

T E N N E S S E E ' S B A P T I S T & REFLECTOR

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Statewide Edition

April 21, 1999

this
week's
news

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

Tennessee Baptists explore ministry in Northeast

For *Baptist and Reflector*

BRENTWOOD — A new Baptist strategy to evangelize the highly secular American Northeast has moved another step closer to reality.

Representatives of 11 state Baptist conventions, including two from Tennessee, took that step during a recent meeting at the offices of the Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware in Columbia, Md.

They endorsed Bill Causey, retired executive director of Mississippi Baptists, as coordinator for the new "Impact NorthEast" project. They also authorized Causey to name a coordinating council to help implement the ambitious state-led effort.

Impact NorthEast will concentrate on four priorities set at an earlier meeting: new church starts, reaching college and university students including internationals, leadership training, and church growth revitalization.

James Porch, executive director-treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Convention,

who along with TBC Ministry Coordinator Gary Rickman attended from Tennessee, said he applauds "the orderly fashion and emphasis on strategic planning for ministry that prevails in the early stages of Impact NorthEast.

"This emphasis is currently being discussed with our Executive Board committees and Executive Board staff. I sincerely believe that Baptists of the Volunteer State will expect to be involved. This new mission initiative provides for Tennessee Baptists a whole new world of opportunity of reaching people for Christ," he said.

Larger state conventions from the South will focus resources and volunteers at varying levels and timetables of participation in a partnership relationship with Baptists in the smaller Northeast conventions. The Virginia and Mississippi conventions al-

ready have appropriated more than \$100,000 each for use by Impact NorthEast.

Leaders of the Northeast bodies emphasized that they will be givers as well as receivers, for themselves and others in the network.

"Northeast Baptists want to share freely with Baptists of the South," said Charles Barnes, executive director of the Maryland/Delaware convention which will provide an Impact NorthEast office and clerical support. "We have crossed racial and ethnic lines. We know how it feels to be a small minority in an overwhelming majority. We understand urbanization as do few people in the South."

The SBC's North American Mission Board has traditionally played a major role in Southern Baptist missions in the Northeast. Additional support has come through one-on-one partnerships between older, established state conventions and the newer state conventions in the Northeast.

The Northeast project, however, is a state-led initiative.

State leaders emphasized that it will not compete with the NAMB and is not motivated by any ill will toward the NAMB.

Instead, it will seek to fill in the gaps and provide resources in areas beyond NAMB's focus.

Two NAMB representatives, attending the meeting as observers, expressed willingness to cooperate wherever possible. Additionally, Woman's Missionary Union in Birmingham will locate a staff member in the office of Virginia WMU in Richmond on special assignment to work with Impact NorthEast.

Causey summed up the recurring theme of the meeting.

"This is not a state-to-state partnership in the traditional sense, but a new regional paradigm aimed at marshalling cooperative resources to bring as many people as possible to Jesus Christ."

Other state conventions represented at the meeting were Texas, Mississippi, Virginia, New England, Pennsylvania/South Jersey, Maryland/Delaware, Alabama, District of Columbia, North Carolina, and New York. ■



PORCH

East Tennessee Baptist volunteers to be recognized, commissioned in Knoxville

By Marcia Knox
For *Baptist and Reflector*

KNOXVILLE — The East Tennessee Regional Volunteer Recognition and Commissioning Service will be held Thursday, April 29, at First Church, Concord, here.

Don Kammerdiener, executive vice president of the Southern Baptist International Mission Board, will speak at the service, which begins at 7 p.m. and concludes at 8:30 p.m.

"This service will be a strong recognition of the good mission work being done by Southern Baptist churches in East Tennessee and inspire other churches to pursue mission service no matter what the size of the church," said Steve Peek, minister of missions at First Church, Concord, who encouraged churches of all sizes to attend and take part in the service. Peek served on a planning committee for the event.

In addition to the services, special children's activities will be held at the same time, including a Children's Mis-

sions Fair focusing on the Thai Lue people, an unchurched people group in Southeast Asia.

Volunteers who have served before will be recognized and TBC Executive Director James Porch will commission those who will serve in 1999 and 2000.

"Volunteer missions continues to be used by God in a tremendous way," said Terry Sharp, TBC partnership/volunteer missions specialist. "Both our International and North American mission boards see volunteer missions as an important and strategic way to effectively reach people for Christ," Sharp said.

The Knoxville event will be the second one held this year in Tennessee. The first was held in Nashville in February and one is slated for Sept. 21 at Union University in Jackson.

"These services could be one of the most exciting and life-changing events to happen in 1999," Sharp said.

Preschool childcare will be available at First Church, Concord. For information on the service at Concord, call Peek at (423) 966-9791.

For more information on the regional services, call the TBC partnership/volunteer missions team at 1-800-558-2090. ■



KAMMERDIENER

Religious-inspired e-mail: inspiration or annoyance?

