

# WESTERN Recorder

November 26, 2013

Shine Like Stars \* Philippians 2:15

Volume 187, Issue 45

## TOTALLY HIS

HEART, HANDS, VOICE

## Kentucky pastors partner to reach Sub-Saharan people group

*Pastor Carlton Binkley of First Baptist Church, Woodlawn, Ill., poses with a street vendor in the West African village he and his church have committed to reach with the gospel. During his trip, Binkley and fellow pastor Kyle Noffsinger traveled through the village, sharing Bible stories with the people they encountered. (Photo courtesy of Carlton Binkley)*



By Laura Fielding

Richmond, Va.—Two friends, both pastors, attended an Embrace conference hosted by the International Mission Board. One felt called to “embrace” a people group in sub-Saharan Africa, the other wasn’t ready to make that commitment.

But God worked on both of their hearts to form a partnership that is having an eternal impact on an

unengaged, unreached people group (UUPG) in Africa.

Kyle Noffsinger of Cadiz Baptist Church and Carlton Binkley of First Baptist Church in Woodlawn, Ill., became friends three years ago when they were pastors of Kentucky churches a few miles apart.

Their former churches—First Baptist Church of Fredonia, where Noffsinger was pastor, and New Bethel Baptist Church of Eddyville, where Binkley

served as a bi-vocational pastor—are part of Caldwell-Lyon Baptist Association. In September 2011, six of the association’s pastors, including Noffsinger and Binkley, attended an IMB Embrace

conference in Marietta, Ga.

Noffsinger and Binkley attended a session about sub-Saharan African people groups led by Daniel and Carol

See Kentucky pastors ... Page 4

WEEK OF PRAYER for INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS DECEMBER 1-8

## Filipino family’s harrowing tale of typhoon survival

By Caroline Anderson

Bangon, Philippines—A Baptist pastor found Jesusa and Michael Booc with their four children in the ruins of a destroyed chapel, sheltered under a table covered by a tarp.

The chapel’s walls were blown off during Typhoon Haiyan and lay in a stack on the side of the battered structure.

The face of the Booc’s one-month-old baby, Ella Mae, was sunburned from prolonged exposure to the element since Friday, Nov. 8, when the typhoon’s furor swept across Cebu and other islands in the Philippines.

The Boocs’ home now sits in a crumpled heap. Nearby, thousands upon thousands of banana trees—the source of income for many villagers—lay crushed. Electricity poles scatter the roadways with their tangle of wires. One house was left completely upside down. Hundreds more were smashed flat or were

See Filipino family ... Page 5



Jesusa Booc cradles her one-month-old baby Ella Mae as she and others in the Filipino village of Bangon recount Typhoon Haiyan’s rampage and ponder the struggle ahead to recover. (IMB)

## Baptists ‘bring help, healing and hope’ to tornadoes victims

By Joe Conway

Washington, Ill.—An approaching tornado interrupted worship at First Baptist Church of Washington, Ill., Nov. 17, leading Pastor Josh Monda to shepherd his congregation to shelter in the basement and ensure all were out of harm’s way.

“We stepped outside, and you could see the updraft pulling into the storm,” said Monda. “We saw the tornado form and began moving through the neighborhood where we knew several of our members live.”

A church member was hospitalized with injuries from the storm. Four homes of members were destroyed and other residences were damaged as the tornado passed approximately one-quarter mile from the church, Monda said.

The Washington church building

See Tornadoes ... Page 5

### No Western Recorder Dec. 3

In keeping with our 2013 publishing schedule, as approved by Western Recorder trustees, there will not be an issue next week.

We will return to our regular schedule Dec. 10.

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Western Recorder 11-26-2013

## Williams named new KBC strategist for mission mobilization

Louisville—Doug Williams, pastor of preaching and teaching at Bullitt Lick Baptist Church in Shepherdsville, has been named as mission-strategist with the Missions Mobilization team of the Kentucky Baptist Convention. He begins Jan. 1.

Williams will focus on challenging and assisting churches to develop a mission strategy to fulfill their Acts 1:8 responsibility, said Eric Allen, leader of Mission Mobilization team. He will also develop national and international partnerships while providing avenues of enlistment, training opportunities and deployment for churches and associations.

"My desire is to continue to invest in future and future generations for global gospel impact," Williams said.

The missions strategist said he envisions "the pastors of congregations equipping the people of the church to make disciples in their homes, neighborhoods, work places, schools and community.

"Disciple-making is for every believer, and pastors are given to prepare the church to carry out God's plan for global impact," he said.

Previously, Williams has served as associate pastor at Calvary Baptist Church in Oak Ridge, Tenn., and pastor of Camp Ground Baptist Church in Somerset.

A graduate of Clear Creek Baptist Theological Seminary, he anticipates receiving a doctorate from Southern in May.

He and his wife, Cathy, have three children, Haley, Hayden and Hudson, and are in the process of adopting a fourth, Holly, from Ethiopia. (KBC)



Doug Williams

## Moore prays for Obama, urges immigration reform



ERLC President Russell Moore (second from right) and other religious leaders meet with President Obama and Vice President Biden Nov. 13 in the Oval Office to discuss immigration reform. (White House photo by Pete Souza)

By Tom Storde

Washington—During a meeting Nov. 13 with religious leaders, President Obama asked Russell Moore, president of the Southern Baptists' Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, to pray for him.

The request was "a joy," Moore said.

"We disagree, sharply, on some very important issues, but the Bible calls on us to pray for our leaders and to show honor where honor is due," Moore said.

The president made the request of Moore during a meeting regarding immigration. Moore and the other seven largely evangelical Christian leaders met with Obama and Vice President Biden to discuss the opportunity to enact legislation soon to reform immigration. Flaws in the system and its enforcement have resulted in an estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants living illegally in the United States.

At the meeting, Moore called for cooperation between the White House and

Congress in the effort.

"My message to the president is that there are many things that divide us as a country, but on this issue we have a remarkable consensus that the system is broken and the government isn't doing its job to keep the border secure, to shore up the economic health of the country, and to keep track of who is and isn't legal here," Moore said.

Obama told the religious leaders, "there is no reason for House Republicans to continue to delay action" on immigration reform, according to a statement released by the White House. GOP action would show the federal government can work together to solve the country's problems, said the president.

On the same day, however, Speaker John Boehner made clear to reporters that the House would not consider broad legislation like that approved by the Senate in June. Nor would it go into negotiations with Senate members in a conference committee to work out legislation

to present to Obama, Boehner said.

Instead, Boehner said, the House will "move on a common sense, step-by-step approach in terms of how we deal with immigration."

So far, two House committees—Judiciary and Homeland Security—have approved a total of five bills. Those bills deal with strengthening border and national security; requiring employers for guest workers; requiring employers to use the E-Verify system to check workers' eligibility; and setting levels for the number of immigrants.

The broad Senate measure needs some repair work, the ERLC has said.

The ERLC and other evangelical organizations have called for reform that would provide border and workplace security; uphold the rule of law; respect family unity; and establish a path to legal status and citizenship to those who want to live in this country permanently and are willing to pay penalties and meet the requirements. (BP)

## Billy Graham gets school's 20-year report from Mohler, Greenway

By Aaron Cline Hanbury

Montreat, N.C.—At the 20-year anniversary of the Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism and Ministry, the famed evangelist received a report from the president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Albert Mohler Jr., and the school's new dean, Adam Greenway.

The Graham School was founded at Southern in 1993.

Mohler said the visit with Graham, Oct. 29 at the evangelist's home in Montreat, N.C., provided the privilege "to affirm the friendship that has existed between him and Southern Seminary for so many decades."

Graham played "such a pivotal role in the establishment of the Graham School," Mohler said.

Now, 20 years later, Graham "continues to marvel at what he calls the 'new Southern,'" said Graham's chief of staff, David Bruce, who was present at the meeting. Graham expressed to Mohler his "joy at knowing that the school is



Billy Graham visits with Albert Mohler Jr., president of Southern Seminary, during an Oct. 29 meeting at the evangelist's home in Montreat, N.C. Adam Greenway, dean of the Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism and Ministry, also attended. (Photo courtesy of SBTS)

reliant on the truth of God's word as the focus of study," Bruce recounted.

Addressing Mohler, the evangelist said, "I am grateful to you, Dr. Mohler, for leading Southern Seminary in a reaffirmation of the truth of God's word."

Mohler updated Graham during their meeting about the school and introduced him to Greenway.

"The invitation to visit with Billy Graham personally was truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," said Greenway,

who became the fourth dean of the Graham School in June.

"Being dean of the only school Dr. Graham ever endorsed with his own name is a singular honor and a sacred trust, and I took great pleasure in being able to report to him that we remain unwavering in our commitments to the same gospel message and urgent mission that he has so faithfully embodied," he said.

Greenway is the first dean of the

school since it expanded into the Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism and Ministry. The school serves students of both international and domestic missions, church planting, worship leadership and both local church and educational leadership.

In the meeting, Mohler asked Graham to offer advice for students at Southern Seminary. Mohler said Graham spoke about the necessity of a devotional life to "lead a preacher to truth, spiritual power and ministry effectiveness."

"Tell them to study more and speak less," Graham told Mohler and Greenway, Bruce quoted the evangelist as saying.

