

# REFLECTOR

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July 22, 1998

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week's  
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## In Lawrence County

# Tennessee Baptists assist flood victims

By Lonnie Wilkey  
Baptist and Reflector

LAWRENCEBURG — Tennessee Baptists are helping Lawrence County residents "dry out" from what some are describing as the worst flood in the county's recent history.

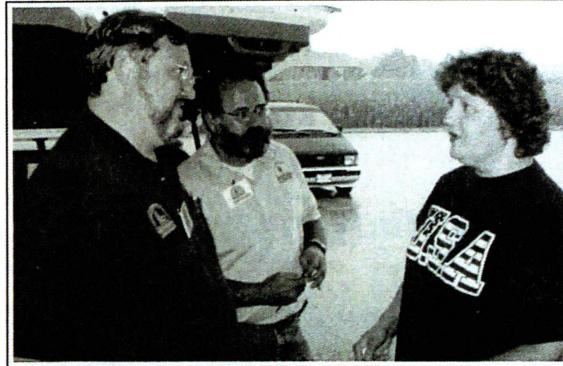
Approximately 10 inches of rain fell in a short period of time July 13, causing severe flash flooding.

Two people are known dead, including Martha Maddox, who was described as "a faithful member" of First Church, Lawrenceburg. Local news reports indicated water rose six feet on some roads. Maddox's car was swept from the Shoal Creek bridge by swift-flowing waters on U.S. Highway 64.

Local Baptists in Lawrence County began helping immediately with cleanup efforts.

Approximately 122 homes received some damage, according to Gary Beazley of the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency.

In addition to cleaning homes, members of First



STATE DISASTER RELIEF director Tim Bearden, left, and Gene Williams of the TBC Executive Board Ministries staff discuss relief plans with Karen Lawrence of First Church, Lawrenceburg. Her husband, David, is pastor.

Church opened their Wednesday evening meal on July 15 to the community, followed by a prayer service.

The Disaster Relief unit from Hardeman County Association, headed by Charles Manley of Bolivar, was activated and began serving one hot meal a day on July 16. The team is set up at First Church.

Through Sunday, July 19, the team had served 4,900 meals. On Saturday, the team was asked by the Red Cross to serve both lunch and dinner. The team anticipated serving 1,000 meals on Monday, according to Gene Williams of the TBC Executive Board Ministries staff. Williams said the feeding unit will stay in opera-

tion indefinitely.

Complicating matters in Lawrenceburg was the city was without water for several days due to damage at their water and sewage treatment plants. Restaurants were shut down by the health department.

The latest disaster to strike Lawrence County (tornados have struck the area in recent months) has once again opened doors to ministry, said David Lawrence, pastor of First Church. "It also has increased awareness that we need to be better prepared (for an emergency) in the future," he said.

Bearden noted that "while some folks may think this is a small disaster, it is major to the people who live here."

He praised Lawrence County Baptists for responding quickly to meet needs in their communities. "Tennessee Baptists were here before state convention representatives arrived. 'I'm glad we can be a part of Lawrence County Baptists' efforts to minister to their community,'" Bearden said. B&R

## Maryville church welcomes home 'prodigal pastor'

By Lonnie Wilkey  
Baptist and Reflector

MARYVILLE — Bob Brown can definitely relate to the prodigal son as told by Jesus in the New Testament.

Unlike the prodigal son, however, Brown left Broadway Church, Maryville, last November on good terms after four years with the congregation. "The Lord had really blessed my ministry at Broadway," Brown recalled. He admitted, however, he may have become impatient that things were not happening at the church as fast as they had during his first three years.

So, Brown accepted a call to a First Baptist Church of a suburb of a major North Carolina city (the name has been intentionally withheld).

It was a larger church with tremendous potential, and a better salary and benefits.

He also was "overwhelmed by the church's commitment, vision, and potential."

And when Brown arrived in North Carolina, he was not disappointed. He hit the ground running and attendance increased and people were accepting Christ and being baptized. "It was exactly what the search committee had presented," Brown said.

Because it was near the end of a school semester, Brown's wife, Linnie, and three children remained in Maryville to sell the house and finish the semester before moving to North Carolina during the holidays.

The North Carolina church had rented the family a furnished apartment until their house sold.

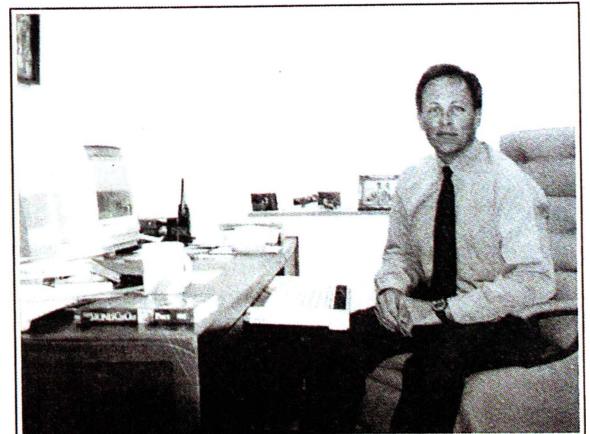
Everything seemed perfect but deep down something did not seem right, Brown recalled. His wife particularly was having trouble adjusting. "We prayed and decided it was not ordinary moving adjustments," Brown said.

"Linnie and I always have been equal partners before the

Lord and I respect her opinions. I believe he used her adjustment problems to open my eyes to consider that I may have jumped ahead of the

Lord's will," Brown said.

Brown finally asked the question both had to face: "Have we made a mistake?" — See Maryville, page 6



BOB BROWN, pastor of Broadway Church, Maryville, sits at his computer in his office. He left the church last November to go to North Carolina. After realizing he was not in God's will, he returned to Maryville where he was welcomed back by his former congregation as pastor once again.

MOVING? Cut out and mail address label and new address to *Baptist and Reflector*, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, Tenn., 7024

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# TBC Pastor's Retreat offers time for renewal

For Baptist and Reflector

**BRENTWOOD** — The annual Tennessee Baptist Pastor's Retreat is planned for Aug. 10-13 at Camp Carson in Newport.

The retreat offers ministers opportunities to enjoy inspirational preaching, Bible study, recreation, and relaxation.

Bible study will be led by Tim Beougher, Billy Graham associate professor of evangelism at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Speakers bringing multiple messages are Fred Wolfe of Barnabas, A Ministry of Encouragement, Mobile, Ala.; Phil Hoskins, pastor, Higher Ground Church, Kingsport;

and Jimmy Terry, pastor, Tabernacle Church, Clarks-ville, and president of the Tennessee Baptist Pastor's Conference.

Other speakers include evangelists Jim Lindsay of Elizabethton and Henry Linginfelter of Alcoa and Ken Weathersby, evangelism specialist for the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Dave White, minister of music at Calvary Church, Union City, will serve as worship leader. Special music will be provided by Carolyn Reed of Nashville. Recreation will be directed by Archie Fendley of Central Church, Bearden, Knoxville.

Cost of the retreat is \$85 and includes nine meals, pro-



BEOUGHER



HOSKINS



LINDSAY



LINGINFELTER



REED



TERRY



WHITE



WOLFE

gram, and three nights lodging. A \$5 registration fee is needed by Aug. 7.

For more information, call the TBC Evangelism Strategic office at (615) 371-7917. ■

## Barna study gives insight to religious, political behavior

Associated Baptist Press

**OXNARD, Calif.** — Most Americans believe these are the "good old days," according to a new survey by the Barna Research Group, an observer of U.S. religious trends. "Most Americans possess a positive view of life at the end of the 20th century," reported George Barna, the firm's president and founder.

"Three out of four (75 percent) say they are either completely or mostly satisfied with their life these days," Barna said. "A similar portion (76 percent) are 'excited about the future.'"

Two-thirds of Americans told researchers they are comfortable financially. Meanwhile, only about one-third indicated they feel "stressed out," and a similar number said they are "searching for meaning in life."

"One of the reasons underlying people's sense of security is their religious faith," Barna said. "Overall, seven out of 10 Americans describe themselves as religious, and nearly two-thirds say they are 'a committed Christian.'"

Several other indicators revealed faith is vital to most Americans, he added.

For example, 83 percent said "religious faith is very important" to them.

Research shows Christianity is holding its own, even in a day of religious pluralism, he said.

"Despite all of the talk about the encroachment of non-Christian faiths in America, the reality is that more than four out of five people still view themselves as Christian," he said.

The new research reveals "people view life in very different ways," Barna said. He cited several demographic factors that help determine Americans' outlook:

### ▶ Gender.

"Women emerged as much more likely than men to describe themselves as religious (76 percent versus 64 percent), as Christian (86/77) and as a committed Christian (69/53)," he said.

"Men were more than twice as likely as women to declare that they are atheist, agnostic, or have no religious faith (15 percent versus 6 percent)."

### ▶ Financial status.

Increase in income reduces Americans' religious ties, the survey showed.

"Upscale individuals also tend to be more satisfied with life, more excited about the future, and more apt to believe they are seen as leaders and are more likely to acknowledge living in financial comfort," Barna explained. "The affluent

are less likely to ... be searching for meaning in life."

### ▶ Age.

Baby Busters — Americans from 18 to 32 — are the least likely to say they are religious (62 percent), Christian (72 percent) or committed Christians (46 percent).

Baby Boomers — age 33 to 51 — are the ones most likely to define themselves as leaders (69 percent) and financially comfortable (68 percent).

Older Americans — age 52 and up — are the most religious, most pervasively Christian, the most satisfied with their lives, and the most likely to be conservative.

### ▶ Location.

People who live in the Northeast are the least likely to be politically conservative. They paired with residents of the West to be the Americans least likely to be religious and Christian. Residents in the South and Midwest hold similar views and are more likely than people elsewhere to describe themselves as religious, Christian, and committed Christians.

### ▶ Marriage.

Married people are more likely than singles to define themselves as religious, Christian, committed Christians, conservative, financially comfortable, leaders, and satisfied with life, the survey showed. ■

## Partnership Prayer Requests

### July

- 22 — Pray for TBC President Doug Sager and Terry Sharp, TBC Partnership/Volunteer Missions specialist, who are participating this week in the 94th annual meeting of the Carioca Baptist Convention.
- 23 — Pray for a Baptist church in British Columbia, Canada, which is in division due to its worship style and music. Ask God to intervene.
- 24 — Pray for "Building a Better Bambi," an effort to expand the facilities at Michigan Baptists' state convention retreat and conference center.
- 25 — Pray for IMB missionary Bill Egbert as he reaches out to several indigenous communities in the South Zone of Costa Rica.
- 26 — Pray for the Gospel to reach the millions of unchurched people in Canada. Reports indicate that 80 percent of Canadians are un-reached.
- 27 — Pray for volunteer groups that are coming to Michigan this summer in Christ's name. Ask God to use them in a mighty way.
- 28 — Pray for the Costa Rica Baptist Mission as they adjust to the "new directions" and strategies of the area for reaching the nationals for Christ. Ask God for a smooth transition in several ministry areas.

## TBC camp testimonies sought

For Baptist and Reflector

**BRENTWOOD** — Did you give your life to Christ at Camp Linden or Camp Carson?

Do you, or does someone you know, have a testimony regarding an experience at Camp Linden or Camp Carson?

Are you a missionary who accepted God's call at Camp

Linden or Camp Carson?

Are you a pastor who surrendered to the ministry at either Tennessee Baptist camp?

If so, the TBC Executive Board Administrative Services group would like to share your testimony with other Tennessee Baptists.

Please send to: Testimony, Administrative Services, P. O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37024-0728. ■

**TBC on the Web!**  
[www.tnbaptist.org](http://www.tnbaptist.org)

# Weekley gains health, insights after transplant

By Connie Davis  
Baptist and Reflector

**HENDERSONVILLE** — Glenn Weekley felt he was prepared for the kidney transplant he underwent in 1993. But he wasn't prepared to hear a physician tell him during recovery he might never preach again. He wept, he admitted.

