

WESTERN Recorder

August 26, 2014

Shine Like Stars * Philippians 2:15

Volume 188, Issue 31

'Be the One' ... to foster a child

By Robin Cornetet

Louisville—The challenge is simple: Lift up one family—from every Kentucky Baptist church—to foster a

child. Doing so would mean placing one third of the state's 7,000 foster children in a loving, Christ-centered home if embraced by all 2,400 Kentucky Baptist Convention churches.

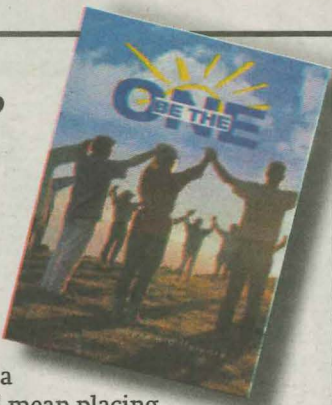
"What a statement of faithfulness that would make," said Michelle Chitwood, wife of KBC Executive Director Paul Chitwood. "I can think of no better way to show Kentucky that we are trying to live in obedience to God than by taking care of the children no one else wants to care for."

Michelle Chitwood, in partnership with Sunrise Children's Services, has initiated a campaign that will call on every Kentucky Baptist to "Be the One" to provide safe

□ See 'Be the One' ... Page 2



Michelle Chitwood



Ky. Baptist DR teams heading to Michigan

By Drew Nichter

Simpsonville—Kentucky Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers departed last Thursday morning for Michigan to assist residents in the aftermath of historic flooding in Detroit and its suburbs.

Between 50,000-100,000 homes were affected when torrential downpours on Aug. 11 left much of the city and surrounding areas under water. More than four and a half inches of rain fell in 24 hours, making it Detroit's wettest day in 89 years.

The crew of 11 Kentucky Baptists will assist residents with mud-out work, assess clean-up needs and serve as chaplains. They are part of a larger disaster relief effort being coordinated by the North American Mission



Board and the Baptist State Convention of Michigan.

The team, led by Bob Perkins of Simpsonville Baptist Church, is based at Warren Woods Baptist

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Owensboro-area congregations celebrate thriving church start with

By Karen Owen-Phelps

Owensboro—The moderator of a McLean County church held up a large sheet of paper bearing more than 100 signatures. "There are whole families on here," Buck Creek Baptist Church member Aaron Tucker marveled. "There are tears on it, dripped on it."

The combined service with Life Community Church Aug. 17 was an emotional moment for some members. Their congregation officially became a free-standing, autonomous church during the service.

"Buck Creek may not realize this," Pastor Kenny Rager explained earlier as 130 people filed to the front to add their signatures to the historic document, "there are whole families who have come to know Jesus. There have been lives that have been touched and changed."

"We could not have done this without the support of this church, the Cooperative Program and you all who helped and served in the early days," Rager said.

Life Community was the first church started by the 200-year-old Buck Creek congregation in more than a century. Thomas Webb, the mother church's pastor, is eager to do it again. "I believe with all my heart the Lord would have us start other churches."

While his flock worships at a rural crossroads, Life Community is ministering in The Heartlands, a densely settled, 800-house development on Owensboro's



Top & Left: Tears stained a list of 130 charter members of Life Community by the end of the emotional service with Buck Creek Church.

Above: Kenny Rager celebrates with Farrell Isenberg, another Owensboro pastor, after Life Community Church was commissioned Aug. 17.

booming east side.

The neighborhood includes many starter homes and "children are everywhere," said Rager, who lives there, too.

Webb said he felt a call from God for The Heartlands on a chance drive through the area. Eighteen months later,

Rager shared with Webb his calling for the area.

"It was a miracle in the sense of how God put all the pieces and people in place," said Jerry Tooley, director of missions of the Daviess McLean Association.

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KBC High Impact initiative closes with impressive rate of success

By Ken Walker

Owensboro—Kenny Rager regrets seeing the High Impact church planting program coming to an end. But the pastor of Life Community Church is grateful his congregation secured the final \$100,000 grant.

"My experience was great," Rager said of the Kentucky Baptist Convention funds that helped launch his church in the fall of 2012.

"We still have money in the bank. We may use it to help plant another church. The High Impact program helped us get to where we needed to be."

Initiated in 2004, the effort provided \$100,000 to help church planters start new churches, with a goal of reaching at least 250 in attendance over a five-year period.

With most convention staff members involved departing in recent years and all funds used, Life Community's chartering Aug. 17 marked the end for this form of church planting.

Still, Larry Baker, the KBC's former director of new works who spearheaded the initiative, thinks it made a lasting difference.

"I have not kept up with the work of these churches over the last two years

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'Be the One'

Continued from page 1

haven for abused and neglected children. She, along with Sunrise representatives and Tara Melber, wife of Crossings Ministries President David Melber, will be taking that message to eight Kentucky cities as they partner with KBC's EQUIP conferences this September. There, they hope to enlist ministry leaders in hosting foster care awareness nights in Kentucky Baptist churches throughout the state.

"All it takes is one family per church and we could change what Kentucky looks like forever," Michelle Chitwood said. Recently, the Chitwoods have started the process of becoming foster parents.

As the largest private child care agency in Kentucky, Sunrise facilitates the care of 600 children on any given day, and in 2012, had more than 1,700 children receive its services.

The objective is the same for every child that comes through the door, said

Aaron White, a Sunrise foster parent trainer, and that is to provide temporary care until families can be reunited. Unfortunately, the redemptive process can take an average of two years and even then only about 60 percent leave the system—many times after the child "ages out."

"It's a system that can be so broken," White said. "There's no money, and people aren't signing up to be social workers for \$20,000 a year."

If there is a glimmer of hope, White said it is among the 750,000 committed Christ followers known as Kentucky Baptists.

"We have the children. We have the training. What we need is believers who are ready to sacrifice, to join us in this ministry and give a voice to children who don't have a voice," White said.

Joshua Pace and his wife chose to be that voice. The Louisville couple opened their home and hearts to foster children 13 months ago—even while raising three young daughters of their own.

"It took me a while to get to this point, but I finally had the realization that caring for the helpless is a calling for all believers. The specific way God prompted us to move forward was foster care," said Pace. "I almost equate it to giving financially to the church. If you are a Christian and you are not maturing in sacrificial generosity, then there is probably something unhealthy about your relationship with God."

Pace said he understands the push-back his statement may cause. Mainly because he was there, too. Not long ago he feared the messiness of being a foster parent, the added stress to his routine, and strain it could have on relationships not only at home, but with friends who might not want to include his family if it meant dealing with a "troubled kid."

Pace said it all came down to obedience.

"This is part of being a Christian to me," he said, even at times when he is not feeling up to the task. "And that's OK, because we don't serve God to be rewarded. We serve God as a response."

Pace said he knows that without the help of others, he and his wife will likely falter. So he is working on creating a network of friends and church family who are willing to give their time. The level of commitment Pace is requesting varies from his wife's friends taking her out for coffee to trusted families keeping the children overnight once a month so the Paces can invest in their marriage.

"I'm asking them to partner with us like missionaries," he said.

Asking for help is not always easy, White said, so Sunrise will be encouraging churches to establish support networks to serve alongside foster families. The hope is that supporting members will attend some of the pre-service training—not the 42 hours required by foster parents, but enough to understand why foster children exhibit certain behaviors and how to be a positive influence.

Regardless, if God is calling someone to full-time service in foster care or to play a supporting role as a mentor, babysitter or friend, this ministry calls for a particular quality, White said.

"The character this work requires is the type of person who is ready to sacrifice their home, their family and their relationships on behalf of a child," White said, "and not expect anything in return." (KBC)

Nichter, Moody join KBC staff, campus ministry

Louisville—Drew Nichter, former news director of the Western Recorder, has joined the Kentucky Baptist Convention's communications team, where he will oversee the convention's digital presence on the web and through social media. The Mission Board approved his hire Aug. 16.



Drew Nichter

"We are so fortunate to have such a rock solid Christian man such as Drew join our team," said KBC Communications Director Roger Alford. "He is the right man for the job and will serve Kentucky Baptists well."

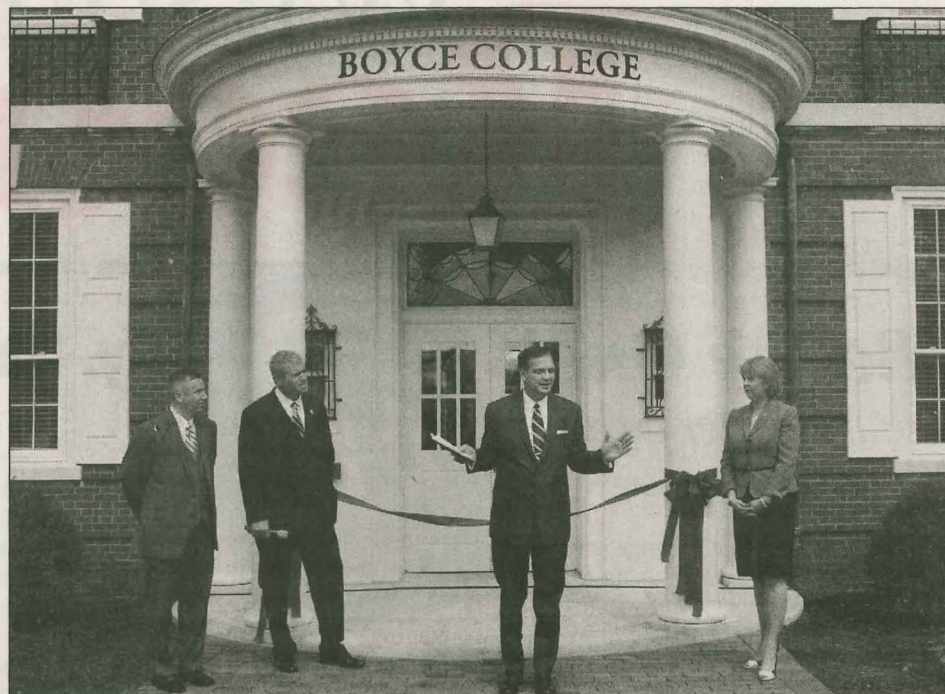
Previously, Nichter was news director of the Western Recorder for more than five years. From 2004-2007, Nichter worked as a news producer for WAVE 3 television in Louisville. He also has served as editor of the Oldham Era in LaGrange.

