

# TENNESSEE'S BAPTIST & REFLECTOR

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Statewide Edition

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this week's news

- Carson-Newman president announces retirement. — Page 2
- First evangelism conference for bivocational ministers held in Gladeville. — Page 3
- Check out missions opportunities in "The Macedonian Call." — Pages 7-10

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

## Porch tells Executive Board members

# Grace needed to preserve 'Tennessee Baptist idea'

By Lonnie Wilkey  
*Baptist and Reflector*

BRENTWOOD — The "great Tennessee Baptist idea" needs to be preserved, said James Porch, executive director of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Porch made his remarks in his report to TBC Executive Board members during their first full meeting of the year.

Porch noted that in the new TBC history being written by Albert Wardin the theme of family emerged throughout the period which encompasses two centuries.

"As in any family the road is not always smooth or straight. Rather, on occasions, there are tensions, unhealthy egos, and misplaced priorities.

"Yet, shining through all of these concerns there has been a big idea — the Tennessee Baptist idea," he related.

And though from time to time the idea has been threatened, it has prevailed, Porch continued.



SERVING AS CHAIRPERSONS of TBC Executive Board committees this year are, from left, Mike Glenn, Education; John Holland, Executive; Mattie Mullins, Convention Communications; James Hutson, Convention Ministries; Bettye Summers, Church Programs; and Otis Hinton, Central Administrative. Not pictured are Ken Hubbard, Budget and Program, and Bill Bates, Christian Services.

"Today, quite honestly, to some the idea is wounded. The idea is easy prey now for apathy and fatigue — thieves that are able to rob us of the great Tennessee Baptist idea. If our idea continues to be lost, we will fragment. The kingdom of God will suffer."

Porch observed the "great Tennessee Baptist idea needs a new

measure of saving, sufficient, and satisfying amazing grace.

"Such grace must not be read about, it must be received from God and lived and practiced among God's people," Porch said.

He observed Tennessee Baptists are looking for evidence of grace in their convention.

"Such a practice of grace to

hold us together for the great Tennessee Baptist idea must begin somewhere.

"It can and must begin in the Executive Board. If grace is seen here, grace will be practiced elsewhere.

"I commend to you the amazing grace of God, our hopes for the preservation of the great Tennessee Baptist idea," Porch challenged.

Porch also reminded board members of the value of specific processes the convention has in place to expedite its work.

He encouraged the board to help educate people across the state about the various processes. "These are ways that help us to do things in order," Porch shared.

Executive Board members were greeted by Jonanias Soares de Menezes, chairman of Crusade Rio '99, a part of the Tennessee/Rio Baptist Partnership.

Menezes, speaking through interpreter Terry Sharp, TBC partnership missions specialist. — See Grace, page 6

## As Tennesseans partner with Baptists there

# Rio '99 crusade targets 500,000 Brazilians

By Connie Davis  
*Baptist and Reflector*

BRENTWOOD — Crusade Rio '99 is the largest Baptist evangelistic effort ever planned, reported Terry Sharp of Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board Ministries. With

the help of Tennesseans, a soccer stadium in Rio de Janeiro will be filled with 180,000 people for an evangelistic service, and during the week-long effort with about 250-300 churches, about 500,000 Brazilians will hear the Gospel personally, he projected.

The May 23 - June 1 effort will require about 450 missions workers. A planning meeting for Rio '99, which also has been referred to as Simultaneous Revivals and City-wide Crusade, was held Jan. 12 at the Baptist Center here.

Directing the meeting was

Jonanias Soares de Menezes, coordinator of Rio '99 and pastor, First Church, Freguesia, Brazil. Accompanying him was Elizabeth Oates, missionary and coordinator of the Tennessee/Rio Baptist Partnership.

Menezes said, "In Rio we're really excited about what God's going to do," referring to Rio '99.

He explained an effort to share the Gospel with many of the seven million residents of metropolitan Rio de Janeiro who don't know God had been a vision of his for many years. The city has about 76,000 Baptists affiliated with the Carioca Baptist Convention.

Larry Gilmore, TBC president and pastor, College Heights Church, Gallatin, participated in the planning meeting. He thanked those representing Rio "for allowing us to partner with you on this project ... and be brothers holding hands."

Plans are well underway. — See Rio, page 6



PARTICIPATING in a planning session for the upcoming crusade in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, are, from left, Larry Gilmore, TBC president; Gary Rickman, TBC Ministry Coordinator; Jonanias Soares de Menezes, chairman, Rio Crusade '99; Elizabeth Oates, IMB missionary and coordinator Tennessee/Rio partnership; Terry Sharp, TBC partnership missions specialist; and Tim Bearden, leader, Missions Awareness and Involvement Group.

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# Maddox retires as C-N president

For Baptist and Reflector

JEFFERSON CITY — Cordell Maddox, president of Carson-Newman College for the past 22 years, announced Jan. 15 to the college's board of trustees that he will retire on July 31.

Maddox, 67, shared his plans during the trustees' annual January meeting.

Upon retiring Maddox will assume the role of president emeritus. While the title carries no specific administrative authority, he will serve as a consultant to ensure a smooth transition of leadership and will work with the trustees and the new president in the areas of fund raising and denominational relations.

"The decision to retire has not been an easy one," Maddox told the board. "I believe with all my heart that Carson-Newman is strong, vibrant, and poised for a fabulous future. That is why I am comfortable with leaving what has been the best position I've had the privilege to hold.

"I have every confidence

that our board consists of dedicated Christians who see their service to Carson-Newman as being service to the Kingdom of God," he said.

"Dr. Maddox has provided us with visionary leadership," said Jeanette Blazier, chair of the board of trustees. "He worked diligently to craft a strategic plan that gave us a specific, 10-year road map in which we reached most goals set, the crowning achievement of which was a student activities center that has received national recognition."

Of all of Maddox's talents, Blazier said his best is being able to work with a wide variety of people. "He has an amazing gift for reaching out to the broad constituencies to which we relate. He has been able to cross all of the lines in the areas of academics, athletics, fund raising, and denominational polity."

Maddox, a native of LaGrange, Ga., came to Carson-Newman College in the summer of 1977 after serving as president of Anderson (S.C.) College.

A graduate of Furman University, Greenville, S.C., and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., Maddox took over the helm of Carson-Newman which had a



MADDOX

## C-N search committee named

For Baptist and Reflector

JEFFERSON CITY — Jeanette Blazier, chair of the Carson-Newman College board of trustees has announced the committee chosen to find a successor to Cordell Maddox who will retire July 31.

"We have worked to build a search committee that is a solid mixture of our board in terms of service and expertise," Blazier said.

Members of the group, which will be chaired by

Knoxville pastor Marvin Cameron, are Maxfield Bahner, Chattanooga; Betty Gay Blanc, Jefferson City; Jeanette Blazier, Kingsport; M.J. "Sonny" Griffin, Chattanooga; Calvin Metcalf, Knoxville; Lonas Tarr, Jefferson City; and Patsy Wallace, Sevierville. Ex officio members of the committee are faculty members Kitty Coffey and Joe Bill Sloan, Student Government president Tony Bailey, and Alumni Executive Committee President Carrie Anna Hild. ■

declining enrollment of 1,518 students and a budget deficit of more than \$350,000.

After more than two decades of leadership, enrollment last fall reached an all-time high of 2,336, the 11th consecutive semester of record enrollment. The college also has finished every fiscal year of his tenure with an excess of revenue over expenditures. During Maddox's tenure endowment grew from less than \$3.5 million to more than \$20 million.

The college also has been recognized nationally in *U.S. News & World Report* for its

value and efficiency and as one of the leading liberal arts colleges of the region. C-N also has been cited by *Money* magazine as one of the "Top 100 College Buys" in the country and by the Templeton Foundation's Honor Roll of Character Building Colleges.

Maddox and his wife, Brona, have four adult children and 11 grandchildren.

"I had the privilege of walking my granddaughter to elementary school," he said recently.

"I'm looking forward to more of that. Much more of that." ■

# Tornadoes leave wreckage, deaths in West Tennessee

For Baptist and Reflector

JACKSON — A reported 15 tornadoes touched down in West Tennessee Jan. 17, leaving behind a wake of destruction, deaths, and injuries.

Jackson in particular was hard hit with at least six known deaths in Madison County and up to at least 60 injuries. Two other deaths were reported in Henderson and Hardeman counties, which also were hard hit by the storms.

Herbert Higdon, interim director of missions for Madison-Chester Association, noted south Jackson received extensive damage as several businesses were leveled. Higdon said that, to his knowledge,

no Tennessee Baptist church sustained damage.

He noted at least 30 homes in one subdivision were destroyed and 14 in another.

"This is the worse tornado damage anyone can ever remember in Jackson," he continued. The tornadoes were declared a Level III disaster by the American Red Cross.

Higdon said they have asked the Tennessee Baptist Convention feeding unit to be on standby as needs were still being determined at press time on Monday.

"We will need clean up crews at some point," he said.

Higdon said the association's churches are rallying together to collect food and

clothing for storm victims. Red Cross shelters have been set up at the Jackson Civic Center, East Union Church, and in Hardeman County.

In Hardeman County most of the damage was in the Middleton area, according to Mary Louise Craft of the Hardeman County Association office.

She reported First Church, Middleton, lost its steeple and some shingles. Also, some homes in the area were damaged, she said.

In addition to West Tennessee tornadoes also were reported Dickson, Stewart, Sumner, Maury, Montgomery, and Davidson counties. ■ — Lonnie Wilkey & Marcia Knox contributed to this report.

## Baptist papers, churches confront high postal rate hike

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — A sharp increase in nonprofit postal rates has prompted concern among Baptist newspaper editors and others who monitor the United States Postal Service.

The USPS's across-the-board rate increase took effect Jan. 10. Most visibly, first-class stamps rose from 32 cents to 33 cents, a 3.1 percent increase.

But the cost of mailing nonprofit periodicals — such as Baptist papers and church newsletters — rose 8 to 12 percent, according to Bob Terry, a member

of the Mailers Technical Advisory Committee and editor of *The Alabama Baptist* newsjournal.

Marv Knox, editor of the *Baptist Standard* in Texas and president of the Association of State Baptist Papers, said the sharp rate increases come on the heels of record surpluses at the USPS.

"The one thing that is particularly vexing is that the Postal Service is showing record revenues," Knox said.

"But they're continuing to pass along cost increases to Baptist state papers and other charitable nonprofit groups that contribute to the well-being of the

country," Knox added.

Some Baptist papers may find it necessary to raise advertising and subscription rates, Knox noted.

"For nearly all of us, postage, printing, and paper are tremendous parts of our budget. Any impact on any one of those three has a significant impact," he said.

How large the increase is for the *Baptist and Reflector* is still unknown, said Editor Lonnie Wilkey.

"We are exploring some improvements we can make to our mailing list that could offset some of the increase," he said. ■

# TBC bivocational ministers challenged to be 'vessels'

By Lonnie Wilkey  
Baptist and Reflector

GLADEVILLE — Tennessee bivocational ministers were reminded they have a God-given ministry and to be vessels for the Lord's work during the first evangelism conference for bivocational ministers.

About 211 people attended the Jan. 15-16 sessions at Gladeville Church here.

In addition to worship services, participants were able to receive training from a number of conferences offered during breakout sessions.

It was the first meeting of its kind for bivocational ministers, said Ray Gilder, bivocational ministry specialist for the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

"Many bivocational pastors cannot attend the regular State Evangelism Conference," Gilder said.

This meeting enables them to hear God's Word preached and to receive encouragement and training from the various conferences that are offered, he continued.

## Opening speaker

Mike Lee, pastor of Indian Ridge Church, Blaine, and outgoing president of the Tennessee Bivocational Ministers Fellowship, reminded his counterparts they are involved in "a labor of love."

He noted they must first love God, then others, and also "ourselves."

"If you're where God wants you to be, you're a success. You can feel good about yourself," he encouraged.

Lee observed a lost world is going to recognize the church for who it is because "they love folks."

"Because God loved us, we can love all others," he concluded.