Weekley, pastor of First Church here, recalled that experience recently and how his illness still affects his life.

## Disease discovered

Weekley learned he had nephritis when he was 31 years old. It's cause was unknown, but in his case, the disease was thought to be linked to a childhood infection. He was told his kidneys would fail in five years.

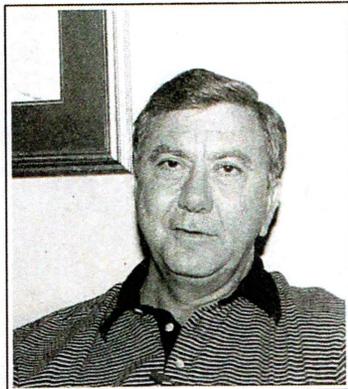
Weekley took a proactive stance toward his illness. His friends and family weren't surprised. Weekley is an activist in other areas of life. During his 11-year tenure at the Hendersonville church, it has grown from 3,706 to 5,757 members.

To address his health problem, Weekley strictly controlled his diet, became a competitive jogger, and participated in hospital-directed studies.

His efforts paid off. He forestalled the disease until age 45, when he underwent transplant surgery. Weekley received a kidney from his brother, Marvin of Perdido, Ala.

The brothers entered surgery optimistically. Marvin, who underwent the most serious surgery, was healthy and willing with the support of his family.

Weekley was strong physically, too. He never underwent kidney dialysis because Marvin met the needed timetable



GLENN WEEKLEY visits in his office at First Church, Hendersonville, which he serves as pastor.

for the surgery. And the kidney he would receive was the best match possible.

Weekley also was strong emotionally and spiritually, he detailed. His family and First Church, Hendersonville, were very supportive. He was able to plan for any problems resulting from the surgery. For example, he bought excellent insurance because of the support of the church.

Finally, he "was very confident that the Lord was going to take care of me," he said.

## Recovery

Both brothers began recovery. Then, three months after the transplant, Glenn Weekley had a series of heart attacks.

The setback was a serious one. Dur-

ing this period one of Weekley's doctors told him he might never preach again. It was the lowest point in his life since his father died, he described.

However, three months later Weekley was preaching again. And although he has made some adjustments and had some heart problems recently, he continues a demanding schedule today.

## Benefits

Weekley has gained much from his experience, he explained.

"After 32 years of ministering to other people, for the first time I really felt what it was like to be ministered to," he said. "It made me understand how precious the support of the fellowship of the church is."

And his experience has helped him minister. People learned he was as vulnerable as they were so they could relate to him more easily, he said. When ill people learn about his illness, they know he can understand their struggles, he explained.

"I don't really know how that could have happened any other way," Weekley said.

Another benefit of his illness was to empower his co-workers. During his recovery the church staff assumed many of his responsibilities, which expanded their skills, he said.

Finally, his family and extended family benefited from the time together during the surgeries and re-



covery, he continued. They often review video tapes made during those months, Weekley noted.

## Personal blessings

"Why me?" is a legitimate question, said Weekley. Even the biblical character, Job, asked that, he added.

Weekley asked that question too, and decided he wasn't so special that he wouldn't have problems.

When he shares his experience with others, he explains his study has led him to believe illness and other problems are either the result of disobedience or the general problem of sin in the world.

Christians who endure such trials will strengthen their faith, deepen their character, increase their empathy, and expand their trust in God, he said.

Finally Weekley said he has learned the kind of gratitude "you feel when somebody makes a sacrifice for you," referring to his brother, Marvin. Because of that sacrifice, he continues to monitor his health, including playing basketball regularly.

"There is hurt, but you can survive it," he said. *B&R*

## 'Courage in Ministry' series

The series "Courage in Ministry" continues in this issue. These articles consider ministers and family members who continue ministry during extreme trials in their lives. *B&R*

# Volunteer builders continue work at BSU Center in Martin



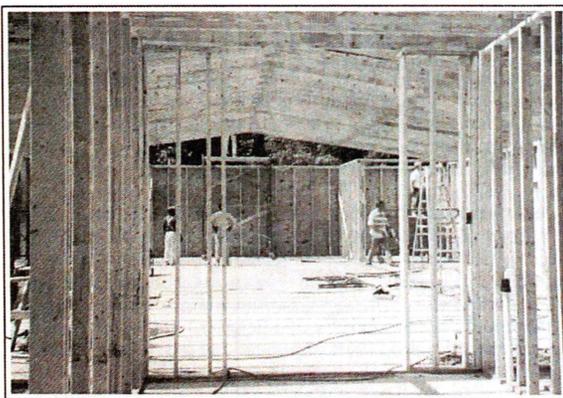
For Baptist  
and Reflector

**MARTIN** — Individual volunteers from Tennessee and teams participating in the Mississippi River Ministry have completed about two-thirds of the addition to the Baptist Student Union (BSU) Center at the University of Tennessee — Martin, reported Adam Hall, campus minister.

Volunteers suffered a slight setback in June when roof trusses collapsed. Dale Royster, a member of Eastside Church, Martin, and a member of the Student Work Advisory Committee, which oversees Baptist student work at the school, was hurt. He has since recovered.

In three days the damaged section was repaired and work has continued nearly on schedule, reported Hall. He is being assisted by John Cole, volunteer construction supervisor from First Church, Huntingdon.

The following teams have served — Eastanallee Church,



VOLUNTEERS work on the addition to the BSU Center a month ago before the roof trusses collapsed.

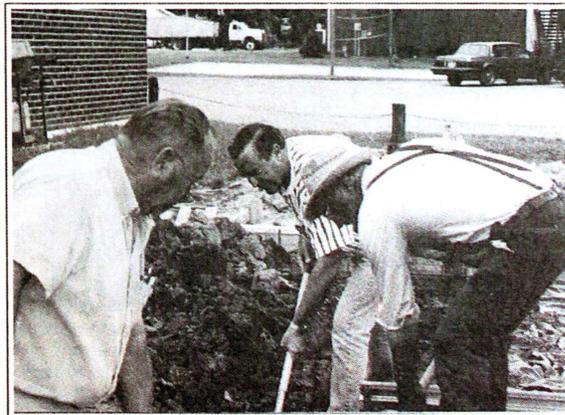
Riceville; First Church, Martin; Maury Association; Good Springs Church, Etowah; and a group from Henderson, Texas.

The addition is a 60-by-80-foot building which will serve to host meetings and missions teams who wish to spend the night. It will be named the Clarice Thomason Worship Center.

To fund the addition, the Student Work Advisory Com-

mittee, which is a cooperative effort of Beulah, Carroll-Benton, and Weekley associations, has raised about \$65,000. The committee is led by Bryan Harris, a member of Pleasant Hill Church, Martin. About \$25,000 is still needed.

Hall thanked Cole, whose work has been "tremendous," he said, the many workers, and those who have given money to fund the effort. He also thanked local Baptists



IN AN EARLY stage of construction volunteers dig to prepare for the addition. They include, from left, Dale Royster, a member of Eastside Church, Martin; Adam Hall, BSU director; and John Cole, construction supervisor from First Church, Huntingdon.

who helped roof the addition and the old building to get the work back on schedule. Local volunteers also have done repair work to keep things moving, Hall explained.

All teams who have scheduled work have served, reported Hall, except the Tennessee Bricklayers, who will add the brick exterior in the final

stages of construction.

The worship center is scheduled to open Oct. 31, to coincide with the school's homecoming activities, said Hall.

People wishing to serve as volunteer workers or help in other ways should contact Hall at the BSU Center at (901) 587-9063. *B&R* — Connie Davis

# Union City church forms relationship with TBCH

For Baptist and Reflector

UNION CITY — Sunswept Church here has entered into a covenant of partnership with the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes in ministry to families.

The two will coordinate efforts to enlist and train volunteer family mentors to serve in the TBCH Family Preservation Ministry with families in conflict and crisis and in need of Christian love, support, and guidance.

The TBCH will assist Sunswept in developing Open Door Ministries — a new ministry of the church — as a family resource center, utilizing people and facility resources to serve the needs of families and children in the local area.

The partnership is being made in view of the rapid decline in family stability and the resulting personal and societal problems, and in light of the redemptive ministry of the church as mandated by Jesus Christ, the covenant states.

"The ultimate goal is the salvation of the lost, the restoration of the family, all to the glory of God and the praise and honor of the Lord Jesus Christ," according to the covenant, signed by Gerald Stow, TBCH president, and James Kinsey, pastor of Sunswept.

The Open Door Ministries is housed in a home the church recently purchased on East Main Street behind the church. Members voted the Open Door Ministries as the name of the home and the many ministries it will house, with the name coming from Revelation 3:8: "... I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it ..."

Stow was among TBCH officials in Union City June 29 for an advisory committee meeting at Open Door Ministries. He was joined by Kelly Campbell of Greenfield, director and family consultant



**LEADERS OF SUNSWEPT CHURCH, Union City, and the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes meet to finalize a covenant of partnership in ministry to families. Meeting recently were, from left, Gerald Stow and Gene Gafford, TBCH; Sunswept Pastor James Kinsey; Kelly Campbell, TBCH; Tom and Chris Menees, Sunswept members and houseparents for Open Door Ministries; and Jerry Essary, director of missions for Beulah Association.**

for the TBCH Families Ministry; Gene Gafford, TBCH vice president, west region; and Bryant Millsaps, TBCH special assistant to the president.

The advisory committee members for the partnership between Open Doors and TBCH include representatives from various organizations and Sunswept Church, the TBCH, Weakley County Association, and Beulah Association.

Campbell, who was elected advisory committee chairman, led the group into a needs assessment period during which he asked committee members to tell of community needs related to families and children in order to establish priorities for developing a ministry to meet those needs.

Needs discussed included a mentoring program, parenting classes, temporary placement for children, a respite program,

and tutoring. Training for family resource center volunteers was also discussed in an effort to make them more prepared and readily available to serve.

At the close of the meeting Gafford presented framed copies of the signed covenant and noted the concept could be a model for other Baptist associations across the state to establish similar links.

Kinsey was excited about the partnership.

"From our standpoint, we count it an honor to partnership with Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, with the tremendous experience and credibility that they have.

"We just count it a joy to be in partnership with them in order to meet needs. To know that God is up to something and that we're laborers together is exciting." ■



## DOM Mike Rogers accepts call to church in Florida

For Baptist and Reflector

CLEVELAND — Mike Rogers, director of missions in Bradley County Association since February 1997, has resigned effective Aug. 31 to accept a pastorate in Florida.

Rogers and his wife, Debi, are former missionaries to Venezuela where he served as a general evangelist and church planter. He has served as pastor of two churches in Kentucky.

Rogers also is founder and president of Kingdom Agenda Ministries. He and his wife are authors of *The Kingdom Agenda: Experiencing God in Your Workplace*. He recently wrote Sunday School lesson commentaries for the *Baptist and Reflector* (March-May).

He is a graduate of Chaminade University in Honolulu, Hawaii, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky. *B&R*



**ROGERS**

## C-N to publish Southern Baptist historical journal

For Baptist and Reflector

JEFFERSON CITY — The Southern Baptist Historical Society recently voted to move publication of its journal, *Baptist History and Heritage*, to Carson-Newman College.

Merrill Hawkins, assistant professor of religion at Carson-Newman, will assume editorship of the journal, beginning in October 1998.

"The Southern Baptist Historical Society is delighted to entrust publication of the most important journal on Baptist history and Southern Baptist history in the United States to Carson-Newman College," said Slayden Yarbrough, executive director of the SBHS and editor of

*Baptist History and Heritage* since 1995.

Yarbrough noted that Carson-Newman "has the leadership to continue to improve upon the quality of *Baptist History and Heritage*."

The restructuring of the Southern Baptist Convention which resulted in the dissolution of the SBC Historical Commission left doubts about the future of the journal.