Nichter serves his community in Oldham County by volunteering as a board member of Crossroads Pregnancy Resource Center, an organization that seeks to help women affected by unplanned pregnancy.

Nichter is married to Sarah Nichter and they have two daughters: Caroline, 8, and Sadie, 5. He has a bachelor's degree in journalism from Indiana University Southeast.

The KBC Mission Board also approved hiring Josh Moody as part-time interim campus missionary with Baptist Collegiate Ministries at the University of Louisville. He previously served as a missionary intern at the school and is projected to graduate from Southwestern Seminary in 2015.

"Josh has a passion to help people encounter Jesus and will serve us well as we search for God's man for a permanent campus missionary at UofL," said Brian Combs, KBC Collegiate Evangelism strategist. (KBC)



President Albert Mohler Jr. leads a dedication ceremony of renovated Mullins Complex, Aug. 19. He is joined (l to r) by Dan DeWitt, dean of Boyce College; trustee chairman Philip Gunn, speaker of the Mississippi House of Representatives; and first lady Mary Mohler, who performed the ribbon cutting. **Below right:** Exterior photo of Mullins Complex. **At bottom:** Model dorm suite.

New home of Boyce College dedicated in re-opening of Mullins Complex

By James Smith Sr.

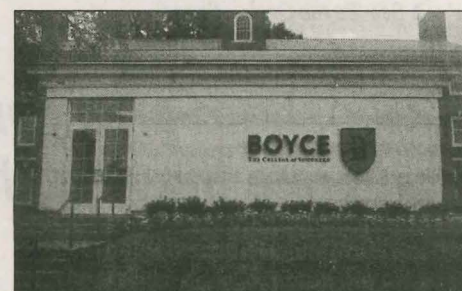
Louisville—The newly renovated home of Boyce College, the undergraduate school of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, was dedicated Aug. 19 in a ceremony led by President Albert Mohler Jr.

"This is a day that marks a significant step forward for Southern Seminary and Boyce College and one we celebrate together," Mohler said.

The grand re-opening of the historic Mullins Complex comes after a seven-month project that totally renovated the interior of the 130,000 square-foot, nearly 90-year-old facility. The project was "retrofitted to the needs of college students and a growing, thriving college for the next generation," he said.

Throngs of students, faculty and trustees convened for the dedication service in Mullins Courtyard. Other seminary officials joining Mohler in the brief ceremony included trustee chairman Philip Gunn, speaker of the Mississippi House of Representatives; Dan DeWitt, dean of Boyce College; Daniel Dumas, senior vice president of institutional administration; and first lady Mary Mohler, who performed the ribbon cutting. The event also featured an open house in Sampey Commons and a tour of a model dorm suite.

"If you had been in (Mullins) in times past, and you went in it now, you would not know that it was the same building," Mohler said to the ceremony attendees, which included alumni and other former residents of the complex.



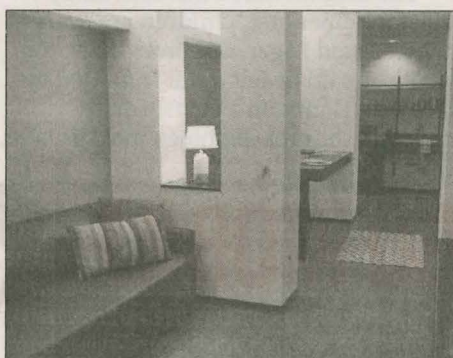
The Mullins Complex—comprised of five halls named for major figures in the seminary's history—is among the oldest group of buildings at Southern Seminary, dating to the 1920s, and over the years served as the seminary's primary dormitory.

Messer Construction Co., Louisville office, completed the renovation of the Mullins Complex. The renovation began in December 2013 as part of the \$20 million first phase of the seminary's comprehensive Master Plan. It involved repurposing the historic Mullins Complex as a first-rate college facility, moving Boyce College to the center of campus. Construction workers completely renovated the complex, starting with a demolition process that lasted through the winter and finishing with a comprehensive interior redesign that was completed in July.

Boyce enrollment is more than 770, with 260 new students—the largest incoming class to begin a semester at the school, which became the seminary's undergraduate program in 1998. Students moved into Mullins on Aug. 8.

The renovated Mullins Complex is a state-of-the-art facility where Boyce students can live and interact with their community. Students are housed in 86 suites, providing a total of 350 beds with room for expansion. Additionally, the complex includes 17 faculty offices, and disability friendly features have been incorporated throughout the complex.

Sampey Commons is a comfortable gathering area for students and their friends, and includes a rock climbing wall, two kitchens, a recording studio and an entertainment lounge. (SBTS)



Equip tour 2014

The Apostle Paul reminds in Ephesians that the Lord "gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ (4:11-12)." To fulfill our commitment to "help churches reach Kentucky and the world for Christ," the Kentucky Baptist Convention desires to help equip those who are equipping the saints.

Together We are the KBC



Paul Chitwood

During the month of September, the KBC EQUIP TOUR is coming to a town near you! The EQUIP TOUR could be described as a mini-Super Saturday. The goal of the tour is to provide helpful, practical training that will equip believers to serve their KBC churches with confidence and with excellence.

On Mondays and Tuesdays, from 6-9 p.m., we will provide training at eight different locations (listed below). There should be at least one EQUIP TOUR stop within an hour's drive of most every church in Kentucky.

- Sept. 8 at Heartland Worship Center in Paducah
- Sept. 9 at First Baptist Church of Madisonville
- Sept. 15 at Allen Baptist Church in Prestonsburg
- Sept. 16 at Beacon Hill Baptist Church in Somerset
- Sept. 22 at First Baptist Church of Grayson
- Sept. 23 at Williamstown Baptist Church in Williamstown
- Sept. 29 at Parkway Baptist Church in Bardstown
- Sept. 30 at Glasgow Baptist Church in Glasgow

Training will be provided in the following areas:

- Discipleship
- Evangelism
- Assimilation
- Revitalization
- Preschool/Children's Ministry
- Sunday School
- Worship/Music
- Youth Ministry

A special session highlighting how your church can become a champion of children in need through foster parenting will be offered at all events as well. In partnership with Sunrise Children's Services, Michelle Chitwood and Tera Melber will be presenting "The Sunrise Challenge." With as many as 300 children on any given night in Kentucky not having a place to stay, we are praying that every KBC church will accept the challenge to find at least one family in their church willing to be trained as foster parents. A breakout session will provide information to help churches understand the needs and opportunities of foster parenting through Sunrise.

For more information, call the Church Consulting and Revitalization Team at (502) 489-3571 or toll-free in Kentucky (866) 489-3571, or send an email to cheryl.frerman@kybaptist.org.

Paul Chitwood is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Proposing a new holiday: 'Don't Labor in Vain Day'

Most of us have worked hard to get where we are today. If you're like my wife and me, you periodically reflect back over your years of laboring. In our case, we can hardly believe it's spanned 43 years.

Back in my second year of seminary in Scotland, we had just enough savings between us to squeak through. By the time we returned to the States, I had decided not to pursue ministry as a profession but was unclear about what to do as an alternative.

We borrowed money from my mother for the security deposit on an apartment and first month's rent. No furniture, no job, no prospects and practically no money—our future was uncertain, but that didn't seem to matter. We sat on the floor of the apartment the day we took possession, looked around and couldn't have been happier. We were fueled by love, hope and faith. We knew we'd be fine.

I wonder, if we were faced with the same circumstances today, would we be as confident and hopeful? What might we be thinking, feeling and saying to each other?

Maybe I'd be ashamed that I'd put us in such a position of financial uncertainty. At age 67, perhaps I'd be fearful about how to navigate through it. We wouldn't want to impose on our children for help. Would the tenderness and partnership with my wife still be there—enough to see us through? Or would we turn on each other, cast blame and make matters worse? I'd like to think that enough love, hope and faith are still there so we could face such circumstances and find our way through it with the Lord.

Thankfully, that's not our situation. However, this prompts some questions: Who has been building the "house" of our lives over the years? Were we? Was the Lord? Did we build it and invite Him in, or did He build it and invite us in?

These are tough questions. It's easy to rationalize that we were trusting Him for direction and outcomes—diligently doing our part to bang the nails with the hammer He gave us.

The honest answer for me is that there were times, even long stretches, when I "hammered" first and consulted later. There were other times, usually when I hit rough patches, when I asked my Builder-Foreman for assistance. The Lord was always quick to respond, performing for or with me what I couldn't accomplish on my own.

I suspect that, if you were to take a spiritual photo of the "house" of your life, it would be apparent who was

building what at various points in the construction process. The better, more finished parts were the Lord's craftsmanship. The obvious do-it-yourself parts were your handiwork. Is it perfect? No. Could it have been better? Of course. If we all could retrace our steps and do it over again, knowing what we now know about His faithfulness and effectiveness, would we give Him more control over the building? You bet we would. In hindsight.

