most classic writing, "The Love of God," Bernard pres-

ents what he calls "Four Degrees of Love," which have become a classic model for spiritual development in Christlikeness.

The first stage of love he calls "loving oneself for one's own sake." This is simply a selfish love, akin to a baby, that is all about oneself. Like a baby, this person wants what will make them feel good without regard for God or anyone else. This carnal love is self-indulgent and given to the desires of the flesh.

The second stage of love Bernard calls "loving God for one's own sake." It is here that the believer is dependent on God and loves Him because of the blessings He gives. While one may give thanks to the Lord, it is because "He is good to me."

The third stage of love he calls "loving God for God's sake." Here the believer "tastes and sees that the Lord is good" (Psalm 34:8). We love God for who He is and the love from the believer ceases to be about selfish desires. This type of love always results in deeds done from a pure heart.

The fourth stage of love Bernard calls "loving oneself for God's sake." This might be called a self-forgetful degree of love, in that self-preoccupation is swallowed up in a desire that "Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven" (Matthew 6:10). Just as the air becomes so radiant with the light of the sun that it appears to be the sunlight itself, so the believer becomes caught up in the will and desires of God Himself.

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

Work and mission meld together in today's interconnected world

By Erich Bridges

representing Soli Deo Gloria or "To God alone, the glory."

When God gives you unique gifts and a particular vocation, they're not intended for your glory, but for His. Could He use those gifts among the nations? Maybe you're already living abroad, like the auto executive in Asia. If you're a student, perhaps you see yourself working for an international company one day.

If you'd like to explore possibilities and network with others seeking to fit their vocation into God's global work, there's a global gathering place for you: Skybridge Community. The online network, which launched Sept. 26, offers a range of tools, resources and ways to connect with likeminded professionals. Check it out at www.skybridgecommunity.com. Among other tools, SkyBridge Community features: "SkyCafes," where you can start a conversation with other marketplace professionals living in your country or region, or with whom you share a vocation or interest; "SkyBlogs," blogs tailored to specific interests from career transition to culture; and "Right-Now Media," which includes thousands of videos to help you live your faith in the marketplace where God has placed you.

The world is God's creative workplace. Make it yours. (BP)

Erich Bridges is the International Mission Board's global correspondent.

World hunger offering conveys church's 'hope'

By Tess Rivers

Richmond, Va.—IMB President Tom Elliff rarely is surprised. But one pastor has managed to surprise him not once, but three times.

In September, Michael Catt, senior pastor of Sherwood Baptist Church, the Georgia church known for producing the films "Courageous," "Facing the Giants" and "Fireproof," presented a check for \$100,000 to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions at IMB's annual staff retreat.

"We were totally surprised three years ago when Sherwood presented a \$100,000 check," Elliff said. "We invited them back, never thinking they would give us another \$100,000 gift."

Then, Elliff learned that the gifts are part of Sherwood's 10-year commitment to give \$1 million to international missions, above and beyond their annual missions offering. As a result, Elliff wasn't as surprised when Catt presented a third check for \$100,000 at this year's retreat.

Instead, the surprise came in the form of a \$17,000 check to Global Hunger Relief, formerly the World Hunger Fund.

In light of everything the church already is doing to support missions, Elliff said Sherwood's gift to world hunger is "indicative of the truth that you can't 'outgive' the Lord," Elliff said.

Ministering in one of the poorest cities in the nation according to financial analysts, Catt understands the scope of human need. The pastor sees it every day in the faces of his community, where the



IMB President Tom Elliff (right) reflects his surprise and gratitude for a \$17,000 check for Global Hunger Relief from pastor Michael Catt of Sherwood Baptist Church in Albany, Ga. (IMB/Will Stuart)

church has established a number of ministries, including a sports park, a school, a pregnancy center and a counseling center. Rather than feeling overwhelmed by the scope of human need locally, gratitude spurs Catt's vision "to touch the world from Albany, Ga."

Although Sherwood designates 5 percent of its annual missions gifts to world hunger, this gift was the result of a special offering during a live concert in September, Catt explained. As part of the concert, the church released its latest CD project, "Jesus, Hope of the World," featuring the church choir and produced by Sherwood worship pastor Mark Willard.

For Elliff, Sherwood's gift is significant because "world hunger is on their

radar," he said, adding that every Southern Baptist church should work to meet this ongoing need.

"World hunger is a reality, and it is an open door through which we can minister the gospel," Elliff said.

Noting that 100 percent of gifts to Global Hunger Relief are used to feed hungry people around the world, Elliff said the opportunity to link hungry, hurting people to long-term relationships with Southern Baptist workers is significant.

"Other organizations go in, meet the need ... and go out," Elliff said. "We realize that we can meet the need for a few days, but unless there is a heart change, we haven't really helped anyone." (IMB/BP)

Baptists offer prayers, support after tragic church bus crash

Statesville, N.C.—Baptists are offering prayers and support for the families and friends of six church members and two others who lost their lives in a tragic church bus crash Oct. 2.

Tim Stutts, pastor of Front Street Baptist Church in Statesville, N.C., spoke with the media Oct. 3. Stutts said the tight-knit congregation will seek God's direction in moving forward after the horrific accident that also left at least a dozen people hospitalized.



Tim Stutts

"Sometimes when we enter into situations like this, people like to ask questions—'Where is God in this?'" Stutts said. "I can tell you firsthand, over the last 24 hours I have seen the hand of God."

The crash happened as a group of 18 Front Street senior adults was headed home after attending a conference in Gatlinburg, Tenn. A blown-out front tire caused the bus to cross the median into the other lane and collide with a sport utility vehicle and an 18-wheeler before overturning.

Volunteers with North Carolina Baptist Men are working closely with Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief to assist with the needs of family members and friends impacted by the tragedy. (BP)

FORWARD

TO WHAT LIES AHEAD

Philippians 3:13-14

Bring Your Family to the 176th KBC Annual Meeting



KENTUCKY BAPTIST CONVENTION

Additional costs related to child care provided by Kentucky Baptists' gifts through the Cooperative Program.



Child Care for

Children Ages 8 Weeks to 5th Grade

Child care will be available during the Kentucky Baptist Pastors' Conference, Kentucky Baptist Convention Annual Meeting and the Ministers' Wives Luncheon, Nov. 11-12 at Lone Oak First Baptist Church, Paducah.

Child care is FREE for the Nov. 12 Ministers' Wives Luncheon and must be requested at time of event registration at www.kybaptist.org/ministerswives. Let us know if your child has special needs.

Please note: Child care for the Pastors' Conference and Annual Meeting is \$10 per child per day or a maximum of \$25 per family per day. Advanced registration required. Deadline is noon, EST, Nov. 4.

Register online at

www.kybaptist.org/annualmeeting

or by calling 1-866-489-3390 (toll-free in KY) or (502) 489-3390.