The journal had been published by the SBC agency.

The Southern Baptist Historical Society, based at Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee, was given rights to the

journal. Leadership felt moving the journal away from OBU would help the journal to be more efficient and would spread out the work load of the SBHS, Yarbrough said.

"There was no debate over where to move *Baptist History and Heritage*. From the very beginning Carson-Newman and President Cordell Maddox have stood on the front line in assuring that the ministry of Baptist history would not only survive, but flourish," Yarbrough said.

Hawkins said his goal is to strengthen the journal's work with local Baptist congregations and with the academic community. C-N will begin publication of *Baptist History and Heritage* with the Winter 1999 issue. ■



**YARBROUGH**

## Prayerwalking training set for Sept. 12 in Brentwood

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — The TBC Executive Board's Missions Awareness and Involvement Group's volunteer missions team will host a Prayerwalking Training Practicum on Saturday, Sept. 12, at the Baptist Center here from

10 a.m. — 4 p.m.

Prayerwalking is a spiritual phenomenon that has unfolded in recent years and is "praying on site with insight," according to Terry Sharp, TBC partnership missions specialist.

Southern Baptists have praywalked in overseas settings, university settings,

homes, government buildings, and other places. They have done this alongside missionaries and other Christians.

The prayerwalking practicum will be led by Bob McEachern of the Southern Baptist International Mission Board. He is a former missionary to Korea and has done

prayerwalks and taught the practicum in several cities in the United States and overseas.

There is no charge for the practicum but reservations are needed. For more information, call the partnership/volunteer missions team at (615) 371-2021 or 1-800-558-2090. ■

## Registration begun for preschool meet

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — Registrations are now being accepted for WEE Pocket of Ideas, a seminar for preschool workers in day care, preschool weekday programs, Sunday School, Discipleship Training, and other preschool ministries.

The seminar is planned for Aug. 8 from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at First Church, Powell.

In addition to workshops, there will be a luncheon, display of teacher-made teaching aids, and door prizes.

Registration is \$25 per person, and participants will be granted six hours of in-service training for their day care license requirement.

For additional information and/or registration, call Sue Raley, TBC Executive Board preschool ministry specialist, at 1-800-558-2090, or write to her at P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37024. ■

# Take advantage of Baptist and Reflector Day

By Lonnie Wilkey  
Interim Editor

Sunday, Aug. 16, is *Baptist and Reflector* Day on the Tennessee Baptist calendar.

So what? you might ask. I already read the paper.

The staff of the *Baptist and Reflector* appreciates each and every one of our readers. But we need more.

In the last few months you have seen an increasing focus on Tennessee Baptists and their ministries. That has been intentional.

A study conducted by Craig & Associates last year indicated our readers want more Tennessee Baptist news, and more stories on family issues, and issues dealing with church growth and evangelism.

We have heard and we are trying our best to give you, our readers, the best paper possible that informs and enlightens.

We are working with Executive Board ministry groups to better share what they are doing to assist our Tennessee Baptist churches. Two columns on this page and articles on page 13 share information helpful and beneficial to families. A new feature in this issue is "Grading the Videos." Hopefully, this will help families make good decisions about videos they or their children want to rent. Let us know what you think about this feature and others.

As we try to implement findings from the Craig report, we want more and more readers to benefit from what we are trying to do. Help us by promoting *Baptist and Reflector* Day. You may be an individual subscriber from a church that does not subscribe for its members. If so, talk with your pastor and encourage him to order copies for everyone on *Baptist and Reflector* Day.

The Aug. 12 issue of the *Baptist and Reflector*, which will be the one used on

*B&R* Day, will contain a special insert featuring the Golden State Missions Offering. A kit has been sent to every church that has a listed WMU director with Tennessee WMU. If your church does not, call WMU at 1-800-558-2090.

On page 16 of this issue, Carrol Kelly, executive director-treasurer of Tennessee WMU, writes: "This is an excellent opportunity to share state missions information with church members as well as introducing them to our state newspaper. This paper is a friend of missions that weekly shares mission stories from Tennessee, the United States, and around the world."

We appreciate her confidence and support. The *Baptist and Reflector* is indeed a friend of not only missions, but Baptist work in Tennessee as a whole.

We want more and more people to know of the great work Tennessee Baptists are doing in the name of Christ. Help us find more readers! *B&R*



**editorial/  
opinion**

**grading the  
movies**  
helping families find  
videos with values  
by Rod Gustafson

Movie: *Joey*  
U.S. Rating: PG  
Time: 97 minutes  
Overall: C+  
Violence: C  
Sexual Content: A  
Language: B+

The summer of '98 is off to a rough start with few pickings for family videos. If you can find "Joey," it provides an interesting example of "monkey-see, kangaroo-do" as the Australians try their best to create a Home Alone-like feature.

In the movie, Billy McGregor (Alex McKenna), a fatherless boy who loves animals, spends his days watching kangaroos on the neighbor's land. When the landowner decides to try and shoot the roos (Aussie for kangaroo), the fleeing mob (Aussie for kangaroo herd) leaves a joey (Aussie for baby roo) behind. Alex brings the joey home, setting up the classic "wild animal in the house and I can't tell my mom scene," followed by the "mom finds wild animal and it ransacks the kitchen scene."

The plot thickens when it is discovered the roos are being tranquilized and taken to Sydney to what sounds like a roo zoo. Alex hops on a train with the joey in hopes that he can reunite the baby with his mother. Eventually he teams up with the daughter of the U.S. ambassador, and the two of them confront the blokes (Aussie for bad guys) who they discover are using the animals for the unbelievable idea of roo vs. human boxing matches.

If bad comedy isn't enough, younger children will be frightened by scenes involving two mysterious men who want to hurt the kangaroos and engage in cartoon-like violence. However, its greatest fault is the script doesn't ever decide if it's going to be funny or serious. One moment Alex's mother is concerned for her son's life, and next we are presented with crooks who have ridiculous sound effects added when their heads move.

I was hoping these Australian film-makers would bring an end to the family video drought, but even Joey's unusual location and novel Australian perspective couldn't save a script that's for the dingos. ■ — © 1998, One Voice Communications

## Counselor offers principles for dealing effectively with grief

### families matter

by Paul Barkley  
counselor,  
professor



Grief has been called the common leveler of human experiences. Grief has a tendency to make all men brothers.

I seldom ask for prayer requests in my classes when I do not have at least one request for some family that is facing grief. I have developed a little acrostic of the word, GRIEF, to help us learn how to deal effectively with grief.

The Gravity will be devastating. Grief always comes from some loss. There are many kinds of losses that elicit grief. Death of a loved one, divorce, loss of a job, loss of a home to fire, storm, or flood are only a few. The intensity

will be directly related to the relationship to the person or object lost and the manner of the loss. The closer the relationship, the more devastating the loss will be. Sudden losses seem to be more difficult than those we have a chance to prepare for.

The Rationale will be difficult. One of the best ways to face our own grief work is with the realization that there are no satisfying answers to the Why? question. Some people are able to look at Job's experience and say God had a purpose in allowing Satan to take his family, health, and wealth.

That has never satisfied me. I have to come away with the realization that life is not always fair, and I cannot understand everything. I can, however, always trust my loving, heavenly Father.

The Individuality will be distinct. Because we are all unique and the relationships we form

are different, our grief will not be just like everyone else's. You and I cannot go to the funeral home or to the site of a tragedy and tell someone else that we know how they feel. Our relationship with our father was not like theirs and our grief will not be alike.

The Emotions will be dogged. One of the common experiences of grief work is the flooding of a myriad of emotions. We do not all express our experience with emotions in the same way, but we will all have emotions. I am, therefore, uncomfortable with the stage theories of grief. Most people do not grieve that neatly.

I have an illustration of grief called the "tangled ball of emotions." Grief is compared to a ball of scrap yarn that has been collected over time. As one pulls one piece off the ball, he never knows what color will be under it to come off later.

Emotions in grief are like that. Sadness, anxiety, fear,

anger, bitterness, rage, envy — the list is almost endless and they all come off the tangled ball unexpectedly at times.

Finally, the Frequency will be disconcerting. Another of the problems I have with stage theories of grief is that very few people follow the stages correctly. I love to go to the beach. When I am standing in the surf, braced to face the waves, I relax and let down my guard when I have become accustomed to the ebb and flow. Then an unusually large wave comes and knocks me off balance.

Grief work is very similar. Just when I think I have a handle on the emotions, some unusually strong one comes along and knocks me down again. I need to realize that this is just the way grief is. It does not mean I haven't done my grief work properly.

These five principles will help us more effectively deal with our grief work. ■

## Forgiveness frees energy, resources for life's challenges

### FamilyFax

Edited by  
Susan Lanford

"Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against the other, forgive each other: just as the Lord has forgiven you" (Colossians 3:13).

Forgiveness is an understood component of every strong, viable relationship. It is also a skill the church can teach its members and offer to its community to restore relationships.

Relationship with self. C. S. Lewis wrote, "I think that if God forgives us we must for-

give ourselves. Otherwise (we) set up ourselves as a higher tribunal than him." Christians, asked to be Christ-like, struggle with self-forgiveness, with self-directed, critical, blaming messages — what one psych therapist calls, "the 'should' monster." The should monster not only keeps us dissatisfied with ourselves, it also steals our hope that we will ever do better.

Relationship with others. Again, C. S. Lewis: "To be Christian means to forgive the inexcusable, because God has forgiven the inexcusable in you." Christians, parents particularly, worry that forgiving means condoning, excusing, trivializing sin. Through Christ's example, we know that forgiveness never dis-

counts sin. Forgiveness confirms that we know another's sinful act is not their final option. Forgiven, they have the option of Christ-likeness opened to them again.

Finally, consider some benefits forgiveness brings to families.

► Forgiveness precedes blessing. The energy expended to gain personal blessing is a theme of Genesis 27. This search for blessing began when the older twin, Esau, "despised his birthright" and the younger twin, Jacob, actively sought to extract the favor that belonged to his brother. The blessings dispensed in that atmosphere of deception and hatred were almost meaningless. If ever a family needed to offer forgive-

ness, it was Isaac's family.

► Forgiveness frees energy and resources for life's tasks and challenges. Christ's actions on the cross supremely exemplify this truth.

Families who forgive have more energy for life's daily difficulties, because the energy required to remain bitter and unforgiving depletes all the compassion, kindness, even humor needed for relationships to work and families to function well. ■ — Lanford, a member of First Church, Nashville, edits FamilyFax for Acacia Resources, a division of the Nashville-based Baptist Center for Ethics. FamilyFax is available at no cost from BCE. A dedicated FAX line is needed. For information, FAX request to (615) 383-0915.

# Maryville church welcomes home 'prodigal' ...

— Continued from page 1

The couple cried and dealt with that question for several weeks. Brown even sought counsel from a friend who had experienced a similar situation. After getting away by himself and wrestling with God about the decision, Brown came to realize he had to trust God and resign his position with the new church even though he had nowhere to go.

While the thought did cross his mind that they could remain for a couple of years and then go elsewhere, Brown said the "only honorable thing to do would be resign."

So on a Sunday in February in front of about 750 people, Brown admitted the struggles his family had been going through and announced his resignation. "They had no idea this was coming. There was deafening silence," he said.

And though the search committee met with him after the service and tried to talk him out of the decision, even offering an extended leave of absence, they "were unanimous in their support of my decision," Brown said. "They were incredible in their grace and love."

The Browns returned to Maryville where their house had still not sold. "We know God did not want it to sell," Brown says now with conviction.

"We came here with no assurance of what would happen," Brown said, noting he had talked with some members of the pastor search team at Broadway. The church had not yet found a new pastor.

Brown met with the team who agreed they should present him for nomination to the church.

First, however, Brown wanted to meet with the deacons and later the entire church body.

"I did not want to cause any more disruption to the church than I already had," Brown said.

