

this week's news

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

At National Acteens Convention

Tennesseans learn about, participate in missions

By Andrea Aldridge
For *Baptist and Reflector*

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — More than 10,600 teenage girls and their Acteen leaders, including 812 from Tennessee, participated in the 1998 National Acteens Convention July 1-4 at the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center here.

NAC was sponsored by Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union.

The girls and their leaders learned what missions is and how to apply the principles to their daily lives.

They listened to North American and international missionaries tell stories of their work, and the participants observed Christian music artists and drama teams illustrate the theme, "Inside Out."

Mary Rhodes, director of Acteens at Sharon Church, Knoxville, brought eight Acteens and two other leaders this year to NAC.

"We planned last year to come. The budget committee (at church) raised the Acteen budget, but the girls paid for their rooms and the gas," Rhodes said. "We have a mission-minded church."

"Change me from the inside out," was the request lifted to God by the participants. The theme song "Inside Out," written by Sarah Groves and Alicia Williamson Garcia, was based on Romans 12:1-2 and challenged the girls to accept their outward appearance and change inside to become more like Christ. Groves,



CAROL RAETZ, left, co-director of the Acteens at *Criewood Church*, Nashville, and **Katie Cannon**, participate in a missions project during the National Acteens Convention held July 1-4 in Louisville, Ky. — Photos by Andrea Aldridge

youth consultant for WMU, is a former member of Judson Church, Nashville, and is the daughter of Ernest and Doris Jean Standerfer of Nashville. Mrs. Standerfer is a ministry assistant with Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board.

Missionary Dorcas Camacho Byrd, of Houston, reminded the girls, "God reigns, and he made you unique. He needs us to tell others about his plan." The missionary also encouraged the girls and their leaders to "not get caught up in the lies of the world." Holding true to that principle, she said, would help change people from the inside out.

Among the Tennessee Acteens present were Anissa Smith and Amanda Westerman, both from Sylvia Church, Dickson, and both 1999 Tennessee Acteen Panelists. "I like the whole presence and the atmosphere. You know God is here," Westerman said. One of Smith's favorite activities of the convention was sewing quilts.

The on-site ministry opportunity for

the Acteens enabled them to quilt more than 1,000 quilts which missionaries will take and distribute to the people.

Seven Acteens and two leaders from First Church, Newbern, liked the quilting so much that they decided to take the idea home to their youth group. The Acteens said they would take the quilts they make to nursing homes, an abuse center for women and children, or the Union mission.

The Acteens also participated in off-site ministries at 221 community service agencies in and around Louisville. They served the community doing day camps, picking up trash, canvassing neighborhoods, and assisting in nursing homes.

The teenagers worked with the Salvation Army, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, and the Baptist Fellowship Center. Acteens also participated in prayer rides and walks around the city.

— See Tennesseans, page 2



ALANNA MORRIS of *Haywood Hills Church*, Nashville, reads Scripture during a general session at the National Acteens Convention.

Nominations sought for top TBC pastors

For *Baptist and Reflector*

BRENTWOOD — Nominations for Bivocational Pastor of the Year and Small Church Pastor of the Year in Tennessee will be accepted through Sept. 1.

A bivocational pastor must have a full-time job in addition to his ministry to qualify for the award. The small church pastor must have served full-time in a church with an average Sunday School attendance of less than 100. Both must have held their positions within the last calendar year.

Awards will be given to pastors in each major region of the state.

Recipients will be chosen by the selec-

tion subcommittee of the TBC Church Programs Committee. The selection subcommittee is chaired by Donald Cobb of Livingston.

This is the seventh consecutive year for the awards which will be presented during the annual meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, set for Nov. 10-11 at MeadowView Conference Center in Kingsport.

Application forms for submitting nominations may be obtained from local Baptist associations in the state.

Mail completed forms to: Gary Rickman, Ministry Coordinator, Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37024. ■

June CP gifts increase

For *Baptist and Reflector*

BRENTWOOD — Tennessee Baptists gave \$2,701,532 to the Cooperative Program in June, an increase of more than \$845,000 over last June's gifts.

For the first eight months of the 1997-98 fiscal year, Tennessee Baptists have given \$20,480,749, an increase of \$973,256, or 4.99 percent over the same period last year.

The budget requirement after eight months is \$20,070,343.

"We are grateful that Tennessee Baptists continue to give generously to meet the challenges of missions, evangelism, education, and other needs in our state," said James Porch, executive director-treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. ■

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- ▶ **Office** — Baptist and Reflector, 5001 Maryland Way, Brentwood, TN, 37027
- ▶ **Mailing address** — P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN, 37024
- ▶ **Phone** — (615) 371-2003
- ▶ **FAX** — (615) 371-2080
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On Middle Tennessee campus of TBCH

Cookeville congregation catches vision for camp

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — As of last February Jonathan Nelms, minister of music at First Church, Cookeville, had planned for his youth choir to return to Michigan for their summer missions trip.

A sermon from Gerald Stow, TBCH president who was substituting for interim pastor Bob Mowrey, caused Nelms to rethink his plans.

Stow's message that night was "Doing Something While We Can," Nelms recalled. In the sermon, Stow said, "There is a moment in time when a door opens and opportunity walks into our lives." He used examples from this work with TBCH to illustrate his point, Nelms noted.

The next morning Nelms' wife, Glenda, asked if he had considered leading a music camp for residents of TBCH.

"Although I had never considered such a camp I called Dr. Stow the following day to get his insight," Nelms said.

Stow told him that no one had conducted such a camp at the TBCH and that the idea was worth pursuing.

Follow-up phone calls and later a visit to Brentwood confirmed that it was a viable idea. "As more people learned about our plans, more doors were opened for this ministry," Nelms said.

"We prayed that God would bring the right team together for our trip and that he would lead us to prepare a program to meet the specific needs of the



GLEND A NELMS, left, of First Church, Cookeville, leads warm-ups for a voice class she led for residents of the Brentwood campus of TBCH.

Middle Tennessee campus," Nelms said. Twenty-eight Cookeville youth and adults committed to participating in the missions endeavor. "We formed a five-member rhythm band for the week and began to prepare music specifically for the camp," Nelms said.

One night while praying about the trip he came up with the name "Tebachiho" (Tennessee Baptist Children's Home) for the camp.

Working with youth ministry intern Kevin Wilson, who served as camp pastor, they developed a theme of "Got Faith?" Wilson developed daily Bible studies for the week which were included in a camp guide book. "Each day of the camp we strongly encouraged our youth and the TBCH residents to complete these daily studies," Nelms said.