But here's the thing—the house of our lives is still being built. What about the sagging ceiling in our marriages? The leaking basement in some of our family relationships? The cracked wall in certain friendships? The weakening support beams of health and finances? The broken seals in the windows of our earlier hopes and dreams? None of those are beyond repair or remodeling.

Labor Day commemorates the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity and well-being of our country. We take a day off from our labors to give tribute to those who have labored before us. I'd like to propose a new holiday. We can celebrate it on the same first Monday in September—"Don't Labor in Vain Day."

"This is when we bring in the Inspector, take that spiritual photo, get the report and call the Contractor of Contractors to come in and take care of business."

to do under your own labor up to this point. That's not an idle pipe dream. It's a promise—His promise. Let's remember that on this Don't Labor in Vain Day. (BP)

Steve Silver is a retired business executive, author of the book "New Man Journey" and related resources at www.newmanjourney.com. Silver also is the founder of Men's Golf Fellowship.

This is when we bring in the Inspector, take that spiritual photo, get the report and call the Contractor of Contractors to come in and take care of business. There's no telling what He'll be able to do that day. He works wonders.

You may be in a season of life where what you're facing has required you to recalibrate your game plan, make adjustments, change your expectations and realign your priorities. Whatever your circumstances, He who numbers every hair of your head is able to do exceedingly more, with the rest of your life than what you've been able

Turned off to church?

By Scott Wigginton

Q: As a parent, what can I say to a teenager who is turned off to the church due to the rigid, judgmental and prideful attitudes of some of the members and even leaders?

A: First, I would say that your teen has a lot of company. A whole host of God's family would say a hearty "Amen" to that concern. When the family of God acts like the world, it loses the distinctiveness that makes it special.

Interestingly enough, it is often the dirty salt that is contaminated through cave-ins at the salt mine which is used for roads in winter. As Jesus put it in

Matthew 5:13, when the salt loses its savor and becomes contaminated by the world, it is useful only to be trampled underfoot.

Sick religion is often marked by pride and narcissism that is eerily reminiscent of the Pharisees of old. The primacy of love for Christ and others is supplanted by the consuming desire to make a name for oneself, to wield power, to be careless in how others are treated, and to ignore one's own sin in favor of pointing out the sin in someone else.

Jesus had harsh words for religious leaders who held such a low view of God and His word so as to arrogantly live at either end of a continuum marked by the polar concerns of licentiousness and legalism. Remind your son or daughter

that part of what so attracted persons to our Lord was that He actually lived out the life to which He was calling others. He honored the Law, yet walked in grace and freedom.

As Anne Graham Lotz wrote to wounded believers in her book, "Wounded by God's People": "Don't let the memories and the mistreatment, the words and the wounds, the jealousy and the hypocrisy, the deceit and the dishonesty, the cheap talk and the inconsistent walk, the meanness, unkindness, rudeness, pridefulness, selfishness, sinfulness, injustice, and unfairness of people from your past creep into the present and ruin the promise of blessing and hope for the future."

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



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Letters to the editor:

The Baptist Forum section of the Western Recorder provides an opportunity for Kentucky Baptists to express their viewpoints. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Western Recorder's editorial staff, its Board of Directors, or the Kentucky Baptist Convention. Letters should be no more than 300 words in length and will be edited for style, clarity and space. Letters must reflect a spirit of Christian charity and civility.

The Oneida spirit

OBI staff pitch in to help family paint, clean & rehab house

In last week's article, I mentioned some things I had not anticipated in my first year on the job. Another thing I did not anticipate was the challenge involved in maintaining all of our faculty/staff housing. When one family or staff member moves out, often a family is in the pipeline ready to come as new staff members who need to move in as quickly as possible. Some of our departing staff leave their housing in excellent condition, but some places need quite a bit of work, often due to normal wear and tear and the long period someone has lived there.

Recently after a staff family left, I quickly offered the housing to a current OBI family. We frequently wait on the arrival of a faithful volunteer group to help rehab a house. In this instance, we had no volunteers on campus and very few scheduled for the following week, and most of our staff was on vacation. I told the family moving into the house that they could do some cleaning, painting and rehab themselves, or wait longer for volunteer help. The following morning I stopped by the house and was delighted to find nearly a dozen staff members cleaning and painting. While I am sure it was not exactly what those folks wanted to do with their day off, all seemed to be glad to pitch in and help out another family.

We spent the better part of the day

working. Since our cafeteria was closed that evening, I sent Angie off with a credit card and some instructions. I realized placing a credit card in Angie's hands was risky, but I rolled the dice and sent her off for pizza from our local Town Market. Angie gathered up some donated drinks and chips, and managed to pull off a pretty economical meal for the work crew. We enjoyed a great time of food and fellowship, but then back to work we went.

The next afternoon I saw a man who helped on this rehab project. He is well into his 70s, but he could outwork most younger men on our campus. I asked him if he was sore. He said, "Yes, but it's a good sore. It's the kind of sore that comes from helping someone." What a blessing he and his wife are to our ministry, and what a blessing all those who helped out that day are as well.

I am privileged daily to observe so many servants of God laboring in this small but wonderful place for the Lord and for young people. Whether it is cleaning and painting school housing, mowing a yard, teaching chemistry, feeding our guests, or something else, it is a blessing to see ordinary folks perform ordinary tasks and to see God do something extraordinary with their offering of love.

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

A summer of experience

Student gets practical experience as KCBA summer missionary

Senior Rudy Montalvo came to the United States from El Salvador when his father was called here to preach the gospel. Rudy followed God's call to the ministry and that led him to Clear Creek. This summer he has gained some valuable experience working as a Hispanic/collegiate missionary in the Knox County Baptist Association in Barbourville.

"I was able to work throughout the summer with the association in a new Hispanic church plant," Montalvo said. "The goal of the church plant is to reach people with the gospel of Jesus Christ. At this point the work is moving forward in the form of a Bible study each Saturday in one of the local Mexican restaurants. This ministry has been hard and at times discouraging as the target group is a very transient group. The goal the Lord has set on my heart is to just preach the gospel and leave the rest up to Him."

"The other facet of this ministry is geared towards the college community in Barbourville at Union College," Montalvo said. "The main goal of our work there is to share with students about

Jesus Christ and that they may trust in Him alone as the One who is able to provide them with the salvation they so desperately need. The goal is to set a

foundation in which the students may know who God is and what Jesus can do and has done for them, so that when their foundational belief is attacked they may know how to defend the faith."

"I am thankful for the preparation I have gained from Clear Creek that has helped prepare me for this ministry," he said. "In some of my Old Testament classes I can remember

Dr. John Ditty saying, 'There are times in the ministry of these prophets where the only thing they could hold on to is their calling, so it will be in your ministry: there will be times that the only thing that you can hold on to is the calling God has placed upon your life.' Those times have come and gone but when they were around I could take courage by reading the word and remembering this quote."

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Clear Creek Chronicle



Donnie Fox

Regional SPOTLIGHT



Jeff Crabtree
South Central

Editor's note: The Western Recorder has enlisted the Kentucky Baptist Convention's six regional consultants to periodically highlight an individual, church or ministry that is doing exceptional things for God's kingdom in the regions in which the consultants serve. As they share stories with us, we will share them with you in the "Regional Spotlight."

On a rainy July afternoon at Liberty Baptist Church in Russell Springs, brown paper bags in potato chip boxes lined tables in its Christian Life Center. However, on a lazy day, there was plenty of energy as about 12 people made barbeque sandwiches, wrapping them in foil and placing them in those brown bags. Some in Russell County may say it is all about those brown bags, but the bags are but a small part of the work of the ministry of The Cross Connection Soup Kitchen.

About three years ago, the members of Liberty Baptist Church had a desire to make an impact on their community by providing a hot meal for those without basic resources. The ministry began with around 30 meals being delivered to area families. They began with soup, but soon came to understand that because of transportation, a bag meal was much easier to handle.

Today, the ministry meets on the third Friday of every month to bless residents with food, but more than that, with relationships.

Pastor Greg Estes said that some months the ministry will deliver more than 500 meals. On the night I visited, 490 meals were delivered to 15 routes around Russell County.

As many as half of the meals prepared go to senior adults. Terry George, one of the men from the church who delivers, told me that he had been taking one man food for months, but that night God opened a door for him to share the gospel.

Another driver takes food to Phyllis, who has been in hospice care for the last six months. They celebrate another month of life each time they bring her a bag of food. Phyllis tells them as they

leave, "If you come and I am not here, you know where I will be (heaven)."

Children are also being used through The Cross Connection Soup Kitchen. The first group is the church's 1st-3rd-grade Mission Friends. They pack every bag with other food staples each month.

When I was there, children worked alongside adults to make sandwiches, get orders together and play dodge ball with children of families that dropped by to pick up meals.

Heather Coffee has been working with the ministry since it has begun. She delivers to the same neighborhood and has developed a relationship with a group of children in that housing area.

"The kids meet us at the car each month; the joy that they get seeing them there is great. I know we are feeding them physically, but we are feeding them spiritually as well," she said. "Hugs and kind words go as far as the food."

The Cross Connection Soup Kitchen is funded through individuals, the church budget and the Kentucky Baptist Convention. One church member said, "KBC has been a blessing for The Cross Connection Soup Kitchen!"

The community also sees a great value in the ministry. Local Jaycees recently invested \$500 dollars into the ministry.