Team chairman Mike Chesney said he was surprised when his former pastor called him and indicated an interest in returning. Ironically, Chesney said, Brown called the same night the committee had turned down one candidate.

Chesney said he reminded Brown that any frustrations he had when he left would still be at the church if Brown re-

turned. Brown said he had reconciled that in his heart; Chesney said.

After meeting with Brown, the committee was convinced it was in God's will to extend a call to their former pastor, Chesney related.

Brown asked to meet with the deacons who asked him some tough questions, and rightfully so, Brown said. One of those questions was "How can we know you won't do it again?" Brown said he could not assure them it would not happen again.

"I told them they could not know because I do not know. God may take me away down the road. But I will never go unless I'm 100 percent sure it's of the Lord," he said.

He added that while he could not promise them he would not leave, he did tell them "my roots run deep."

Following a unanimous vote from the deacons, Brown requested a town meeting with the entire church in late February where they could ask questions.

"At the close of that meeting everyone applauded," Brown recalled. "It was incredible."

The following Sunday

Brown preached a sermon on the "prodigal pastor" and at the end of the service the congregation took a standing vote. Only one person remained seated.

"It was overwhelming," Brown said.

Chesney agreed. "I'm pleased with the response of the church. I feel that was God working in the church, telling us that Bob needed to be in the pulpit of Broadway Baptist Church.

"We're pleased to have him back," Chesney said.

Since his return Brown says people have asked him to stop using the word "mistake" when referring to what has taken place.

God took this situation and used it for his gain, Brown said. "I stepped out of God's will, but he was able to take that and use it for his ultimate good."

He admitted he may have fallen victim to the theory that "the grass is always greener on the other side of the fence" instead of truly seeking God's will for his life.

The Maryville pastor cited what happened as the "most humiliating and humbling ex-

perience in my life — to stand before two congregations and say, 'I've blown it.'"

Through the experience, Brown said, "I learned my ministry was not my ministry, but God's."

And since he's been back, he has seen how God worked at Broadway while he was gone.

"We still have the same strengths and same needs (as before he left), but there seems to be a new spirit here."

Brown said attendance has begun to climb to where they were before he left. "I don't think anyone left because I came back," he laughed.

In fact, he noted, people "have said they respect me more because they know how hard it was for me to do this."

Brown said the story is not so much about him and what he did as it is a "story of a church's grace, forgiveness, and spiritual maturity." *B&R*



## At First Church, Savannah

### One-day VBS doubles attendance from traditional schools

For Baptist and Reflector

SAVANNAH — For awhile it appeared that First Church here would not have a Vacation Bible School.

"It looked like we would not be able to secure workers," admitted Marjorie Casteel, who has worked in Vacation Bible School for a number of years, but has not directed one until this year.

Most of our people simply could not commit to five full evenings, she said.

The idea for a one-day VBS on a Saturday was brought up. "Everyone agreed and supported the idea," Casteel said. Ironically, though she planned the schedule she could only be there at the beginning and end, she said.

But what turned out to be a last-ditch effort to salvage VBS proved to be most effective, Casteel reported.

The one-day VBS enrolled a total of 118 participants, nearly double the total enrollment of traditional five-day schools in recent years, she said.

The church used the regular VBS material offered by LifeWay Christian Resources (formerly Baptist Sunday

School Board) and the "Star Quest" theme.

To maximize Bible teaching for the children, the day was divided into 10 periods of 40 minutes each.

The VBS convened at 8 a.m. with a light breakfast and brief assembly. It was followed by the first Bible study time with age-group teachers.

The five Bible study periods were alternated with a period for each of the following: music, recreation, crafts, and mission emphasis. Everyone enjoyed lunch together with time to view the worship drama videos during the lunch period.

The schedule resulted in 200 minutes of quality Bible teaching and an enjoyable 20 to 35 minutes each of music, crafts, recreation, and mission emphasis, she reported.

During the day, Bible study and fellowship also were conducted for youth and adults.

The youth enjoyed a fellowship outing away from the church which involved a

short Bible study.

The adults met from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. with Bob Elliot, interim pastor, for their Bible study.

Food was kept simple with muffins and juice for breakfast, pizza and salad for lunch, fresh fruit for morning snack, and an ice cream bar for an afternoon snack, Casteel said.

She noted workers cited several advantages to the one-day plan:

(1) Consistent teaching and attendance with fewer unplanned adjustments necessary. There was no "here one day, missing the next" for either workers or children, Casteel said.

(2) Improved behavior. The fast-paced schedule does not leave room for down time when discipline problems are most likely to occur, she said.

(3) Less physically tiring. The alternating periods allowed for short rest/prep time before each session for both Bible group leaders and activ-

ity leaders, Casteel noted.

(4) Sufficient help. There were no problems obtaining the needed number of workers, Casteel said.

(5) Cost effectiveness. The cost of the VBS was less than traditional five-day schools, even including the cost of the meals, she observed.

Workers did cite two major disadvantages, she said.

(1) Time for activities such as the music and crafts was considerably less.

(2) Adjustments had to be made quickly. It was important to have enough materials on hand, Casteel said, noting that not knowing how many would attend made it difficult. Yet, they had all the material they needed with some left that they were able to share with a smaller church, she noted.

The one-day VBS turned out "to be a very positive experience," she said.

"We had people involved in VBS who had never been involved before." In addition, she noted, it served as a good outreach tool as some who came to VBS later attended Sunday School. ■ — Lonnie Wilkey contributed to story.



## Jefferson County churches sponsor county-wide crusade

For Baptist and Reflector

JEFFERSON CITY — The Jefferson County "County-Wide Crusade" will be held July 26-31 at 7 p.m. each night at Carson Newman College's Holt Field House.

Guest evangelist will be Pastor Ron Stewart of Grace Church, Knoxville.

Gene North will serve as music evangelist.

A nursery for children, birth to 3-year-olds, will be held at First Church, Jefferson City.

The crusade is sponsored by churches affiliated with Jefferson County Association.

For more information, call the association office at (423) 475-1453. *B&R*

### Observe Baptist & Reflector Day — Aug. 16

If your church does not send the paper to every member, order copies for them by calling (615) 371-2003 by Aug. 6. Help spread the word about your Baptist state newspaper!!

## Message from Christian Growth Development director

Greetings!

Leadership training is an important ingredient for church growth. For many years, Sunday School leader training has been conducted by the Tennessee Baptist Convention. This year is no exception. Across the three grand divisions, Tennessee Baptists will have the opportunity to participate in different training events.



HOLCOMB

Fourteen associations in the Western Grand Division will host a Sunday School/Discipleship Training event called *Church Workers Tune-Up*. Conferences are planned for pastors, Sunday School Directors, Sunday School teachers, Discipleship Training Directors, and other lay leadership of the church. The Director of Missions, State Leadership and other key leaders from the association designed all of these conferences. If you are in the Western

Grand Division, please contact your Director of Missions for the specific content of your local conference.

Middle Tennessee will recognize Sunday School Leadership and hear about the future of the Sunday School and Bible Study. Sunday School Revivals called *The Winning Spirit*, will be held at First Baptist Church, Columbia, Aug. 10th and Two Rivers Baptist Church, Nashville, Aug. 11th. Dr. Len Sweet, Dean of the Theological School and Vice-President of Drew University in Madison, New Jersey, will be the featured speaker for the Sunday School Revival. Dr. Sweet has written various books about the American culture, faith, and the future. He has spoken at many Baptist Meetings — LifeWay Christian Resources' Leadership Summit, Glorieta Conference Center, and several Baptist conventions. Middle Tennesseans will benefit from hearing Dr. Sweet.

Another significant aspect of the Sunday School Revival will be the honoring of Sunday School leadership. Nomination forms are available from Middle Tennessee Directors of Missions. Nomination deadline is July 29th! During each of our two revival nights, Sunday School leadership will be recognized. Make sure you are there to celebrate the faithfulness of your Sunday School leaders.

In the East Grand Division, there will be five regional training events called *Mapping It Out*. The events are scheduled for Chattanooga, Cleveland, Knoxville, Johnson City, and Morristown. Each regional event will feature approximately 25 conferences. These conferences are one to two hours in length. The East Tennessee Directors of Missions have site-specific conference content for your church to evaluate.

A major portion of Christian Growth Development leadership training strategy is to conduct a leader event in every association by 2000. For each of the next two years, 1999 and 2000, the Christian Growth Development Group will rotate associational meetings, Sunday School Revivals, and Regionals until every association will have had a leader training meeting of its own.

### 1999

**West — Regional Event**  
**Middle — Associational Event**  
**East — Sunday School Revival**

### 2000

**West — Sunday School Revival**  
**Middle — Regional Event**  
**East — Associational Event**

## Tennessee's Christian Growth Development Group staff members



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# Church Workers Tune-up (West Region)

This year, Leadership Training conferences will be conducted in each of the locations listed in the box on this page. The goal is to provide leadership training in each association by the year 2000. In planning for these conferences, the Director of Missions teamed up with State personnel to develop the conference design.

Listed below is a sampling of the type of conferences that will be offered. Not all of these conferences will be offered in each location. Please contact your Director of Missions to find out which conferences will be offered in your association. Conference time for each location is: 6:45 – 9:00 pm. Please make your plans to attend!! ■

## General Officers

### ► The Pastor and the Sunday School Director in the Small Church

This conference will help the pastor and Sunday School director develop skills to tune-up a smooth running organization.



### ► Pitstop – Strategies for Change

The participant will develop strategies for changes that allow for quicker more effective turn around of ideas, concepts, and events.

### ► You're Not Going to Divide My Class Are You?

The participants will understand that only 12 eggs will fit in a dozen egg carton! Pastors and Sunday School Directors will investigate ways to remodel their Sunday School organization. Creating new units will be one of the focuses.

### ► Sparking Fresh Ministry in Your Church

This conference for deacons and Sunday School class leaders will remove the sluggish operation from ministry in the church and a Sunday School class.

### ► Putting a Spark in your Adult Discipleship Training

Helping your adults run smoothly by creating a balanced approach to adult Discipleship. Resources and creative methods will be examined.



### ► Running Like a Sewing Machine: Training Leaders to Lead

Whatever resource you may use in your Discipleship Ministries, this conference will give help for leaders or facilitators to lead any disciple-making experience.

### ► Tuning-up Your Discipleship Training

Whether your disciple making is operating on 4 cylinders (Training Union), 6 cylinders (Church Training), 8 cylinders (Discipleship Training), or some modified version, this conference will give basic tune-up steps in making it run like it should. Directions for implementing innovative approaches, reviewing new resources, and organizational structures will be reviewed.



## Church Workers Tune-up (West Region)

- Aug. 17 – Bolivar, First Baptist
- Aug. 18 – Memphis, Ridgeway Baptist
- Aug. 24 – Lexington, First Baptist
- Aug. 24 – Union City, First Baptist
- Aug. 24 – Somerville, First Baptist
- Aug. 24 – Dresden, Adams Chapel Baptist
- Aug. 25 – Adamsville, First Baptist
- Aug. 25 – Paris, First Baptist
- Aug. 25 – Brownsville, Poplar Corner Baptist
- Aug. 25 – Huntingdon, First Baptist
- Aug. 31 – Covington, First Baptist
- Aug. 31 – Dyersburg, Hillcrest Baptist
- Sept. 1 – Jackson, First Baptist
- Sept. 1 – Trenton, First Baptist

## Adult

### ► Tune-Up Your Family Ministry Program

The purpose of this conference is to assist persons to develop intentional church ministry to families.

### ► Senior Adult Teachers and Workers – Start Your Engines

Start your engines and get ready to reach, teach, and minister of senior adults.

### ► Hit On All Cylinders! Become an Evangelistic Adult Sunday School Class

This conference will focus on methods and strategies for helping your Sunday School class become an adult class on mission for Christ. Learn how to effectively reach and minister to today's secular adults through the Sunday School.

