

REFLECTOR

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Statewide Edition

February 25 1998

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week's
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Relationships Focus Group holds first meeting

By Lonnie Wilkey and Wm. Fletcher Allen
Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — The Relationships Focus Group, formed at last November's annual meeting in Jackson, held an organization meeting Feb. 19-20 at Henry Horton State Park in Columbia.

The motion, presented by the TBC Executive Board, was approved by messengers.

In presenting the motion Eugene Cotey, then president of the Executive Board, said the Relationships Focus Group would focus on "ways to maintain and strengthen our relationships."

He told messengers "we are the strongest we have been and we need to build on that."

Cotey said the study would operate within the parameters of the TBC Consti-

tution and Bylaws and committee guidelines.

Cotey said the group was to "focus on and explore ways and means to strengthen the ties and foster good relationships among TBC churches, laity, and clergy, in order to pursue the mission of the convention."

Items to be addressed by the focus group include diversity, commonality, alleviation of stress, effective communication, and make-up of boards, committees, and programs.

Members of the committee were named by Herbert Higdon of Jackson, then president of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. Higdon, along with current TBC president Doug Sager of Knoxville, are ex-officio members of the focus group.

Higdon, who presided at the meeting, said it was an excellent, positive event.

"There was a real spirit of agreement and unity, and an aggressive willingness to work together," he said.

He said the group discussed issues openly and frankly but arrived at no concrete conclusions. They plan to study issues further and will meet again April 23-24.

After the April meeting a letter will be sent to all pastors in the state updating the progress of the committee, he added.

Committee members present at the meeting were Ray Newcomb, Wayne Allen, Charles Bailey, Bill Sherman, Frank Hawkins, Marvin Cameron, Leonard Markham, Raymond Boston, Fred Steelman, Paul Durham, Jewel Jennings, Elizabeth Laida, Bill Bates, and Richard White. Jerry Tidwell was out of the country and unable to attend. ■



HIGDON

Also affirms historic relationship with state conventions

SBC Executive Committee affirms BWA ties

By Lonnie Wilkey
Baptist and Reflector

NASHVILLE — Members of the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee affirmed its relationship with the Baptist World Alliance during their Feb. 16-17 meeting here.

The Executive Committee also affirmed its historic Cooperative Program relationship with Baptist state conventions and voted not to create a new track for Cooperative Program giving.

In September Executive Committee chairman James Merritt, at the request of SBC President Tom Elliff, named an ad hoc Baptist World Alliance Study Committee to evaluate the relationship of the SBC to the Baptist World Alliance, an organization of Baptist conventions and unions worldwide.

In September Elliff noted the SBC over the years has enjoyed "a positive and encouraging" relationship with BWA, but added that "recently, questions have arisen regarding perceived changes in the mission, focus, and doctrinal position of the BWA."

The committee, chaired by Morris Chapman, president of the SBC Executive Committee, met in October 1997 with BWA General Secretary Denton Lotz and President Nelson A. Fani-



TENNESSEE BAPTISTS serving on the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, include, from left, Abe Silliman Jr., pastor, Turkey Creek Church, Savannah; Hollie Miller, pastor, Sevier Heights Church, Knoxville; John Wallace, layman, First Church, Morristown; and Doug Dutton, layman, Central Church, Bearden. The men participated in the Executive Committee's Feb. 16-17 meeting in Nashville.

ni and again on Feb. 10 with Lotz, Fanini, and others to communicate questions and concerns which have arisen among Southern Baptists.

Three observations arose out of the meetings:

➤ "BWA personnel affirmed a definite commitment to historic Baptist theology, particularly in reference to the Bible, the person and work of Christ, evangelism, and missions.

➤ "The BWA constitutional statement of its objective is, 'To act as an agency for the expression of biblical faith and

ship requires the SBC continually to evaluate and assess supporting relationships with non-SBC organizations."

The committee recommended that "the president of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention provide ongoing review of the relationship between the SBC and the Baptist World Alliance," and that "based upon good faith discussions" with BWA leadership, the BWA be given \$425,000 in the 1998-99 basic operating budget, an increase from \$417,838 in the current budget.

The recommendation was approved by the Executive Committee with no discussion.

In regard to state conventions, the Executive Committee approved a statement on "maintaining the historic Cooperative Program relationship with state conventions."

The recommendation noted the Executive Committee is "committed to the historic patterns of cooperative relationships with state conventions and to developing those relationships to the fullest potential in carrying out the Great Commission mandate to reach the lost world for Christ."

In a matter related to the Cooperative Program, board members declined to recommend a new track for CP giving "because adequate options" are available to churches. ■

MOVING? Cut out and mail address label and new address to *Baptist and Reflector*, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, Tenn., 37024

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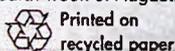
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EDITORIAL OPINION PIECE

Gambling is the issue — citizens be wary



By Wm. Fletcher Allen
Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — Tennessee citizens are being deluged by propaganda and promotion efforts inside the General Assembly and by news media favoring a state-sponsored lottery — and other types of gambling.

Here's a word of advice for citizens, and especially Tennessee Baptists, who have at heart the best interests of the state — Citizens, beware!

Some background: Tennessee's state constitution specifically rules out a state lottery. State attorneys have ruled that this also prohibits all gambling.

At the present time, Tennessee is one of a very few states that does not allow citizens to be sucked into the vortex of legalized gambling.

But the combination of some legislators and public news media insists that Tennessee must become a gambling state.

This General Assembly term is of great importance since backers of a lottery have pulled out all the stops in a headlong run for the money.

Many individual citizens and groups, plus some legislators, along with the *Bap-*

tist and Reflector, are trying to stand against gambling.

Now is the time to contact legislators about the issue. Tennessee Baptists are urged to join the fight against gambling — especially a state-sponsored lottery.

A few days ago the Senate Judiciary Committee okayed the bill sponsored by Memphis Sen. Steve Cohen. Cohen's bill needs a two-thirds vote this year (legislative term ends in April), to let voters keep or remove from the constitution the outlawing of a state lottery. The vote would have to be included in the November statewide ballot. The Cohen bill apparently does not have enough votes.

This says that a sufficient number of senators are concerned about the damaging effects of a state lottery.

There is at least one other method to achieve a state lottery.

Sen. Ward Crutchfield and Rep. Mike Williams of Franklin are trying another route for a lottery. They propose a constitutional convention to deal with the lottery idea.

Vote for a convention requires only a majority vote in the state Senate and House. This proposal was scheduled to begin moving early this week and seems to have a good chance to pass.

Christians losing influence in society, Barna reports

Associated Baptist Press

OXNARD, Calif. — Christians in America can talk the talk, but not enough of them are walking the walk to have an impact on society, according to Christian researcher George Barna.

"Our research for close to two decades has shown that Christians have had an alarming lack of impact on the national culture as a direct outgrowth of their faith," Barna wrote in a recent issue of his bimonthly newsletter, the *Barna Report*.

The Barna Research Group analyzed 131 measures of attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors to determine if Christianity is making a difference in the United States. The results were a

harsh indictment of churches and individual believers in America.

"The Christian faith appears to have a minimal influence on the thoughts, words, and deeds of people under the age of 40 — a trend with foreboding implications for the future" Barna wrote.

The polls compared beliefs and behaviors of Christians and non-Christians.

Most significant differences between Christians and non-Christians occurred in the area of religious behavior such as prayer, giving money to a church, or volunteering for a church ministry.

But "non-Christians expect Christians to differ in the religious realm," Barna wrote.

"There are few instances of visible differences outside of the religious domain."

The one visible difference between Christians and others related to non-religious behavior: Christians were half as likely as non-Christians to have drunk an alcoholic beverage in the past month.

"The bottom line is that in the dimensions of life where Christians can truly influence their world ... we have failed to demonstrate the power of our faith," Barna wrote. "Christianity is not losing influence in America because it is over-matched by the challenges of the day; it is losing impact because believers have been unsuccessful at merging faith and lifestyle outside the walls of the church."

Christians are losing their impact, Barna stated, despite data indicating Christianity should be on the rise. For instance:

► Nine out of 10 adults have a very positive impression of the Christian faith.

► More than two-thirds of adults say they want a significant personal relationship with God.

► Most Americans (84 percent) consider themselves to be Christians.

Despite those numbers, Americans increasingly are likely to state that Christianity is losing its influence, that they have no Christian role models, and that the Christian faith teaches the same principles as other major faiths. ■

YEC still accepting reservations

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — It's not too late.

Reservations are still being accepted for the Youth Evangelism Conference set for March 6-7 in Nashville.

Youth from across the state will gather in two different sessions at Vanderbilt Memorial Gymnasium.

West and Middle Tennessee youth will attend the session at Vanderbilt from 4:30-6 p.m. on Friday while East Tennessee and Nashville area youth attend personal witnessing conferences

at local churches. The schedule reverses beginning at 8:30 p.m.

Youth communicator Kelly Green will speak at the Vanderbilt sessions while the popular recording group 4HIM will perform.

On Saturday all youth will participate in a prayer march to the state capitol.

The registration fee is \$15 and a T-shirt and identification bracelet are guaranteed for the first 25,000 youth.

For more information, or to register, call the TBC state evangelism office at (615) 371-2058. Register today! ■

Tutoring workshop set

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — A Tutoring Children and Youth Workshop is planned for March 20-21 at the Baptist Center here.

Lee Hudson of Memphis will lead the workshop. Mrs. Hudson, and her husband, Lawrence, are serving as Mississippi River Ministry prayer coordinators.

The workshop begins on March 20 at 1 p.m. and concludes the following day at 4 p.m.

The cost of the training manual is \$10. Meals and breaks are provided by the

Golden State Missions Offering.

Registration deadline is March 13. To receive registration information, contact Beverly Smothers of the TBC Evangelism/Missions Strategies Group at 1 (800) 558-2090, ext. 2031. ■

Week of Prayer for North American Missions
March 1-8
Annie Armstrong Easter Offering Goal:
\$41 million

Record budget, two-day annual meeting proposed for SBC



WM. FLETCHER ALLEN, right, editor of the Baptist and Reflector, was given a framed resolution of appreciation from Morris Chapman, president of the SBC Executive Committee, during the February meeting of the Executive Committee held last week in Nashville. Allen announced his retirement in January, effective later this year.

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — A record \$155 million Cooperative Program Allocation Budget for the Southern Baptist Convention for 1998-99 will be recommended to messengers at the June annual meeting in Salt Lake City. The action took place during the SBC Executive Committee's meeting here Feb. 16-17.

The budget for this year is \$148 million.

As in last year's budget, the International Mission Board will receive 50 percent, or \$77.5 million, while the North American Mission Board would receive 22.79 percent, or \$35.3 million. The two mission boards received \$74 million and \$33.7 million, respectively, in last year's basic budget with the same percentages.

The CP Allocation Budget is the method by which Cooperative Program receipts are distributed each year to 11 SBC entities. The Sunday School Board receives no CP funding, nor does the Woman's Missionary Union,

an auxiliary of the SBC.

A proposal to change the process of developing an SBC CP budget came to the first plenary session of the Executive Committee Feb. 16, but a vote was delayed while further discussions were held. Later, the proposal, which would require a three-year basic budget with special mission initiatives for any funds received over the basic budget, was debated at the last committee session with a final vote postponed until the February 1999 meeting.

Although the six SBC seminaries together will receive the same percentage in the 1998-99 budget — 21.64 — the distribution to each seminary will differ slightly from last year. The seminaries will receive \$33.5 million, which will be distributed to the six according to a formula based on average full-time enrollments and other considerations.

The Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission will receive \$2.3 million or 1.49 percent in the proposed budget while the Annuity Board will receive about \$1.2 million or .76 percent of the budget.

The SBC Operating Budget will receive about \$5.1 million, 3.32 percent.

In regard to the SBC annual meeting, a two-day session could replace the current two-and-a-half day schedule as early as next year, if messengers approve an amendment to the convention's bylaws.

The Executive Committee voted to replace the longstanding Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday annual meeting with a Tuesday - Wednesday agenda. The proposal will require a two-thirds vote by messengers in Salt Lake City.

A study committee appointed by Executive Committee chairman James Merritt last September concluded a shortened annual meeting "would be beneficial to the Southern Baptist Convention." No financial savings will result from the shortened meeting, the committee said.

During the February meeting Executive Committee members honored Ernest E. Mosley, who will retire April 1 after 11 years as executive vice president. ■ — See page 1 for additional story on Executive Committee meeting.

Lawmakers urged at hearing to protect tithes from creditors

Associated Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — Federal bankruptcy laws need to be reformed to avert an "avalanche" of lawsuits demanding that churches forfeit contributions given by individuals who later file bankruptcy, witnesses told lawmakers at a Feb. 12 hearing on a pending bill in Congress.

The Religious Liberty and Charitable Donation Protection Act is sponsored by Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, and Rep. Ron Packard, R-Calif. It would bar bankruptcy courts from confiscating contributions to religious organizations and other charities to pay creditors.

The measure would protect

contributions up to 15 percent of the debtor's annual income or more if the debtor can show that giving more than 15 percent to charities has been a consistent practice. It also would allow religious or charitable contributions to be included in the budget of a debtor after bankruptcy has been filed.

Recent court rulings have held that donations to churches are not protected from creditors because church contributors do not receive anything of reasonably equivalent value in exchange. So-called "fraudulent transfers" are forbidden in bankruptcy law to protect creditors against debtors giving away money to avoid

paying their debts.

But sponsors of the bill and religious leaders told the House Subcommittee on Commercial and Administrative Law that courts have misinterpreted portions of the bankruptcy code in applying them to charitable gifts.

"Many of our churches and charities across this country live hand to mouth," Packard said.

"What comes into the collection plate on one day is usually spent the next.

"When a creditor is allowed to sue a church or charity in order to recover a donation made possibly months earlier, the church or charity is usually put in a position of hard-

ship," Packard said.

Stephen Goold, senior pastor of Crystal Evangelical Free Church, said his church's six-year battle to keep \$13,450 in tithes given by a couple during the year before they filed for bankruptcy "was the first in what has become hundreds of bad applications of good law."

Goold told lawmakers the church has spent more than \$300,000 in the protracted legal battle, which is still pending.

Opposing the bill, Stephen Case, speaking on behalf of the National Bankruptcy Conference, said Congress "should not slice up our fraudulent transfer laws with special-interest exceptions, no matter how deserving the special-in-

terests groups may be."

Case also said the bill would create "an opportunity for persons filing personal bankruptcy to stop off at the local charity and make a donation on their way to file bankruptcy." A scholar of constitutional law disagreed.

"If I understand federal bankruptcy laws, why would I drop off money at a charity on my way to the courthouse? I could drop it off in my retirement plan and then I could keep it," said Douglas Laycock, professor at the University of Texas Law School in Austin.

The current law already allows courts to recover donations made to delay or hinder a creditor. ■

Promise Keepers lays off 345 staff members

Baptist Press

DENVER — Promise Keepers has notified its 345 staff members they will be laid off March 31 and that re-staffing will occur after an indefinite period of time when "stable and sufficient" donations are received, the Denver-based Christian men's movement announced Feb. 18.

This year all Promise Keepers' events, including 19 stadium events planned for this summer, will charge no admission fees. Its "Open the Gates in '98" initiative is designed to remove all financial barriers to participation in its rallies. Promise Keepers' board of directors unanimously supported PK founder Bill McCartney's call last September for ending the fees.

Promise Keepers said it "expects that donations from

local communities and national sponsors will cover the considerable cost of producing the events" planned for the coming year, beginning with a Detroit stadium rally May 15.

More than 2.6 million men have attended Promise Keepers events in stadiums across the nation since 1991. Registrations of \$60 each have provided a reliable revenue stream for the movement, enough to fund 64 conferences over the last six years. The admission fees provided 72 percent of the organization's income, the news release said. The shift from a fee-based income to support from donations alone, and from a paid staff to volunteers, is a "transition of a magnitude unique in the history of nonprofit organizations" and "both a financial and an operational chal-

lenge," the organization said in a news release.

Promise Keepers said its 1997 year-end revenues were committed to pay millions of dollars for "Stand in the Gap," the sacred assembly Promise Keepers sponsored on the Mall in Washington. The Oct. 4 event was perhaps the largest religious gathering in American history.

Attendance at Promise Keepers rallies, meanwhile, dropped last year to an average of 36,000 from 50,000 in 1996, *The New York Times* reported.

Promise Keepers' cutbacks began last year in anticipation of the reduced revenue stream. Staff layoffs occurred in July, paring the organization from 400-plus employees.

McCartney stressed Promise Keepers will honor its commitments to all Promise Keepers vendors. ■

Middle East Baptists ask for prayer

By Martha Skelton
For Associated Baptist Press

HAMBURG, Germany — Baptist leaders in the Middle East are asking other Christians to pray for peace as the crisis between Iraq and the United Nations reaches a critical stage.

