

WESTERN Recorder

October 7, 2014

Shine Like Stars * Philippians 2:15

Volume 188, Issue 37



Changing Kentucky

Adult Changers recently worked with Kentucky MSC missionaries Travis and Christie Lynch to help with an expansion to the Gilmin Home, a ministry for troubled teenagers. Adult Changers provides an opportunity for adults to have a Kentucky Changers experience through which they are encouraged to either bring students next summer or to serve as adult leaders (crew chiefs, assistants, cooks). Four Kentucky Changers projects are planned for next summer. The next Adult Changers event will be held in the Lawrenceburg area prior to the state WMU annual meeting. For information, contact Peggy Murphy at 502-489-3457 or visit www.kywmu.org/changers.



Pastor salaries not keeping pace

By Marty King

Nashville—Compensation for full-time Southern Baptist pastors has not kept pace with inflation over the past two years, while salaries for other full-time ministers and office staff increased at a rate higher than national inflation.

These findings are part of the 2014 Southern Baptist Convention Compensation Study, an in-depth survey of 12,907 staff members in Southern Baptist churches. Baptist state conventions along with LifeWay Research and GuideStone Financial Resources conduct this survey every two years.

Compensation

Adjusting for church size, the average full-time senior pastor's compensation (salary and housing) rose 1 percent between 2012 and 2014. That rate of change was significantly lower than the 3.9 percent inflation rate for the same two-year period, according to figures supplied by the U.S. Department of Labor's Consumer Price Index.

According to Scott McConnell,

director of LifeWay Research, "While inflation has remained moderate by historical standards, average salaries for full-time pastors have not kept pace. This is a reversal of the pattern of churches through the recession and post-recession years."

Overall, the value of the entire pay package (salary, housing and other benefits such as insurance) for the average full-time senior pastor rose by 1.8 percent.

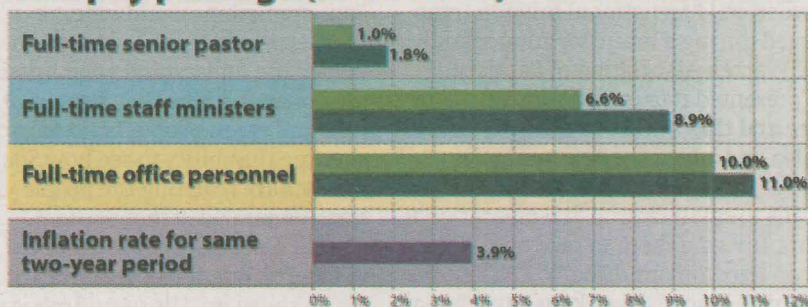
For other full-time staff ministers, however, basic salary and housing compensation increased 6.6 percent between 2012 and 2014, while total pay package including compensation and benefits rose 8.9 percent. Salary compensation for full-time office personnel increased 10 percent, and their total pay package jumped 11 percent.

When it came to determining pastors' compensation rates, education level, tenure at their current church, and higher resident membership and weekly attendance resulted in more compensation.

"We have seen firsthand that many

□ See Pastor salaries ... Page 2

Changes to SBC church staff compensation and pay package (2012-2014)



Source: LifeWayResearch.com

'See you at the pole' event marks 24 years

By Diana Chandler

Nashville—An estimated 3 million or more elementary through college Christian students gathered at flagpoles on campuses across the United States and many foreign countries Sept. 24 to pray for moral and spiritual awakening for their schools and communities.

"See You at the Pole" marked its 24th year. The global prayer meeting was held on campuses typically at 7 a.m. Last year event organizers added Global Week of Student Prayer to the event to accommodate schools closed or engaged in other events Sept. 24.

Founded in 1990 by a group of students from Burleson, Texas, the student-led event seeks to encourage students to continue in prayer and ministry as a lifelong discipline, event promo-

tion coordinator Doug Clark told Baptist Press.

"What it is intended to be is about prayer and humbling ourselves before God, but in a united way," Clark said. "The uniqueness of See You at the Pole is its students from all different backgrounds, different churches, who come together and then can dream together in this attitude of prayer—'God, what would you have us to do next?'"

"What we hope is that See You at the Pole is a launching pad for students being missionaries to their campus," he said. "What it's not intended to be is a demonstration, a show of faith—because Jesus condemns that in Matthew 6—or an exercise of free speech."

Never Stop Praying was this year's theme, based on Ephesians 6:18. Students are also

□ See Prayer event ... Page 4



Hancock County Middle School Cougars met Sept. 24 for "See You at The Pole," with more than 100 students and faculty joining together in prayer.

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Western Recorder 10-7-2014

Pastor salaries

Continued from page 1

churches have yet to see their pre-recession giving levels return," said GuideStone President O.S. Hawkins.

"Even so, it is imperative for churches to keep in mind the real financial needs of pastors and other staff members.

"No God-called pastor I know is looking to become wealthy off the ministry he has received from the Lord, but our churches should remember the Biblical admonition that 'those who preach the gospel should live from the gospel' (1 Cor. 9:14) and endeavor to ensure our pastors and their families are able to pay their expenses, have adequate insurance coverage and are able to save for the future, including vocational retirement."