By Mark Wingfield
For Associated Baptist Press

DALLAS — Did you get the electronic (e-mail) message warning about the "It Takes Guts to Say Jesus" computer virus? How about the Easter Cookies recipe? Or maybe the story about the scientist who claims NASA has proof for the Old Testament account of the Earth standing still?

If you're a Christian and have e-mail, you've likely received at least one of these messages or others like them. They're just a sampling of religious-themed "spam" — unsolicited "junk" e-mails forwarded to multiple recipients — flying across the Internet each day.

Add to that the relative who broadcasts an unsolicited e-mail devotional every few days, or the friend with an affinity for weepy stories about children, angels, or pets. Some people thrive on sending and receiving such inspiration messages, but others regard them an intrusion.

"How do you tell someone you don't want this Scriptural information coming to your desk?" asked Sam Hull, a computer-systems manager for a Texas ministry and graduate of Dallas Theological Seminary.

— See Religious-inspired, page 3

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Fire destroys educational building at Niota church

By Lonnie Wilkey
Baptist and Reflector

NIOTA — Fire destroyed the educational space at Union McMinn Church here late Saturday night and in the early Sunday morning hours of April 18.

The church's new sanctuary, constructed about four years ago, was unharmed in part because of a fire wall which separated the building from the educational space.

Pastor Dennis Cagle said the educational and fellowship space were contained in two older buildings, both of which served at one point as sanctuaries. One building was constructed in 1829 and the other in the early 1900s, Cagle said.

At press time Monday the cause of the

fire had not yet been determined, but fire officials speculate the fire began in a furnace in the attack of one of the buildings.

Cagle, who was away with a youth group late Saturday, arrived at the church at about 1 a.m. on Sunday, he said.

Firefighters were already on the scene as were numerous church members who heard about the fire.

"We had prayer on the site," Cagle said. "This is going to be a victorious event in the end," he predicted.

Basically, most everything was destroyed including office equipment and folding chairs, Cagle said. Fortunately, Cagle's personal library was not among the items lost, he said.

When members arrived for church on Sunday, most knew of the fire, Cagle said,

adding that a few, however, had not learned of the tragedy until they arrived.

They held a worship service although there was no electricity in the sanctuary. By Sunday evening, power had been restored to the church, Cagle reported.

The church's immediate concern, he shared, is for Sunday School space. They hope to have some portable buildings on site within a few weeks, he said. In the meantime, the church is exploring the possibility of using some area schools for Sunday School space, Cagle added.

Cagle observed the old buildings "contained a lot of memories, but those memories were not burned up."

"We are blessed and fortunate and we realize that. It could have been far worse had it occurred during service time." ■

World Missions Conferences undergo name change

Baptist Press

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — The year 2000 will bring a new name and a new format to a familiar missions education experience in Southern Baptist churches and associations. The World Missions Conference will become an On Mission Celebration, and the new format will offer more flexibility, customization, and creativity for the local planning team.

The On Mission Celebration, like its predecessor, is a partnership project between state conventions, national Woman's Missionary Union, and the International and North American Mission boards. The first On Mission Celebrations are planned for spring 2000.

The primary reason for the changes is to give a familiar program a "fresh, new look," said

Kenny Rains, chair of the OMC administrative team and mission opportunities and events manager at NAMB.

"The World Missions Conference has served us well for many years," Rains said, noting the program was introduced in 1968.

The On Mission Celebration will include many of the components of the World Missions Conference. It will highlight the work of missionaries; be planned and conducted through a local team; and seek to increase participants' involvement in and support of missions.

The major differences center around the design of the event. For example, the maximum length of an OMC is four days, compared to the maximum eight-day format in a WMC. The planning tools also provide direction for planning an event that targets a certain group, such as

young adults or children.

The elements of the OMC also have been broadened. While an OMC may include an association kickoff event — a common element of a World Missions Conference — an OMC may be built around a "kindness explosion."

This event would involve missionaries and church members in community ministry projects that focus on performing kind deeds. The name "On Mission Celebration" is descriptive of the goal of the event, Rains said. Each OMC will seek to remind participants they are called to be on mission with God and will involve them in celebrating God's activity in the world.

For information on scheduling an On Mission Celebration in Tennessee, contact Rodney Wilson of the TBC Missions Awareness and Involvement Group at (615) 371-2072. ■

Partnership Prayer Requests

April

22 — Pray for a construction team from Broadmoor Church, Memphis, who will work April 24-May 1 in Cartago, Costa Rica.

23 — Pray for the Street-E team, a group of students from Trinity Western University in Langley, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, as they share God's love on the streets of their city weekly.

24 — Pray for Jim Marcus, new DOM for Genesee Association in Michigan.

