

# REFLECTOR

Volume 163 / Number 6

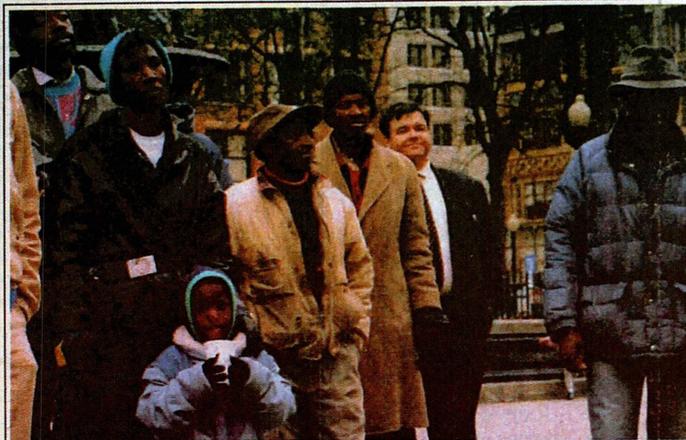
Statewide Edition

February 11, 1998

## this week's news

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## Church Without Doors meets in Memphis



**PARTICIPANTS**, which include homeless people and workers in the area, listen to a speaker. — Photos by Connie Davis

By Connie Davis  
*Baptist and Reflector*

**MEMPHIS** — On the weekends, downtown Memphis slows its pace to that of the nearby Mississippi River. Court Square, except for the occasional flurry of pigeons, invites a stroll by its ornate fountain graced by lifelike figures. The park's benches offer a site for conversation and rest.

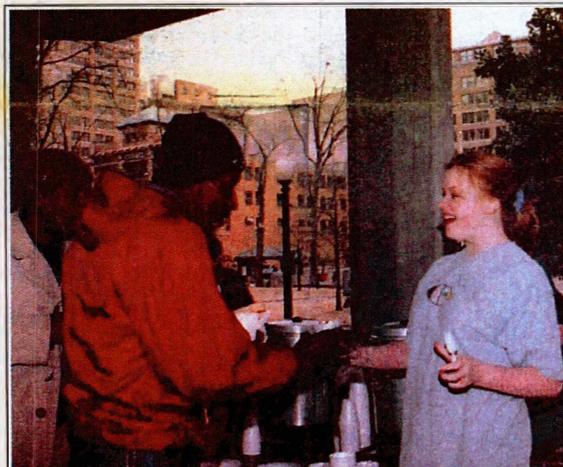
Doors has been meeting, it has rained only three times during the service, McNairy reported. And that's just one of many blessings from God received by the congregation, he said.

On that day, poor people joined by a few business people and tourists gathered and soon were singing songs led by members of Westhaven. Even without amplification, the leaders weren't deterred. Microphone cables had been taken last week. McNairy asked the crowd for their return, adding that was the only request of the church, inferring no punishment would be sought.

People formed a tighter group, clapping to the songs, partly to warm themselves in the damp chill.

McNairy introduced a prayer time. A young man asked people to pray that he would find a job. A man who lives in a nearby apartment announced this would be his last service because he was moving to Louisiana. A man standing with his wife and young daughter asked people to pray that his family would find a place to live. McNairy led a prayer.

A short message on God's forgiveness and his offer of help to humans was presented by Rick Wilburn, minister of missions and youth, Leawood Church. Members of the church help lead the service and feed participants every — See Church, page 7



**SERVING COFFEE** to a participant of Church Without Doors is Heather Ward, a member of Leawood Church, Memphis.

Visitors to Court Square on the weekends include business people working overtime, tourists, residents of downtown apartment houses, and homeless people who rely on shelters located among nearby multi-story buildings.

Visitors are sparse until Sunday afternoon, when Court Square becomes almost as busy as it is during the week. That's when the Church Without Doors meets.

About 150 people gathered two weeks ago for the 1 p.m. service led by Chris McNairy, pastor of Westhaven Church which founded the ministry. And once again, though rain was forecast, it didn't rain during the service. In the three years Church Without

### Feeds, witnesses to 'snow birds'

## Tennessee Disaster Relief team serves in Arizona



For Baptist and Reflector

Eighteen Disaster Relief workers from Tennessee participated in an unusual project Jan. 23-30 in Quartzsite, Ariz. For the first time in recent history, Disaster Relief workers helped lead a project of which the only purpose was evangelism.

The Tennesseans provided meals to support a week-long outreach by Arizona Baptists to "snow birds," or people who travel to warm climates during

the winter, often in recreational vehicles.

About one million snow birds congregate in the Quartzsite area each year, reported Tim Bearden of Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board ministries. To respond to the opportunity for ministry, Arizona Baptists planned a week of evangelistic activities.

Involved in the planning was Greg McNeese, a former staff member of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, and a former member of Clearview Church, Franklin, where he got to know several

members of the state Disaster Relief team, including Bearden, who is a member of the church and who directs the ministry.

Arizona Baptists decided the effort would be a lot more successful if food could be offered. Then McNeese thought of the Disaster Relief team, who is experienced in food preparation. When contacted, Bearden agreed the idea was a good one and soon team members had responded.

Because of the limited budget for Tennessee Disaster Relief, Tennesseans paid their own way and subsidized the

food costs by paying \$1 a meal for each they ate. Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board ministries paid for the transportation of the Disaster Relief feeding units and the rest of the food costs, reported Bearden.

The Tennesseans prepared a total of 1,800 meals for the outreach. Everyone was served lunch for six days. In addition, Baptist volunteers were served the other two meals each day.

In their spare time, the workers spread out among the RVs to meet people, invite them — See Tennessee, page 3

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► **Publisher** — Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board

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► **Membership** — Southern Baptist Press Association

► **Postmaster** — Periodical postage paid at Brentwood and at additional mailing office. (USPS 041-780) POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *Baptist and Reflector*, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, Tenn., 37024.

► **Frequency of issue** — The paper is published weekly except for the weeks of Christmas, New Year's, Fourth of July, and fourth week of August.

Printed on  
recycled paper

## Patterson is SBC presidential nominee

Compiled from Baptist Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee chairman James Merritt of Snellville, Ga., has announced he will nominate Paige Patterson as SBC president during the SBC annual meeting June 9-11 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Patterson, regarded as an architect of the "conservative resurgence" in the SBC which began in 1979, is president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, N.C.

Merritt announced his intention to nominate Patterson Feb. 3 during a Bible conference held at First Church here.

Patterson is the only announced candidate to succeed Tom Elliff, Oklahoma pastor, who will conclude two one-year terms as president in Salt Lake City.

The election of a seminary president as convention president has precedent.

E.Y. Mullins of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary served as SBC president in 1921. During the years from 1936-42

three seminary presidents were consecutively elected to serve as convention president — John R. Sampey, L.R. Scarborough, and W.W. Hamilton.

Patterson said before allowing Merritt to nominate him for the presidency, he had to first determine whether his possible election would create any conflicts of interest with his position as seminary president.

The convention constitution allows the SBC president during his tenure to be a member of several boards and the Executive Committee. Patterson said, however, "If elected SBC president, I would not be casting a vote or speaking to issues in board meetings except at the invitation of the president of that agency and the chairman of its board."

Patterson also noted because of the "wise foresight of the SBC fathers," the convention president does not have direct input in determining who serves on the agency and institutional boards.

Before becoming SEBTS president in 1992 Patterson was president of Criswell College in Dallas. ■

## SBC CP receipts increase in January

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program receipts for January increased more than 20 percent, according to Morris H. Chapman, SBC Executive Committee president.

For the month of January, a total of \$16,970,404 in CP gifts were received, compared to \$14,075,108, an increase of 20.57 percent over last January.

For the first four months of the SBC fiscal year, CP receipts total \$52,534,658, compared to the same period last year of \$51,529,813, an increase of 1.95 percent.

Designated gifts also increased. For January, a total of \$21,412,350 was received, compared to \$19,798,348 given in January 1997, an increase of 8.15 percent. For the year to date, designated gifts are up 9.08 percent over last year, \$29,120,010, compared to \$26,697,192.

For the year-to-date, CP gifts are \$3,139,632, or 6.36 percent over the CP allocation budget requirement. ■

## Southern Baptist agency launches national radio program

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — The Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission will be closer to Southern Baptists' hometowns within a few days — within arm's reach on their radio dial.

The SBC's agency for moral and public policy concerns launches a national radio program Feb. 16 that will enable millions of Southern Baptists and others to tune in and par-

ticipate in biblically based discussions on the critical issues confronting the nation.

The program, "For Faith & Family," will debut on more than 170 radio stations live and on tape-delay across the United States and at AudioNet on the Internet.

And ERLC President Richard Land is hopeful Southern Baptists will tune in to every episode of the half-hour call-in radio program airing live at 11:30 am Central weekdays.

"We hope and pray that For Faith & Family will help listeners develop a Christian worldview which will enable them to fully understand and address the critical social, moral and public policy issues facing our nation."

Land, along with special guests, will discuss social and ethical issues of key concern to Christians — abortion, gambling, racism, pornography, and substance abuse, among others. Some listeners will have the op-

portunity to take part in the discussion both by calling the program directly, and by interactive communication via electronic mail to Land in the studio.

In the near future, listeners will be able to visit the For Faith & Family Internet site at [www.fff.com](http://www.fff.com). To hear the program live on AudioNet or to listen to archived programs. For a complete listing of radio stations in your area carrying the program, contact the ERLC at (615) 244-2495. ■

## NAMB restructuring savings on target: Reccord

Baptist Press

ALPHARETTA, Ga. — Bob Reccord, president of the North American Mission Board, had encouraging words for NAMB trustees Feb. 4 regarding the recent announcement that projected savings from the creation of the agency are in line with projections.

"We are on target with an overwhelmingly difficult target to achieve," Reccord told trustees. "I say to all the team who are doing what had to be done ... praise God!"

Operating efficiencies from the "Covenant for A New Century" restructuring have resulted in a projected first-year savings to NAMB of about \$6.8 million — a variance of less than 3 percent from the \$7 million predicted by the Implementation Task Force that directed the restructuring.

The North American Mission Board was created last year out of the former Home Mission Board, Radio and Television Commission, and Brotherhood Commission, and the projected savings is based on the funding those agencies would have received. The restructuring reduced the total number of SBC agencies from 19 to 12.