Benefits

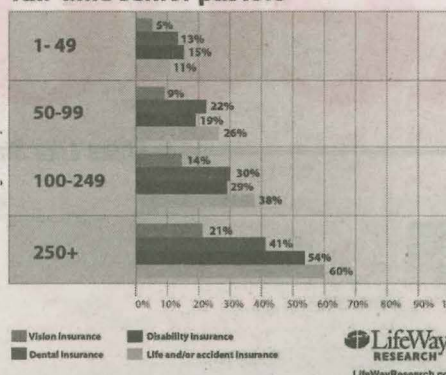
The survey also revealed fewer full-time senior pastors receive medical insurance from their churches today than in 2012. Sixty percent of churches partially or fully pay medical insurance for their full-time senior pastors, compared to 64 percent in 2012.

Eleven percent of Southern Baptist churches provide at least partial medical insurance funding for the full-time pastor alone, while 17 percent fund coverage for the pastor and his wife, and 32 percent supply coverage for the pastor and his family—all slightly down from 2012.

For full-time senior pastors, churches fully or partially pay for the following benefits:

- Life and/or accident insurance—34 percent
- Disability insurance—28 percent

SBC churches who fully or partially pay for the following benefits for full-time senior pastors



- Dental insurance—27 percent
 - Vision insurance—12 percent
- "Many Southern Baptist pastors are facing the new medical insurance

mandate without their church's help," McConnell said. "These pastors have no choice over where this portion of their compensation goes and this leaves them with less to live on each month."

More than half of churches (53 percent) with weekly attendance above 250 people provide insurance for the pastor and his family. Nearly half (49 percent) of churches that average 50-99 people in weekly attendance do not provide any medical coverage.

"With the advent of health care reform legislation, it's a new world for many churches," Hawkins said. GuideStone makes available many resources for churches seeking to establish, restructure or evaluate pay and benefit packages for their ministers and other staff. The free resources can be found at www.Guidestone.org/CompensationPlanning. (BP)

Bivocational benefit from Bowling Green church's 'dime'

By Ken Walker

Bowling Green—Ben Morrow will never forget what it felt like to share the gospel with people in Southeast Asia.

"It's surreal to look into the eyes of somebody who is 70 years old and has never heard about Jesus," Morrow said, a bivocational pastor at Friendship Baptist Church in Oakland.

"This is what missions looks like on the ground. I was part of telling people about Jesus who have never heard about Him. That's what I'll never forget."

Although partially supported by his church, it was largely through the generosity of Eastwood Baptist Church in Bowling Green that Morrow was able to travel.

Pastor Tom James said the idea of inviting small-church pastors to accompany Eastwood on international mission trips emerged during a brainstorming session at the Warren Association of Baptists.

"I presented it to our stewardship committee and they enthusiastically endorsed the idea and added the line item to our budget," James said. "Then, I began making calls to small church and bivocational pastors, inviting them to take one of our mission trips 'on our dime.'"

Morrow, who also works as a teacher at Hendersonville Christian Academy near



Eastwood Baptist Church helped fund a mission trip to Southeast Asia for several bivocational pastors—an experience their own churches might not have been able to afford. (Photo provided to the KBC)

Nashville, said serving on the five-member team opened his eyes to Southern Baptist missions worldwide.

"Getting to see the work on the ground helped me understand what missionaries are doing and how they strategize, organize and reach people," said Morrow. "It gave me the ability to see how Southern Baptists are reaching the people—not just some general idea that we do it."

Jeric DeVore, of Creston Baptist Church in Liberty, was the other bivocational pastor on the team. His second job is working with a career development program that

serves seven school districts.

Although he had been on a trip to Ecuador eight years ago, DeVore said the Southeast Asia mission gave him a different perspective on ministry and a firsthand look at current global needs.

"For the minister of a smaller church, it brings that message back to the local church and shapes their views of the importance of global missions," said DeVore, whose church averages about 90 in Sunday attendance.

During the two-week trip, both Kentucky Baptist pastors helped with distribution of water filters in a village where people lack clean water.

Morrow said SBC missionaries—including two from Kentucky—had built relationships with village leaders that opened the door for them to share the gospel.

"We used water filters as a platform," Morrow said, and because of that "we got to talk to people about Christ, even a Muslim imam. There has been follow-up and I know (the missionaries) are confident there will be more encounters."

DeVore talked with one woman who had previous contact with other Christians. Although not ready to accept Jesus as her Savior, she wanted to learn more.

"Some of the people shut me down, but she was responsive and had more

questions," DeVore said. "We were planting seeds and I hope the work we started will come to completion at a later date."

There was a positive reaction to his pictorial presentation about the trip at Creston Baptist. Members responded by voting to increase contributions to the Cooperative Program by two percent.

Morrow observed enthusiasm at Friendship Baptist as well.

"It was a huge springboard for me to tell my church: 'Look at what God is doing on the other side of the world. Look at what God is doing with people from Kentucky,'" Morrow said. "He's that big and He's that able. I could see the excitement in some of their eyes."

James hopes other large Kentucky Baptist churches will form partnerships and encourage smaller churches who otherwise would not have the opportunity to be involved in international missions.

"I want to challenge other pastors and churches to step up and invest in missions this way," James said.

Morrow thinks it is money well spent.

"I hope other pastors can find that kind of fervor to help pastors like me and churches like mine catch a vision of what God is doing in the world," Morrow said. "It was definitely a life-changing experience." (KBC)

Crossing borders: Hawesville church takes on satellite in Indiana

By Robin Cornetel

Hawesville—With only a dozen people attending Sunday morning worship, Tell Street Baptist Church in Tell City, Ind., was on the verge of making some hard decisions—if not for a brightly-colored Post-It note.