The group decided to order

T-shirts for the week which read "Tebachiho 1998, Brentwood" on the front and "Got Faith?" on the back. They also decided to give each resident of the TBCH one of the shirts as well, Nelms said.

To fund the gift and other materials as well as to increase prayer support for the trip, a prayer partner was enlisted for each TBCH resident. Prayer partners made a \$15 donation and committed to praying for a specific child throughout the camp.

A church-wide prayer meeting also was held May 10 where each resident was prayed for by name.

"Although we had never met these children and youth, we began to prepare for them on a personal basis. And it was wonderful to see our team finally meet these individuals when we arrived on campus,"

Nelms said.

During the week residents of TBCH were divided into four age groups. Classes were offered in a variety of areas. Each evening the group led a worship celebration on campus. On the final night about 50 members First Church, Cookeville, came to join the evening service, Nelms said.

"The week was filled with precious moments of ministry and insight," he said. He noted it was particularly a blessing to tell the prayer partners about children who were saved during the week.

"The chairman of our deacons, Bill Branch, had been praying for one of the children who gave their heart to Jesus on Thursday night. He said that he couldn't have felt better if he had won a million dollars when he heard the news," Nelms said.

He noted "God's vision for Tebachiho was easily caught by our congregation. ... The medium of music truly enabled us to share Jesus through this great time of education and ministry.

"We learned a lot about the TBCH and we learned a lot about ourselves," Nelms said.

"Although this endeavor required an enormous amount of preparation, God led us all the way.

"I believe that he gave us the vision for this ministry and that he certainly brought fruit to our labor. And God alone knows what other seeds of love and hope were sown during the week." ■

Tennesseans learn about, participate ...

— Continued from page 1

In addition to the missions involvement, general sessions included people of all ages and backgrounds.

"I liked the general sessions," said 13-year-old

Stephanie Kellough of First Church, Newbern. "I liked the attitude and the way they put things together."

Missionaries challenged the Acteens and shared from personal experiences. "No matter

where you go, what you do, God will be with you," said Dana Bullington, a missionary in South Africa.

Acteens and their leaders also participated in two other major attractions at NAC: InSight/OuttaSight and the World Wide Web.

InSight/OuttaSight sessions were offered four times during the convention and allowed each Acteen and her leader to attend. They heard messages from missionary kids, North American and international missionaries, national WMU leaders, and others.

The World Wide Web included the missionary maze that led Acteens through several stops with missionaries from around the world. ■ — Aldridge is a Tennessean serving as a summer intern at *The Indiana Baptist*. She is a student at Union University and member of First Church, Waverly.



PARTICIPATING IN the National Acteens Convention from Germantown Church, Germantown, are, from left, Susan Todd, Erica Harms, and Tiffany Losier.

Retired DOM Bill Powell dies

For Baptist and Reflector

MONTEREY — Long-time Tennessee Baptist pastor and director of missions William J. "Bill" Powell died June 24. He was 70.

A native of Marion County, Powell served as pastor of several churches in the state and was director of missions for Watauga Association from 1977-1990.

Following retirement, Powell and his wife, Nola, started two churches in Indiana. In 1995 Powell returned to First Church, Monterey, one of his former pastorates, as interim pastor. During that time he helped begin a Hispanic ministry.

Powell is survived by his wife, four children, and five grandchildren. ■

Hunger funds assist residents of Knoxville

By Steven S. Nelson
Special to Baptist and Reflector

KNOXVILLE — For most people, their only thought of their next meal is choosing what to eat and struggling to keep from eating too much.

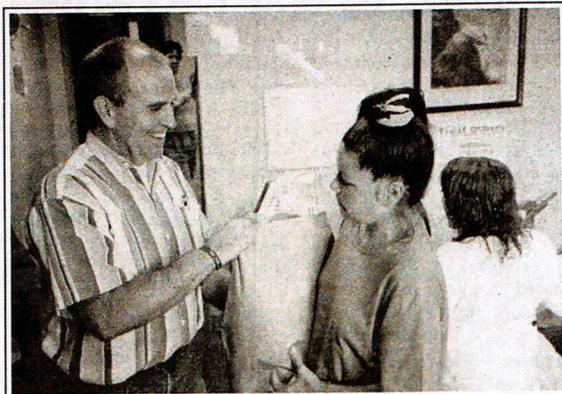
Such is not true for millions of Americans who, for various reasons, must struggle to make meager provisions last until the "next check."

For 11 years the Baptist Center located in the Montgomery Village housing project here has helped provide food for the body and the "bread of life" for the soul.

Each month, between 100-125 families receive food aid through the center's food pantry. They also have the opportunity to learn about Jesus.

"We always encourage them to attend our Bible studies and try to plug them into a local church," said Richard Lewelling, center director and a North American Mission Board missionary.

Lewelling is appreciative of the help provided by churches in Knox County Association which owns and op-



RICHARD LEWELLING, director of the Montgomery Village Baptist Center in Knoxville provides food and a word of encouragement to Rose, a single mother, who along with her 2-year-old child, finds solace at the center.

erates the center.

He also is appreciative of support given by Southern Baptists through the World Hunger Fund.

The World Hunger Fund does not keep the center stocked with food. "That is done mainly through gifts and food drives by local churches," Lewelling said. "But the

hunger funds stand in the gap," he added.

Food especially is needed in the summer months when children out of school no longer get lunch or breakfast, he observed.

Lewelling noted a challenge faced by the center is how to help the working poor. "About 30-50 percent of the families

seeking help have someone in the home who works. A big problem I see is that the only jobs many are qualified for are menial jobs paying minimum wage or slightly above."

As welfare reform comes fully into play, new challenges arise for the center, Lewelling noted. While some would consider that a burden, he sees it as a ministry opportunity.

He hopes to start a "community market." Rather than a simple food pantry, inventory would be on shelves allowing recipients to make some of their own choices. Dated and damaged package goods are often given by stores which could be shelved or stored in refrigerators.

World Hunger Funds not only help the ministry at Montgomery Village but other such ministries across the United States.

One hundred percent of all gifts received are used for hunger ministry with nothing taken out for administration or promotion. ■ — Nelson is on the staff of the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission in Nashville.



Training offered for potential DOMs

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — The Evangelism/Missions Strategies Group of the TBC Executive Board has designed an orientation conference for potential directors of missions.

The conference will focus on those who may be interested in pursuing a sense of God's calling to become a director of missions in the future, according to Malcolm Jones, a consultant for the group.

"The purpose of the orientation is to help the participants to be sensitive to a variety of factors related to such a ministry calling," Jones said.