Children must be picked up at meal times. If your child has special needs, please let us know when you call.

NEWS BRIEFS

LifeWay opening 17 new stores

LifeWay Christian Stores is opening 17 new stores in seven states—the result of acquiring Berean Christian Stores with locations primarily in California, Arizona and the Midwest. Thom Rainer, president of LifeWay Christian Resources, said the acquisition is a tremendous opportunity to serve more customers in new communities. By the end of October, LifeWay will operate 186 stores in 28 states.

Pakistan quake, call for prayer

A powerful earthquake in a remote area of southwestern Pakistan has destroyed 80 percent of the homes and destroyed roads that would carry relief supplies. Southern Baptist humanitarian workers are requesting prayer for families in the devastated area. “The earthquake was in a very remote and difficult to access area of Pakistan,” said Francis Horton, who directs work for Baptist Global Response in Central and South Asia. “The Pakistan army is leading response efforts and has sent several trucks of shelter and food supplies to the area. We are in contact with partners on the ground about potential ways to respond.” The Sept. 24 quake killed at least 327 people as thousands of mud homes collapsed. The epicenter of the 7.7 magnitude quake was located in the impoverished Baluchistan province, which borders Iran and Afghanistan.

Child safety is backgroundchecks.com aim

By Aaron Earls

Nashville, Tenn.—The man serving snow cones at your Vacation Bible School is a convicted sex offender. That was the news Bill Jones had to deliver to one of the pastors in his association.

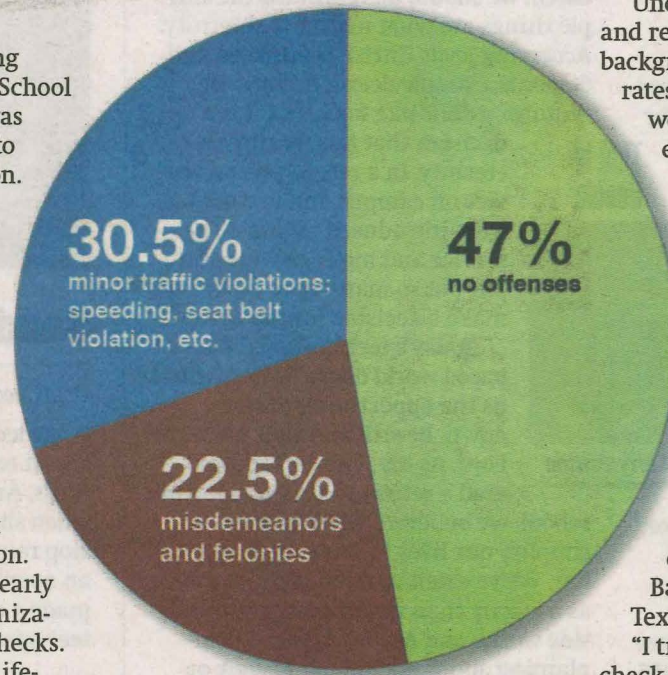
The pastor came to Jones after learning a volunteer, who had been a “model church member” for two years, may have had a criminal record.

“(The pastor) asked if I would do a background search, as I often do for our smaller churches that cannot afford it themselves,” said Jones, executive director of the Neches River Baptist Association in Crockett, Texas. The report did confirm a sex offense conviction.

That Texas church was one of nearly 5,000 churches and religious organizations that have used backgroundchecks.com through a relationship with LifeWay Christian Resources over the past five years. During that time, more than 84,500 background checks were run through the program.

Of those background investigations, 53 percent (44,946) returned some type of issue, ranging from minor traffic violations to felony convictions, according to Jennie Taylor, a LifeWay coordinator who manages backgroundchecks.com. Not all of the issues required any action, but more than 22.5 percent (19,202) of the screenings returned records with misdemeanor or felony offenses.

The Texas church now understands the importance of running background



checks ahead of time, Jones said.

“They now have a policy that everyone who works in (children and youth) areas will have a current background check on file,” he said.

The Monongahela Baptist Association in West Virginia also uses the service to run background checks on all volunteers for their children and youth camps.

“It’s a way to help keep kids safe,” association administrative assistant Jerilyn Smith said. “We want to assure parents that we are doing all we can to protect their children from those who would want to harm them.”

Under the LifeWay program, churches and religious organizations can use the background check service at discounted rates to screen children’s ministry workers, camp counselors, bus drivers and other volunteers and staff.

“Leaders from churches and organizations who use LifeWay’s background checks service say protecting those God has placed under their care is paramount,” Taylor said.

Backgroundchecks.com has “an extensive collection of public record sources,” including over 450 million records in its database and also gives easy to read reports, Taylor said.

Having access to a national database was important for First Baptist Church of Brownsville, Texas.

“I tried using another background check website and they only searched through Texas,” while backgroundchecks.com checks records from all 50 states, said Heather Smith, office assistant at First Baptist.

Jones encourages all churches to run background checks and “have policies in effect on how those checks can be used in a redemptive manner for those that come back with a criminal past.” (LifeWay/BP)

For more, visit LifeWay.com/backgroundchecks or call (800) 464-2799. For additional resources to help churches avoid the devastating effects of sexual abuse and other moral failures by staff members or volunteers, visit sbc.net/localchurches/ministryhelp.asp and sbclife.net/pdf/ProtectingOurChildren.pdf.

Now a
FREE Event!**LOVE LETTERS**

A SPECIAL LUNCHEON FOR WIVES OF KENTUCKY BAPTIST MINISTERS

Tuesday, November 12, 2013 • Lone Oak First Baptist Church, Paducah

Sponsored by the Kentucky Baptist Convention and the North American Mission Board

Luncheon will be held between AM and PM sessions of the KBC Annual Meeting. Event is free but registration required at www.kybaptist.org/ministerswives
Child care provided • Space is limited

Hear the powerful testimony of **Kathy Ferguson Litton**, national director of NAME’s ministry to pastors’ wives.



A simple life

Rural setting, routines promote appreciation for a quiet life

I am always amazed at how the Lord brings certain people into our lives for certain purposes.

About five years ago, the Lord brought a young man into our family's path. Dylan was an autistic young man who lived next door to us. It took Dylan a year to warm up to us, but once he did, he literally became part of the family.

Dylan had a brilliant mind, and his sports trivia knowledge was mind-boggling. After spending some time with Dylan, I stopped using Google and simply asked him. In one three-minute display of sports trivia knowledge, I saw Dylan rattle off every baseball world series champion, who they defeated, and how many games the series went from 1955 to 2013.

I love baseball, but I couldn't come close to recalling those categories the way Dylan did. I learned so much from him. He loved life and didn't concern himself with the burdens of the world. I can't wait for Dylan to visit our school one day. I believe he will enjoy the simplicity of life here.