"The church was dying," said Harold Smith, interim pastor at the Indiana church.

Members were considering parting ways and closing the 50-year-old building until they were approached about a month ago by neighbors across the Ohio River.

"I went over there one day and put a Post-It note on the front door with my phone number saying, 'We would love to help your church,'" said Barry Fields, pastor of Hawesville Baptist Church. "I had no idea if they would call us back, but they did."

If all goes as planned, Tell Street

Baptist will be re-introduced to its community this spring as a satellite church of Hawesville Baptist—with new branding and a new name.

Fields said the opportunity to be a part of a dual-state ministry was enticing. The Kentucky church's front steps are less than 100 yards from the Lincoln Trail Bridge, and Fields said he can drive the short distance between the two churches in under seven minutes.

The real allure, however, was the potential for reaching people who do not know Jesus in a community where close to 10,000 don't have a regular church home.

"We just want to go in there and bless the community and show love to them," Fields said.

Smith, the interim pastor, said Tell Street has had a long list of pastors since opening in 1964, but two leadership turnovers in 12 months had left only a weary remnant. Most of those who remain, like

Smith, 82, are elderly.

"There just wasn't enough younger people to help," Smith said, even if they could manage to find funding for another pastor. If Hawesville had not come along with its proposal, "we would have probably had to close the doors of the church. We barely had enough money to keep the lights on," he said.

Jeff Crabtree, Kentucky Baptist Convention's south central regional consultant, said becoming a satellite of a healthier church makes "good sense" for some struggling churches.

"I don't want to say that multi-sites are the only way to do it, but for Hawesville and Tell Street it will work really well," Crabtree said. "If a church like Hawesville has a ministry that is working, that ministry can be replicated rather quickly."

Hawesville's membership already consists of about 30 members from across the river. Fields said members who elect to

attend worship services at the Tell Street satellite will be encouraged to think of themselves as missionaries who are reaching out to the more than 13,000 people living within a five mile radius.

"With 8 out of 10 Southern Baptist churches in decline, I think this is going

to be the solution for a lot of churches," Fields said. "Healthier churches are going to have to come along side and help revitalize them. The problem is a lot of these churches haven't gotten to the point where they

are desperate, and until they are desperate, they are not going to ask for help."

Ministry leaders interested in learning more about the multi-site model for church planting are encouraged to attend the KBC's Multi-Site Conference Oct. 9, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at Sojourn Community Church-Jeffersonstown Campus in Louisville. For information, visit www.kybaptist.org/multisite. (KBC)



Crosses, not minarets

The Western Recorder recently reported that two Baptist church buildings in Louisville are now mosques and another is a Sikh temple. One way to turn that tide and begin to see crosses over former mosques, rather than minarets over former churches, is to invest in ministries that are sharing the gospel in Louisville. Through the Cooperative Program, every Kentucky Baptist Convention church has that opportunity.

**Together
We are the KBC**



Paul Chitwood

Michelle and I recently attended the centennial anniversary celebration of the Baptist Fellowship Center. Located in Louisville's West End, the BFC is a much-needed ministry in Kentucky's largest city.

Anyone with exposure to Louisville's news outlets knows that the West End gets a lot of negative attention. To quote Matthew Smyzer, the BFC director, reporting from the West End follows the old adage, "If it bleeds it leads." But Smyzer is quick to point out the West End has produced many beautiful people and positive stories, even though those aren't the stories that typically make it into the Courier-Journal newspaper.

One of the best stories from the West End is the story of how God is using Southern Baptists through the Baptist Fellowship Center. A child care center, counseling services, a truancy-prevention program, feeding programs, and a crisis-intervention ministry are just some of the BFC's many offerings as it seeks to fulfill its vision: "To be a transforming agent to the great Louisville community in reflecting the nature of Christ."

The BFC began in 1914 as a ministry partnership between churches of the Central District Baptist Association and Long Run Baptist Association. The Central District's website recounts the BFC's historical launch when it states, "Representatives of both the negro and white Baptist state boards envisioned a missionary work." Partnering together, that missionary work became the BFC.

One hundred years later, the BFC still represents a partnership bridging the racial divide and sharing Christ with hurting people. While some of the churches of the Central District and Long Run associations have become multi-ethnic, most can still be characterized as predominantly African-American or predominantly white. For these churches to have modeled partnership for 100 years is a beautiful testimony to the unifying power of the gospel. In Galatians 3:28, Paul writes, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus."

Since the BFC is supported not only by Central District and Long Run, but also by the Kentucky Baptist Convention and NAMB, every KBC church doing mission work through the Cooperative Program is part of this partnership, as well as a vast array of gospel work spanning from Kentucky to the ends of the earth.

Paul Chitwood is executive director of the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

Retirement: Finding joy in the journey

TS. Eliot once wrote, "We shall not cease from exploration and the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started and know the place for the first time."

Life is a journey that finds us exploring the many routes the Lord has for us to travel.

My time in Kentucky has been such a blessing in serving with some of the most gifted people I have ever met.

The churches I have served reflect the fact that the Lord will be glorified through the many aspects of ministry, worship, outreach and discipleship.