## In need of grace

"Evangelism, whether personal one-on-one or standing in church Sunday after Sunday



**FELLOWSHIPING AT THE** Tennessee State Bivocational Evangelism Conference were officers of the Tennessee Bivocational Ministers Fellowship. From left are, Billy Murphy, pastor, Howse Church, Atwood, president; Mike Lee, pastor, Indian Ridge Church, Blaine, outgoing president; John Rhodes, pastor, Cottonwood Grove Church, Ridgely, secretary; and Johnny Carr, pastor, Shepard's Chapel Church, Rogersville, vice president.

preaching to a few or a house full, depends on how effective the message of grace is presented," said James Porch, executive director of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

"This is a beat up, hungry, wounded world, a world desperately in need of grace," Porch observed.

To understand the importance of the meaning of grace, a person must recognize he or she is helpless, realize there is only one hope, and be willing to receive the gift of grace, said Porch, drawing his message from Ephesians 2.

Porch took note of the popularity of "WWJD?" He observed people today really need "MMLJ" — Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

"We can't know what Jesus would do until we know what he did," Porch said.

Hope for today is knowing that "the Christ of the resurrection is the Christ who is alive now," he continued.

Porch shared about his wife Lynn's battle with cancer. "We live by grace one day at a time."

"Grace is the only thing that will get us through our problems," he maintained.

## Reach state for Christ

Chattanooga evangelist Bill Stafford encouraged the bivocational ministers "to be thankful" for their God-given ministry.

Stafford observed that the state of Tennessee "needs a Holy Ghost revival and a mighty moving of revival across our state."

"We have to believe God can do it in us," Stafford challenged.

Preaching from John 6:9, Stafford observed Jesus taught his disciples two principles: "re-

nounce your own ability and learn to live by faith."

God never picks out an individual because they have special ability or because they are successful in the world, Stafford said.

"God looks for any vessel he can take control of and mold it," he related.

"God has never used somebodies, just nobodies full of Jesus," Stafford said.

"Nothing we accomplish counts unless God is in us and through us."

"Just because you're bivocational does not mean you are not a giant for God," Stafford encouraged.

He told the bivocational ministers their job "is to be the vessels God wants you to be. ..."

"God will run people by you. He will make them captive audiences to hear about Jesus," Stafford concluded.

## Redeeming lives

"God is in the business of redeeming lives," said Billy Murphy, pastor of Howse Church, Atwood, and incoming president of the Tennessee Bivocational Ministers Fellowship.

Murphy observed that evangelism is the proclamation of Jesus Christ.

"You and I are in the business of making proclamation of what God can do in people's lives," Murphy said.

Murphy noted God reveals his redemptive character through churches and ministers.

"If you want to win the world, let your light shine and let the glory of God work through you," he challenged.

## Get out of the boat

Drawing from the story presented in John 21:1-12, Skip Youngcourt, a vocational evangelist from New Johnsonville, acknowledged that pastors sometimes get restless and look "toward greener pastures."

The problem, Youngcourt

noted, is "there are dead cows in those pastures too, and if it is a bigger pasture, there will be more of them."

It's easy to want to "stay in the boat" when things are not going well, Youngcourt said. Jesus, however, will initiate the procedure to get you out of the boat, he promised.

"Jesus comes to meet us where we are. He is in our circumstances."

Jesus is the only thing that will restore today, he continued, adding that only Jesus can fix the lost and dying sinner.

"Jesus will get you out of the boat," Youngcourt promised. "Go to the cross."

## Final session

In the closing session, Ken Weathersby, evangelism specialist for the Tennessee Baptist Convention, preached on the marks of a soul-winner.

First, a soul-winner is committed to the cause over the cost, said Weathersby, who resigns at the end of this month to accept a position at New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary. "We see the lost and are burdened for the lost and cry over the lost," he said.

Second, he continued, a soul winner exercises faith over other factors. Soul winners do not allow hindrances to keep them from winning people for Christ, he observed.

Third, a soul winner is committed to obeying the Lord versus doing what is convenient, Weathersby stressed.

Fourth, a soul winner does not focus upon the criticism of those who do not see with spiritual eyes, he said.

Fifth, a soul winner starts with the Word of God and is led by the Spirit of God, he noted.

And, finally, Weathersby said, a soul winner "rejoices over those who are being saved." **B&R**



## Bill Bates steps down as public affairs consultant

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — Bill Bates of Jackson has stepped down as public affairs consultant for the Tennessee Baptist Convention after 11 years in that role.

Bates, 80, is a former pastor of First Church, Martin, and associate pastor of First Church, Jackson.

Prior to his retirement he was director of church and corporate support in Union University's development office.

Bates currently serves on the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention and was president of the TBC in 1990-91.



**BATES**

"Tennessee Baptists are indebted to Bill Bates for his tireless efforts in helping to combat gambling and his work on legislative matters during the past 11 years," said James Porch, TBC executive director.

Porch noted Bates' contacts and reputation among Tennessee legislators have been invaluable.

"I will continue to get counsel from him on gambling issues as needs arise," Porch continued. ■

## State deacons meeting planned

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — "An Experience for Deacons: Mobilizing God's Servants Now!" conference will be held Feb. 19-20 at First Church, Concord, Knoxville.

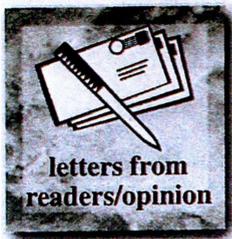
The Friday session begins at 6 p.m. with registration and meal, followed by the program from 7-9 p.m. Guest speaker is Jerry Tidwell, pastor of West Jackson Church, Jackson.

On Saturday from 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. Larry Garner and John Temple will lead a conference on developing deacon ministry teams.

There is no registration fee but a count is needed for the Friday meal. For more information, contact Jerry Chapman, TBC discipleship coordinator at 1-800-558-2090, ext. 7932. ■



**OFFICERS OF the Bivocational Wives Fellowship** are Patty Carr, left, Shepard's Chapel Church, Rogersville, vice president, and Faye Davis, Cedar Hill Church, Baxter, president. Not present was secretary Gail Rhodes of Cottonwood Grove Church, Ridgely.



### about letters

- ▶ Make it concise, no more than 250 words. Letters may be edited for length.
- ▶ Name may be withheld for sufficient reason. Include address and phone number.
- ▶ Avoid personal attacks on the character or integrity of anyone.
- ▶ Send original copy. Form letters and 'open' letters will not be published.
- ▶ Only one letter in a three-months period per writer will be published.
- ▶ If letter does not conform, it will be returned.
- ▶ Opinions and ideas expressed in letters are not necessarily shared by the Baptist and Reflector and its staff.

be observed in a historical perspective. For about 1400 years western civilization has been under a calendar using BC (Before Christ) and AD (Anno Domini which means year of the Lord). Some are taught AD means after death of Christ.

It is impossible to arrive at the dates of the birth and death of Jesus Christ, and it is probably by divine intent. However, we can arrive at approximate dates.

The year 2000 dating from the birth of Christ is confirmed to be inaccurate by at least four to six years.

In 526 Emperor Justinian requested a religious clerk to determine the year of Christ's birth. At that time dating was from the founding of Rome. The date was concluded to have been Roman year 753 and the empire and church adopted that conclusion.

Long after the establishment of this calendar it was discovered that Herod the Great died in Roman year 749, thus a four-year error. It was this Herod the Great, appointed King of Judea, who ordered baby boys around Bethlehem age 2 and under to be murdered in an attempt to destroy the "born King of the Jews."

Taking the two-year maximum as to the birth of Jesus, his birth would be six years earlier than the calendar. Thus 2,000 years from his birth would have been 1994. Those who want to place significance on the 2000th year of

his birth missed it already. Scholars have addressed this problem of calendar dating for a long time. The general scholarly consensus is he was born 5 or 6 BC and died in 29 or 30 AD. Still we cannot be specific.

A reconciling conclusion: accept each year as highly significant. The year 2000 should be observed indeed as "The Year of the Lord."

O. Jewell Barrett  
Nashville 37221

### Prince of Egypt

I took my family to see the highly-acclaimed, animated movie "Prince of Egypt," which is based on the life of Moses. It was entertaining, but I have one major complaint.

The story (as presented) is almost entirely man-centered. God is only a bit player. For this reason, it disturbs me that so many evangelical leaders have openly supported this movie.

It is true that there is nothing offensive about this piece of theater as family entertainment — unless theology or the glory of God is a concern.

The anti-biblical, man-centered focus is most apparent in the scene where the Israelites have miraculously crossed the Red Sea.

Not one word of praise to God is uttered by Moses or any of the people. Faith is sung about, but it easily could be construed as faith in self

instead of in God. Sadly, this man-centered, God-minimizing tendency is often found in our churches today. The true story of Moses and the exodus, like no other, shouts forth the all but forgotten truth that salvation is of the Lord.

Brad Isbell  
Oliver Springs 37840

### Great concern

It has been two months since the TBC in Kingsport and I still have great concern about the action taken against a fellow Christian. First, I must say I am not acquainted with Howard Olive or the person nominated in his place. Therefore, my concern is not for or against either. My concern is labeling of fellow Christians.

On Tuesday morning of the convention we voted to keep the Relationship Focus Group. By doing this we agreed to all of the items stated in the consensus agreement. Item F states we will not label one another for the purpose of political gain and item G states we will seek to balance representation of leadership on our boards and committees.

Yet, during the same time sheets of paper were being handed to each of us asking us to vote to remove one of our members from the board because he belonged to CBF. Did we not put a label on Howard

Olive? On Wednesday we voted Mr. Olive off the board. Somehow this seems strange that we vote for something one day and against the next day.

We have just finished the Christmas season where we celebrated the beginning of a man's life. That man taught us not to judge or label people because they worship, think, or live different than we do. I wonder if that man had labeled each of us, would there be a reason to look forward to the Easter season?

Alpha R. Patrick,  
Knoxville 37923

### Grateful for help

I want to say a special thanks to Lonnie Wilkey, editor of the Baptist and Reflector for his help in our fight against gambling. I greatly appreciated his suggestions and his reporting. I am also grateful to retired editor Fletcher Allen for his help and support.

Dr. James Porch and his staff have cooperated with me and given support and encouragement without complaint. I feel we will have victory because of all your prayers and support. Many people across the years have called their legislators and written notes to them. This is very helpful.

As I finish my years on Capitol Hill, I thank our Lord for the friends I have and also for the awareness of many of our legislators.

Bill Bates  
Jackson 38305

### 2000 AD

Much ado is in the make about the year 2000 or second millennium. This event should

## Tennessee Baptists encouraged to send nominations for boards, committees

At right are replicas of the forms which have been developed for Tennessee Baptists to use to make nominations for people to serve on TBC boards or committees.

Each year the Committee on Boards and Committee on Committees conduct a lengthy process to select nominees to the convention for positions on the boards and committees of the convention. This process is dependent upon Tennessee Baptists nominating qualified people for these positions.

Forms for both the Committee on Boards and Committee on Committees processes are being mailed to each church in the Tennessee Baptist Convention. Additional forms are also being mailed to directors of missions. Your prayerful attention to this opportunity to recommend Tennessee Baptists for positions is encouraged.

The completed form should be mailed to the Executive Leadership Group, TBC, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN, 37024-0728 by March 1. Also, forms may be faxed to the Executive Leadership Group at (615) 371-2093.

Each recommendation form is copied and submitted to each member of the respective committees.

Tennessee Baptists are reminded that numerous recommendations are presented and all recommendations are given consideration. ■

**RECOMMENDATION FORM** Digitally from the Constitution and Bylaws.

**Executive Board/Boards of Trust, Committee on Committees, TBC 1999**

East \_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_ West \_\_\_

Please use this form to recommend resident members of Tennessee Baptist churches to the Committee on Boards. A separate form should be used for each committee recommendation. Mail all recommendations to Chairman, Committee on Boards, Tennessee Baptist Convention, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37024-0728 or fax to 615-371-2093. All recommendations are considered by the Committee on Boards. However, no person submitting a recommendation shall assume his recommendation will automatically be submitted to the Tennessee Baptist Convention. The deadline for submitting recommendations is March 1, 1999. (This form will be copied for all committee members. To insure legibility, please type or print as neatly as possible.)

I recommend \_\_\_\_\_ for the \_\_\_\_\_ Board/Committee.