### ► Designing a Winning Spirit

This class will look at ways to help your class/department work and function as a team. The participants will learn some creative approaches to organizing your class/department into a well-tuned team.

### ► Recharge your Ministry with Single Adults

Whether you need a new battery or just recharging, this conference is de-

signed to help you establish or strengthen your ministry with single adults.

### ► 14 Point Check-up for Young Adult Teachers and Workers

Discover some practical ways to better reach, teach, and minister to today's young adults through the Sunday School.

### ► From Tune-up to Take-off: Making your Media Library run like a well-oiled machine

Is your library running on all cylinders? Need a tune-up? Learn how to make your library take-off for ministry.

### ► Persons with Mental Retardation

Mainstream or separate department? This conference tells how to decide and is designed to train and equip workers in reaching, teaching, and ministering to persons with mental retardation and their families. Simple, practical ideas are given. Every church should have a special education ministry.

### ► Attention Deficit Disorder: Fact or Fiction

ADD seems to be rampant among children. Whether or not ADD is a fact or real, this conference presents solid, practical ways to teach and work with children who have this disorder.

## Children

### ► Get the Car Manual

Helping in leading Children's Bible Drill, developing a discipleship program for children, and overview of resources

### ► Tune-up for Discipling Children

Overview of material for developing Children's Discipleship

### ► Quick Lube

Teaching helps, reaching helps, and an update on keeping children safe at church

### ► Basic Car Repair 101

Basics for new children's workers (less than 3 years)

### ► Under the Hood

Tough issues facing children and how the church can provide support

## Preschool

### ► Fruit, Finger Paint, and Frogs

What do fruit, finger paint, and frogs have in common? They represent the most creative activity areas – homeliving, art, and nature. Enhance your own creative teaching as you focus on these areas.

### ► Teacher

Join other preschool workers in discovering the many facets of being a teacher of preschoolers.

### ► 'Specially Special Songs'

Tune-up! Sing out! Clap Your hands! Discover this brand-new songbook for use with preschoolers in Sunday School, Discipleship, choir, missions, and weekday ministries.

### ► Preschoolers in Discipleship

Get acquainted with preschoolers at church, TeamKid, and other resources as you consider your role in your church's discipleship ministry.

## Youth

### ► Keeping your Youth Battery Charged!

Working with youth is always a challenge. Make that challenge an opportunity by learning what works with youth. This one-hour conference will cover organization, resources, and strategies to implement the basics of youth discipleship.



### ► Giving Your Youth Sunday School a Teaching Overhaul!

This one-hour interactive conference will equip youth workers with a better understanding of how youth learn and how to use creative methods to teach youth the Bible.

### ► Youthies ... Start Your Engines & Go Get'em!

This one-hour conference will equip youth workers to discover ways how to reach inactive youth and those youth that have yet to come to church!

### ► It's Time for a Youth Needs Diagnostic Check-up!

The one-hour conference is designed to help youth workers identify the needs of young people and discover exciting discipleship resources designed to help meet those needs.

# The Winning Spirit (Middle Region)

## Revival Leader

Dr. Leonard I. Sweet is widely known and celebrated on three fronts — as a historian of American culture; as a futurist, and as a preacher who communicates the Gospel powerfully to a postmodern age by bridging the worlds of academe and popular culture.

Currently Dean of the Theological School and Vice President of Drew University in Madison, N.J., Sweet served for 11 years as President (CEO) and Professor of Church History at United Theological Seminary, Dayton, Ohio.

Prior to 1985, Sweet was Provost of Colgate Rochester/Bexley Hall/Crozer Divinity Schools in Rochester, N.Y. Involved in leadership positions in the United Methodist Church, Sweet has been chosen to speak at various jurisdictional and general conferences as well as the 1996 World Methodist Congress in Rio de Janeiro.

He also serves as a consultant to many of America's denominational leaders and agencies.

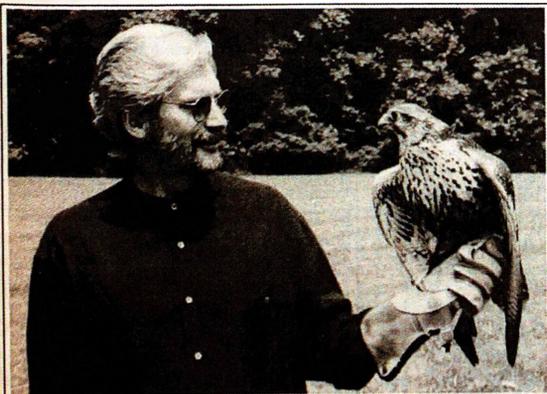
Author of more than 100 articles, about 400 published sermons, and 13 books, Sweet is co-author of *Homiletics*, the preaching resource. His best-selling book *FaithQuakes* (1994) was followed by *Health and Medicine in the Evangelical Tradition* (1994) and *Communication and Change in American Religious History* (1994). His 1996 book, *The Jesus Prescription for a Healthy Life*, quickly followed *Strong in the Broken Places* (1995).

Sweet collaborated with Rick Warren to develop the audio seminar, *The Tides of Change* (1995). Sweet's newest books are *Eleven Gateways to a Spiritual Awakening* (1998), *Soul Cafe* (1998), and his successor book to *FaithQuakes*, *Log On: Faith Facing the Future* (1998).

Founder and President of SpiritVenture Ministries, in 1995 Sweet launched "Soul Cafe," a spirituality newsletter for today's Christians. His privately published notebook *Chart-Notes for Sailing New Seas* (SpiritVenture Ministries) provides commentaries on 101 critical questions to soulful living in the 21st century. It sold out before it was published.

Current projects include *What's Keeping You From the Quantum?*, a team project; *The ABCs of Postmodern Ministry*, a group creative game; and a multi-media leadership resource called *11 1/3 Navigational Skills for 21-C*.

Sweet has served on the council of the American Society of Church History, as an associate editor of the *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* for 10 years, and is a member of numerous professional groups. ■



ENJOYING HIS pet falcon is Dr. Leonard I. Sweet.

## Sunday School Revival

# A Winning Spirit



**Aug. 10 - Columbia, First Baptist Church**  
**Aug. 11 - Nashville, Two Rivers Baptist Church**

### Sunday School Teacher/Leader Nomination Form

Church \_\_\_\_\_  
 Association \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Position of Leadership \_\_\_\_\_

	Criteria				
	High				Low
Faithful	5	4	3	2	1
Evangelistic	5	4	3	2	1
Growth-oriented	5	4	3	2	1
Ministry-oriented	5	4	3	2	1
Supportive of the church	5	4	3	2	1
Continuous Learner	5	4	3	2	1

Brief statement about your nomination

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of nominator \_\_\_\_\_  
 Return this form to your Director of Missions or the Tennessee Baptist Convention CGD Group by July 29!

# Mapping It Out! (East Region)

The sites for Regional leadership training are listed.

In the planning stages of these conferences, the Director of Missions teamed up with State personnel to develop conference content.

Listed below is a sampling of the type of conferences that will be offered this year. Not all of these conferences will be offered in each location. Please contact your Director of Missions to find out which conferences will be offered in your association.

Conference time for each location is 6:45 - 9:00 pm. Please make your plans to attend! ■

## General Officers

### ► You're Not Going to Divide My Class Are You?

The participants will understand that only 12 eggs will fit in a dozen-egg carton! Pastors and Sunday School Directors will investigate ways to remodel their Sunday School organization. Creating new units will be one of the focuses.

### ► Ministers of Education

This is an opportunity for Ministers of Education to test our new resources, learning events, and experiences.

### ► Sparking Fresh Ministry in Your Church

This conference for deacons and Sunday School class leaders will remove the sluggish operation from ministry in the church and a Sunday School class.

### ► The Pastor and the Sunday School Director in the Small Church

This conference will help the pastor and Sunday School director develop skills to tune-up a smooth running organization.

### ► Mapping Out Your Discipleship Training

Find your way with directions for implementing innovative approaches, reviewing new resources, and organizational structures.

## Youth

### ► Are Your Youth Bags Jammed-Packed?

This conference is designed to acquaint youth ministers and key youth leaders with the very latest resources and tools designed for youth ministry.

### ► Heed the Speed Limit... Youth Legal Issues!

This one-hour conference will assist youth leaders in an understanding of legal principles and guidelines that will protect their youth, youth leadership, and ministry.

### ► Hang on! There's a Curve-in-the-Road... Youth Trends!

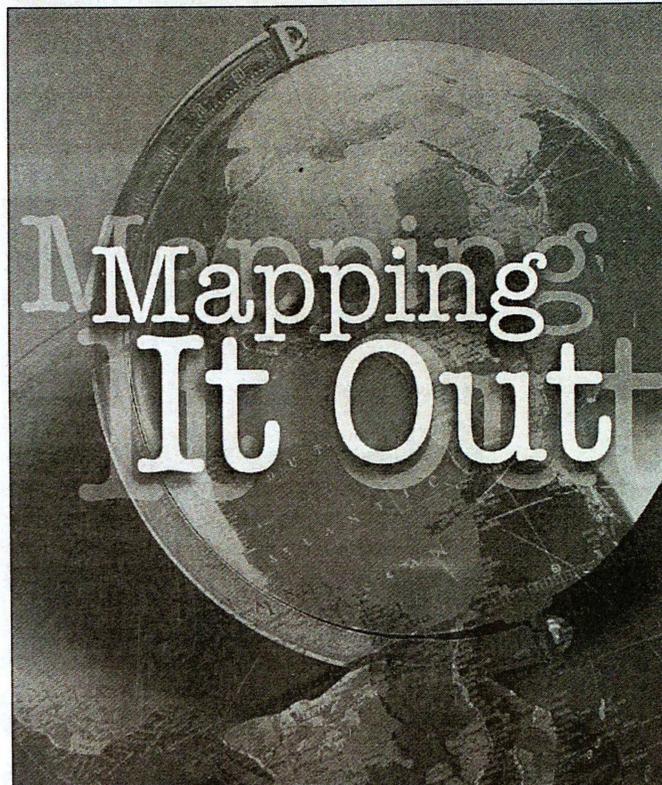
This one-hour conference will lead youth workers to better understand the characteristics of Gen X and Millennium teenagers and how to better reach, teach, and minister to them.

### ► Going Places - Reaching Out to Today's Youth

This one-hour conference will equip youth workers to discover ways to reach inactive youth and those youth who have yet to come to your church!

## Mapping It Out! (East Region)

- Sept. 8 - Chattanooga, Red Bank Baptist
- Sept. 10 - Cleveland, Westwood Baptist
- Sept. 14-15 - Knoxville, Central (Bearden) Baptist
- Sept. 21 - Johnson City, Central Baptist
- Sept. 22 - Morristown, First Baptist



## Adult

### ► Rest Area Ahead! Understanding Today's Senior Adult

This conference is designed for the teacher of the Builder and Silent Generations. The conference leaders will help you look at the needs of today's Senior Adults.



### ► AAA Teaching

Put some pizzazz in your teaching. This conference will help you choose methods to accomplish the end result of helping adults learn.

### ► All Systems Go! Reaching Adults Through Sunday School

Is your class reaching adults? Learn practical ideas and suggestions for finding, enlisting, and visiting.

### ► Stop! Directions for Adult Teachers Available

This conference is designed for new adult Sunday School teachers and for those that just need a refresher. Become a great teacher, ask for directions in teaching and planning a great lesson each week.

### ► Mapping Out a Strategy to Reach Today's Single Adults

This conference will help churches of all sizes develop a strategy for reaching and ministering to single adults through the Sunday School. All churches should have a ministry to single adults.

### ► Teaching College Age Young Adults

Methods will be presented to involve college young adults in effective, application-oriented Bible study. Attention will be given to learning styles as well as teacher preparation and how to develop a teaching plan. The new collegiate Bible study curriculum will be highlighted.

### ► Leading Family Ministry in Your Church

The purpose of this conference is to assist persons in developing an intentional church ministry to families.