The visit came only a week before Graham's 95th birthday. Mohler said he and Greenway wished the evangelist a happy birthday. A week later, Nov. 7, Graham attended a birthday celebration, where he, in the form of a video recorded during the past year, preached his familiar message. The video is part of the national My Hope America with Billy Graham evangelistic campaign. (BP)

## Thanksgiving: Building blocks of gratitude

Giving thanks is one of five dominant forms of prayer mentioned in the New Testament (general prayer, intercession, supplication, confession, giving thanks). Perhaps one reason thanksgiving is enjoined so frequently is that when we give thanks we affirm our total dependency upon God.

In expressing gratitude to God for all things, we acknowledge His goodness and justice over our lives, no matter how dark the present circumstances may be. Giving thanks is a confession of trust in His provident faithfulness and His sustaining care. Romans 5:1-2 lays out several significant building blocks that serve as the basis for all of our expressions of appreciation to God.

**Justification**—Gratitude to God is the spontaneous overflow of our redemption in Jesus Christ. As an expression of His unsurpassing love, God extends redemptive mercy and grace to us through Jesus Christ. Jesus' death, burial and resurrection are the basis of our salvation. When we acknowledge our fallen sinfulness and turn to God in repentance and faith, we are declared "just" and viewed as righteous in His eyes.

We who were "not a people" are declared "the people of God" (1 Peter 2:8). We have been adopted into the heavenly family (Romans 8:15-17)—not because of our works, but because of His mercy (Titus 3:5). We who are fallen, flawed and finite have become recipients of eternal love, infinite mercy and everlasting life. For this undeserved justification we give thanks!

**Peace**—An immediate benefit bestowed upon those who believe in Jesus is a sense of belonging. We are made "accepted in the beloved" (Ephesians 1:6, KJV). Apart from Christ, our souls are unsettled, restless, always seeking, but never finding, an elusive tranquility they desperately crave. Apart from Christ, the human heart will never know peace.

The world's religions promote meditative practices that try to find a way to lose one's sense of self—a longing for inner peace they cannot achieve. But when Jesus enters the heart of the true believer, He brings peace. He gave His disciples an awesome promise in His final discourse in the upper room: "Peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you. I do not give you as the world gives. Your heart must not be troubled or fearful" (John 14:27). For this enduring peace we give thanks!

**Access**—As a result of our relationship with God through Jesus Christ, we have the ABCs—access, boldness and confidence, Ephesians 3:12—to enter the throne room of grace (Hebrews 4:16). A gospel chorus frequently sung on "The Old

Fashioned Revival Hour" almost a century ago reminds us, "There's an open heaven tonight; there's an open heaven tonight. With Jesus up there, and the Comforter here—there's an open heaven tonight" (H. Leland Green, 1928).

Our Father is accessible to His children 24/7/365. There is never a moment in time when He is inattentive to our cries. Boldness to approach the Father is not based on our righteous acts; it is grounded in the privilege of relationship. The Spirit of His Son within us cries out "Abba, Father" (Galatians 4:6). For this unfettered access we give thanks!

Yes, there will be trials that test our faith and tribulations that refine our faith (Romans 5:3-5), but there is nothing that can (or will) separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 8:38-39).

This Thanksgiving season, many families will gather and focus on the tangible blessings of their lives—family, friends, safe dwellings, bounty on the table, secure employment. Others may not be so blessed. Perhaps your family is fractured, your friends are far away, your living situation is unsettled, your cupboards are bare, your job prospects are limited or even non-existent.

Do you still have a reason to give thanks? Yes. Is giving thanks an easy discipline? Not necessarily. But it is an expression of our hope in God. It is a statement of enduring faith.

Giving thanks develops depth of character, richness of soul, purity of heart. It is the means by which His peace mounts a sentry guard around our hearts (Philippians 4:6-7). As we revel in our bold invitation of access to the Father, we obtain mercy and grace to help in our time of need (Hebrews 4:16). Acknowledging that He is at work in all the circumstances of our lives brings us one step closer to conformity to the character of Christ (Romans 8:28-29).

As we choose to give thanks, we acknowledge God's sustained sovereignty over our lives. No matter how bleak our prospects may appear or how dark our circumstances may be, our gracious heavenly Father has given an unfailing promise never to leave us nor forsake us.

Let us pause and give Him thanks. Not merely for the blessings of His hands, but for the blessings of His heart—redemptive mercy and grace; enduring and abiding peace; free and open access. For these we give thanks! (BP)

*Roger Oldham is vice president for convention communications and relations with the SBC Executive Committee. Oldham grew up in Louisville, where he was a member of Ormsby Heights Baptist Church, and later attended Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green.*

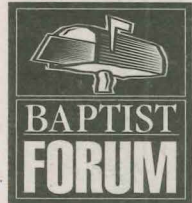
### Guest Viewpoint



Roger Oldham

### A brave man

Bill Smithwick is a brave man. He knew when he recommended opening Sunrise's hiring to gays and lesbians that his job could be over.



He has now been given a vote of no confidence by the Kentucky Baptist Convention in annual meeting.

Despite pious statements by leaders of the KBC, we can no longer have it both ways. We accept \$23 million from Kentucky state government—public monies—tax money. We must extend civil rights to all citizens. Our arrogance is continually embarrassing to me.

I am now 79 years old. I hope I live to see the day when the KBC is honest.

Betty Jo Gaba  
Louisville

### Lift up the poor

Jesus said much about the poor. I don't believe Jesus demonized the rich, but He did tell His disciples how difficult it was for the wealthy to enter the kingdom.

Jesus desires our minds and hearts to be attuned to lifting up the poor. It is the right thing to do and is a manifestation of our loving God.

We, the people, who make up the government also make up the church. Government was anointed by God; it is necessary for society to function orderly. Its policies reflect society's morals or values, and are only as good as we, the people, make them.

Both government and the church play an important role in lifting up the poor, and the government does this by making just laws and rooting out injustices.

I am a Christian, but would America run better if everyone was Christian?

Would the poor be better served? I believe God would be pleased with an America whose churches, government and economic system work diligently for the common good, and do so, because that is the chief desire in people's minds and hearts.

This could be the fruition of God's will being done on earth—that is, after all what we Christians pray for when we pray the prayer Jesus taught us. God's will can only be done on earth through we, the people.

Paul Whiteley Sr.  
Louisville

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

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### 'Ethical Dilemma'

"Ethical dilemma" denotes the quandary of choosing between moral imperatives. The choice can be paradoxical, where rational people could make a logical defense of either choice, so as to make either seem the right thing to do.

Consider the quandary for Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. Should they bow and worship King Nebuchadnezzar's image of gold to maintain their positions as administrators over the province of Babylon or face the fiery furnace? Surely their compromise could be justified if they bowed the knee. They could help hurting Israelite refugees in Babylon

from their positions as administrators of the government's wealth and relief programs. What good could they do from the ash pile? On the other hand, what about the Second Commandment?

Together We are the KBC



Paul Chitwood

Peter and John faced their ethical dilemma when commanded by the Sanhedrin "not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus" (Acts 4:18). With imprisonment or even martyrdom waiting in the wings, surely their fellow believers would understand a concession. They could transition from a preaching ministry to a purely social ministry that would still find them being helpful to the poor and hurting. The Lord himself had endorsed soup kitchens and clothes closets in his Parable of the Sheep and the Goats. Unlike Daniel's friends, they weren't being asked to commit idolatry. Or, were they? Is disobedience to the Great Commission in order to obey the laws of man an idolatrous act?

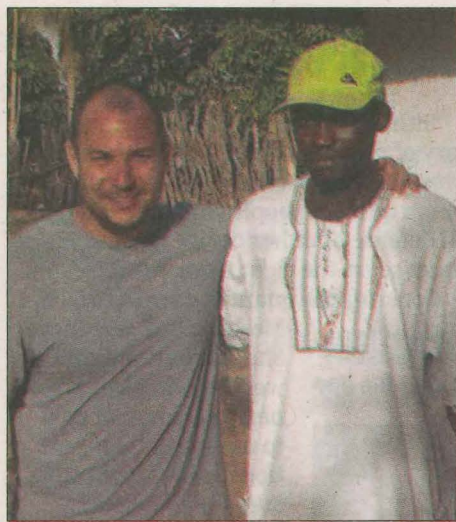
These and other biblical figures faced their ethical dilemmas. For choosing to obey God rather than man, some found their lives cut short. Today, under the altar of heaven, they impatiently wait for justice (Revelation 6:9-11). The encouragement they receive from the Spirit of God has an ominous ring for Christians alive today: "they were told to wait a little longer, until the full number of their fellow servants, their brothers and sisters, were killed just as they had been." Ethical dilemmas can be serious business. Deadly serious.

While ethical dilemmas have often been deadly serious for people of the Christian faith, that has rarely been true for Christians in America. Growing hostility toward biblical Christianity could cause us to question how long tolerance will be extended to the religion that once dominated our land but for now, we are blessed with freedom.

Acceptance, however, is another matter. News headlines provide numerous examples of challenges to religious liberty that present us with a growing number of ethical dilemmas. We must decide how many compromises we can make to get along in the world but still remain faithful to the word.

Seemingly complex problems often have simple solutions. Peter said it best, "We ought to obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29). Dilemma solved. Biblical ethics don't evolve.

Paul Chitwood is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.