**CHOOSE ONLY ONE:**

Executive Board  Children's Home  Adult Home  Committee on Resolutions

Deafness Ministry  Prison Ministry  Tennessee Baptist Foundation

Hospital Health System, Men's  Hospital Health System, Care Tennessee  Missionary Chalmers Academy

Committee on Committees

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ (Business)

Appropriate Age \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_ Ordain \_\_\_\_\_ Minister \_\_\_\_\_ Lay Person \_\_\_\_\_

Church Membership at \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Average Sunday School Attendance: 0-250 \_\_\_\_\_ 250-500 \_\_\_\_\_ 500-1000 \_\_\_\_\_ >1000 \_\_\_\_\_

Church Staff Member? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Please respond to the following questions:

1. Do you have the nominee's permission to submit this recommendation? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
2. List the nominee's present and/or past experiences on any TBC Board(s)/Committee(s) and dates of service.
3. Indicate the amount of the nominee's church's mission gifts given through Tennessee Baptist and SBC causes in 1998 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
4. Indicate the nominee's occupation (former occupation, if retired). Please be specific.
5. Is the nominee willing to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of the Tennessee Baptist Convention Board/Committee for which he is being recommended?
6. What gifts, abilities or experience does the nominee possess that qualifies him/her for consideration on a Tennessee Baptist Board/Committee?
7. Describe the nominee's present involvement and activity in his/her local church.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Submitting Recommendation)

Church Name \_\_\_\_\_ Association \_\_\_\_\_ Layperson \_\_\_\_\_ Minister \_\_\_\_\_

**RECOMMENDATION FORM** Digitally from the Constitution and Bylaws.

**Convention Committees, TBC 1999**

East \_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_ West \_\_\_

Please use this form to recommend resident members of Tennessee Baptist churches to the Committee on Committees. A separate form should be used for each committee recommendation. Mail all recommendations to Chairman, Committee on Committees, Tennessee Baptist Convention, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37024-0728 or fax to 615-371-2093. All recommendations are considered by the Committee on Committees. However, no person submitting a recommendation shall assume his recommendation will automatically be submitted to the Tennessee Baptist Convention. The deadline for submitting recommendations is March 1, 1999. (This form will be copied for all committee members. To insure legibility, please type or print as neatly as possible.)

I recommend \_\_\_\_\_ for the \_\_\_\_\_ committee.

**CHOOSE ONLY ONE:**

Committee on Announcements  University on Boards  Committee on Resolutions

Committee on Audits  Committee on Constitution & Bylaws  Historical Committee

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ (Business)

Appropriate Age \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_ Ordain \_\_\_\_\_ Minister \_\_\_\_\_ Lay Person \_\_\_\_\_

Church Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Average Sunday School Attendance: 0-250 \_\_\_\_\_ 250-500 \_\_\_\_\_ 500-1000 \_\_\_\_\_ >1000 \_\_\_\_\_

Church Staff Member? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Please respond to the following questions:

1. Do you have the nominee's permission to submit this recommendation? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_
2. List the nominee's present and/or past experiences on any TBC Board(s)/Committee(s) and dates of service.
3. Indicate the amount of the nominee's church's mission gifts given through Tennessee Baptist and SBC causes in 1998 \$ \_\_\_\_\_
4. Indicate the nominee's occupation (former occupation, if retired). Please be specific.
5. Is the nominee willing to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of the Tennessee Baptist Convention Board/Committee for which he is being recommended?
6. What gifts, abilities or experience does the nominee possess that qualifies him/her for consideration on a Tennessee Baptist Board/Committee?
7. Describe the nominee's present involvement and activity in his/her local church.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Submitting Recommendation)

Church Name \_\_\_\_\_ Association \_\_\_\_\_ Layperson \_\_\_\_\_ Minister \_\_\_\_\_

# Legislators may consider lottery again

By Lonnie Wilkey, editor

The headline in the Jan. 4 issue of *The Tennessean* caught my attention. It read "Pressure builds for referendum on a Tennessee lottery."

The article noted that Tennessee is one of only three states with no legal gambling and among a dwindling number that does not have a state lottery.

Let's keep it that way.

Once the door to a state lottery is open, every other form of gambling can walk through it, including casinos.

Here are some of the arguments that have been given for having a state lottery. It will increase state revenues tremendously; it will fund education; we would not need as many taxes; and it is harmless fun.

Those arguments are myths. Lottery proponents neglect to tell Tennesseans of the graft, the negative impact on the economy, and crime that will accompany gambling, as well as countless lives destroyed by the addictive nature of gambling. Many people who would buy the tickets would spend every cent possible with the hope that their ticket would hit the jackpot. For every lottery winner there are hundreds of

thousands of losers.

Sad to say, polls taken across the year show many Tennesseans want a lottery. Most do not realize that removing the constitutional ban on a lottery would open the state up to all forms of gambling.

Our state senators have repeatedly thwarted efforts to remove that ban over recent years. As senators leave office and new senators are elected, it is anyone's guess as to how long it will be before lottery proponents prevail.

According to *The Tennessean* article even if a lottery measure is passed this year, it would take two years for the question to be brought to voters because of the complexities involved in amending the state constitution. A way around that is the call for a constitutional convention. That method, if approved this year, could place an amendment before voters by next year, the article continued.

*The Tennessean* article noted Gov. Don Sundquist favors allowing voters to consider the lottery question, but opposes a constitutional convention.

One man who has worked behind the scenes for many years to help keep Tennessee free of gambling is Bill Bates of Jackson, who has stepped down as public

affairs consultant for the Tennessee Baptist Convention. He will continue to be consulted for counsel on gambling issues. We are indebted to Bates and others for their tireless efforts over the years.

It is time for Christians and Tennessee Baptists, in particular, to step forward and speak out against gambling.

A 1994 article in the *Baptist and Reflector* against gambling quoted Memphis pastor Earl Davis, who preached a sermon entitled "Why Jesus Wouldn't Support Gambling."

He observed that Jesus would "oppose gambling on both common sense and moral grounds." He pointed out gambling "violates the biblical commands concerning both stealing and work (Exodus 20:9, 15; Ephesians 4:28); the biblical teaching about stewardship (Matthew 6:21, 24), the biblical teaching about love of our neighbor (Matthew 22:35-40; and the principle of trust in God."

Davis went on to add in his sermon that "faith and lady luck have nothing in common."

I have heard all my life you cannot get "something for nothing." That definitely applies in gambling. Only in gambling, you give and give, just to receive nothing. **B&R**



## just for today

by Fred Wood, pastor emeritus, Eudora Church, Memphis



## Start with a smile

Gus: "Why are you so gloomy?" George: "I just heard my uncle cut me out of his will. He's changed it five times in the last two years." Gus: "I guess he must be a 'fresh heir' fiend."

## Take this truth

When you start doing nice things for people so as to make them like you, you're beginning a life of headaches. Mature people appreciate you for who you are and what you stand for, not what you do for them.

## Memorize this Scripture

"A man that has friends must shew himself friendly" — Proverbs 18:24

## Pray this prayer

"Lord, help me to realize friends are to be loved and appreciated, not manipulated for personal favor or gain. ■

Wood can be e-mailed at docfred1@juno.com

# Writer asks, 'In whose shoes can you walk?'

## guest opinion

by Polly House president Baptist Communicators Association

I guess I'm like most parents. I like to believe my boys are the cutest, smartest, most clever children to ever set foot on earth. That said, I'll share a story about my youngest son, Travis.

When Travis was about 3 years old, one of his favorite games was playing "shoes." He would put on a pair of his dad's shoes, and clomp around the house saying, "Look, I'm Daddy."

He would find some of my shoes, put them on, and say, "I'm Mama."

But his favorite thing was to put on his brother's cowboy boots, which went to about mid-

thigh, and walk around saying, "I'm Tyler."

When Travis was around, no one's shoes were off-limits. He would get in closets at other people's houses and find shoes. Then he would pretend to be the owner of his most recent find.

Well, Travis has grown past that game now. He is a fast-moving 9-year-old with places to go and people to see. He still loves shoes, but at \$40 for a pair of sneakers (that's on sale, mind you) his lust for shoes has been stifled. But even now, he isn't above slipping into someone else's shoes to go out to feed the dogs or get the mail.

That said, do you ever slip into someone else's shoes?

My mother died last October after a long illness. Having gone through that experience, I can slip into the shoes of a daughter who has lost her head cheerleader. My father died seven years ago, but I can

still slip into the shoes of a daughter who lost the man who taught me not only how to read a road map, but to fold it back up properly when I finished.

Whose shoes can you walk in?

► The single parent who has to work on Saturday and has to struggle to find child care?

► The couple in your church who just bought their first house?

► The man with the oldest car in the grocery store parking lot?

► The dad whose son got appointed to West Point?

► The parents who just had twins and no family in town?

► The neighbor down the street who bought a new car?

► The minister who works so hard but doesn't see his church grow?

Some shoes feel really good; others quite uncomfortable.

There's an expression that

says someone's shoes are hard to fill. Is that saying it's a compliment to someone to say he has big feet? Not exactly!

Some shoes hurt when you walk in them, but there are those other shoes that feel really good.

Have you ever put on a pair of shoes and thought, "These feel like they were made for me." I love to find the perfect pair of shoes. I only wear comfortable shoes. I don't like shoes that are fancy or call a lot of attention to themselves. I like shoes I've lived in for awhile. I like thinking about what I've done in those shoes, where they have taken me.

That description sounds very much like my favorite friends — long-term, comfortable, not fancy or attention grabbing. ■ — House is editorial assistant for Baptist Press in Nashville. This column appeared in the winter BCA newsletter and is reprinted with permission.

## Partnership Prayer Requests January

20 — Pray for IMB missionaries to Costa Rica and for God to bless them.

21 — Pray for Sharon Fairchild, IMB missionary to Brazil, as she coordinates inter-preters for Tennessee volunteer teams in Rio de Janeiro.

22 — Pray for Chris McNairy, African American ministry leader for the Baptist State Convention of Michigan.

23 — Pray for the NAMB key speakers and workshop, worship, and prayer leaders who will attend the Canadian National Prayer Conference April 22-30.

24 — Pray for pastor Tony Lynn in Michigan who was recently diagnosed with a malignancy and is undergoing treatments.

25 — Pray for the five-member medical team to Costa Rica Feb. 18-28 led by physician Bryan Chastain. Ask God to bless the work of the medical team.

26 — Pray for Christians across Canada to work together and present the Gospel to their nation.

## Church of the Covered Dish

By Thom Tapp, pastor, Oral Church, Lenoir City



# Grace needed to preserve 'Tennessee Baptist ...



— Continued from page 1  
brought the "Macedonian call" from churches in Rio. He noted they are preparing to share the Gospel with 500,000 people there. He invited Executive Board members to be a part of the crusade effort which begins in late May.

"When you go to Rio, you will not come back the same," he predicted. "You'll be a blessing there, but you will come back blessed as well."

Committee chairmen shared reports as needed and heads of TBC institutions reported on their work as well.

Mike Glenn, pastor of Brentwood Church, Brentwood, and chairman of the Education Committee, reported his committee will be dealing with four primary issues during the coming year — an ongoing relationship with Carson-Newman College, the Protocol agreement for college

trustee selection which is being dealt with by the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, continued funding of Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy, and strategies to address the growing gap between the cost of Christian higher education and what Tennessee Baptist students can pay.

In regard to the Carson-Newman issue, Glenn acknowledged there are deep emotions from people on both sides of the trustee action which moved the



**HONORED FOR YEARS** of service to the Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board during the January meeting were, from left, John Coblentz, Central Administrative, 5 years; Penny Williams, Church Staff Leadership, 10 years; Carol Growden, Missions Awareness and Involvement, 15 years; and Brenda Carr, Central Administrative, 30 years. Not pictured is Vickie Anderson who has served five years in Missions Awareness and Involvement Group.

selection of trustees to the convention to the trustees themselves.

He issued a plea for board members not to be involved in rhetoric.

"We have a slim opening to work with Carson-Newman, but it is an opening we have. We will work optimistically and prayerfully to bring this to a satisfactory resolution," Glenn said.