Life at Oneida simplifies so much for our students. Due to our remote geographical location, our students aren't distracted by some of the things the world has to offer. One of my wife's friends was blown away when she heard the nearest Target would be a couple of hours away from our new home.

Our days are simple, yet filled with the basic tenets of life. Meals, school, work and time with friends are some of those basic routines. As we all move toward the end of our time on this

earth, we should be reminded the simple things are what matter for eternity. Accepting Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior is a simple decision that only requires a childlike faith, but it is a decision that matters for all eternity. In a recent revival service on campus, many students were introduced to Jesus. The service and message were simple, but so many were moved to make a decision for the Lord.

Today's technological fast-paced world doesn't often afford us the opportunity to slow down, be still and wait upon the Lord. As my wife and I considered a return to this wonderful school, we believed being here would simplify our lives in some ways and it has. We've eaten more meals together as a family than we ever did in the outside world, and Angie sure isn't complaining about not having to cook or clean up after most of those meals since we often eat in our cafeteria.

I have been amazed to see the number of Oneida faculty and staff who have returned here for a second or third tenure in this ministry. I have also been amazed at the number of phone calls and emails I have received from former students and staff members who wish to return to Oneida.

I am a simple person and I enjoy the simple things in life. Oneida is a wonderful, yet profoundly simple place and school. Dylan taught me so much, and I hope to pass what I've learned from him on to the people of Oneida Baptist Institute.

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

Goodbye retirees

Familiar faces follow God's call to other ministries

Our campus was different this year as we started the fall semester. We have been used to seeing the same, familiar faculty and staff faces around here for several years when each semester started. But this year some of those familiar faces have either retired or transitioned to other ministry roles. They will be missed.

Bill and Martha McGibney retired from Clear Creek this year after 11 years of distinguished service in their ministry roles. They both served as assistant professors of church music. The couple reside in Owenton where they are active in ministry through their home church and association.

Also retiring this year was Richard Bartels who served as director of Christian service and assistant professor of pastoral ministries. Known for his a high degree of professionalism, Bartels held this position for seven years. Now, he is chaplain of Servolution Ministries at Pump Springs Baptist Church, a volunteer in the local school system, and planning a mission trip to El Salvador in the spring. He and his wife,

Carmela, reside in Pineville.

Billy Howell resigned as director of admissions in August to accept a call as pastor of West Corbin Baptist Church in Corbin. Howell served Clear Creek with distinction for 10 years, and during his tenure more than 641 students were enrolled for classes. He and his wife, Patty, and two of their daughters, Brooke and Catlin, reside in Corbin. Their oldest daughter, Ashley, is attending North Greenville College in Greenville, S.C.

Each of these fine people followed God's call to serve at Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, just like our students follow the call to come here and study. This was not a job to them; it was the ministry that God had called them to serve at His appointed time.

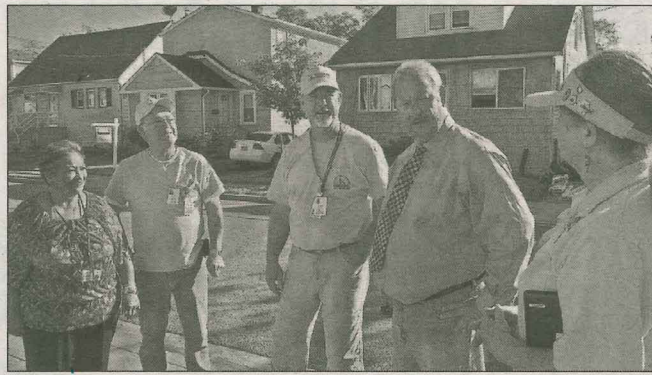
We will be forever grateful to these individuals and their families for the impact they have had on kingdom work as they served the Lord with us.

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



Freeport resident Paula Hinton (far left) stops to thank SBDR volunteers from North Carolina for their help during the rebuild. Hinton received help in November from Kentucky Baptists who worked on her flooded home for six days. "I saw the yellow shirts and remembered the blessings of the Kentucky team," she said. (NAMB/Laura Sikes)

Sandy volunteers

Continued from page 1

returned to the house months later and began repairs, gutting the mold-infested walls. An April storm brought panic when she and her daughter struggled to stop rainwater from pouring in through an opening on the side of the house. She made a call to a local Long Island volunteer agency, but no one was available.

'We can help'

"Then Tom and Bill walked up," said Phillips. "They were in their yellow hats and yellow shirts. I looked up and asked them, 'Can I help you?' Bill said, 'No, but I think we can help you.'"

Sandy Rebuild project coordinator Bill Johnson, from Grayson, Ky., and Tom Vannoy, Long Island coordinator, from Wilkes County, N.C., had taken the agency's referral. Soon the two were taping up the side of the house in the rain with garbage bags and duct tape that Phillips was using. They returned the next day with a tarp and sealed the hole.

Since then many SBDR teams have come to help Phillips. They have redone the basement and first floor hanging drywall, painting and even planting flowers outside. In September, a Sandy Rebuild team from Biltmore Baptist Church in Asheville, N.C., installed a new vinyl floor in the basement. The team served with SBDR volunteers from Kentucky, Illinois and South Carolina.

Phillips said teams prayed with her on every visit. Each group signs a Bible given by one of the first teams that served her. "One group formed a huge prayer circle. It was fantastic. It was such a large circle even they were amazed at it. They just sent me so many ministers along the way and they always made sure that I was okay," she said.

Randy Corn, SBDR volunteer emotional and spiritual care coordinator for Long Island and Staten Island, visited with Phillips. He regularly spends time with homeowners and neighbors where SBDR teams work.

"While our volunteers and team members share the gospel as they have

opportunities, Randy does follow up. He has time to be more deliberate in sharing the gospel," said Mickey Caison, NAMB Disaster Relief team leader and overall director for Sandy Rebuild. "In that process he's not only having that opportunity but he's seeing the fruits."

Letting Jesus in

Freeport homeowner John McElroy says he was impressed with the SBDR teams who built wheel-chair assessable ramps for him. He said they always took time listen to him. Crews came from First Baptist Church of Somerset, Ky., Parkway Baptist Church in Bardstown, Ky., West Albemarle Baptist Church in North Carolina and First Baptist Church of Woodbridge, Va.

"They were so intent on listening to whatever I had to say," he said.

Sandy's storm surge flooded McElroy's home and destroyed his ramps. The former diesel mechanic was an active surfer and scuba diver. He was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1998. He and his wife, Lynette, have lived in Freeport for 15 years. The couple returned to their home 52 days after the storm struck.

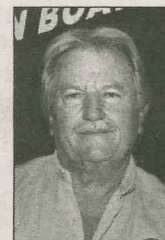
The witness of a 14-year-old volunteer named Bradley from West Albemarle Baptist Church in North Carolina changed his life forever, McElroy said. While the two were cleaning a rope that hung on the ramp railing, Bradley stopped to make the comparison of the dirty rope to sin.