"We are praying especially for the [Iraqi] people in these days," Shukri Rabadi, president of the Jordan Baptist Convention, told European Baptist Press Service. Rabadi said some Jordanian Baptist churches include Iraqi families who moved to Jordan after the Gulf War seven years ago and small Iraqi Baptist groups meet in some areas.

Baptists in Israel are struggling, with everyone else, to maintain a regular life while daily news broadcasts the threat of possible missile attacks.

"We need special prayers that we will have peace," said Phillip Sa'ed, chairman of the

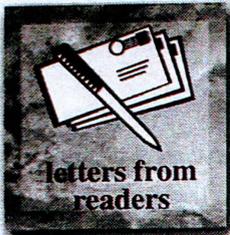
Association of Baptist Churches in Israel. Most Baptist church members in Israel, including Sa'ed, are Arabs.

People are buying new gas masks and equipment to seal off a room in their houses from possible chemical or biological gas attack. Sa'ed is a pastor in Haifa, and it is predicted that Haifa and Tel Aviv would be the targets of an attack. As a parent, Sa'ed says, it is hard for them to take such precautions and still quiet the fears of their children.

Lebanon does not face a direct involvement in the current crisis, but Baptists there do have some specific concerns, said Charles Costa, general secretary of the Lebanese Baptist Convention.

Two Iraqi students attend the Baptist Seminary near Beirut and they and their families back in Iraq are specific concerns for Lebanese Baptists.

The three Mideast Baptist unions are members of the European Baptist Federation. ■



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.

Thanks for article

Thank you for the article in the *Baptist & Reflector* concerning the recent prayer luncheon at the hospital. Your remarks conveyed the purpose of these gatherings in a very positive manner.

At Baptist we recognize the importance of the spiritual aspect in our daily lives and encourage our employees by providing opportunities for Bible study and prayer groups.

C. David Stringfield
President and CEO
Baptist Hospital
Nashville 37236

Liked coverage

Thank you for the great coverage of Baptist Hospital's prayer luncheon. We are all very excited about this activity at the hospital and it will be fascinating and inspiring to watch this program grow over the next few years.

You have always been a true friend and I have a tremendous respect for you. As you bring your career at the TBC to a close, please know that we are grateful to you for your Christian witness and also your journalistic integrity and standards of excellence.

Paul W. Moore
Executive vice president
Baptist Hospital
Nashville 37236

Tribute to Brown

Helen Brown, a media library worker for 25 years, died in January after a two-year battle with cancer. Helen was

known and loved by her church, state, and convention as a teacher, a leader, an inspiration, and an encourager to others in their Christian lives.

She started her church library work at First Church, Cookeville, moving to Murfreesboro in 1966 where she served on the First Church media library staff until her death. She became director of the media library there in 1981.

She also served as president of the Tennessee Church Media Library Organization, special worker in the Media Library Organization of the BSSB, director of Media Library at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center, and director of Concord Association's Church Media Library Association. She taught numerous library training courses all across Tennessee and the SBC. She was a deacon and member of the church council at First Church.

Helen was honored by her church with a plaque which read: "She has led many to look into the word. She has assisted many in finding the word. And she has led many to know the WORD."

As one of her library staff wrote: "Webster's definition of a saint — one of God's chosen people — is truly Helen Brown." This saint will be missed by many.

Edna Vaughn
Murfreesboro 37130

Thanks for service

I noticed the excellent articles and words of commendation

concerning your years of service as editor of our *Baptist and Reflector*.

I am happy to hear that you can look forward to some well deserved retirement years, and I wish you the best in health and happiness. You have been a true, faithful servant of the Lord as well as Tennessee Baptist church members. You have done your best to be impartial through some difficult years for our Southern Baptist Convention and Tennessee Baptist Convention.

In recent years journalists have taken some heavy hits whether in the secular press or in the religious press. I hope you are aware that you can leave your years of responsibility with a legacy of integrity, openness, and honesty.

Thank you for your servant-leadership as editor of our state paper, and I can assure you that members of Central Church will be in prayer for a well deserved and happy time in retirement.

Larry W. Fields, pastor
Central Church, Bearden
Knoxville 37919

About colleges

A recent letter to the editor by a sister in Christ rightfully deplores "the heated words over 'control' of our colleges; quotes George W. Truett as saying the body of a church as 'a pure democracy ... cannot subject itself to any outside control'; states that democracy applies to the governance of our colleges; and implores us to 'reason together' (so to stop

'making everyone act, think, and be alike'). A conservative submits this reasoning.

By law, our Baptist colleges, as corporate institutions, must be controlled. The question then is not "control," but "who" and by what principles. The issue is one of stewardship and accountability.

Our Baptist colleges are the legacy of our many Southern Baptist forebears who faithfully gave their tithes and offerings in the confident expectation that these institutions would remain faithful to historical Southern Baptist positions, particularly that of Scripture as the inerrant, infallible, all sufficient inspired word of God.

A steward manages the affairs or assets of another on the behalf of the other and the steward must "be found faithful." To ask stewards entrusted with our colleges to square their guidance with the plumb line of historical Southern Baptist position of Scriptural inerrancy is not a question of making everyone act, think, or be alike. It is a question of accountability.

Regarding democracy, much has been made of the "moderate" dominance of college trustees boards whereas "moderate" churches comprise only about two percent of our Tennessee churches. Is it not reasonable that college trustees be selected on a representative democratic basis reflecting the overwhelming conservative majority?

N. Dale Kemp
Vonore 37885



Partnership Prayer Requests

February-March

25 — Pray for the new mission work in the Residential Cartago in Cartago, Costa Rica, and for Carlos Luis and Paulina Perez who are working with IMB missionaries Larry and Mary Hendricks.

26 — Pray for Christians in Canada to work together to present the Gospel.

27 — Pray for the Michigan convention's Baptist Center director search committee.

28 — Pray for the continuing work in San Rafael de Guapiles in Costa Rica and for missionaries Keith and Pam Travis.

March 1 — Pray for the three new works that Sweetwater Association began in the Oeste Association in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

2 — Pray for the Michigan convention's annual staff planning retreat March 2-4.

3 — Pray for the members of Cambrian Heights Church in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, who recently celebrated their 38th anniversary. Ask God to bless the church and Pastor Lewis Markwood.

Observe Alcohol and Drug Abuse Sunday on March 15

By Robert L. Mounts
Special to *Baptist & Reflector*

A man stumbles into his bedroom late at night, begins arguing with his wife, and soon strikes her across the face leaving a trickle of blood just as his little girl awakens and comes to the room.

A car speeds out of control on

a narrow road and slams head-on into another vehicle. Within the hour a mother answers the phone only to be told by police that her son will not be coming home.

What do these events have in common? All are the result of or related to the misuse of alcohol. The scenes are repeated countless times each day in America

and most often in the "best of families." In a nation whose people boast of being so educated and culturally advanced, somehow we have missed one very simple teaching from the Word of God.

"Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." Under the inspiration of God's

Holy Spirit the writer of Proverbs chose strong words to address this historical social problem.

To those who struggle with the temptation of alcohol, there is hope in Jesus Christ. ■ — Mounts is a staff member of the Florida Baptist Convention. He wrote this article for the SBC Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission.

Make a visit now before there are any regrets later

an occasional word

by Lonnie Wilkey
associate editor



I was reminded recently of a very important lesson.

Two elderly friends died — one here in the Nashville area and another in my hometown in South Carolina.

When I was home at Christmas my uncle advised me to go

see my dear friend, Bruce Nease.

Bruce was more like a relative than a friend. He knew me all my life. He was a supervisor in the local textile mill and he secured my first job other than working on a farm.

Bruce made sure I was able to work hours compatible with my school schedule. Even after I went off to the University of South Carolina, he made sure I had a summer job both years I returned home. Bruce and his wife, Bea, both played an important role in my life.

I followed my uncle's advice

and went to visit them over the Christmas holidays. I could tell Bruce was not feeling well, but he treated me just as he always did — like a member of the family. And as always, he "made" me eat some candy. That didn't take much effort. But that was the way Bruce was — always thinking of others. I was never in their home without being offered something to eat or drink.

I'm glad I took the time to make that visit.

Another dear friend, Loretta Patterson, died recently also. Loretta was a member of my

church and befriended Joyce and me when we moved to Tennessee almost 16 years ago. She was in a nursing home before her death and I kept intending to go visit her, but I never "found" the time. I regret that so much because she was such a sweet lady and was special to my family.

The lesson reminder is none of us is assured of tomorrow.

Take time to visit your friends and loved ones, especially those who are elderly, now while you can.

The day will come all too soon when you can't. ■

Attitude of gratitude should govern giving

Before the beginning of each SBC Executive Committee session, it's standard for the chairman to call on a member to read some Bible verses, lead the group in prayer, and sometimes give a devotional thought.

Trouble with that is that you never know what the person will say.

The message of the devotional on Tuesday last week may have been a surprise. Even so, the content certainly was admirable.

Emory Lussi, pastor of Medicine Bow Church, Alpine, Wyoming, was the speaker. He talked about stewardship. That wasn't the topic, but he talked about stewardship.

Lussi, in frontier pastor style, said he hadn't eaten in a fancy restaurant — and that he hadn't stayed in the downtown Nashville hotel where Executive Committee members ordinarily are housed.

He said he stayed in a hotel for about \$30 less per night.

Then he began to "preach." He told the group that the \$30 saved for all 80 Executive Committee members — would amount to \$2,400 per night.

"That's the monthly salary for a frontier

pastor," he said, adding, "I think we should look at that." He's right. We all should look at our habits of stewardship.

He had begun his devotional by explaining how a friend several years ago had told him he was watching Lussi. What audacity!

By the way, Emory Lussi and his wife Beverly are featured on the prayer emphasis pamphlet for the Home Missions Week of prayer March 1-8.

Think of all the Cooperative Program money that could be saved if we took this

approach. SBC and TBC committees should be comfortable at their meetings, but when comfort can also include economy, we should do it.

A plea for Christian economy in ordinary activities has great merit. The frontier pastor's observation certainly should be taken seriously. Southern Baptists should be known as good stewards.

All of us should make certain our "wants" are scored well below needs of others. Giving generously, sacrificially is better than pinching pennies. — *WFA*

Some 'newsy' Executive Committee actions

Let's highlight several newsworthy actions of the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee taken at the recent meeting in downtown Nashville.

Complete stories are found elsewhere in this issue.

First, the EC will recommend a record \$155 million Cooperative Program budget to messengers in Salt Lake City in June. Overseas missions will get half of it.

Other recommendations to the SBC:

— Continue positive relationships with the Baptist World Alliance, increasing funding to \$425,000.

— Replace Sunday School Board of SBC with a new name, LifeWay Christian Resources of the SBC.

The EC also agreed to a contract with Barry McCarty, Church of Christ leader, to be SBC parliamentarian.

The EC adopted a statement affirming relationships with Baptist state conventions.

Bylaws changes will be proposed to SBC messengers to shorten annual sessions to two days — from two and a half. Bylaws changes would affect the change for the 1999 schedule. — *WFA*



just for today

by Fred Wood, pastor emeritus, Eudora Church, Memphis



Start with a smile

Health fanatic: "I never eat food with additives or preservatives. And I never touch anything that's been sprayed or fed chemical grain."

Slightly overweight person: "That's great discipline. How do you feel?"

Fanatic: "Hungry."

Take this truth

The cure may hurt more than the thing we are trying to cure. Sometimes we throw the baby out with the bath water. We often hear that there are swap-offs. What issues are worth dying for and which ones require waiting until time vindicates us? That's what makes life interesting, but often difficult.

Memorize this Scripture

Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen your heart. — Psalm 27:14.

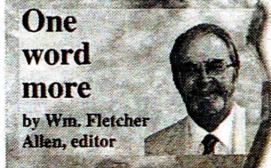
Pray this prayer

Lord, help me know what is important and what is inescapably urgent. ■

Who said that?

[Baptists in America] scattered the seeds of Baptist faith and practice widely over the developing colonies [despite persecution]. — *Baptists Who Shaped a Nation*, by O.K. and Marjorie Armstrong, Broadman Press, Nashville, 1975.

There are times when Christians must be seen



One word more

by Wm. Fletcher Allen, editor

Hagar the Terrible, comic strip character with a penchant for loud talk and mousy action, displayed the attitude of some of us in a recent strip.

He was striding across an open area between two fortress walls, with his cohort Eddie.

Hundreds of arrows were flying toward them from both ramparts.

With a fearless look of unconcern, without breaking stride or turning his head, he

said to Eddie, "Ignore them. We don't want to attract attention."

Bravo, Hagar! I don't know whether to applaud your lack of concern or to despair over your choice to ignore the danger. But of course, you are just a comic strip character.

In real life, no one would dare cross that open area with the arrows aimed straight at you. At least, I wouldn't.

Most of us would be hunkered down somewhere behind the lines — or safely hidden in a trench away from the barrage of arrows (or bullets).

Ignore them, Hagar said, I don't want to attract attention. In his case, he resorted to hope against reality.

Picture this — a thousand arrows are winging their way

toward you, with unerring accuracy. You have no protection, no armored car, no electronic device that would cover you with a protective shield. What would you do?

There was a toothpaste advertisement some years ago that touted some additive that would protect your teeth from decay — just like an invisible shield.

It may have helped in some cases, but it certainly wasn't surefire armor.

The baby bird, the little chick, finds that protection under its mother's wings, or safely tucked down into the nest.

The little child looks for the protection of Dad or Mom. After all, what can harm you when you are tightly hugged in those strong arms?

Supporting home missions for more than a century

The theme for the 1998 offering for home missions gets its meaning from the Bible.

"Start Something New — Ministry," is the theme for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering and Week of Prayer for North American Missions. The Week of Prayer is March 1-8 — and the AAEO goal is \$42 million.

One of the key verses that can explain the need for new ministries is Isaiah 43:18-19 — "Behold, I will do something new ... I will even make a roadway in the wilderness, rivers in the desert."

The theme of newness, new life, is found also in II Corinthians 5:17, Psalm 40:3, and II Peter 3:13.

Woman's Missionary Union provides churches with a special prayer emphasis for the Week of Prayer, giving a brief background along with prayer needs for eight North American missionary couples.

The needs are great throughout North America,

the domain assigned to the North American Mission Board (formerly Home Mission Board).

Of the 263 million people in the United States, for instance, an estimated 184 million are lost. Southern Baptists have been sending missionaries throughout the United States since 1845 in an effort to reach these lost people. That's almost a century and a half. WMU has been supporting these efforts since they were begun.

The mission offering was named for Annie Armstrong, a strong force in home missions in Baltimore and across the nation.

The Week of Prayer for North American Missions and the AAEO were established in 1894 to increase giving to and interest in home missions. Since then, Southern Baptists have observed this special emphasis on North American missions during the first week in March.