Pastor Kyle Noffsinger poses with a local man and member of the unengaged, unreached people group Noffsinger and his church have committed to reach with the gospel. The man, though not a believer, acted as Noffsinger's translator as he shared the gospel. (Photo courtesy of Kyle Noffsinger)

## Kentucky pastors

Continued from page 1

Jones,\* IMB missionaries and leaders of the people group engagement team for West Africa.

About two weeks after the conference, Noffsinger received a phone call from his childhood pastor Tim Adcock, who asked if Noffsinger would join the missions work he was doing in Africa with the Joneses—not knowing Noffsinger had just met the couple.

Noffsinger accompanied Adcock and the Joneses on a vision trip to West Africa in May 2012 to minister among a primarily Muslim and animist UUPG found mainly in one of the country's largest villages. Unable to keep traveling to Africa, Adcock "passed the baton" to Noffsinger to continue reaching this West African UUPG.

When Noffsinger returned, he told Binkley that he had to go to Africa with him. Binkley agreed to pray about it.

"The more I started to pray about it, the more God was moving on my heart to go," Binkley said. "Until one night I was laying in the bed and it was just clear that I was supposed to go to Africa."

Between the two pastors, they have traveled to Africa four times: Noffsinger on his initial vision trip, both men six months later and Noffsinger again in May and November 2013.

### Provision and preparation

Committing to reach a UUPG, however, is not a small task. An obvious obstacle is finances—traveling to Africa can cost \$2,500-\$3,500 per trip.

Before his trip in November 2012, Binkley was still a bi-vocational pastor and making ends meet as an adjunct professor at Mid-Continent University, near Mayfield. In addition to paying for trip expenses, time away would mean losing a semester of teaching income.

"But the Lord still impressed on my heart to go and that He'd take care of it," Binkley said.

The Lord provided the money that was needed, said Binkley, who had applied for and received a missions scholarship through Caldwell-Lyon

### Indiana Baptists to sell offices

Indianapolis—The State Convention of Baptists in Indiana will sell its office building and use the money to retire debt and build a new facility, Executive Board chairman Ray Deeter said at the convention's annual meeting.

The current facility in Indianapolis will be replaced by a mission and ministry center, Deeter, pastor of Grace Baptist Church in Evansville, said.

The convention's 55th annual meeting, Oct. 14-15, was held at Northside Baptist Church in Indianapolis.

Messengers approved a 2014 budget of \$3,961,424, anticipating \$2,530,133 in CP giving from churches. Indiana Baptists will give 39 percent of CP receipts to national and international missions, an increase 2.5 percent.

Many of the 185 messengers and 94 visitors called the meeting the "most spiritual" they had ever attended.

Messengers heard an interview with an Indiana couple serving as International Mission Board missionaries, who offered gratitude to Indiana churches for supporting the CP, which the couple said is a key means of support for their outreach in a country where the gospel is rarely heard.

Messengers prayed for all IMB missionaries and approved a mission partnership with a people group identified to messengers as the "M" people of Brazil.

Randy Forsythe, pastor of Grace Baptist Church in Portage, was reelected as president. (BP)

association. Sunday School classes from other churches and individuals he didn't even know sent him checks. Since many people knew he was bi-vocational, some even gave him money specifically to help take care of his family while he was gone.

God also provided for Noffsinger's travels. His first two trips were funded by his church at the time, First Baptist, Fredonia, and his current church, Cadiz Baptist, funded his third trip.

When the pastors first began working with this people group, there were no Christians in the village of about 15,000. On Noffsinger's first trip, he played a part in seeing a

young man become the first known believer in the village. Today there are six believers.

### Total commitment

The pastors plan to continue traveling to West Africa and include several of their church members. Their initial goal is to see four teams between the two churches travel to the village every year.

Binkley's church, First Baptist, Woodlawn, has about 160 people attending Sunday mornings. Noffsinger's church, Cadiz Baptist, has about 300.

Both pastors advise those considering embracing a people group to find an UUPG based on IMB resources such as [embrace.imbresources.org](http://embrace.imbresources.org), take a vision trip and pray and ask God if this is where He wants you to be. But "buckle up," Noffsinger warns, because this journey will change you forever. (IMB)

## CONVENTIONS ROUND UP

### Va. Baptist: 20 new churches

Roanoke, Va.—Southern Baptist Conservatives of Virginia celebrated new church plants and a near record-breaking attendance of 990 messengers and guests during their annual meeting. First Baptist Church in Roanoke, Va., hosted the meeting Nov. 10-12.

Messengers approved a \$9 million budget for 2014. Cooperative Program distribution will remain at 51 percent being sent to the SBC and 49 percent for mission efforts in Virginia. Since its inception, the convention has sent \$107,715,872 to the CP. In 2013, churches and individual partners increased financial support for church planting by \$40,704 to total \$982,518.

Doug Echols, pastor of Bethel Baptist Church in Yorktown, led his church to plant Catalyst Church a year ago. The pastor said told messengers that he hopes to plant five churches in the next 10 years.

Catalyst Church is located in a strip mall near Christopher Newport University in Newport News. Jeff Minge said he felt called to leave his youth pastor position at Bethel Baptist to lead the church plant. Catalyst has ministered to college students and families for more than a year and has two worship services filled to capacity.

Messengers approved 20 churches into the convention. There are now 618 total SBCV-affiliated churches.

Grant Ethridge, senior pastor of Liberty Baptist Church in Hampton, was elected as president. (BP)

### N.C. Baptists highlight lostness

Greensboro, N.C.—North Carolina Baptists decreased their 2014 Cooperative Program budget, but increased the percentage sent to the Southern Baptist Convention during their 183rd annual meeting. They also heard about the convention's strategy for impacting lostness and making disciples.

A total of 1,899 people gathered Nov. 11-12 at Koury Convention Center in Greensboro with a total of 1,648 messengers attending.


Milton Hollifield Jr., executive director-treasurer of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, presented a plaque to M.O. Owens, 100, for his ministry through the years. Owens still preaches Sunday mornings at Parkwood Baptist Church in Gastonia, and again later at his retirement home.

The last 10 years messengers have consistently approved increases to the CP Mission Budget. The 2014 budget will be \$30 million, a decrease of \$3.5 million from the 2013 budget. It includes an increase from 36 to 36.5 percent in CP receipts that will be sent to the SBC.

With 5.8 million lost people in the state, Hollifield stressed the importance of the "Impacting Lostness" strategy developed by the BSC. "We must create a culture in our churches, and in our personal lives, that is focused on disciple-making," he said.

C.J. Bordeaux, senior pastor of Gorman Baptist Church in Durham, was elected convention president. (BP)

# THE MUSICAL EVENT OF THE HOLIDAY SEASON



BASED ON LANGSTON HUGHES' CELEBRATED PLAY

FOREST WHITAKER ANGELA BASSETT TYRESE GIBSON JACOB LATIMORE MARY J. BLIGE NASIR JONES AND JENNIFER HUDSON

## BLACK NATIVITY

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER RAPHAEL SAADIQ, ORIGINAL STORY BY RAPHAEL SAADIQ & LAURA KARPMAN, EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS TRUDIE STYLER, T.D. JAKES, JOY GOODWIN, DERRICK M. WILLIAMS  
PRODUCED BY CELINE RATTRAY, p.g.a. WILLIAM HORBERG, p.g.a. GALT NIEDERHOFFER, BASED UPON LANGSTON HUGHES, WRITTEN FOR THE SCREEN BY KASH LEMMONS, AND DIRECTED BY KASH LEMMONS

PG PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED  
DOLBY DIGITAL  
INSPIRATION  
BLACKNATIVITYMOVIE.COM  
SEARCHLIGHT

**STARTS WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27 AT A THEATRE NEAR YOU**  
CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS FOR THEATRES AND SHOWTIMES

## Filipino family

Continued from page 1

left laying on their sides.

The Booc family soon realized the strength of Typhoon Haiyan as it bore down on Cebu. Their bamboo thatch house shook violently and they knew they could not stay. They ran in the midst of the typhoon's fury with their children to take cover in a chapel with a concrete foundation.

During their flight a banana tree fell, just missing them. They dodged flying sheets of tin blown off of roofs.

The sanctuary they had hoped for was gone. The walls of the chapel were not built to withstand the winds. So, the family ran to Michael's mother's house, but it also was proved to be unsafe. In fact, all of the homes in the area were made of lightweight materials such as bamboo while the roofs are corrugated tin.

When their third place of refuge lost its roof as the eye of the typhoon hovered over their village, the family decided to make a run for the high school that was nearly two miles away.

Jesusa said they thought Typhoon Haiyan would be the end of them. The family held hands.

Jesusa reflected, "(If) we just wait, we will die." She, Michael and their four children made it to the school.

After the storm, the Boocs returned to take shelter in the chapel but realized it was too hot, especially for their baby.

The sunburn on Jesusa's baby's face had started to peel when IMB missionaries visited.

The village of 61 households had not



Filipino children hold up signs asking for relief assistance on the edge of the main road in Tabuelan on northern Cebu island in one of the areas the most seriously impacted by Typhoon Haiyan. (IMB)

yet received aid from the government as of Nov. 14, six days after the typhoon's onslaught. The government is providing families with several pieces of tin for their roofs and two kilos of rice.

Two kilos of rice does not last long in the Philippines. Rice is the staple meal for most families, and for a family of four, it barely lasts a few days. A family normally eats around 10 kilos of rice in a week.

The community gathered together and shared what food and supplies remained in their village.