"Impacts are huge!" exclaimed Pastor Estes. There are at least three impacts from the soup kitchen, he said. First, the work of the soup kitchen allows a first-hand realization that people are hungry two blocks from their church. Second, it forces the body of Christ to do what it is supposed to do for the least and the lost. Finally, it allows for real relationships to be built so that many people can hear the gospel message.

Over the past three years, The Cross Connection Soup Kitchen has been used by God to see five baptisms and four additional families become part of the membership at Liberty.

When volunteers pick up the food bags for their routes, they review a check list of things to do before they leave the church. The fourth item on the check list reminds them: "Most of all, have fun being the hands and feet of Jesus."

Liberty Baptist is an example of the many Kentucky Baptist churches working to impact their communities in an easy but profound way. How will God use you to be the hands and feet of Jesus?



A PERSONAL WORD

All For You: Surrender - Sacrifice - Serve

This fall we begin a **new two-year WMU emphasis**, All for You: Surrender, Sacrifice, Serve. The WMU emphasis provides a fresh way of viewing the ministries of WMU and our own involvement in the mission of God. The emphasis is a personal commitment statement and reminds us that giving all begins with surrender to the Lord, sacrifice of personal ambitions, and concern for others as we serve. Our 2014 state missions emphasis, **Power to Serve**, focuses our attention on the source of power for service. The theme is based on Acts 1:8 and the materials feature eight ministries across Kentucky. The Eliza Broadus Offering goal is \$1,250,000 and provides needed financial resources for Kentucky missions. Please use the Power to



Joy Bolton

Serve prayer guide and support Kentucky missions with prayer as well as giving and personal involvement.

Thank you for your gifts to the 2013-14 Eliza Broadus Offering. The offering will close on August 31. This offering was the second largest ever received, exceeded only by the year that we received a large estate gift for the offering. We exceeded \$1.2 million for state missions. Every dollar helps to provide resources for ministries which share the gospel.

Be sure to read "EBO at Work," my monthly column in the Western Recorder. The column usually runs on the third Tuesday of each month and includes stories and information about EBO funded ministries. You can also subscribe to my blog, "Discover the Joy of Missions," to read stories of missions and WMU. Read online or subscribe to receive by email at

www.discoverjoy.org.

It has been an incredible summer for Kentucky WMU with a bus tour to Baltimore for the national WMU meeting, three weeks of camp, overnights at Jonathan Creek, four weeks of Kentucky Changers, a week of Familyfest, and Camp Courage. The inside pages of this issue of Kentucky Notes have a montage of pictures from the summer.

At this point it would be easy to say "Whew, let's rest awhile." Instead we now turn our attention to state missions, fall events, and preparations for launching Creative Ministries Festival 2.0 in March 2015. Participation in WMU sponsored events is a great way to add something extra to missions education at your church. The latest information about WMU events is found on our web site including online registration for all of our activities which require registration. Kentucky WMU is your partner in all things missions!

Joy Bolton is the executive director of KY WMU

2013-14 Eliza Broadus Offering

As of 8/19/2014:
\$1,205,584.86

**Thank you
Kentucky Baptists!**

EBO 2014
begins on
September 1
Goal: \$1,250,000

Season of Prayer for State Missions and Eliza Broadus Offering

September 2014
Offering Goal: \$1,250,000

power to SERVE

2014 Featured Ministries include:

Experience 1:8
Affinity Evangelism
Haven of Rest
Crossroads Community Baptist Church
Intentional Innovative Community Evangelism
Missions Mobilization
Mississippi River Ministry
Appalachian Regional Ministry

Video and print materials are posted on our web site: www.kywmu.org/ebo

Posters, prayer guides and offering envelopes have been mailed according to the standing order of each church.

Call 502-489-3534 or
toll-free: 866-489-3534
for additional information.

President's Perspective

A summer well spent

By Susan Bryant

What a summer this has been! Just when other organizations are scaling back in the warm weather, KY WMU has gone into overdrive. I am so thankful that I have had the opportunity to participate in many of the ministries that have taken place this summer.

I was able to see firsthand what a wonderful ministry **Kentucky Changers** is - not only for the homeowners who benefitted from work done on their homes, but also for the youth who learned what just what it meant to be a servant. My church fed a crew and got to know the homeowner on whose home they were working. This Sunday, she attended Sunday School at my church for the first time and promises to be back. Praises!

Overnights at Jonathan Creek were awesome, and I loved the opportunity to speak to leaders and thank them for investing in the lives of the GAs and Acteens they lead each week. Missions

Adventure Camp at Cedar Crest gave me the opportunity to take on our Executive Director in Bazooka Ball! Children having fun, exploring their world, and learning about God's plan for their lives are goals of our camping program.

Excel, WMU leadership development, is a highlight of every summer. I always

benefit from the passion of the church WMU leaders and come away energized and ready for the new year to begin.

This summer **Familyfest** took place in Eastern Kentucky July 19-24, 2014. Familyfest, a mission trip planned by the National WMU, is a wonderful way to minister in communities and share the gospel to people of all ages. Washing windows at a local school and painting a homeless shelter reminded me of the WMU theme for 2014-16 All for You: Surrender, Sacrifice, Serve - and isn't that what it is all about!

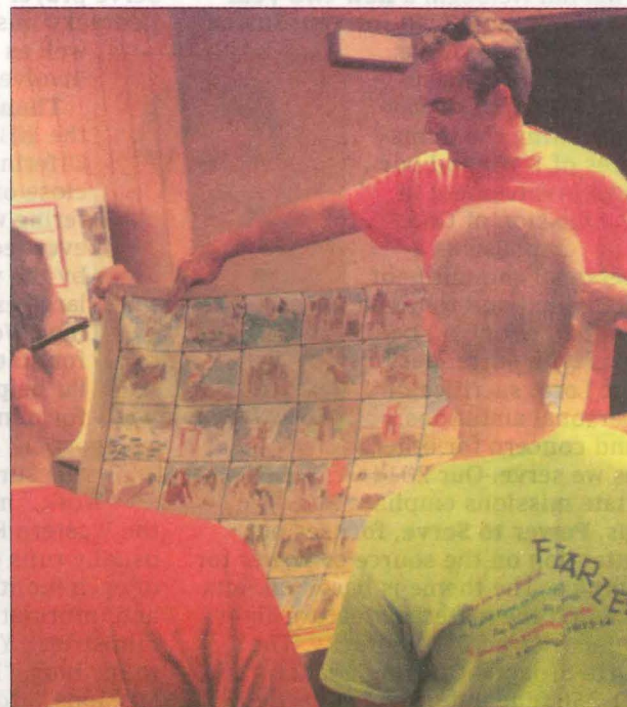
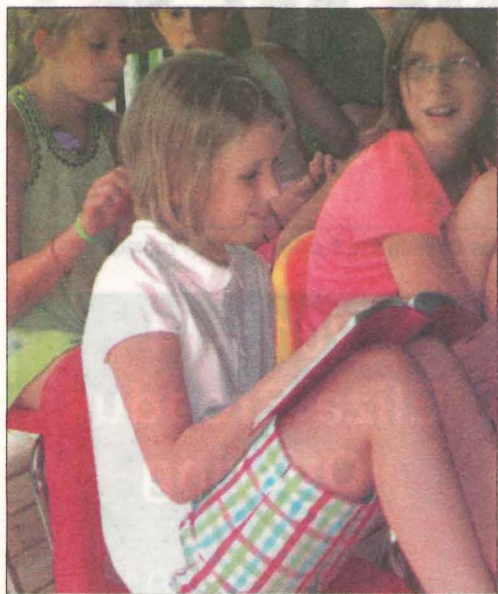


Susan Bryant

Mission Adventure Camp 2014 MISSIONS SAFARI

Mission Adventure Camp 2014, a week long camp for boys and girls in grades 3-6 along with their leaders, took kids on a Missions Safari to Africa! Through learning from missionaries, Bible study, and African culture lessons, the kids were able to understand what life in Africa is all about. Mission Adventure Camp also had overnight opportunities for Moms and Daughters and Fathers and Sons.

Pictures Clockwise - 1. Friends being made while swimming in the pool. 2. A church leader shares how Bible Storying is used to share Christ. 3. Joyful Noise Choir. 4. More Africa learning through arts and crafts. 5. Campers enjoyed daily Bible study.



Overnights at the Creek 2014

Focusing on missions learning and spiritual growth Overnights at Jonathan Creek Conference Center featured opportunities for mothers and daughters and GA's from across the state to come together for a fun packed weekend!



Acteens Splash

An overnight camping experience for teen girls included times of worship (pictured above), missions learning, Bible study, and fun camp activities like swimming, campfire, and crafts.

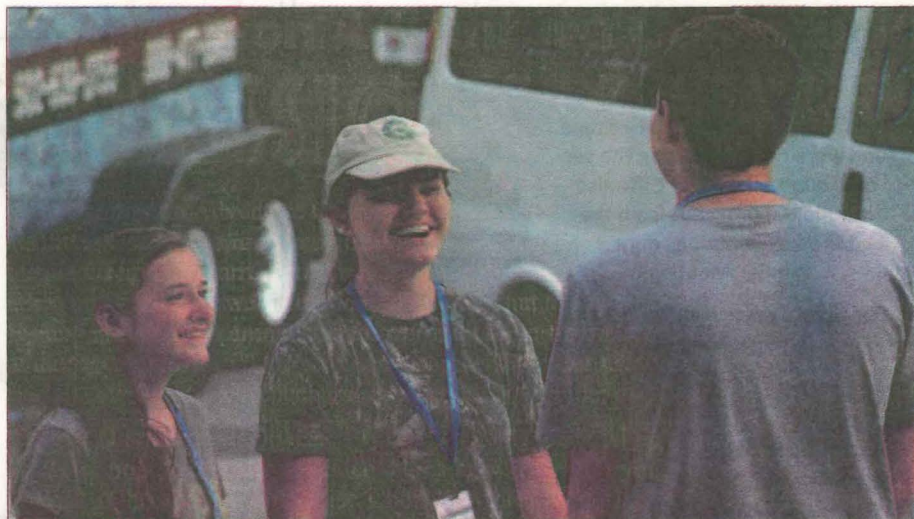
Above: GA's enjoy leaning about missions in Mexico.
Bottom Right: A GA has her morning quiet time by the lake.
Bottom Left: Moms and daughters share in worship together.