Randy Singer, NAMB's executive vice president, noted the agency is meeting one of the primary goals of the transition: to direct more resources toward direct missions and away from administrative overhead. "That's a point of celebration, because to me it's not about saving money; it's about souls being saved," he said.

Singer also recognized the sacrifices made by both former employees who lost their jobs and current employees, in administrative areas particularly, who have had to handle a larger workload with fewer staff. He pointed out, for example, that the number of finance and accounting staff was reduced from 32 to 19, and human resources personnel were cut from 22 to 11.

The board continues to face challenges related to the restructuring, Singer said. There is an expanded responsibility for areas such as student evangelism and mission efforts in all of Canada, and costs directly related to the transition produced a one-time expense of about \$7.35 million. The Implementation Task Force initially predicted costs of between \$4.1 and \$5.7 million.

"We had a higher-than-expected number of employees who took the generous severance package that we had in place," Singer said.

In addition to 144 former employees who were not offered jobs with the new agency, another 45 employees have accepted the severance package since the final ITF report in June of last year. Employees of the former agencies who initially accepted positions with NAMB were granted the option of accepting the severance package through Dec. 31, 1997.

Singer noted, however, the transition costs were almost offset by first-year savings, and future savings from operational efficiencies will be available for expanded missions opportunities. ■

## Elliff appoints study committee for BFM statement

Baptist Press

DEL CITY, Okla. — SBC President Tom Elliff has appointed a seven-member committee to recommend a possible family article addition to the Baptist Faith and Message document.

Elliff named the committee in response to action taken at the SBC annual meeting last June in Dallas.

Elliff noted that while the BFM statement is not a creed, "it's extremely important to Southern Baptists."

Those named to the committee have "a keen grasp of the Scriptures and illustrate in their lives a clear understanding of God's principles regarding the family," Elliff told Baptist Press.

Named to the committee were Anthony Jordan, Oklahoma, chairman; O.D. Shook, Texas; Richard Land, Tennessee; Mary Mohler, Kentucky; Bill Elliff, Arkansas; John Sullivan, Florida; and Dorothy Patterson, North Carolina. ■

# Norris youth leader affirms True Love Waits

By Terri Lackey  
For Baptist Press

**NORRIS** — Kim Hurst believes that anyone who tells teenagers safe sex means wearing a condom is promoting false advertising.

"I got pregnant when I was 15, the very first time I had sex. And he was wearing a condom," said Hurst, who is now a youth leader at Island Home Church here.

Hurst said she's a big believer in the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's True Love Waits campaign — the international movement that challenges teens and college students to remain sexually abstinent until marriage.

A college student and mother, Hurst has about 30 in her youth group. She took two of the four over age 12 to a True Love Waits Super Rally, Jan. 29, at First Church, Concord.

The rally was held to promote TLW Goes Campus, which was launched on Valentine's Day 1997 and is being held again on school campuses across the nation Feb. 13. The Goes Campus event gives teens who take a virginity pledge the opportunity to display their commitment cards at school.

"The vision for 1998 is that True Love Waits commitment cards will be displayed on every secondary school campus in America," said Jimmy Hester, one of the BSSB campaign organizers.

"I was a runaway at the

time I got pregnant," Hurst said. "My life was a mess. One thing I've said to kids ever since is, 'If you believe a condom is safe, let me introduce you to my daughter.' (Getting pregnant) ain't so much of a statistic when it's you."

Hurst said the thought of an abortion never crossed her mind even though the father "was nothing but trouble."

Hurst, 22, married the music minister at Island Home Church three years ago. They have the daughter from her first pregnancy, a second child, and another on the way.

The youth leader believes older children are not too young to hear about the perils of sex before marriage.

"I was younger than 12 when I was first confronted with sex, and my sister, who is in high school, knows a seventh-grader who is pregnant."

With her youth group, Hurst is studying the True Love Waits resource, *Until You Say I Do*, which she said gets at some of the real issues teenagers face about sexuality.

"The book has five lesson plans, and we study one a week. It talks about stuff most people don't talk about — like that little tingly feeling you can get if you get too physical. They need to know that feeling is normal, but they also need to know how to handle it."

Hurst said she wants the teens in her youth group to know that virginity is a gift they can give to their future mates.



**KIM HURST**, right, youth leader at Island Home Church, Norris, discusses the True Love Waits pledge cards with two of her youth, **JAMIE WEBBER**, left, and **ERIN LOWE**. Hurst took the girls to a True Love Waits Super Rally, Jan. 29, at First Church, Concord. — BP photo by Jim Veneman

"They also need to know that they just can't take the pledge and expect to remain a virgin. They have to have a growing relationship with Christ," she said, adding, "It's not just these kids who have to make the commitment, but it's the parents and the church."

Hurst is planning to conduct a ring ceremony at her church Feb. 15 where at least two of her female youth are going to repeat their pledges to virginity before the congregation.

"We're going to pray first, then they will say the pledge which they've memorized and then their fathers are going to slip the rings on their fingers."

She said the experience is

especially touching because the fathers do not attend church.

Students and youth leaders who conduct True Love Waits Goes Campus events are asked to report the results of the efforts to the national True Love Waits team by Feb. 27. Reports may be faxed to (615) 251-2830. On April 14, TLW leaders will deliver a full report (including the name of every participating public and private school that reports and the number of students on each campus making the TLW commitment) to the office of President Bill Clinton and other government leaders.

For more information, call 1-800-LUV WAIT. ■



## Teens modeling sexual fidelity for parents, Ross says

Associated Baptist Press

**NASHVILLE** — Many baby boomers' children are showing them the way toward sexual faithfulness, according to veteran youth minister Richard Ross.

"It is remarkable in our day and age to find a generation of teenagers more willing to choose a lifestyle of sexual fidelity than their parents," said Ross, founder of the True Love Waits sexual abstinence until marriage campaign for teens.

"We know a fair number of parents who have been uncomfortable with their teenagers' True Love Waits promise because the parents themselves have been unwilling to make a similar commitment to moral purity," said Ross, youth ministry consultant for the Baptist Sunday School Board and youth minister at Tulip Grove Church, Old Hickory.

"In my own youth group, I know of young people who have directly confronted their parents over their parents' sexual behavior," he said. ■

## Feeds, witnesses to 'snow birds'

# Tennessee Disaster Relief team serves in ...



— Continued from page 1

to services, and witness. Tennesseans were joined by about 300 Baptist volunteers from 13 states and from Canada in the outreach efforts.

The daily services, held after lunch, drew from 153 to 258. As a result, three

people make initial commitments to God and about 50 made other spiritual decisions, reported Nancy Jones of Arizona's Baptist Senior Life Ministries.

The services were held in a tent on land bought by Quartzsite Southern Church. The congregation, which is currently meeting in a trailer, plans to build a facility on the land.

Following services, Baptist volunteers spent a few more hours wit-

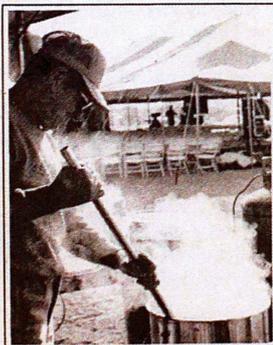
nessing to campers.

One person was baptized during the week. And Tennesseans were very involved in making this possible, reported Pat Still, a member of the team from Clearview Church. The man was baptized in the plastic water tub used by the team to store water, he reported.

Bearden reported the project may be repeated next year.

The Disaster Relief team members

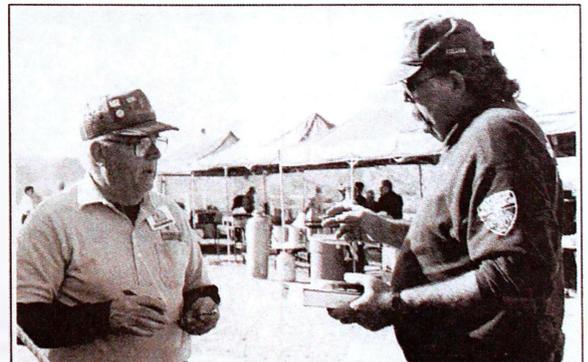
were Bill and Joyce Curington, Ken Ford, Don and Martha Byrd, and Jim Jones, Knoxville; L.O. Miller and Keith and Vivian Lyle, Erwin; Gilbert Ray, Oak Ridge; Ronnie Snoderly, Maryville; Pat Still, Nashville; Ed and Doris Simpson, Trezevant; Curt and Elizabeth Fowler, Concord; John and Virginia Cole, Huntingdon; and Dick and Juanita Staggs, Jackson. — Connie Davis (See page 6 for additional story on this project.)



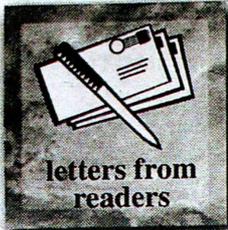
**STIRRING** food for the meals served by Tennesseans is Ken Ford of Knoxville.



**TEAM MEMBERS**, from left, Virginia Cole of Huntingdon, and Joyce and Bill Curington of Knoxville, prepare bread for meals.



**DISCUSSING** government regulations are Don Byrd, left, of Knoxville, and a local fire marshal.



## letters from readers

## about letters

> Make it concise, no more than 250 words. Letters may be edited for length.

> Name may be withheld for sufficient reason. Include address and phone number.

> Avoid personal attacks on the character or integrity of anyone.

> Send original copy.

Form letters and 'open' letters will not be published.

> Only one letter in a three-months period per writer will be published.

> If letter does not conform, it will be returned.

> Opinions and ideas expressed in letters are not necessarily shared by the *Baptist and Reflector* and its staff.



## Partnership Prayer Requests

### February

11 — Pray for the Baptist State Convention of Michigan's Women on Missions retreats to be held Feb. 20-22 and 27-28.

12 — Pray for Gary and Sis Tufts, IMB missionaries to Costa Rica, who have a home Bible study in the area of San Francisco de Tres Rios.

13 — Pray for the Michigan convention's Church Planting Training to be held Feb. 16-19.

14 — Pray for the members of West Memorial Church in Saultsbury, Tenn., in the Mississippi River Ministry area, who want to build a more structurally sound and people-friendly building.

15 — Pray for Rich Carruthers, Baptist Student Ministries director at Simon Fraser University in Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada.

16 — Pray for Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers making plans to do flood recovery in northeast Tennessee.

17 — Pray for First Church of Turrialba in Costa Rica that the members will be willing to raise up a church in Tukurrique.

## Too good to keep

Toward the end of August 1997, I had one of those "too good to keep to myself" experiences of God's providential care.