"When we are full of sin we are dirty like the rope. When we confess our sins we are clean again like this part (of the rope) that I just rinsed off," Bradley said.

McElroy said that he was aware of Jesus his entire life and believed Jesus was always with him. "But that day between Bradley and the rope and giving a goodbye hug to the volunteers and driving out, once I turned the corner a couple of blocks up I had to pull over," said McElroy.

McElroy said he was overcome with joy. At that moment he understood what the month-long experience with the volunteers had been all about.

"The result of the Baptists being here—building the ramp—allowed my soul to just open up and let Jesus in," said McElroy. "I've been telling my story to whoever is willing to listen. That's my job now." (NAMB)



Bill Johnson

YOUR PRIORITY IS MINISTRY... OURS IS GETTING YOU THERE



THEBUSCENTER.COM

Search our Huge Inventory of New & Used Buses

- Nationwide Delivery
- Online Pricing
- Onsite Bus Graphics
- Quick & Easy Leasing or Financing

800-322-4024

KENTUCKY'S PREMIER BUS DEALER
A DIVISION OF MID-SOUTH BUS CENTER

SBC meets Cooperative Program budget goal; trails 2012 totals

Nashville, Tenn.—The Southern Baptist Convention met its Cooperative Program budgeted goal of \$188 million, but ended its fiscal year 1.92 percent below last year's contributions, SBC Executive Committee president Frank Page announced.

"The federal government may be facing a shut-down," Page said, "but Southern Baptist missions and ministries are open for business."

The SBC received \$188,001,275 in CP gifts during the fiscal year Oct. 1, 2012-Sept. 30, 2013, or \$3,677,718 less than the \$191,678,994 received the previous fiscal year. This year's giving was 0.00068 percent above the budgeted goal of \$188,000,000.

"When we projected this year's CP allocation budget, we anticipated that churches would recover from the global economic crisis more slowly than the general economy, something researchers have observed from past recessions," Page said. "Knowing that, we felt it prudent to budget accordingly."

The CP is Southern Baptists' channel of giving through which a local church can contribute to the ministries of its

state convention and the missions and ministries of the SBC with a single monthly or weekly contribution. Monies include receipts from individuals, churches, state conventions and fellowships for distribution according to the 2012-13 CP Allocation Budget.

The SBC-adopted budget was distributed as follows: 50.2 percent to international missions through the International Mission Board, 22.79 percent to North American missions through the North American Mission Board, 22.16 percent to theological education, 3.2 percent to the SBC operating budget and 1.65 percent to the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission.

In the 2013-2014 budget year, which began Oct. 1, IMB's percentage increased to 50.41 percent, while the SBC operating budget decreased to 2.99 percent. Other allocations remained the same.

"It will take confidence in our ministries and personal sacrifice to reach and surpass our 2013-2014 budget goal for impacting our world and our nation with the gospel," Page said. "I am confident on both counts." (BP)

A unique treasure

The University of the Cumberlands fosters 'search for truth'

Located near the Cumberland River, Cumberland Falls and the Cumberland Gap, nestled in the Kentucky mountains and located on four hills in the city of Williamsburg is the University of the Cumberlands. The green, manicured campus is spacious and pastoral. The buildings are a blend of Antebellum, Edwardian and historic Williamsburg architecture. It is unsurpassed with steeples sweeping up to the glory of God.

In its 125th year, and under the leadership of James Taylor in his 34th year as president, the university remains true to its founding purpose: "To provide a first class education at rates that are compatible with the means of mountain people."

Although historically it has served students primarily from the mountain regions of the nine states described as Appalachia, its impact can be seen in the achievements of its graduates who have assumed leadership roles throughout the region, the nation and the world. Cumberland has produced two governors, five military generals, an admiral, five college and university presidents, a congressman, ministers, missionaries, legislators, judges, teachers, doctors, attorneys and the list goes on and on.

In the belief that freedom is the

result of respect for truth and concern for humanity, the university, through its traditional liberal arts program, attempts to foster in its students a heightened awareness to the search for truth and a deepened responsibility toward mankind. It seeks to graduate men and women with Christian values derived from spiritual and intellectual experiences within the university community, as well as from the academic disciplines. It offers 40 different majors, minors and pre-professional programs, as well as a leadership/community service program. The staff/faculty ratio is 16:1, and 70 percent of its experienced faculty have earned the highest degree in their fields.

Kentucky Baptist Foundation is honored to serve as the fiduciary of endowment and trust funds, which have been given by people who believe in the mission of this unique treasure. The earnings from these funds will provide financial sustenance in perpetuity to ensure the future of its mission.

You also can impact the world for Christ by investing in the future of this university with a legacy gift. Call Laurie Valentine or me about some options worthy of your consideration.

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

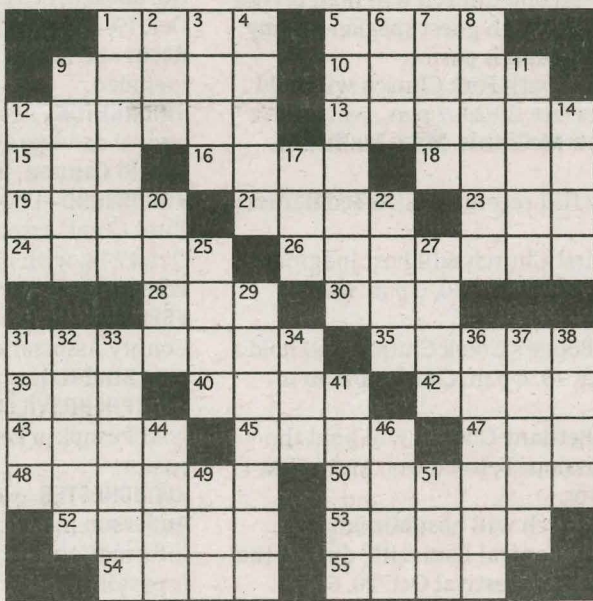


Barry Allen

Bible Crosswords

Across

- 1 They give a hoot
- 5 Smite, modern style
- 9 Time of personal testing
- 10 "Every kind of beasts ... hath been ____ of mankind" (James 3:7)
- 12 Rio ____
- 13 Officer of David who "was over the tribute" (2 Samuel 20:24)
- 15 Cereal grain
- 16 "He cannot ____ himself" (2 Timothy 2:13)
- 18 Trigonometric ratio
- 19 Healing plant
- 21 Put two and two together
- 23 Middle-school subject
- 24 Egg size
- 26 One who grinds his teeth
- 28 "Stand in the ____ before me" (Ezekiel 22:30)
- 30 Cotton ____
- 31 God ____ those who honestly seek Him
- 35 Earl, for one
- 39 Ancient Scandinavian war horn
- 40 ____ de France
- 42 Dandelion, for one
- 43 To be (Fr.)
- 45 "I will ... that men ____ every where, lifting up holy hands" (1 Timothy 2:8)
- 47 One beguiled by the serpent
- 48 Scoundrel (colloq.)
- 50 "Looking up to ____ he blessed them" (Luke 9:16)
- 52 Garden or grass, for example
- 53 Amend



#177

- 54 What club coffers contain
- 55 Lunch orders (abbr.)