Above: Missionary Larry Wakefield from Mexico shares his experiences.
Left: Acteens Splash campers enjoyed making a decoupage craft.

KENTUCKY CHANGERS

899 people representing 65 different churches answered the call this summer to serve through Kentucky Changers, a ministry for teens that seeks to meet the physical needs of homeowners through basic home repairs and construction. Teens spent the day working on homes while the evenings were spent in times of worship that challenged them to grow in their walk with Christ. With four locations this summer in Hopkinsville, Frankfort/Lawrenceburg, Richmond and Louisville, Kentucky Changers saw numerous lives touched. Throughout the summer 25 people were saved with 52 people rededicating their life to Christ and 31 feeling a call to ministry.



FAMILYFESTSM
WMU® missions for families



Wellness Checks at Clark County Homeless Coalition by a KY WMU Baptist Nursing Fellowship member.

Familyfest took place in Eastern Kentucky and is a partnership between National WMU, Kentucky WMU, Boones Creek Baptist Association (BCBA), and Appalachian Regional Ministry (ARM). Through wellness clinics, block parties, community outreach and many other ministries, 19 people were saved.

A note of thanks we received.



August 4, 2014

Dear Kentucky WMU,

It was so wonderful meeting all of you last week. Thank you for your generosity to New Beginnings. We are blessed that you have a heart to reach the less fortunate and hurting in other communities as well as around the world.

The whole day was just lovely. The girls and their children really enjoyed all the crafts, bingo, door prizes as well as the delicious lunch.

Thanks for making such a difference in our community.

Sincerely,

BJ Graham
BJ Graham
Director

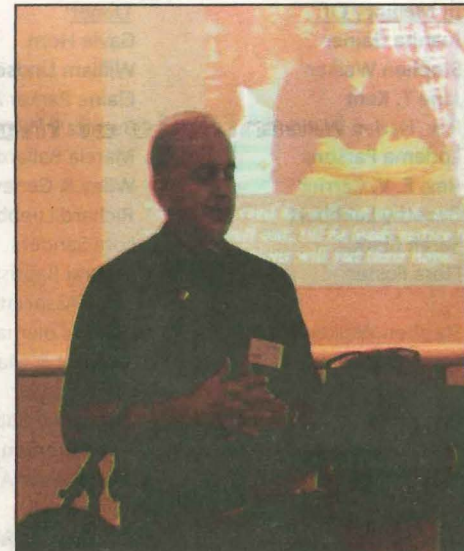


Above: Block Party at Ephesus Baptist Church.

Below: Healthy cooking and meal with Clark County Homeless Coalition



RA teamwork on the obstacle course.



Roy McIntyre, IMB worker, tells about his work in South Asia.

Courage 2014 is "in the books" as they say, but it is also in the hearts and memories of over 120 Royal Ambassadors, RA Leaders, and dads. Attendees were informed and challenged by our speakers, Roy McIntyre of the IMB, and Larry and Elaine Koch from Kentucky Disaster Relief. RAs also had a blast shooting arrows, sawing logs, racing cars, swimming, competing in the new team obstacle course, and much more!

Below: Ready for RA Racers to start



Kentucky WMU Heritage Fund

April 1– June 30, 2014

The following gifts to the Heritage Fund were received during the second quarter of 2014. Gifts also include the proceeds from the Mite Box donations during Annual Meeting.

Our thanks to each individual and group who gave.



In Honor of:

Joy Bolton
Margaret Cook Casey
Peggy Hicks
Oakland Ave. Baptist WMU
Judy Short
Kentucky WMU Staff
Denise Gardner
Dr. James Clontz
Joy Bolton
Joy Bolton
Rev. & Mrs. James B. Lewis
Linda Cooper
Cheryl Hatfield

Utha "Sally" Deen

Maryann Lee
Utha "Sally" Deen
Irma Woodrow
Irma Woodrow
Linda Cooper
Utha "Sally" Deen

In Memory Of:

Juanita Gaines
Stephen Walker
Jane T. Kent
Rev. Harlan Williams
Lodema Parsons
Rev. E. V. Carrier
Dorothy Luebbert
Sarah Clark
Flora Foster

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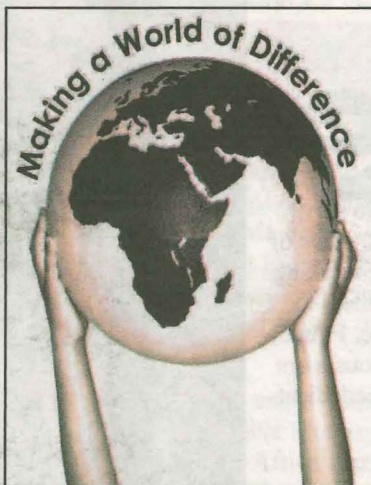
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Brownsville Baptist WOM

Other Gifts

Lone Oak First Baptist Church, Buffalo Lick Baptist Church, Hopkinsville First Baptist Church, Lori Sharp, Barry & Laura Morris, Twyla Sheffield, Ruth Hinkle, Lee & Joy Bolton, Marcia Ballard, Patricia Warford, Cathy Terrell, Patricia Campbell, Pat S. Carr, Jim & Linda Cooper, Beth Wyatt, Judy Powell, Julia Devore, Fay Royalty, Dudley & Pat Reaves, Mission Friends of Forest Park Baptist Church, Margaret Johnson, Susan Huffman, Dewilla Holtzclaw, Melissa Logsdon-Young, Shirley Rhoton, Frances Moss, Sandra Clark, Allen Baptist Church, Pamela P. Horn, Margaret Dunn, Harold & Dolores Gilmore, Sandra Winter, Shirley Taliaferro, Upton Baptist Church Baptist Women II, Susan Bryant, Tina Nicely, Faith Baptist Mission Circle, Anna Cook, Northside Baptist Women on Mission, Winchester, Hart Baptist WMU Willing Workers, Ruth Briscoe, Bowling Green First Baptist Church WMU, Kentucky WMU Staff, Hempridge Baptist WMU, Irma Woodrow, Lexington Ave. Baptist Church



GA JAM 2014

November 8, 2014

10:00 am- 2:15 pm (Eastern Time)

First Baptist Church,
Shelbyville, KY

Early bird rate- \$10 per person (includes lunch)
Registration after Oct. 24 through Oct. 29 \$15 per person

www.kywmu.org/gajam



CA-BOOM!

Children in Action-
Blast Off on Mission!

For boys and girls in grades
1-6 and their leaders.

September 20, 2014

10 am- 2:15 pm (Eastern Time)

Central Baptist Church
Lawrenceburg, Kentucky

Early bird rate- \$10 per person (includes lunch)
Registration after Sept. 8 through Sept. 12- \$15

www.kywmu.org/caboom



Kentucky
Baptist Convention
Annual Meeting

Tuesday, November 11, 2014

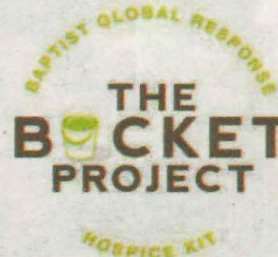
Living Hope Baptist Church

1805 Western St, Bowling Green, KY 42104

Join in worship and fellowship with Kentucky Baptists.

Bring completed Hospice
Care Buckets!

Our goal is to have 800 buckets
at Annual Meeting to help us
reach our 2014 goal of 5000
buckets!



Calendar

September

7-14 Season of Prayer for
State Missions and Eliza
Broadus Offering
13 Excel, St Matthews
Baptist Church, Louisville
20 CA-BOOM (formerly CIA
Day Camp), Central Bap-
tist Church, Lawrence
burg

October

12 World Hunger Sunday
23-25 KY WMU Executive Board
Meeting, Louisville

November

3 Baptist Women's World
Day of Prayer
8 GA JAM, First Baptist
Church, Shelbyville
11 KBC Annual Meeting,
Living Hope Baptist
Church, Bowling Green
27 Thanksgiving

December

Nov 30–Dec 7
Week of Prayer for Inter-
national Missions and
Lottie Moon Christmas
Offering

"Thank You" Day

We want to hear about your
Thank You Day!
Send information and pictures to
Stacy.Nall@kybaptist.org

Missions Friends and Mission Friends Leaders

This September, Kentucky Mission Friends groups are encouraged to deliver cards and cookies to their local Fire or Police departments to show their appreciation for helping people in crisis. This project goes along with the new ProjectHELP emphasis PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder).

High Impact

Continued from page 1

(but) I am excited with what so many of these churches have and are accomplishing," said Baker, now director of missions at Bates Creek Association in Berea.

Although the first congregation launched under the initiative—Master's Church in Lexington—has folded, 26 of 29 High Impact churches are still operating.

Crosspoint 'vibrant'

Among the most vibrant is Crosspoint Church in Morehead. Started in 2008, it recently relocated to the Rowan County High School gymnasium to accommodate continuing growth.