During a routine conversation with Dr. Constantine Potanin, staff physician at Baptist Hospital in Nashville, he began asking unusual questions and then asked me to come to his office for a treadmill test. After reading the results, he suggested that I see Dr. Charles Mayes, a cardiologist, whom I first knew as a junior boy in my first out-of-seminary pastorate at First Church, Greenbrier. After several tests, he recommended immediate by-pass surgery and referred me to surgeon John Austin. I am now nearing the end of a 13-week cardiac rehabilitation program.

Throughout the entire experience I have had a wonderful awareness of being loved by dedicated, committed, skilled caregivers. I also have been encouraged by the concern and prayer support of President David Stringfield, Executive Vice President Paul Moore, Chaplains Lewis Lamberth and Claude Huguley, other hospital staff persons, family, and friends.

I am truly grateful for a hospital and staff that faithfully fulfill their partnership with the Great Physician, Jesus Christ.

Vern B. Powers  
Mt. Juliet 37122

## Request for help

Recently I was talking with some fellow pastors and we got to exchanging some pretty hilarious stories about things that have happened to us while administering the ordinance of baptism. We laughed so hard, we had tears in our eyes.

I've often said I ought to write a book and then one day the Lord told me to do it. So, I have begun writing *A Funny Thing Happened*. — *At The Baptism*. I can tell some pretty crazy stories of things that actually happened to me during this sacred ordinance.

Then the idea hit me — if I have a story to tell, there could be more. As a result I am appealing to pastors and others to send me your funniest true stories and let me tell them in this book. You do not have to give the candidate's real name, but I do want your name.

There are so many great stories out there that will go untold otherwise.

Write out the stories and mail them to Gary McEwen, Trace Creek Baptist Church, 1320 Broadway Avenue, New Johnsonville, Tenn., 37134. You may also e-mail to [tcbc@waverly.net](mailto:tcbc@waverly.net).

Please help me put together the best collection of stories possible so we can enjoy them together.

Gary McEwen  
New Johnsonville 37134

## Good advice

In the Jan. 28 *B&R*, Baptist Press reports, "Disney provides another reason to boycott." Planned Parenthood is described as "the country's leading provider of abortions."

In the Jan. 28 issue of the *Knoxville News-Sentinel*, "Dear Abby" had an article about a young married woman who was pregnant, and even though she and her husband wanted a family, they were unprepared to start one just then. "Suzy" was adamant about wanting to end her pregnancy. Her mother tried to convince her, but to no avail, so she suggested her daughter make an appointment with Planned Parenthood. The counselor

spoke with Suzy about her decision as well as other options, explaining the ramifications of each. The net result was that she decided not to terminate the pregnancy.

Abby goes on to describe the many high-quality health care services Planned Parenthood provides: "screening for sexually transmitted diseases for both men and women, contraceptive counseling and services, sterilization consultation and procedures for men and women, instruction in testicular self-examination, prenatal care, which covers pregnancy and childbirth, and post-partum care, child-rearing, and nutrition."

Douglas J. Harris  
Talbot 37877

## Generous giving

There is something always exciting about moving into a new calendar year. As the new millennium approaches, we all are re-evaluating and preparing for a wonderful life-time experience.

I want to thank the *Baptist and Reflector* for your support and encouragement of the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. Having served on a state staff and on the national missions agency staff, I know what your support of the mission offering means. You are indeed a vital partner in the support of missions and without your enthusiastic support the offering would suffer.

The postings from Dec. 31, 1997 report a record offering of \$41,178,815 (not audited). This is an increase of \$1,670,376 or 4 percent over 1996. We praise the Lord for the stewardship and generosity of Southern Baptists. Through the termination of three agencies (HMB, RTVC, and Brotherhood), and the launching of the North American Mission Board, Southern Baptists continue to

give generously and sacrificially to missions and missionaries.

Ernest J. Kelley, NAMB  
Alpharetta, Ga. 30022

## Education views

I am responding to some recent letters written to the *Baptist and Reflector* about our Tennessee Baptist colleges. I have heard the argument about education as opposed to indoctrination. Being a recent graduate of one of our TBC colleges and at present a student at one of our SBC seminaries, I would like to address the issue.

First, the title education versus indoctrination is misleading. This term is used by Baptists that seem to support a more moderate view of Scripture. Thus, this implies that anyone who holds to an inerrant view of Scripture is in some way uneducated, or at best, less educated than other "scholars." I have sat under professors while at seminary that hold an inerrant view of Scripture and have found them to be as educated and knowledgeable as any professor I had at college who held a more moderate view of Scripture.

Secondly, while it is true that during college I was allowed to hold any view of the Bible I chose, facts to only one side of the argument were taught in class. Why is this considered education, while conservatives are accused of indoctrination?

For those who argue that things are fine the way they are, I disagree as an alumnus of a TBC college and a student at an SBC seminary. I thank God that I have been able to learn about the supremacy and inerrancy of the Word of God in an educated and scholarly approach.

Scott Lingenfelter  
Louisville, Ky. 40280

## Prayer march to State Capitol planned

# State Youth Evangelism Conference slated for March 6-7



For *Baptist and Reflector*

BRENTWOOD — Baptist youth across Tennessee are preparing to attend the Tennessee Baptist Youth Evangelism Conference in Nashville, March 6-7. And Tennessee Baptist leaders are making sure they have a good experience, according to Ken Weathersby, state evangelism specialist, Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Weathersby's office reminds churches that the Youth Evangelism Conference is fast approaching. This annual event regularly draws more than 25,000 Baptist youth for the weekend.

For those groups who have had difficulty in getting housing through the Nashville Housing Bureau, Weathersby urges

them to contact his Baptist Center office by Fax — (615) 371-2014, or by calling (615) 371-2077, or 1-(800)-558-2090, no later than Feb. 13.

Weathersby also said scholarship help may be available for those youth who need registration assistance.

Theme of the conference is taken from Luke 19:40, "... No Rocks Crying Out." The focus will be on the importance of worshiping, and the power that worship unleashes to witness for Christ.

"The Youth Evangelism Conference is an annual call to refocus of the main task of soul winning," said Weathersby.

"Early bird" registration should be in by Feb. 16.

Participating youth are urged to bring their Bibles, honor God in their behavior, team up with two or three friends for accountability, and invite friends. The youth will be trained to share their faith in Christ on Friday. There will be an organized march to the State Capitol for prayer on Saturday, March 7. ■

# Tennessee Baptist colleges merit support

Tennessee Baptists should be proud of their institutions of higher education.

The Christian influence provided for each student carries impact — not only for the student, but for people and causes with whom they come in contact.

If you visit the campus of any of the three colleges or the academy, you will not only see classroom teaching and learning, you will see many Christian-oriented activities that are at the heart of the schools.

This is not to say that the colleges touch each person with the same impact — they don't. But some students don't want to be impacted.

However, for those who are ready to be exposed to the core values of Christian living — the colleges and academy are available, and "at your service."

February 15 is designated as *Seminaries, Colleges, and Schools Day*. Tennessee Baptist churches are challenged to recognize students and the colleges.

One challenge is to let go of the provincial attitude. The colleges, for example, are strategically located across Tennessee — east, middle, west. This geographical

strategy may not have been planned, but it does provide Tennessee Baptists with reasons for strong local support.

More than that regional location, the colleges have other attributes that should appeal to Tennessee Baptists. Carson-Newman College, Belmont University, and Union University, are all strong academically. And they offer students choices in the typically college-oriented campus activities. Remember your days at college, university, or seminary?

The classroom experiences offer the best in instruction and hands-on involvement. In the article at the bottom of this page, Union University's Michael Duduit reminds us that at a Christian university, "professors understand that every discipline stands under the authority of Christ." He also said that kind of university "is made up of faculty and administrators who share a deep commitment to Christ and his truth ... as a guiding philosophy and foundation which influences every part of the educational endeavor."

Ray Newcomb, Millington pastor and current chairman of the TBC Executive Board's education committee, urges Tennessee Baptists to get acquainted with their schools and to stay acquainted. He

asks Tennessee Baptists to share concerns with the schools' leaders, and to visit the campuses often.

So, even though we may have a provincial connection or attitude about one of the three colleges, we should broaden our support to include all three. And Harrison-Chilhowee Academy will always need support as well.

The schools have programs staffed with student volunteers who work valiantly in the surrounding communities, and in state-sponsored missions endeavors.

Many students have rolled up their sleeves and volunteered for Partnership Missions trips. And they aren't afraid of the difficult projects.

They are active in local missions as well, doing a lot of hard work for needy people in tough situations. There is a growing core of students with this attitude who always seem ready to "join up."

Tennessee Baptists can be proud of the colleges and the academy. On Sunday, February 15, join the crowd and celebrate *Baptist Seminaries, Colleges, and Schools Day* in your church. These institutions and their students are partners who deserve affirmation. — *Wm. Fletcher Allen*



## just for today

by Fred Wood,  
pastor emeritus,  
Eudora Church,  
Memphis



### Start with a smile

Preacher's wife: "Your sermon about the duty of the rich to help the poor was good. Do you think it convinced many in the congregation?"

Preacher: "Yes, quite a few."

Wife: "Who do you think it convinced?"

Preacher: "The poor."

### Take this truth

Remove the "vested interest only" attitude from politics, business, and religion, and we will go a long way toward solving our nation's problems.

### Memorize this Scripture

If you love them who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? — Matthew 5:46

### Pray this prayer

Help me, Lord, always to see the views and feelings of the other person as clearly as I do my own. ■

### Who said that?

Truly religious liberty is the mother of all liberties. And at the heart of religious liberty is the priesthood of the believer. It involves the right of direct access to God, but it also entails the responsibility of leading others to him. — *You Are Chosen*, by Herschel H. Hobbs, Harper & Row Publishers, New York, N. Y., 1990

## Not a bad idea — experiencing God in work

### One word more

by Wm. Fletcher Allen, editor



Baptist Hospital in Nashville had a celebration of sorts at a luncheon in January.

The administration decided to go forward with gusto with a program inaugurated a year ago.

No, it wasn't a new surgical procedure or a spiffy computerized method of dealing with visitors. The program is not a new facility to include more doctors (though they are doing that right now).

The program deals with people — which is the purpose

for any hospital's existence. This particular program involves prayer and spiritual growth — and it is planned with hospital employees in mind. Bravo, Baptist Hospital!