Down

- 1 "The Lord ... doth take away from Jerusalem ... the eloquent ____" (Isaiah 3:1, 3)
- 2 "I count all things but loss ... that I may ____ Christ" (Philippians 3:8)
- 3 Actor Alan
- 4 "Now I lay me down to ____"
- 5 ____ power
- 6 Young boy
- 7 Minor prophet
- 8 "____ the thought"
- 9 Singing syllables
- 11 "Praise him with the timbrel and ____" (Psalm 150:4)
- 12 Paul's was the high calling of God in Jesus Christ
- 14 Gütsy Golda
- 17 What husbands don't want wives to do
- 20 Served shirred, perhaps
- 22 "The Lord God had not caused it to ____ upon the earth" (Genesis 2:5)
- 25 Whence the wise men came
- 27 ____ on-the-mountain
- 29 "Thou must prophesy again before many ____" (Revelation 10:11)
- 31 Played certain instruments
- 32 Old stringed instruments
- 33 Task to do
- 34 French preposition
- 36 "And levy a tribute unto the Lord ... both of the persons, and of the ____" (Numbers 31:28)
- 37 Bar used to pry
- 38 "All the trees of ____ the choice and best of Lebanon" (Ezekiel 31:16)
- 41 "They ... came into an harlot's house, named ____" (Joshua 2:1)
- 44 Firstborn of Isaac and Rebekah
- 46 Make oneself heard
- 49 Make ends meet, with "out"
- 51 Memo abbr.



#176

'Why here? Why now?'

God entrusting international students to Kentucky Baptists

I visited with Main Street Baptist Church in Williamsburg this September to participate in their state missions emphasis. A parade of flags from the 33 countries currently represented by students enrolled at the University of the Cumberlands helped us to focus on the role of the Eliza Broadus Offering in ministry with international students. Main Street Church is reaching out to these international students in various ways and seeking to make them feel welcome.

Through the parade of flags, we had a visual reminder of the international students in our midst. I ask you, what other than the hand of God would bring students from all over the world to Kentucky at this time? Yes, we have wonderful schools that are first class institutions of higher learning, but how do international students find us? Why here? Why now?

The answer is that God is bringing these students to us and entrusting them to Kentucky Baptists. The soil of their lives is good soil. They are the cream of the crop in their home countries. They are at a time in their lives of learning and exposure to new things.

Yet, it also is a scary time. They are in an unfamiliar place, missing foods from their home countries, away from family and friends, and having to do everything in English, which is a difficult language for many.

It is exciting to know that we minister to students from all over the world at every campus in Kentucky through Baptist Campus Ministry and our campus missionaries. Through these ministries we have the opportunity to befriend international students, welcome them and help them adjust. In the process, we have some great opportunities to share the gospel.

Thank you, Kentucky Baptists, for your part in this ministry. Your prayers and gifts through the Eliza Broadus Offering help to make our ministries to international students

possible, including the upcoming Engage event in November. Engage is a BCM event designed to enhance our connections with international students. It is both a cultural experience celebrating the presence of internationals on our campuses and an opportunity to share Jesus.

Please pray for the good soil of receptive hearts among these students and that Engage participants this coming November will understand the gospel and receive it with joy. Pray that the seeds planted at Engage will yield a hundredfold crop all over the world as students who accept Christ in this country will then bear witness in their home countries.

More than ever, make a difference!

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

EBO at Work



Joy Bolton


KBC
 KENTUCKY BAPTIST CONVENTION
CALENDAR
OF EVENTS
October

- 15 Men's, Women's Choral concert, Parkway Baptist Church, Bardstown.
- 17 Committee on Resolutions, KBC Building, Louisville.
- 19 1:8 Leadership Experience orientation, KBC Building, Louisville.
- 22 Committee on Nomination, KBC Building, Louisville.
- 24 Administrative Committee, KBC Building, Louisville.
- 24 DiscipleShift 1 Conference, Eastside Community Church, Richmond.
- 24 Kentucky WMU Executive Board meeting, KBC Building, Louisville.
- 27 Women's Choral Concert, Hartford Baptist Church, Hartford.

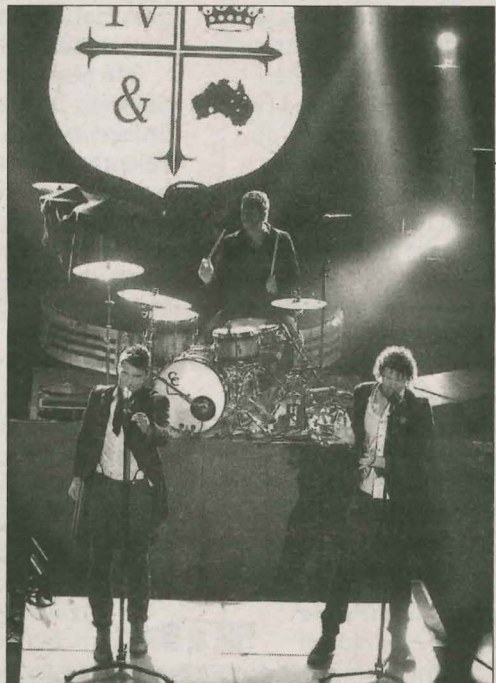
November

- 1 Engage International Conference, unnamed venue, Cave City.
- 2 RISK: Paducah Jail Ministry, Lion County.
- 2 Reaching the Summit Conference, Friendship Baptist Church, Irvine.
- 3 RISK: Paducah Friend Day, unnamed venue, Paducah.
- 7 Wildgame Dinner, Twelve Oaks Baptist Church, Paducah.
- 8 All-State Junior High School Choir Retreat, Eastwood Baptist Church, Bowling Green.

Newsboys draw crowd to First Church, Somerset



The Newsboys were the big ticket draw at a recent concert at First Baptist, Somerset, Sept. 29. The four-member Christian rock band was in Kentucky as part of their Restart Tour. (Photos submitted by Sarah Robinson)



For King and Country, a Christian rock duo from Australia, perform at First Baptist Church, Somerset, Sept. 29, along with the Newsboys, Rapture Ruckus and Campbell.

MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

■ **BEREA**—Galilee Church will hold Fellowship Night Oct. 19, 6 p.m., with **Galilean Singers** in concert. For more information, call (859) 985-0471.

Galilee Church also will hold revival services Oct. 20-25 with guest speaker **Shane Gabbard** and special music.