"We want to discover potential directors of missions who will be focused on being effective in the 21st century," said Bill George, ministry specialist in the EMS group.

"We want people to have a better understanding of what it means to be a director of missions as to their roles and responsibilities," George added.

The group will be limited to 25 persons. Early registration will be required with a \$25 registration fee. A motel room, food, and materials for the conference will be provided.

Interested persons should contact George at (615) 371-2043. ■

Whitwell resident plans return to tumultuous Indonesia

By Lonnie Wilkey
Baptist and Reflector

MURFREESBORO — Stacy Michael recently left Indonesia, a country in turmoil, at a time when many felt it unsafe for Americans to be there.

Yet, after a summer with friends and family in Whitwell, Michael plans to return to Indonesia in early August to teach once again at a private school in Salatiga, located on the island of Java.

Michael, a resident of Whitwell and member of Mt. Calvary Church, Powell's Crossroads, went to Indonesia two years ago as a journeyman missionary, appointed by the Southern Baptist Inter-

national Mission Board.

She was introduced to the IMB program while she was a student at Middle Tennessee State University and an active participant of the BSU ministry at the school.

In the summer of 1995 she went on a two-week missions trip to Pakistan. "Out of that experience I developed a burden for the Islam nation, but even then I didn't know I would be working in an Islam nation," she said.

Though the journeyman program is for two years, Michael reapplied for one more year at the school where she taught for two years. Her application was granted under the IMB's International Service Corps program.

Michael has developed a love and appreciation for the Indonesian people. Despite turmoil in other parts of the country, the people in Salatiga are "friendly and open to us being there," she said. When the turmoil was at its worst in late April and the U.S. Embassy was recommending that Americans leave the country, Michael noted she was not really scared.

"There was no danger where we were," she noted, adding that she felt God's presence with her.

"I knew God would take care of me," she affirmed. Her worse fear, she said, was knowing that she had to fly out of Jakarta, where most of

the trouble occurred.

In addition to her regular teaching duties at the 140-student school, Michael also taught English outside classes to 15 Indonesian children once a week.

She also became involved with an Indonesian college group similar to the BSU group she was involved with at MTSU.

During her two years in Indonesia she learned enough of the language "to survive." She readily admits she does not yet know the language fully.

Her time in Indonesia has been rewarding, she said.

"It's very fulfilling because I have a teaching degree and God has been able to use that in his service," she said.

She enjoys the school where she teaches because she can "work in a Bible study or prayer time" during her class. "It's expected and appreciated," she noted, adding that approximately 75 percent of the students are children of missionaries, although not all are Southern Baptist.

And though there is still unrest in Indonesia, Michael is anxious to return to Indonesia to see the friends and students she left behind.

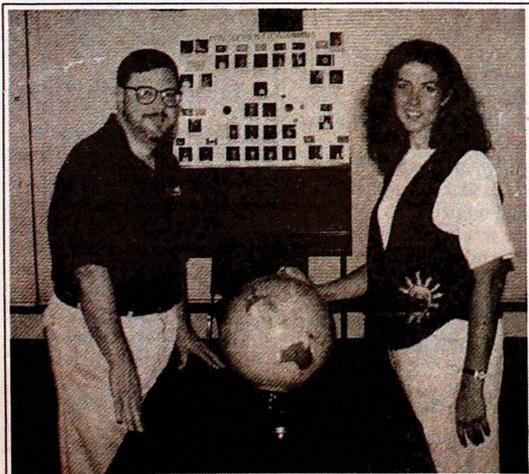
"I'm confident I will be let back in the country and the school will still be there," she said.

Michael views the unrest in Indonesia as "a blessing in disguise" and sees it as a perfect opportunity for ministry.

"They have questions that their God can't answer. I believe they will be open to the Gospel and to our God who has answers," she said.

As to her future after next year, Michael said she is thinking about returning to the states to go to seminary and that a life as a career missionary is a possibility.

"If God says go back, I would," Michael affirmed. B&R



STACY MICHAEL, right, shows Charles Nored, collegiate ministries specialist at Middle Tennessee State University, where she serves in Indonesia. Michael was active in the BSU ministry at MTSU in Murfreesboro. For the past two years she has been a journeyman missionary in Indonesia.

Sight impaired plan retreat

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — The Tennessee Baptist Fellowship of the Blind will hold its annual retreat July 17-19 at Camp Carson in Newport.

The theme of the meeting is "Prayer," according to Charles Couey, a bivocational minister and resource person for work with the blind in Tennessee. Couey is a founding member of the fellowship.

Bible study will be led by Larry Davidson, a member of Second Church, Clinton. The conference also includes recreation, workshops, and fellowship.

The cost is \$50 per person.

For information about transportation, call Sharon Bragg at (615) 367-1182 or 532-8548. For information about the conference, call Beverly Smothers, TBC ministry specialist, at (615) 371-2044. ■

Located in Franklin

Congregation continues work in the Ukraine

By Connie Davis
Baptist and Reflector

FRANKLIN — The Clearview Church here has developed a relationship with Baptists in the city of Donetsk, the Ukraine. They have sent funds to help buy two buildings which will be used as churches. Twenty-four from the church served there in June. Several plan to return next month. And members will work there over the next several years.

The reason for the efforts in Donetsk is to help fellow Baptists, said Bret Robbe, pastor, Clearview Church, and Pat Still, a member. The Baptists there have many opportunities to help the spiritually starved residents of the metropolitan

area, they reported. And they need help. Only five Baptist churches serve the 1.3 million Donetsk residents, they explained.

The team of missions workers who served this summer included a group of businessmen, some of whom are not members of Clearview, but who wanted to assist the group. The American businessmen met with Ukrainian businessmen, mining company executives and employees, the assistant mayor of Donetsk, and the minister of religion. The visits were coordinated by Mike Ray, a Southern Baptist missionary, and a local pastor.

"The Lord just opened up doors," said Robbe.

In one instance, the Tennesseans met with a leading

businessman. Because of the witness of the team members to the man, he became a Christian, reported Still.

The Donetsk pastor also knew mining company officials there because he befriended them to obtain coal for poor people. And he knew of the poor conditions in which the miners worked. When Still learned this prior to this summer's trip, he began searching for a way to help the miners. Then he discovered Waymakers, a non-profit Christian organization based in Nashville, which offered \$250,000 worth of mining equipment to the Ukrainians.

After meeting with the Tennesseans, the CEO of the company accepted the offer of the mining equipment. And he

arranged for the group to speak to several hundred miners. They distributed 400 Bibles and 1,000 spiritual tracts to the miners. Many made professions of faith, reported Still, including two company directors.