Keynote speaker for the anniversary was Roger Staubach, Hall of Fame pro football quarterback for the Dallas Cowboys.

But Roger wasn't the only star present for the luncheon. In fact, he was almost upstaged by three employee testimonies and discussion of the spiritual emphasis going on at Baptist Hospital.

Yes, I did stay around to shake hands with Staubach, and to have a photo made with him. He's well-known as a spiritual businessman, with his life well grounded by faith

in Christ. He explained his spiritual walk very well.

The testimonies by employees were expressions of appreciation for the availability of tools to help build up the personal and corporate spiritual life. It was a perfect entree for the keynote speaker.

David Stringfield, a longtime prayer partner with Staubach and president of Baptist Hospital, explained the use of one of those tools — and plans for the future.

Employees have had the opportunity to study in small groups Henry Blackaby's book, *Experiencing God in the Workplace*. Now even more are preparing to study John Templeton's *Worldwide Laws of Life*. Templeton will be in Nashville in June to help kick-off the study.

Books will be provided for all interested employees who wish to study it during lunch.

It's interesting that the hospital is making available these opportunities for employees.

Vern Powers, former TBC Annuity Board representative, who now works as liaison between Tennessee Baptists and the hospital, affirms what hospital leaders are doing.

Stringfield says that the recent prayer luncheon — which had 300 employees, has a purpose — for hospital employees and leaders to know and do God's will, and his direction for the hospital's future.

The luncheon provided a high spiritual moment for Tennessee Baptists — and for the hospital. It was a breath of awakening. ☀☀☀

## Looking at the challenge of the Christian university

By Michael Duduit  
For Baptist and Reflector

When Harvard University was founded in 1636, it was established to provide an education built on a foundation of faith in Jesus Christ. As the College Laws of 1642 observe, "Let every student ... consider well the main end of his life and studies is to know God and Jesus Christ which is eternal life, John 17:3, and therefore to lay Christ in the bottom, as the only foundation of all sound knowledge and learning."

Early leaders of Harvard understood well that "a sacred regard for truth" necessarily involved a knowledge of the Creator and Source of all truth. In 1998, however, such a concept uttered on that historic campus would likely encounter puzzled expressions, given that today's secular academe has all but rejected the concept of "truth" which seemed so familiar only a generation ago.

The university has become the most secularized institution in American life. If there is a culture war go-

ing on in our nation, then the university has become the command and control center of those forces which seek to replace our Judeo-Christian heritage with a secular, post-modern mindset.

There is a secularized environment which pervades most campuses today — including many that understand their "religious heritage" to be an uncomfortable piece of history rather than a living reality.

In American higher education, the barbarians have not simply stormed the gates; they have assumed the mantle of academic leadership and become masters of the castle.

That is why there has never been a greater need than today for authentically Christian colleges and universities — institutions which understand that all truth is God's truth, and that there can be no true understanding apart from knowledge of and relationship to the Creator.

There is a difference between a merely "church-related" institution and a truly "Christian" college or university. A Christian university is one which recog-

nizes that Christ is the foundation on which education is built. A Christian university is made up of faculty and administrators who share a deep commitment to Christ and his truth — not a compartmentalized portion of their lives reserved for Sunday, but as a guiding philosophy and foundation which influences every part of the educational endeavor.

At a Christian university, professors understand that every discipline stands under the authority of Christ. They help students understand how their Christian faith is integrated with academic disciplines and professional vocations.

If Southern Baptists, Tennessee Baptists, are to profoundly shape the intellectual and cultural attitudes of the 21st century, their most valuable tool may be Christian colleges and universities. As we celebrate *Baptist Seminaries, Colleges, and Schools Day* on February 15, make your Baptist colleges a special focus of prayer and support. They are partners with congregations in training leaders. — Duduit is executive vice president, Union University, Jackson.

# Hunting accident turns life around for layman

By Lonnie Wilkey  
Baptist and Reflector

CHARLESTON — Though he was "raised in church" and his grandfather was a Baptist preacher for 50 years, Mike Crittenden readily admits he had "wandered as far from church" as he could go.

It took a fall from a deer stand to bring him back to reality.

On Nov. 29, 1996, Crittenden and his brother, David, were hunting on the family farm when he fell, breaking his neck and leaving him paralyzed from his shoulders down to his feet. He could have died from the fall which left him face down. He was smothering because he could not move and turn over. David Crittenden was able to get to his brother quickly, turn him over, and then get help.

Prior to the fall Crittenden admitted he was "living only for myself. I was the devil's right-hand man."

He noted the night he fell he looked to the devil for help. "The devil had always told me that if I ever got into trouble that he'd be right there for me. But instead of being there for me, the devil was long gone.

"He left me there by myself. However, the one that I had turned my back on and mistreated was the first one there to pick me up and to take care of me. God has never left me since," Crittenden said.

Crittenden, who accepted Christ at age 12, recalled that "two seconds after I hit the ground God told me he was

tired of fooling with me. This was my last chance.

"I figured I had better turn my life around."

And, he has.

Crittenden has been transformed from a person who would rarely speak in a group, to one who will readily and eagerly share his testimony before a church.

"He has been using me regularly to give testimony to lift his name up and to glorify him.

"Ironically, he has allowed me to have the best year of my life since the accident, although I am in a wheelchair.

"I'm happier now than I have ever been. He's been wonderful in every way possible. The accident has probably been the best thing that ever happened to me other than his saving my soul from hell," Crittenden noted.

Crittenden's attitude and change has been an inspiration to the congregation of First Church, Charleston, where he is a member, said pastor Mark Perko. "Mike has been a blessing to everybody," Perko said.

Since the accident, church members have added a wheelchair ramp to enable Crittenden to attend more easily. They also constructed a deck on the back of his house, complete with a ramp.

The church also has provided financial help to Crittenden and his wife,



**PROVIDING SUPPORT** for Mike Crittenden, seated, during his recovery have been, from left, his brother, David; his pastor, Mark Perko; and his wife, Carolyn.

Carolyn, who had to quit work to stay home with her husband following the accident. "We've been blessed so much," she said.

Crittenden's recovery has been slow. The first prognosis was he would have little if any use of his arms or legs. He

can now move both arms and he has some feeling in his legs.

Crittenden's ultimate goal is to walk again, noting "nothing is impossible with God."

Even if that does not happen Crittenden will not be angry or upset with God. "He made me the promise he'd let me walk. Whether it's here or in heaven I don't know. Spiritually, I am walking with God now."

Crittenden spends most of his days immersed in the Bible and reading books about God's Word. He doesn't know if God is preparing him for professional ministry in the future or not. "I take it one day at a time. Whatever he asks of me, I will try to do it."

In the meantime he is content to share what God has done for him through personal testimony.

When describing the change in his life, Crittenden makes it clear he does "not want people to look at me and feel sorry for me. If people see anything when they look at me I hope they'll see the change the Lord has made in my life. I hope that if there's anything that they can see, it is the Lord and not me.

"If I could help just one person to the Lord or change their life, it would be worth every bit of what has happened to me," he said. ■



## Knoxvillians provide tool for pastors

Baptist and Reflector

KNOXVILLE — When Doug Sager became pastor of First Church, Concord, here in 1993, he was accustomed to having an active pastore ministry.

When Concord member Jerry Godolphin learned about that, he volunteered to organize a tape ministry at the church.

A database programmer by trade, Godolphin began saving the title, topic, Bible text, comments, and other information about each sermon in a computer database.

"Dr. Sager liked the method

of organization, rapid retrieval, and the ease of use," Godolphin noted. "He asked for other volunteers to enter in his past collection of sermons — over 3,500 tapes," he added.

Last year Godolphin talked with fellow church member Emmette Thompson, a former Baptist Book Store manager, about the product. Thompson, who owns and operates Christian Way Services, was seeking products to represent. "We decided to make the program available to other pastors to help them organize their ministry," Godolphin said.

Thompson noted he used to be asked if there was such a product while he was at the bookstore, but he had not found anything like it.

Godolphin said his earliest form of the program was written in DOS but he revised the program for Windows (3.1 or '95) and added features such as church membership, cut and paste from word processor programs, extensive reporting, sample data, and more.

"We kept the price low, \$39.95, which is within the range of most ministers," Godolphin observed. He also set up a technical support line to assist with questions.

Thompson added: "We tried to make it user-friendly. It does not take a lot of computer experience to be able to use the program."

He noted the product meets the needs of almost any pastor regardless of church size.

The program is being stocked by Baptist Book Stores as well as others.

"We started shipping hundreds of packages last October. We have had many testimonials by pastors regarding its ease of use and worth to their ministries," Godolphin reported. ■

— Lonnie Wilkey

## Disaster Relief worker baptizes man in water vat

For Baptist and Reflector

Pat Still, a member of Clearview Church, Franklin, has participated in many missions endeavors, including many as a Disaster Relief worker with the Tennessee team.

And he's watched people make commitments to God because of his witness. It's always special, he said, but a recent event was quite unusual.

During an evangelistic project in Quartzsite, Ariz., Still joined 17 other Tennesseans and other Baptist volunteers in an outreach to the campers who gather there each winter.

During the week, he got to know Thomas Reed, a 41-year-old man who had until recently been a cowboy. Still found out Reed was a Christian. He also discovered the man had endured a lot of suffering. As a child, he had been raised in a foster home. As a young adult, Reed had been severely injured in a rodeo accident. He had recently been diagnosed with cancer.

Reed was a witnessing Christian, having seen about 20 fellow cowboys make commitments to God. But Reed

had never been baptized. He decided he wanted Still to baptize him.

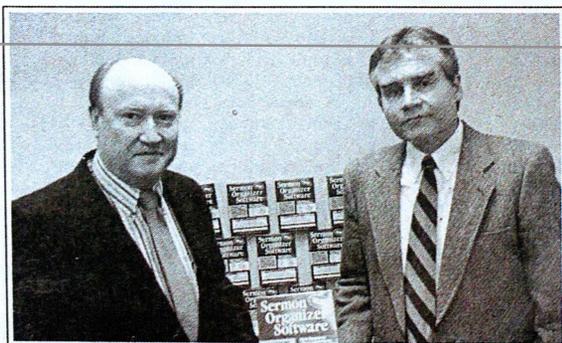
At first a baptism seemed impossible. Quartzsite Southern Church, the nearest Baptist church, didn't have a baptistry. And water wasn't readily available at the project site.