C-N President Cordell Maddox spoke briefly to the board in what he said could "be his last time." He acknowledged the convention action to escrow their funds "has placed a hardship on the college."

The college, however, has tightened its belts and increased fund-raising efforts, Maddox said. "I believe Carson-Newman will be more than

all right this year," he said.

Maddox said he hopes and prays that "in the future the students and preparing them for Christian leadership will be the primary focus and interest."

In other actions:

► Board members were introduced to two new staff members — Bill Choate in the Christian Growth Development Group and Jesus A. Avila in the Evangelism/Missions Strategies Group.

Choate, Baptist campus minister at Vanderbilt University, begins Jan. 22 as collegiate ministries specialist. He is a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., and is pursuing a doctorate at Drew University School of Theology, Madison, N.J. Choate is a deacon and

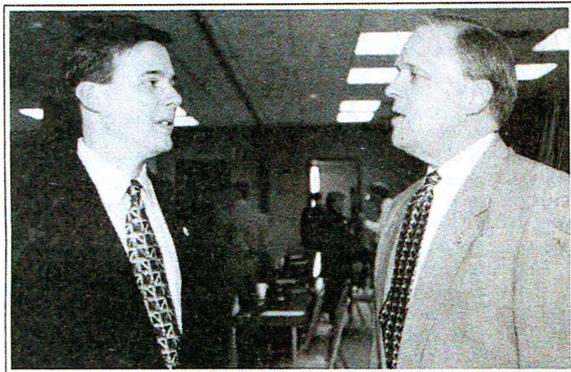
Sunday School teacher at First Church, Nashville. He and his wife, Nan, have two daughters.

Avila begins work March 1 as the Hispanic church starter strategist. A native of Mexico, Avila lives in Midland, Texas, where he is a catalytic missionary for the North American Mission Board. He has served as pastor of churches in Mexico and Texas. He holds a degree in Christian theology from the Seminario Bautista Fronterizo in Juarez, Mexico. He and his wife, Luz Maria, have four children.

► Board members approved a request from Union University to increase the debt ceiling from \$8 million to \$15.5 million. The money will be used to fund aspects of the new campus master plan.

► Board members agreed to employ the auditing firm of Williams, Croslin, Sparks, and Vaden, P.C., to perform audits on institutions of the Tennessee Baptist Convention for the fiscal year of 1999 with a possible two-year extension.

► Heard reports from W.L. "Bo" Childs Jr, president of the Tennessee Baptist Foundation, regarding the new work revolving loan fund and the church building and loan funds of the convention's Church Building and Loan Program. In the new work loan fund, nine churches received a total of \$433,000 in loans during the 1997-98 year. *B&R*



**NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD** employee Bill Choate, left, visits with Tim Holcomb, leader of the Christian Growth Development Group. Choate, Baptist campus minister at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, is the new collegiate ministries specialist for the convention. He begins his duties Jan. 22.

# Rio '99 crusade targets 500,000 Brazilians ...

— Continued from page 1  
said Oates, who is from Tennessee. About 200 Rio churches are participating and others will join the effort, she continued.

Menezes presented the Rio '99 promotional plan which included promotion on billboards, posters, name tags and T-shirts which will be worn by all participants, and baseball caps and tote bags.

He also presented a brochure which included a witnessing plan in both English and Portuguese and information to be completed about the spiritual state of a person. That information will be provided to Brazilian Baptists for follow-up plans after Rio '99.

Volunteers will accompany Brazilians on visits with residents in their homes. They will visit people who will be expecting them because of previous work by Brazilian Baptists, Menezes explained. In the evenings, volunteers may continue visitation or may join a congregation in evangelistic meetings. Some of the missions

workers will lead the meetings.

Workers also may lead evangelistic efforts outdoors, especially in downtown Rio. The possibility of a march in a downtown street is being investigated, said Menezes. And workers may visit schools and prisons.

Sharp asked volunteers who are interested in participating in these special ministries to convey that information as they enlist through his office.

Enlisted by Brazilians to assist in Rio '99 are International Crusades, an organization based in Dallas, Texas, and the organization of Sammy Tippit, evangelist based in San Antonio, Texas.

Tippit will speak at the May 29 meeting held at the soccer stadium. He has worked extensively in Brazil. International Crusades has worked with the International Mission Board on meetings similar to Rio '99. Francisco Nunez of International Crusades, who is based in Guatemala, reported on his work for Rio '99.

Nunez is enlisting Baptists from Central and South America to work

with the North Americans.

He also is helping the Baptist churches in Rio prepare for Rio '99. He is leading each church member to identify 10 people who don't know God. They will pray for those people and tell them about God and Rio '99.

If the church only has 30 members, that is a potential of 300 new members for the church, Nunez noted. If only 10 percent of those 300 make commitments to God, the church will grow from 30 members to 60 members, he added.

Rio '99 "will affect all of Latin America," said Nunez.

The Brazilian Baptists are preparing for Rio '99 in other ways, Nunez reported. They will attend a February retreat, hold prayer meetings in March

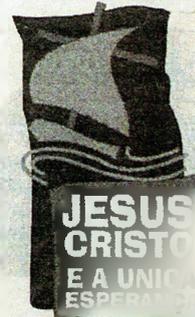
and April, and participate in around-the-clock prayer sessions. Rio '99 also will be emphasized through regular church activities.

Nunez said his experience is that the results of Rio '99 will begin many weeks before the culmination week of activities May 23 — June 1.

Of course, the highlight of Rio '99 will be the meeting in the soccer stadium, the planners agreed. The goal will be to fill it to its capacity of 180,000. Leading Christian recording artist, Christina Mel, will

perform, along with other musicians.

For more information about Rio '99, contact Sharp or Kim Huff, TBC Executive Board Ministries, Partnership/Volunteer Missions, (615) 371-2021, or khuff@tnbaptist.org or tsharp@tnbaptist.org. *B&R*





# The Macedonian Call

## Partnership/Volunteer Missions Newsletter

Featuring news from Tennessee Baptists' four partnerships — Canada, Michigan, Rio de Janeiro, and Costa Rica

Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team, TBC; P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37024

Phone — (615) 371-2021; FAX — (615) 371-2014; Internet — [www.tnbaptist.org/services/missions/missopp.htm](http://www.tnbaptist.org/services/missions/missopp.htm)

From your missionary

### Putting the Volunteer Puzzle Together

This special issue of the "Macedonian Call" is designed to help you put the Volunteer Missions Puzzle together.

Today as never before there are enormous opportunities for volunteer mission service.

You have heard of Partnership Missions, Disaster Relief, World Changers, Enterprisers, Innovators, Activators, Journeymen, US/C-2ers, International Service Corps, Students, Tentmakers, and many more. There are several pieces to the big volunteer missions puzzle.

I trust this special edition will serve as a valuable missions resource for years to come.

Yours Truly,

*Jerry*



SHARP

## The value of Southern Baptist missions volunteers

By Jerry Rankin, president, International Mission Board For *The Macedonian Call*

God is continuing to call Southern Baptists to international mission service in record numbers. The International Mission Board has had six consecutive years of record appointments with 885 new missionaries appointed in 1998.

However, the Great Commission was not restricted to those who respond to a special call to missionary service. The command of our Lord to go and make disciples of all nations was intended for all of God's people in every church and every born-again believer.

In our efforts to promote giving and our annual missions offering it has often been said, "Not everyone can go, but everyone can give." However, that is not true. There are opportunities for practically anyone and everyone who is willing to participate in short-term volunteer projects overseas.

Working along side our missionaries in strategic volunteer projects, volunteers are able to interface with lost people of another culture to share their faith in Jesus Christ. They are able to provide ministries in massive numbers that go beyond what the missionaries would have been able to do. Volunteers are also able to provide encouragement and support struggling national churches and lonely missionary families.

What are the benefits of par-

ticipating in a volunteer mission project overseas? It will be an eye-opening experience as you are personally exposed to the needs of a lost world. It will be a faith building experience as you see the marvelous way God is working to bring people to saving faith in Jesus Christ. It will be a life changing experience as you see God's Spirit use you in unexpected ways.

Actual research has shown that those who participate in volunteer missions give more generously and sacrificially than they did before they experienced volunteer missions. They also become more committed to intercessory prayer. Many of them recognize the potential in their lives for missionary service.

Many churches have been radically changed by involving their people in volunteer missions. It is not an "either/or" proposition.

People are more committed to serving needs at home, more diligent to witness, and to be more faithful to their churches after experiencing volunteer opportunities overseas. After all, obedience always brings blessings. ■



**VOLUNTEER** Sara Shaw of Memphis holds a baby while visiting with the parents and others in Rio de Janeiro. Shaw is an employee of Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes. — Photo by Gerald Stow

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### How do you fit in the puzzle?

#### Students

- ▶ Acteens Activators/Activators Abroad
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## Executive Board Ministries director recalls his first missions trip

By James Porch, executive director, TBC Executive Board ministries For *The Macedonian Call*

I vividly recall my first volunteer mission trip. Our church, First Church of Tullahoma, sponsored a youth and adult mission trip to Michigan in July 1981.

Over the next 12 years, similar groups from that church would make at least one and sometimes two mission trips to Michigan each year. During that season of mission efforts, both of our children, Scott and Terri, would spend at least one summer in Michigan, en-

gaged in specific mission tasks.

My flood of memories from those years includes the beautiful Michigan countryside, the discovery that a soft drink is a "pop" up North, and rediscovering that teens never sleep. There was the constant presence of aches, pains, and smashed fingers, the amazing joys of nightly devotions and share times, and memory of eight-year-old Trena.

Trena lived just down the street from the park where we hosted our first Backyard Bible Club (BYBC) in 1981. We literally found her during a Sunday afternoon door-to-door survey.

The first day of BYBC, she was

given a new Bible. No child ever clutched a toy more than the way Trena held that Bible.

The next day she returned for BYBC carrying the Bible in pieces. One of her siblings had torn it the night before BYBC. We gave Trena another Bible. Somehow the copy of the Holy Scripture survived the week. Each day as she returned to the BYBC, the new Bible remained intact. Each day she was greeted with a hug and a smile from her new friends. During the week, Trena learned a simple Bible verse — God is love.

I remember the last time I saw her. Early Saturday morning she

came back to the park as we were packing to go home. She still held to that Bible. As we drove off, she waved with one hand and held tenaciously to her New Testament with the other hand.

Now over 15 years later, I wonder about her. I can only hope and pray that the Bible's truth seeds, planted that week, have produced an abundant harvest in her life. I pray that she continues to hold to the Word of God as she held the Bible that day. This to me is part of the great essence of Volunteer Missions. We go, we share, and we wait for God to do his abundant work. ■

## Acteens Activators/ Activators Abroad

Looking for a short term missions volunteer opportunity for the teenage girls in your church? Acteens Activators is just the program.

Acteens Activators is a volunteer program of missions involvement for Acteen girls and their sponsors. Through involvement, Activators have the opportunity to touch lives in the name of Christ through VBS, Back Yard Bible Clubs, inner city ministries, ethnic ministries, ministries to the elderly, personal witnessing, resort ministries, ministries to youth and children, and at camps.

Each year missionaries request Activator groups because of the training they receive. There is a minimum of 65 hours of required training. There is also a required training weekend, sponsored by the state WMU where teams meet other teams, fellowship, exchange ideas, and receive 15 hours of their training. The training includes: personal Bible study, personal witness training, project preparation, and cultural study. The Activator team is responsible for financing their own trip.

Acteens Activators is often the change agent as teenage girls decide to live a missions ministry lifestyle. They discover the world around them and the needs in

their own backyards.

Another volunteer program of missions involvement for older Acteens is Acteens Activators Abroad, sponsored by the state and national WMU in cooperation with the International Mission Board.

Activators Abroad must meet all the requirements of Acteens Activators plus be: at least 16 years old or have completed tenth grade; and able to serve at least two weeks. The team must include one adult and two Acteens who have had one year or more experience in the Activator program.

### Requirements for Activators are:

- ▶ be an active Acteen
- ▶ be at least 15 years old or have completed the ninth grade

Activator applications are available from the state WMU office. Applications are due Jan. 31. This program is sponsored by state and national WMU with the cooperation of the North American Mission Board.