■ **BRADFORDSVILLE**—Bradfordsville Church will hold revival services Oct. 20-23 with guest speaker **David Simpson**. **John Simpson** is pastor.

■ **CADIZ**—Ponderosa Church will hold revival services Oct. 19-23 with guest speaker **Bobby Reno**. **Norman Cotton** is pastor.

■ **CENTRAL CITY**—First Church will hold revival services Oct. 20-23 with guest speaker **Bill Patterson**. **Bob Lowery** is pastor.

■ **CLINTON**—Moscow Church will hold revival services Oct. 20-23 with guest speaker **Ronnie Stinson**. **Timmy Stinson** is pastor.

■ **FALMOUTH**—Turner Ridge Church will hold a fall festival Oct. 18. **Dale Beighle** is pastor.

■ **FANCY FARM**—Beulah Church will celebrate their 150th anniversary Oct. 20, 10 a.m. A potluck meal will follow worship and musical guest Mitchel Jon will be in concert at 1:30 p.m. For more information, call (270) 623-8493. **Ian Carrico** is pastor.

■ **GLENDAL**—Gilead Church will hold Fall Family Hayride Oct. 20, 5:30 p.m. **Sam Hinkson** is pastor.

■ **GREENVILLE**—Second Church will hold revival services Oct. 20-23 with guest speaker **Jeremy Hatfield**. **Ray England** is pastor.

■ **HUSTONVILLE**—South Fork Church will hold revival services Oct. 20-23, 7 p.m., with guest speaker **Andrew McGinnis**. **Mike Mullins** is pastor.

■ **IRVINE**—Ivory Hill recently called **Ted Barker** as pastor.

■ **LACENTER**—First Church will host Judgment House Oct. 23, 26, 27 and 30, 6 p.m. **Mark Sickling** is pastor.

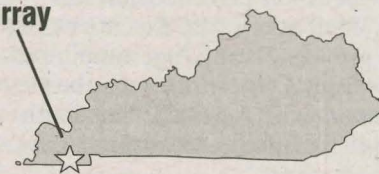
■ **LEXINGTON**—Boone's Creek Church will hold a fall festival Oct. 19, 4 p.m. **Charles Dixon** is pastor.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Bethany Church will hold the 3rd Annual Missions Festival Oct. 19-20. **Ken Vickery** is pastor.

Farmdale Church will host Ministries United of South Central Louisville during the Ninth Annual Choir Festival Oct. 20, 6 p.m.

Spotlight on ...

Murray



First Church will hold Shine Festival Oct. 20, 4:30 p.m. Keith Inman is pastor.

Maple Grove Church will hold a hunter education course Oct. 17-18, 6:30 p.m., and Oct. 19, 9 a.m. **Raymond Hayes** is pastor.

■ **MACKVILLE**—Mackville Church will hold revival services Oct. 20-23 with guest speaker **Calvan Bond**. **Ronald Miller** is pastor.

■ **MAYFIELD**—First Church will host the Graves County Association annual meeting Oct. 18, 9 a.m. **Wes Fowler** is pastor.

Trace Creek Church recently ordained **Dennis Gardner** to the gospel ministry. **Ronnie Stinson** is pastor.

■ **MOUNT STERLING**—Spring Street Church will host the Boone's Creek Association Revival Oct. 21-25, 7 p.m. **John Runyon** is pastor.

■ **MOUNT VERNON**—Northside Church will host the Rockcastle Association annual meeting Oct. 19, 4 p.m., with guest speakers **Vaughn Rasor** and **Adam Greenway**. Dinner will be included.

■ **PRINCETON**—Chapel Hill Church will hold revival services Oct. 20-23 with guest speaker **Gerald Cannon**. **Jeff Boone** is pastor.

■ **RICHMOND**—Pilot Knob Church will host the Bates Creek Association annual fall meeting Oct. 17-18, with guest speakers **Larry David Freeman** and **Greg Lakes**, pastor of Pilot Knob.

■ **SEDALIA**—Sedalia Church will host the Graves County Association annual meeting Oct. 17, 6 p.m. **Brad Hall** is pastor.

■ **SHEPHERDSVILLE**—Mercy Hill Church will hold Pumpkin Fest Oct. 19. **Nathan Young** is pastor.

■ **WINCHESTER**—Central Church will host **Jeff Anderson** in concert Oct. 20, 6 p.m. For more information, call (859) 744-4328. **Travis Drake** is pastor.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR RENT: Two condos in Destin, Fla. Special for remainder of 2013. \$550 week total price. lbrammer@charter.net.

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. jcamedia.com. References available.

SEEKING: Stithton Baptist Church in Radcliff is seeking a full-time/part-time children's ministry director. Formal training and experience are preferred. Email resumes to pastorgc@stithton.org, or mail to Stithton Baptist Church, 95 Park Ave., Radcliff, KY 40160. For more info about Stithton, visit stithton.org. Phone: (270) 351-6055.

SEEKING: Floyd Switch Baptist Church, in Eubank, is accepting applications for a part-time youth minister. Mail resumé to

pastor David Gambrel at 171 Pleasant Point School Road, Waynesville, KY 40489. Or email to floydswitch@yahoo.com. Must be received by Oct. 22.

SEEKING: First Baptist Church of Louisa, a vibrant mission-minded church, is seeking a full-time pastor. Send resumé to Pastor Search Committee, 301 West Pike St., Louisa, KY 41230.

SEEKING: Vine Run Baptist Church, located in rural northern Kentucky, is seeking a pastor. Mail resumé to Vine Run Baptist Church, 8805 Warsaw Road, Dry Ridge, KY 41035.

SEEKING: Corinth Baptist Church in Winchester is prayerfully seeking a music/youth minister to live in our church parsonage. (859) 744-0018.

SEEKING: Wickland Baptist Church in Bardstown is accepting applications for a part-time youth minister. All details may be found at www.wicklandbaptist.org.

SEEKING: New Harmony Missionary Baptist Church in Benton is seeking a part-time children's pastor. Email resúmes to nhmbc@newharmonybaptist.net

or mail to New Harmony Missionary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 627, Benton, KY 42025. Phone: (270) 527-3811.

SEEKING: First Baptist Church of Madisonville is seeking an interim minister of music. If interested, inquire at (270) 821-3611.

SEEKING: First Baptist Church is seeking a senior pastor. Send resumé to cncforjc@gmail.com, or mail to 47 S. Main St., Walton, KY 41094. Include a CD/DVD.

SEEKING: Wickland Baptist Church in Bardstown is seeking a part-time youth minister. Visit wicklandbaptist.org for complete details.

SEEKING: Corinth Baptist Church in Winchester is seeking a minister of music/youth. Parsonage housing provided. (859) 744-0018.

SEEKING: East Louisville church seeking part-time administrative assistant to provide support to office manager. Responsibilities include administrative, financial, clerical and computer tasks. Candidate should have Microsoft Office

To place an advertisement in the Western Recorder:

Rates are available upon request.