But the team decided the baptism could be held in a water tank which stored water for the food service they were providing. Water was heated. And Still, who is ordained, was authorized by the church to baptize Reed.

The event took place during one of the worship services held during the effort. **B&R**



**BAPTIZING** his new friend is Pat Still of Nashville.



**KNOXVILLE LAYMEN** Jerry Godolphin, left, and Emmette Thompson display a copy of their 'Sermon Organizer Software' for pastors.

# Church Without Doors meets in ...

— Continued from page 1  
other month. They have been doing this for two years.

After a final prayer, a line quickly formed with women and children in front. Steam rose from a pot of soup on the park's gazebo-type structure which was used as a serving area.

"Thank you" was heard again and again as servers, mainly youth from Leewood Church, distributed soup, cornbread, dessert, and coffee.

### To meet needs

The first several Sundays members of Westhaven met to hold services in the park, no one joined them. So they gathered the food they had brought and distributed it to the 100-200 people waiting outside the Salvation Army shelter.

Then that shelter was closed to make room for the construction of a ballpark and the needy people joined the new Church Without Doors.

Without much publicity, the congregation continues to grow, said McNairy, who has resigned as pastor of Westhaven to pursue a new ministry. He's not sure if it will in-

clude Church Without Doors. But he's sure that ministry is needed, he said.

On any given day, Memphis has about 10,000 people who have no permanent home, he said. Most of them aren't "lazy and shiftless," he noted. They simply can't find affordable housing.

McNairy has met people who are working 40-50 hours a week and still can't find housing for themselves or their families. And many homeless people face problems that are incomprehensible to most people, he added. For example, he has met people who have slept overnight on concrete floors in parking garages and then walked to jobs where they worked during the day.

To help these type of people, Westhaven Church started the outdoor church, said McNairy. It also assists those who have things to know about those who don't, he added.

The congregation may not seem like a church, but it is, said McNairy, because the peo-

ple who attend "are a part of the body of the Christ," he said. Soon it will be observing church ordinances, taking offerings, and planning weekday programs for members.

### Many have been helped

Many have learned about God or renewed their relationships with God during the ministry, said McNairy. One Sunday a tourist made a profession of faith. Another day a homeless man whose family had endured much talked to McNairy for more than an hour. A Christian, he finally laid his head on McNairy's shoulder and cried, telling him it had been about 15 years

since he had shed tears in someone else's presence.

A young man who was attending a service was helped recently when the congregation was featured on a regional TV news show. He was viewed by a family member in Mississippi. Through the TV station and McNairy, the family member was able to contact the young man, who was homeless.

### Baptists are assisting

In addition to Leewood and Westhaven, about 20 churches in Shelby Association are assisting the congregation regularly and people in the community are helping too, reported McNairy. *B&R*



## Homeless, but believing

For Baptist and Reflector

MEMPHIS — Mallory Montague regularly attends the Church Without Doors. During the last two months he has been homeless and living in the downtown area since he sleeps in shelters there.

Montague, 36, can't explain exactly why he's homeless, he said. He's been a plumber's helper for the past six years. But the jobs have been sporadic at times, he explained.

Companies that build or renovate buildings hire plumbers for short-term assignments. They often don't have other jobs available because they are located out of town, Montague explained. And now that he's without a car, he's limited to taking jobs in the downtown area.

He doesn't drink alcohol or take drugs, he said.

He's not without options. He could live with his mother, he said, but he should be on his own. Another factor in his decision is she is an alcoholic, he added.

He's also looking for temporary jobs so he can pay for a room. They cost from \$50-\$60 a week. And he needs a heavier coat. His was stolen while he was at the bus station recently.

It gets discouraging, he admitted. "I'm looking for a job all the time," he said.

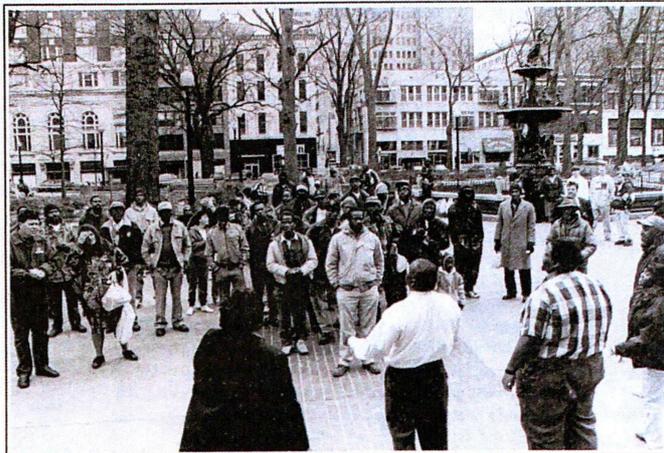
Montague, a native of Memphis, served in the U.S. Navy for four years. Because he was based in California, he stayed there until 1991. During that period he "came on some hard luck" and was homeless for about a year.

It was easier then, he said, because homeless people received more government assistance, like food stamps, than they do now.

If he had gone to college, he would have more options, he added.

One "blessing," he said, is that he's single and has no children. "I was brought up as a Seventh Day Adventist, so I love God and all the church," he said.

"The Lord willing, I'll get a job and get back on my feet," said Montague. *B&R* — At press time, McNairy reported Mary Smith of Trinity Church had helped Montague get a job in a downtown hotel.



THE CONGREGATION worships together.



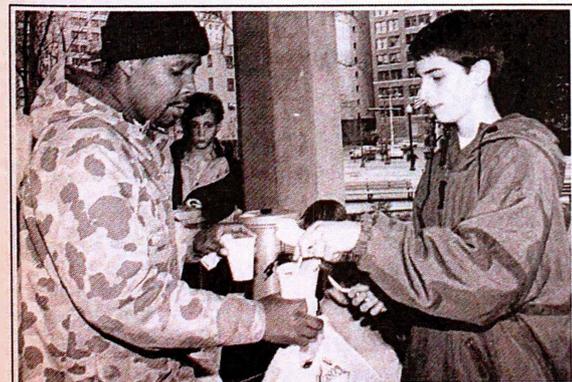
MCNAIRY



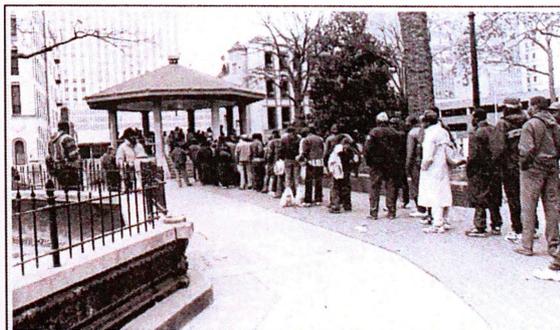
SERVING soup and cornbread to members who are hungry are Karen Ballard, left, and Linda Glisson of Leewood Church.



VISITING are two regular members of the church, Mary Smith, a member of Trinity Church, Cordova, and Mallory Montague.



GIVING a man a spoon is Andrew Glisson, right, of Leewood Church.



WAITING to be served food in the gazebo type structure in the park are participants of the worship service and others who are hungry.

# Gambling affecting children, according to Louisiana study



Baptist Press  
**SHREVEPORT** — Children in Louisiana are develop-

ing gambling problems as early as 11 years of age, according to a study by the Louisiana State University School of Medicine here.

"Sixth-grade gamblers already exhibiting addictive behavior — that was astonishing to us," said James Westphal, an associate professor in the medical school's department of psychiatry.

In an extensive study of 12,066 students in grades six through 12 across 57 parishes in Louisiana last spring, researchers found that 84 per-

cent or more of them had gambling.

Two-thirds of the students said they had tried scratch-off lottery tickets — even though it is illegal for adolescents to buy them in the state.

One-fourth or more of the students said they had tried video poker — a widespread and addictive form of gambling in Louisiana and various other states — along with the lottery, bingo, dice, and cards.

Sixteen percent of students said they had bet on slot machines. Seven percent said they had been to horse races and bet, while 4 percent had visited a riverboat casino and 3 percent had gambled at one.

In questions to identify students who appear headed for

gambling problems, researchers found that 10 percent of Louisiana children were considered high-risk for gambling problems and 6 percent gave responses indicating pathological gambling problems.

Of the scratch-off lottery tickets, Cheryl Scott, a certified compulsive gambling counselor in Shreveport, told *The Times* daily newspaper, "I've seen parents buy a ticket and let their kid scratch it off. That's just setting them up or planting the seed early."

Meanwhile, a poll by the *Baton Rouge Advocate* newspaper shows that support for gambling is in a freefall, with

only 16 percent of Louisianians saying the activity has had a positive impact on the state.

By contrast, 49 percent of those surveyed said legalized gambling has had a negative impact on the state and 30 percent said it has made no difference.

In polling at the end of 1996, 30 percent of people said gambling had been good for the state and 38 percent said it had been bad.

Thirty-five percent of respondents to the latest poll said they knew of someone who had gotten into serious fi-

nancial problems because of gambling.

Sixty-four percent said gambling is a serious or very serious problem in the state.

"I do agree that more people are filing for bankruptcies, more divorces are happening, more John Q. Citizen people are either being directly affected or know someone who has been affected (by a gambling problem)," acknowledged Audrey McClain, a state representative from Plaquemine.

"The longer that tends to happen, the more disgruntled the public is going to be." ■

## Minister's Tax Return Preparation

Your income tax return should be prepared by someone that has the knowledge and experience of clergy taxes. Carlton Connelly is a minister's tax specialist with six years experience. Call today for an appointment: **Church & Clergy Financial Ministries, Carlton Connelly, (615) 781-8138.** (Bring this ad with you and receive a discount!)



## Memphis Spring Fling Senior Adult Conference

Leewood Baptist Church  
April 27-29

**Leaders:** Bible Study: Bob Norman; Music: Mark Caruth; Concert: Kellye Cash (former Miss America)  
**Conference Leaders:** Dennis Lyle, Carolyn Mauldin, Windy Rich, Paul Barkley, Kenny Cooper, Bo Childs, Mary Allen, Charles Martindale, Bill Howse  
**Schedule:** April 27: 2-5 p.m., Registration; 7-9 p.m., Opening Session; April 28: 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Bible Study Conferences; Afternoon Free; 7-9 p.m., Concert at Mid-South Coliseum; April 29: 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Bible Study Conferences  
**Registration:** \$15 per person  
**For a leader's promotional packet and motel list, contact Don Mauldin, TBC Executive Board Ministries, at (615) 371-2047.**

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**Church Pianist:** Accompanist for two morning worship services and adult choir. Please send resume to Central Baptist Church, 5364 N. Broadway, Knoxville, TN 37918.