Start Something New
MINISTRY

Week of Prayer for North American Missions
March 1-8, 1998
Annie Armstrong Easter Offering
National Goal: \$42,000,000

Treasurer's Report First Quarter

Nov. 1, 1997 - Jan. 31, 1998

	Cooperative Program	Designated	Total
■ Gifts and Other Income			
Cooperative Program:	8,262,211.11		8,262,211.11
Designated to SBC/TBC Institutions		1,098,741.35	1,098,741.35
Little Moon Offering for International Missions		4,944,121.66	4,944,121.66
Annie Armstrong Offering for North American Missions		154,852.95	154,852.95
Golden State Offering for State Missions		427,484.88	427,484.88
Cooperative Program Gifts received from TB Foundation	0.00	14,006.61	14,006.61
Other Special Gifts		17,721.62	17,721.62
Total Gifts	8,262,211.11	6,656,929.07	14,919,140.18
Other Income (from Annuity Board, North American Mission Board, BSSB, Camps, earned interest & refunds, B&R advertisement & subscription income)		485,012.20	485,012.20
Total Receipts	8,262,211.11	7,141,941.27	15,404,152.38
■ Allocations			
■ Preferred Item			
Church Annuity Plan (50%)	174,304.84	5,994.51	180,299.35
■ Executive Board Ministries			
Evangelism Missions Group	579,811.80	259,779.28	839,591.08
Church Growth Development Group	547,002.83	32,955.00	579,957.84
Church Staff Leadership Group	216,981.09	30,153.38	247,134.47
Missions Awareness/Involvement Group	325,721.79	66,048.44	391,770.23
Communication Services Group	145,838.92	5,087.51	150,926.43
Administrative Services Group	294,016.63	74,782.64	368,799.26
Executive Leadership Group	132,973.36	6,251.86	139,225.22
Total Executive Board Ministries	2,242,346.41	475,058.11	2,717,404.52
■ Convention Operations			
<i>Baptist & Reflector</i>			
Church Annuity Plan (50%)	109,152.37	3,753.86	112,906.23
TBC Meeting & Committees	174,304.84	5,994.51	180,299.35
TBC Audits	86,815.81	2,985.68	89,801.49
Total Convention Operations	392,640.02	13,503.26	406,143.28
■ Christian Education			
Belmont University	609,090.89	22,147.20	631,238.09
Carson Newman College	609,090.89	182,951.14	792,042.03
Union University	609,090.89	124,538.92	733,629.81
Endowment Campaign	5,626.06	193.49	5,819.55
Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy	92,163.04	32,590.40	124,753.44
Assoc. SB Colleges and Schools	2,744.41	94.38	2,838.79
Historical Archives	4,116.63	141.58	4,258.21
CRV Scholarships	20,583.13	707.87	21,291.00
Total Christian Education	1,952,505.94	363,364.98	2,315,870.92
■ Christian Services			
Tenn. Baptist Adult Homes	64,972.72	18,796.19	83,768.91
Tenn. Baptist Children's Homes	313,675.98	214,727.52	528,403.50
Tenn. Baptist Foundation	88,800.31	3,053.92	91,854.23
Total Christian Services	467,449.01	236,577.63	704,026.64
■ SBC Gifts			
International Missions	1,516,482.45	5,088,208.41	6,604,690.86
North American Missions	591,428.15	194,162.41	785,590.56
Six Seminaries	615,691.87	30,043.57	645,735.44
SBC Operating	69,758.19	3,402.85	73,161.04
Annuity Board	24,263.72	1,183.81	25,447.53
World Hunger		217,202.08	217,202.08
Other SBC Gifts	215,340.51	10,505.82	225,846.33
Total SBC Gifts	3,032,964.89	5,544,708.95	8,577,673.84
■ Other Special Gifts			
American Bible Society		248.99	248.99
United Tennessee League		16,155.27	16,155.27
Churches in Michigan		625.00	625.00
Disaster Relief		692.36	692.36
Total Other Special Gifts	0.00	17,721.62	17,721.62
Total Gifts Allocation	8,262,211.11	6,656,929.07	14,919,140.18
Other Income Allocated (from Annuity Board, North American Mission Board, BSSB, Camps, interest & refunds)		485,012.20	485,012.20
Total Allocations	8,262,211.11	7,141,941.27	15,404,152.38

Church	CP	Designated	Church	CP	Designated
Caney Ford	673.00	2,637.00	Twin Hills	180.00	625.00
Cardiff	382.91	482.90	Westmoreland 1st	621.25	1,195.27
Cedar Grove	4,419.00	5,362.80	TOTAL	90,263.30	162,473.15
Central	1,629.00	1,631.00	Bradley County		
Chapman Grove	840.00	2,692.46	Antioch	600.00	350.00
Childs Mem	902.40	750.00	Beacon	426.20	0.00
Clymersville	2,965.90	1,801.90	Bellefonte	3,768.33	1,156.74
Coal Hill	213.68	250.00	Big Spring	8,551.09	2,193.45
Crab Orchard	654.59	370.00	Blue Springs	525.00	494.88
Deer Lodge, 1st	835.00	630.00	Blythe Ave	989.32	865.75
Dyllis	1,494.10	134.00	Brittville	838.90	0.00
Eureka	884.00	1,338.00	Candies Creek	13,130.80	0.00
Fairview	143.75	604.25	Center Point	0.00	0.00
Faith Msrny	376.25	0.00	Charity	0.00	0.00
Historical Clax	0.00	0.00	Charleston, 1st	2,598.97	1,500.90
Gap Strm	0.00	0.00	Chestnut	0.00	0.00
Kellytown	1,620.99	4,072.86	Cleveland, 1st	36,132.27	2,879.00
Kingston, 1st	16,047.91	21,260.40	Clingan Ridge	1,050.00	350.35
Lakeview	1,206.00	500.00	Cloverleaf	0.00	300.00
Laurel Bluff	400.09	200.00	Cohula	753.25	1,000.00
Lee Village	860.84	0.00	Corinth	0.00	0.00
Liberty	4,590.90	3,084.41	Council	0.00	0.00
Middle Creek	2,009.77	2,500.09	Dalton Pike	200.00	100.00
Mossy Grove	1,182.47	2,944.49	Dockery Hghts	0.00	0.00
Oakdale, 1st	1,034.24	329.50	E Cleveland	0.00	0.00
Orchard View	529.35	1,100.00	E View	600.00	443.75
Petros	1,937.00	633.00	Elkmont	0.00	500.00
Pine Orchard	1,481.46	864.69	Emmanuel	0.00	120.00
Pine Ridge	1,646.00	992.00	Fairview	0.00	0.00
Piney	4,437.34	1,395.64	Four Point	295.91	0.00
Piney Grove	720.77	573.70	Galilee	938.10	0.00
Pleasant Grove	5,438.31	1,415.00	Georgetown	3,521.59	3,912.61
Pond Grove	1,093.58	211.25	Goodwill	0.00	0.00
Riggs Chpl	286.00	292.00	Gum Spring	129.00	2,363.00
Riverside	5,791.06	2,513.51	Hopewell	2,135.54	2,025.63
Rockwood 2nd	129.83	75.00	Hughes Lake	0.00	0.00
Rockwood, 1st	17,500.00	15,288.07	Lebanon	400.03	2,369.66
S Harriman	19,797.21	19,559.22	Macedonia	8,449.04	2,793.00
Shiloh	4,500.00	3,572.57	Maple St	0.00	0.00
Sunbright, 1st	0.00	861.00	Michigan Ave	2,829.05	727.50
Trenton St	12,968.95	7,824.09	Mt Carmel	3,647.00	5,005.75
Union	2,395.00	1,679.00	N Cleveland	33,058.98	1,680.70
Union Chpl	730.77	500.00	New Flwshp	150.00	0.00
Walnut Hill	2,897.20	1,162.06	New Friendship	3,412.53	1,377.69
Warburg, 1st	3,474.62	0.00	Oak Grove	427.54	415.00
White's Creek	402.73	0.00	Parkway	615.12	332.02
TOTAL	138,836.91	116,039.96	Philippi	3,734.20	582.00
			Ridgeview	0.00	0.00
			Rolling Brook Strm	0.00	0.00
			Samples Mem	0.00	600.00
			Stuart Park	1,735.75	1,115.00
			Tasso	314.00	0.00
			Thompson Springs	522.11	618.00
			Union	75.00	470.00
			Valley View	8,303.66	3,029.23
			Victory	0.00	0.00
			W Cleveland	460.00	2,205.79
			Washington Ave	0.00	0.00
			Waterville	3,573.00	10,779.00
			Westwood	52,380.46	800.00
			White Oak	0.00	1,738.00
			TOTAL	201,271.74	57,193.60
			Campbell County		
			Alder Sprgs	354.64	185.05
			Anthras	0.00	0.00
			Calvary	0.00	1,527.30
			Caryville, 1st	2,325.51	695.00
			Cedar Creek	0.00	0.00
			Cedar Hill	525.00	937.50
			Central	0.00	0.00
			Coolidge, 1st	959.96	725.00
			Crouches Creek	300.00	305.82
			Demory	90.00	1,500.00
			E Jacksboro	238.98	1,510.94
			E La Follette	2,363.50	2,461.03
			Eagan	7.00	0.00
			Elk Valley, 1st	175.00	50.00
			Elm Grove	0.00	0.00
			Glade Springs	732.00	634.00
			High St	0.00	0.00
			Hillcrest	790.00	0.00
			Indian Creek	0.00	0.00
			Indiana Ave	2,632.94	2,307.12
			Jacksboro, 1st	2,740.00	3,574.60
			Jellico, 1st	2,781.94	2,738.00
			Kings Settlement	0.00	0.00
			La Follette, 1st	16,931.91	12,458.29
			Lakeview	210.00	316.00
			Little Cove Creek	0.00	0.00
			Macedonia	0.00	0.00
			Midway	0.00	0.00
			Morley	48.00	0.00
			New Liberty	0.00	0.00
			Newcomb	1,578.26	2,171.80
			Oak Grove	0.00	1,163.90
			Pruden, 1st	0.00	0.00
			Round Rock	0.00	0.00
			Stinking Creek	0.00	0.00
			W La Fayette	2,187.57	1,710.00
			White Oak	0.00	0.00
			TOTAL	37,972.21	36,971.35
			Carroll-Benton		
			Atwood, 1st	2,250.24	1,020.00
			Bethel	686.46	0.00
			Bruceton, 1st	4,989.61	1,260.00
			Camden, 1st	15,763.05	2,435.74
			Chalk Level	195.00	500.00
			Concord	0.00	0.00
			Coopers Chpl	78.38	0.00
			E Side	1,150.52	671.32
			Eagle Creek	245.01	360.00
			Eastview	1,384.73	1,849.20
			Eastwood	532.58	0.00
			Enon	300.00	600.00
			Eva	308.52	202.00
			Fairview	0.00	283.00
			Grace	389.79	1,113.00
			Station Camp	0.00	0.00
			Holladay	75.00	150.00

Church	CP	Designated	Church	CP	Designated	Church	CP	Designated	Church	CP	Designated	Church	CP	Designated
Hopewell	386.73	377.00	Union Grove	218.92	470.34	Stones River	4,782.00	3,377.50	Little Valley	0.00	0.00	TOTAL	132,691.77	85,334.65
Horse	1,901.46	1,997.37	Unity	3,084.76	1,834.55	Taylor's Chpl.	0.00	270.00	Lone Hill Msrny	0.00	0.00	Dyer		
Huntingdon, 1st	8,338.02	15,389.58	Village Msrny	0.00	200.00	The King's Chpl.	0.00	0.00	Lone Holly	0.00	0.00	Beech Grove	1,032.13	100.00
Justice	0.00	0.00	W Maryville	258.98	843.20	Unity	522.54	0.00	M C M	0.00	0.00	Beech Grove	150.00	100.00
Liberty Hill	108.81	0.00	Wildwood	1,800.00	2,011.99	Walter Hill, 1st	1,598.85	2,261.29	Meyer Grove	0.00	0.00	Bogota	352.15	100.00
McKenzie, 1st	12,161.25	2,386.50	Zion Chpl	622.00	0.00	Ward's Grove	4,166.64	5,081.09	Middle Urbana	0.00	0.00	Calvary Chpl	60.00	417.00
McLennanville	690.41	0.00	TOTAL	242,018.91	264,404.69	Westgate	0.00	0.00	Midway	950.98	1,278.10	Calvary Hill	531.65	202.00
Misry Grove	1,821.34	1,950.89	Clinton			Westwood	3,461.35	6,573.78	Mt Gilead	0.00	0.00	Curve	1,056.17	634.00
Mt Nebo	543.86	0.00	Andersonville, 1st	4,416.70	2,136.60	Woodbury Rd	646.00	223.00	Mt Pleasant	0.00	0.00	Dyersburg 2nd	874.16	976.02
Natchez Trace	2,222.90	1,281.44	Batley	0.00	162.45	TOTAL	215,013.64	137,353.72	Mt Zion	557.46	450.00	Dyersburg, 1st	19,600.02	14,019.22
Prospect	4,018.98	2,225.30	Beech Grove	263.16	526.32	Copper Basin			Mtn View	40.00	20.00	Elon	0.00	201.71
Republican Grove	62.75	0.00	Bethel	3,552.24	5,527.50	Bethlehem	0.00	0.00	New Hope	0.00	0.00	Emmaus	450.00	0.00
Sugar Tree	239.20	257.00	Black Oak	2,032.00	3,283.08	Coletown	916.81	961.00	New Salem	0.00	1,100.00	Enon	1,706.93	409.00
Trezevant, 1st	3,787.85	1,559.25	Blooming Springs	1,300.00	250.00	Isabella	261.51	125.00	New Tazewell, 1st	2,904.24	1,725.00	Evansville	47.94	0.00
Union Academy	725.94	385.00	Briceville, 1st	0.00	400.00	Maple Grove	0.00	100.00	Oak Grove	0.00	100.00	Fairview	950.37	399.00
TOTAL	65,358.39	38,253.69	Calvary (H)	1,912.00	257.25	Mine City	5,695.22	7,465.50	Pine Grove	0.00	0.00	Finley	900.00	2,833.00
Central			Calvary (O R)	23,745.44	3,144.43	Mt Harmony	0.00	150.00	Pleasant View	296.00	0.00	Fowlkes	4,995.52	3,091.93
Barren Fork	77.75	0.00	Central	22,473.95	0.00	Mt Vernon	0.00	0.00	Poplar Grove	0.00	0.00	Ft Hudson	420.00	1,120.00
Bethel Hill	0.00	186.53	Circle Of Faith	24.74	0.00	Mt Zion	329.69	158.00	Providence	0.00	0.00	Gates	945.39	681.93
Browns Chpl	0.00	0.00	Clear Branch	3,037.04	2,589.51	New Zion	1,303.00	750.00	Pump Hollow	0.00	0.00	Halls Westside	369.77	2,347.31
Campaign, 1st	0.00	0.00	Clinch River	2,890.00	0.00	Pleasant Hill	200.00	200.00	Spring Springs	2,860.00	2,046.92	Halls, 1st	5,501.27	4,454.00
Cornerstone	1,456.05	76.00	Clinton 2nd	15,878.82	16,105.00	Turtletown	162.06	0.00	Raven Hill	0.00	0.00	Harmony	830.12	200.00
Eastside Man	523.38	2,038.00	Clinton Assn	0.00	33.00	Zion Hill	1,028.63	702.00	Red Hill	0.00	0.00	Harvest	150.00	135.00
Fall City	377.70	500.00	Clinton, 1st	2,137.99	45.00	TOTAL	9,896.92	10,611.50	Red Hill Chpl	0.00	0.00	Hawthorne	1,309.34	575.00
Forest Park	357.56	125.00	Cornerstone (C)	443.94	512.67	Crocket			Riley Mem	0.00	0.00	Hillcrest	16,763.43	25,172.60
Gath	2,777.41	347.19	Dutch Valley, 1st	20.00	0.00	Alamo, 1st	5,991.00	6,407.50	River View	0.00	0.00	Lenox	1,000.00	1,682.24
Irving College	633.42	349.08	Edgemore	1,775.89	3,639.14	Barkers Chpl	240.26	0.00	Riverside	0.00	374.48	Macedonia	3,604.04	5,285.00
Madison	0.00	0.00	Fairview	1,622.00	480.00	Bells, 1st	7,786.26	12,187.76	Rob Camp	0.00	0.00	Mary's Chpl	4,926.00	59.00
McMinnville, 1st	15,616.34	14,161.34	Faith Promise	795.00	3,715.00	Cairo	662.00	591.00	Shady Grove	0.00	0.00	Mt Culloughs Chpl	930.82	349.53
Morrison, 1st	1,458.47	1,132.00	Farmers Grove	0.00	2,120.00	Cross Roads	1,809.50	622.50	Shawnee	1,753.96	2,144.00	Miston	650.00	250.00
Mt Elm	267.59	100.00	Frost Bottom	0.00	0.00	Friendship	2,021.00	1,315.43	Speedwell Academy	50.00	0.00	Mt Tirzah	1,167.41	769.54
Northside	3,777.92	0.00	Glenwood	2,087.50	2,067.31	Gadsden, 1st	758.14	2,130.00	Springdale	0.00	0.00	Mt Vernon	1,386.50	382.00
Providence	412.88	609.27	Grove Hill	0.00	0.00	Johnson Grove	225.00	50.00	Springfield	0.00	0.00	New Mitchell Grove	663.80	2,000.00
Shellsford	3,322.60	2,869.23	Indian Bluff	0.00	0.00	Maury City, 1st	1,500.00	1,668.02	Straight Creek	0.00	0.00	Newbern, 1st	6,104.47	5,093.59
Smartt, 1st	86.44	311.00	Island Ford	649.32	0.00	Midway	227.97	0.00	Sugar Grove	0.00	0.00	Parrish Chpl	517.48	165.00
Welchland	260.03	151.49	Island Home	0.00	0.00	Providence	0.00	0.00	Sunnys Bridge	0.00	0.00	Ro Ellen	742.23	600.00
Westside	0.00	0.00	Lake City, 1st	3,458.01	4,338.00	S Fork	850.30	147.03	Sunrise Msrny	0.00	0.00	Southside	5,342.20	2,520.00
TOTAL	31,405.54	22,956.13	Lakeview	304.28	167.00	Three Way	0.00	75.00	Tazewell	1,250.56	449.50	Springhill	2,149.80	1,007.00
Chilhowee			Laurel Branch	170.20	0.00	Walnut Hill	954.00	2,120.32	Town Creek	0.00	0.00	Trimble, 1st	2,885.95	1,420.00
Alcoa Way	631.97	200.00	Laurel Grove	380.00	86.00	TOTAL	23,025.43	27,314.56	Underwood Grove	577.90	1,301.59	Westside	630.31	339.00
Alcoa, 1st	22,270.53	24,886.39	Longfield	583.35	500.00	Cumberland			Union Chpl	0.00	317.00	Williams Chpl	150.00	50.00
Allegheny	392.17	0.00	Main St	2,714.85	3,953.25	1st Canaan	550.91	678.77	Walnut Hill	229.12	650.00	Woodville	124.12	155.00
Armona	5,376.83	0.00	Moran	382.00	890.00	Alva	100.00	0.00	Wolfenbarger Chpl	0.00	0.00	Zion Hill	578.75	386.77
Beech Grove	21,318.00	7,494.50	Mt Pleasant	1,910.43	2,666.79	Bethel	0.00	0.00	Young's Chpl	0.00	0.00	TOTAL	92,642.24	80,682.39
Bethel	2,957.01	2,783.00	N Clinton	0.00	225.00	Blooming Grove	964.00	300.00	Cumberland Plateau			Bethel	999.47	1,205.00
Birchfield	0.00	0.00	New Hope	0.00	0.00	Charlotte, 1st	987.32	573.77	Bethlehem	2,306.54	1,081.50	Browns Msrny	215.45	300.00
Branchway	11,958.51	5,854.99	New Mtn View	225.00	0.00	Clarksville, 1st	300.00	0.00	Calvary	272.15	159.00	Calvary	0.00	0.00
Calvary	7,287.61	2,749.87	New Salem	1,112.71	660.09	Clarksville, 1st	93,983.57	37,331.41	Central	11,573.05	8,626.85	Cave Hill	565.77	1,187.40
Carpenters	150.00	0.00	Norris, 1st	679.39	0.00	Cross Creek	1,549.93	300.00	Clear Creek	130.62	10.00	Centerview	0.00	0.00
Carson Island	504.24	100.00	Oak Ridge, 1st	0.00	17,438.72	Crossland Ave	640.90	323.50	Crossville, 1st	12,302.35	9,046.81	Clay Creek	0.00	0.00
Caylors Chpl	212.20	0.00	Oliver Springs, 1st	2,451.40	2,771.30	Cumberland City, 1st	0.00	200.00	Cumberland Flwshp	1,183.34	377.00	Del Rio	0.00	100.00
Cedar Grove	552.51	4,032.04	Pine Hill	300.00	0.00	Cumberland Dr	3,527.53	1,024.50	Cumberland	0.00	0.00	Denton	60.00	132.00
Centenary	795.47	2,927.45	Pleasant Hill	738.83	252.68	Dotsenville	311.04	385.00	Homesteads	5,054.68	3,878.75	Dutch Bottom	0.00	0.00
Central Point	643.00	0.00	Pleasant View	0.00	0.00	Erin	4,500.00	2,890.51	Cumberland View	128.52	170.00	English Creek	2,506.96	2,323.60
Central, Alcoa	1,166.68	1,205.05	Poplar Creek	741.52	233.96	Excell	2,064.35	877.00	Emmanuel	729.52	235.00	Forest Hill	308.00	50.00
Chilhowee Assn	0.00	80.00	Red Hill	0.00	260.23	Greater Msrny	0.00	200.00	Fairfield Glade	3,865.50	2,592.00	French Broad	0.00	0.00
Cold Springs	3,131.87	0.00	Riverview	1,440.69	660.35	Greater St James	1,026.00	0.00	Fairview	0.00	0.00	Garvers Chpl	220.84	0.00
Dotson Mem	11,874.39	184.20	Robertsville	9,115.15	1,838.00	Gum Springs	1,825.07	400.00	Fredonia	751.30	520.00	Holders Grove	566.08	236.75
E Alcoa	654.97	375.00	Royce	4,279.78	1,657.87	Harmony	958.00	610.00	Friendship	468.51	553.17	Liberty Hill	0.00	0.00
E Maryville	4,500.00	17,214.61	S Clinton	4,037.03	1,404.35	Hillcrest	2,014.60	8,993.37	Halesy Grove	527.13	323.60	Lincoln Ave	3,124.98	3,183.88
E Walling	0.00	0.00	Tuppertown	301.00	0.00	Hilldale	13,500.00	20,000.00	Isoline	332.65	271.37	Mannings Chpl	793.10	818.00
Ellejoy	405.00	763.00	Union Valley	0.00	0.00	Kenwood	824.90	364.00	Lantana Rd	882.83	1,114.60	Maple Grove	0.00	0.00
Everett Hills	13,619.83	13,318.25	Valley View	194.98	344.98	Kirkwood	464.25	368.04	Memorial	3,289.38	2,643.59	Mtn View	0.00	0.00
Faith & Hope	30.00	40.00	Walensy View	0.00	0.00	Little Hope	3,408.00	1,811.60	Meridian	1,583.00	0.00	New Prospect	0.00	0.00
Forest Hill	4,077.87	2,685.68	Willow Brook	0.00	1,098.86	Little West Fork	2,784.11	4,385.00	Mt Zion	1,217.85	457.00	Newport, 1st	3,676.55	6,502.66
Four Mile	1,045.00	1,050.00	Woodland Park	629.00	2,659.25	Lone Oak	509.85	581.00	Northport	2,258.88	2,239.00	Northport	2,258.88	2,239.00
Friendly Hill	400.45	0.00	Zion	0.00	140.00	Maplewood	67.42	0.00	Pigeon Valley	60.00	400.00	Pine Springs	0.00	200.00
Friendship	2,183.09	629.76	TOTAL	127,207.33	91,240.94	Memorial	0.00	0.00	Pine Valley	295.10	0.00	Pleasant Grove	1,327.00	2,557.11
Friendsville, 1st	12,360.00	8,479.00	Concord			Mt Hermon	1,852.38	647.00	Pleasant Hill, 1st	362.73	0.00	Point Pleasant	651.41	818.00
Grace, Seymour	668.89	760.00	Barfield	528.09	300.00	New Providence	1,462.22	900.50	Pine Edin	2,723.13	2,565.86	Rays Chpl	60.00	100.00
Grandview	2,614.92	1,450.13	Belle Aire	35,370.23	15,027.42	Nearside	1,597.04	1,620.45	Pleasant Springs	86.12	63.59	Riverview	2,177.00	1,113.50
Greenback Mem	2,846.71	1,245.75	Bradleys Creek	200.00	404.00	Northside	525.00	800.00	West</					