The newspaper I served represents the finest example of solid, Christian journalism to be found anywhere, and the state convention I served has over 2,400 Baptist churches working in cooperation to fulfill the Lord's Great Commission goals.

However, my warmest thoughts will not be about newspapers, churches or conventions because these institutions, though vital for

ministry, will not have an eternal inheritance.

It is the people with whom I have served who have made such a great impact on my life and with whom I will serve for all eternity.

For our editor, Todd Deaton, who has been a friend and fellow traveler, and for the staff over the years that have stood strong in the discharge of their responsibilities knowing that the Lord is the one we ultimately please.

To think that I have been placed in these roles is a humbling experience and one that I will never take lightly, and I look forward to hearing all that the Lord continues to do here in the days yet to come.

As I begin a new chapter in my life in the state of Florida, let me assure you all of my prayers and I request that you remember me in yours.

So many names and faces, so many experiences, so many times of celebration. The joy has definitely been in the journey. Thank you all!

As the Apostle Paul stated, "I thank my God every time I remember you.

"In all my prayers for you, I always pray with joy because of your

Guest Viewpoint



Tom Townsend



Colleagues recognized Tom Townsend's retirement with a reception on Sept. 30. Townsend and his wife, Mary Jo, will reside in Florida near three of their five children.

partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus," (Phil. 1:3-6).

In Christ alone!

Pastor Appreciation Month sparks opportunity

By Tobin Perry

New Orleans—With two jobs, a pastorate and a full slate of courses at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, pastor Toby Brogden was feeling overwhelmed and exhausted when he showed up for a class last month.

"Look, I am stretched, just as tight as a rubber band," Brogden, who pastors Grace Church in New Orleans, told classmates. "I feel like I'm about to break. We have to get away. We have to get a break. We're stressed to the max. So you all just pray for that."

The next day Brogden slipped in late to Johnny Hunt's Timothy-Barnabas conference on the NOBTS campus and didn't register to win a couples getaway from the North American Mission Board's pastor support ministry. Brogden was shocked when he won. Someone else had entered his name.

"One of the guys sitting next to me is a classmate at seminary," he said. "He leaned over to me and said, 'Isn't it great when God answers our prayers fast?'"

Through its Send Network website sendnetwork.com/pastor-appreciation, NAMB is providing churches with tools to honor their pastors in a similar

manner for Pastor Appreciation Month in October. Brogden noted that while he appreciated the gift from NAMB, gifts from church members have boosted him throughout the years. When he served as the pastor of a church in Tennessee, the congregation held special dinners for him during October. Church members brought thank-you cards and gift cards.

"When you have someone hand-write a card—it doesn't even need to have a gift card in it, but it's a handwritten card from his heart to yours, it just encourages you," Brogden said.

NAMB's website provides church members with an opportunity to purchase bed and breakfast stays for their pastor and his wife at 25 to 50 percent off the regular price. Churches will also find a "50 Ways to Honor Your Pastor" poster on the website. Church leaders can also introduce their pastors to two NAMB-sponsored smartphone apps designed to help them "refresh" their spiritual lives and their marriages.

Members of Great Hills Baptist Church in Austin used NAMB's material last year to honor their pastor, Danny Forshee.

"Our deacon ministry emphasis is serving our church, supporting our

pastor and bringing unity to the church body," Andy Spencer, chair of deacons said. "During pastor appreciation, we collected money to send our pastor and his wife on a weekend away. We gave them the information on Christian Hospitality Network who offered a discount to pastors for pastor appreciation month."

The church celebrated his 50th birthday by presenting him with 50 cards and 50 gifts and challenged members to perform 50 random acts of kindness in 50 days in his honor.

The purpose of the materials offered on the NAMB website is to help spur on similar efforts to develop a culture of appreciation in churches throughout the Southern Baptist Convention.

"Often pastors feel like they're in a NASCAR race," Michael Lewis, NAMB's executive director for pastoral care and development, said. "It's hard to manage it all. You hit the gas and you just go, go, go."

On Oct. 1, NAMB launched a confidential pastor care phone line in partnership with Focus on the Family. Struggling pastors who call 1-844-PASTOR1 will be offered resources and referrals to licensed counselors who can assist during times of crisis. (BP)

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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.

That's why we're here

Tennessee educator pens poem about his experience at OBI

Oneida is blessed with nearly 1,000 volunteers annually.

These amazing people come from all over Kentucky, and in the past year we also have had groups from Alabama, Illinois, Indiana, North Carolina, Ohio and Tennessee. They typically stay with us for a week and bring time, talents, resources, and skills we sometimes don't have.

These folks are a huge part of our ministry and are a great blessing to us.

A recent group from Clear View Baptist Church in Franklin, Tenn., had many retired educators in their group.

One of those educators, Dr. Ed Thiele, also dabbles as a bit of a poet and penned the following poem about his group's experience volunteering at Oneida.

"We all are called; that's why we're here.

At OBI we feel God near.
The president is full of zeal.
His mission call is very real.
Enrollment now is growing fast,
Exceeding all the recent past.
The crop of mid-school kids has grown,

And there is quite a happy tone.
Our crew is certainly well-fed,
And working makes us yearn

for bed.

Our task assignments are diverse.
Some are good, and some are worse;
And whether thrilled or only bored,
Our jobs are rendered for the Lord.

The corn has brought a generous yield,
And rains have blessed each verdant field.

The harmony of happy hearts
Enriches people of all sorts.
We are a motley crowd of folks

Who love, and laugh and share our jokes.