The company's CEO also asked if the Americans would share the Gospel with other miners when they deliver the equipment in August.

The work with miners also helped develop contacts with city officials, Still and Robbe said. While visiting officials, the Tennesseans were thanked for their efforts with the miners and given multiple visas to allow other visits to the country.

Such business/political contacts will help Baptists start a congregation to reach affluent



residents, said Robbe. And home-based Bible studies will be developed in the homes of miners who are new Christians.

Additional congregations will be begun as the Tennesseans work with students at the Donetsk Christian University. All of the efforts will be conducted through the local congregation and Ray, he explained.

To assist congregations, the Americans will help them develop educational programs like Sunday School. Robbe led such training during the recent effort.

The Tennesseans also hope to send other containers of supplies to help the many poor people in the city. And they plan to help residents with health care. Among this summer's team members were three doctors who treated Ukrainians.

To carry out all of the plans, Clearview Church, which has about 600 people attend activities each Sunday morning, will have to rely on other Tennesseans and Americans, reported Robbe, just as they did for this summer's venture.

"We want to be involved with these people in starting churches there," said Still. *B&R*



BAPTIST LEADERS in Donetsk pause on a street during the visit by the Clearview Church group. They are, from left, Mike Ray, missionary; the pastor of Central Church there; and a deacon of the church.



LEADING a conference in Donetsk this summer for Baptist pastors in the Ukraine is Bret Robbe with the help of a translator. The conference was on church educational programs.

Teen uses Internet to share his faith

For Baptist and Reflector

MEMPHIS — Sut Touch, 15, can "surf the net," but he's more purposeful while online. He likes to witness on the Internet.

A member of Highland Heights Church here, Touch gained access to the Internet about five months ago. Soon he discovered he could make friends online as he visited

with people in chatrooms which are forums for multiple conversations.

One evening, Touch and three local friends were conversing with others in the same chatroom when they started visiting with a girl. Touch decided to share his faith in God with the girl.

The girl, who like Touch was of Asian descent, said she was thankful for the informa-

tion and believed it was true, but quickly left the chatroom.

Touch, who is of Cambodian descent, and his friends began praying for her. Touch talked with her several more times on the Internet. He learned she was a Christian so they discussed their faith. A few months after they met, she told Touch that despite a difficult relationship with her father, she had influenced him to become a Christian.

That experience led Touch to expand his online witnessing efforts.

Now he takes time each day to e-mail Scripture portions, spiritual information, and messages to about 100 Internet acquaintances.

Most are from other states and some are from other countries, Touch said.

Yes, he's gotten "flamed," the online term for an angry response, he admitted. He may be bothering people, he said, "but I just want to let them know how great God is."

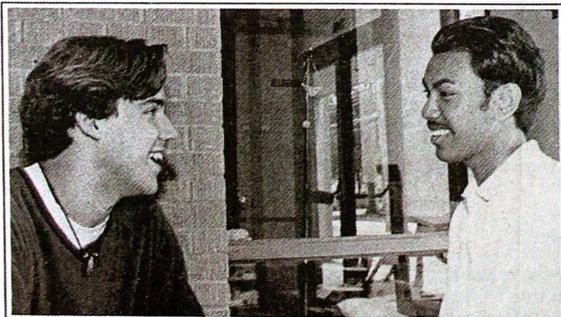
Touch even has been threatened, which he admitted is easy on the net because of the impersonal nature of the medium. "I get on people's nerves a lot, but I don't really care because I know God's going to protect me."

He gets encouragement from his youth minister, Brett Stamps, who has been a mentor to him, and from fellow Christians. And Touch is delighted when a person reports he or she is thankful for the spiritual influence.

As a result of his efforts on the Internet, two people have made professions of faith — the father of his Asian friend and Tim, 14, from New York, whose family members are Buddhists.

Touch is praying for Tim because he is attending a program at a Buddhist monastery to please his family.

And Stamps is praying for Touch, who also is a strong witness at Woodale High School and through church activities. *B&R* — Connie Davis



SUT TOUCH, right, visits with Brett Stamps, minister of youth, Highland Heights Church, Memphis, who has served as his mentor and encouraged him in his online ministry.

Dwight Guy named DOM

For Baptist and Reflector

NASHVILLE — Dwight Guy, pastor, First Church, Sparta, has been named director of missions, Clinton Association, effective July 26.

Guy, who has served the Sparta church for five years, also has served as pastor of Forest Hill Church, Maryville, for nine years; Paynes Church, Estill Springs; Gracey Avenue Church, Clarksville; First Church, Tioga, Texas; and Concord Church, Mohawk. And he has been associate pastor/minister of education, Hillcrest Church, Morristown.

Guy is a graduate of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City; and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas. *B&R*

When serving God, focus on what you can do

By Lonnie Wilkey
Interim Editor

A story on page three of this issue notes an upcoming meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Fellowship of the Blind.

Their meeting serves as a reminder that people who are physically challenged can and do serve God.

One of the founding members of the organization is Charles Couey of Park Avenue Church, Nashville. He is a classic example of one who has not let a disability keep him from serving his Lord and Savior. Over the years he has led conferences at the annual Tennessee Baptist RA Congress and has translated material into Braille for LifeWay Christian Resources (formerly the Baptist Sunday School Board). He is now an ordained minister.

Charles will not be at this year's meeting because he will be away on a mission trip, sharing his faith and witness in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

Someone else whom I know personally who does not allow his handicaps to deter him from ministry is Jerry Currey, a member of Tulip Grove Church, Old Hickory.

Some may remember Jerry gave his testimony during the state evangelism conference this past January. He was severely injured in Vietnam, just two weeks before his tour of duty was over. He lost his sight and a leg.

Yet, those disabilities do not keep him from sharing his powerful Christian witness with others. He is an active deacon at Tulip Grove and has been involved in almost every facet and ministry of the church.

His testimony has been compiled into a short book which the church plans to use as an evangelistic tool. Visitation teams will give away the book to prospects. At the end of Jerry's story is the plan of salvation. The book is just one example of how God is using Jerry for his ministry.

In his book Jerry credits the Tulip

Grove congregation for involving him in so many activities. "They don't make me feel handicapped," he says.

That undoubtedly is the key.

Churches across our state have many members who may be disabled in some way. Many of them are eager and willing to serve and minister. All they need is an outlet for ministry.

Unfortunately, well-meaning people sometimes stereotype those who are physically challenged and think that it is an imposition to ask them to serve the church in any capacity because they do have disabilities. God can use anyone who wants to be used. A lot of people who have no excuses are nowhere to be found when nominating committees begin calling.