Church	CP	Designated	Church	CP	Designated	Church	CP	Designated	Church	CP	Designated	Church	CP	Designated
Mt Olive	15,900.00	15,811.71	Grace Comm	496.75	0.00	E Union	9,843.82	1,517.39	Blackwater Union	0.00	0.00	Cross Keys	0.00	0.00
Mt Olive, E	0.00	0.00	Highland Park	1,134.87	3,685.17	Englewood	32,583.31	32,877.91	Brewers Chpl.	0.00	0.00	Cross Roads Comm	0.00	0.00
Mtn View	818.17	368.00	Hilltop	290.03	1,235.00	Enville	944.70	575.00	Bridgeport Manry	0.00	0.00	Dalewood	12,810.21	13,334.25
N Acres	3,084.03	0.00	Kingston Pk	2,889.09	634.50	Friendship (B B)	2,655.48	1,136.00	Carpenters Chpl.	0.00	600.00	Dickerson Rd	7,406.46	440.00
N Hills	16.00	0.00	Lenoir City 2nd	471.39	769.00	Friendship (M)	1,508.57	2,395.00	Cedar Flat	0.00	300.00	Dickson, 1st	35,269.66	24,220.06
N Knoxville	3,877.21	199.50	Lenoir City, 1st	42,679.38	3,635.13	Grace	2,860.19	0.00	Cedar Grove	0.00	500.00	Donelson View	1,327.30	2,064.50
N Side	0.00	0.00	Loudon Co Asan	0.00	300.00	Greater Hope	214.63	0.00	Cedar Springs Manry	0.00	0.00	Donelson, 1st	21,301.58	20,215.35
New Covenant	200.00	0.00	Loudon, 1st	1,137.55	2,436.45	Highland Park	3,750.00	60.00	Chestnut Grove	0.00	0.00	E Donelson	0.00	0.00
New Hopewell	9,221.54	9,014.72	Morgantown	470.50	2,260.00	Henderson, 1st	7,113.59	7,380.02	Chinquapin	0.00	0.00	Eastland	3,883.31	4,079.38
New Salem	0.00	100.00	Mt Pleasant	54.72	200.00	Hillcrest	1,413.44	1,879.53	Clinch River	0.00	100.00	Eastside	3,246.20	3,017.25
Northwest	0.00	1,000.00	Mt Zion	1,007.67	30.00	Jackson, 1st	70,445.33	5,045.00	Clinchdale	0.00	0.00	Eastwood	0.00	0.00
Norwood	2,684.86	441.00	Mtn View	0.00	150.00	Korean	100.00	0.00	Cobbs Chpl	0.00	0.00	Edgefield	1,123.86	1,934.65
Oakwood	1,800.00	2,625.13	Nelson St	0.00	489.00	Liberty Grove	4,288.25	4,294.45	Community Chpl	0.00	0.00	Ethiopian Christian		
Park Lane	0.00	0.00	New Midway	920.05	2,285.12	Madison	2,917.86	2,629.75	Davis Chpl	0.00	200.00	Flwshp	45.00	0.00
Parkway	6,000.00	5,261.00	New Providence	4,010.00	900.00	Maleus	8,517.81	2,843.90	Dry Valley	0.00	0.00	Fairview, 1st	4,542.82	571.85
Peace and Good Will	0.00	0.00	Oral	2,110.00	1,408.37	Maple Springs	2,701.18	1,435.50	Fair View	0.00	200.00	Faith Temple	10.00	150.00
Piney Grove	0.00	3,191.00	Philadelphia, 1st	2,593.62	2,300.00	Mason Wells	60.00	0.00	Faith Manry	0.00	0.00	Fern Ave	0.00	0.00
Powell, 1st	32,744.08	14,300.85	Pine Grove	377.00	188.00	Merced	500.00	0.00	Flat Gap	0.00	100.00	Forest Hills	23,282.20	52,880.75
Providence	0.00	0.00	Pioneer	150.90	0.00	Meridian	9,206.00	4,769.00	Fox Branch	0.00	0.00	Franklin, 1st	46,666.64	46,726.64
Providence	0.00	0.00	Pleasant Hill	4,383.90	3,468.14	Mifflin	335.00	75.00	Freedom Chpl	0.00	0.00	Gallatin Rd	100.00	902.10
Ramsey Hgts	0.00	0.00	Prospect	1,897.00	3,624.00	Mitchells Chpl	0.00	0.00	Friendlies Chpl	0.00	0.00	Glendale	490.58	1,050.00
Reunion	166.00	636.40	Riverview	999.57	305.00	N Jackson	9,362.51	4,204.50	Friendship	0.00	0.00	Goodwood	4,511.22	1,712.75
Ridgevale	2,192.00	200.00	S Holston	0.00	0.00	Northbrook	4,544.25	0.00	Friendship (N M)	0.00	451.00	Glenoak	7,765.00	16,804.07
Ridgeview	4,770.81	3,044.94	Silver Ridge	0.00	575.14	Oakfield	2,314.00	756.71	Gaps Chpl	0.00	0.00	Grace	19,941.18	5,497.01
Ridgeway	260.92	0.00	Stockton Valley	813.00	1,406.00	Oaklawn	100.85	0.00	Granite Lifeboat	0.00	0.00	Grace Comm	100.00	0.00
Riverdale	2,325.00	3,600.00	Stoney Point	0.00	0.00	Old Friendship	543.81	2,166.54	Grassy Springs	0.00	225.00	Grace Flwshp	0.00	0.00
Riverview	500.00	387.90	Tellico Village, 1st	0.00	0.00	Palatine	0.00	0.00	Grissons Island	0.00	0.00	Grace Man	100.00	80.00
Rocky Hill	5,293.06	0.00	Union Park Creek	0.00	1,370.00	Parkburg	3,717.70	2,511.15	Huberts Chpl	0.00	200.00	Grandview	0.00	0.00
Roseberry	2,674.50	5,308.50	Vaughan Chpl	1,500.75	2,592.44	Parkview	3,276.17	2,385.72	Idas Chpl	0.00	0.00	Grassland Hgts	4,800.00	0.00
S Knoxville	3,470.73	2,567.00	W Broadway	0.00	430.00	Pinson	1,215.72	502.39	Lake Shore	0.00	0.00	Grays Point	0.00	0.00
Salem	20,507.86	27,802.86	TOTAL	101,235.97	60,341.97	Pleasant Hill	1,668.54	1,020.00	Livesays Chpl	0.00	0.00	Green Hill	17,992.00	2,447.00
Seven Islands	0.00	1,250.33				Pleasant Plains	737.95	1,440.65	McBride	0.00	0.00	Hanvit Korean	600.00	875.00
Sevier Hgts	12,000.00	0.00	McMinn-Meigs	2,375.01	4,404.41	Poplar Corner	1,353.71	773.00	Midtown Manry	0.00	500.00	Harpheth 1st	126.27	0.00
Sevier Home	240.20	0.00	Athens, 1st	60,206.00	24,911.65	Poplar Hgts	18,588.00	27,468.00	Mt Pisgah	0.00	0.00	Harpheth Hgts	21,685.03	7,964.08
Sharon	6,181.03	14,995.16	Bethel Springs	0.00	0.00	Sanford Hill	2,981.51	4,796.06	Mtn View	0.00	0.00	Harsh Chpl	800.00	771.50
Smithwood	16,595.03	18,478.00	Bethsada	0.00	371.50	Southside	230.39	481.40	Mulberry Gap	0.00	0.00	Harvest Fields	1,283.17	1,071.50
Stoney Point	720.00	0.00	Bethlehem	1,247.63	821.66	Spring Creek	3,655.35	1,167.00	New Bethel	0.00	0.00	Haywood Hills	7,021.74	4,140.51
Sunset Hgts	0.00	271.65	Calhoun, 1st	8,951.02	6,449.75	Unity	0.00	0.00	New Hope	0.00	0.00	Hermatage Hills	36,039.76	3,856.70
Tarklin Valley	205.98	321.26	Calvary (E)	1,247.58	1,976.10	W Jackson	37,347.83	37,979.34	New Life Manry	0.00	0.00	Hermitage, 1st	0.00	0.00
Tazewell Pike	0.00	0.00	Calvary Manry (D)	0.00	100.00	Wards Grove	1,556.98	625.00	New Salem Manry	0.00	600.00	Hickory Hills	779.00	736.18
Tennessee Ave	912.00	2,155.00	Cambrina	871.70	0.00	Westover	0.00	345.00	Northside Manry	0.00	225.00	Hickory Hollow	709.71	2,046.73
Third Creek	415.72	1,100.00	Central	0.00	0.00	Woodland	12,565.61	653.13	Oak Hill	0.00	500.00	Hillcrest	386.00	424.13
Thorn Grove	2,272.87	587.28	Clay Hill	0.00	0.00	TOTAL	314,749.87	189,886.28	Old Spruce Pine	0.00	0.00	Hillhurst	7,866.76	0.00
Three Point	0.00	0.00	Clear Springs	352.63	1,400.00				Panther Creek	0.00	0.00	Hillboro	1,078.00	1,658.00
Timothy St	1,037.74	1,419.04	Clearwater	1,415.37	1,050.00	Mauzy	412.71	0.00	Paw Paw Grove	0.00	0.00	Hillview, Franklin	1,610.53	729.93
Tower Hgts	0.00	0.00	Cog Hill	1,157.26	1,356.85	Calvary	0.00	0.00	Piney Grove	0.00	0.00	Holiday Hgts	1,863.89	0.00
Trinity	228.44	301.00	Conasauga	256.50	0.00	Columbia, 1st	22,610.31	0.00	Pleasant Valley	0.00	104.55	Hope	1,198.05	0.00
Tuckahoe	0.00	0.00	Cotton Port	455.51	100.00	Cross Bridges	862.07	200.00	Pond Hill	0.00	1,000.00	Hspn Nashville	1,500.00	251.00
Union	2,520.14	5,877.14	Decatur, 1st	4,492.62	2,180.61	Faith	0.00	0.00	Power House	0.00	0.00	Judson	0.00	0.00
Unity	558.13	1,245.60	Dixon Ave	0.00	1,320.96	Friendship	5,554.89	2,944.31	Providence (R)	0.00	0.00	Immanuel	7,863.16	9,494.58
Valley Grove (B C)	0.00	0.00	Double Springs	974.00	1,950.00	Hampshire	179.16	0.00	Rock Bridge	0.00	375.00	Inglewood	16,177.26	15,383.30
Valley Grove (C H)	14,775.00	19,897.48	E Athens	9,742.93	1,370.89	Highland Park	6,702.17	551.00	Rocky Summit	0.00	500.00	Ivy Mem	328.00	0.00
Vestal	0.00	0.00	E Niota	170.00	703.09	House of Prayer	75.00	0.00	Sandy Springs	0.00	100.00	Joelton, 1st	5,916.66	10,532.90
Victory	105.70	100.00	E View	0.00	0.00	Johnson Chpl	40.00	48.00	Sartin Springs	0.00	0.00	Judson	39,253.08	6,539.44
Victory Chpl	0.00	540.00	Eastanallee	23,693.36	9,208.00	Knob Creek	431.81	0.00	Sharon Manry	0.00	350.00	Korean, Nashville	1,800.00	0.00
W End	0.00	0.00	Englewood, 1st	2,200.50	4,051.29	Liberty, Columbia	895.00	283.00	Solid Rock	0.00	0.00	Lakeview	0.00	0.00
W Haven	6,007.00	0.00	Etowah, 1st	750.00	1,638.00	Mn Chpl	0.00	0.00	Spruce Pine Grove	0.00	0.00	Lakewood	5,320.02	3,662.74
W Hills	880.16	3,262.70	Five Point	0.00	0.00	Mt Pleasant, 1st	2,991.00	2,413.00	Stoney Gap	0.00	0.00	Liberty	3,357.49	200.00
W Knoxville	5,478.67	298.00	Good Hope	194.46	0.00	Mt Tabor	0.00	0.00	Stoney Ridge Manry	0.00	1,000.00	Life Way Comm	618.57	0.00
W Lonsdale	15,478.88	10,030.00	Goodsprings	2,227.54	1,855.35	New Song	0.00	0.00	The Country Church	0.00	0.00	Lincoya Hills	2,843.80	1,553.91
W Side	0.00	0.00	Hiwassee	249.25	192.25	Northside	2,873.61	3,367.37	Thorn Hill	0.00	800.00	Lockeland	1,254.48	2,030.27
Wallace Mem	46,874.20	2,769.95	Idlewild	620.60	425.00	Pleasant Hgts	12,262.80	6,189.57	Trent Valley	0.00	0.00	Long Hollow	18,349.13	13,273.78
Washington Ave	0.00	0.00	Lakeside	1,006.82	927.00	Riverview	2,355.81	0.00	Unicoi	0.00	0.00	Lyle Lane	1,093.29	1,200.00
Washington Pike	707.40	971.00	Lakeview	603.00	330.00	Rock Springs	1,112.00	2,940.00	Union	0.00	0.00	Madison Hgts	2,128.85	727.31
Westlake	2,991.03	0.00	Lamontville	398.77	0.00	Santa Fe	277.50	800.00	Valley View	0.00	0.00	Madison, 1st	3,714.39	5,364.00
TOTAL	732,756.23	677,962.93	Manilla Chpl	495.14	3,538.81	Southside	1,114.93	820.00	Walkers	0.00	200.00	Messiah	100.00	0.00
			Marshall Hill	495.14	3,538.81	Spring Hill, 1st	2,528.25	4,465.76	Wallens Bend	0.00	200.00	Mill Creek	1,577.49	562.57
Lawrence			McMahan Calvary	0.00	0.00	Swan Creek	726.34	587.04	Yellow Branch	0.00	100.00	Millersville, 1st	784.79	0.00
Barnesville	0.00	0.00	Mt Harmony, Niota	1,645.79	926.18	Theta	0.00	0.00	TOTAL	0.00	9,530.55	Nashville 3rd	1,345.33	1,875.78
Beech Grove	150.00	75.00	Mt Harmony	0.00	0.00	Viola	1,332.66	482.55				Nashville Korean	0.00	0.00
Blooming Grove	80.00	150.25	Riceville	3,045.85	1,623.93	W End	4,464.42	6,354.00				Nashville, 1st	18,364.99	180,057.03
Bonnertown	200.00	500.00	Mt Pisgah	1,093.42	2,418.30	Williamsport	0.00	0.00						