### ► From Tune-up to Take-off: Making your Media Library run like a well-oiled machine

Is your library running on all cylinders? Need a tune-up? Learn how to make your library take-off for ministry.

### ► Persons with Mental Retardation

Mainstream or separate department? This conference tells how to decide and is designed to train and equip workers in reaching, teaching, and ministering to persons with mental retardation and their families. Simple, practical ideas are given. Every church should have a special education ministry.

### ► Attention Deficit Disorder: Fact or Fiction

ADD seems to be rampant among children. Whether or not ADD is a fad or real, this conference presents solid, practical ways to work with children who have this disorder.

## Children

### ► Packing For the Trip

Adapting curriculum to meet your needs or what can I do different to build interest (for workers with 5-plus years of experience).

### ► Basis Map Reading 101

Basics for teaching, understanding, and reaching children. This conference is for new and inexperienced teachers.

### ► Trip-Tick for Discipling Children

Overview of material for developing Children's Discipleship.

## Preschool

### ► Teacher

Join other preschool workers in discovering the many facets of being a Teacher of preschoolers.

### ► 'Specially Special Songs'

Tune-up! Sing out! Clap Your hands! Discover this brand-new songbook for use with preschoolers in Sunday School, Discipleship, choir, missions and weekday ministries.

### ► Preschoolers in Discipleship

Get acquainted with preschoolers at church, TeamKid, and other resources as you consider your role in your church's discipleship ministry.



## state events

■ **Conversational English Workshops** sponsored by Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board ministries will be held at First Church, Nashville, Aug. 28-29 and at Watauga Association Aug. 28-30. The training is for people who want to teach English as a Second Language. For more information, please call Judy Hurst at TBC Executive Board ministries, (615) 371-7916.

## associations

■ **Hardeman County Association** will hold an area-wide crusade July 26-29. Speakers will be Frank Harber, Wes Yeary, Rodney Gage, and David Ring.

■ Ministers and their families will be honored by **Loudon County Association** with a picnic July 27.

■ A team from **Shiloh Association** will do renovation work at Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy, Seymour, Aug. 2-8. For more information, call Ray or Roxie Liven-good at (901) 925-9284.

■ **Hamilton County Association** will hold a conversational English workshop Aug. 14-15 and 21-22 at the associational building. The association also will have WMU leadership training for all church WMU officers Aug. 8, 10 a.m., at Concord Church, Chattanooga.

## people

■ **Charles Finch** was ordained as deacon recently at First Church, Cumberland City.

■ West Shiloh Church, Stantonville, ordained **Ronnie Blanton, Jimmy Cooksey,** and **J.D. Germany** as deacons.

■ **Mary Lazenby Barker** retired as organist of Glenwood Church, Kingsport, June 3, the 45th anniversary of her service.

■ First Church, Martin, recently ordained **Larry Ingram** to the Gospel ministry.

■ After 35 years of service as church secretary at Brownsville Church, Brownsville, **Nellie Richardson**, will retire Sept. 11.

■ **Bob Ginn** and **Barry Smith** were ordained as deacons at First Church, Trenton.

■ **Johnny Chumney**,

**Houson Jordan**, and **Jerry Stanford** were ordained as deacons June 14 at Mt. Gilead Church, Cedar Grove.

■ **Audrey Harris**, a member of Lucy Church, Millington, is doing summer mission work in Bardstown, Ky. through Aug. 8. Her work includes leading Vacation Bible School and Backyard Bible Clubs.

## churches

■ Members of **Highland Park Church, Lenoir City**, recently dedicated their church building.

■ Members of **Bath Springs Church, Bath Springs**, recently voted to sponsor **Reagan Mission, Reagan**.

■ **Decaturville Church, Decaturville**, has purchased a building next door to the church to be used for educational activities.

■ Revival services will be held July 26-31 at **New Hope Church, Decaturville**. Phil Mitchell, pastor of Mt. Gilead Church, Cedar Grove, will lead the services.

■ **Hodges Chapel Church, Palmersville**, recently dedicated and celebrated the debt-free status of a new fellowship hall.

■ A missions team from **First Church, Manchester**, will travel to Two Lakes, Mich., Aug. 3-10, to do construction work.

■ **First Church, Winchester**, will send a missions team to East Hollis, Mich., to lead a Vacation Bible School, visit in nursing homes, and conduct a beach ministry.

■ Members of **Sand Ridge Church, Lexington**, held a dedication service June 28 for the newly renovated and expanded sanctuary and office addition. Also youth in the church will travel to Colorado July 24-Aug. 1 to conduct a day camp.

■ **Silver Springs Church, Mt. Juliet**, will send a missions team to Iowa Aug. 1-8 to lead Backyard Bible Clubs and do construction work on the Cornerstone Church in Ankeny.

■ **First Church, Lawrenceburg**, will hold revival Aug. 23-26 with leader Jeff Noblit.

■ A missions team from **Holly Grove Church, Bells**, will be in Dauphin Island, Ala., July 25-Aug. 1.

■ Members of **First Church, Jefferson City**, will assist Appalachian Outreach

July 27-31. Also youth in the church are attending the Baptist Youth Conference in Houston, Texas, through July 26.

■ A missions team from **Forest Hills Church, Nashville**, will be in Poland July 31-Aug. 10 conducting a children's day camp. Also the church will host the 1998 Illinois Baptist All-State Youth Choir July 31 at 7 p.m. For more information, contact the church at [www.fhbc.org](http://www.fhbc.org) or at (615) 373-8074.

■ The congregation of **Dalewood Church, Nashville**, will celebrate the church's 45th anniversary Aug. 23. Former pastor Julius Thompson will speak.

■ Twenty teens and adults from **Hillcrest Church, Lebanon**, will be in Clinton, Okla., July 25-Aug. 1. They will work with Cheyenne and Arapaho members of the Clinton Indian Church leading Vacation Bible School, door-to-door ministry, and revival, as well as doing maintenance work.

■ Members of **Skyline Church, Johnson City**, recently voted to use a portion of their building fund to purchase 13.5 acres of land on Indian Ridge Road for relocation.

■ The congregation of **Inglewood Church, Nashville**, recently purchased the building adjacent to the church for future expansion.

■ Members of **Signal Mountain Church, Signal Mountain**, held church services in their new sanctuary July 19.

■ Ten members of **Bellevue Church, Nashville**, are in Memphis working with the Mississippi River Ministry this week conducting Backyard Bible Clubs and doing community construction work.

■ **Cumberland Home-steads Church, Crossville**, will hold Founders' Day and Homecoming July 26. Activities include performances by musicians Nancy Allen and Russell Davis of Nashville.

■ A team of 21 youth and adults of **Pleasant Hill Church, Martin**, is serving at the Christian Children's Center in St. Louis, Mo., July 23-24. Also the church will hold homecoming activities Aug. 2 which will kick off revival through Aug. 6. Kenny Carr of First Church, Gleason, will speak.

■ **Woodland Park Church, Chattanooga**, will sponsor two missions teams in the upcoming weeks. One team will serve in South Africa July 28-Aug. 11 doing construction and evangelism. A medical/

dental team will go to Honduras Sept. 19-26.

■ **Mouth of Richland Church, Blaine**, began a children's music camp June 24 which will continue through July 29. Children are learning the basics of choral music, drama presentation, music theory, and individual performance by using Bible stories, written exercises, and games. At the conclusion of the six-week camp the children will present the musical, "Down By The Creek-bank." There are 23 children enrolled and seven staff members. Carroll Bates is directing the camp, assisted by Dottie Smith.

■ The Mary Rose Hardin Concert Series presents "Two Tenors," Aug. 2, at 6 p.m. at **Second Church, Memphis**.

■ **Hurricane Church, Lebanon**, will have revival services Aug. 2-9. Guest evangelist will be Michael Blankenship, pastor of Cross Roads Church, Greenbrier.

■ **Judson Church, Nashville**, has 19 pews (18 feet, six inches long) with burgundy cushions to give away on a first-come basis to a congregation. Church receiving pews must transport them. For more information, call the church at (615) 833-6606 or Johnnie Hall at (615) 832-3884.

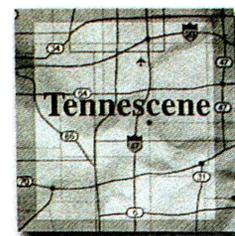
■ **Beaver Dam Church, Knoxville**, celebrated the debt-free status of its new sanctuary and renovations July 19 with a note-burning service.

## deaths

■ **Jerry Beck**, music director, Center Hill Church, Counce, died recently. He had served the church for 25 years.

■ **Nat C. Bettis Jr.**, 78, former teacher at Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, died July 16 in San Angelo, Texas. He taught at Carson-Newman College from 1961-74 and Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, 1974-86. He also served more than 50 churches in four states as interim pastor while teaching, and others as pastor. Memorials may be sent to Baptist Memorials Hospital Auxiliary, Box 5661, San Angelo, Texas 76903.

■ **Martha Louise Poole Roberts**, 70, emeritus Southern Baptist missionary to Honduras, died July 14 in Pasadena, Texas. She and her husband, Hoyt, served there from 1962-92. She attended Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, and the couple served churches in Tennessee, North



Carolina, and Indiana. Memorials may be made to the Southern Baptist International Mission Board, P.O. Box 6767, Richmond, VA 23230.

■ **Pauline Trivette**, 91, of Knoxville, died July 8. She and her late husband, Lawrence, managed the Trivette Lodge at Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly, Ridgecrest, N.C., for Knox County Association for many years. She also managed the complex for several years after his death. Lawrence Trivette was retired director of missions of the association. She was a member of Central Church, Fountain City, Knoxville.

## leaders

■ **Jack Anderson**, pastor, Bells Campground Church, Powell, for 21 years, was honored June 27 on his retirement. Anderson also served Shiloh Church, Kingston, for seven years as pastor and Fairview Church as interim pastor. Anderson is a member of the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

■ **First Church, Union City**, has called **W. H. Sims III** as pastor, effective Aug. 16.

■ **Scott Thomas**, pastor, Mount Harmony Church, Knoxville, has been called as pastor, Beaver Dam Church, Knoxville. The church also called recently **Charles Earl**, former interim pastor of Knoxville, as associate pastor.

## schools

■ A site for **Union University's R. G. Lee Center** and Seminary Extension program was inadvertently left out of the July 15 story in the *Baptist and Reflector*. The center will offer "Pastoral Ministries," taught by Ken Story at the Shiloh Association Center in Adamsville from 7-9 p.m. Registration begins Aug. 27.

■ **Carson-Newman College** President Cordell Maddox will confer approximately 47 undergraduate and 35 graduate degrees on candidates during commencement exercises July 25. Allen Lockerman, pastor of First Church, Cleveland, will deliver the commencement address.



**Alabama editor,  
wife seriously  
injured in S. Africa**  
Baptist Press

DURBAN, South Africa — Bob Terry, editor of *The Alabama Baptist*, and his wife, Eleanor, were seriously injured in an auto accident July 11 while attending the Baptist World Alliance's General Council's July 5-11 meeting here.

They were riding in a taxi just three blocks from their hotel when an oncoming car ran a red light and slammed into their cab, reported Dennis

Jones, International Mission Board missionary in Durban. Jones said both Terry and his wife were thrown from the car.

Mrs. Terry had surgery to set fractures of broken bones in her face and has serious complications from a blood clot. Terry had surgery for a fractured nose and other facial injuries. He will need additional surgery.

The Terrys returned to Birmingham in a medical airlift. As of July 20, Mrs. Terry was on life support and in critical condition at University Hospital in Birmingham. ■

**Texas education  
board sells stock**  
Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — The Texas Board of Education dealt The Disney Company an-

other setback July 10 when it voted to sell off about \$46 million in stock in the entertainment giant.

The majority in the 8-4 vote cited the sex and graphic violence in movies distributed by Miramax Films, a subsidiary of Disney, for its decision.