Please contact state WMU ministry specialist Amanda Day at (615) 371-7919, 1 (800) 588-2090, or aday@tnbaptist.org for applications. ■



## Collegiate Summer Missionaries

Collegiate summer missionaries are students who have completed their freshman year in college and are available to serve in the summer for up to 10 weeks. Opportunities are available nationally and internationally for college students.

### International (Options)

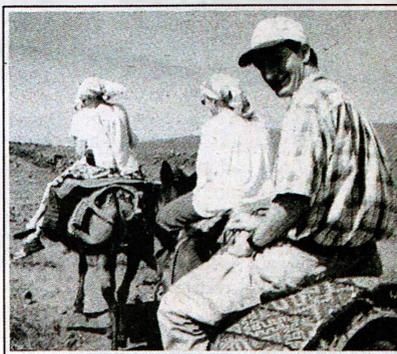
#### ▶ BSU

Students who serve through their state collegiate missions program normally receive some or full financial support. Students serving internationally provide \$500 toward expenses. The balance of travel, shots, passport, visa, insurance, and in-country expenses are provided. For an application or available positions, contact your local BSU minister or Rodney Wilson, Collegiate and Family Missions specialist at (615) 371-7925, 1 (800) 588-2090, rwilson@tnbaptist.org.

#### ▶ IMB/Partnership Missions

Students applying directly to IMB/Partnership Missions are responsible for the bulk of their expenses. Students provide their own travel funds and insurance. In some instances, the student is responsible for part of the expenses on the field.

For more information and a list of available positions, contact Terry Sharp, tsharp@tnbaptist.org, or Kim Huff, khuff@tnbaptist.org. Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team, (615) 371-2021 or 1 (800) 588-2090.



MEMBERS of a Tennessee International BSU team travel by donkey to their place of service.

### National (Options)

#### ▶ BSU/NAMB

Students, who serve through their state collegiate missions program or NAMB, receive travel funds, a stipend, and insurance for each student. A stipend is provided by the Collegiate Mission fund, raised by BSUs, for positions of four

weeks or longer. The local field to which a student is assigned is responsible for housing, meals, and local transportation while the student is serving.

For an application or additional information contact Rodney Wilson, Collegiate and Family Missions specialist at (615) 371-7925, 1 (800) 588-2090, rwilson@tnbaptist.org. Or contact Allen James, Student Volunteer specialist, at (615) 371-7935, 1 (800) 588-2090, or ajames@tnbaptist.org.

#### ▶ Partnership

Students who serve in a partnership project are provided travel funds and insurance from NAMB. The local field provides housing, meals, and local transportation while the student is serving.

For additional information and list of available projects, contact Kim Huff, khuff@tnbaptist.org, or Terry Sharp, tsharp@tnbaptist.org. Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team, at (615) 371-2021 or 1 (800) 588-2090. ■



## Collegiate Semester Missionaries

Students usually serve 15-20 weeks in the fall or winter/spring term. Students may extend for additional terms if requested by the local supervisor and

approved by NAMB.

### Requirements are:

- ▶ have completed sophomore year in college
- ▶ Round trip transportation

from home or school to the field is provided along with room and board, insurance, and stipend.

For additional information or to apply, contact Rodney Wilson, Collegiate and Family Missions specialist, at (615) 371-7925, 1 (800) 588-2090, or rwilson@tnbaptist.org. Or contact Allen James, Student Volunteer specialist, at (615) 371-7935, 1 (800) 588-2090, or ajames@tnbaptist.org. Or find a complete listing of needs for 1999 on the Internet at www.studentz.com. ■



BSU SUMMER missionary Heather Sue Payne of UT - Martin carries a boy she met while leading Vacation Bible Schools for children this summer in Harvey, Mich.

## Sojourners

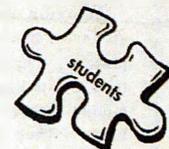
High school students serve as Sojourners — summer missions volunteers in the United States and Canada. A Sojourner serves four to 10 weeks during the summer. They work in pairs, on teams with other Sojourners, or with college-age student summer missionaries.

They serve primarily in inner-city Baptist Centers, outreach programs, new church work settings, and resort areas. Sojourners serve under the supervision of missionaries or pastors who assign responsibilities and give directions.

Sojourners must be actively involved in a Southern Baptist church, display a genuine commitment to Jesus Christ expressed in a desire to work hard and pursue spiritual growth.

### Qualifications are:

- ▶ junior or senior year of high school completed
- ▶ Christian maturity and unquestionable character
- ▶ an interest in missions
- ▶ good health



- ▶ parental approval and support
- ▶ single

### Expenses are:

- ▶ housing, meals and transportation on the field are provided by the place of service

- ▶ transportation to and from the assignment location must be provided by parents, friends, the church and/or the Sojourner
- ▶ Sojourners serve without pay. The application deadline is March 10.
- ▶ NAMB provides limited insurance coverage, but it assumes no other financial obligations.

For more information or an application, contact Allen James, Student Volunteer specialist, at (615) 371-7935, 1 (800) 588-2090, or ajames@tnbaptist.org. Or find a complete listing of needs for 1999 on the Internet at www.studentz.com. ■

## Innovators

Innovators are college students who participate in short-term missions service while working in secular jobs to support themselves. Innovators open many opportunities for witness with the secular world.

Resort areas are the prime targets. Year-round work is possible as are other short-term assignments during the school year.

### Expenses are:

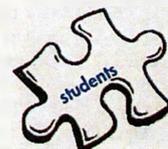
- ▶ students are responsible for their transportation to and from

their places of service and for local room and board.

- ▶ the local supervisor assists in providing or locating employment and low-cost housing.
- ▶ NAMB provides limited health and accident insurance coverage.

### Requirements are:

- ▶ schedules usually include 40



hours on the secular job and 8-10 hours of supervised ministry on the missions field

- ▶ one completed year of college
- ▶ deadline to apply is March 10

For an application or additional information contact: Allen James, Student Volunteer specialist, at (615) 371-7935, 1 (800) 588-2090, or ajames@tnbaptist.org. Or find a complete listing of needs for 1999 on the Internet at www.studentz.com. ■

## Partnership Missions

Opportunities exist as never before for Tennessee Baptists to share the Good News of Jesus Christ to a lost world. These opportunities are available for age groups spanning youth to retired people.

Through Partnership Missions, Tennessee has partnered for three years with Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, Portugal, and Michigan. Volunteers can serve from a few days up to four months.

Partnership Missions offers hands-on missions experiences in a prepackaged approach where all the logistics of travel, lodging, meals, construction, and other ministry related items are provided. We work in partnership with our missionaries and national leadership in providing strategic projects.

**Partnership Volunteer opportunities include:**

- evangelism
- church planting
- construction
- medical
- music
- social ministries
- church development
- Vacation Bible Schools
- Backyard Bible Clubs
- creative ministries (drama, puppets, mime, clowning)

- sports evangelism (basketball, volleyball, soccer)

These opportunities represent only a few of the many options.

**Partnership Volunteers requirements are:**

- personal commitment to Jesus Christ
- a willingness to work
- readiness to witness to faith in Christ
- flexibility
- active membership and participation in a Southern Baptist church
- 15 years of age and older
- good health

The Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team will assist you in the preparation of your missions trip. For a list of available projects contact: Terry Sharp, [tsharp@tnbaptist.org](mailto:tsharp@tnbaptist.org); Kim Huff, [khuff@tnbaptist.org](mailto:khuff@tnbaptist.org); or Heather Wilson, [hwilson@tnbaptist.org](mailto:hwilson@tnbaptist.org); Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team, at (615) 371-2021 or 1 (800) 558-2090. ■



## World Changers

World Changers is a coeducational mission program of missions education and missions involvement. World Changers is a ministry of the North American Mission Board.

World Changers offer hands-on missions experiences in a prepackaged approach where all the logistics of lodging, meals, construction, ministry, and worship are provided. World Changers partners with community agencies, associations of churches, state conventions, ministry centers, and local churches to meet needs in a community.

### World Changers '99: We Do Homework

Since 1990, the World Changers program has been committed to offering quality missions experiences to individuals and groups. A program that began with high school students and now after 10 years of ministry, the vision has grown to include mission opportunities for students and adults of all ages. World Changers seeks to provide Christian students and adults with opportunities to meet the physical and spiritual needs of others through practical learning experiences that teach servanthood and personal commitment to missions.

### World Changers Construction Projects

Upon arrival students will be placed on work crews with others from all over the country. Daily crew chiefs with construction experience lead the crews in painting, roofing, and making repairs to the homes of residents in need. Evenings students will be inspired and challenged during worship celebrations, designed especially for them. All participants must be active members of a local Christian church or campus ministry. In order to prepare for their experience, participants must also complete a seven-session pre-project study based on the theme, "We Do Homework," and a local work project.

**Senior High:** Students who have completed grades 9-12. Cost: \$230 per participant

**Junior High:** Students who have completed grades 6-8.\* Cost: \$195 per participant

**Collegiate:** Students who have graduated high school. Each senior high project will also have a "college track." Cost: \$230 per participant

**All Youth:** Students who have completed grades 6-12.\* Work crews are separated for middle and high school. Cost: \$230 per participant

**International:** Students who have completed grades 9-12. Costs vary depending upon project and airfare is not included.

### World Changers Community Projects

These projects are designed to expose participants to an exciting blend of community ministries and construction opportunities as they reach out in love to a city. This multifaceted approach will show students the wide variety of ways they can be used in mission service and educate them about the many critical needs in their own community.



**SENIOR ADULT** World Changers from several states pose outside the home they helped remodel in the Alcoa-Maryville area.

Community Project teams are student-led. Adult participants work alongside the students providing support and encouragement. Ministry projects may include construction, organizing food and clothing closets, children's clubs, senior adult ministries, street evangelism, sports camps, and more. Participants must meet the same requirements as construction project workers.

**All Youth:** Students who have completed grades 6-12.\* Cost: \$230 per participant

\* Group leaders are strongly encouraged to only bring sixth grade students who have already been a part of their youth ministry. World Changers should not be the first trip in which a sixth grader participates.

**Requirements for Junior High, Senior High, Collegiate, Youth, International World Changers are:**

- Christian youth
- youth groups must be accompanied by a counselor of the same sex for every 1-5 participants
- each project has different requirements depending on the World Changers events

### Projects exist for:

- Young Adults
- Single Adults
- Senior Adults
- College Students

For more information regarding project locations or for a brochure and application, contact: Allen James, Student Volunteer specialist, at 1 (800) 558-2090 or (615) 371-7935, or [ajames@tnbaptist.org](mailto:ajames@tnbaptist.org); or on the Internet at [www.studentz.com](http://www.studentz.com). ■



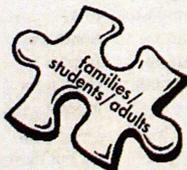
**CHILDREN** travel with a Tennessee teen in Prudenville, Mich., where youth from Bluegrass Church, Hendersonville, led a Vacation Bible School for children. The effort supported the Tennessee/Michigan Baptist Partnership.

## Tennessee Volunteer Opportunities

With the formation of the Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team of the Missions Involvement and Awareness Group, a listing of Tennessee volunteer opportunities is now available to you and your church.

Call our toll free phone number to receive a listing of exciting missions opportunities. Opportunities range in length from a weekend, a week, a summer, or longer.

**Types of projects available are:**



- Vacation Bible School
- Back Yard Bible Clubs
- creative arts presentations
- resort ministries
- inner-city ministries
- rural ministries
- construction
- sports clinics
- food and clothing distribution

For a listing of Tennessee Volunteer Missions opportunities, contact: Kim Huff, [khuff@tnbaptist.org](mailto:khuff@tnbaptist.org), or Terry Sharp, [tsharp@tnbaptist.org](mailto:tsharp@tnbaptist.org), Partnership/Volunteers Missions Team, at 1 (800) 558-2090 or (615) 371-2021. ■

### Projects exist for:

- Youth Groups
- Adults
- Senior Adults
- Individuals
- College

### Need a Volunteer?

Contact Partnership/Volunteers Missions Team for a Volunteer Missions Project Request Form. Let us help you communicate with potential volunteers.