Church	CP	Designated	Church	CP	Designated	Church	CP	Designated	Church	CP	Designated	Church	CP	Designated
Whitsett Chpl	1,331.42	277.25	Pleasant Ridge	872.95	1,336.37	Greenbrier, 1st	12,386.67	12,295.25	New Salem	150.00	0.00	New Allen Rd	927.58	0.00
Woodbine	6,868.29	5,535.57	Pleasant View	378.00	2,238.30	Hopewell	2,088.00	8,550.00	Oak City	1,494.50	4,921.63	New Beginning		
Woodbine Laotian	568.27	0.00	Robertson Creek	508.76	1,000.00	Lights Chpl	2,035.54	720.66	Oldhams Creek	419.88	0.00	MB Man	0.00	0.00
Woodcock Mem	712.75	0.00	Rocky Point	1,970.96	5,000.00	Mt Carmel	7,912.26	4,043.33	Paw Paw Hollow	456.03	1,140.00	New Beginning N	0.00	0.00
Woodmont	19,187.07	44,410.34	Roe Junction	0.00	70.00	N Springfield	7,379.05	2,254.51	Peary Valley	0.00	0.00	New Beginning S	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	959,180.13	675,278.31	Russellville	0.00	307.00	Oak Grove	3,834.13	4,083.04	Pigeon Forge, 1st	17,025.09	6,099.91	New Song	313.16	0.00
New Duck River			Staten Gap	43.38	0.00	Oakland	1,365.00	635.00	Providence	0.00	175.00	Northview	1,513.22	1,652.50
Belfast	0.00	0.00	Sunrise Msnry	1,151.00	3,880.00	Orlando	4,671.91	3,038.91	Red Bank	0.00	0.00	Oakhaven	1,570.94	3,672.16
Bell Buckle, 1st	178.09	0.00	Thankful	0.00	0.00	Pleasant Hill	1,609.03	1,672.85	Red Bank, 1st	0.00	220.00	Oaklawn	385.70	607.00
Bethlehem	389.66	376.00	Three Springs	0.00	100.00	Red River	694.29	1,607.65	Richardson Cove	966.78	660.00	Old Salem	0.00	0.00
Calvary	3,855.61	750.00	Union Grove	52.70	21.40	Ridgetop, 1st	682.15	2,086.55	Roaring Fork	2,262.20	3,615.31	Orchi	726.99	421.72
Caney Springs Chpl	146.84	0.00	Warrensburg	1,067.77	605.00	Robertson Co Assn	0.00	3,000.00	Savierville 2nd	2,026.36	0.00	Parkway Village	4,385.07	0.00
Charity	214.05	265.00	Westview	651.00	1,571.00	Rock Springs	2,858.46	1,145.25	Savierville, 1st	26,250.00	9,272.27	Peabody	0.00	701.00
Cornersville, 1st	3,199.11	614.62	White Oak Grove	856.17	2,649.05	S Main	0.00	0.00	Seymour, 1st	4,004.60	10,965.28	Peterson Lake	4,587.42	3,190.73
E Commerce	4,884.67	202.00	Whitesburg	300.00	3,019.05	Springfield	28,744.76	26,849.65	Shiloh	0.00	1,000.00	Poplar Ave	192.83	430.00
Eastview	375.00	770.00	Witt	1,392.08	3,025.00	Springhill	1,782.50	430.76	Sims Chpl	300.00	161.25	Primera Iglesia		
Edgemont	2,287.93	0.00	TOTAL	134,625.27	152,813.21	Temple	3,687.48	4,162.00	Sung Leaf	184.06	0.00	Hpn	120.00	200.00
El Bethel	913.18	1,002.00	Northern			White House, 1st	6,324.18	0.00	Trinity	0.00	0.00	Raleigh	23,003.73	21,103.30
Farmington	563.77	387.08	Alder Sprgs	0.00	0.00	Williams Chpl	977.23	1,305.00	Union Valley	485.91	350.00	Raleigh N	3,033.76	0.00
Fosterville	657.25	95.00	Blue Springs	0.00	0.00	TOTAL	137,397.72	05,591.80	Valley View	690.00	1,555.00	Range Hills	3,594.53	6,355.34
Friendship	120.00	0.00	Carrs Branch	0.00	162.79	Salem			Waldens Creek			Richland	1,767.31	836.00
Hannah's Gap	166.00	0.00	Clear Branch	0.00	0.00	Auburn	2,047.40	1,766.00	Walmsley	443.05	54.12	Ridgeway	50,221.27	15,970.46
Hickory Hill	1,038.38	538.00	Hickory Valley	470.30	200.00	Burt	1,256.00	331.00	Walnut Grove	1,019.02	650.00	Rose Hill	0.00	0.00
Holts Corner	997.89	498.00	Hubbs Grove	0.00	0.00	Calvary	892.21	1,115.50	Wears Valley	1,779.58	6,126.66	Rosemark	1,953.46	0.00
Hurricane Grove	142.22	275.37	Leatherwood	0.00	0.00	Center Hill	105.00	194.50	Williamsburg	102.00	0.00	Rugby Hills	3,542.12	1,632.85
Immanuel	78.16	0.00	Lily Grove	100.00	0.00	Coopers Chpl	0.00	0.00	Zion Grove	135.44	0.00	S Woods	0.00	0.00
Lakeview	225.00	0.00	Lone Mtn	0.00	250.00	Covenant	200.00	0.00	Zion Hill	1,464.85	800.00	Scenic Hills	1,953.11	0.00
Lewisburg, 1st	8,873.52	6,355.18	Maynardville, 1st	861.80	715.00	Dowelltown	195.42	181.51	TOTAL	86,931.73	78,053.93	Shalom	0.00	0.00
Longview	1,275.90	1,004.00	Milan	1,475.92	0.00	Dry Creek	1,566.00	320.50	Shelby County			Shelby Forest	2,533.32	75.00
Lynchburg, 1st	1,707.34	1,000.00	Nave Hill	0.00	100.00	Elizabeth Chpl	0.00	0.00	1st Chinese	754.00	1,500.00	Sherwood	0.00	174.00
Midland Hgts Msn	287.48	350.00	New Friendship	172.34	582.36	Faith	0.00	0.00	Agape	4,454.93	745.40	Sky View	200.00	0.00
Mt Lebanon	0.00	0.00	Northern Assn	0.00	200.00	Indian Creek Mem	714.00	0.00	Ardmore	8,901.87	4,823.87	Southland	5,589.83	2,662.98
N Fork	2,012.00	1,700.00	Sunnyside	0.00	0.00	Lakewood Msn	544.00	983.50	Ardmore Terrace	0.00	0.00	Speedway Terrace	1,246.45	1,000.00
New Bethel	1,710.00	1,251.00	Taylor's Grove	0.00	0.00	Malones Chpl	0.00	0.00	Audubon Park	17,499.06	17,312.22	Tchulahoma	0.00	0.00
New Hope	429.20	600.00	Union	0.00	0.00	Memorial	90.00	0.00	Balmoral	9,745.68	5,101.21	Temple	0.00	0.00
Normandy, 1st	754.69	236.29	Warwicks Chpl	222.61	30.00	Mt Herman	520.46	351.00	Bartlett	36,709.51	450.57	Trafalgar Village	3,079.52	878.47
Parkview	2,709.08	659.30	Willow Springs	150.00	125.00	Mt Zion	397.00	200.00	Bellevue	110,602.00	54,546.00	Trinity	8,350.51	17,673.16
Rover	1,634.45	561.00	TOTAL	2,423.47	2,365.15	New Home	661.27	3,356.02	Berclair	7,456.36	20,142.50	True Flwshp	55.00	0.00
Shelbyville Mills	13,190.49	14,458.49	Polk County			New Hope	214.37	134.00	Beverly Hills	5,280.13	417.00	Union Ave	21,668.20	23,499.06
Shelbyville, 1st	23,159.18	10,194.46	Antioch	289.00	20.00	Open Bible	150.14	225.00	Big Creek	0.00	0.00	Unity	956.34	0.00
Short Creek	0.00	594.00	Ball Play	0.00	0.00	Plainview	0.00	234.76	Boulevard	0.00	0.00	Vietnamese, Berclair	718.22	1,113.00
Smyrna	2,537.13	2,314.48	Beech Springs	400.73	1,151.50	Pleasant View	530.00	0.00	Briarwood	5,184.01	0.00	W Frayser	0.00	0.00
Southside	3,485.30	2,768.00	Benton Station	735.34	0.00	Prosperity	2,531.58	5,237.33	Brigwood	0.00	0.00	Walnut Grove	1,375.00	5,000.69
Twin Oaks	55.00	100.00	Benton, 1st	6,173.43	2,536.00	Salem	3,848.00	3,722.00	Brinkley Hgts	0.00	0.00	Wells Station	6,792.10	7,000.29
Unionville, 1st	339.47	276.00	Blue Ridge Temple	475.04	179.11	Shiloh	75.00	0.00	Brookmore	62,801.00	35,449.69	Westhaven	0.00	0.00
Wartrace	1,904.65	1,038.00	Boanerges	0.00	30.00	Smithville, 1st	5,473.39	8,615.85	Brookside	874.79	0.00	White Station	2,705.82	1,129.73
WATL	86,497.69	50,233.27	Cedar Springs	766.00	1,355.00	Snow Hill	589.18	481.98	Brunswick	13,561.94	7,224.47	Whitehaven	10,405.06	10,443.13
New River			Chestusee	307.78	181.00	Sycamore	0.00	249.80	Calvary	300.00	0.00	Whitten Mem	2,500.00	334.00
Bethlehem	3,453.62	25.00	Conasauga River	68.93	0.00	Upper Helton	1,321.32	0.00	Cambodian			Woodstock	554.41	460.00
Big Ridge Rd	425.04	410.00	Cookson Creek	0.00	0.00	W Main	2,416.33	3,522.40	Highland Hgts	154.14	0.00	Zoe	0.00	0.00
Calvary	263.55	124.00	Covenant	0.00	0.00	Whorton Springs	845.00	680.00	Charjean	540.00	1,600.00	TOTAL	896,624.51	571,899.49
E Robbins	0.00	0.00	Delano	1,676.49	1,488.89	Wolf Creek	0.00	291.00	Cherokee	9,888.82	0.00	Shiloh		
Elizabeth	263.00	0.00	Fairview	0.00	0.00	Woodbury, 1st	7,042.58	9,882.56	Cherry Rd	22,757.75	15,991.93	Adamsville, 1st	4,657.95	3,516.50
Emmanuel	0.00	0.00	Friendship	0.00	0.00	Woodland	65.00	50.00	Collierville, 1st	22,351.73	24,765.98	Bethel Springs, 1st	2,126.93	481.20
Fairview	0.00	0.00	Friendship	409.17	204.58	TOTAL	34,275.65	42,126.21	Colonial	24,704.35	2,239.95	Butler Chpl	536.00	1,000.00
Glenmary Msnry	0.00	0.00	Greasy Creek	0.00	50.00	Sequatchie Valley			Cordova	6,505.90	2,801.42	Calvary	0.00	54.72
Huntsville, 1st	1,310.09	1,825.00	Hiwassee Union	280.15	668.00	Baptist Hill	703.51	820.00	Cottonwood Hgts	0.00	0.00	Center Hill	1,694.69	333.00
Ivy Grove	0.00	0.00	Mtn Springs	390.00	0.00	Cartwright, 1st	950.20	930.75	Crestview	120.00	0.00	Central	75.00	0.00
Low Gap	219.00	0.00	Mtn View	0.00	0.00	Cold Springs	360.00	600.00	Dellwood	0.00	0.00	Chapel Hill	0.00	100.00
New Haven	3,257.20	3,436.96	Oak Grove	2,947.29	1,493.00	Cornerstone	1,870.18	0.00	E Acres	0.00	1,630.50	Chapel Hill	0.00	0.00
Nicks Creek	0.00	0.00	Ocoee	0.00	0.00	Daus	146.92	0.00	Eads	894.39	1,150.00	Chewalla	1,032.50	147.50
Norma	223.50	10.00	Old Ocoee	44.20	0.00	Dunlap, 1st	0.00	0.00	Egypt	578.57	369.85	Clear Creek	881.01	1,514.00
Oneida, 1st	7,042.00	4,905.67	Pine Ridge	150.00	150.00	E Valley	0.00	0.00	Ellendale	12,006.50	23,580.22	Counce, 1st	6,366.00	3,597.50
River View	0.00	0.00	Pleasant Grove	295.00	0.00	Ebenezer	2,020.27	201.50	Elliston	600.00	25.00	Crump, 1st	1,334.39	500.72
Robbins, 1st	305.22	120.00	Rock Creek	0.00	75.00	Ewington	4,715.55	2,099.98	Emmanuel	2,833.18	3,304.51	Eastview	999.95	677.00
Slick Rock	0.00	0.00	Shady Springs	0.00	0.00	Flat Mtn	404.04	472.00	Eudora	7,058.05	7,265.89	Falcon	0.00	130.50
Smokey Creek	0.00	0.00	Shiloh	780.99	2,000.50	Grace	231.00	0.00	Fairlawn	0.00	0.00	Forty-Forks	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	16,762.22	10,856.63	Smyrna	499.00	885.00	Jasper, 1st	11,090.73	5,246.07	Faith	27,009.46	15,211.12	Friendship	473.67	800.00
New Salem			Springtown	0.00	0.00	Kimball	1,202.00	0.00	Faith Man	0.00	0.00	Good Hope	963.00	650.00
Brush Creek	879.31	632.63	Towe	0.00	0.00	Laager	506.46	159.07	Fellowship	407.63	731.00	Gravel Hill	1,740.73	7,395.00
Carthage Rd	400.00	100.00	Welcome Valley	0.00	0.00	Lee Station	407.34	767.10	First Laotian Msn	0.00	0.00	Hopewell	6,679.00	2,767.83
Carthage, 1st	3,600.00	0.00	Wetmore	1,872.98	1,558.39	Midway	191.02	0.00	Fisherville, 1st	4,500.00	50.00	Lakeview	900.00	2,700.00
Gordonville, 1st	2,547.87	1,671.04	Zion	2,610.00	2,621.83	Mineral Springs	90.00	384.00	Fogest Hill	1,694.03	1,111.00	Lorraine	105.20	0.00
Hickman	2,506.40	2,983.00	TOTAL	21,171.52	16,647.80	Mt Calvary	629.40	293.00	Frayser	1,730.86	1,123.15	Morris, 1st	501.00	469.84
Lancaster	0.00	0.00	Riverside			Palmer, 1st	121.75	0.00	Germantown Hills	7,346.32	10,999.17	Milledgeville	168.68	0.00
N Shore	1,069.12	4,448.49	Aliardt, 1st	478.99	498.00	Pikeville 1st Strm	5,043.87	3,748.25	Germantown	52,049.07	57,226.14	Morris Chpl	645.00	134.40
New Middleton	2,298.65	826.40	Allons	1,263.63	249.99	Pioneer Com	1,652.65	429.36	Germantown Korean	0.00	0.00	Mt Gilead	2,525.00	1,161.94
Peyton Creek	388.00	998.00	Byrdstown, 1st	2,025.41	3,196.63	Richard City, 1st	350.61	582.61	Grace Thru Faith	420.06	500.00	Mt Hermon	3,345.18	296.00
Riddleton	162.57	57.00	Celina, 1st	565.37	100.00	S Pittsburg, 1st	3,989.93	3,493.00	Graham Hgts	1,554.45	0.00	Mt Zion	817.42	749.10
Rome	894.80	400.00												