## Houseparents Needed in Memphis

Houseparents are needed for the GENESIS Ministry, a program for adolescent girls, at the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes in Memphis. For more information contact: Dr. Gene Gafford, TBCH, 6896 Highway 70, Memphis, TN 38133 or call (901) 386-3961.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL FAITH EVANGELISM STRATEGY**

## Prepare your church for a Journey in FAITH.

**FAITH** is a new Sunday School strategy that places evangelism in the heart of Sunday School. **FAITH** is a cooperative evangelistic venture of the *North American Mission Board* and the *Sunday School Board*.

**Attend a FAITH Sunday School Evangelism AWARENESS MEETING**

**TENNESSEE:**  
*First Baptist Church, Millington*  
8077 Wilkinsville Rd., Millington, TN 38053  
*Pastor/Contact:* Dr. Ray Newcomb, (901) 872-2264  
*Date/Time:* Monday, February 23, 1998 at 2:00 p.m.

**ALABAMA:**  
*First Baptist Church, Trussville*  
128 Church Street (P.O. Box 27) Trussville, AL 35173  
*Pastor/Contact:* Dr. Gary Hollingsworth, (205) 655-2403  
*Date/Time:* Thursday, May 28, 1998 at 1:00 p.m.

**GEORGIA:**  
*Rehoboth Baptist Church*  
2997 Lawrenceville Highway, Tucker, GA 30084  
*Pastor/Contact:* Dr. Richard Lee, (770) 939-3182  
*Date/Time:* Tuesday, February 24, 1998 at 10:00 a.m.

**KENTUCKY:**  
*Highview Baptist Church*  
7711 Fegenbush Lane, Louisville, KY 40228  
*Pastor/Contact:* Dr. Kevin Ezell, (502) 239-7711  
*Date/Time:* Thursday, April 23, 1998, 1:00 p.m.

For additional locations, times, and information on **FAITH**, please call the *Pastor/Staff Leadership Department* of The Sunday School Board: 615-251-2055



## Missions Get-Together

"Oh, the Places You Could Go"

March 13-15

Gatlinburg Convention Center

**Bible Teacher:** Jeffrey Fray, Knoxville  
**Musicians:** Jeri Edmonds, Oklahoma; Pennye Sisk, Nashville, pianist  
**Missionaries:** Katrina Knox, France; Rosie Bedsole, Ethiopia; Carol Zimmerman, Baltimore; Bill & Cindy Black, Gatlinburg  
**Highlights:** Conferences Friday and Saturday on Personal and Spiritual Growth, Ministers Wives Conference, For Men Only track, A Global Venture Aboard IMB Airplane, Missions Walk Around on Saturday  
**Schedule:** Begins Friday at 2:30 p.m. and adjourns by 10 a.m. on Sunday  
**Registration Fee:** \$20 (\$15 prior to Feb. 27)

**For more information, call Tennessee WMU at (615) 371-2038**

## During missions trip to Philippines

# Haywood volunteers witness 2,384 professions of faith

By Charles Pratt  
For Baptist and Reflector

**BROWNSVILLE** — Fourteen mission volunteers from Haywood Association have returned after serving with 16 churches in East Pangasinan Baptist Association and Lu Union Province in the Philippines.

The team reported 2,384 professions of faith, plus 281 other decisions.

This was the eighth mission team from Haywood that has served in the Philippines since 1989, when the country was in a partnership with Tennessee Baptists. The trip was coordinated by Charles Pratt, director of missions.

The island nation is made up of 7,100 islands and has a land area of about the size of Tennessee with a population of more than 70 million people.

Two team members worked with Filipino Baptists to construct a church in the village of Salpad near the town of San Nicolas. The church is only the second Baptist congregation in the immediate area.

The construction team of Jerry Foster and Ray Ellington, both members of Zion Church near Brownsville, spoke in several churches in the area and conducted a dedication service for the new building before they left.

The two men worked with Filipino workers to construct the concrete building with

wooden trusses and a metal roof. The congregation there had been meeting in a bamboo and grass hut. Most of the support for the building materials came from money donated by individuals and churches in Gibson Association.

"It was a great joy to work with a good team of Filipino church workers and to complete the building in time to conduct worship services in the new building on the last Sunday," said Ellington, who was on his third trip to the Philippines.

Foster, on his eighth trip, noted "it was a blessing to help be an answer to prayers of the Filipino people by helping to construct a church building."

"I pray that each would receive a great blessing and joy as I have received in being a part of this blessed mission trip."

Nightly crusades were held throughout the trip. The "Jesus" film and other Gospel films were used in addition to preaching by the volunteers.

The films were provided by Campus Crusade for Christ which sent out projectionists to work with the American volunteers. Some locations had no electricity so power generators had to be used.

In many cases, volunteers had to be transported across river beds to get to the crusade sites.

"I was really impressed with the hospitality of the people as they opened their hearts to receive us," said Richard Hartsfield of New Hope Church, near Dyer.

The churches set up the crusades in various sites, often where there were no churches nearby. Church workers will follow up on decisions made during the crusades.

Some team members conducted home Bible studies with groups that were too far away to attend the churches while others spoke in high schools during the day. Pastors on the trip conducted a "Pastor's School" during the morning as well.

Money was donated by several churches and individuals to purchase Bibles and New Testaments in the Filipino languages for many of the church people, school teachers, and those that made decisions at the crusades.

Thousands of Bibles and more than 12,000 Gospel tracts were distributed by the volunteers.

The volunteer missionaries joined with the Filipino Baptists for a baptismal service in the South China Sea, where the Americans assisted the pastors in baptizing 63 candidates.

Volunteers were over-

whelmed by their experiences.

"This was the greatest experience of my life outside of accepting Jesus as Savior," said David Brown, pastor of Walnut Hill Church, Bells, who was on his first trip to the Philippines.

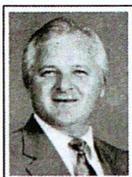
Lanny Abernathy of New Salem Church at Mason Hill, also was on his first mission trip. He noted the experience was a tremendous spiritual blessing and caused him to realize how blessed he was to live in the United States. "I hope to return some day," he said.

John Hayes, a medical doctor and member of Brownsville Church, said he was "especially blessed to see a group of Filipino pastors on their knees, openly weeping, saying, 'as for me and my house we will serve the Lord.'"

Johnny Witherspoon, pastor of Walnut Grove Church near Rutherford, and his wife, Susan, served together.

"I saw Jesus in the believers there and I was personally challenged for them to see Jesus in me," he said. His wife added, "I thank God for opening the door for me to go and I give him the praise as the Filipino people shall always have a special place in my heart."

In the final event, Filipino Baptists hosted a joint worship service for the American volunteers. Special recognition was given to each volunteer and Pratt brought the final message before departure. ■



PRATT



SHAW

## Germantown calls Sam Shaw as senior pastor

For Baptist and Reflector

**GERMANTOWN** — Germantown Church here has called Sam Shaw, senior pastor, First Church, Tulsa, Okla., as senior pastor effective March 1.

Shaw, who has served the church for about five years, was a missionary with the SBC Foreign Mission Board, now International Mission Board, in Dominican Republic for about five years.

He also has served as pastor of churches in Arkansas and New Mexico. While in New Mexico, he served on the Executive Committee of the Baptist convention.

Shaw is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee; and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, where he earned a doctor of ministry degree. ■

## International conference stresses living a positive faith in negative world

For Baptist and Reflector

**COLUMBIA** — One hundred and seventeen participants from 12 campuses were challenged to "live a positive faith in a negative world" during the International Student Ministry Conference held here Jan. 30-Feb. 1.

The students who attended the event sponsored by the Collegiate Ministries team of the Tennessee Baptist Con-

vention's Executive Board's Christian Growth Development Group, represented 26 countries.

Among the program leaders was Yong Chin In, pastor of Korean Baptist Church, Clarksville. He explained biblical themes presented in the Pentateuch and found throughout Scripture.

Char Gray, an educational researcher from Nashville, demonstrated how Jesus, as a

servant leader, both gave his disciples gifts and led by example. Her husband, Brad Gray, CrossSeekers coordinator for National Student Ministry of the Baptist Sunday School Board, shared with students how Christian global leadership requires overcoming resistance to change within one's own life.

The purpose of the meeting was to equip Christian international students in ministry and discipleship and to train leaders on campuses and in churches who work with internationals, according to Ircel Harrison, Collegiate Ministries specialist.

Students and leaders were involved in seminars to help them learn more about the Christian life and their ministry as believers.

Seminars were led by the Grays, In, Nathan Solomon, seminary intern at First Church, Knoxville, and former missionary journeyman to Israel; Charles Biggers, biology professor at the University of Memphis; and Scott Payne,



**YONG CHIN IN**, left, pastor of Korean Baptist Church, Clarksville, visits with Keith Prince, international coordinator at Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City.

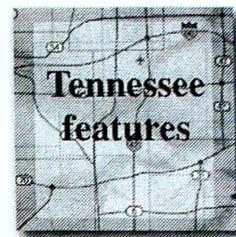


**EMERITUS MISSIONARIES** Paul and Peggy Grossman visit with Scott Payne, right, collegiate ministries specialist at East Tennessee State University.

collegiate ministry specialist at East Tennessee State University, Johnson City.

Special guests included Paul and Peggy Grossman, emeritus missionaries whose last service was in Burkina Faso. They now live in Springfield.

The Grossmans are serving as international outreach representatives for Tennessee for the Southern Baptist International Mission Board and will help campuses and churches to become involved in the International Friendship Family Program. ■



## Deacon conference slated for Jackson

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — The State Deacon Conference will be held Feb. 27-28 at Englewood Church, Jackson.

The theme of the meeting is "... in the Spirit Serving as a Deacon." Registration begins at 6:30 p.m.

Roy Edgemon of the Baptist Sunday School Board discipleship family development division, will deliver messages at both sessions. Conferences will be offered on a variety of topics and more.

For more information, call the TBC Executive Board ministries Church Staff Leadership Group at (615) 371-2008 or 1 (800) 558-2090. ■

# Conference addresses needs of small churches

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — "It's Tool Time" is the theme of "Building an Effective Sunday School and Media Library in Today's Small Church" conferences slated across the state in

March and April.