Our churches have men and women like Charles Couey and Jerry Currey who do not dwell on what they can't do when it comes to serving God. Rather, they focus on what they can do. That's a lesson we should all learn. *B&R*



just for today

by Fred Wood,
pastor emeritus,
Eudora Church,
Memphis



Start with a smile

Men stranded in cabin due to snowstorm: "Who's knocking at the door?" Voice outside: "It's the church finance committee. We've come to get your pledge to the budget for next year."

Take this truth

One thing about being thorough — it usually gets the job done. This applies in any field. If you're ever tempted to give up, think of Brahms. This composer took seven long years to compose his famous "Lullaby." He kept falling asleep at the piano.

Memorize this Scripture

"Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." — Revelation 2:10

Pray this prayer

"The need so great, the fields so white. The faithful, Lord, so few. Help me, through thee, to find my task. And to that task be true." ■ — Fred Wood may be contacted by e-mail at docfred1@juno.com.

Are you a balcony Christian or a cellar voice?

heart talk

by James Porch
TBC executive director



A Baptist pastor of a generation ago once preached a sermon entitled "Balcony People and Cellar Voices." His balcony people made up his cheering section. The cellar voices identified those nagging negative calls from folk whose agenda revealed designs to defeat him.

Both groups exist for all of us, especially pastors and staff of a local church as well as denominational ministers.

Which group do you listen to? We have a choice. Sure, the repetitious echoes of the negative cannot be ignored. But dare we allow them to rob us of the adventure of listening for the cheers? Our culture and time promises no guarantee.

Our balcony will not always be full or loud. On occasion, the balcony may seem empty or silent. Be on your guard! Remember, in quiet times, you are quite vulnerable to suc-

cumbing and awarding the grippers from the cellar the privilege to distract you. But keep listening with patience! Just as trust, which is not awarded quickly, the passing of time is required before your cheering section gathers.

Now a word to the folk in the pew. Who are you — cellar voice or balcony Christian?

Your pastor and/or church staff members, while not perfect, deserve your encouragement, affirmation, and grace. Quite often character flaws, relational problems, or leadership difficulties result from

put-downs or the absence of encouragement. May I commend you to the worthy ministry of encouragement. Such a ministry will make a difference in your life and in those who minister in the name of Christ to you.

And now a final word for all of us. Affirmation and encouragement properly modeled can be contagious. Remember, Barnabas was known as the son of encouragement. Through encouragement he made a difference in the life of Paul, John Mark, and the entire church of Antioch (Acts 11:23). ■



letters from readers

Outpouring of love

I recently read in the *Baptist and Reflector* about Rocky Hill Church in Knoxville giving a copy machine, a number of hymnals, and an organ to Rocky Valley Church in New Market.

The article caught my attention because I am a member of Rocky Valley and have been since 1972. We have been blessed with an outpouring of love from churches all over the state of Tennessee with gifts, prayers, and encouragement. We are thankful for everyone of them.

I thought others might like to know how we are faring since fire destroyed our beautiful landmark building on March 14. The building is

gone. Though sad, there is no going back. We must go forward and we have. Our membership has been involved in fund-raising efforts to rebuild our church building as we were severely under-insured. We have about half what we need to rebuild. Presently we are meeting in a small one-room store building nearby.

In an effort to help our church, my husband, Don Lawson, and I will host a benefit Gospel singing on July 25 at the Jefferson Middle School auditorium in Jefferson City. It will begin with food concessions by church members at 5:30 p.m. and the singing will begin at 7 p.m. Three local groups — The Merritts, The Hood Family, and Mercy Street — will perform.

There will be no admission charge, but a love offering will be taken by the church deacons during the singing.

Patsy Lawson
New Market 37820

Dust storm left

The 1998 annual SBC meeting is history, but we still have a dust storm of controversy

swirling around us.

I do not believe our lack of understanding of the instructions God has given us in Ephesians 5 is the problem. Paul wrote very clearly God's recipe for a loving, healthy, happy marriage relationship and home.

I believe the problem is that we do not practice what we preach. James 1:22 says, "But be ye doers of the word and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves." I believe the addition that needs to be made to our Southern Baptist statement of faith is works.

Many years ago I heard these profound statements during the discussion of a Sunday School lesson.

(1) I cannot lead where I will not go.

(2) I cannot teach what I do not know.

(3) I cannot reap what I do not sow.

Oh, how we need "showers of blessings" to placate the storm and settle the dust. But God's spiritual blessings are conditional.

James 4:17 says "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."

We cannot cover our sin with pious pretense. God sees right through it.

Erline Burchyett
Nashville 37211

Commanded to be light

Recently at an orientation for summer missionaries, Kevin Shrum, pastor of Inglewood Church, Nashville, spoke and touched my heart with the following points related to Matthew 5:14.

First, God has commanded us to be light. It is not a choice.

In relation to this point, there are four things we must not do.

We must not fight the light, resist the light, or hide the light.

And lastly, we must never keep the light. Share it. In relation to our summer missions calling, we have to remember as missionaries that this summer is not about us. It is about God through us and his amazing power.

May God be with all of our summer missionaries and other laymen that their light shine daily.

Kerri Story, summer missionary, Riverside Assoc.
Livingston 38570

Partnership Prayer Requests July

8 — Pray for the volunteers to teach inmates to read in the Madison-Chester and Crockett associations, a part of Mississippi River Ministry.

9 — Pray for Comunidad Cristiana, a new work, to reach a community in Costa Rica where many homes have been affected by drugs and divorce.

10 — Pray for the Michigan Baptist pastors' retreat being held this week.

11 — Pray for Des Price, a member of Westlynn Church, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, who has tumors on his spine and will have radiation treatments.

12 — Pray for more volunteers to respond to the simultaneous revivals scheduled for Sept. 27-Oct. 6 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

13 — Pray for Costa Rica national missionaries Herbert and Marjorie Soto who are working in the South Zone with IMB missionaries Bill and Linda Egbert.

14 — Pray for upcoming RA camps to be held this week and next in Michigan.



world news

SBC June CP gifts increase 25 percent

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — Southern Baptist Convention Cooperative Program receipts for June increased 25 percent over the same month a year ago, according to Morris H. Chapman, president and chief executive officer of the SBC Executive Committee.

Baptists gave \$15,052,870, compared to \$12,024,314 last June, an increase of 25.19 percent. For the SBC fiscal year, Oct. 1 through June 30, CP gifts total \$119,129,676, compared to \$116,858,328 at the same period last year, an increase of 1.94 percent. For the year gifts exceed the monthly requirement by 7.19 percent.