Although attendance fluctuates with terms at Morehead State University, the church welcomed more than 1,000 to its first service after the start of the fall semester.

While its temporary home requires considerable set-up and dismantling of equipment every week, Pastor Daniel Lucas said the church recently paid off a mortgage on 18 acres next to the school.

It hopes to build a permanent home on the land by 2017 as it strives to reach its next goal of 2,000 worshippers.

Lucas caught the vision for church planting when the late Jim McGee and Alan Witham, now a KBC regional consultant, came to Paintsville. Lucas was then student pastor at First Baptist Church, which sponsored Crosspoint.

Even when the church only had 20 people, Lucas said it put in place the same structure as a church of 500 so it would be prepared for growth.

"High Impact allowed us to purchase all top-line equipment and pay our lease, so we would be able to structure and grow," said Lucas, a 1997 Morehead State graduate. "We are still grateful they made that investment."

Rager feels the same way. High Impact money helped pay his first year's salary and enabled the church to purchase a building for offices, Bible study and children's activities.

The congregation also received support from Daviess-McLean Association and its sponsoring church, Buck Creek.

In addition to an advisory group, Buck Creek provided a 30-person launch team



More than 1,200 attended a service last September at the Rowan County High School gymnasium and that was what started Crosspoint thinking about moving from the Morehead Conference Center downtown. A total of 89 people were baptized on that day. Crosspoint's pastor, Daniel Lucas, is a former student pastor at First Baptist Church of Paintsville, which sponsored the High Impact congregation.

to act as ushers, greeters and other duties during Life's early days.

Instead of gathering a core group like many church planters, Rager patterned Life on a "Crowd to Core" concept advocated by several leading church planters.

This approach emphasizes launching with a major service, leading people to Christ, and developing membership from that group, he said.

"The High Impact program was a

blessing for the structure and strategy we used," Rager said. "If the key man is fulltime, he can dedicate all his time to the church."

Lasting impression

Even though the state convention has taken a new direction, KBC church planting strategist Carlos De la Barra believes High Impact left a lasting impression.

"If we started 29 and 26 are still alive,

that's a pretty good record," he said.

Indeed, the effort seems to have propelled church planting forward. After starting 15 to 18 churches annually in recent years, the convention's goal is 30 this year, 40 next year, and 50 in 2016.

"We are trying to reach everybody—African-American, Hispanic, Nepalese—and it's working well," De la Barra said. "We try to find church planters and work with them."

"On the other side, we are trying to get churches to be sponsoring churches and put both of them together. We help with some money, but we don't expect our money will be all the money."

The state now offers \$20,000 over a three-year period to approved starts, with sponsoring churches investing varying amounts. However, for new churches with the potential of 150 in attendance, the KBC may double its allotment.

Chuck McAlister, KBC team leader of evangelism, church planting and collegiate ministry, said the convention is making a "paradigm shift" to recruiting churches for this effort instead of focusing on planters.

That includes a new emphasis on starting churches on or near the commonwealth's 170 college campuses.

"We'll be able to raise up churches," McAlister said. "We're targeting the young generation. We have 271,000 college students in Kentucky and 257,000 of them are (non-Christians)." (WR)

Life Community

Continued from page 1

With \$100,000 from the Kentucky Baptist Convention's High Impact church planting program, \$5,200 a year from Buck Creek and help from several other churches from Campbellsville to the Jackson Purchase, Rager and Buck Creek members began holding services in a community center there in September 2012. Over time Life Community moved to a nearby school and finally a community college.

Attendance has been running about 140 on Sunday mornings, and hit 172 early on Aug. 17. Most of the 131 new members were either "unchurched or de-churched," Rager said. He has baptized 45 people in two years.

Church planting is the most effective way to reach lost people, said Paul Chitwood, KBC executive director. The

resulting energy, excitement and passion for evangelism leads to higher baptism rates.

But many churches are reluctant to sponsor a new plant, Chitwood said. Some fear it will be a drain of their resources. "What we have seen is typically they experience renewal and revival themselves."

Webb said church planting deepened his church members' vision for the lost and unchurched. "It didn't take away any at all," he said.

The KBC has been averaging 15 church plants a year and hopes to increase the number to 30 this year and 50 in the future. The convention is now emphasizing churches starting churches, so "those churches are committed to seeing them survive and thrive," Chitwood said.

In the future, "We look forward to seeing Life Community make Buck Creek a grandmother," he said. (WR)

DR teams

Continued from page 1

Church in Warren, a northern Detroit suburb. They are expected to serve through Aug. 29, according to Coy Webb, disaster relief director for the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

As of last Wednesday, 120 work requests had been filed through Southern Baptist Disaster Relief, Webb said.

"We were one of the first states contacted to attempt to generate quick response," Webb said, "but this has evolved into a national disaster response."

Three people died and thousands of afternoon rush-hour motorists were left stranded as the downpour quickly flooded interstates and city streets.

Webb said even amid the devastation, Southern Baptists have an opportunity to make their mark on Detroit, "one of the most underserved cities in North America," through both disaster



relief and NAMB's Send North America initiative.

"With few local Baptists to help, Send North America: Detroit needs outside churches to provide prayer, people and resources for its efforts to penetrate loss in Motown and the suburbs that surround it," he said. (KBC)

Flooding, challenges draw Baptist relief

Warren, Mich.—Massive flooding in Michigan affecting tens of thousands of homes and businesses has opened the door for ministry by Southern Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers.

The three-county area around Warren, Mich., has been described by some as the nation's largest natural disaster that few people have heard about, largely because of other headlines that have overshadowed it in recent days.

Baptist State Convention of Michigan Disaster Relief director Wynn Williams said he expects the relief work to last for weeks. Assessments are ongoing, but more than 450 job requests have already been recorded for homes inundated by slow moving rain storms Aug. 11.

"There are 40,000 affected homes in Oakland County alone," Williams said. "There are another 30,000 to 40,000 damaged homes in Wayne County and then all the work in McComb County. There was as much as 15 feet of water

over some of the expressways. Homes were damaged by anywhere from a few inches to several feet of floodwater."

The North American Mission Board has dispatched a mobile command unit to coordinate the response. Eddie Blackmon, NAMB SBDR coordinator, is assisting Williams in organizing the effort.

"This is the highest number of affected homes I have seen in a single response in the 15 years I have been working with SBDR," Blackmon said. "We are going to need a lot of help."

Fritz Wilson, executive director for Southern Baptist Disaster Relief with NAMB, said, "The spiritual opportunity in Michigan calls for the kind of committed response Southern Baptists are known for in bringing help, healing and hope in the midst of crises."

"God has been orchestrating circumstances in and around Detroit for more than a year," he said. "We need to respond to this opportunity to serve." (BP)



September

- 2 September Power Lunch, Kentucky Baptist Building, Louisville.
- 8 EQUIP Tour, Heartland Worship Center, Paducah.
- 9 EQUIP Tour, First Baptist Church, Madisonville.
- 11 Retired Kentucky Director of Missions Luncheon, Severns Valley Baptist Association, Elizabethtown.
- 11-12 Engage KY: Louisville Vision Journey, Kentucky Baptist Building, Louisville.
- 13 Excel, St. Matthews Baptist Church, Louisville.
- 15 EQUIP Tour, Allen Baptist Church, Prestonsburg.
- 16 EQUIP Tour, Beacon Hill Baptist Church, Somerset.
- 17-19 Annual Missionary Retreat, Rough River Dam State Resort Park, Falls of Rough.
- 19-20 Disaster Relief Chaplaincy Training, Calvary Baptist Church, Glasgow.

MOUNTAINS TO THE MISSISSIPPI

COMPILED BY STAFF

LOUISVILLE—Ralph Avenue Baptist Church will hold a watermelon fellowship following the 5th Sunday Singing on Aug. 31. Samuel Vance is pastor.

CAMPBELLSVILLE—Campbellsville Baptist Church will host the 2nd Annual "Women Only" Tailgate Party Sept. 12, 5:30-7 p.m., in the church parking lot.

Missions expo slated Oct. 11 in Corbin

Louisville—Kentucky Baptists who have felt the call to get involved in missions but don't know where to begin can get their questions answered at an event in Corbin on Oct. 11. The "On Mission Expo" is intended to help believers as they try to find places to serve beyond their local churches. The event will be at Immanuel Baptist Church from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"This is one of best ways I know to familiarize Christ-followers with opportunities to serve in our Judea," said Eric Allen, the Kentucky Baptist Convention's missions mobilization team leader. "This event has everything necessary to get Kentucky Baptists on mission." A disaster relief kitchen unit will serve lunch to attendees.

Hundreds of pastors, church leaders and missions curious Christ-followers are expected to attend the event where they can meet missionaries and ministry leaders from across Kentucky and visit booths and displays representing missionaries and ministries.

Ministry leaders and missionaries need to register with Teresa.Parrett@kybaptist.org by Sept. 12 to set up a display. Attendees need to register online by Oct. 10 at www.kybaptist.org/missionexpo. Leaders bringing a group of five or more will be entered in a drawing for tablet PC. (KBC)

What's happening?

Send your church news and association events to:
Mountains to the Mississippi
karen.martin@westernrecorder.org

So much to celebrate and be thankful for

525 churches attend camps; 808 decisions recorded

Well, another camping summer has come and gone and, yes, it seems that life continues to move faster each year. We have so much to be thankful for as God granted again another record year in attendance.

Each year I am reminded that we are so dependent upon God for everything. To imagine the countless hours of students and adults engaged in various outdoor activities, the thousands of miles traveled to and from camp, and to not have any serious accidents is a miracle.