Last night the rain fell very strong,

But sunset filled our minds with song.

And Kayla came; what joy she's found

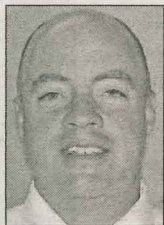
Since Christ has turned her life around!

Next Aaron told how much he's changed

Since OBI his heart arranged!
No wonder we are pleased to come
And make ourselves so much at home,

For dedication fills the air,
And we see beauty everywhere.
How good God is to let us do
His work; eternity in view."

This is
Oneida



Larry Gritton

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



The annual See You at the Pole event grew out of a 1990 DiscipleNow weekend, when a group of students prayed at school flagpoles on a Saturday night.

Prayer event

Continued from page 1

praying for individual friends, students and family members, indicated by posts to the event's Facebook page and on Twitter, at #NeverStopPraying and #SYATP.

Those posts, along with the individual reports Clark has received, indicate participation in all 50 states, Guatemala, Turkey, Canada, Australia and Berlin, Germany, Clark said.

Many students have committed to pray every day of the week.

The grassroots nature of the event

discourages an exact participation account, Clark said, but the Global Week of Student Prayer has allowed more students to observe the event this year.

The annual SYATP event grew out of a 1990 DiscipleNow weekend, when a small group of students prayed at flagpoles at different schools on a Saturday night.

Inspired by the small event, youth leaders across Texas organized SYATP in 1990 and drew 45,000 students to prayer in four states. By the next year, about 1 million students gathered in prayer at flagpoles across the nation.

Participation has continued to grow, Clark said. (BP)

Everybody counts

President recalls conversation with a new believer

I have already mentioned to you in recent columns that this is my favorite time of the year for me in my position as president of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College.

I truly love being able to travel around our state convention and attend many of our annual associational meetings. I always enjoy getting to talk specifically with different people during my time at the meetings.

Recently I was privileged to talk with an older gentlemen at one of the recent annual meetings I attended, and I could tell that he was excited just to be at this particular meeting.

As I began to talk with him, he shared with me that even though he was older in years he was a relatively new convert. He told me that he had just recently accepted Christ as his Savior a few years earlier.

I told him that I was excited to hear that story from him because it's often harder to lead someone to faith in Christ as they get older.

I then proceeded to ask him to "tell me his story" and his face lit up as he began to tell me about his pastor who

had been an instrumental witness to him and who had played a major role in his coming to faith in Jesus Christ. One thing this gentleman said that stood out to me as he was telling his story was that he said his pastor made him feel like "everybody counts" when it comes to Christ.

For so long this gentleman had felt like he didn't matter but his pastor had taken the time to invest in him and let him know that he mattered to him and to Christ.

Through this relationship this man was shown the love of Christ and it made a difference in his life and made him feel as though his life counted for

something. I could tell he was certainly a changed person as tears began to flow from his eyes as he shared his story with me.

This conversation was a great encouragement to me that night as this gentleman shared his story with me.

I am so thankful that in God's kingdom work everybody counts. Thanks for what you do in kingdom work.

Clear Creek
Chronicle



Donnie Fox

Donnie Fox is president of Clear Creek Baptist Bible College, 300 Clear Creek Road, Pineville, KY 40377; toll-free: (866) 340-3196; ccbbc.edu; email: dfox@ccbbc.edu

How long has it been?

Periodically review and revise estate planning documents

How long has it been since you reviewed your estate planning documents? Are the ways in which your assets are titled consistent with your distribution plans as stated in your estate planning documents? Is your executor/executrix still available and willing to serve in that capacity? If you have minor children, have you provided for a guardian of your choosing? Are you taking advantage of the marital deduction to which you are entitled? Are you taking advantage of the federal estate tax exemption equivalent? Have you considered the possible benefits you might attain from a revocable living trust? Have you included your church and other Christian ministries, which are near and dear to your heart, in your plan either by bequest in your will or revocable living trust, or by beneficiary designation of life insurance or retirement accounts? Have you executed a durable power of attorney and a living will directive?

Statistics reveal a very high percentage of Americans who have wills do not have current wills. In other words, if they died today, the wills they have in place do not reflect their current wishes regarding distribution of assets. Circumstances in their lives have changed since they executed their wills, but they have not kept their wills current. There have been deaths, births, graduations,

marriages, divorces, incapacitated loved ones or relocations to or from another state. And yet, these individuals have neglected their Christian duty to review, and if necessary, revise their estate planning documents. Remember what the Apostle Paul advised the Christians of his day and is still advising us today via the Holy Scriptures in 1 Timothy 5:8: "If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever."

And what about those of you who do not have even a basic will let alone any other estate planning documents? According to a recent Rocket Lawyer survey you are among the 61 percent of Americans who fall into that very depressing

category.

Laurie Valentine, our trust counsel, suggests one revisit his or her estate plan every three to five years, or sooner if circumstances warrant, to keep it up to date. And, she strongly urges every one not to procrastinate in tending to these all important matters. After all, it will be your family and other heirs that likely will pay the price for your procrastination. If you have questions, feel free to call Laurie toll free. Also, invite her to your church or adult group to present our "Estate Planning Mistakes and Solutions" seminar.