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



Claims made by advertisers are not necessarily those of the Western Recorder's staff or directors.

and bookkeeping experience and be available to work 10-20 hours/week during church office hours. Send cover letter, resume and salary requirements to Springdale Presbyterian Church, Personnel Ministry, 7812 Brownsboro Road, Louisville, KY 40241, or email to: springdalepresbyterianchurch@gmail.com.

Southern grad, senior saints birth a church plant

By Tobin Perry

New Orleans—The 16 or so remaining lay members of Lakeview Baptist Church in New Orleans didn't fit the bill of a church planting core team. All senior saints, none younger than 70, they lacked youthful energy, but compensated with experience and vision.

When they met church planter James Welch in 2008, they were still grieving Hurricane Katrina and the loss of their homes, community and what had been their church. The congregation dreamed of one last selfless act that would continue the church's rich legacy long into the future.

"If we want to reach the world, we have to be willing to change," said Phyllis Dixon, a member of Lakeview Baptist since 1960, when she joined with her husband Ed. "Those who aren't willing to change won't go anywhere."

Greiving a dying church

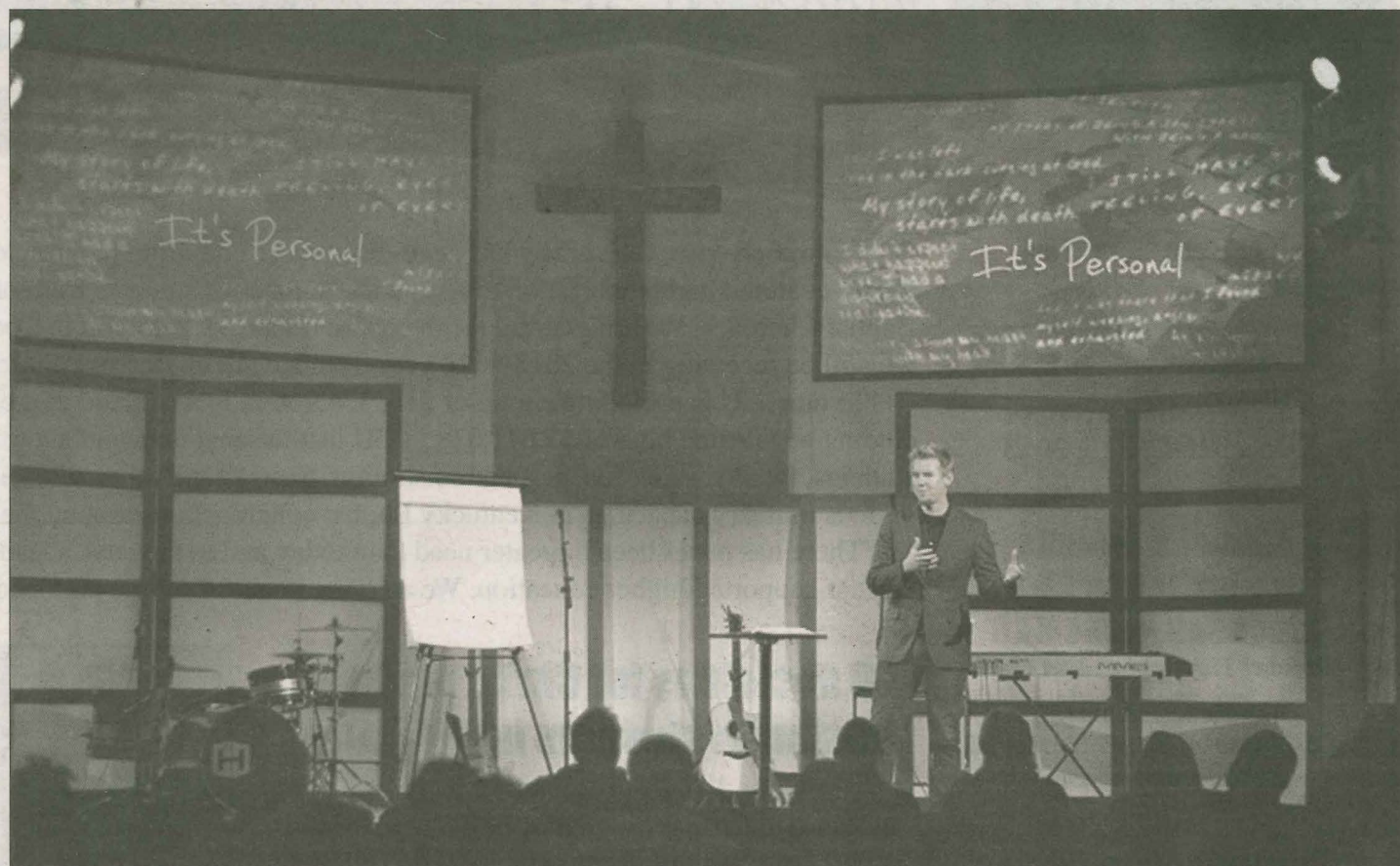
In the coming months these Lakeview members offered Welch—a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville—their church building and merged with the young church he had been forming. To help Lakeview with this grieving process, Welch brought in a grief counselor to walk them through the next stages. Though merging a young church plant with an aging congregation wasn't always easy, Welch said they've tried to do it in a healthy way.

"We gave (the grieving process) about a year just to help Lakeview through it," Welch said. "It's been cool because it gave them a group of young people who love them. Many of them have gone home to be with Jesus, so we got to celebrate with them at their funerals. Some of them, once it was all complete, decided to be a part of churches like they were a part of in the '70s and '80s. And there are four of them who have remained a part of our church and have gotten connected with community groups."

Welch and a core team of leaders launched a new congregation, Harbor Community Church, in 2011. The new church has grown to more than 200 in attendance, most of whom have come to faith in Christ there, Welch said.

Louisville churches help

James and Amy Welch's hearts broke, as did those of many Southern Baptists, as they learned about Hurricane Katrina's damage to New Orleans in August of 2005. After they expressed their intense call by God to help the



Church planter James Welch teaches during a worship service at Harbor Community Church in New Orleans. The graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, started the church in 2010 with a strong desire to share the gospel with people who would likely not visit a traditional church. (Photos courtesy of James Welch)

beleaguered city, Sojourn Community Church and Crossings Community Church, both in Louisville, sent the couple to New Orleans in March 2006.

"We wanted to put our faith in action," Welch said. "We really wanted to be a part of gospel renewal in an area, and New Orleans just seemed like a place where we could practically live out our faith."

For the first few years, Welch simply focused on helping the city get back on its feet, doing everything from cleaning up damaged houses to rebuilding new ones. As the rebuilding work became more specialized, the couple switched gears and started an arts center in the community in partnership with some friends.