Their village name, Bangon, means, "rise up" in the Cebuano language. The villagers say they are people who indeed

rise up from catastrophes.

"That is what we are," Wilma Booc, Michael's mother, says. "Our name gives us hope."

They will rise up, they say. They are asking for help to lighten their burden and load. They know they cannot do it alone.

"We pray God will hear our prayers and help will come," Wilma says.

For having gone through such trauma and tragedy, the Booc family and their community seem positive and hopeful. Villages throughout northern Cebu share this positive attitude, according to various reports.

Baptist Global Response teams have now assessed the village's needs, and relief funds donated by Southern Baptists will help provide food in the coming days. (BP)

To give online, go to [imb.org/helpnow](http://imb.org/helpnow).

Ed Dean, a disaster relief volunteer from Sullivan, Ill., gathers debris from a backyard in tornado-battered Washington, Ill., on Nov. 20. Twelve states reported damage from the storm. (Photo by Meredith Flynn)



## Tornado

Continued from page 1

received no damage.

"We went out and started to help people. We pulled a couple of people from the wreckage of their homes and prayed with them. Some of our members tried to make it home but could not. It was a tough situation. We pray we will be able to help people, but more than that, also share the gospel," Monda said.

The tornado that struck at approximately 11 a.m. was part of a storm system that raced across the Midwest, spawning scores of tornadoes and claiming six lives.

Illinois suffered the worst damage, with state officials confirming six deaths, including one in Washington, a farming community, and others in the

## Bibles from LifeWay customers go to Asia

By Aaron Earls

Nashville, Tenn.—Throughout November, customers at LifeWay Christian Stores helped send Bibles to individuals thousands of miles away.

In a joint venture called The Thomas Project, LifeWay stores, B&H Publishing and the International Mission Board are aiming to print and distribute at least 100,000 Bibles to people in South Asia, many of whom do not have Scripture in their own Hindi language.

Named for the disciple believed to have been the first Christian missionary to the region, the initiative invited customers at LifeWay's 186 stores to purchase a Bible for \$5 to send to South Asia.

William McGregor, a retail store district director, shared a story of a customer in Colorado buying \$1,000 worth of Bibles for a prison ministry. Turning in his LifeWay Rewards card saved him \$300 on his purchase.

After he was asked about donating a Bible to The Thomas Project, the customer said, "I liked the first total better, why don't we make up the difference with that project you were talking about?"

"I thought he had to be joking," McGregor said about the \$300 donation, "but he really ended up buying 60 Thomas Project Bibles."

LifeWay stores not only are selling the Bibles, but retail employees will be part of a spring mission trip to South Asia to help deliver them.

Teams will be working with local church leaders and believers to distribute the Bibles. (BP)

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small towns of Nashville, Brookport and Unionville, Ill.

Illinois Gov. Pat Quinn declared a seven-county region as a disaster area, including Tazewell County, where Washington is located. The National Weather Service initially reported a three-mile path of destruction in Washington, with damage later recorded in Indiana, Missouri and other states.

Southern Baptist Disaster Relief units were deployed within hours. The North American Mission Board dispatched supplies including bottled water and roofing tarp to the area Nov. 18.

"With the situation in Illinois, it may not be the magnitude of the typhoon or a Moore, Okla. Tornadoes, but it is significant to the people of Washington," said SBDR executive director Fritz Wilson. "It is important for our volunteers and leaders to be able to bring help, healing and hope in the midst of disaster." (BP)

## MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF



## November

28 Thanksgiving holiday, KBC building closed through Nov. 29.

## December

5 Committee on Public Affairs, KBC building, Louisville.

9 Mission Board, KBC building, Louisville.

24 Christmas holiday, KBC building closed through Dec. 31.

## January

10 Disaster Relief Chaplaincy Training, Edgewood Baptist Church, Hopkinsville.

23 Shepherding the Shepherd, Hilton, Lexington.

30 Administrative Committee, KBC Building, Louisville.

31 Imagine Preschool and Children's Ministry Conference, Parkway Baptist Church, Bardstown.

## February

10 Disaster Relief Chaplaincy Training, Westport Road Baptist Church, Louisville.

■ **CADIZ**—Cadiz Church will hold its 22nd annual community Thanksgiving meal Nov. 28, 11 a.m. **Kyle Noffsinger** is pastor.

■ **ELIZABETHTOWN**—Severns Valley Church will host the Women of Faith simulcast Dec. 6, 7 p.m., and will be serving desserts and coffee. **Bill Langley** is pastor.

■ **GREENVILLE**—Second Church will host **Sharon Bunch** in concert Dec. 1, 6 p.m. For more information, call (270) 338-6160. **Ray England** is pastor.

■ **GLENDALE**—Gilead Church will hold its annual Women's Christmas Brunch Dec. 10, 10 a.m. **Sam Hinkson** is pastor.

■ **HODGENVILLE**—First Church will present "Rejoice! God is With Us!" Dec. 6-7, 7 p.m., and Dec. 8, 6 p.m. **Paul Richey** is pastor.

■ **LEXINGTON**—Grace Church will hold Welcoming Christmas: Praise in Song and Scripture Dec. 1, 6 p.m., with pianist **Claire Vance** and soprano **Calesta Day**.

Grace Church also will present "The Christmas Family Tree" Dec. 8, 6 p.m. **Steve Price** is pastor.

■ **LOUISVILLE**—Fern Creek Church will hold an

Instrumental Christmas Service Dec. 8, 5:30 p.m. **Linda Popham** is pastor.

Maple Grove will present "Great Big Story" Dec. 8, 6 p.m. **Raymond Hayes** is pastor.

St. Matthews Church will host the 9th annual German Language Christmas Service Dec. 1, 6 p.m. Besides a brief welcome, the entire service—including music, prayers and preaching—will be spoken in German. **Greg Barr** is pastor.

■ **MARION**—Second Church will host **Bright Life Farms** in concert Dec. 8, 2 p.m. For more information, call (270) 388-7367. **Chris Lowery** is pastor.

■ **MOUNT WASHINGTON**—First Church presents "The Majesty of Christmas" Dec. 7-9, 7 p.m., with a matinee Dec. 8, 2:30 p.m. **Billy Compton** is pastor.

■ **PADUCAH**—Lone Oak First Church will hold an international mission study Dec. 5, 6:30 p.m., with guest speaker **Wendy Stout**. **Dan Summerlin** is pastor.

■ **PRESTONBURG**—Allen Church will host the 25th Annual Enterprise Association Christmas Sing, Dec. 5. **Arnold Turner** is pastor.

## Spotlight on ...

## Central City



Mercer Church will host the South Central Bible Conference Dec. 2-3. Guest speakers include **James Shutt**, **Don Savell** and **Ron Lovins**. **Muhlenberg County Association Community Choir** will be in concert Dec. 3, 6:30 p.m. For more information, call (270) 338-6588. **James Branscum** is pastor.

■ **SOMERSET**—First Church will present "The Living Christmas Tree" Dec. 7-8, 7:30 p.m., and Dec. 9, 6 p.m. **French Harmon** is pastor.

■ **WILLIAMSBURG**—First Church will hold Trivia Night Dec. 1, 6 p.m. **Ande Myers** is pastor.

## Parade of flags

**Williamsburg**—University of the Cumberland students carried flags of their native countries during a special emphasis of the International Student Ministry at Main Street Baptist Church in Williamsburg. The event was in conjunction with the church's Woman's Missionary Union observation of Eliza Broadus Offering and week of prayer.



## CU presents 'A Christmas Carol'

**Campbellsville**—Campbellsville University Theater and Town Hall Productions present "A Christmas Carol" with shows through Dec. 15.

The cast is made up of Campbellsville students and others from the community. Jason Garrett, associate professor of communication, will portray the lead as Scrooge.

Show times: Dec. 5 at 7 p.m.; Dec. 7 at 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.; Dec. 8 at 2:30 p.m.; Dec. 14 at 2:30 p.m.; Dec. 15 at 2:30 p.m. For more information, go to [campbellsville.edu/theater](http://campbellsville.edu/theater). (CU)

## What's happening?

Send church and association events to: **Mountains to the Mississippi**  
In care of: [sitha.salyers@westernrecorder.org](mailto:sitha.salyers@westernrecorder.org)

## Paducah flashback

## Fond memories resurface during recent trip to hometown

I recently experienced a homecoming of sorts. I am referring to attending the Kentucky Baptist Convention Annual Meeting in Paducah earlier this month.

I was born and raised in Paducah and, other than college at Murray, I spent all my life there until about 15 years ago.

It was rather funny listening to people talk about the long drive that one makes on the Western Kentucky Parkway to reach this destination. As you can imagine in my travels to Jonathan Creek, I am quite familiar with the parkway and I have no sympathy whatsoever for anyone who is disgruntled about the journey.

While this year's KBC meeting will likely be remembered for certain aspects, I likely will remember the meeting for the last 15 years of personal history it brought to mind.

Tera and I left Paducah when she was eight months pregnant in order to move to Cedarmore so I could attend seminary. When I think back on what has taken place in these last 15 years, I am humbled beyond words as I reflect on all that God has done.

Not only has God changed the camps greatly during the 15 years, He has changed our family and our individual lives in ways we would have never imagined that January day in 1999 when we drove our moving van out of Paducah. The fact is that our lives today are nothing like I would have ever guessed growing up.