Additionally, we were greatly blessed with very mild weather, which certainly lowers many heat related accidents and illnesses. The staff that God has brought to Crossings again served so faithfully and tirelessly in the midst of seven-days-a-week schedules.

We had over 525 churches attend Crossings this summer. Each year we are encouraged to see so many faithful servants in our local churches doing all they can to reach and disciple students. I am reminded of the need to uplift our churches in prayer as they are the

frontline warriors for the gospel and they are under constant attack from our enemy.

Finally, I am thankful for the activity of God's Holy Spirit in the lives of everyone. Our staff has been forever changed this summer by His sanctification. I am thankful for the Holy Spirit's work in the lives of our campers (adult chaperones and students).

We witnessed 808 people come to know Christ as Lord and Savior this summer in the Crossings program alone. This represents the largest summer ever in decisions. We have so much to celebrate and be thankful for that took place the

past months. In spite of all the good news, we are reminded of how fallen our world is, how the lostness in our country continues to grow and the pressure of seeing our society become more and more sinful. As believers we know the answer for these things—Jesus Christ. May we seek to make Him known with all our efforts. We are in the last times and a broken world is in need of the Savior.

David Melber is president of Crossings Ministries. Contact Crossings at (502) 491-7000 or GoCrossings.com.

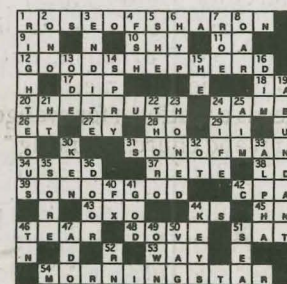
Crossings Ministries



David Melber

Puzzle returns next week

The crossword puzzle has been suspended this week, but will return Sept. 2. At right are the answers to the puzzle that appeared Aug. 19. #008



CLASSIFIED ADS

SEEKING: McDowell First Baptist Church, McDowell, Ky., is seeking resumé for a full-time position of pastor. Please send resumé with references, CD/DVD or Internet link for sermons to: McDowell First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 241, McDowell, KY 41646.

SEEKING: Senior pastor. Kings Baptist Church, a growing congregation of approximately 300-plus attendees, is seeking a senior pastor to shepherd our congregation through expository preaching, prayer, theological teaching and Bible study. Minimum requirements: Demonstrate the biblical qualifications of a pastor (1 Timothy 3:1-7, Titus 1:5-9); affirm the Baptist Faith and Message 2000; hold a degree from a Southern Baptist seminary; have a minimum of five years' experience as a senior pastor; oversee existing full-time pastoral and administrative staff. More information can be obtained by going to our church website at www.kingsbaptist.net. Please submit resumé to the Kings Baptist Pastor Search Committee via email: kingsbaptistpsc@gmail.com.

SEEKING: Columbia Baptist Church in Columbia, Ky., is prayerfully seeking a full-time pastor. Please send resumé to: Columbia Baptist Church, Attn: Pastor Search Committee, 201 Greensburg St., Columbia, KY 42728.

SEEKING: Reidland Baptist Church in Reidland, Ky., is accepting resúmes for the full-time position of senior pastor. Please send resumé with references and CD or DVD to: Reidland Baptist Church, Attn: John Wood, 5559 Benton Rd., Paducah, KY 42003. Bivocational would be considered.

SEEKING: Knoxville Baptist Church in

Williamstown, Ky., is seeking a pastor. Please send resumé with CD/DVD sermon to 2520 Knoxville Road, Dry Ridge, KY 41035, or email to knoxvillebaptistsearch@gmail.com.

SEEKING: First Baptist Church of Lawrenceburg, Ky., is seeking a part-time worship leader who can work with our praise team and lead our contemporary service. For more information, call (502) 517-1426.

SEEKING: Full-time next generation pastor to serve in the fast-growing northern Kentucky area at Hickory Grove Baptist Church, a church that is driven to serve its community and impact the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ. The next generation pastor will do whatever it takes to reach youth (grades 6-12) and beyond (young singles) with this life-changing gospel, and equip them to worship, serve, grow and reach others. To apply, please visit j.mp/hgbcngp to complete a short form and upload a resumé. Please direct any questions to ngp@hickorygrove.net.

SEEKING: Beaver Dam Baptist Church, located in western Kentucky, seeks a full-time pastor for its 300-350-member congregation. Seminary degree and experience preferred. Please prayerfully submit resumé to psc.bdbc@bellsouth.net or PSC, P.O. Box 6, Beaver Dam, KY 42320.

SEEKING: First Baptist Church of Central City, Ky., is seeking resúmes for the position of full-time pastor. Founded in 1878, FBC Central City consists of a large congregation of various ages with a variety of church-sponsored ministries. We are seeking a full-time pastor who can communicate the word of God as an

excellent speaker through practical, personal and narrative ways. The search committee is seeking a family-oriented man who demonstrates his faith through discipleship. Of great importance to our congregation is someone who displays leadership, is outgoing and can provide counseling. We prayerfully seek someone who has the ability to develop lasting relationships and is grounded in faith of biblical principles, knowing that the Bible is the word of God. The search committee prefers that all applicants have some seminary or higher education with experience in church pastoral leadership. Experience in serving at a church with multiple staff members and church committees is expected. Please send a cover letter, resumé and CD/DVD of a recent sermon (within the past six months) to First Baptist Church Search Committee, P.O. Box 95, Central City, KY 42330. Review begins Aug. 29 and continues until position is filled. The committee prefers that any additional communication or questions be asked through email at racer_1@comcast.net.

SEEKING: Farmdale Baptist Church in Louisville, Ky., is seeking a PT minister of music. Qualified individuals would meet the Scriptural standards for a minister as stated in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9. The individual would be responsible for leading blended Sunday worship services and conducting choir programs (children & adult). Interested applicants may send resúmes and music samples to fbclou@bellsouth.net. For more information visit www.farmdalebaptistchurch.org.

SEEKING: Radcliff Baptist Church is seeking a bi-vocational pastor. Please

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send resumé to: 673G Knox Blvd., Radcliff, KY 40160 or email to ericandpattie@gmail.com.

SEEKING: Williamstown Baptist Church, Williamstown, Ky., is prayerfully seeking a full-time pastor for our multi-generational Southern Baptist Church. The church currently has two worship services on Sunday mornings and averages 300 in attendance. Please send an updated resumé, a short biography, and a personal statement of beliefs by Nov. 1 to: Pulpit Committee, 207 Crestview Lane, Williamstown, KY 41097 or you may submit online to wbcsearch2014@gmail.com.

SEEKING: Calvary Baptist Church is seeking a full-time/bi-vocational pastor. Avg. attendance is 75 with a children's bus ministry. Must adhere to Baptist Faith & Message 2000. CD/DVD requested if available. Please send resumé to calvarybaptist121@gmail.com or Calvary Baptist Church, 121 Kentucky Ave., Princeton, KY 42445.

'Jesus clinic'

Offering Southeast Asians healing for the body and soul

By Harper McKay

Southeast Asia—A choir of roosters welcomes the rising sun as patients roll up their mosquito nets and blankets to get ready for their follow-up appointments. Slowly, new patients trickle in, and doctors, nurses and other staff finish their breakfasts of noodle soup or saucy meat and rice.

Patients come to the clinic from all over their Southeast Asian country. The poorest of the poor, most of them can't afford to go to the nationally run hospitals. But within minutes, patients can see that this clinic is different. While the physicians and staff work to provide a polite, respectful atmosphere, what really makes the clinic stand out is its mission to share the gospel of Christ with each patient that comes through the doors. It's a trait that leads the locals to call it the "Jesus clinic."

"If you look at the New Testament, Jesus' ministry was about preaching and healing," IMB missionary and clinic board member William Bailey,* said. "Medicine is a way to demonstrate compassion and meet real needs a platform for evangelism and church planting."

The Jesus clinic, a multi-national, multi-organizational medical center comprised of Southeast Asian believers, IMB missionaries and missionaries from other organizations around the world, is not just concerned with providing medical care.

"We see 100-200 people per year come to Christ," Bailey said. "By giving compassionate care to the poor, they open up to the gospel."

To date, the clinic is involved in 13 church plants, either leading or assisting and training villagers. One employee estimated that about four people make a decision to follow Jesus each week.

"Great medical care is a great witness," Margaret Bricker,* International Mission Board missionary and public health specialist, said. "People come to

us without hope and we use healthcare to share the hope of Jesus."

Margaret and her husband Joseph,* IMB missionary and medical doctor, serve on the clinic staff together. Many times they are able to consult with each other in treating patients.

Saturated with the gospel

Throughout the day, a team of believers who work on the clinic's spiritual impact team has the unique role of sharing the gospel with patients as they wait to see a doctor. They begin the day offering health advice—good hygiene, proper diet and exercise. But each health lesson leads to an aspect of the gospel, giving the team the opportunity to talk to patients about Jesus.

Local believers share their testimonies and show Christian films to patients. The testimony of local believers seems to have a greater impact. "The ultimate church planter is their own people," Joseph said. "They come from the same context and their opinions hold more weight."