The conference is designed for leaders in churches with less than 200 in Sunday School who are interested in strengthening their Sunday Schools or beginning or strengthening media libraries.

The purpose of the conference is to provide practical helpful tools (methods and resources) for quality Bible study and in the area of media library work.

Conference dates and locations are:

March 9 — First Church, Waynesboro

March 10 — Pomona Church, Dickson

March 30 — Northside Church, McMinnville

March 31 — Lincoln Church, Fayetteville

April 27 — Shop Springs Church, Lebanon

April 28 — First Church, Rickman

## WMU plans Missions Get-Together

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — The annual Missions Get-Together, sponsored by Tennessee Woman's Missionary Union, will be held March 13-15 at the Gatlinburg Convention Center.

The theme of the weekend meeting is "Oh, the Places You

Can Go." Program highlights include Bible study, conferences, and the annual session of Tennessee WMU on Saturday morning.

Registration fee is \$15 before Feb. 27 and \$20 after that date.

For more information, call Tennessee WMU at (615) 371-2038. ■

Conference leaders include Ray Gilder, Jerry Chapman, Tim Holcomb, Mark Miller, Bruce Edwards, Liz Lee, Sue Raley, and Jan Moye, all staff members of the TBC Executive Board.

The time for each conference is 7-9 p.m.

For more information, contact Mark Miller of the Christian Growth Development Group at (615) 371-2048 or 1 (800) 558-2090, ext. 2048. ■

## Classified

**WANTED:** Young church needing to expand its music ministry with a good quality baby grand or grand piano, preferably Yamaha or Baldwin. If you or your church can help, call Danette at (423) 857-2508 or Debbie at (423) 837-7076.

**NEEDED:** Part-time Minister of Youth and Children. Send resume to Hillview Baptist Church, Attn: Personnel Committee, 1268 Springfield, Hwy., Goodlettsville, TN 37072.

**PASTOR FULL-TIME:** South Knoxville Church is accepting resumes for a full-time pastor. Send to: Search Committee, South Knoxville Baptist Church, 522 Sevier Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37920.

**WHITEWATER RAFTING**  
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Growing church in N. GA mtns with "blended" worship seeks Minister of Music & Worship. Must be innovative, a team player, and motivated by a desire to lead all ages in worship through music. Avg SS = 350. SBC seminary degree and experience required. Send to: First Baptist Church 26 Dalton St. Ellijay, GA 30540

## Church Staff TAR Retreat planned for Camp Linden

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — The second Church Staff TAR Retreat will be held April 21-23 at Camp Linden.

The retreat, sponsored by the Missions Awareness and Involvement Group of Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board ministries, will involve participants in an experiential educational program, designed to build confidence in oneself, others, and the Lord.

Special worship times will be led by Bill Wilson, retired TBC Executive Board Ministry Co-

ordinator. Other program personnel include Gene Williams, MAI Group staffer; Mike Davison, Nashville; and Joe Vinson, Murfreesboro.

The retreat begins with check-in at 10 a.m. on April 21 and concludes with the noon meal on April 23. Retreat fee is \$116 per person and includes room, meals, bed linens, conference materials, and insurance. Early registration fee of \$106 per person is available if deposit of \$58 is received by March 24. Registration is limited to the first 50 to sign up and pay registration fees. For more information, call Bob Davison, MAI Group staffer, at (615) 371-2074. ■

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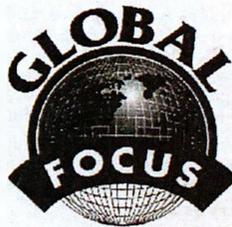
- How the principle of personalization will release your people to build a Great Commission Church.
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Rev. Clayton Cloer  
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"Today we have more people going, giving and praying for global mission causes than ever before ... During our conference, we raised \$586,000 which was \$336,000 over our goal, and twenty-two people committed to career missionary service ... At the very time we were focused on the larger issues of the kingdom worldwide, our own local church ministry exploded in growth."

Dr. Rick White, Pastor  
First Baptist Church  
Franklin, Tennessee

## Christian love

By Ron Blankenship

### Focal Passage — I Corinthians 12:31b-13:13

The characteristic of love should guide all the spiritual gifts of the Christian. No law in America states that we have to love one another. The church should be different. God commands us to let his love flow through us. The verb used here for love is "agape," meaning love founded in God, a giving love. This kind of love does three things:

#### Gives purpose to other gifts

**Gifts of communication.** Without love the gift of speaking in tongues only becomes religious ecstasy and shallow emotionalism. Cymbals were used in worship at the temple, and gongs were sounded in temple processions. They made loud noises, but without love they were hollow and empty.

**Gifts of understanding.** To have prophetic powers, to understand great mysteries, to possess deep knowledge, and to claim strong faith have no purpose without love. "Prophecy" stands for the "proclamation of God's Word through the power and presence of the Holy Spirit." The kingdom of God's power consists not of arrogant talk, but of the knowledge of God's love.

**Gifts of service.** We can do many good things for people for the wrong reasons and not love them. Even martyrdom falls short if it is for self-praise and not the glory of God.

#### Puts us in the right relationship

Love is able to accomplish what nothing else can in building relationships with other people.

First, Paul speaks of patience, that gentle strength that has staying power: the capacity to accept strain, emerges under stress. To lose patience is to lose self-restraint and reflection, to act without thinking. Whereas patience restrains us from negative acts, kindness motivates us to positive actions.

Second, love is selfless. Love is self-sacrificing and creative, not selfish and destructive. Love is not "boastful," meaning that it is not arrogant and bragging through thoughtless and prideful speech ... "knowledge puffs up but love builds up." Love does not jealously envy other people's gifts or accomplishments. Love does not "insist on its own way," but considers the concerns of other people. Love is not "irritable or resentful," not vicious or hard to live with, making life miserable for the other person. The Spirit of the crucified Christ wipes out selfishness.

Third, loves' desire is for what is right. Love has no joy in pointing out someone's faults and sins; it rights wrongs but does not rejoice in wrongs. Love endures in spite of everything: sorrow, cruelty, distortion of truth, and indifference. Love "believes all things," but it is not gullible ... love does not create distrust and is not overly suspicious. Love "hopes all things" ... the future is bright with God in control. Love overcomes everything that would defeat God's purposes.

#### Love is unending

Faith and hope are human characteristics but love is a characteristic of God's nature, making it the greatest of these.

First, love is unending while all the spiritual gifts Paul has mentioned are temporary. Love gives value to spiritual gifts, like electricity gives value to a light bulb. Prophecies, tongues, and knowledge are unnecessary in the presence of God, as each one gives way to a new understanding of God. As an adult understands concepts a child does not, when we get to heaven we will reach a higher level of existence. Here we see things like looking into a blurred piece of flat, polished metal. In the afterlife we shall see everything clearly.

Second, love is unending and therefore perfect. Nothing can defeat love; it will always win out in the end. — Blankenship is pastor, Haywood Hills Church, Nashville.

## Believing the promise

By Hal Poe

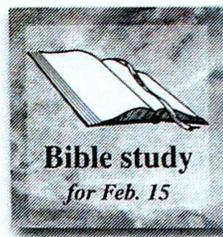
### Focal Passage — II Peter 3

Peter indicates that he wrote both of his letters "as reminders to stimulate you to wholesome thinking." In both letters, he reminds his readers of the fundamental Gospel message and then discusses implications of the Gospel for specific issues Christians were dealing with then, but which Christians have faced ever since. In II Peter 2, Peter described the situation surrounding those who denied the deity of Christ, his atoning death, and his exalted reign. In chapter 3, Peter discusses those who deny the return of Christ to judge the world and gather the church.

The return of Christ is as much an aspect of the Gospel as the death of Christ for our sins. They comprise aspects of the total work of God in the redemption of his creation. The return of Christ will signal the final chapter in the story of sin and death and the beginning of the new heaven and the new earth. Paul had also insisted that the return of Christ and the judgment were essential aspects of

day when the gods they worshiped by human sacrifice and cannibalism would be consumed by fire. Hindus believe in a day of doom when the god Kalki will dance and everything will be destroyed. Even Buddhism which has no god other than the unconscious collective of universal spirit believes in a judgment whereby each person must relive their life until they get it right. They have a judgment without a judge. The Bible brings a stinging critique of all of these concepts, but it also brings the message of good news. Jesus Christ makes it possible to escape the universal judgment taught by every major religion of the world.

The question of when the day of judgment would come has perplexed people since ancient times. When John wrote his Gospel he added the editorial comment that many people in his day based their expectation for the return of Christ on a misinterpretation of what Jesus had said. In the second century, Montanus gained a huge following by prophesying that Christ would return soon in Phrygia. The hierarchy of Catholic and Orthodox Christianity developed largely to hold the churches together during the popularity of Montanus. During the Middle Ages, the Crusades were originally inspired by Peter the Hermit as the last great battle against anti-Christ before Christ would return. The religious wars of the Reformation were conceived in the same way as Catholics and Protestants fought against each other as the embodiment of anti-Christ. In each situation, people had calculated the date for the return of Christ based on passages in Daniel, Ezekiel, and Revelation. In each case they had a perfect calculation, and in each case their assumptions about what the numbers meant were wrong. Peter gave a clear warning that time does not mean the same thing to God who is the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the Ancient of Days, the Great I Am, who has no shadow of changing. — Poe is dean, Academic Resources and Information Services, Union University, Jackson.



## Family Bible Lesson

the Gospel. The ancient church after New Testament times included the return of Christ in its earliest confessions.

The return of Christ and the judgment are linked to the fact of creation. The same Lord who created the heavens and the earth is the one who has the prerogative and the power to change his creation. The idea of a final judgment is one of the most deeply imbedded ideas in the human religious memory. Regardless of the culture or the form religion takes, people everywhere have a deeply held concept of final accountability which R.G. Lee referred to as "Pay day someday." The ancient Norse and Celts believed in a

## A family reunion

By Rocky Churchwell

### Focal Passage — Genesis 45:1-11

While attending seminary, I served a small rural church on the weekends with my wife and children. On the way to the church field, we would pass a beautiful old red brick house with long white columns out front and horse barns in the back. It was one of those beautiful old homes that make Kentucky so famous. There was only one thing wrong, the house appeared to be falling apart from being abandoned for a long time.