I shared with messengers during my KBC report that I do believe I have the greatest job. I feel comfortable saying this because much of my role witnessing God working in the lives of so many who come to the camps—and how He has changed my life from this experience.

History is important in the Christian life for countless reasons. Perhaps today we all can reflect and see how God is faithful and good in all that He does. Throughout the Bible He commands us to remember. I encourage you to choose to positively remember your past and your present may seem all the better.

## Crossings Ministries



David Melber

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

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Paducah - Bowling Green - Louisville - Lexington - Danville - Florence

## Being thankful

### Listing all our blessings places our focus on God

I am thankful for God's sustaining grace that has enabled Oneida to bless so many for 114 years.

I am thankful for James Anderson Burns and his vision to found our school.

I am thankful for countless other folks who assisted and supported James Anderson Burns with the founding of Oneida.

I am thankful for our first five graduates in 1908.

I am thankful for the 3,718 people who have graduated from Oneida.

I am thankful for the countless others who have attended, but did not graduate.

I am thankful for the faculty and staff who sacrificed in the early years to keep our school doors open.

I am thankful for Barkley Moore and his passion, work and vision that kept Oneida alive in the 1970s.

I am thankful that my parents chose to answer the Lord's call and serve at Oneida for 20 years.

I am thankful for the education and diploma I received from Oneida.

I am thankful my wife, Angie, found her way to Oneida in 1984.

I am thankful for the opportunity Bud Underwood gave Angie and I to return to Oneida after college to serve for seven years.

I am thankful that the Lord called us away to Florida for nine years so that we could prepare for our current roles at Oneida.

I am thankful for the privilege of now having a hand in leading this won-

derful ministry.

I am thankful for our student body.

I am thankful for our 130 faculty and staff who sacrifice every day to make Oneida great.

I am thankful for the nearly 1,000 volunteers who give of their time and talents to Oneida annually.

I am thankful for the many friends of Oneida who provide two-thirds of our funding.

I am thankful Baptist churches and pastors who support Oneida in so many ways.

I am thankful for the many people who daily lift Oneida up in prayer.

I am thankful for the many guests who visit our campus each year.

I am thankful for the many individuals and organizations who donate items to our campus.

I am thankful for the challenges that we face every day on our campus.

I am thankful for the progress I see our students make every day on our campus.

I am thankful for the seven worship services we have on our campus every week.

I am thankful for our remote location that enables us to focus on the more important things in life.

I am thankful for the many salvations that happen annually at Oneida.

I am thankful for Oneida Baptist Institute.

### Oneida Baptist Institute



Larry Gritton

Larry Gritton is president of Oneida Baptist Institute, a Christian boarding and day school. Website: [oneida.school.org](http://oneida.school.org). Phone: (606) 847-4111.

## Crossword puzzle returns Dec. 10

Due to a reduction in the number of pages in this week's Western Recorder, the crossword puzzle will not appear in this issue. It will return Dec. 10. Below are the answers for the crossword (#181) that appeared Nov. 19.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
B	A	R	A	S	H	E	R	A	S	A
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
A	R	T	S	T	A	T	E	D	E	L
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33
B	E	F	L	E	S	H	L	I	E	A
34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44
E	A	G	L	E	I	R	O	N	S	
45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55
E	Y	E	S	N	E	S	T			
56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66
D	A	N	P	L	E	A	D	H	E	M
67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77
A	R	E	A	R	M	N	O	E		
78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88
M	A	R	T	I	R	E	S	I	N	N
89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99
A	N	O	N	S	I	D	E			
100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110
B	A	L	A	K	R	O	L	L	S	
111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121
A	M	P	E	O	P	L	E	S	A	A
122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132
T	O	W	N	I	S	A	N	P	I	N
133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143
S	K	Y	S	L	I	P	S	A	R	K

**CORRECTION:** The Kentucky Baptist Convention Cooperative Program 2014-15 budget goal approved by messenger at the Nov. 12 annual meeting was \$22 million, not \$22.5 million, as reported in the Western Recorder Nov. 19.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

**SEEKING:** New Hope Baptist Church, a conservative congregation (45-50) in West Liberty, is seeking a bivocational pastor. Parsonage provided. For inquiries: (606) 743-7437. Send resumé/sermon DVD to ATTN: Fleshman, 175 Beacon Hill Drive, Morehead, KY 40351.

**SEEKING:** Elizabethtown Baptist Church is seeking an interim pastor. Send resumé by Dec. 1 to Elizabethtown Baptist Church, 1525 North Miles, Elizabethtown, KY 42701.

**SEEKING:** Alton Baptist Church is seeking a part-time youth pastor. Email resumé to [altonbaptist@altonbaptist.org](mailto:altonbaptist@altonbaptist.org) or mail to church at 1321 Bypass North, Lawrenceburg, KY 40342. Deadline: Dec. 1.

**SEEKING:** Alton Baptist Church is seeking a part-time children's minister. Email resumé to [altonbaptist@altonbaptist.org](mailto:altonbaptist@altonbaptist.org) or mail to church at 1321 Bypass North, Lawrenceburg, KY 40342. Deadline: Dec. 1.

**SEEKING:** First Baptist Church, Owensboro, is seeking a full-time minister of music. The qualified candidate will be responsible for the overall music ministry of the church including adult and children's choir, orchestra, hand bells, etc. Experience leading congregation and choir, strong communication and leadership skills are desired. Resumés may be sent to [jwest@fbcowb.org](mailto:jwest@fbcowb.org).

**SEEKING:** Christian Values Technology Company seeks mature business professionals for high-income opportunity. Home-based office. Hands-on support and apprenticeship-style training. For complete information, call Keith at (888)-395-6557.

**SEEKING:** Spring Bayou Baptist Church is seeking a full-time associate pastor of students. Spring Bayou is located on the outskirts of Paducah in western Kentucky. Email resumé to [sbbc@brtc.net](mailto:sbbc@brtc.net), or mail to Spring Bayou Baptist Church,

## Nervous & excited

### Student shares about first days on campus

Dillon Roark did not have to travel far to attend orientation or classes at Clear Creek Bible College, but that didn't stop the new student from being nervous.

"My family lives just a few minutes from the campus," said Roark. "But I wasn't real familiar with the area and didn't really know many people, or know anything about Clear Creek."

"I am originally from Greenville, S.C., and recently moved back to the area with my mother and siblings," Roark said. "I had never even heard of (this part of Kentucky) and it was a big change of culture for me. I was still adjusting when God called me to Clear Creek."

And that's an interesting story in itself.

"I had never even heard of Clear Creek," Roark noted.

"After I moved, I started attending a local church," he continued. "Brandon Caudill (a student at the Bible college) serves as youth pastor there and when I surrendered to God's call on my life, he encouraged me to check out the college."

"After I visited, I felt the Lord leading me to attend and get the training I needed for my ministry calling."

"My first days on campus during orientation were very nervous days for me," Roark said. "Every day as we

would begin our time together in orientation, we would worship and pray together to start our day off. It really drew us close as a group starting out together. I have already made so many friendships that I know will last a lifetime."

"I am so thankful for the financial aid department who has worked so hard to help me acquire the funds I needed to get started with my education,"

Roark said. "Without the support of many people I would not be able to get the training that I need."

"I never expected God to do this with my life," Roark said. "I still get a little nervous, but excited, when I think about the calling that God has placed on my life. I am so thankful that God has so graciously allowed me to attend Clear Creek and get equipped for His call on my life."

### Clear Creek Chronicle



Donnie Fox

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

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ATTN: Youth Search Team, 11205 Woodville Road, Kevil, KY 42053.

**SEEKING:** Full-time children's pastor. Campbellville Baptist Church is prayerfully seeking God's person to lead in a ministry to preschool and school-age children, and their families in our church and our community. Send resumé and requests for information to [bradl@cvillebaptist.com](mailto:bradl@cvillebaptist.com).

**SEEKING:** Pianist needed. Marion Second Baptist Church is in need of a pianist for Sunday morning worship service. This is an important ministry position. If interested, contact Chris Lowery at (270) 625-9129, or email [lowery.chris@hotmail.com](mailto:lowery.chris@hotmail.com).

**SEEKING:** Unity Baptist Church is seeking a senior pastor. Interested persons must submit an initial candidate package consisting of a cover letter, resumé with a summary of relevant ministry, professional and educational experience, ministerial license, ordination certificate and copy of degree(s). Send application packet to UBC Pastor Search Committee, P.O. Box 1296, Ashland, KY 41105.

**TRAVEL:** Hundreds of Bible land departures catering to Southern Baptists—Israel, Greece, Turkey, Italy, Germany, Switzerland, Britain, Jordan, Egypt, etc. [pilgrimgtours.com](http://pilgrimgtours.com) (800) 322-0788.

## Intergenerational bonds key to lasting faith

By Joe Ball

Thirty years ago, it was common for teens to have healthy relationships with adults from several generations. Today, that isn't the case.

Fractured families, segregation of ministries and the like, make it all the more important for us to manufacture points so that our students can build relationships with adults outside of the youth ministry.

It used to be that if you were doing good youth ministry, you had one adult for every five or six students. Chap Clark in his book, "Hurt," advises, "Instead of having one adult for every five children, we need five adults for every one child that knows their name, prays for them and practices their faith" in front of them.

Aside from their parents, who should already be doing this, "there should be five non-parental adults in their lives," Clark said. "Coaches, teachers and a boss" will fill one or two of these roles, but that still leaves three or four others that adults in the church can fill.