The decision was based on moral and financial considerations, said a member of the board's majority.

"It doesn't make sense for the Texas State Board of Education to subsidize a company that is doing things that directly undermine the very things we're trying to accomplish ..., " board member Richard Neill told Baptist Press. From "a moral and from a fiscal standpoint, Disney is a very bad choice as far as stock to be in," said Neill, a Fort

Worth dentist.

The board's action is "among the largest divestments by a major fund of an individual stock company," said Timothy Smith, executive director of the New York-based Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility, according to *The Dallas Morning News*. ■

**Davis to lead BWA  
women's department**  
Baptist Press

DURBAN, South Africa — Patsy Davis of Startown, N.C., a Southern Baptist Interna-

tional Board missionary currently serving as general secretary of the national Woman's Missionary Union of Venezuela, is the new executive director of the Baptist World Alliance's women's department.

Davis, 50, succeeds Willene Pierce who resigned last July. ■

**Houseparents  
Needed**

The Boys Ranch of the Tennessee Baptist Children's Home at Millington is in need of a full-time husband and wife houseparent team.

The Boys Ranch is searching for a devoted Christian couple whose calling and commitment would find fulfillment in this ministry to troubled teenager boys. Experience with cattle, mechanics, and/or farm work is desirable.

For more information, please call collect: Mr. Bert Sutton, vice president, at (901) 872-0839.

**Classified**

**FOR SALE:** Oak church furniture and Lord's Table and Pulpit. Pews have solid oak backs, ends, and legs with red-cushioned seats. Various sizes. Price reduced. To see furniture, contact Faith Baptist Church, Atoka, at (901) 837-2683.

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

**YOUTH/MUSIC:** First Baptist Church seeks a part-time youth/music minister. Send resume to P.O. Box 276, Celina, TN 38551, Attn: Pastor.

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**Program Director**

Special opportunity for single person or married couple to work in a children's home. Must have bachelor's degree in human service field and two years experience working with children. Must have supervisory experience and love children. Competitive salary — housing, medical insurance, and other benefits. Contact: Dr. Sandy C. Gregory, Patrick Henry Boys and Girls Plantation, Route 2, Box 125, Brookneal, VA 24528; (804) 376-2006.

**Pastor of Music and Worship**

LaFayette Baptist Church, a distinctive body of believers from diverse geographical and denominational backgrounds, seeks a full-time Pastor of Music and Worship to direct an extensive music and worship ministry. Located in Fayetteville, the 4th largest metro in N.C., LaFayette conducts a blended morning service averaging 500+ in attendance along with a variety of other creative worship experiences. Candidates should have a seminary degree or equivalent, a maturing relationship with Christ, and experience with a multifaceted music program. If interested and qualified, please mail cover letter, resume, and worship tape by Aug. 9 to:

Pastor of Music and Worship Search Committee  
LaFayette Baptist Church  
501 Hope Mills Road, Fayetteville, N.C. 28304

**Arizona Baptist Children's Services  
Seeks President/CEO**

The board of trustees of Arizona Baptist Children's Services (ABCS) is seeking a President/CEO to succeed Dr. C. Truett Baker. Candidates must be an active member of a Southern Baptist church and have a master's degree in a related area of human services or ministry. Five years of experience in executive management is required; experience in managed care and work with public agencies is preferred. ABCS, with headquarters in Phoenix, Ariz., has about 160 employees and an annual operating budget of \$6,000,000. Interested candidates should request a Profile of the President/CEO by sending a letter in confidence to the following address or by e-mail to "Jochan@msn.com". Please do not call the ABCS offices.

Joe Chan, Chairman  
Search Committee, ABCS  
P.O. Box 64640  
Tucson, AZ 85728-4640

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# Parenting brings pressures, say educators

By Ken Camp  
For Associated Baptist Press

GLORIETA, N.M. — Sometimes parents are harried because they make bad choices, and sometimes they're harried just because they are parents, two Fort Worth educators told a group of Texas Baptists at a conference on parenting.

"I'm glad Mary and Joseph lost Jesus at the temple. I find that comforting," said Scott Floyd, assistant professor of psychology and counseling at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Schedules and expectations — self-imposed or imposed by others — contribute to parents' harried feelings, said Floyd and his wife, Mollie, an instructor of speech and theater at Tarrant County Junior College.

Relating many of their own misadventures, the Floyds led a conference offering "Helps for Harried Parents" during the recent Texas Baptist Family Reunion at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center here.

"Parenting is a busy time in life," Floyd said, noting that a certain amount of stress just comes with the job. "As chil-

dren move from the preschool years toward adolescence, parents may move from physical to emotional harriedness."

Some parents become harried because they never learn to say "no," either to the demands of their children or to requests from others for them to do "good things" at church, school, work, or in civic organizations, the Floyds said.

Some have difficulty saying "no" because of pressure to keep up with others, they noted.

That may come from other parents, from grandparents, or from the children themselves. It may also come from the parents' own desire to give their children the best or to compensate for something they thought was lacking in their own childhood.

There may also be spiritual reasons for parents feeling harried, the Floyds noted. Some parents are unable to trust God to work out his plans for their children's lives. They feel the need for control.

## Tips for harried parents

Scott and Mollie Floyd, educators from Fort Worth, Texas, offer seven tips for "harried parents." For more details read entire story.

- Pray
- Identify values
- Evaluate
- Choose
- Be practical
- Communicate
- Embrace your choices

The Floyds offered seven tips to help harried parents:

► "Pray about what your family mission and ministry is, about your purpose or goal as a family. Pray about what activities your children should be involved in. And pray for grace, either to tolerate situations or to change situations," she said. "I often pray, 'Lord, I need grace, and I need it right now.'"

► Identify values. "Decide what you value as a family, and spend time doing it," he said.

He suggested that parents devote time to things that are most important rather than

that which is most urgent.

► Evaluate. "Ask if an activity fits into your family's values. Ask if a child is too busy," he recommended. The couple also suggested talking to other parents whose children have been involved in an activity, asking them, "Is what you put into it worth what you got out of it?"

► Choose. Make deliberate choices as a family rather than drifting from one activity to another.

► Be practical. Plan ahead. Keep a family calendar that everyone can check. Schedule adequate time to get from one activity to another.

► Communicate. Spouses need to talk to each other and to their children to communicate expectations. "Tell children what you want from them in advance," he said.

► Embrace your choices. Don't feel the need to apologize for carving out time for family.

"Delight in the little moments alone with your children," she said. ■



families matter

## Church wonderful partner for families, terrible substitute, says D.L. Lowrie

By Ken Camp  
For Baptist Press

GLORIETA, N.M. — Christians should treat their family relationship second only to their relationship with God, speakers told the Texas Baptist Family Reunion at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center here.

"Aside from your relationship with God through Jesus Christ his Son, there's only one thing that matters, and that's intimacy with your family," said Howard Batson, pastor of First Church, Amarillo, Texas, echoing a theme heard throughout the week-long conference.

More than 1,700 people attended the event held July 4-10 which featured more than 100 family-related conferences.

Among the speakers was Tennessee native D. L. Lowrie, former executive director-treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, and now pastor of First Church, Lubbock, Texas.

Christian parents have a faith worth teaching, a love worth sharing, and a task worth doing, Lowrie said.

The primary responsibility for instilling spiritual truth in children rests with parents, he emphasized.

"The church is a wonderful, wonderful partner for the Christian family, but a terrible substitute," Lowrie said.

Another speaker stressed communication in the family.

The family will stand or fall on the basis of its members' ability to communicate with each other, Ellis Orozco, pastor of Corpus Christi Church, said.

Communication in the family requires commitment, courage, and compassion, he said. "Communication with your family is the most important thing you will ever do."

William Pinson, executive director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, noted it takes work to create a spiritual atmosphere in the home.

"Happy homes don't just happen," Pinson said.

"They have to be developed." ■

## Family meetings integrate faith, life for children

By Ken Camp  
For Associated Baptist Press

GLORIETA, N.M. — Parents instruct their children best in spiritual matters by creating an atmosphere where faith is a normal part of life, a children's minister told a Texas Baptist family life conference.

"Values are caught, not taught," said Nancy Conlin, minister of childhood education at First Church, Bryan, Texas. She led a conference on "Giving Spiritual Instruction in the Home" during the recent Texas Baptist Family Reunion at Glorieta Baptist Conference Center here.

The starting place for parents is their own relationship with God, she said.

"To enhance faith development in children, acquire a healthy image of God yourself," Conlin said.

Parents can communicate positive images of God both through spontaneous and

planned teachable moments. Drawing on an idea she initially learned from the late Grady Nutt, Conlin said she and her husband have used weekly 15-to-20-minute family meetings and regularly scheduled family activities to create effective teachable moments for their children.

A different family member is in charge of the meeting each week, and the family member responsible for the meeting also gets to select the family activity for that week. Only during the first week of the month is the family activity allowed to cost anything.

The first part of the family meeting is devoted to schedules. Each member of the family discusses his or her plans for the week, including events that other family members should attend. "This helps minimize surprises," Conlin said.

The second portion of the meeting is dedicated to discussing problems. Family

members are encouraged to freely express any frustrations with others, as long as they are willing to discuss options for solving disputes and to treat everyone with a sense of respect, she said.

The next part of the meeting is reserved for a devotional. Conlin suggested active learning — problem solving, role playing or other activities — rather than lecture, particularly for younger children.

Before closing in prayer, the final section of the family meeting is given to affirmation. One at a time, each family member turns to the person to his right and completes the statement, "You are special to me because ..."

Conlin recommended starting family meetings when children are young, since teenagers might resist the idea unless they were used to it. Once they become accustomed to the family meetings, children look forward to them, she said. ■

## Family accountability needed when technology hits homes

Baptist Press

GLORIETA, N.M. — No filter that parents can install will keep all high-tech smut out of their homes as effectively as will a sense of family accountability instilled in their children, two Fort Worth teachers told a Texas Baptist group.

Nancy and Lyle Crossley led a conference on "When Technology Hits Home — Blessings and Boundaries," one of more than 100 seminars offered at the recent Texas Baptist Family Reunion.

Broadcast television, cable and satellite TV, video tapes,

video games, and the Internet all present challenges to parents, said the Crossleys, members of Western Hills Church, Fort Worth.

"Don't assume just because it's on broadcast TV that it's OK," she said. "Be aware of the ratings."

The couple recommended that parents view TV shows with their children. That enables them to monitor and discuss content, as well as regulate the amount of time spent watching television.

Parents need to consider where VCRs are located in their homes, the Crossleys noted. A

video player in the living room is easier for parents to monitor than those in children's bedrooms.

Parents should pay attention to ratings noting violence, rough language, sexually explicit material, nudity, and other objectionable content in entertainment media, the couple said.

Ratings are particularly important with video games, Lyle Crossley said, because they are multi-leveled and more difficult for parents to evaluate.

In addition to violence and sexual content, video games also can contribute to addictive behavior, produce short-term ag-

gression, be upsetting to younger children, and be counterproductive for children with Attention Deficit Disorder, he noted.

The computer, particularly if it has Internet access, is another medium that is difficult for parents to regulate and monitor. The Internet is a tremendously helpful tool for research and communication, but it also "brings the big bad world right into your house," Nancy Crossley said. Supervision and communication are crucial, she said.

"It all comes back to family accountability. Stay involved," she suggested to parents. ■



world news

## BWA General Council celebrates reconciliation

Baptist Press

DURBAN, South Africa — As Baptist leaders from more than 50 countries gathered in South Africa for the Baptist World Alliance's General Council meeting, they joined South African Baptists in celebrating the newly democratic country as well as South African Bap-

tists' own steps toward reconciliation.

The North American Baptist Fellowship announced the election of its new president — Morris H. Chapman, president of the Executive Committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, while Frank Adams of Ghana was confirmed as general secretary of All Africa Baptist Fellowship.