Church	CP	Designated	Church	CP	Designated	Church	CP	Designated	Church	CP	Designated	Church	CP	Designated
Algod, Ist	237.00	755.00	New Bethany	678.25	603.58	Hunter, Ist	5,000.00	1,164.11	Donaldson Grove	909.54	330.50	Morristown Thrc	0.00	0.00
Bangham Hgts	2,496.14	883.15	New Macedonia	0.00	7,412.04	Immanuel	3,474.08	905.40	Elora, Ist	426.05	1,062.90	Mt Zion	0.00	0.00
Baxter, Ist	51.00	134.05	New Providence	996.00	754.00	Little Doe	2,035.36	2,661.50	Fayetteville, Ist	17,454.81	229.99	Mt. Moriah	600.00	854.00
Bear Creek	300.00	838.64	Notchey Creek	900.00	1,655.07	Little Milligan	783.49	597.01	Flintville, Ist	3,502.00	7,815.00	N Woods	0.00	0.00
Brotherton	2,509.12	500.00	Oak Grove	614.04	0.00	Little Mtn	564.37	83.00	Friendship Strhn	0.00	0.00	New Comm	0.00	0.00
Cane Creek	95.50	0.00	Oakland	115.00	100.00	Lynn Valley	2,252.34	957.59	Hickory Grove	283.97	1,323.00	New Hope	200.00	100.00
Caney Fork	1,978.02	2,294.75	Old Sweetwater	0.00	412.60	Meadow View	0.00	1,834.70	Hildale	32.60	69.00	New Life Msn	143.05	0.00
Cedar Hill	1,005.00	1,600.00	Piney Grove	0.00	0.00	Mtn City, Ist	5,978.89	6,981.45	Howell Hill	0.78	0.00	New Pleasant Gap	0.00	0.00
Central Emmanuel	450.00	1,601.00	Poplar Bluff	0.00	2,973.04	N Side	84.00	50.00	Howell, Ist	395.76	275.00	New River	0.00	471.42
Colonial View Chpl	881.00	352.77	Reed Springs	789.86	0.00	Nelson Chpl	1,180.88	903.01	Kelly's Creek	0.00	0.00	New Vision	0.00	0.00
Cookeville, Ist	41,745.18	55,336.62	Rocky Springs	375.00	2,141.00	Oak St.	5,477.52	5,953.50	Kirkland	724.39	1,650.00	New Vision Flwshp	0.00	500.00
Crossroad	0.00	0.00	Rural Vale	495.74	0.00	Pine Grove	500.00	2,147.00	Lexie Cross Rds	393.00	300.00	New Vision Flwshp	0.00	0.00
Cummins Mill	363.00	0.00	S Madisonville	2,930.17	1,360.00	Pleasant Grove	3,024.29	1,441.06	Lincoln	1,813.09	1,191.06	Oak Grove	0.00	0.00
Dillard's Creek	0.00	0.00	Shady Grove	0.00	0.00	Pleasant Home	0.00	0.00	Macedonia	0.00	0.00	Old Park	0.00	0.00
Dodson Branch	626.00	0.00	Sheltons Grove	0.00	0.00	Poplar Home	1,005.91	550.00	Macanatha	325.00	755.00	Old Path	0.00	38.55
Double Springs	265.26	377.38	Shoal Creek	0.00	0.00	Powder Branch	171.51	550.00	McBrien, Ist	150.00	0.00	Pinnacle Hill	0.00	0.00
Eastwood	1,174.58	577.00	Sweetwater, Ist	14,621.45	12,350.20	Ritterdorf	2,384.03	1,568.08	Molius	0.00	0.00	Pleasant Grove	0.00	0.00
Gainesboro, Ist	531.16	117.00	Tellico	178.23	526.92	Riverview	658.78	0.00	Mulberry, Ist	385.78	0.00	Pleasant Grove	0.00	0.00
Hampton's			Tellico Plains Ist	1,655.00	0.00	Roan Creek	609.00	950.00	New Grove	765.46	3,070.84	Plunketts Creek	0.00	0.00
Crossroads	3,022.03	1,792.34	Teva Springs	123.75	1,430.00	Roan Mtn Ist	2,584.00	713.00	New Hope	0.00	0.00	Prescott Mem	0.00	0.00
Johnson	79.00	0.00	Toewe Falls	0.00	0.00	Roan Park	672.00	2,021.00	Oak Grove	270.00	1,003.82	Riverwood	107.62	0.00
Midway	325.00	1,317.00	Trinity	0.00	0.00	Rock Springs	0.00	0.00	Oak Hill	1,013.00	950.00	Rutledge	0.00	1,260.00
Mill Creek	150.00	500.00	Union	82.98	0.00	Shady Valley	14.63	250.00	Park City	2,886.99	1,969.63	Shady Grove	0.00	0.00
Monterey, Ist	6,876.38	768.50	Union Grove	0.00	0.00	Siam	7,109.42	4,070.23	Petersburg, Ist	300.53	275.00	Spring Hill (P)	0.00	0.00
Nash Grove	1,096.00	967.00	Union Hall	0.00	0.00	Sink Valley	0.00	0.00	Pleasant Hill	60.00	755.00	St Johns	0.00	0.00
New Home	1,404.00	1,253.03	Upper Shady Grove	0.00	0.00	Sinking Creek	1,820.01	3,695.00	Pleasant Hill	0.00	2,296.33	St. John's	0.00	0.00
New Macedonia	0.00	0.00	Victory	0.00	0.00	State Line	1,572.33	636.00	Pleasant Ridge	252.03	258.01	Stona Brook Comm	0.00	0.00
Poplar Grove	2,325.90	533.00	Vonore	0.00	0.00	Stoney Creek	1,498.00	510.00	Prospect	3,874.15	525.00	Trinity	0.00	0.00
Poplar Springs	433.21	0.00	Watson Chpl	448.00	1,046.62	Sugar Grove	0.00	0.00	Stewarts Chpl	983.05	1,608.65	Valley Grove	0.00	0.00
Rocky Point	464.39	0.00	Westside	0.00	0.00	Unaka	3,020.00	905.00	Taft, Ist	200.00	0.00	Valley View	0.00	0.00
Sand Springs	646.43	940.00	Williamsburg	0.00	100.00	Union	3,489.39	414.00	W End	4,789.00	1,510.00	Victory	286.32	200.00
Scott Ave	0.00	0.00	TOTAL	49,689.57	58,365.51	Walnut Grove	0.00	500.00	TOTAL	47,328.93	32,802.36	Wagon	0.00	0.00
Silver Point	843.00	170.00	Tennessee Valley			Watson, Ist	129.60	500.00	Wilson County			Wayne Co Bible	0.00	0.00
Stevens St	12,876.72	7,559.91	Bethel	890.78	400.00	Willow Springs	643.90	567.83	Alexandria, Ist	3,629.11	1,576.54	Center	250.00	155.00
Trinity	150.00	0.00	Central	1,640.65	2,205.39	Zion	1,831.18	600.00	Bartons Creek	4,843.21	3,796.20	Westside Manry	0.00	0.00
University Hgts	0.00	0.00	Central	64.95	371.00	TOTAL	111,917.48	83,171.75	Big Springs	59.52	0.00	TOTAL	7,208.57	15,775.93
Verble	0.00	300.00	Cranmore Cove	74.94	264.00	Weakly County			Calvary	592.52	152.00	TN Baptist Foundation		
W View	1,820.00	0.00	Dayton, Ist	12,918.60	2,809.74	ADAMS Chpl	1,333.67	583.96	Cedar Creek	1,048.75	1,343.00	Foundation	0.00	14,000.61
Washington Ave	8,976.65	2,274.00	Garrison	2,418.70	0.00	Beech Springs	294.38	619.75	Cedar Grove	1,277.84	570.00	TOTAL	0.00	14,000.61
Wilhitte	225.00	1,581.12	Grandview	1,810.50	915.00	Bethel	14,974.55	35,745.00	Chandler	0.00	0.00	Individuals		
Woodchiff	201.92	387.00	Graysville, Ist	349.00	100.00	Bethlehem	120.00	505.20	Fairview	6,446.42	6,268.96	Individuals	2,930.52	25,074.00
TOTAL	96,623.59	85,810.26	High Point	333.84	0.00	Bible Union	120.00	505.20	Fall Creek	5,160.65	3,114.47	TOTAL	2,930.52	25,074.00
			Lake Dr	0.00	0.00	Calvary	60.00	0.00	Fellowship	437.67	11.00	Other Income		
			Mt Vernon	243.00	0.00	Central	9,359.29	2,989.00	Gladeville	9,152.38	2,495.05	Advertisement	0.00	18,846.24
			Bays Mtn	796.80	1,773.59	Corinth	707.00	1,270.00	Greenville	0.00	0.00	Annuit Board Support	0.00	8,499.99
			Blessed Hope	0.00	0.00	Davis Mem	159.08	0.00	Hillcrest	1,779.48	8,703.58	Austin Peay BSU	0.00	3,200.00
			Bloomingdale	2,475.00	7,779.00	Dresden, Ist	6,176.30	5,502.95	Hobson Pike	1,749.65	0.00	BSSB Support	0.00	31,399.00
			Calvary	9,820.78	1,346.00	Eastside	124.86	375.00	Immanuel	29,388.10	21,553.34	Belmont BSU	0.00	0.00
			Cedar Heights	0.00	0.00	Fellowship	133.04	165.00	La Guardo	3,428.95	0.00	Camp Fees	0.00	54,865.32
			Colonial Hgts	35,010.45	28,471.35	Feartins Chpl	536.00	221.00	Lebanon, Ist	32,173.54	9,913.00	Carson-Newman BSU	0.00	0.00
			Dorothy St Msn	0.00	0.00	Gleason, Ist	2,868.34	3,700.00	Macedonia	399.67	1,000.00	Chattanooga State	0.00	0.00
			Fall Creek	783.38	100.00	Greenfield, Ist	3,203.67	0.00	Mt Juliet, Ist	35,748.44	31,402.17	CC BSU	0.00	0.00
			Ft Robinson	6,708.49	5,236.81	Hodges Chpl	0.00	310.00	Mt Olivet	1,755.94	11,859.60	Clarksville #126	0.00	0.00
			Glennwood	4,746.02	1,124.66	Jolley Springs	567.88	661.86	New Vision Msn	718.43	268.35	Rainbow for	0.00	0.00
			Gravelly	3,280.28	1,695.00	Liberty	489.95	630.00	Ramah	357.00	0.00	Cleveland SCC BSU	0.00	0.00
			Greenville	270.00	663.75	Long Hgts	420.00	0.00	Rocky Valley	807.50	627.04	Columbia State	0.00	0.00
			Higher Grnd	16,985.52	24,890.28	Mack	800.00	1,376.00	Round Lick	3,501.00	1,256.00	Comm. College	0.00	0.00
			Indian Springs	25,658.82	14,690.07	Main St	147.17	0.00	Saulsbury	956.40	310.98	Conference Fees	0.00	27,299.71
			Kingsport, Ist	53,174.10	43,952.23	Moore's Chpl	120.00	585.43	Spr Springs	999.66	1,911.00	Cumberland Univ	0.00	0.00
			Litz Manor	4,850.99	2,187.05	New Hope	1,286.35	25.00	Silver Springs	3,844.58	2,891.84	Directors of	0.00	0.00
			Lynn Garden	3,592.07	3,328.91	New Prospect	297.64	25.00	Smith Fork	624.44	1,285.74	Missions Assn	25.00	0.00
			Mill Creek	0.00	0.00	North Salem	552.21	100.00	Southside	1,390.57	0.00	Dyersburg SCC BSU	0.00	300.00
			Orebank	3,971.66	2,679.10	Oak Grove #1	375.00	3,658.99	Trinity	0.00	0.00	ETSU, BSU	0.00	0.00
			Reservoir Rd	554.17	600.00	Old Bethel	437.24	436.50	Village	350.00	1,477.00	Estate of Pauline	0.00	0.00
			Shiloh	0.00	0.00	Palmerston	1,003.75	255.00	Vine	255.71	579.41	B Scott	0.00	0.00
			Springdale	1,000.21	279.00	Pleasant Grove	650.00	1,202.18	Watertown, Ist	2,153.00	0.00	Hwassee College, BSU	0.00	0.00
			Sullivan	9,301.09	3,262.66	Pleasant View	0.00	0.00	Webb's Chpl	269.82	207.00	Income Other	0.00	2,703.10
			Sunnysville	631.00	628.00	Public Wells	0.00	1,362.77	TOTAL	156,148.88	115,297.37	Interest Income	0.00	16,392.16
			Summerside	3,774.56	16,714.12	Ralston	0.00	358.00	Additional Churches			Jackson SCC, BSU	0.00	1,600.00
			Tri Cities	27,776.64	150.00	Ruthville	25.00	66.00	1st Flwshp	150.00	0.00	Lincoln Mem BSU	0.00	0.00
			Tri Cities Korean Msn	0.00	0.00	Sand Hill	242.88	0.00	Agape Flwshp	0.00	0.00	MTSU, BSU	0.00	0.00
			Vernon Hgts	0.00	276.00	Sharon, Ist	1,812.00	2,750.20	Antioch	0.00	0.00	Maryville College BSU	0.00	0.00
			W Colonial Hills	0.00	0.00	Sidonia	225.00	648.85	Bear Creek	0.00	0.00	Material Sales	0.00	1,086.04
			W View	800.00	2,649.99	Southside	6,377.01	5,299.04	Bellevue Comm	0.00	0.00	Motlow SCC, BSU	0.00	1,500.00
			Walkers Fork	75.00	0.00	Thompson Creek	250.00	568.00	Belvue Christian	50.00	50.00	NAMB	0.00	8,000.00
			TOTAL	216,037.03	164,477.57	Tumbling Creek	1,418.46	2,727.13	Berean	0.00	595.00	Pellissippi State BSU	0.00	0.00
			Sweetwater			Union Grove	327.22	135.00	Big Springs	0.00	300.00	Rhodes BSU	0.00	0.00
			Altoona	0.00	0.00	W Union	150.00	700.00	Boswell Chlp	0.00	0.00	Roane State, BSU	0.00	400.00

Summer ministry teams available to assist TBC churches

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — Is your church looking for help with Vacation Bible School?

Want to give your children's and youth ministry a special "oomph" this summer?

Looking for a talented, creative, committed group of students to lead in a worship experience or retreat?

If so, then consider inviting one of two Tennessee Baptist Summer Mis-

sion Traveling team to your church.

eXalt and Proclaim are two teams of five college students who have committed their summer to doing ministry in TBC churches and associations. These students are trained and available for assisting in Vacation Bible Schools, children's ministry, youth ministry, youth revivals, and worship experiences.