For Gina and me, it was either dumb luck or divine intervention. We challenged some adults at Edgewood to do this for our children. Our rationale was, "Your children have the benefits of both a youth minister and parents." For us I

filled both the role of a dad and youth minister, and Gina was mom and a youth chaperone. Our kids did not have the built in luxury of both.

I will not attempt to mention names

### Youth Ministry Corner



Joe Ball

here—there are too many—but several people in Hopkinsville filled this need in their lives. We haven't lived in there for almost over eight years, and some of the adults there are still speaking into the lives of our now adult children.

It has been almost 30 years since I left the youth ministry at Little Flock Baptist Church in northern Bullitt County. But I will occasionally see a former youth worker, and I will remember the impact they had on my life.

It is said that students today "pick the adults they want to interact with, and if it is not you, then you sound to them like Charlie Brown's teacher." So, which students do you know that have "picked" you to interact with? Those students are your assignment from God. We need to be better stewards of building those relationships.

There may be times when we as youth workers need to broker those relationships. There are adults in your church that know cars inside and out, and teenagers in your church that are car crazy. Or, there are teens in your church that

love to play ball or garden or dance, play music, shop, act and take pictures, and adults who have the same interests and have skills in those areas. We need to start pairing them up, let them share life skills, biblical truths and life with each other.

These relationships will last long beyond the students six or seven years in the youth program, and when our students return from college they will look those adults up.

Those relationships can help with the transition students have out of the youth ministry into "big church." While the youth minister is still hanging out with the youth, or moved on to another church, these adults are still there, speaking into their lives. Those are the types of relationships we need to develop.

This time of year particularly works well for building these relationships. Maybe it is students Christmas caroling at the front door of some shut-ins, or helping an older couple put up their Christmas decorations. Or, maybe at the church-wide dinner, we can arrange seating so that teens and seniors are sharing a table and asking questions of each other, getting to know one another. Because who doesn't want to "go where everyone knows your name, and they're always glad you came?"

Joe Ball is youth ministry strategist for Crossings.

## Campbellsville enrollment breaks on-campus record

Campbellsville—Campbellsville University has reached a milestone in the number of students living on campus for the fall semester: 1,122.

The semester saw not only the largest number of students living on campus, but also the second year CU has exceeded the 3,600 mark in enrollment, according to Michael Carter, president. The overall enrollment figures encompass all undergraduate students on campus, online, at regional centers and other sites, Carter said.

"With nearly 25 percent of the full-time undergraduate students coming from minority population groups and with a strong international student population of around 300 students from 40 countries, Campbellsville is becoming known as one of the most diverse private nonprofit comprehensive universities in the nation—and certainly in Kentucky," the president said.

Carter said, as part of the university's long-range vision, Vision 2025, Preparing Christian Servant Leaders, "we are strongly committed to developing a diverse, global community of learners, with a strong commitment to Christian higher education." (CU)

Western Recorder Board of Trustees and Staff wish you a

# Happy Thanksgiving

"O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good: for His mercy endureth for ever" (Psalm 107:1).



# WMU® Kentucky Notes

WINTER 2013

Contact us: P.O. Box 436569, Louisville, KY 40253-6569 • (502) 489-3534 • Toll-free (866) 489-3534 • www.kywmu.org

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## A PERSONAL WORD

# The balance between consistency and change

By Joy Bolton

Much has been written about change. We often say we don't like it, yet we complain when things feel like "the same old thing." Finding balance between enough consistency to feel comfortable and enough change to keep us from getting into a rut can be a challenge.

### New responsibilities

Both consistency and change are before us in the months to come. Kentucky WMU has been asked to take responsibility for Kentucky Changers and the Creative Ministries Festival. These changes present new challenges as we find balance between keeping aspects that have worked well and yet adding new dimensions that will enhance these ministries.

Hands-on missions through home repairs will continue to be the main thrust of **Kentucky Changers**. As we plan for 2014, we will be looking to add some additional missions elements to the lineup. Peggy Murphy, our new Kentucky Changers Coordinator, brings great experience as we work together to take Changers to the next level.

**Creative Ministries Festival** will take a year off to allow time for bringing a team of cre-

ative folks together to dream and plan. It is my hope that in the future this event will not only be a time for learning new skills and preparation for missions involvement, but also a time for ministries that need teams to meet up with groups looking for ministry opportunities.



Joy Bolton

The **Kentucky WMU Annual Meeting** is always a balance between consistency and change. Each year the program includes familiar elements, yet it is always different with new features and activities. The 2014 Annual Meeting promises to deliver both.

In our 2014 event, Jana McKnight and Vicky Lloyd (a.k.a. Bertha & Berniece) will make you laugh in every session. Wanda Lee, national WMU, and Gordon Fort, International Mission Board, are wonderful speakers

that will touch you with their stories and challenge you to do more in missions.

We are adding a commissioning service for Kentucky missionaries to the Friday evening session and we will plan to fill a shipping container with 700 "buckets of love" for AIDS hospice care as we partner with Baptist Global Response in The Bucket Project.

### Mites and missions

"Mighty" mite boxes sent missionaries and

saved mission boards in years past. Women would place them in a prominent place and use them to save for missions. Not only did they give sacrificially, but if God blessed in some way, women would add a "thanks offering" to the box.

**Kentucky WMU Heritage Fund** mite boxes were introduced at our 2013 annual meeting and will be presented at the afternoon session of our 2014 annual meeting. In honor of WMU's 125th anniversary, some are saving 125 pennies, 125 nickels, 125 dimes, 125 quarters, and 125 ones. What will you save 125 of this year? Let us know if you need a mite box!

Did you know that the cost of sending a missionary has risen significantly in recent years, but our support through the Cooperative Program and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering has not kept pace.

Dr. Tom Elliff, president of the International Mission Board, recently shared his burden for the lostness of the world with IMB trustees. A portion of his message is included in this year's LMCO materials, which challenge us to be **Totally His—Heart, Hands, Voice**.

I urge you to share this video in your church. Let us answer this call to join in one sacred effort to fulfill the Great Commission.

Consistency and change. We need both.

Joy Bolton is the executive director of KY WMU.

**Totally His ...**  
Heart, Hands, Voice

**Week of Prayer for International Missions**  
December 1-8

**Lottie Moon Christmas Offering**  
Goal: \$175 million

Kentucky churches gave \$5,281,317.64 during 2012-13, the largest amount ever from our state.

*Let's give generously again this year!*



## The Celebration Continues!

### 2014 Kentucky WMU Missions Celebration & Annual Meeting

Continuing the 125<sup>th</sup> WMU Birthday Celebration

Friday - Saturday  
April 4-5, 2014  
Central Baptist Church,  
Winchester



Wanda Lee  
WMU, SBC



Gordon Fort  
IMB



Lori Funderburk  
BGR



"Bertha & Berniece"



**THE BUCKET PROJECT**  
BGR



**Heritage Fund Mite Boxes**

PLUS Commissioning Service for Kentucky Missionaries, Conferences, Displays, and More!

Publicity, Bucket Project and Registration information will be mailed in early January.

## Murphy brings experience, passion to Ky. WMU

By Joy Bolton

Kentucky WMU is pleased to welcome Peggy Murphy to our staff. Peggy started work Nov. 1 as our Kentucky Changers Coordinator. She comes with 20 years of experience with Kentucky Changers and a background in youth ministry which will be a benefit to our office.

Peggy first participated in World Changers in 1994. That experience led to her call to youth ministry and she took her first group to participate in Kentucky Changers in 1995. In 2000 while she and her

youth group participated in the first project of the summer, Peggy was asked to assist as an overseer in the second project. From that she began to learn the "nuts and bolts" of what it takes to organize Kentucky Changers projects.



Peggy Murphy

Next Peggy began working as a part-time ministry assistant in the Kentucky Baptist Convention Brotherhood Department. Her responsibilities included assisting with Kentucky Changers.

In 2002, Peggy was hired full-time and given responsibility for

Kentucky Changers. She served in that position until 2012 when Kentucky Changers was assigned to Crossings Ministries.

In her years with Kentucky Changers, Peggy has seen the ministry grow from one project with 80 participants to three projects with 1,100 participants. She is experienced in working with government officials, school boards and Directors of Missions. She has expertise with the logistics, contracts, and legal matters associated with Kentucky Changers.

Kentucky WMU is delighted to have Peggy lead this ministry as it transitions to the WMU family. Welcome Peggy!

## WMU DIRECTORS

### Opportunities to keep missions in forefront

By Wanda Walker

As a WMU Director, it is your leadership responsibility to keep missions in the forefront year-long.

The suggested date for the week of prayer for International Missions and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering is December 1-8. If you did not order your IMB mission study, it may not be too late. The information is in the WMU Yearbook or Catalog. Prayer Guides, envelopes and posters are still available through the Ken-

tucky WMU office.

Focus on WMU in February is another opportunity for you to keep missions out there. Once Upon A Time is how all beloved stories begin. Check out the 2013-2104 Yearbook, page 26, for ideas to tell the story during focus week.

February 15 is Children's Ministry Day. You can participate even if you don't have GA, RA or CA in your church. This year's theme GenerationReach encourages children to minister to all ages. Promotion packets are avail-

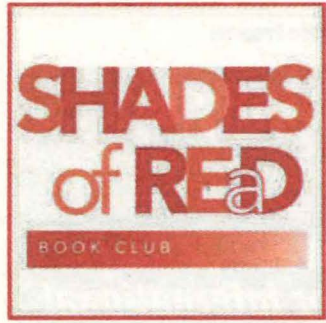
able through the WMU store.