Call Kim Huff, [khuff@tnbaptist.org](mailto:khuff@tnbaptist.org), or Terry Sharp, [tsharp@tnbaptist.org](mailto:tsharp@tnbaptist.org), Partnership/Volunteers Missions Team, at 1 (800) 558-2090 or (615) 371-2021. ■

## Families on Mission

Consider taking your family on a missions trip or get with another family or two to do a project. Most projects can be done by a family or a group of families.

Let us help you plan a family missions trip. Contact Rodney Wilson, Collegiate and Family Missions specialist, at (615) 371-7925, 1 (800) 558-2090, or [rwilson@tnbaptist.org](mailto:rwilson@tnbaptist.org). ■



# The Macedonian Call

## Disaster Relief

Southern Baptist Disaster Relief is Christian love in action, and meeting urgent needs of hurting humanity in crisis situations. Volunteers respond to disasters in a variety of ways. Disaster services involve providing personnel, equipment, and supplies. A few ways volunteers can

- be involved:**
- ▶ advisory/advocacy
  - ▶ airlift kitchens
  - ▶ chainsaw crew
  - ▶ child care
  - ▶ clean-up team (mudouts or debris pickup)
  - ▶ counseling/pastoral care

- ▶ elder care
  - ▶ emergency medical
  - ▶ evacuating
  - ▶ feeding
  - ▶ reconstruction
- Requirements are:**
- ▶ contact state Disaster Relief director
  - ▶ complete necessary training (Tennessee offers ongoing training)
  - ▶ be ready to serve
  - ▶ Southern Baptists, male or female

For more information and future training dates contact Tim Bearden, State Disaster Relief director, at 1 (800) 558-2090, (615) 371-2026, or tbearden@tnbaptist.org. ■



**DISASTER RELIEF** volunteers prepare meals for victims of April tornados which struck Nashville. They work outside Two Rivers Church, Nashville. The volunteers prepared thousands of meals.



## International Service Corps

Persons serving in International Service Corps (ISC) spend from four months to two years on the foreign missions field meeting priority needs in support of Southern Baptist missionaries.

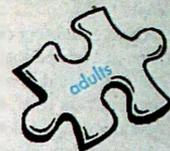
ISC volunteers fill requests for teachers, youth workers, health care professionals, secretaries, and other critical assignments.

- Requirements are:**
- ▶ have a sense of God's leadership
  - ▶ have education, skills and/or experience to match the job request
  - ▶ be at least 21 years old
  - ▶ be a citizen or permanent resident of the United States
  - ▶ be an active member of a Southern Baptist Convention church for at least two years

International Mission Board funds are available on an as-needed basis up to full support.

You may choose to provide part or all of your support.

Contact Terry Sharp, Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team, at 1 (800) 558-2090, (615) 371-2021, or tsharp@tnbaptist.org. Or contact the International Mission Board at 1 (800) 789-4693, or the Internet address at webservant@imb.org. ■



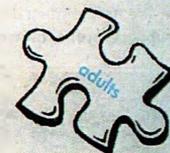
## US/C-2ers

US/C-2 missionaries serve nationally through the North American Mission Board for two years in one of the following areas: Church and Community Ministries, Church Planting, Student Ministries, Resort and Innovative Ministries, Evangelism and Internationals/Seafarers.

- Qualifications are:**
- ▶ four-year degree from an accredited college or university
  - ▶ age 30 or younger at time of application
  - ▶ active membership in a Southern Baptist church for at least two years prior to application
  - ▶ conversion experience
  - ▶ good physical, mental health
  - ▶ interest in missions service

- Benefits are:**
- ▶ travel expenses to and from the place of service
  - ▶ food, housing, and utilities allowance, based on local costs
  - ▶ operating expenses including local transportation usually are covered by local groups
  - ▶ miscellaneous funds for additional expenses
  - ▶ life and medical insurance
  - ▶ severance pay at the end of two years service
  - ▶ a scholarship for seminary or graduate school after two years of service

For more information contact Terry Sharp, Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team, at (615) 371-2021, 1 (800) 558-2090, or tsharp@tnbaptist.org. Or contact NAMB, Student Volunteer Mobilization, 1 (800) 462-VOLS. ■



## Mission Service Corps



Missions Service Corps (MSC) enlists adult volunteers who will provide their own expenses and serve full-time (20 hours per week) for four months or longer in home missions and evangelism areas.

**MSC volunteers serve as:**

- ▶ church staff

- ▶ apartment ministers
- ▶ student directors
- ▶ literacy missionaries
- ▶ camp cooks
- ▶ chaplains
- ▶ church and community ministry coordinators
- ▶ teachers
- ▶ church starters
- ▶ church construction workers
- ▶ resort workers

These opportunities represent only a few of the many categories of service.

### What Are Tentmakers?

Tentmakers are MSC volunteers who fund their ministry often through employment. Tentmakers have an impact on a community not only through their ministry, but also through their jobs.

To obtain an MSC application or for additional information, contact Tim Bearden, Missions Awareness and Involvement Group director, at (615) 371-2026, 1 (800) 558-2090, or tbearden@tnbaptist.org. ■



## Enterprisers/Enterprisers Abroad

Enterprisers and Enterprisers Abroad, sponsored by the state and national WMU office in cooperation with the North American Mission Board and the International Mission Board, provide women an opportunity to be involved in home and foreign missions volunteer ministries.

The Enterprisers team participates in 50 hours of

training. This training includes team building, witness training, spiritual development, cross-cultural training, ministry training, and Baptist doctrine. A plan for training is available from the state WMU

office.

There are opportunities to participate in international projects such as teaching English as a second language in Sarajevo, Bosnia, and participating in construction projects at a Sarajevo hospital.

Contact the state WMU office for more information about these projects. Contact WMU specialist Becky Sumrall for applications and training plans at (615) 371-7920, 1 (800) 558-2090, or bsumrall@tnbaptist.org. ■



**WMU MEMBERS** lead a group of children in activities in a park in Memphis this fall. Enterprisers are WMU adult members who lead such ministries.

## Journeyman

The Journeyman program is available for single college graduates, who are willing to commit to two years of service overseas. Journeyman serve along side career missionaries filling a variety of assignments.

**Applicants must be:**

- ▶ growing Christians with a sense of God's leadership
- ▶ single
- ▶ at least 21, but under 30 prior to Journeyman training
- ▶ graduates of an accredited four-year college or university

- ▶ active members of a Southern Baptist church for at least two years.

For more information, contact Terry Sharp, Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team, 1 (800) 558-2090, (615) 371-2021, tsharp@tnbaptist.org. For applications, contact International Mission Board at 1 (800) 999-3113 or use the Internet address at webservant@imb.org. ■



## people

■ **Signal Mountain Church**, Signal Mountain, ordained **Kent Anderson** as a deacon recently.

## leaders

■ **David Tydings**, who will retire Jan. 31 as director of missions, Grainger County Association, will be available for interim, supply, and full-time service in churches. He may be contacted at Rt. 2 Box 1315, Bean Station, TN 37708, (423) 993-3101.

■ **April Reeves** of Cornerstone Church, Jasper, will serve in Guatemala as a journeyman for two years beginning March 8. Reeves will participate in orientation at the International Mission Board based in Richmond, Va., Jan. 25 - Feb. 22.

■ **Barfield Church**, Murfreesboro, has called **Ron Byers** as pastor.

■ **First Church**, Korean, Murfreesboro, has called **Paul Park** as pastor.

■ **Marshall Knob Church**, Murfreesboro, has called **James Cordle** as pastor.

■ **Steve Fisher** was ordained by Mt. Hermon Church, Murfreesboro, Jan. 17 at 2 p.m.

■ **Ben Wilkins** has been called as pastor of Highland Heights Church, Memphis. He has served churches in California and Illinois and is a graduate of Criswell College located in Texas and Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, Mill Valley, Calif.



WILKINS

■ **Lucy Church**, Millington, has called **Richard Glenny**, a student at Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, Memphis, as interim associate pastor.

■ **Walnut Grove Church**, Cordova, has called **Mike Rodgers** as music and worship leader.

■ **Doug Baker**, pastor, Parrans Chapel Church, Bolivar, has been named and commissioned as a chaplain for the Tennessee Highway Patrol's District Four. Baker also is a



BAKER

**Bolivar City Councilman**. The state has eight Tennessee Highway Patrol districts, of which District Four is the largest.

■ **Thompson Station Church**, Thompson Station, will honor **Thomas McCoy** Jan. 24 on his 10th anniversary of service there. Activities will include a worship service beginning at 10 a.m. and a reception at 6 p.m. For more information on the activities, call the church at (615) 791-8319.

■ **Mark and Becky Howard** of Jackson are now serving churches through the ministries of preaching and singing in revivals and crusades. They have formed **Mark and Becky Howard**



THE HOWARDS

Ministries and can be reached at (901) 664-5539.

■ **Leonard Markham**, pastor, Bluegrass Church, Hendersonville, recently celebrated the 10th anniversary of his service there.

## deaths

■ **Vance O. Vernon**, 77, retired missionary to Brazil, died Jan. 11. Vernon, a member of Woodmont Church, Nashville, served in Brazil for 27 years. He served for four years in Haiti and the Caribbean Basin through Global Outreach, a ministry based in Tupelo, Miss. Vernon also was a consultant and sales manager at Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly, Ridgecrest, N.C., for LifeWay Christian Resources, Nashville. He also was a pastor of several churches in the United States. Vernon was from Alabama. He is survived by his wife, Minta, and an extended family.

■ **Jackson Calvin Parker**, 65, of Newport, died recently in Knoxville. He is the former director of missions and minister of music, East Tennessee Association, based in Newport. He also was pastor of Forest Hill Church, Parrottsville; Pigeon Valley Church, Hartford; Telford Church, Telford; Concord Church, Mosheim; and minister of education, Clark Street Church, Johnson City. Parker also was chairperson of the Newport Federal Emergency Management Agency Board of Cocke County. He is survived by his wife, Sally Ann Bell Parker; and an extended family.



**BREAKING GROUND** on Jan. 10 for a worship center are leaders of Mt. Hermon Church, Murfreesboro, from left, holding shovels, **Bud Miller; Fred Farmer; Joel Reed; Don Ellis; Jim Powers**, director of missions, Concord Association; **Kerry Smith**, pastor; **John Mankin; Don Day; Cheryl Fisher; and Diane Davenport**. The worship center will seat 576 people and be 16,000 square feet of space.

## churches

■ **The Creative Arts Ministry of Bayside Church, Harrison**, will host a Clown Ministry Conference Feb. 26-27. **Teresa Garrett** of Waterloo, S.C., who is "Pinky the Clown," is the featured guest. Topics will include developing a clown character, make-up application, costuming, and starting a clown ministry. For more information, contact the church at (423) 344-8327, fax, (423) 344-9066, or e-mail Kingdom Klowns director **Tim Stephenson** at [ajthec clown@aol.com](mailto:ajthec clown@aol.com).

■ **Youth from Longview Church, Unionville**, celebrated Christmas by holding a birthday party in honor of Jesus. The youth baked and assembled a cake which formed a 16 foot by 24 foot cross. It set on a plywood base made for the cake. Then the youth placed 1,994 candles in the cake and lit them. About 100 people gathered for the party and the praise and worship time which followed. **Richard Ledbetter** is the church's youth minister.

■ **Lynn Garden Church, Kingsport**, held revival recently. **Ron Owens**, pastor, Grace Church, Elizabethton, spoke.

■ **The African Children's Choir of East Africa** will perform at **First Church, Murfreesboro**, Jan. 31 at 6:30 p.m. The 26-member choir is made up of needy and orphan children ages 5-12. For more information, contact the church at (615) 893-2514.

■ **Members of Fairfield Church, Centerville**, presented a Live Nativity during the Christmas holidays.

■ **Two members of First Church, Linden**, recently served in Venezuela, where they did health care.

■ **First Church, Pine-wood**, recently began broadcasting a program on WNKK-FM 96.7, each Sunday from 8:15-8:30 a.m. The congregation also held an "unbanquet" for the Week of Prayer for International Missions in December.