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

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Barry Allen

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'Best Celebrate Life ever,' volunteers say

Mothers, children reconnect through prison ministry

By Chip Hutcheson

Fredonia—About 70 children took advantage of the once-in-a-year opportunity to spend extensive time Sept. 27 with their mothers or grandmothers who are inmates at Western Kentucky Correctional Complex. Organizers of the HR Ministries-sponsored event are calling the event one of the best in the five-year history of "Celebrate Life" for the women prisoners.

Inmates who participate in HR "Rubies for Life" and parenting classes are eligible to have family members ages 3 to 18 attend the event, which features games, prizes for the children, inflatables, a meal and a gospel presentation—and that rarity for inmates, time to love on their children or grandchildren and spend quality time reconnecting with them.

Inspiring and heart-wrenching stories abounded. There was one inmate who was able to see her grandchildren for the first time. There was the girl who was celebrating not only her 12th birthday Saturday, but the first time she had seen her mother in five years.

Every year, though, there are children who are expected to be there for the day who don't show up. There are various reasons why that occurs, most often from caregivers not being able to make the trip, or for car troubles along the way. Every year there are inmates waiting in bleachers in hopes their children arrive at the prison, and every year there are some inmates who walk away with great disappointment when their family members don't show up.

This year, however, marked the highest percentage of children who were scheduled to be there to show up. Only five inmates had no-show family members.

One of the most touching scenes of the day was around 11 a.m. By that time, inmates had been able to spend several hours with their children. Because of travel difficulties, one of the families arrived late—but when the inmate spotted her daughter she dropped to her knees "and began praising God," said HR volunteer Shea Hughes, noting that the woman had just made a profession of faith in Christ three days earlier. "She had totally given up on anybody arriving. I dropped to my knees with her and told her we serve a mighty and powerful Christ."

The daughter ran to her mother, and they embraced for an extended period. The mother caressed her daughter's face as both cried.



The phrase "best Celebrate Life ever" was repeated by volunteers as inmates said goodbye to their children around 3 p.m.

Jenny Hammett, who coordinated the day's activities, said "I can't put into words how wonderful it was. It was really a good day."

At a worship service for volunteers and inmates on Friday night, two former WKCC inmates were allowed to return to share their stories of how faith in Christ had made a dramatic impact in their lives.

"You know me," one of the women told the inmates, imploring them to consider "it's not about getting out of prison, it's about getting real ... don't think of it as serving time, but let time serve you" in your walk with the Lord.

The women, both of whom were imprisoned for drug offenses, spoke to a class at Caldwell County High School on Friday. Then Sunday morning they gave their testimonies at First Baptist Church of Eddyville.

Harrell Riley, executive director of HR Ministries, told the volunteers that other prison ministry opportunities are being presented to the organization on a regular basis. Those include prisons in Alabama, Georgia and Florida. (WR)



Top, volunteers hand out balloons at the conclusion of the Celebrate Life event. Above, face painting is a popular activity.

Annual meeting update

Butcher withdraws from 2nd VP race

Nancy—Patrick Butcher, pastor of Okalona Missionary Baptist Church in Nancy, has withdrawn his name from nomination as second vice president of the Kentucky Baptist Convention, citing health concerns as the reason.

Donavon Burton, pastor of Beacon Hill Baptist Church in Somerset, had announced plans last month to nominate Butcher at the annual meeting in Bowling Green Nov. 11.

Tom James, pastor of Eastwood Baptist Church in Bowling Green, is expected to be nominated for KBC president. James is a former KBC first vice president and Pastors' Conference president.

Erdie Carter, pastor of Glasgow Baptist Church, is the only announced candidate to date for first vice president of the KBC. (WR)

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

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



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

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

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

CLASSIFIED Ads

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: 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: Senior pastor for Southside Baptist Church, Princeton, Ky., Candidates should have strong preaching skills, passion for pastoral care, demonstrated administrative ability, a heart for missions and evangelism. Some semi-nary education is desirable. Church has two staff members and averages 268 in Sunday School. Send resumé to: Pastor Search Committee, P.O. Box 684, Princeton, KY 42445; or email to: pastorsearch@southsidebaptist.com. Resumés accepted through Nov. 30, 2014.

SEEKING: Gracey West Union Baptist Church is accepting resumés for a full-time pastor. Please submit resumés via email: gwubcinto@yahoo.com or mail: Pastor Search Committee, Box 154, Gracey, KY 42232.

SEEKING: New Harmony Missionary Baptist Church in Benton, Ky., is currently looking for a full-time associate pastor who feels called to lead the children and youth ministries. If interested,

please email your resumé to nhmbc@newharmonybaptist.net.

SEEKING: Farmdale Baptist Church, 1238 Durrett Lane, Louisville, KY 40213. Seeking part-time music minister. Resumé must be received by Friday, Oct. 31, 2014.

SEEKING: Northside Baptist Church in Princeton, Ky., is searching for a dynamic pastor. All interested persons send resumés no later than Oct. 26, 2014, to: Northside Baptist Church, c/o Pastor Search Committee, P.O. Box 463, Princeton, KY 42445, or email to northsidebaptist42445@gmail.com

SEEKING: Edgewood Baptist in Hopkinsville is seeking senior pastor. Located in western Ky., Edgewood averages 530 in Sunday School and a combined attendance of 735 in three Sunday morning worship services. The recurring theme of this mission-minded church is "Love God, Love People, Make Disciples." Visit the website to learn more about Edgewood, edgewoodbaptistchurch.org. Resumés may be submitted by email: pastorsearch@edgewoodbaptistchurch.org or mail: Pastor Search, 2300 Cadiz Rd., Hopkinsville, KY 42240.