A call for the end of nuclear proliferation was among several resolutions adopted during the council's July 5-11 sessions.

Terry Rae, general secretary of the predominantly white Baptist Union of South Africa, and Desmond Hoffmeister, general secretary of the predominantly black Baptist Convention of South Africa, movingly described the steps toward reconciliation between the two unions at a May meet-

ing in Colesberg as "a move of God's Holy Spirit."

Denton Lotz, BWA general secretary, said the move to reconciliation in South Africa and in Bengal, Zambia, and other areas of the world is vital to the Baptist witness for evangelism. ■

## Florida Baptists offer hope among the ashes

Baptist Press

PALM COAST, Fla. — Florida Baptists have played a visible role in helping lessen the worries of those drastically affected by the fires that have

raged through Florida since Memorial Day.

On June 6, the Florida Baptist Convention's disaster relief mobile unit was activated at First Church here. Trained volunteers supplied and cooked food, while Red Cross volunteers took the food into the forests for firefighters.

The mobile kitchen, which can produce up to 20,000 meals per day, continued the work of feeding the firefighters that had been initiated by a number of Florida Baptist churches in affected areas. When the unit left the area July 12, more than 11,000 meals had been prepared and distributed.

Florida Baptist Convention officials also earmarked \$25,000 in cash subsidies to meet immediate needs of victims. Driving through the burned-out areas, convention staff and local pastors listened to stories of losses and offered the aid to those in need. ■

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## Classified

**PART-TIME:** Temple Baptist Church, Old Hickory, seeks a part-time janitor (30 hours per week) to join the ministry team. Call the church office at (615) 847-5091 between 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Monday-Friday.

**YOUTH POSITION:** Church seeks a part-time youth director. Send resume to Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, 3736 Tuckaleechee Pike, Maryville, TN 37804.

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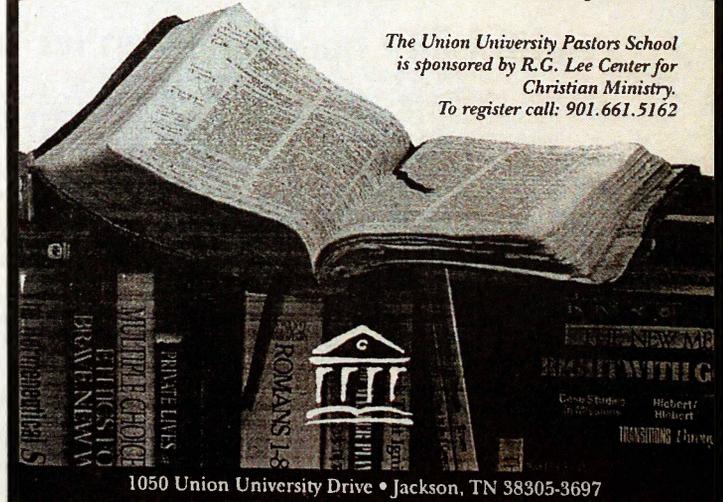
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## Be reconciled

By Paul Medley

**Focal Passage — Genesis 50:15-21;  
Matthew 5:23-24; Colossians 3:12-15**

One line from an old movie states, "Being in love means never having to say you're sorry." We know that to be a myth. If anything, being in love means realizing our own faults and apologizing more often. It also means working to be at peace with your loved ones. This working to be at peace is called reconciliation.

The book of Genesis records the life and legacy of Joseph. From the bottom of the well he literally arose to the pinnacle of power in ancient Egypt. In spite of being beaten, lied to, sold into slavery, and forgotten, he still found love in his heart for his family. He forgave them and sought to be reconciled to them.

How could he have done this? Because he was "in the place of God." Joseph was in God's will. Simple logic will tell us that to be in God's will we must be doing the will of God. And it is the will of God, his design, that we live at peace with one another. In fact, Jesus taught that true worship would be impossible for the believer if he came to the altar and held any animosity in his heart toward someone else. And, if the believer came to the altar knowing that someone else felt ill toward them he was not to worship until reconciliation was attempted.

The Sermon on the Mount deals with the relationship of the believer with God and his fellowman. Jesus placed his teaching about reconciliation early on in his message. I believe this was by design. The foundation of our relationship to one another rests upon our relationship with God. If we know God, in Christ, love him and seek to follow his teachings then we will seek to be reconciled with those who have ought against us.

Paul takes this step farther in Colossians 3:13. He says forgiving one another and bearing one another's burdens go hand-in-hand. It is not enough that we are simply to say we are sorry for any offense, we must also seek to understand how we offended the other person and to correct the cause. If we are the offended party then we are to try to see why the other person is feeling the way they do. Are there extenuating circumstances that we would be able to help with? This is burden bearing.

The key to being reconciled is found in the phrase, "forgive as the Lord forgave you." When I was unloving, God loved me. Before the world saw me, God loved me in my mother's womb. When the world called, and I answered, God waited patiently upon me. When I asked Jesus to come into my heart he came without reservation, hesitation, or complication. Through my fumbling and stumbling he is there to lift me up and to steady my walk with him. This is how I should be to others.

Do you remember the song "At the Cross?" The last verse states: "but drops of grief can ne'er repay the debt of love I owe; here, Lord, I give myself away, 'tis all that I can do."

The most fitting way for us to repay our Lord for what he was done for us is by treating others as he has treated us. This follows the lesson of imitating Christ. — Medley is pastor, First Church, Jasper.

## Live with integrity

By Richard Skidmore

**Focal Passage — Proverbs 28:4-10, 13**

The church sign read, "A hypocrite is someone who isn't himself on Sunday." Someone with integrity is the opposite. Integrity means undivided, singleness of mind. Someone with integrity has consistency of character. Integrity has two vital roots: convictions and confession.

### Family Bible Lesson

Convictions are what one holds to be true, one's moral principles. The text of this lesson draws a striking difference between those who forsake the law and those who keep the law. It seems that people in every generation have contended that there are no moral absolutes. Pilate posed his, "What is truth?" During my college years, we were presented the theory of "situation ethics" which proposed that there is no absolute right or wrong; that is determined by the circumstances. Today's "moral relativism" holds the view that right and wrong are matters of personal choice that vary from culture to culture, from person to person, or even from situation to situation.

All these would see the law of God as antiquated, the Ten Commandments as outdated or irrelevant. A Christian included in a panel discussion on the relativity of the Ten Commandments produced a silent time for reflection when he asked the others on the panel, "Which one of the Ten Commandments would, if obeyed, be detrimental to the welfare of an individual or a nation?"

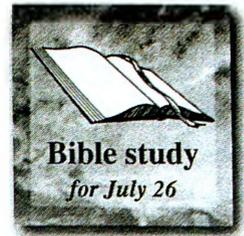
Our generation is sorely in need of being reminded of

the words of our ancestors. How much they need to hear again, "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of God shall stand forever," (Isaiah 40:6). "Forever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven. Thy faithfulness is unto all generation ..." (Psalm 119:89-90). "Heaven and earth shall pass away; but my words shall not pass away," (Mark 13:31). Consistency of convictions flows from our trust in the Word of God as eternal truth.

The other wellspring of integrity is confession. Our transgressions are not be excused by our efforts at self-justification. Neither are they to be ignored by our attempts to secret them away. As Proverbs 28:13 warns, there is a snare in attempting to cover sins. Mercy is found in confession and forsaking sin. The First Epistle of John pleads with believers to avoid the trap of saying we have no sin. The great promise made in Proverbs 28:13 is expanded by the apostle. "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. ... If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness," (1 John 1:7, 9).

Once we establish the Word of God as the basis of our moral principles; once we commit ourselves to live by his commandments, the other side of integrity is admission of our falling short.

To be a person who lives with integrity does not mean that we live without failure or shortcoming. It does mean that we are as consistent with our confession of sin as we are in our beliefs as to what constitutes right and wrong. — Skidmore is director of missions, Weakley Association, Dresden.



## Coping with undeserved suffering

By Jim Powers

**Focal Passage — 1 Peter 4:12-19**

Recently as I was channel surfing I hit a religious station. The speaker was declaring that Spirit-filled believers did not suffer. His was a message of health, wealth, and happiness.

But in the passage for this week Peter speaks to Christians about how to endure undeserved suffering. The cycle of this epistle has been the frequent mention of suffering by the follower of Christ. He is saying to us times of trouble and suffering are the norm in the Christian walk.

The admonition of verse 12 is that followers of Christ should not be surprised when they suffer. The suffering mentioned here comes as a means of testing the believer. For Christians times of suffering clear away the impurities so our pure Christian character can be revealed. These times serve to develop the sufferer. When people receive Christ they do not become immune to suffering.

While in the midst of suffering our attitude should be one of rejoicing. If we refuse to be controlled by our circumstances then we can rejoice in adversity. Our willingness to suffer while rejoicing

### Explore the Bible Lesson

reveals the glory we have in Christ Jesus. At his return, Jesus' glory will be revealed and his people will endure suffering until that time.

Suffering for the name of Christ brings glory in the next life. The close relationship established with God when we suffer in Jesus' name will bless our spirit and refresh that spirit in us.

While going through suffering we should rely on God's Holy Spirit to comfort us and help us with life's problems.

The desire to retaliate when persecuted becomes an evil act and Christians are to avoid such acts. Persecution is no excuse for acts of lawlessness. Peter seems to be equating busybodies with murderers and thieves. Meddling in other people's affairs is considered evil.

Suffering which is unavoidable for the believer should cause the individual to glorify God. Our conduct should match our conversation. Being worthy of the name Christian will carry a certain amount of suffering as a normal part of life.

People without Christ have no means of helping society become more spiritual so it is the role of the people of God, the church, to bring the nation back to God. Before the nation can return to God there must be cleansing and purging in the household of faith.

God sends his judgment as a means of bringing the church into conformity with his own righteousness. Along with the need for conformity to God's righteousness for the believer the unbeliever is given a warning of an eternity filled with painful separation from God. The penalty for rejecting the Gospel is eternal suffering in torment.

Salvation is God's act of grace toward sinful man. If those that are righteous because of his grace endure judgment what is the judgment of the ungodly? Where will the ungodly and sinner be at the judgment without anyone to justify them before God, the Holy One?

God's permissive will is at work in all of the world's activity as it is in the suffering of his saints.

We must trust God. Our souls covered by Jesus' blood are in the protective care of the Creator. What better place to be. — Powers is director of missions, Concord Association, Murfreesboro.

# Woman's Missionary Union

Auxiliary to Tennessee Baptist Convention



"...labourers together with God" (1 Cor. 3:9a KJV)

July 22, 1998

Carol Richardson, President  
Carrol Kelly, Executive Director-Treasurer  
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Dear Pastor and Church Leaders:

September is the time to promote state missions as well as the Golden Sate Missions Offering. The theme for this observance is *My Neighbor? In My Reach!* Promotion packets have been mailed to church WMU directors. This packet contains posters, a tabloid with missions stories and information, a sermon outline, as well as other promotion helps. If your church has not received this promotion packet, contact Tennessee WMU at 1-800-558-2090.

The August 12 issue of the *Baptist and Reflector* will include the state missions tabloid *Tennessee Connection*. All subscribers of our state paper will receive this missions information. Because August 16 is *Baptist and Reflector Day*, churches that do not subscribe to the paper may order copies of this issue for their members.

This is an excellent opportunity to share state missions information with church members as well as introducing them to our state newspaper. This paper is a friend of missions that weekly shares mission stories from Tennessee, the United States, and around the world.

Contact the *Baptist and Reflector* office in Brentwood at (615) 371-2003 by August 6 to order copies of the August 12 issue, or clip and return the coupon below. Mail coupon to *Baptist and Reflector*, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37024.

Observe *Baptist and Reflector Day*. Introduce church members to missions. Learn more about missions opportunities in Tennessee.

Sincerely,

Carrol Kelly

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**Observe Sunday, Aug. 16, as *Baptist and Reflector Day* in your church.**

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