Designated gifts also increased in June, \$14,824,922 compared to \$11,580,383 last June, an increase of 28.02 percent. For the year designated gifts total \$137,598,745, an increase of 4.76 percent over the same period last year. ■

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Clinton signs bill protecting tithes

Associated Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton signed a bill into law June 19 protecting religious and charitable contributions given by people who later declare bankruptcy.

The Religious Liberty and Charitable Donation Protection Act is designed to protect tithes and other charitable donations from bankruptcy laws that have been used to confiscate donations by bankrupt donors.

The new law will protect tithes and other contributions of up to 15 percent of the debtor's annual income. ■

CBF declines to oppose SBC action

Associated Baptist Press

HOUSTON — The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, though on record as affirming women, declined to oppose a recent Southern Baptist Convention statement urging wives to "submit graciously" to their husbands.

A motion was recommended as an affirmation of the family.

Part of the motion noted marriage partners are "to be mutually submissive to each other." Opponents argued the Fellowship should not set a precedent of passing motions that have the effect of a resolution and that the group should not concern itself with the actions of the SBC.

The SBC recently added an article on family to its official doctrinal statement, the 1963 *Baptist Faith and Message*.

In other business the CBF adopted a 1998-99 budget of \$14.8 million, up from \$14.3 million this year and elected Sarah Frances Anders of Louisiana as moderator-elect. John Tyler of

Missouri will be moderator for the coming year. ■

Dobson at work following stroke

Baptist Press

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — James Dobson, president and founder of Focus on the Family, returned to work June 23 less than a week after suffering a stroke.

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Minister of Music Needed

First Baptist Church of Chattanooga is searching for a Minister of Music. This historical congregation has a strong music ministry. This position will be one of six full-time pastoral ministers. FBC is a regional congregation averaging 600 to 650 on Sundays with a resident membership of 1,400. Inclusive in its theology and creative in its approach to ministry, FBC is seeking a high energy person who reflects this perspective. Applicants should be comfortable with Liturgical and Contemporary services.

Resumes should be mailed to Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 401 Gateway Avenue, Chattanooga, TN 37402.

Classified

FOR SALE: Church Furniture — three pieces: communion table, pulpit, & clergy pew, \$1,400. Contact: Second Baptist Church, 4680 Walnut Grove Road, Memphis, TN 38117; phone: (901) 682-3395; fax: (901) 683-8771.

PART-TIME: Bakers Grove Church is looking for a part-time music director. Send resume to Wesley Thompson, 3562 Earhart Road, Mt. Juliet, TN 37122 or call (615) 883-5039.

SEEKS RESUMES: Holly Grove Church, Bells, with an average Sunday School attendance of 150, is receiving resumes for a full-time minister of music and youth. Send resumes to Mark Mangrum, 8488 Poplar Corner Road, Bells, TN 38006.

FOR SALE: (22) 12' oak pews for sale and 400 theater seats, all in good condition. Call (931) 668-9692 after 5 p.m.

In an emotional, unexpected appearance before 1,300 staff members, Dobson said he has "witnessed a miracle."

Shirley Dobson credited her husband's recovery to the fact that "millions of people around the nation and the world (were) praying for him." ■

Preschool/Children

First Baptist Church seeks a director of preschool and children ministries. Send resume to P.O. Box 59474, Birmingham, AL 35209.

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Call (804) 376-2006 or send resume to Dr. Sandy C. Gregory, Executive Director, Patrick Henry Boys & Girls Plantation, Route 2, Box 125, Brookneal, VA 24528.

Minister to Families

Augusta Road Baptist Church, a missions-oriented church body, has an opening for a full-time Minister to Families. The successful candidate will have demonstrated ability to minister to youth and children, and to enlist and develop lay volunteers, and leaders to assist in ministry opportunities. Seminary degree preferred, but not required. Will consider couples. Send resume to: Karen Shaw, Search Committee Chairperson, Augusta Road Baptist Church, 1823 Augusta Road, Greenville, S.C. 29605. ARBC supports CBF and SBC programs.

1998 Senior Adult Conference

Theme: "Redeem the Times"
Sept. 15-17

Grand Hotel & Conference Center
Pigeon Forge

Bible Study: Kenny Cooper
Music: Fes Robertson

Wednesday Night Concert: Stu Phillips of the Grand Ole Opry
Pianist: Joyce Byrd

Conference Leaders: Karl Babb, Bill Highsmith, Dorothy Chrisman, Janice Holcomb, Tim Holcomb, Chris Adams, Bo Childs, and Kenny Cooper

Registration: \$15 per person; make check payable to Tennessee Baptist Convention. Send to Don Mauldin, TBC, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37024-0728

Room Reservations: Call the hotel at 1-800-362-1188 for individuals or 1-800-472-1188 for groups of six or more.

For more information about the conference, call Don Mauldin at (615) 371-2047.



Life and Work Lesson

Responsibility

By Paul Medley

Focal Passage — Matthew 7:3-5; James 4:1-3, 7-12

Young children tell their parents, "I didn't do it, Mommy, my hand did it!" Then they progress to the age of "he, or she, made me do it." And ultimately to the very adult terminology of "circumstances caused it." From the cradle to the grave everyone seems to want to avoid responsibility for personal actions.

The world has even caught on to this and provided some states with "no fault" insurance and divorce. No fault insurance states in theory that when an accident has no one clearly at fault then both parties will repair their vehicles respectively. Tennessee, on the other hand, has the theory of comparative negligence. This idea allows the individuals to pay for only the percentage of responsibility one had in causing the accident. No fault divorce goes by such legal jargon as "irreconcilable differences" or "incompatible temperament."

Jesus would call these terms logs. That is the term he used in Matthew 7:3-5, to refer to things that blind us to responsibility. We are accountable, responsible people before God. When we seek to side-step our responsibility we become an affront to God. This is particularly true in our relationship to one another.

One way to become more responsible, or to take responsibility for our actions is to know the source of our side-stepping. James reminds us that much of the reason for not taking responsibility stems from the lack of desire to admit our own faults. Rather than seeking God's help we plan our own ways around and out of responsibility.

We become much like the addict that says, "I don't have a problem; I can quit whenever I want." But we can't. The more we depend on ourselves the deeper into sin we fall. Ultimately, we must reach rock bottom before we can look up.

That is when we need to submit to God's judgment as outlined in James 4:7-12. I want to particularly look at verse 10. "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up."