One afternoon, while talking to one of my deacons, I asked about the old house and why no one lived there now. He said, "Rocky that is a sad story. You see, that house belonged to a wealthy family with three children. When the father and mother passed away, they didn't leave a will. They simply told the kids to sell the house and land, and divide the money equally. The problem came when the three kids decided that they each wanted the house, even though none of them needed it, and didn't want the others to have it. When it came to court, they were so greedy that they decided that if they could not have it themselves, no one could. So, there it sits. One day the courts will

## Explore the Bible Lesson

have to decide."

My question is, "What could make a family act like that?" That sort of thing doesn't honor a family, and it doesn't honor God. Maybe it comes from a selfish spirit, or jealousy, or both. Wherever it comes from, Christians aren't supposed to act that way.

As we see the story of Joseph and his family unfold, we find that Joseph has done well in the land of Egypt. Joseph's chances looked pretty bad at the beginning, but through God's divine intervention, and plan, Joseph found himself on top. Now Joseph was second only to Pharaoh himself. Controller of the grain, he had the whole world coming to him for food.

Apparently the famine had reached Canaan because when Jacob heard that there was grain in Egypt, he sent his ten sons to get some. When they got to Egypt, Joseph recognized them, and could have taken his revenge, but he didn't. Instead, Joseph worked out a plan to get the whole family to Egypt, starting with his little brother, and then his father. When

Joseph found that his brothers were sorry for what they had done to him, he could hardly hold back the tears.

God has the power to make changes in the lives and attitudes of those who will listen. We can be brought to forgiveness and live in harmony with our families if we will follow Joseph's lead. God's power begins with the understanding that God wants us to love each other, and desires a willingness on our part to care for others more than we care for ourselves.

At the end of this lesson, we find Joseph, and his brothers weeping and we hear Joseph as he explains that it was God's plan for him to come to Egypt so that he could save Israel.

What a happy ending. We should all take steps to maintain a harmonious relationship within our families and get our houses in order. — Churchwell is pastor, First Church, Jamestown.



"How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, 'Your God reigns!'"

Isaiah 52:7

## people

■ **Bobbie Parker**, a worker in the Early Childhood Center, Central Church, Fountain City, Knoxville, recently celebrated her 26th anniversary of service there.

■ Contemporary Church, Mt. Juliet, recently ordained **John Jenkins** and **Leon Barnes** as deacons.

■ West Main Church, Alexandria, has ordained **Guy Buckner** as a deacon.

■ Hickory Valley Church, Chattanooga, ordained **Jerry Hellard**, **Don Mace**, and **Bobby Skillington** as deacons Jan. 25.

■ **David Peace** and **Scottie Morris** were ordained Feb. 1 as deacons by Holly Grove Church, Bells.

## leaders

■ Hickory Valley Church, Chattanooga, ordained **Dean Yancey**, chaplain, Morgan County Regional Correctional Facility, Wartburg, to the ministry Jan. 25.

■ **Joe Blevins** has been called as pastor, Low Gap Missionary Church, Robbins.

■ **John Edward Jenkins**, minister of recreation and mature adults, Central Church, Fountain City, Knoxville, has celebrated his 15th anniversary of service there.

■ Calvary Church, Savannah, has called **Paul Martin** as pastor. He has served the church previously as pastor.

■ Brownsville Church, Brownsville, has called **Matt Tipton** as youth intern.

■ **Ira Berry** has resigned as pastor, Roan Park Church, Roan Mountain.

■ Calvary Church, Brownsville, called **Heather Ward** as youth minister during December.

■ Poplar Corner Church, Brownsville, has called **Bobby Williams** as pastor.

■ **Chris Trump** has been called as youth minister, Vernon Heights Church, Kingsport. He is a student at East Tennessee State University, Johnson City.

■ Higher Ground Church, Kingsport, has called **Vernon Ashley Teel** as minister of education. He is a graduate of Liberty Baptist University, Lynchburg, Va.

■ **Lester Flatt** was called as interim pastor, Upper Helton Church, Alexandria, effective Jan. 1.

dria, effective Jan. 1.

■ **Mike Gay**, pastor, Dry Creek Church, Dowelltown, has resigned.

■ **Jay McIntosh**, pastor, Poplar Grove Church, Trenton, has been called as pastor, Pleasant Hill Church, Pine Grove, La., effective Feb. 8.

■ **Dee Drake**, minister of education and youth, First Church, Manchester, recently



**DRAKE**

earned a master of divinity degree from New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary. This was reported in Jan. 21 issue of the *Baptist and Reflector*, but he was pictured incorrectly because the wrong photo was sent from the seminary.

■ **Don Reed** has been called as interim pastor, Salem Church, Sugar Tree.

■ **Thomas Bivins**, pastor, First Church, Perryville, has resigned.

■ **David Hanes**, pastor, Ridgeview Church, Knoxville, retired Dec. 31.

■ **Dean Smith** has been called as pastor, Tuckahoe Church, Knoxville. He was pastor of Mooreland Heights Church, Knoxville.

■ **Randy Miller** has been called as pastor, Faxon Church, Big Sandy.

■ **Charles Jeter**, associate pastor, Trinity Church, Bolivar, was called as pastor, effective Feb. 1. Jeter, who served as associate pastor for 10 months, formerly was pastor, Hickory Grove Church, Moscow.

■ **Richard Bowers**, youth minister, Lynn Valley Church, Elizabethton, has resigned.

■ **Greg Collins**, minister of youth, Contemporary Church, Mt. Juliet, was ordained to the ministry recently.

■ **Miles Creasman** has been called as minister to students and recreation, West-Lake Church, Knoxville, and **Tom Kerley** of Knoxville has been called as director of music for the church. Creasman and his wife, Katy, are recent graduates of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

## deaths

■ **John M. Sykes**, 80, of Ashland, Ky., died recently. He was pastor, First Church, Ashland, and former pastor, First Church, Cookeville, 1951-56.



**BURNING A NOTE** recently representing the debt-free status of Holt's Corner Church, Chapel Hill, on an addition to its facility is **Larry Chatman**, pastor, who is wearing a fireman's coat. Chatman is surrounded by deacons and trustees of the church. The ceremony was exactly one year after the dedication of the 3,500 square foot addition.

Sykes served churches in those two states and in North Carolina. He was a member of the Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board 1952-58 and of the board of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky. Working with the seminary while in Kentucky, he was a regional director for the Boyce Center. He is survived by his wife, Donna, and three sons.

■ **Evangelist Raymond W. Richerson Sr.** of Jackson died suddenly Jan. 20. Prior to entering evangelism, he served churches as a minister of music. A member of First Church, Jackson, he had worked in churches in the Mid-South.

## churches

■ A team from **Sand Ridge Church, Lexington**, returned to Cienguillas, Mexico, Jan. 8-17. They completed a church building for a congregation which had been meeting in a building constructed of mud.

■ **Alta Loma Church, Madison**, is holding a seminar, "Slave-Free Relationships," which will cover communication, making love last, and serving one another. It is continuing on Feb. 15 and 22 at 9:15 a.m. Timm Glover, regional pastoral counselor, will lead it. For more information, call (615) 865-8340.

■ **First Church, Hunter, Elizabethton**, will hold a Prophecy Conference Feb. 28 - March 1. Rob Lindsted, radio broadcaster, author, and principal of a Christian academy, will speak. For more information, contact the church at (423) 543-1381.

■ **Boiling Springs Church, Cookeville**, will hold a youth-led revival Feb. 26-28. It will begin each night at 7 p.m.

■ **Bethlehem Church,**

**Westpoint**, gave \$3,280 to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for international missions. The congregation has a weekly average offering of just \$500.

■ **First Church, Millington**, will hold a "Faith is a Complete Evangelism Training System" conference Feb. 23 beginning at 2 p.m. The conference is on a new Sunday School evangelism strategy.

■ **Central Church, Hendersonville**, will dedicate its new education building March 1 following the morning worship service which begins at 10:40 a.m.

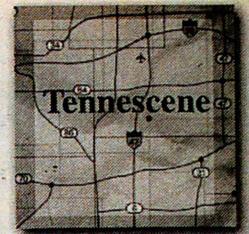
## associations

■ The Woman's Missionary Union of **Holston Valley Association** will hold its annual Missions Fair May 2 at the Armory Building in Rogersville. It will feature missions information, missionaries, a Royal Ambassador Race and other activities, music, and free food. For more information, contact the association at (423) 272-7318.

■ **Cumberland Plateau Association** will hold an Evangelism Rally March 23. Ken Weathersby of Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board ministries will speak along with Lou Lou Roma, former star of the TV show, "Hee Haw," who also will sing.

■ **Holston Association** has acted to hold another missions effort in Romania during the summer, including a building which will require a \$24,000 investment. The association also will hold a ministers retreat Feb. 19-21 at Lake Junaluska, N.C.

■ A True Love Waits Rally will be held Feb. 11 by **Robertson County Association** churches at the Springfield Civic Center from 6:30-8 p.m. Randy Record will speak and Coopertown Community



Band will perform music. Also a drama team, "On the Go," will make a presentation.

■ **Western District Association** will hold a Prayer Conference led by Kerry Skinner of the North American Mission Board, Alpharetta, Ga. The conference will be March 3 at First Church, Paris.

■ **Shelby Association** will hold a worship event in which a worship musical, "God With Us: A Worship Experience for All Seasons," will be presented. The event will be April 28 at the Mid-South Coliseum at 7 p.m. A 1,000 voice choir and full orchestra will perform. Camp Kirkland, Tom Hartley, and the music group, Truth, will lead the program. For more information, call Rusty Eason at (901) 872-2264.

■ **New River Missionary Association** will hold an Association Evangelistic Conference Feb. 25 at First Church, Oneida. It will begin at 6:45 p.m. John Sullivan, executive director, Florida Baptist Convention, will speak.

■ **Indian Creek Association** will hold an Evangelism Conference March 1 at Green River Church, Waynesboro. A meal will be offered at 5 p.m. and the conference will begin at 6 p.m. Laverne Butler will speak.

■ The Woman's Missionary Union of **Shelby Association** hosted eight international students during the holidays through its annual International Friendship House. First Church, Collierville, was the host church.

## schools

■ **Belmont University**, Nashville, will host a conference, "Ethics in the Workplace: A Conference on Building Ethically Responsible Organizations" Feb. 12. Rushworth M. Kidder, author and founder/president, Institute for Global Ethics, will speak. For more information, call Harry Hollis at (615) 460-6834.

■ **Carson-Newman College**, Jefferson City, enrolled 2,210 students in spring courses. The enrollment is the highest for the school and continues a 10-year trend of increasing enrollments.