FamilyFEST is returning to Kentucky in July. Boones Creek Association will host a "FEST" for the second time July 19-23. FamilyFEST is for families, ages 6 and over. Promote this missions experience within your church.

Help your leadership prepare by attending Excel. In 2014 Excel will be offered July 19 - First Baptist Church Richmond, August 16 - First Baptist Church Madisonville, and September 13 - St. Matthews Baptist Church in Louisville.

## ADULTS

## Calling avid readers: It's book club time



By Wanda Walker

The following is a blog entry from Jean Roberson of national WMU responding to questions about Shades of REaD.

We've had a number of questions about the book club Shades of REaD. Where is it? What's going on?

Every month in Missions Mosaic, you will continue to see information on books that can be used for a book club. These books are published by our publishing arm, New Hope Publishers, so you can continue to order the books from WMU.

Books featured in Missions Mosaic have book discussion guides that can be used in your book club. These are available on the New Hope Web site, NewHopeDigital.com. On the New Hope Web page, you can download the free discussion guide, as well as listen to podcasts from the authors, read additional articles about the book and the topic of the book, and view relevant videos.

Follow these steps:

- Go to NewHopeDigital.com,
- Click on "Resources" located at the top.
- Find the title of the book you are looking for and click on that title
- This page tells you more about the book and has a link for you to click that reads, "Free small-group/book club guide available here"
- Once the book club guide comes up on the screen, click print.

If it is difficult for you to locate this or you don't have access to a computer, consider asking someone at your church or someone in the book club who is able to do this, to print the guide for you.

We will also be including tips in Mosaic on how to have a successful book club, etc. Our hope is that the additional resources that New Hope Publishers is able to provide (videos, podcasts, articles, etc) will enrich your book club experience."

If you do not have Shades of REaD in your church, consider using this as another way to learn about missions. The books are listed in the WMU 2103-2104 Yearbook catalog, (page 36-39). There is a World Craft of the Month that coincides with each book study.

## STUDENTS

## New teen panel set, preparing for Exalt/4:GO in March

By Maryann Lee

Every year, Kentucky WMU invites teens involved in Acteens, Youth on Mission and Challengers from across the state to apply to be a part of the Kentucky Teen Advisory Panel. Teens are selected based on their missions, church, school and community involvement.

This year, five teens were selected to be on the panel. **Hope Couch** and **Makenna Thibodeaux**, from Central Baptist Church in Corbin, served on the 2013 panel and we are pleased to have them back. **Tanisha Bruce**, **Sommer McCrystal**, and **Patty McFarland** are from Gethsemane Baptist Church in Danville, and are serving on the panel for the first time.

These young women are all working in their churches, schools and communities to make a difference for Christ.

I am excited about working



The 2013-14 Kentucky Teen Advisory Panel consist of (from left) Tanisha Bruce, Patty McFarland, Sommer McCrystal, Makenna Thibodeaux and Hope Couch.

with them this year to help plan events for teens across the state.

Speaking of planning, the panel has already been hard at work preparing for Exalt/4:GO, our an-

nual teen event that will take place March 21-22 in Louisville.

With the theme "All for Him," teens will learn that whatever we, as Christians, do at school, church

or in our homes, it is all for Him.

This year, we are teaming with Refuge, a ministry that works with internationals in Louisville. On Friday night teens will get to hear stories from international refugees of how they came to know God and how He is working in their lives and the international community.

On Saturday teens will hit the streets going into the community learning about the struggles that internationals face and how we, as Christians, can minister to and share Christ with them.

From prayer walking to visiting in homes to picking up trash or other service projects, the theme of "All for Him" will carry over to show teens how ministry can take on different forms.

Plan now to attend Exalt/4:GO March 21-22. Registration information will be available soon.

## RAs/CHALLENGERS

## Restless RAs? We got you covered

By Jon Auten

## Royal Ambassadors

During the winter, Royal Ambassadors are busy learning about missions and missionaries around the world. Through the Biblical lessons, the engaging stories about missionaries, and the highlighted virtue, the boys find themselves developing a missions lifestyle while becoming more like Christ. In addition to learning practical skills like Bible telling, knot tying, wood working, and praying, RAs also develop skills in the area of physical fitness, cooperative teamwork, ministry, and leadership. With the help of committed RA leaders, Royal Ambassadors can definitely learn a lot during the winter months, and have a great time doing it.

But spending the winter inside can be tough on a boy. Looking forward to warmer weather, and the coming activities of spring, can encourage and sustain RAs during the long, cold days. That is why RAs look forward to RA Racer events and RA Congresses.

The RA Racer event can be a simple one at the church where the boys race their cars against one another, have snacks, and enjoy a special missions speaker. It can also be an associational RA Congress where several churches come together to race their cars, be challenged by a missions speaker, and enjoy a time of fellowship. Go to [www.kywmu.org/raresources](http://www.kywmu.org/raresources) and click on the link for "12 Steps to Planning an Associational Congress" for guidance.

Royal Ambassador groups can also look forward to attending the state-wide Royal Ambassador Mission Congress (RAMCON). March 15 is the date for RAMCON 2014

and Beaver Dam Baptist will be the host church. There will be a fun and exciting RA Racer competition. We will have two great missionary speakers who will challenge the boys to be on mission with God. And I am working on an activity that will let the boys test some of their sports-related skills. Check out [www.kywmu.org/ramcon](http://www.kywmu.org/ramcon) and make your plans now.

## Challengers

Exalt and 4:GO will soon be here as well. 4:GO is a statewide Challengers event held cooperatively with Exalt (Acteens). On March 21-22, the two events will meet together for a unique experience as they discover God at work in Louisville at a place called Refuge.

Refuge is a community transformation organization that provides economic development opportunities, health initiatives, and education for refugees who have come to live in Louisville. They faithfully share Christ with the refugees and provide worship and meeting space for five different ethnic churches. They also help local churches engage the world in their own communities through cross-cultural training and experiences.

During this great weekend event, Challengers, Acteens, Youth on Mission group members, and other teens will have the opportunity to prayer walk in the community, participate in a community service project, visit with a refugee family in their home, and learn about missions from the missionaries who lead Refuge. They will also participate in an ethnic worship service and enjoy some great ethnic food for lunch on Saturday. Best of all, they will meet people whose lives have been changed by the power of the Gospel.

Learn more about Exalt/4:GO at [www.kywmu.org/exalt4go](http://www.kywmu.org/exalt4go). Make plans now to bring your Challengers to a weekend they will never forget.

## CHILDREN &amp; PRESCHOOL

## Making Bible stories come alive for preschoolers and children

By Stacy Nall

Do you ever wonder if your preschoolers and children remember anything you've said? By learning to tell a good story, you can increase their comprehension of Bible and missions stories.

"Storytelling 1-2-3" has some excellent guidelines for storytelling. First, the story must be of interest to you. The story also must be told in a way that will be of interest to the children you teach.

How do we tell an interesting story? In addition to telling the story directly, try incorporating motions, music, drama, puppets and art. Make sure you know your story well and can tell it without reading it. Always be aware of the main concepts you want to teach. This will help you stay on track.

Remember to ask good questions to check comprehension. Ask questions that check factual knowledge (who, what, when, where) as well as application questions (how, why). For older children, assess comprehension by asking children to analyze, conclude or create. (GA Leader, RA Leader, and Children in Action Leader have helpful hints on how to "Step It Up" by asking thought-provoking questions.)

Follow the example of the Master Storyteller and tell His story!

## Storytelling Tips from "Storytelling 1-2-3"

- Just Words**—go high and low, loud and low, fast and slow
- Puppets**—take the role of an interviewer and let the puppet tell the story
- Music**—make up a song about the story to a familiar tune
- Props**—place 3-6 items in a story bag

## Coming this Winter!

Preschoolers and children will learn about missions in Peru through the International Mission Study. One of our own Kentucky missionaries, Amy Fisher, is featured! (She came to GA JAM in 2012.) You can order the guides for preschoolers and children and the Peru Kid's Booklet from [www.wmystore.com](http://www.wmystore.com) or 1-800-968-7301.

Make plans now to involve your children in Children's Ministry Day, February 15, 2014. The theme is GenerationReach.

Focus on a particular age group of under-served and under-reached people in your community. Throw a baby shower for a crisis pregnancy center. Provide quarters and breakfast for students at a local college. Ask your local "Meals on Wheels" if your kids could deliver the meals. The possibilities are endless!



PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Have you had a check-up lately?

By Linda Cooper

For more than 2,000 years the story of Jesus has lived on. Now it's our turn.

We are the story keepers for the future. It's our responsibility to see that the story is told in our families and around the world.

WMU attempts to do this through the six objectives but with the vast lostness in our world increasing and especially in our state, WE could ALL use a check-up. Let's all ask ourselves.

Pray for Missions.

Do YOU pray for missions and missionaries? Do you use the prayer calendar in the Mosaic?

Are your church members reminded to pray for missions? Do you use the prayer guides during the weeks of prayer?

Support Missions.

Do YOU give to missions offerings? Do

you give to missions projects that your church does?