Have you ever seen a large box or crate with an arrow on each side and the message "this side up" stenciled on it? The message is there for a purpose. When the box or crate is on its side or upside down then the inner cargo is apt to be damaged. Such damage could be permanent scarring or malfunction of the working parts. If caught early enough and remedied the box or crate can reach its destination and fulfill its purpose. If left unattended the damage could become so severe that the inner cargo is worthless.

Until we can take responsibility for our actions our lives are like that box or crate. Upside down and heading for uselessness. Only when we accept responsibility and cry out to God can our lives be turned right-side-up.

Accepting responsibility follows the same spiritual pattern that is found in all of our relationships to God. First, we acknowledge our wrong, then we call out to God to help us turn from our wrong, and then through the leadership of the Holy Spirit we seek to have a right relationship to God and our fellow man.

This is a humbling experience. This is our responsibility before God. — Medley is pastor, First Church, Jasper.



MEDLEY

Trust God

By Richard Skidmore

Focal Passage — Proverbs 3:1-8, 11-15

Even President Clinton's press secretary attempted humorous remarks about the actions taken in Salt Lake City last month by Southern Baptist Convention messengers. The statement adopted at that time concerning the family has been widely publicized for the phrase that a wife "...is to submit graciously to the servant leadership of her husband..."

Submission, subjection, surrender, servanthood, lordship are not buzz words in our culture. The pendulum of societal activity in our nation has swung to the side of rights of the individual.

Family Bible Lesson

Christian counselor Bob Swift, during his work with our association, convinced me that one of the fundamental problems of many people is their self-image. Identity, individual worth, freedom, and responsibility are sources of ongoing conflict. Bob used a wonderful manual titled *Search for Significance* with many of his clients.

The central verses of this week's text are Proverbs 3:5-6. These provide a view of wholeness of life much needed by all of us today. Their admonition is to put our total confidence in God, give him first place not only in our thinking but in our actions. The promise is that he will direct our paths. This submissive, reliant, servant attitude and activity is quite different from the rugged individualism so

highly prized in our country.

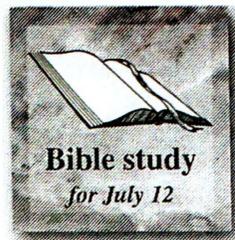
Does this mean that we lose our personhood, that we have insignificant individual worth before him? One can hardly reach that conclusion in light of the entire chapter before us. Those who believe God's teachings, who are obedient are promised favor in the sight of God and man.

All of life is to be enriched by trusting in God's direction. The phrase "... health to thy navel ..." is connected to the idea of life flowing to the unborn child through the umbilical cord. To trust and follow God's direction in life will enable the flow of spiritual health.

As a loving father, God will discipline us. We are to receive that correction with trust, reflection, repentance that leads to reformation.

Can someone who is promised favor in the sight of God and man be of insignificant worth to his creator? Can the blessing of "... health to thy navel ..." be made to someone who has no individuality? Will God go out of his way to discipline a face lost in the crowd?

Perhaps the statement on family adopted in Salt Lake City should be read more carefully. It speaks of our "... equal worth before God ..." Identity, purpose, fulfillment are inseparably related to obedient trust in God's teaching, God's direction, God's discipline. The great lesson of this chapter is that God grants wholeness of life to those who rely on him. — Skidmore is director of missions, Weakley Association, Dresden.



SKIDMORE

Talking about my faith

By Jim Powers

Focal Passage — 1 Peter 3:13-22

When encountering problems within the lost unchurched community Christian people need encouragement. The possibility for physical suffering is recognized by Peter. Those who would harm Christians can never affect the love relationship with God or his mercy in salvation.

It is happiness to suffer for Jesus Christ. If a Christian were not holy and righteous the world would not persecute. If we fear (reverence) God we need not fear any other. The person of faith should not defect in the face of death. To suffer for righteousness sake will bring delight, honor, and gain.

Christians are meant to give Christ unreserved control of their wills and emotions. When this is done and we are no longer carnal we can give testimony about eternal hope. Instant witness from a spirit controlled life will bring the message to the lost. The witness should use "gentleness and reverence" when sharing. It is possible to be harsh and arrogant with proud spirits when witnessing thereby turning people from Jesus forever.

Explore the Bible Lesson

Purity of life through a good conscience reminds us that our talk is enhanced and believed because of our walk. We must act righteously in an unrighteous world. Peter's implication in verse 17 is that suffering can come from God when we're disobedient and from the evil one when we are faithful.

After encouraging us to have a faithful Christian testimony Peter gives us the elements included in that testimony. The Christian witnesses about Christ's death for sin, righteousness dying for unrighteousness. The cross was Christ doing for us what we could not do for ourselves. Christ wants to present the blood bought person to his heavenly Father.

Jesus died the physical death but

had a spiritual resurrection by the moving of the Holy Spirit on his life spirit. The proclamation may have been Jesus' announcement to the evil angelic spirits that he had triumphed over evil.

The analogy of Noah's ark in Noah's generation is comparable to the church being God's modern day ark. Those in the church are the righteous protected from the unrighteous and the destruction of the unrighteous.

Baptism becomes the outward expression of a person's commitment to God through Jesus Christ. The believers' baptism is a symbol of their faith and total salvation experience. Salvation is based on the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.

The eternal destination of Christ after his resurrection was to the right hand of God in Heaven. His rightful place is a place of sovereignty. — Powers is director of missions, Concord Association, Murfreesboro.



POWERS

Plan now to celebrate

Baptist and Reflector Day

Sunday, Aug. 16

state events

■ **Conversational English Workshops** will be held by Shelby Association at Germantown Church, Germantown, July 24-25 and July 31-Aug. 1. For more information, call Nina Clark at (901) 751-3808 or Jean Thompson at (901) 682-4298.

■ **Smoky Mountain Resort Ministries** of Gatlinburg led by missionaries Bill and Cindy Black will hold a reunion Sept. 19-20. For more information, call the Blacks at (423) 436-4076.

■ **Christian Educators Association International** will hold its 29th Annual Congress for Excellence in Public Education July 24-26 at the Garden Plaza Hotel in Murfreesboro. Benny Profit, director of First Priority of Franklin, will speak. For more information, call 1-888-798-1124.

leaders

■ **Long Hollow Church**, Hendersonville, has called **Lance Taylor** as youth minister. He was student minister at First Church, Taylors, S.C.

■ **First Church, Sweetwater**, has called **Don G. Edwards**, pastor, Southeast Church, Murfreesboro, as pastor, effective July 12. Edwards also is a member of the *Baptist and Reflector* board of directors.