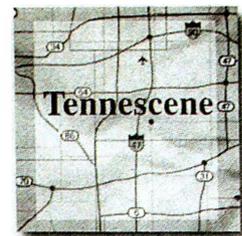
## schools

■ **Carson-Newman College's Concert-Lecture Series** will sponsor a lecture by **Parker J. Palmer**, one of the country's leading writers, teachers, and activists. Palmer will speak Feb. 2 at 7:30 p.m. in the Gentry Auditorium. The lecture is free. Palmer's poems, essays, and books have been featured by *The New York Times*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, *Change Magazine*, *The Christian Century*, CBS-TV News, and *The Voice of America*. His most recent book is *The Courage to Teach*. For more information, contact the school based in Jefferson City at (423) 475-9061.

■ **The East Tennessee Extension Center of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary** which is based at Broadway Church, Maryville, will begin its classes Feb. 8. The classes to be offered are Introduction to New Testament, Part 1; Introduction to New Testament, Part 2; and Introduction to Philosophy. For more information, contact **Dean Denton** at (423) 983-5114.

## associations

■ **Western District Association** will hold a Youth Evangelism Retreat Feb. 12-13 at Paris Landing Lodge and Convention Center. Leaders include **Michael Higdon** of Jackson and **Sean**



Connable of Memphis.

■ **The Disaster Relief Chapter of Cumberland Plateau Association**, based in Crossville, served four days at the end of December, including Christmas Day, helping victims of an ice storm and relief workers. Twenty-three Baptist Disaster Relief workers served four days, according to **Clyde Thurman**, coordinator of the association's Disaster Relief Chapter. The chapter received the assignment from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and worked with the American Red Cross. The Baptists provided meals for over 100 volunteers who were clearing roads and helping restore utility services. They also provided meals for over 60 residents forced from their homes due to lack of heat and electricity.

■ **Loudon County Association and LifeWay Christian Resources** of the Southern Baptist Convention will host a conference, "Toward a Growing Marriage," Feb. 12-13. It will be held at **First Church, Lenoir City**. It will be led by **Gary and Karolyn Chapman**. Gary Chapman is an author of materials on marriage and is director of adult ministries, Calvary Church, Winston-Salem, N.C. The conference will cover how to communicate in the midst of conflict, how to avoid financial bondage, how to make sex a mutual joy, and how to rekindle love or keep it alive. Individual, couple, and group rates are available. For more information, call 1-800-254-2022.

■ **Hamilton County Association** will continue its effort to help homeless people Feb. 14-21 and Feb. 28 - March 4. The families are hosted at the Baptist Ministry Center at St. Elmo from 5 p.m. - 7 a.m. For more information, contact **Stan Braley** at the association office, (423) 267-3794.

■ **Riverside Association** is accepting resumes for a director of missions. They may be sent to **Charles E. Gibbs Jr.**, 124 Oak St., Byrdstown, TN 38549.

■ **Big Emory Association** is searching for a director of missions. People interested should mail resumes to the association's Search Committee, P.O. Box 444, Harriman, TN 37748.



## WMU's O'Brien to retire Sept. 1

Baptist Press

TALLEDEGA, Ala. — Dellanna W. O'Brien, executive director of Woman's Missionary Union, announced her plans to retire Sept. 1 during the WMU executive board meeting Jan. 9-13 at Shocco Springs Baptist Assembly here.

O'Brien, 65, made the announcement on Jan. 12 during her address to the board.

A native of Texas, O'Brien took the helm of the national Southern Baptist missions organization on Sept. 1, 1989.

O'Brien told the WMU executive board, state and national WMU staff members, and guests attending the meeting that she had been talking with WMU president Wanda Lee about her retirement for a year. O'Brien noted that she had told Lee of her retirement date early last summer. The stroke she suffered last September did not factor into her decision to retire, she said.

Acknowledging that "WMU has faced some of its hardest days this decade," O'Brien proudly pointed to the organization's many successes during

the past 10 years in her address.

Topping her list was the record-setting gifts to the Lotie Moon Christmas Offering and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, both of which were started by WMU in 1888 and 1895, respectively, to support Southern Baptist missions work.

She also noted the organization's involvement in projects related to hunger, AIDS, and child advocacy; the partnership with Habitat for Humanity to build eight houses; and the development of Christian Women's Job Corps, a job training program which seeks to help women in poverty to gain self-sufficiency.

"It has been my high honor to serve as your executive director this decade. Never have I worked harder and never have I been so happy in my assignment," she said.

Lee appointed a search committee to find O'Brien's successor in the closing session of the board meeting. ■



O'BRIEN

## Disney's year begins with video recall

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — For The Disney Company, 1999 began with a costly recall of 3.4 million copies of a children's video — the first in company history — and news of CEO Michael

Eisner's bonus being cut nearly in half.

The recall of the video "The Rescuers" stemmed from two frames, among 110,000 in the film, which according to the Associated Press showed a photo of an unclothed woman. The images cannot be seen at the video's normal speed of 30 frames per second, according to a Reuters news service report.

Additionally, in a three-page letter to shareholders, Eisner said of Disney's disappointing year at the box office: "... in too many instances, profits did not materialize from the revenues achieved by our films. Stated more bluntly, either the films and marketing cost too much, or the audience rejected our ideas. Whatever the reason, we're glad fiscal '98 is over in this area."

Disney plans to release more family-oriented films in 1999, according to reports in Reuters news service Jan. 6 and USA Today Jan. 7.

Eisner's bonus for 1998 of \$5 million was cut from 1997's \$9.9 million, a subject Eisner did not address in his letter to shareholders. The cut was reported in Disney documents filed Jan. 6 with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Eisner, in his letter, said a key factor in revenue decline stemmed from investments made by the company.

At least one person, Donald Wildmon, founder of the American Family Association, cited the boycott of Disney, which was initiated by his association, as a factor. The boycott has been joined by several religious groups, including the Southern Baptist Convention. ■

## Annie Armstrong Easter Offering has record year

Baptist Press

TALLEDEGA, Ala. — For the sixth year in a row, Southern Baptists last year set another record in giving to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions. Total gifts were \$43.3 million, 5 percent more than the previous year.

Results of the annual mission campaign were announced Jan. 10 by Bob Reccord, president of the North American Mission Board, to the national executive board of Woman's Missionary Union.

"Thank you for every thing you do to impact the raising of the Annie Armstrong offering, Reccord told WMU members.

Dellanna O'Brien, WMU executive director, joined Reccord in expressing appreciation and noted the total exceeded the national goal of \$42 million — the first time in 17 years the offering has reached its stated goal. ■

## January is "Make Your Will Month"

A Christian Will helps a person to:

- ▶ Distribute possessions in keeping with his/her commitments.
- ▶ Name an executor/executrix.
- ▶ Designate a guardian and alternate for minor children.
- ▶ Establish a trust for the benefit of your family.
- ▶ Make contributions to the charitable causes of your choice.

Your state Baptist foundation representatives are prepared to assist you with your Will and conduct a Christian Wills Conference in your church. It is an appropriate time for you to seriously consider making or updating your Christian will.

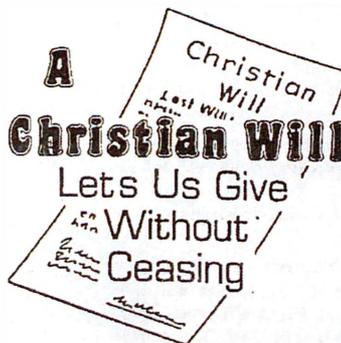
Contact your state Baptist foundation:

W.L. (Bo) Childs, Jr., President-Treasurer

P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37024-0728

(615) 371-2029; (800) 552-4644; Fax: (615) 371-2049;

Web site: [www.tnbaptist.org/foundation](http://www.tnbaptist.org/foundation); E-mail: [bchilds@tnbaptist.org](mailto:bchilds@tnbaptist.org)



## Charleston Southern University

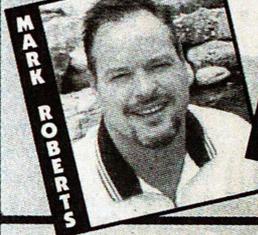
PRESENTS

# Super Summer '99

## 12th Annual Youth Conference

F E A T U R I N G

Week 1  
June 21-25



MARK ROBERTS

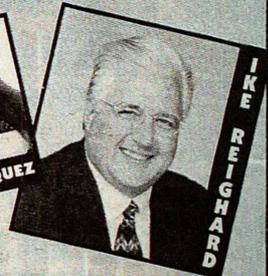


4-HIM

Week 2  
June 28-July 2



JACI VELASQUEZ



IKE REIGHARD

Week 3  
July 5-9



MIKE LYNCH



...Point Of Grace...

## 3 Great Weeks

\$205 if registered by April 1  
\$225 after April 1

For registration information

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[www.csuniv.edu](http://www.csuniv.edu)

"Promoting Academic Excellence in a Christian Environment"

# Waynesboro pastor retires again — at age 80

By Lonnie Wilkey  
Baptist and Reflector

WAYNESBORO — Fifteen years ago, at the age of 65, Norman Baker retired as pastor of First Church here.

The Sugartree native did not stay retired for long.

Bethlehem Church contacted

Baker and called him as pastor. He remained with the Waynesboro congregation until this past Dec. 27 when he officially "retired" once again. "I felt like it was time to call it quits," Baker said. Even after his second "retirement," Baker was contacted by another church in Indian Creek Association to see

if he would serve as interim pastor. Baker declined though he did preach for that church the Sunday after he retired.

Baker noted the last service at Bethlehem was an emotional time for him and his wife, Helen, as well as the congregation.

Since being called to his first church, Akins Chapel in Sugartree, Baker had 58-plus years of continuous ministry and all have been in Tennessee, including the last 25 in Wayne County. "People have been mighty good to me," he said.

Baker said God has been involved in every move he made.

"I have never made a change of pastorate and regretted the move," he maintained, noting that he always was convicted that God led him to each place of service.

His ministry was not without problems. While pastor of First Church, South Pittsburg, Baker's wife, the former Genelle Keltner, died of lung cancer at the age of 52 though she had never smoked in her life.

Despite his grief, he continued his ministry, preaching and conducting funerals and weddings. He recalled that a deacon's wife there asked how he did it.

He told her: "I have been preaching for 30 years (at that time) that God's grace is sufficient for any circumstance. And, if it has been true for others, it has to be true for me."

And, now almost 30 years



later, Baker still affirms that it is true.

Baker and his second wife, Helen, have been married for 26 years.

Not for one minute does Baker regret his decision to serve the Lord as a minister.

"If I had any choice of what I could do, I would still be a preacher," he maintained.

Baker, who currently is on the TBC Executive Board, and has served two other terms over the years, has had several highlights. One was participating in a missions trip to Chile in 1962 before there was ever a Tennessee Baptist partnership with the country. He preached 15 messages and saw 72 professions of faith.

"Seeing souls saved has been a major highlight of my ministry," he affirmed. ■

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Jackie Kay

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Dr. Larry Gilmore, Pastor, College Heights Baptist Church, Gallatin, Tenn., 1998-99 President of the Tennessee Baptist Convention

"I enthusiastically endorse the ministry of Bro. Jackie Kay. He did an outstanding job when he was with us at Hermitage Hills. We had one of our best attended revivals with a great number of decisions for Christ and our people loved his warm-hearted humorous style and responded with an outpouring of love to him. You and your people will be greatly blessed to have Jackie Kay in your church."  
H. Dean Haun, Pastor, Hermitage Hills Baptist Church, Hermitage, Tenn.

"The week with Jackie Kay was what we needed in our church. God used the warm spirit of Jackie and his faithful preaching to bring folks to face God's precious truths. Souls were saved, relationships restored, and commitments to faithful, personal evangelism were made. Jackie Kay will be good for you and your church."  
Dr. Gary Watkins, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Collierville, Tenn.

"The week of revival with Jackie Kay was without a doubt the best we had in my ministry at First Baptist, Lebanon. The Spirit moved in every service. Attendance was outstanding ... the best ever. Young and old, and everyone in-between, made life-changing decisions for Christ. Jackie's ministry among us was refreshing, helpful, and positive. In fact, our people are begging to have him back. I am scheduling him to be with me in the new place of service to which I have recently moved."  
Dr. Kevin Goza, Immanuel Baptist Church, Pace, Fla.