The students have been selected for ministry by the Baptist Student Union Summer Missions Selection Commit-

tee. They will serve in Tennessee for 10 weeks this summer.

A church or association interested in one of the teams should apply for a specific week or weekend. If calendar and schedule allow, the church will be notified by April 9 if a team is available.

The only financial responsibility a church or association has is to provide adequate lodging and all meals while the team is with you. Love offerings used to offset some travel expenses are optional.

All other expenses are provided by gifts to the Cooperative Program, Golden State Missions Offering, and through funds raised for summer missions by state Baptist Student Unions.

Applications for teams can be obtained from local directors of missions or Bruce Edwards, youth ministry specialist, Christian Growth Development Group, TBC Executive Board.

For information, call Edwards at 1 (800) 558-2090 or (615) 371-7906.

Application deadline is April 1. ■

Doctrine study examines 'Thine Is The Kingdom'

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — "Thine Is The Kingdom" is the doctrine study for 1998.

The study focuses on key biblical aspects of the kingdom of God and the hope it brings to all believers. The study will help leaders and members see the church as a kingdom agency at work striving to fulfill the Great Commission.

Participants will receive training to lead adults in this comprehensive study which will help them to be more Christ-like, filled with the joy and peace of the Holy Spirit,

and be inspired to join God in his redemptive work of bringing others into the kingdom of God.

The conference is designed for pastors, staff, and others who are interested in teaching adults in this study.

The conference will be offered from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at three locations across the state:

March 16 — Camp Carson, Newport

March 17 — Baptist Center, Brentwood

March 18 — Camp Linden, Linden

The study will be led by Jer-

ry Chapman, Discipleship coordinator, Christian Growth Development Group, TBC Executive Board, and David Carter of the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Registration fee is \$25 and includes member's book, leader's guide, and lunch.

Mail fee to Jerry Chapman, Executive Board, Tennessee Baptist Convention, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, Tenn., 37024, with name, address, church name, and phone number by March 1. For more information, call 1 (800) 558-2090, ext. 7932. ■

Wilkes to teach leadership course

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — Gene Wilkes, author of *Jesus on Leadership*, will lead a conference on that topic in March at two locations across the state.

The conference will be held March 24 at Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, and March 25 at Union University, Jackson. The times for each conference is 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

The conference is for pastors, staff, and other key church leaders who want to know how to lead their church in developing more trained leaders.

The number one need in most churches today is trained leaders, says Jerry Chapman, Discipleship coordinator for the Christian Growth Development Group of the Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board.

"This conference will help leaders know how to train potential, experienced, and new leaders to be a vital part of the church's ministry team.

"The material is appropriate for any size church and is flexible enough to enable any leader to benefit," Chapman notes.

Cost of the conference is \$25 and includes a workbook and lunch. Registration fee, name, address, church name, and phone number should be mailed to Jerry Chapman, Executive Board, Tennessee Bap-

tist Convention, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, Tenn., 37024.

Call Chapman at 1 (800) 558-2090, ext. 7932, for more information. ■

The Pastor Search Committee of South County Baptist Church is accepting resumes for a full-time pastor. SCBC supports a broad range of mission projects and a Filipino congregation. Send resumes c/o Pastor Search Committee, 5115 Butler Road, St. Louis, MO 63128.

Classified

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.

FOR SALE: Choir robes, parchment with blue stoles, in good condition. Call FBC, Murfreesboro, at (615) 893-2514 for details.

POSITION OPEN: Poplar Corner Church, about 4-5 miles from Jackson, is seeking a pastor. Send resume to Search Committee, Poplar Corner Baptist Church, Highway 412 West, Bells, TN 38006.

FULL-TIME POSITION: Full financial responsibilities. Computer skills required. Send resume to Chairperson, Personnel Committee, Haywood Hills Baptist Church, 255 Haywood Lane, Nashville, TN 37211.

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Lead Pastor

Northbrook Church, est. in 1993, 250 regular attenders, a dynamic, growing, biblical, contemporary, seeker-oriented, Southern Baptist congregation seeks a full-time Lead Pastor. We seek a person who meets biblical leadership standards, is spiritually mature, an effective communicator, a team player, an effective administrator with a heart for serving a seeker-oriented church. Duties include preaching, teaching, providing leadership to church ministries, administering church office and programs, and pastoral care. Theological training required, master's degree preferred. Evangelical required. Southern Baptist strongly preferred.

Contact: Dr. David Gushee, Pastor Search Team, Northbrook Church, 421 Hwy 45W, Humboldt, TN 38343. Fax: (901) 824-1867. E-mail: northbc@usit.net
Deadline: April 15 or until filled.

Building/finance conference set

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — A Church Building/Finance Conference will be held March 19 at First Church, Dandridge from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m.

The conference is designed to provide information, training, and resources for churches that will enable them to better plan to minister in their community utilizing their facilities.

Featured topics include master planning, steps in a building program, designing space, financing building programs, and more.

Conference leaders include Jerry Grubbs, Baptist Sunday School Board, Bo Childs, Tennessee Baptist Foundation, and Archer Thorpe, TBC Executive Board.

The cost of the conference is \$10 and includes lunch.

For more information, call Thorpe at (615) 371-2017. ■

WHITEWATER RAFTING
At Great Smokies Rafting Company, we do both guide assisted as well as fully guided raft trips on the Nantahala River near the Great Smoky Mountain National Park. We are an employee owned company specializing in personal customer service. Call 800/581-4772

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Walnut-stained solid wood pews in great condition with pew pads. (16) 18' and (32) 11', 450-500 capacity. Contact Brent Lay or Doug Godfrey, Englewood Church, Jackson, (901) 668-1094.

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Youth, Seniors, & Musical Groups; groups of up to 50. 307 1st Ave. Call (803) 626-7069; leave message.

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Missions Get-Together
"Oh, the Places You Could Go"
March 13-15
Gatlinburg Convention Center

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



Jeff Fray
Bible Study Leader



Jeri Edmonds
Musician

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

associations

■ **Cumberland Gap Association** will hold its annual evangelism conference on March 3 at 7 p.m. at First Church, New Tazewell. Theme of the conference is "Magnify Jesus '98." Ken Weathersby, evangelism specialist for the Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board ministries, will speak. Special choral music will be presented by the choir of First Church, New Tazewell. Cecil Fultz, retired pastor of Tazewell Church, Tazewell, will give a personal testimony.

■ **Bledsoe Association** will host a "Getting Ready for Jesus" crusade Feb. 26-27 at First Church, Portland. Gray Allison, chancellor of Mid-America Baptist Seminary, Memphis, will speak. Music evangelists Tim and Amy Wuester will bring special music.

■ **Gibson County Association** will hold its evangelism conference March 2 at First Church, Milam. Guest speaker will be Bob Pitman of Memphis. The conference begins with pre-session music at 6:30 p.m. A ministers meeting will begin at 4:30 p.m.

■ **Nashville Association** will hold a single adults dinner March 7 at 7 p.m. at Tulip Grove Church, Old Hickory. Entertainment will be provided by Steve Bargatze, magician, comedian, evangelist,

and Rick Thompson, Christian vocalist. Tickets are \$8 per person in advance and \$10 at the door. Call (615) 259-3034 for more information.

■ **Conflict Management and Peacemaking Training** was held Feb. 24 at 6 p.m. at Parrans Chapel Church, Bolivar. The sessions were conducted by Ivy Scarborough, a Jackson attorney, and Norris Smith of the Baptist Sunday School Board. The meeting was sponsored by **Hardeman County Association**.

churches

■ **William Lane Craig**, author of *Reasonable Faith*, will speak on the reliability of the Christian faith at **Calvary Church, Knoxville**, on March 8, 10, and 11, at 7 p.m. each night. On March 9 Craig will debate Massimo Pagliucci, professor of botany and evolutionary biology at the University of Tennessee at 7:30 p.m. in the UT Alumni Gym.

■ **Westwood Church, Murfreesboro**, will hold revival March 1-4 at 7 p.m. each night. Leon Kilbreth of Herrin, Ill., will be guest evangelist. Child care will be provided.

■ The youth of **Forest Hills Church, Nashville**, will sponsor a kid bargains consignment sale on Saturday, Feb. 28, from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. in the church's Family Life Center on the corner of Old Hickory Boulevard and

Hillsboro Road. For information, call Melissa Wooten at (615) 591-0566.

■ **Jeff Floyd of Jubilee Ministries** will lead revival March 1-4 at **First Church, Donelson**. He will preach at all services on March 1. Services begin at 7 p.m. on March 2-4.

■ **Kimball Church, Kimball**, will celebrate its 50th anniversary this year. It began in 1948 as a mission of First Church, South Pittsburg.

■ A Ladies Prayer Renewal will be held Feb. 27-28 at **First Church, Union City**. Guest speaker is Donna Avant of Fayetteville, Ga.

■ **Bethlehem Church, Oneida**, has 64 copies of the 1975 edition of the Broadman Hymnal to give away free of charge to a church or mission. For information, call Tommy Youmans, minister of music, at (423) 569-4518.

death

■ **Thomas Wells, 85**, died Jan. 30 in Andrews, N.C. He was a native of Pulaski and served as pastor of several Tennessee churches including Park Avenue Church, Nashville; Everitt Hills Church, Maryville; Mt. Lebanon Church, Maryville; and New Hopewell Church, Nashville. He also served on the staff of Dickerson Road Church, Nashville. He is survived by his wife, Lillie Wells, a daughter, Kathy Mintz, and two grandchildren.

leaders

■ **David Smith** has been called as minister of music at Lyle Lane Church, Nashville.

■ **Pine Eden Church, Crossville**, has called **Michael A. Brown** as senior pastor. He comes from First Southern Church, Pikeville.

■ **Richard Lee**, pastor of Greater Hope Church, Jackson, since 1994, has been named black church extension director for the Illinois Baptist State Association.

■ **North Knoxville Church** honored **David Walker** and his wife, **Maxine**, on their 50 years in the Gospel ministry on Feb. 22. Walker had been serving as interim pastor of the church.

■ **Midland Association** recently welcomed two new pastors: **Richie Turner** at New Liberty Church and **Mike Keck** at Mt. Zion Church.

■ **Mt. Hermon Church, Murfreesboro**, has called **Frankie Bowling** as minister of education and youth.

■ **McPheeters Bend Church, Church Hill**, has called **Mark Roberts** as pastor. He formerly was pastor of Tazewell Church, Tazewell. He is a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky. He was honored as a Tennessee "Small Church Pastor of the Year" in 1994. He and his wife, Carla, have one son.

■ **Joe Gibson** has resigned as pastor of Cool Branch Church in Hancock County.

■ **Carla Kidd** has been called as minister to children at Central Church, Johnson City.

■ **Bob Pearce**, pastor of Springhill Church, Goodlettsville, recently was honored for 25 years of continuous service at the church.

■ **Daniel Moore** was recently called as minister of music at Flewellyn Church, Springfield.

■ **Denny Dawson** recently celebrated his 10th anniversary as minister of music at First Church, Franklin.

■ **Sam Sanders** celebrated his 10th anniversary as minister of recreation at First Church, Nashville.

■ **Southside Church, Johnson City**, recently elected **Darrell Slagle Jr.** as director of church ministries.

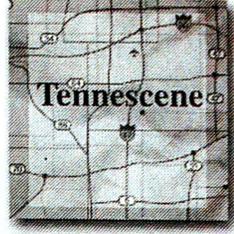
■ **Ron Hicks** is interim pastor of First Church, Baileyton.

people

■ **Nash Grove Church, Baxter**, ordained **Nelson Lafever** and **Chris Simmons** as deacons on Feb. 1.

■ **Brad Swope** of Baptist Hospital Sports Medicine, has been named Clinical Athletic Trainer of the Year by the Tennessee Athletic Trainers Society.

■ **Donald Exum** and



W.L. Shipman to retire as DOM in Polk County

For Baptist and Reflector

BENTON — W.L. Shipman will retire as director of missions in Polk County Association March 31.

He became director of missions in Polk County in 1966. He left there in 1970 to do pioneer missions in Michigan until 1973. He returned to Polk County at that time as DOM.



SHIPMAN

Shipman has had 40 years of active ministry including 32 years as a director of missions in the state, 29 of those in Polk County Association.

Polk County Association WMU will host a reception for Shipman on March 1 at Oak Grove Church, Benton, at 2 p.m. ■

Brent Hill were ordained Jan. 25 as deacons at New Prospect Church, Lawrenceburg.

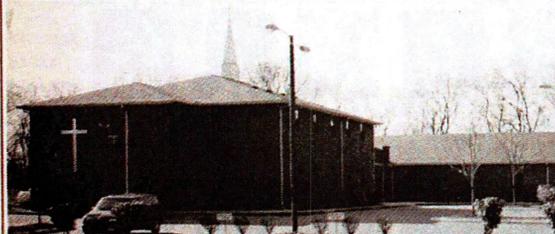
■ **Mt. Zion Church** in Shiloh Association ordained **Larry Smith** as a deacon Jan. 18.

■ **Don Lance, Keith Bathgate, and Fred Howell** have been ordained as deacons at Southeast Church, Murfreesboro.

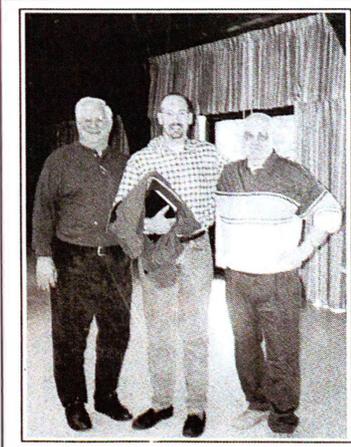
■ **Little Flat Creek Church, Corryton**, ordained **Terry Clowers** as a deacon on Feb. 15.



EDGEFIELD CHURCH, Nashville, recognized the commitments students made to True Love Waits with a special commitment service on Feb. 4. The church had 14 commitments this year, the most ever recorded during the four years the church has given students the opportunity to make the True Love Waits Pledge.

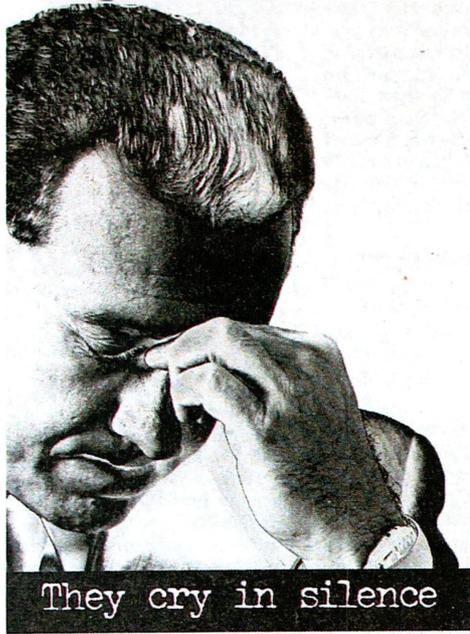


CENTRAL CHURCH, Hendersonville, will dedicate its new educational and fellowship building on Sunday, March 1. A covered dish meal will follow the service.



WOODBINE CHURCH, Nashville, held a harvest retreat Jan. 31 at Cedars of Lebanon State Park. The retreat was held to present a strategy for reaching people for Christ, cultivating relationships, discipleship techniques, and training. Eighty-two people attended. Among them were, from left, **Don Whalley**, minister of missions; **Barry Sneed**, pastor; and **David Graham**, chairman of deacons.

6000 Southern Baptist ministers walk away from their ministries each year.



They cry in silence

for wounded heroes

1800 Southern Baptist ministers were fired last year...

A minister drops out. His family suffers. A congregation is in disarray. The community is shocked. A generation of young people is lost because their role model crashed and burned. It happens 500 times a month among Southern Baptist pastors alone. It impacts more than 31,200 family members, thousands of church members and hundreds of thousands in their communities.

The saying is true, "The Christian army is the only army that shoots and buries its wounded." It's not that we commit the sin of avoidance, like the priest and the Levite who avoided the fallen Samaritan in their path. We pursue them, stigmatize them, ostracize them and ultimately destroy them.

There is a better way.