In other areas of the hospital, spiritual impact team members, receptionists and nurses sit and talk to

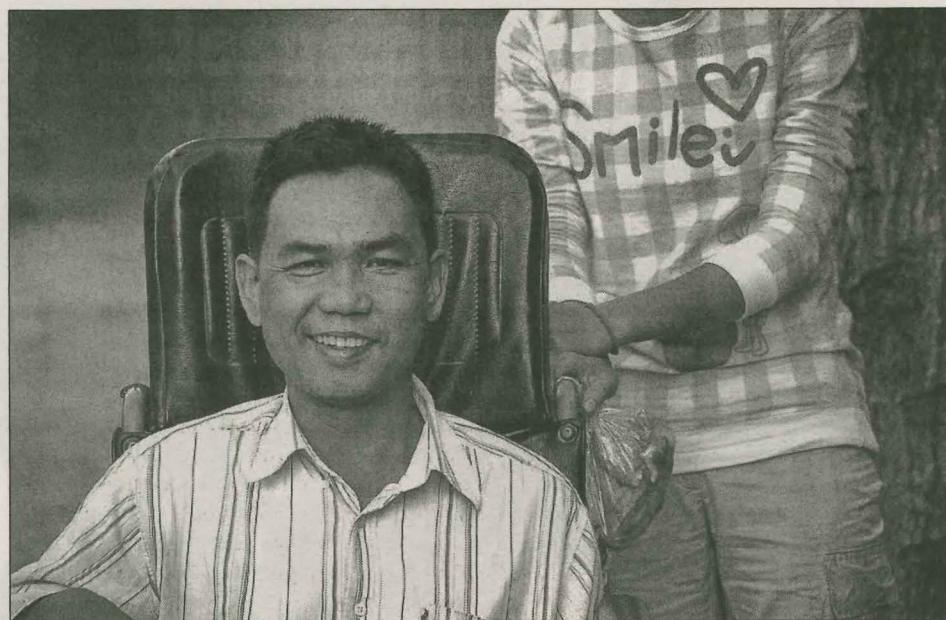
patients one-on-one as they wait.

"My favorite thing to do is one-on-one talking with patients," Mako Mao,* a member of the spiritual impact team, said. "I can answer questions easier."

"I enjoy helping patients by bringing them wheelchairs," Theary On,* a dental assistant, said. "The patients feel close to me, and I ask 'Have you ever heard about Jesus?'"

Talk about Jesus doesn't stop in the waiting room and in the halls. At every step during a patient's appointment, someone is talking about or showing the love of Christ.

From early morning to late afternoon, doctors bustle about the six outpatient department exam rooms and three urgent care units, giving their utmost attention to each patient.



Every day patients arrive at the Jesus clinic from all over this Southeast Asian country. Through the Christian staff at the clinic, every patient will witness God's love in action and will hear the gospel of hope at least once during their visit. As a result 100-200 people come to Christ each year.

"When patients come to see me, I greet them and talk with them about their medical conditions and their lives," Joseph said. "After I treat them and take time to answer all of their questions, I share the gospel and pray for them."

As IMB's Margaret Bricker enters an exam room, she smiles brightly to a returning patient. She gives the petite elderly lady a gentle pat on the arm. Because Margaret speaks a minority language, she instantly connects with many of the patients who come once a week.

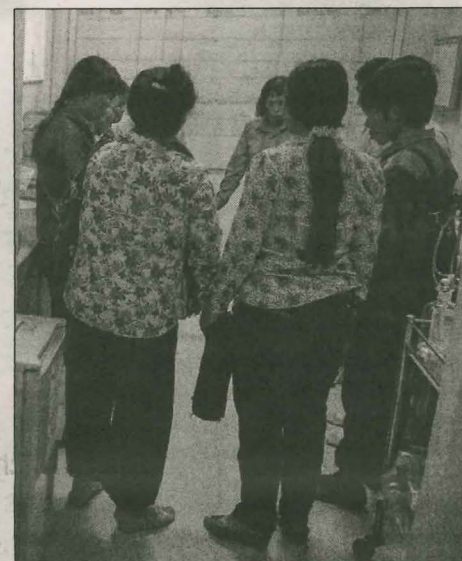
"In medical care, you can have intimate conversations with people in a short amount of time," she said. "Medical care provides ... opportunity. You don't get that when you're just walking down the street."

Doctors from other organizations and Southeast Asian employees likewise provide caring consultations and medical treatment in the name of Jesus, often visiting with the families and sharing the gospel. The common core that pulls these mission groups together is simple—sharing Jesus and planting churches.

Reaching far but staying in one place

It may be hard for some to believe that one medical clinic could sustain both a steady inflow of patients and an active church-planting ministry. That's why the Jesus clinic is not doing all of the work but collaborating with referring partners from throughout the country.

"About 90 percent of our patients



Members of the Jesus clinic's spiritual impact team gather together at the end of the day to pray for patients who will be spending the night in the clinic's small in-patient ward.

come from referring partners," Bailey, IMB missionary and clinic board member, said. "They reach into provinces where other organizations don't."

Referring partners can be local mission organizations, national churches or individuals who commit to help the patient they refer with the cost of their medical care. More importantly, these partners follow up with the patients spiritually. This oftentimes leads to church plants in places where the gospel was once unwelcome.

In the hands of local believers

IMB missionaries and other international missionaries working at the Jesus clinic have seen the value of national partners having ownership of the ministry. The clinic is full of national doctors, nurses, receptionists and technicians.

While the missionaries mentor and train the national partners—filling in gaps their education left—each department is run by a Southeast Asian, giving them decision-making abilities and ownership.

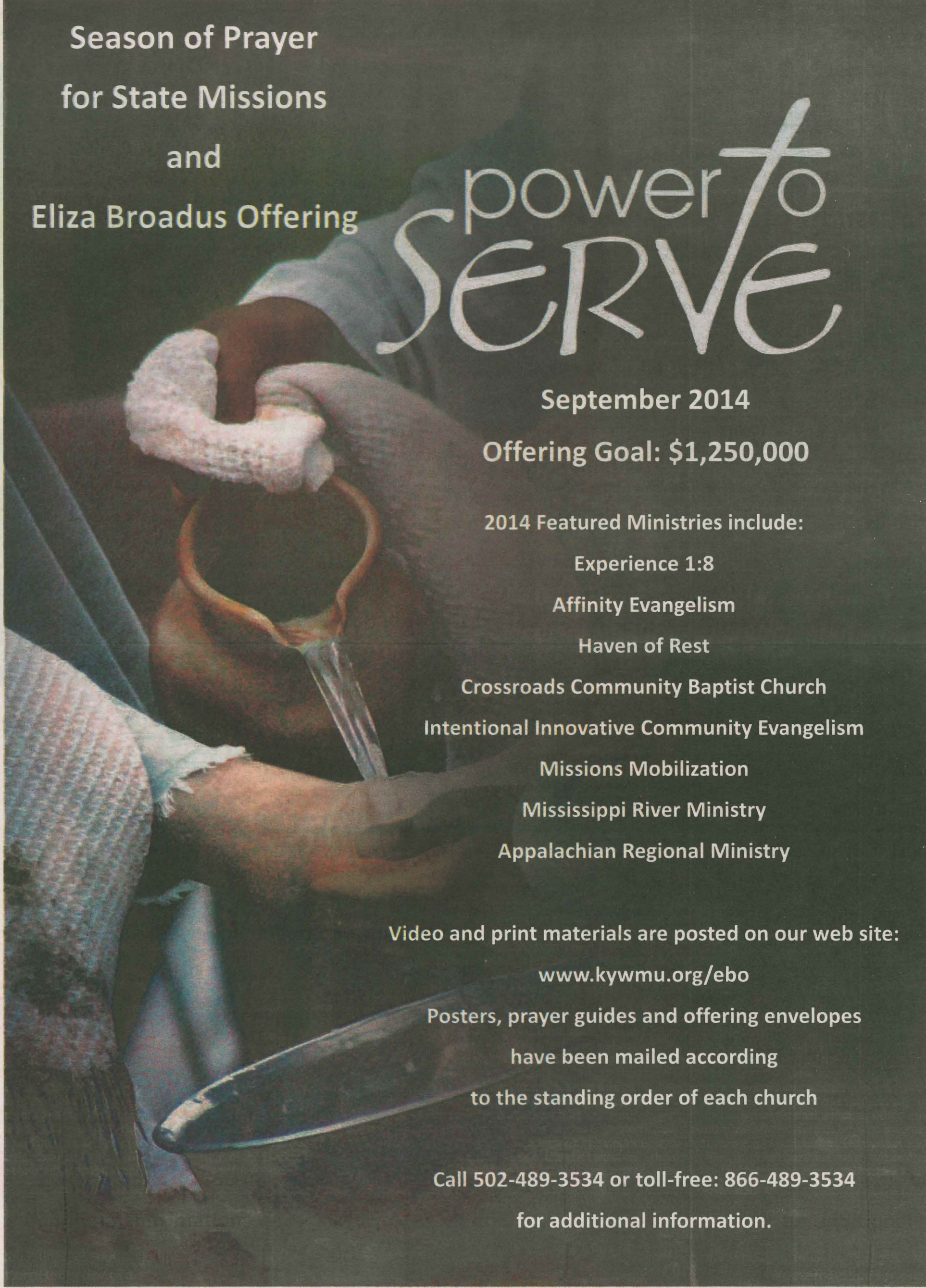
"Local believers have very much to add to the work," Joseph said. "Their opinions are highly valued."

Margaret said, "Our goal is to see the (Southeast Asian) believers sharing the gospel and planting churches—us walking alongside them. They are passionate about healthcare and the gospel." (BP)

*Name changed. Harper McKay is a writer for AsiaStories living in Southeast Asia.

One of the Jesus clinic's international doctors discusses a diagnosis with Southeast Asian medical staff during his morning rounds. For more information on how you can become involved in healthcare missions, contact medicalmissions@imb.org or visit <http://www.imb.org/healthcare>. Photos by Hugh Johnson/IMB





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