Do YOU and your church give to Eliza, Lottie, and Annie missions offerings? If you do, then you and your church are helping to support Southern Baptist missionaries here and around the world.

Learn about Missions.

What do YOU know about what God is doing in the world? Do you read stories of missionaries and their work?

How do your fellow church members learn about what God is doing in the world? Do missionaries visit and tell about their work?

Do you and your church participate in the International, State, and North American Mission Studies? Learning about missions is vital. We cannot pray effectively if we don't know what is going on in the missions world.

Do missions and witness.

Do YOU take part in missions projects that are planned by your church? Do you plan projects of your own? Are your projects just projects or are you sharing Christ as you serve?

Grow spiritually toward a missions lifestyle.

Do YOU take part in spiritual retreats? Do you use devotional books or Missions Mosaic to help you grow? Do you actively seek God's will for your life?

Does your pastor preach mission sermons? Does your church see missions as a main priority and help you learn to witness better?

Participate in the work of the church.

Do YOU take part in church activities? Do you or your church take part in state or associational missions events?

So how are YOU and your church grow-

ing? If you had a good check-up from the questions above, then you are indeed sharing HIS story. I recently learned that His Story, the greatest story the world will ever hear is also found in one simple musical scale. This Christmas season have someone play an 8 note scale backwards with pauses at the 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 and last notes and you will hear the greatest story in the world through music.

Don't wait for someone else to start a new group of Mission Friends, GA, CA, RA, Challengers or WOM. I pray it's you who will take the lead in starting a new missions organization. You could start a passion for the Great Commission in someone's heart.

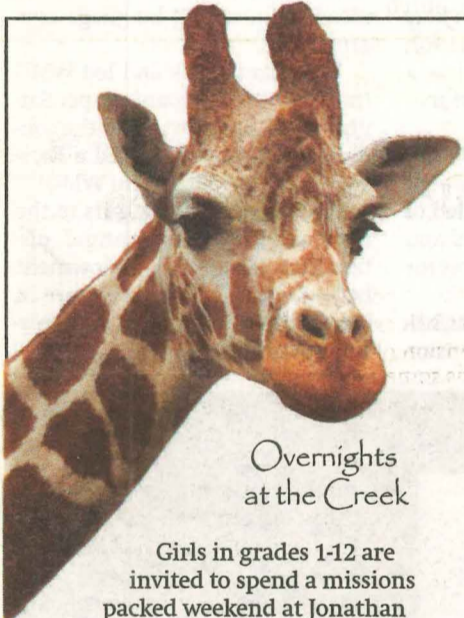
For 125 years, WMU has helped people learn about, pray for, give to, and do MISSIONS...and we're not stopping now!!

As always, if I can be of any help to you or your church, please don't hesitate to ask. Now, share His story!

Linda Cooper is president of the Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union.



Linda Cooper



Missions Safari

Come along on a Missions Safari as we discover the culture and missions in Africa!

Overnights at the Creek

Girls in grades 1-12 are invited to spend a missions packed weekend at Jonathan Creek Conference Center.

Mother/Daughter Overnight, girls in grades 1-3 and their leaders
GA Overnight, girls who have completed grades 4-6 and their leaders
Acteens Splash, girls in grades 7-12 and their leaders.

Dates and Rates
July 11-12, \$50 per person

Mission Adventure Camp for Girls and Boys 2014

Mission Adventure & Overnight (at right) campers will enjoy worship, Bible study, swimming and recreation at CedarCrest. Children will participate in gender appropriate activities and get to talk with a real life missionary.

Girls in Action, Children in Action, Royal Ambassadors and all other girls or boys who want to have fun are invited!

Dates and Rates
Girls & Boys, grades 3-6, Chaperones, \$195
June 9-13
June 16-20
June 23-27
Required chaperone rate \$25

Mother/Daughter & Father/Son Overnights, grades 1-3 at CedarCrest

Dates and Rates
\$50 per person
June 13-14
June 20-21



Make your plans now to attend a missions camp in 2014!

kywmu.org/mac



RAMCON 2014

Kentucky Royal Ambassador Missions Congress



Beaver Dam Baptist Church, Beaver Dam, KY
Saturday, March 15, 2014
10:00 am - 3:15 pm (Central Time)

Early Bird Rate - \$10 per person (lunch included)
After March 3- 10 - \$15 per person

Royal Racers - \$5 per person, onsite registration
Registration opens at 8:30 am

Learn more at www.kywmu.org/ramcon

ALL FOR HIM EXALT/4:GO 2014. A unique cross-cultural missions experience for teen guys and girls at Refuge Louisville. March 21-22, 2014. For more information and to register visit: www.kywmu.org/exalt4go

# Kentucky Notes

## KY WMU CALENDAR

- December**  
1-8 Week of Prayer for International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
- February**  
10-16 Focus on WMU  
15 Children's Ministry Day  
22 Leadership Network
- March**  
2-9 Week of Prayer for North American Missions and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering  
15 RAMCON, Beaver Dam Baptist Church, Beaver Dam  
21-22 Exalt/4:GO, Refuge Louisville, Inc.
- April**  
4-5 Kentucky WMU Annual Meeting, Central Baptist Church, Winchester  
25-26 Regional Women's Retreat, Camp Schafer, Hawesville
- May**  
2-3 Regional Women's Retreat, Laurel Lake Baptist Camp, Corbin  
17 SALT, Kentucky Baptist Building, Louisville

## KENTUCKY WMU HERITAGE FUND

July 1 – September 30, 2013

Thanks to all current and past donors for your support of Kentucky WMU through the Heritage Fund. The following gifts were received during the third quarter of 2013.

**In Honor of:**  
Peggy Grossman  
Jon Auten  
Wendy Stout  
Emily Smith  
Teresa Scarbrough

**Donor:**  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Campbell  
Joy Bolton  
Joy Bolton  
Marilyn Lamkin  
Marilyn Lamkin

**In Memory Of:**  
Charles Renfrow  
Mary Winchester  
Emma Tackett  
Emma Tackett

**Donor:**  
Salem Association WMU  
Harold & Dolores Gilmore  
Anna White  
Elkhorn Association WMU  
Leadership Team  
Laurel River Association WMU  
Laurel River Association WMU  
Laurel River Association WMU  
Jo Pelham  
Frankie Johnson

Roy Faulkner's Sister  
Alice Rogers  
Darrin Hale  
Dottie Lane  
Emma Tackett

**In honor of Joy Bolton (60th birthday!)**

Margaret Johnson  
Rev. & Mrs. James Castlen  
Fern Creek Baptist Church WMU  
Jennifer Peed  
Ruth Hinkle  
Betty Coppage  
Peggy Leach  
Lenna Walton  
Alison Holbrook  
Jim and Shirley Taliaferro  
Stacy Nall  
Susan Bryant

**Other Gifts**  
Kentucky WMU Staff  
Life Changers Mission Group, Central Baptist Church



## HERITAGE FUND AT WORK

### Fund provides 'extra resources'



Joy Bolton (second from right), director of Kentucky WMU, joins Kentucky Baptist women at the Ethnic WMU Summit.

#### By Joy Bolton

One of the important things Kentucky Woman's Missionary Union does each year is to provide training for associational WMU leaders.

We have a special event in May called SALT (State Association Leadership Training) as well as a conference just for associational leaders at Excel.

Just recently, we received a call from a brand new associational WMU director. She was thrilled to hear about the Heritage Fund and how it provides extra resources for associational leaders.

In August, three Spanish-speaking WMU leaders trav-

eled with me to attend the Ethnic WMU Summit. Laura Moran, Olga De Leon, and Ailen Caballero joined with WMU leaders from across the United States to learn more about WMU work and share ideas for involving language congregations.

They came back and led WMU training at the Hispanic Super Saturday in September. After the conference, Olga for Getsemani WMU!

Thank you for your gifts to the Heritage Fund. The annual distribution from this endowment helps Kentucky WMU do more in leadership development and missions education.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

### Apply now for KyWMU scholarships

Kentucky WMU has a variety of scholarships available for men and women who are preparing for full time Christian ministry. Teenage girls who have been involved in Acteens may also qualify. For more information, visit our website at [kywmu.org/scholarships](http://kywmu.org/scholarships), or call (502) 489-3534. The deadline is Feb. 15.



The Leadership Network is a group of gifted, passionate missions leaders who represent various areas of WMU and missions work. They are available to speak, lead conferences, lead vision tours, and consult with your church or association. If you have an area of missions expertise to share or you need help in missions, the Leadership Network is for you!

Learn more at: [www.kywmu.org/leadershipnetwork](http://www.kywmu.org/leadershipnetwork)

So if the Son sets you free, you will be  
**FREE INDEED**  
John 8:36 NIV

**2014 Women's Retreats**

**Dates**

- ▶ April 25-26, 2014  
Camp Schafer, Hawesville
- ▶ May 2-3, 2014  
Laurel Lake Baptist Camp, Corbin

**Cost**

- ▶ Retreat Package: \$55 Early-Bird Rate (includes conference, lodging, & 3 meals)
- \$60 after April 9, 2014
- ▶ Commuter Registration options available online

[kywmu.org/free](http://kywmu.org/free)

**FamilyFEST**  
2014  
July 19-23

**Boone's Creek Association**  
(Winchester, Ky., & surrounding area)

**FAMILYFEST**<sup>SM</sup>  
WMU® missions for families

[wmu.com/trips](http://wmu.com/trips)