FREDDIE GAGE RETREATS

— The first ministry of its kind in the 152-year history of the SBC —

A Christian psychotherapy program designed to meet the needs of pastors, missionaries, church staff, denominational workers, evangelists, their wives and families, in cooperation with the National Southern Baptist Convention and all 38 Baptist State Conventions throughout the nation. A follow-through program will provide a Southern Baptist pastor as an **encourager-accountability partner** who will become your mentor for a full year. Call RAPHA toll-free **1-800-257-2742** for registration or additional information. **Your call will be confidential.**

UPCOMING RETREATS: APRIL 6-10, 1998 — Brasstown Valley Resort, Young Harris, GA
MAY 4-8, 1998 — Arnold Palmer's Bay Hill Country Club, Orlando, FL



A PERSONAL WORD FROM FREDDIE: "The majority of Southern Baptist ministers do not offer grace, compassion and restoration to their fellow ministers. When a pastor stumbles, we purchase him a coffin and bury him. Is this the Baptist way? If so, we need to ask God's forgiveness and make a change in our treatment of these wounded heroes. We need your help to erase the stinging stigma attached to burned out, beat down, stressed out and depressed preachers, missionaries and their families. Walking through the valley of depression I felt ostracism and was wounded by friendly fire. Take comfort, afflicted Christian! When God is about to make preeminent use of a person, He puts him in the fire. — There can be no harvest when the harvester is wounded. We must bring healing to our ministers. By the grace of God, **WOUNDED HEROES** will not forsake you and will become the pastor's pastor. — **WOUNDED HEROES** needs your help. Become a **WOUNDED HEROES** Samaritan by sponsoring a minister and his wife or a missionary and his wife for a **WOUNDED HEROES** RETREAT.

WOUNDED HEROES, INC. P.O. Box 156 Euless, TX 76039 FAX 817-545-2731

AUDITING FOR WOUNDED HEROES, INC. PROVIDED BY SOUTHWESTERN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

What a joy it is to recommend "Wounded Heroes." What a phenomenal job in awakening the conscience of all of us to the plight of fellow ministers who are suffering and hurting in their ministry. God bless Wounded Heroes. Thank God for the privilege of sharing in this wonderful ministry.

What Southern Baptist Leaders are saying about

Wounded Heroes

"So many ministers are just trying to survive. Consider how much of the Cooperative program dollar goes to educate ministers. What are we doing to sustain them in the field? We've got to get the ministers healthy in order to go on with the mission. It's time for Southern Baptists to begin to help these wounded heroes who are fighting on the battleground with all of us. We don't need to lose any more of our good men on the battlefield. Our church has provided full scholarships for Wounded Heroes, and I encourage you to do the same."

— Mark Brister, Broadmoor Baptist Church, Shreveport, LA

"These incredible retreats and the after-care program enable us to fulfill our covenant with one another. It is time for those of us who are strong to make a covenant with our fellow ministers who are weak. We must not leave our fellow ministers wounded in the battlefield. I plan to use my finances and my time to join Freddie in touching these lives and making a difference."

— Jay Strack, Jay Strack Association, Orlando, FL

"I am anxious for this concept to be put in place because of the tremendous number of hurting ministers we have across the country."

— James Merritt, Pastor, FBC Snellville, GA

"It seems that over the years preachers, even though they spend most of their time helping hurting people, find it extremely difficult to find help when they begin to hurt. Not only does the Christian army shoot its wounded but it leaves them bleeding to death in the fields. I trust that the Lord Jesus will greatly challenge and bless in your life as you have the opportunity to pray and support such a vital ministry."

— Johnny Hunt, Chairman, Wounded Heroes, Inc.

"When I went to the bottom in the early 80's, I felt like I was the loneliest man on earth. I had nowhere to turn and no place to go for help. However, I do not want to waste my hurts... my passion is to find a way to help hurting pastors. We can't build healthy churches with unhealthy pastors. I am joining Freddie Gage with "Wounded Heroes" and not just to speak but to sponsor a couple and to get involved and learn how I can make a difference. We are too big and too blessed not to be a blessing to our wounded heroes."

— Fred Lowery, Co-Chairman, Wounded Heroes, Inc.

— Jimmy Draper, President, Sunday School Board

Now there is help for wounded heroes... **FREDDIE GAGE RETREATS**

FEATURED SPEAKERS WHO HAVE OVERCOME ADVERSITY...



Johnny & Janet Hunt
First Baptist
Woodstock, GA



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NorthStar Church
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President, Southwestern
Baptist Seminary
Ft. Worth, TX



Jim Henry
First Baptist
Orlando, FL



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Board
Alabama, GA



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Jay Strack Association
Orlando, FL



John & Diana Yorbraugh
North American
Mission Board



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Newton, GA



Len & Pansy Turner
Len Turner Ministries
Woodstock, GA



Jerry L. Spencer
Edgecrest Baptist Church
Dothan, AL



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Georgia Baptist Convention



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Florida Baptist Convention



David McKinley
First Baptist
Merritt Island, FL

ALL SPEAKERS ARE DONATING TIME AND EXPENSES TO SAVE THE MINISTER FOR THE MINISTRY

A new direction

Focal Passage — Luke 1: 26-38; 46-49

The Bible studies for the third quarter, March — May, are centered around the themes of Changed Lives, Deciding Right from Wrong, and The Biblical Concept of Family.

The March 1 — April 12 lessons deal with the Changed Lives theme. These lessons are based on passages from Luke's Gospel. The lessons examine seven encounters with Jesus in which people's lives were changed dramatically and forever.

Featured are the Biblical personalities of Mary, Jesus' mother; the disciples; the sinful woman in Luke 7; the cleansed leper; Zacchaeus; the two thieves; and the disciples who traveled on the Emmaus road.

Today, just as in the times of early Christianity, many people feel dissatisfied with their lives — and many want to change their lives for something better. How do they do this?

Can a person trapped in sinful nature really change their lifestyle? What will bring the satisfaction these people seek? People need the power of God in order to gain a lasting change in life.

The lesson's Bible truth — *Those willing to serve God sometimes find that his purpose for their lives takes them in new and unexpected directions.*

When I was in my last years of high school, I heard a strong call from God. He was asking me to let him lead my life. After spending time in studying about it, and trying to delay it, his call became incessant and clear.

I was convinced that he wanted me to be involved full-time as a Christian. I translated that call into the feeling that I was to be a pastor. After talking with friends and my pastor I expressed that feeling to my church family.

In college during those early Korean conflict days, I observed young men who came to study to be pastors because they didn't want to be called into military service in Korea. At the same time, God specifically called me and led me into full-time work as a Christian journalist.

I didn't escape military service, but I became the beneficiary of God's controlling love. He nurtured me through valleys and put me on the road to which he called me. He changed my life.

Sudden interruption: vv. 26-28 — Gabriel was a heavenly messenger who explained to Mary some changes that would happen in her life. God had chosen her to be physically the mother of the Messiah. She was espoused to Joseph, but Christ would be the Son of God. God interrupted the simple life of a simple maiden to make the most astounding announcement in history.

We should live expectantly, open to God's purpose in our lives.

Surprise message: vv. 29-33 — Many Bible students believe that Gabriel's declaration meant that David's throne would never end spiritually, and would include Jewish and Gentile Christians.

Sufficient power: vv. 34-37 — Mary was overwhelmed by the unusual news; she believed the angel. The Holy Spirit would overshadow her.

Submissive response: v. 38 — Though Mary did not understand, she obeyed, willingly taking a giant step in faith.

Spontaneous joy: vv. 46-49 — Mary hastened to the home of Zechariah and Elizabeth to tell about the angel's visit, but she learned more good news. She expresses spontaneous joy, as a person who has decided to follow God and be blessed.

God surprises us by leading in new and unexpected directions when we say, "Yes!" — Michael Rogers, director of missions, Bradley County Association, begins writing this series next week. This lesson was written by the editor.

Beginning of Jesus' ministry

By Billy Murphy

Focal Passage — Mark 1:1, 4, 7-20

Mark's Gospel could have been written as early as 56 AD, is the shortest of the four Gospels, and is the "bedrock" of the beginning of Jesus' ministry. Matthew and Luke apparently had access to this writing when they later compiled their accounts of the events surrounding the life of Christ.

Mark was a good writer: contemplative, clear in expression, concerned with facts and not with hearsay or tradition. He told the story in simple language as a child might tell it. He talked of events in the present tense instead of the past. He recorded primarily the actions of our Savior and not Jesus' discoursing.

The preaching of John the Baptist was used by Mark to set the stage for what was to come. John was the messenger sent to prepare the way of the Lord. He was the fulfillment of the prophecies of Malachi 3:1 and Isaiah 40:3. John's message stressed repentance, which included a change of mind, a turning from sin, and turning to God's way. When Mark used the word "Gospel," he was not referring to the book he was writing, but to the whole crusade of the preaching of the Gospel, beginning with John the Baptist.

Family Bible Lesson

John came out of the wilderness into a world decaying and despairing, to preach the coming of the "Messiah." His message depicted what the "Gospel" is to accomplish in society. As a result of its acceptance, society is to be cleansed. When Christ is accepted as savior, he becomes the antiseptic that cleanses the moral poison of society and leaves it pure and clean.

John announced the Messenger to come, who would implement the changes that would come as a result of a new faith. The people came, repenting, confessing their sins, and embracing the new faith. This was a revolution of sorts. Je-

Responding to the Savior

By James Growden

Focal Passage — Matthew 1:18-23; 2:1-2, 10-11

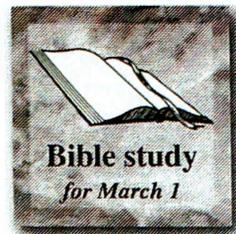
The magnificent story of Jesus' birth is so wonderful to study any time of the year. It is not just a Christmas story as some may think. Matthew's Gospel highlights God's love for us and his plan to save us. This passage begins by telling about the birth of Jesus which demonstrates God's love for us. How will you respond to his birth? We are to tell about this blessed event to everyone. This world sure does need some "Good news." What would you think about a family in your community who had family members who were adulterers, prostitutes, etc.? Would you want them as members of your church? Matthew tells us of the genealogy of Jesus. There were adulterers (II Samuel 11:2-5), prostitutes (Genesis 38:24 and Joshua 2:1), and foreigners (Ruth 1:4) included in his genealogy. We need to remember each of these people responded favorably to God's love and had the honor of being of the lineage of our Lord.

Birth of Jesus. People today have the opportunity to respond to God's love and we must realize the necessity of being saved and then sharing the Gospel. God chose to use frail humans to share the Gospel, therefore we are to tell. Let's do it! Notice how Joseph responded to the

Explore the Bible Lesson

news that Mary was found to be with child. During a Jewish engagement the man and woman were called husband and wife, yet the marriage would not be consummated until after the year's engagement. Joseph changed his plans after the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. Joseph discovered that Mary had not been unfaithful to him and he was told to marry Mary because her pregnancy was of God — the faithful response to God's plan. He obeyed God and proceeded with the marriage plans. We sometimes avoid doing the right thing because of what others might think. Like Joseph, we must respond correctly and obey God.

Coming of Magi. The astrologers responded by traveling thousands of miles to see Jesus. When they finally found him, they responded with joy, worship, and gifts. The gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh are presents fit for a king. We are familiar with the value of gold. Frankincense was used in expensive ointments and perfumes. Myrrh was a costly aromatic resin sometimes used for embalming of bodies. Without their knowledge, the Magi themselves



sus identifies with this movement by walking all the way from Nazareth to Jordan to be baptized by his "pavior." This is an old English word that referred to one who paves the roads. He carves the thoroughfare out of the wilderness. Why did Jesus come for his baptism by John, who considered himself unworthy to loosen the latches of Jesus' sandals? It was a case of Jesus making public the acceptance of his mission in preaching the "Gospel of God." This was symbolic of his all-out dedication of the Father's will and command.

Out of the opened heavens came the Spirit in the form of a dove, "descending upon him." This Spirit descending from God, had earlier moved over the waters (Genesis 1:2) and made it clear God had released a mighty creative force. He was now releasing it again in his son, in Jordan. As the dove brought glad tidings to Noah after the deluge, God brought good news, in his son. Because of the powerful presence of the Spirit and the awareness that Jesus experienced, he was thrust into a desert place for further refining. Mark is amazingly brief about this experience. He was putting into a few words a tremendously common experience. After a great experience there comes a testing. Jesus knew he had to face the figurative beasts of the wilderness. He knew that if he could win in that wilderness, he could win throughout his ministry.

Central in the launching of Jesus' ministry was his interpretation of God's appointed time. For centuries, God's prophets had been promising that he would visit and redeem his people. Jesus announced that the time had come.

In this launching process built upon the preaching of John, Jesus calls for two things, "repent and believe." Repenting is turning from sin; believing is turning to God or committing oneself to the cause of Christ. This "believing" involves commitment and trust in the one who brought the "good news." One of the first acts of Jesus' public ministry was to call a group of disciples who could experience him and eventually continue his work. A responsibility and privilege his followers have to this very day. — Murphy is pastor, Howse Church, Atwood.

foreshadow the great commission, so the myrrh given at his birth could anticipate the myrrh used at his death. How different from the approach people often take today. We expect Jesus to come looking for us, to explain himself, prove who he is, and give us gifts. Those who are wise still seek and worship Jesus, not for what they can get, but for who he is. These astrologers said they saw Jesus' star.

Some people say this star was a conjunction of Jupiter, Saturn, and Mars in 6 BC. I respond to that theory by saying the God who created the heavens and the earth created a special star to announce the arrival of his Son!

Whatever the nature of the star, these men responded by seeking for the Savior until they found him. Jesus probably was one or two years old when they found him. We must be willing to honor him for who he is and give him what is valuable to us.

The Magi were warned not to return to Herod. The Lord also warned Joseph to flee to Egypt, outside of Herod's control. The entire story of the flight to Egypt and return to Galilee shows God's loving care for Joseph, Mary, and their Son. It also shows the power of God over evil. This should inspire us to serve our God confidently. — Growden is pastor, Hillcrest Church, Nashville.



Foundation of Texas, will succeed Jones in investments. Both appointments are for March 1 and are subject to trustee approval during their meeting here this week. ■

NAMB volunteer team sees results

Baptist Press

ALPHARETTA, Ga. — The volunteer mobilization team of the North American Mission Board hit the ground running when the agency was formed last June. The combined summer missions efforts of the former Brotherhood Commission and Home Mission Board — now NAMB's responsibility — already were in full swing.

By the end of the year, thanks largely to the stabilizing force of the volunteers themselves and their leadership networks, more than 100,000 Southern Baptist volunteers were involved in North American missions.

"We do feel God's hand is in the midst of what's happening here, through the 'Covenant for a New Century' (convention-wide restructuring plan) and the formation of NAMB,"

said Jim Burton, the agency's director of volunteer mobilization.

"It's no accident that (NAMB President Bob Record) came into this and made volunteer missions a primary thrust, and had the confidence that we could have a dramatic increase in volunteerism," Burton said.

He said the emphasis in the early months at NAMB has been on continuing the strong support for existing ministries, while beginning to plot the course for the future.

For information on volunteer missions, call 1 (800) 462-VOLS. ■



BURTON

Foley, 47, is executive vice president of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. He succeeds Michael Magnoli, whose 13-year presidency of the 2,700-student university was ended by the 46-member trustee body last May.

Foley assumes his new post on March 2. He is an 11-year veteran of the NOBTS staff. He is a graduate of Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Texas, and has two degrees from NOBTS. ■

Chastity pledge important: study

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — Teenagers who take a pledge of chastity, have loving parents, and regard religion and prayer as important are the least likely of all adolescents to report engaging in early sexual behavior, according to a recent study reported in the *Journal of the American Medical Society*.

Conversely, teenagers who appear older than their peers, work 20 or more hours a week, and have same-sex attractions or behaviors are more likely to have reported having sex at an

earlier age, according to the federally funded National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (popularly referred to as Add Health).

The research was conducted to identify risks to adolescent health and to pinpoint specific factors that might guard against those risks. The Add Health study looked at the emotional health of teenagers and their inclination toward violence, substance abuse, and sexual behavior. The group of 90,118 students who completed the initial questionnaire represented all U.S. students in grades seven through 12.

Approximately 17 percent of seventh and eighth graders surveyed and almost half (49.8 percent) said they had engaged in sexual intercourse.

However, those who reported they had taken a pledge to remain virgins were at "significantly lower risk of early age sexual debut."

Richard Ross, one of the founders of the Southern Baptist True Love Waits movement, said the research is "the first major, secular study to document that making a promise of abstinence is a very powerful factor influencing teenager behavior."

Almost a million teens have signed an abstinence pledge since the TLW effort began in 1993, Ross said. ■

Knox, Wyatt chosen to lead state editors

Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — Marv Knox, associate editor of the *Texas Baptist Standard*, was affirmed as new president of the Association of State Baptist Papers and Mark Wyatt, editor of *The California Southern Baptist*, was named president-elect at the group's annual meeting Feb. 10-13 here.

In business matters the association debated whether to continue holding their annual meeting concurrently with the state executive directors' association. The editors will be polled on whether to meet with the state execs in 1999 and hold dialogue over the matter.

In other matters, the editors agreed to no longer allow members of the board of directors of Associated Baptist Press to be on the group's press services liaison committee. That committee evaluates two news services, ABP and Baptist Press, news service of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Editors approved a resolution honoring Wm. Fletcher Allen, who is retiring this year as editor of the *Baptist and Reflector* in Tennessee. ■



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