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**BWA summit considers racism**  
Baptist Press

ATLANTA — An "Atlanta Covenant" — urging Baptists around the world to devote the first 10 years of the new millennium to eradicating racism and ethnic conflict — was adopted by 200 delegates from 30 countries who participated in the Baptist World Alliance's Baptists Against Racism Summit Jan. 8-11 here.

The BWA is a fellowship of 192 Baptist conventions and unions, including the Southern Baptist Convention.

According to a BWA news release, the covenant urges Baptists to be "agents of reconciliation." ■

# Number of new missionaries increases

By Mark Kelly  
For Baptist Press

RICHMOND — Southern Baptists are realizing how God's heart aches for the world's lost billions and in 1998 responded to his call to missions in numbers that dwarf any previous year.

The 885 new missionaries sent overseas in 1998 represent a 33.4 percent increase over 1997 — more than double the highest net growth of any previous year in the Southern Baptist International Mission Board's 153-year history.

"A wave of divine power is at work throughout the world," said IMB President Jerry Rankin. "I am overwhelmed that God is allowing Southern

Baptists to ride the crest of that wave as it hurtles toward the 21st century."

At least one billion people who face eternity without Christ live in places where they have little or no access to the good news of salvation, he said.

Southern Baptists are understanding God's love for the lost and record numbers are joining his mission of bringing them to himself, Rankin said.

The 885 new missionaries included 338 long-term workers — a 22.9 percent increase over 1997 — and 547 two-year workers — a leap of 54.9 percent in that category. The appointments brought the total number of IMB workers on the field to 4,581 at year's end.

The 547 two-year workers included 200 journeymen — an increase of 53.8 percent over 1997 — and 347 serving in International Service Corps — a jump of 55.6 percent. Not included were 171 ISC workers assigned for less than two years and 732 college students who served in overseas summer missions or semester mis-

sions assignments during 1998. ■



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**CHILDREN/YOUTH:** Seeking full-time Minister to Children and Youth. Please send resume to First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 216, Adamsville, TN 38310.

**DOM:** New Duck River Baptist Association will be receiving resumes for the position of Director of Missions. Send resumes to New Duck River Baptist Association, Attn: DOM Search Committee, P.O. Box 624, Shelbyville, TN 37162. Deadline Feb. 11, 1999.

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Music: First Baptist Alcoa

Monday, January 25

Dr. Herb Reavis, Pastor

N. Jacksonville Baptist Church, Florida  
Music: Greater Vision

Tuesday, January 26

Dr. Phil Hoskins, Pastor

Higher Ground Baptist Church, Kingsport  
Music: Grace Baptist Church, Knoxville

Wednesday, January 27

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## Standing up for justice

By Martin Babb

**Focal Passage — Exodus 23:6-9; Deuteronomy 32:3-4; Psalm 106:3, Isaiah 1:15-17; Amos 5:14-15, 24; Micah 6:8**

Charles Dickens said, "charity begins at home, justice begins next door." Mark Twain once said, "The rain ... falls upon the just and the unjust alike; a thing which would not happen if I were superintending the rain's affairs. No, I would rain softly and sweetly on the just, but if I caught a sample of the unjust outdoors I would drown him." Too often, in the area of justice, I find myself siding with the words of Mark Twain. Given the chance, I would control the rain in the same manner, which is why I need today's lesson on justice.

I am suggesting an object to symbolize four points. The first point is God requires justice, and the object is a rock — taken from Deuteronomy 32:4, and representing God's steadfast and unchangeable nature. We cannot think of God's justice without this image of a rock, because he treats everyone equally. What does he expect from us? Micah tells us we are to "do justice," "love mercy," and "walk humbly before God." It is not one of the Ten Commandments, but it is written in stone.

The second point is to treat everyone justly, and the object is a blindfold, representing the fact that true justice really is blind to physical appearance, condition, etc. Exodus 23:6-9 gives us several examples of treating everyone justly, and with dignity, regardless of their social or economic standing. If we heard someone spreading a rumor about a fellow church member would we shut them down, or would we egg them on for more details? If we would only follow the Light of Life, we would never need the blindfold.

"Wheaties" is nicknamed the "Breakfast of Champions," and is our symbol for the third statement, champion the cause of justice. Isaiah 1:15-17 shows us that God was displeased with the Israelites because they believed attendance at worship and sacrifice was all they needed to have a relationship with God. Isaiah mentions giving aid to the oppressed, the orphans, and the widows — an Old Testament side to the "faith without works" concept. In other words, once we have feasted on The Bread of Life, we need to spend a few breakfasts with the champions.

Our final object is a small jar of jam, representing our last point, justice must be preserved. The Scripture is Amos 5:14-15, and 24. These verses call for God's people to hate evil, love good, seek equal treatment for all, and for justice and righteousness to flood the land like water. If God's people do not do it, who will? Justice and righteousness must become a way of life for every person who calls himself a follower of God.

"... with liberty and justice for all." We get awfully patriotic when we say the pledge of allegiance, and rightly so, but I wonder if we ever really listen to the ending and actually practice it? Too often our actions might lead someone to believe we have changed the words to "... with liberty and justice for those who are like me." It is difficult to stand up for justice when our feet are bound by self-preservation. — Babb is associate pastor/education, Springfield Church, Springfield.

## Forgive in all situations

By Edgar Pierce

**Focal Passage — Matthew 18:21-35**

If you are an observer of life you have probably noticed that the one who harbors a grudge or a hurt against someone is the one who suffers the most. Many times someone can have a grudge and the other person is not even aware of it. This lesson allows us to focus on forgiveness of the hurts someone has done to us. Many of God's churches are paralyzed by the unforgiving of the past.

**Principle stated.** One of the biblical principles of forgiveness is the basis of this. The teaching of Jesus was a break from the teaching of the day by the rabbis who taught to forgive three times. Before we condemn them for this, they had a biblical basis for this found in the minor prophet, Amos. Eight times Amos said, "For three transgressions ... and for four ..." in relation to judgment on the nations around Israel. We could call this the legal requirement of the law. Jesus had taught to go past this legal requirement for forgiveness. Peter asked Jesus if forgiving seven times was enough. Jesus responded by saying not just seven but seven times 70 or 490.

### Family Bible Lesson

Was this meant to teach that we should keep a tally sheet of hurts? No, it was to place such a number on it that forgiveness would be constant. Jesus knew we could never keep count until 490 wrongs and would constantly have to start over.

**Principle demonstrated.** Jesus used parabolic teaching to illustrate forgiveness. He told a story of a servant who was in debt to the king. The debt was one

that was so large the servant probably could not pay it in a lifetime. The king ordered the servant to be sold along with his wife and children to pay the debt. The servant begs for forgiveness asking for time to pay. Notice the king did not give him time but instead, "forgave him the debt." The king demonstrated forgiveness.

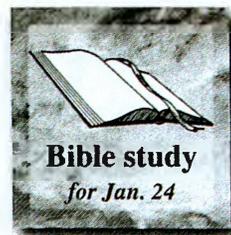
**Principle denied.** The next event in the story is this same man, who had been forgiven a large sum, had a fellow servant that owed him a small debt. Instead of forgiving him, he cast him into prison.

This dramatically brings home that the servant who had been forgiven much was unwilling to forgive a smaller wrong. We, as sinners, have not been allowed time to pay the debt of our sin which we could not pay, but have instead had the debt forgiven. This fact should motivate us to practice forgiveness. Could it be that the reason we do not practice forgiveness the way we should is because we have lost a sense of how guilty we are?

**Principle emphasized.** The story is not over. The other servants of the king told how the servant who had been forgiven had acted. Notice the forgiveness of the debt is rescinded and he is not only placed in prison but is turned over to the "tormentors" until he pays.

Verse 35 applies this to us. This does not teach forgiveness as a work for salvation. Nor does it teach that God will take back forgiveness for salvation if we commit the sin of unforgiveness. This does teach that forgiveness is a two-way street.

Have you noticed people who cannot find room to forgive have a hard time accepting forgiveness as well? A heart that is forgiven goes hand in hand with a forgiving heart. We should practice forgiveness because we have been forgiven. After all, God forgave us and our sin was the reason Jesus was crucified and no one has hurt us that bad. — Pierce is pastor, Cedar Grove Missionary Church, Kingsport.



## I do believe — faith

By Maurice Hays

**Focal Passage — Mark 9:14-27**

In chapter eight Mark continues to share more of the "signs" or "miracles" Jesus did and his continuing teaching of his disciples. There seems to also be a continuing revelation of who he is. The healing of the blind man outside Bethsaida (Mark 8:22-26) is the second miracle only recorded by Mark. The other was the healing of the deaf man who had a speech impediment (Mark 7:31-37). These two miracles would be connected to the messianic promises in Isaiah 35, by the Jewish readers.

In chapter 8:27-30, Peter's confession shows the continual, gradual understanding, at least by some, of who Jesus was and his purpose. Jesus said God had revealed to Peter that he was the Messiah, the promised one from God. The disciples were confused. If this is indeed the Christ, why do the religious leaders reject him, why does he not defeat his enemies, and why does he not establish his kingdom now? Many people today stumble with their own view of Jesus rather than a God revealed view of who he is.

**Lack of faith — vv. 14-19**

Jesus and three of his disciples, Peter, James, and John, experienced the real turn around from the glo-

### Explore the Bible Lesson

ries of the mountain top transfiguration experience to the down in the valley problems of real life.

When they came down they found the other disciples in a dilemma of their inability to heal the young boy. The father described his son as one both deaf and dumb and that the demon was doing his best to destroy him.

Jesus had given his disciples the power to do the work, but they were unable. Jesus taught that the authority that he gives is only effective when exercised by faith. That faith must be cultivated through spiritual discipline and devotion. Jesus called them a faithless generation.

**Cry of faith — vv. 20-22**

In this section the boy is brought to Jesus and the Scripture says, "straightway the spirit tore him." The father continued that this was a condition his son had experienced since he was a child. The inability of the disciples to heal the boy seemed to affect the faith of the father as he seems to address Jesus with doubt. The negative shows as he said, "If you can." Jesus responded by giving him one of his greatest promises. "If

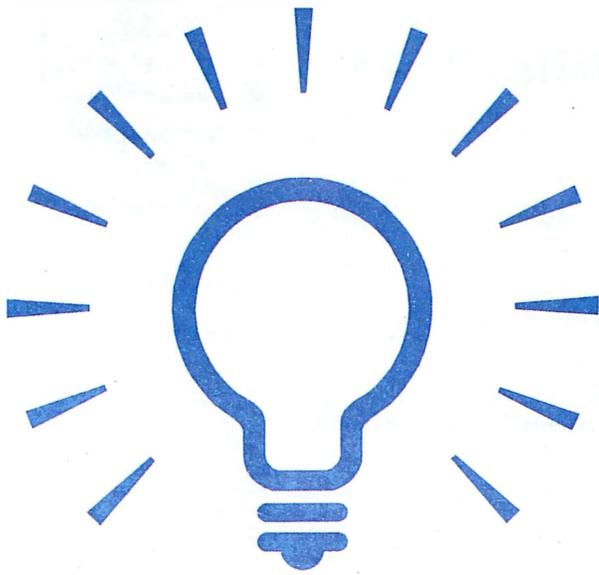
you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." It seems Jesus was saying to the man that this miracle not only demanded the power of God, but his faith also. Humbly, but earnestly he cried out, "Lord I believe; help mine unbelief."

**Response of faith — vv. 25-27**

Jesus commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the boy. The unclean spirit obeyed the command of Jesus, but took out his spite on the young boy. The Scripture says when he left the boy he was as dead. Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up and returned him to his father.

If this father's unknowledgeable faith could move Jesus to this great miracle, how much more can he do if you and I would respond to him in dedicated, devoted faith. If we are to demonstrate this kind of faith we must surrender ourselves to him completely, identify with him in suffering and death, and follow him obediently, wherever he leads.

Jesus still wants to work miracles in our world today, and he has the same power as in his earthly ministry, but he is still waiting on a greater response of faith from us. — Hays is Baptist Student Ministries specialist, Jackson State Community College, Jackson.



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