Through the arts center Welch continued building relationships with the diverse lot of artists who were returning to the city. As people came to faith in Christ, he formed small groups to help disciple them and continued to dream about starting a church once the city was back on its feet.

About three and a half years after Katrina, Welch realized he needed a physical building to begin consistent



Harbor Community Church volunteers Aaron and Jessica Vicknair and Mandi Wallis (left to far right in "verb" T-shirts), assist at the Duck Derby, an event sponsored by the Second Harvest Food Bank to fight hunger in New Orleans.

worship services. That's when the New Orleans Baptist Association connected Welch with Lakeview. The partnership helped both churches. Lakeview members were able to once again invest their resources into a growing church. Welch and his team received a building and a team of New Orleans tutors.

Churches do more together

"God gave them to us," Welch said. "They coached us a lot in terms of what it means to live in New Orleans. Mr. Wheeler (one of the Lakeview members) knew how every neighborhood had changed in the city, literally, over 85 years—what the demographics were and what the psychographics were."

The Dixons have remained an active part of Harbor throughout the changes. Dixon says she and her husband appreciate that Harbor's younger people have treated them like family and have welcomed and appreciated their involvement. The Dixons have even been "stand-in" grandparents for the Welches children during "Grandparents Day" at school.

"It has been a thrill for my husband and I to see the church grow," Dixon said. "All the young people and the children are there. It has been a great blessing to have joined with them and have them working with us now."

As Harbor Community Church looks toward the future, Welch says the church plans to launch new church plants throughout New Orleans and North America. Giving to missions through the Cooperative Program and being a part of a Southern Baptist network of churches remains an important part of that future.

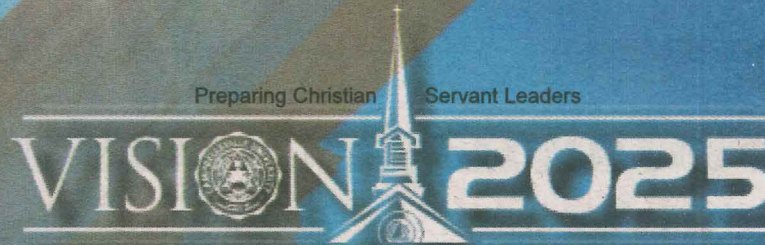
"I would say one reason we're a part of the (Southern Baptist Convention) is because we can do more together than we can alone," Welch said. "By uniting a portion of our individual resources, it allows us to make a big impact. From education to disaster relief, we are able to do things no one congregation could do. At Harbor our mission is to lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ. Partnership with others across the convention allows us to do this around the globe." (NAMB/BP)

James and Amy Welch moved to New Orleans to help with Hurricane Katrina recovery and cleanup and stayed to start a church. The couple considered planting a church in Vancouver, Wash., but after Katrina, they felt the Big Easy would afford gospel renewal in an urban environment. They planted Harbor Community Church in 2010.



Alumni & Friends Park dedication Please join us October 26, 10 a.m.

Main Campus, corner of Broadway and
North Columbia Avenue, Campbellsville, Ky.



President Michael V. Carter

Preview Day, main campus
November 2, 2013

Tiger Round Up Days
November 14-15, 2013

Alumni & Friends are invited to CU's luncheon at the KBC

Tuesday, November 12, at 12:30

For Reservations call
800-264-6014, ext. 5216 or email
pjsmith@campbellsville.edu

Campus was filled throughout season

Campbellsville University enjoyed having over 7,000 campers during the summer from 16 different states and more than 172 churches. In addition there were 42 high school and junior high sports teams.

"Campbellsville University has never been more committed to providing affordable Christ-centered higher education to a growing number of students from our Kentucky Baptist Churches. We are grateful for the approximate \$1.1 million in Cooperative Program dollars that we will be receiving in the 2013-2014 year from Kentucky Baptists churches via the convention.

"In turn, CU is providing a total of \$19,374,966 in financial aid to the Kentucky Baptist students including an all-time high of \$7,611,018 in CU institutional financial aid to these students. In addition, CU students, faculty, staff, coaches, administration, trustees and other advisory group members are serving in various ministry capacities in Kentucky Baptist congregations around the state.

"There has never been a greater need than today and in the days ahead for Christ-centered, Baptist-supported higher education. We are very thankful for the partnership we have." - Dr. Michael V. Carter

40 decisions for Christ made by freshman students in FIRST CLASS

CU freshmen attend "FIRST CLASS" each week in Ransdell Chapel where they have the opportunity to hear the gospel with emphasis on Christian character development and servant leadership. Some 40 decisions for Christ have been made in FIRST CLASS services during fall 2013.



Eric Gilbert, pastor of
3Trees Church among
FIRST CLASS speakers.

24-hour prayer sessions held

This is the second year Dr. Twyla Hernandez, CU assistant professor of Christian Missions, has assigned her Intro to Missiology classes the organization of a 24-hour prayer session in both her main campus and Louisville Education Center classes. She said, "We know that prayer changes things and we pray to bring awareness that there are entire segments of the global population who have yet to hear of Jesus. I feel blessed to lead our students to highlight the needs of people around the globe." She believes God will continue to work in the hearts of CU students and that some of them may actually end up going as missionaries to some of the unreached peoples around the earth, taking them the message of Good News that is only found in Jesus Christ.

354 professions of faith were made at CU between September 2012 and August 2013

CU fall break
mission trips are
nearing -- please
pray for
our students.

SBC leader Dr. Frank Page speaks to students at CU

Dr. Frank S. Page, president and chief executive officer of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, at right below, visits with Ginny Ponsler Flanagan. Dr. Page, chapel guest speaker Sept. 25, was presented the CU Leadership Award for his strong support of the Christian Higher education mission of Campbellsville University.



KBC president Summerlin speaks at CU

The Rev. Dan Summerlin, center, president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention and pastor of Lone Oak First Baptist Church in Paducah, Ky., was guest speaker at the weekly CU chapel service Sept. 11. Pictured above in Ransdell Chapel are, from left in front: Ed Pavy, director of campus ministries, Dr. Michael V. Carter, CU president; Summerlin; Dr. Joseph L. Owens, chairman of the CU Board of Trustees and senior pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church in Lexington; and Dr. Scott Wigginton, professor of pastoral ministries and counseling. In back, from left: the Rev. John Chowning, vice president for church and external relations and executive assistant to the president; the Dr. Mike O'Neal, senior pastor of Campbellsville Baptist Church; Dr. Shane Garrison, assistant professor of educational ministries; and the Rev. Jay Hatfield, director of missions for the Central Baptist Association and member of CU's Church Relations Council. Noting the theme for this year's chapel series, "A Light to the Nations" (Isaiah 49:6), Summerlin told CU students to simply remember God's mandate and go to corners of the earth and reach out for Christ, go and make a difference.

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

Campbellsville
UNIVERSITY



270.789.5000 • 1.800.264.6014 www.campbellsville.edu