■ **First Church, Morristown**, has called **Andrea Roberts** of Loudon as summer intern. She is a student at Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City.

■ **Al Gossett** has resigned as pastor of Flewellyn Church, Springfield.

■ **Houston Northcutt**, pastor, Cottonwood Grove Church, Ridgley, will retire

July 19 after serving the church for 28 years. He has served as a minister for 53 years, 15 of those in evangelism. During his work in evangelism, he was known for his teaching of Bible prophecy. Northcutt attended Union University, Jackson, and New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary.

■ **Don Reynolds**, pastor, Glade Springs Church, LaFollette, retired July 5, after serving the church for 36 years. He will be honored July 11 from 5-8 p.m. at the church. For more information, call the church at (423) 562-5112.

■ **Broadway Church**, Maryville, has called **Tom Hodges** of Kentucky as minister of students.

■ **Temple Church**, Memphis, recently called **Jim Perkins** as pastor. He is a graduate of the University of Alabama and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

■ **Robert T. Tucker**, pastor, Persia Church, Rogersville, recently earned the doctor of ministry degree from Graduate Theological Foundation, Donaldson, Ind. To meet requirements he studied at Oxford University in England. Persia Church recently honored him on his graduation and five years of service at the church.



TUCKER

■ **Wesley Lee Forbis**, musician and retired director, Church Music Department, LifeWay Christian Resources (formerly Baptist Sunday School Board), Nashville, was given an honorary doctor of music degree by William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo. He served the LCR from 1981-1994 during which he edited the *Baptist Hymnal* in 1991. He was on the staff of the col-



LONG-TIME MEMBERS of Prosperity Church, Auburntown, are honored recently by the church. The members were baptized at the church and include, from left, Mary Anderson, baptized in 1927; Odell Buterbaugh, 1928; Robbie Harris, 1930; Leon Foutch, 1929; and Joe Jennings 1926.

lege and has served churches in Tennessee, Oklahoma, and Texas as music director.

churches

■ **Denton Church**, Cosby, will celebrate its 75th anniversary July 12. Features include an old fashioned theme, barbeque luncheon, and afternoon music program. James R. Wilson, pastor, Slater Church, Slater, S.C., will speak during the morning worship service.

■ **First Church, Ripley**, held a musical program entitled, "Independence Day Celebration," on the city's courthouse square during the evening of July 1. It followed a picnic hosted by area businesses.

■ **Second Church, Memphis**, will dedicate its renovated facilities July 12. The church's sanctuary and office was renovated, a new vestibule was built, and parking was added. Special activities include a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 9:30 a.m., worship service at 10:30 a.m., and open house from 3-5 p.m.

■ **Second Church, Memphis**, will hold Vacation Bible School July 13-17 from 9 a.m. - noon with the theme "Sonlight Island." For more information, call the church at (901) 682-3395.

■ **Harold Hunter**, evangelist of Hermitage, led a crusade at **First Church, Obion**, June 21-24. As a result, 13 people made professions of faith and 41 people made other spiritual decisions.

■ **Trinity Church, Cordova**, will hold Kindercamp July 20-24 for children entering senior kindergarten or first grade. The church also is holding Adventure Camp Aug. 2-5 for children who have completed grades 1-5. For more information, call the church at (901) 759-5955.

■ **Immanuel Church**,

Nashville, youth will attend the 13th Baptist Youth World Conference July 22-26 in Houston, Texas.

■ A team of adults of **West Hills Church, Knoxville**, served in Jefferson County and two teams of youth are serving in Kingsport and Charleston, S.C.

■ A team of youth from **Springfield Church, Springfield**, will serve in Virginia Beach, Va., beginning July 11.

■ A 13-person team of Activators from **Central Church, Fountain City, Knoxville**, assisted Drexel Heights Church, Tucson, Ariz., June 20-28.

■ A youth missions team of **Cumberland Homestead Church, Crossville**, served in Chattanooga, June 21-27. Members worked on a home and led a Vacation Bible School.

■ **Donelson View Church, Nashville**, recently celebrated its debt-free status with a note burning. The event was led by William Carr, chairman of the finance committee, and Charles Livingstone, pastor.

■ **Trinity Church, Cordova**, will host Ryan Anthony, Christian recording artist who plays the trumpet, July 12 at 6 p.m. For more information, call the church at (901) 759-5955.

■ A benefit musical program to assist the rebuilding effort of **Rocky Valley Church, New Market**, will be held July 25 at the Jefferson Middle School Auditorium. The church was destroyed by fire in March. Performing beginning at 7 p.m. will be The Merritts, The Sammy Hood Family, and Mercy Street. Concessions will be available at 5:30 p.m.

■ **Ridgedale Church, Chattanooga**, will hold the final celebration of its 90th anniversary Aug. 1-2. Activities include visiting the church's former site and the performance of a commissioned anthem.



associations

■ A team from **Cumberland Plateau Association** will serve in Michigan July 11-18 to support the Tennessee/Michigan Baptist Partnership. Members will be building the sanctuary of Faith Church, Durand.

■ **Opportunity Camp** will be held by **Shelby Association** Aug. 3-7 for inner city children. Funding and materials are needed. For more information, contact the association at (901) 756-4012.

schools

■ The Tennessee Board of Associates of **Georgetown College**, Georgetown, Ky., is offering awards of \$100-250 to youth affiliated with Baptist churches for missions trips, athletic equipment, scholarships, etc. To apply for these awards, please submit a letter describing the specific need. Send letters to Bob Boren, P.O. Box 1065, Brentwood, TN 37024-1065 by Sept. 1.

■ **Nenette Measels**, associate campus minister and director of the Baptist Student Union, **Carson-Newman College**, Jefferson City, was named Staff Member of the Year during the annual awards celebration of the college's Student Affairs Division. She has been a staff member of the school for six years.

■ The student services of **Belmont University**, Nashville, named Belmont Central, have been selected as one of six programs internationally to be described as exemplary by the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators.

hospitals

■ **Behavioral Health** for Women's Services of **Baptist Memorial Health Care, Memphis**, conducts a "safety plan" for women who feel they are at risk of being a victim of domestic violence. For more information about domestic violence, call Mary Beth Wiggins, director of Behavioral Health at (901) 226-5013.



BELMONT UNIVERSITY President William Trout, third from left, receives the Higher Education Environmental Stewardship Award from Rick Sinclair, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation recently. Also pictured are, from left, Ernest Blankenship of the department; and of the university, Fred Thompson, Hala Onishka, Steven Murphree, and Susan Hillenmeyer.