SEEKING: Northside Baptist Church located in Elizabethtown, Ky., is seeking candidates for the full-time position of minister of worship. Job description and instructions for submitting inquiries and resumés may be viewed on the church website at www.n-side.org. Resumés will be accepted until the position is filled.

SEEKING: Walnut Street Baptist Church, located in Louisville, Ky., seeks an associate pastor of music and worship whose primary responsibility is to work with the pastor to plan, promote, lead and further develop Walnut Street's music ministries. The position will also

lead in secondary areas of responsibility in keeping with his God-given gifts. Send resumé by Oct. 15, 2014, to musicsearch@walnutstreet.org.

SEEKING: Walnut Street Baptist Church in Louisville, Ky., seeks a part-time minister to youth and college students to oversee ministry to middle school, high school and college students. It is the intention of the church that the position be filled by Oct. 19, 2014. Send resumé to scsearch@walnutstreet.org.

SEEKING: Large contemporary church seeking full-time youth pastor for grades 6-12. Submit resumé to Administrative Pastor Adam Neel at aneel@bellnet.org or mail to Bellevue Baptist Church, 4950 State Route 56, Owensboro, KY 42301.

SEEKING: First Baptist Church, Mt. Washington, Ky., is seeking a minister of music to lead in planning, conducting,

evaluating and providing oversight of the music ministry. Weekly responsibilities involve direction of a celebration choir, orchestra, praise band, instrumentalists and soloists. Supervision will include children's choir and associate worship leader. Music education and experience required. Send resumé to the following: First Baptist Church, Mt. Washington, P.O. Box 315, 320 North Bardstown Rd., Mt. Washington, KY 40047, Attention: Personnel Committee.

SERVICES: Sound/Projection/Video/Lighting/Acoustical. JCA Media, LLC, well known in KBC. 20+ years experience installing equipment at reasonable pricing. Let us help you enhance your worship experience. For information/references, please visit www.jcamedia.com or contact Jim Cottrell at 270-862-9586 or 270-312-7492.

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Tell Your Story

"As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard."
— Acts 4:20

**Annual Meeting
Nov. 11**
Living Hope
Baptist Church,
Bowling Green

KBC Mission Board Recommendations to be considered for Fiscal Year 2015-16

The annual Cooperative Program Goals, as well as the percentages for the division of Cooperative Program funds between KBC and Southern Baptist Convention causes, are determined by KBC in its annual session. Upon recommendation of the Mission Board, the Convention in Paducah, November 12, 2013 set the 2014-2015 goals and percentages as shown below. The Mission Board recommends to the Convention in Bowling Green on November 11, 2014 the following 2015-2016 goals and percentages.

	APPROVED 2014-2015 BUDGET	PROJECTED 2015-2016 BUDGET	VARIANCE
I. COOPERATIVE PROGRAM GOAL			
A. TOTAL COOPERATIVE PROGRAM GOAL	\$22,000,000	\$21,250,000	-\$750,000
1. SBC CAUSES	\$11,000,000 - 50.00%	\$10,625,000 - 50.00%	-\$375,000
2. KBC CAUSES	\$11,000,000 - 50.00%	\$10,625,000 - 50.00%	-\$375,000
B. COOPERATIVE PROGRAM RESOURCING	\$ 1,540,000 - 7.00%	\$ 1,487,500 - 7.00%	-\$ 52,500
1. SBC SHARED FUNDING	\$ 770,000 - 3.50%	\$ 743,750 - 3.50%	-\$ 26,250
2. KBC SHARED FUNDING	\$ 770,000 - 3.50%	\$ 743,750 - 3.50%	-\$ 26,250
C. OPERATIONAL BUDGET (c)	\$22,000,000	\$21,250,000	-\$750,000
1. SBC CAUSES (a)	\$10,230,000 - 46.50%	\$ 9,881,250 - 46.50%	-\$348,750
2. KBC CAUSES (b)	\$11,770,000 - 53.50%	\$11,368,750 - 53.50%	-\$401,250
II. OTHER ESTIMATED INCOME*	\$ 2,063,371		
A. ELIZA BROADUS OFFERING*	\$ 860,000		
B. OTHER*	\$ 1,203,371		
III. TOTAL KBC BUDGET GOAL*	\$13,833,371		
TOTAL KBC/SBC BUDGET GOAL*	\$24,063,371		

(a) The distribution of these items is voted by the Southern Baptist Convention.

(b) The distribution of these items is voted by the Mission Board, Kentucky Baptist Convention.

(c) Any Cooperative Program receipts in excess of the goal will be distributed at the same percentages.

*To be approved by the Mission Board upon recommendation of the Business and Finance Committee May 4-5 2015.



KENTUCKY BAPTIST CONVENTION

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Find information on the 2014 KBC
Annual Meeting and Kentucky
Baptist Pastors' Conference at
www.kybaptist.org/annual meeting.

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Philippines: 'Long-haul' healing in Tacloban

By Caroline Anderson

Tacloban, Philippines—A crushing wall of water from Typhoon Haiyan hit the city of Tacloban on Nov. 8, 2013. Thousands of people perished. Homes and businesses were destroyed.

The water beached cargo ships weighing several hundred tons. Water devastated Tacloban.

But water also is what people need most after the storm.

And water is the precious resource being provided by Christians like the Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists (KNCSB).

Baptist Global Response (BGR) is partnering with Carl and Suzie Miller, International Mission Board missionaries in Tacloban, not only to provide water, but also rebuild the city of Tacloban.

Global Hunger Relief funds are making it possible.

"It's going to take a long, long time for Tacloban," Suzie says and starts to cry.

The city has long-term needs, "everything from getting water into their homes, to getting a home, to having their schools ready, maybe livelihood, just the whole gamut of getting people back on their feet and helping them to move forward," Suzie says.

"For that long-haul building, it's exciting to know that Southern Baptists are going to be here," she adds.

The Kansas-Nebraska convention enlisted the help of Oklahoma Baptists because of their experience in drilling wells after the 2010 earthquake in Haiti. In July, a team installed two well pumps in Tacloban and in a small community on the outskirts of the city. Water4, an organization based out of Oklahoma, provided the well pumps.

Instead of bringing multiple teams from the U.S. to build and maintain the wells, Larry

Thomas, former KNCSB director of disaster relief, said they enlisted help from local believers to drill the wells. In the future, they hope to see believers trained to maintain the wells.

Joey Rojero, a Filipino-American from Kansas, worked with believers from each of the communities where wells were drilled or repaired.

He has been Kansas-Nebraska's man on the ground in the Philippines since April.

One of the wells that received a water pump is on the grounds of Kalipayan Baptist Church in Tacloban.

The church's pastor said the wells will minimize expenses for his church and the church will be able to serve the community by providing water.

Wells meet a physical need in communities, but they also provide a source of income for the believers who were trained in well maintenance.

"It's an economic blessing for life," Thomas says.

Suzie agrees.



"One of the things that I appreciate about BGR also is not the coming in and doing it for people, but ... looking at Taclobans as survivors, not as victims," Suzie says.

"Speaking as a survivor, as soon as you can begin to make decisions and do things for yourself, the healing takes place a whole lot faster and that's one of BGR's objectives in this long-haul, is to help people from Tacloban begin to help themselves," she adds.

"In disaster relief, we often sort of race to the event," Thomas says. "It's Southern Baptists who stay. It's Southern Baptists who continue to work."

Though much has been accomplished through national and international relief organizations, Carl says full recovery is still a long way away.

"Long-haul healing is needed," Carl says.

A tent city in Tacloban houses 500 families.

United Nations tents patch up and cover many homes. Some typhoon survivors live in an encampment built in the shade created by massive freighter boats flung from the bay onto land by the storm surge.

Some of these families will move from the tents to bunkhouses and will later be resettled.

In one of the bunkhouse areas, there are four restrooms and two showers for 24 families.

Though Global Hunger Relief and BGR's involvement in disaster relief in the Philippines began in November, their work in Tacloban began in April.

After the typhoon, as the world's attention focused on Tacloban, Southern Baptist relief efforts focused on other



Top, Carl Miller surveys a well site in a village near Tacloban with Joey Rojero, a Filipino-American from the Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists. Many small villages have suffered severe disruption to their water supplies due to damage by Typhoon Haiyan. Kansas-Nebraska Southern Baptists were among the first to help restore damaged water supplies in the Tacloban area. Above, Wells are an essential water source for inhabitants of many of the Philippines' rural towns and villages. Typhoon Haiyan disrupted this water supply by damaging the pumping equipment of many wells and contaminating others with salt water and debris. Restoration of these freshwater supplies is a top priority in the ongoing relief effort. (IMB photos by Hugh Johnson)

areas not in the media spotlight.

Although the work in Tacloban is just beginning, the Millers say the assistance provided by Global Hunger Relief comes at a perfect time. Some of the relief organizations pulled out of Tacloban in July—the same month the two well pumps were installed.

Wells are an excellent introduction into communities and are an answer to prayer for the Millers.

In the past, the Millers tried to get churches in the U.S. to adopt a neighborhood in prayer, but the idea never took off.

"I'd like to take that one step further and not just sponsor a well, but I would like them to take on that 'barangay' (neighborhood) as a prayer partner," Suzie says. "This church would pray for

the barangay ... and minister to the whole community."

"I believe disaster relief is one of the best opportunities for people to move from 'I am a follower' to 'I am a disciple maker,'" Thomas says. "It's going to be a catalyst to open a lot of doors."

Global Hunger Relief funds also will be used to meet chronic needs like medical care, education and food security. (BP) Caroline Anderson writes for the International Mission Board from Asia.

EDITOR'S NOTE: On World Hunger Sunday, Oct. 12, Southern Baptist congregations will address the hunger crisis around the world, many by focusing on the theme "Hunger Happens Everywhere." Donations received are channeled through Global Hunger Relief, which uses 100 percent of each gift to meet hunger needs. For information, visit www.globalhungerrelief.com.



THE POWER OF 'AND'

IN ACTS 1:8, JESUS SAYS,

YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES

IN JERUSALEM,
AND IN ALL JUDEA
SAMARIA,

AND

TO THE ENDS
OF THE



JESUS DIDN'T SAY 'OR.' HE SAID 'AND.'

HOW CAN
YOU



AS

1

BELIEVER

bear witness here, there **AND** everywhere?

THROUGH THE

COOPERATIVE PROGRAM



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