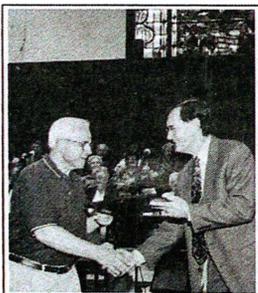
25 — Pray for members of El Bosque Christian Community in Francisco de Dos Rios, Costa Rica. Ask God to bless the group in their new meeting place.

26 — Pray for Leonard and Betty Quick, IMB ISC missionaries in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

27 — Pray for outreach this summer at the Kidz Villages at the Pam Am Games in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, and for Debbie Neufeld, coordinator of the Villages outreach.

28 — Pray for IMB missionaries Keith and Pam Travis who work in San Rafael of Guaplies in Costa Rica.

Nashville church premieres musical



THE SENIOR adult choir of Tusculum Hills Church recently premiered the musical, "Moving With the Spirit," written by Greg Skipper of LifeWay Christian Resources and Gail Skipper, members of the church. After the premiere, Bill Highsmith, photo to left, left, minister of recreation/senior adults, received a presentation noting the premiere from Mark Blankenship of LifeWay.



Calendar, clip art available online

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — A two-month calendar of TBC events and high-resolution, downloadable versions of church clip art are now available on the TBC Web site.

The features are available from the home page at www.tnbaptist.org. ■

Preschool conference slated for May 1

For Baptist and Reflector

NASHVILLE — "The Colors of Love" is the theme for the 1999 Preschool Spring Conference to be held at Englewood Church, Jackson, on May 1.

The conference is open to all who work with preschoolers (infants through kindergarten) in Day Care, Mother's Day Out, licensed day homes, or other preschool programs.

The keynote address will be given by Chris Teague of Jack-

son. She will help teachers focus on different ways children know that they are loved, according to Sue Raley of the TBC Christian Growth Development Group, sponsor of the meeting.

Registration begins at 8 a.m. and the conferences are from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. The registration fee of \$25 per person includes lunch and all conference materials. To preregister, call Sue Raley at 1-800-558-2090, ext. 2082. ■

Religious-inspired e-mail: inspiration ...

— Continued from page 1
 "Then they'll think, 'What kind of pagan are you?'"

Because of his job, Hull receives a lot of unsolicited e-mail. But because he's a serious-minded retired Marine, he has no qualms about asking his well-intentioned correspondents to drop him off their mailing lists.

Roberta Echols, an elementary school teacher in Chattanooga, shares Hull's weariness over unsolicited e-mails. "We get tons of religious, weepy, devotional type e-mails," she said. "Often, I don't have the brain left at the end of the day, when we check our e-mails, to process the tenderness of the article," she said.

The Internet's answer to dial-a-prayer annoys some, but inspires others.

"Some people do seem to be uplifted by it," Hull acknowledged. "So just because it doesn't do anything for me, does that mean I should keep others from sending it?"

Hull advised those who traffic in religious e-mail to recognize that "one person's inspiration is another person's wince."

Much religious-themed e-mail is harmless, even if the recipient finds it annoying. For example, the week before Easter, Christians all over the nation were sending and receiving a recipe for "Easter Cookies" that prescribed a litany of ingredients and Scripture readings to be mixed together as an object lesson for children. Every ingredient had some relevance to the passion of Christ, concluding with placing the unbaked cookies in the dark oven overnight, symbolizing Jesus' descent into death and the tomb.

The e-mail recipe, which gave no source of origin in its trek across the Internet, didn't

Editor of preaching journal

Tennessee Baptist urges care in using Internet stories

By Mark Wingfield
 For Associated Baptist Press

JACKSON — The almost-limitless supply of inspirational stories available on the Internet could be both a blessing and a curse to preachers, says the editor of a national journal on preaching.

Preachers are always on the lookout for good stories to illustrate their sermons, noted Michael Duduit, editor of *Preaching* magazine and a vice president of Union University here. He is a member of Englewood Church.

He acknowledges the Internet is full of stories. But taking stories off Web sites or from e-mails forwarded by friends can be risky, Duduit warned.

"One of the big issues to me is that some of the stories without much credibility that in the past have just been picked out of church bulletins and been repeated now have a faster and wider circulation," he said.

"The story that's too good to be true can be passed around at the speed of cyberspace, where as in the past it kind of made its way from one church bulletin to another.

"There is a danger for preachers in just picking up a good story and quoting it as fact simply because they got an e-mail," Duduit

said. "It's possible to be embarrassed by passing around information that turns out has no basis in fact."

Duduit advises preachers to avoid using a story in a sermon unless they know its original source. If a relevant story is forwarded to a preacher by e-mail, the wise preacher will check back with the sender to find out where it came from.

A good dose of common sense also is in order, he said. "I would use my God-given judgment and discernment to say, 'Does this sound reasonable, authentic?' If it (sounds) too good to be true, it probably is."

The rapid and uncharted transmission of stories over the Internet also opens new possibilities for preachers to unwittingly become guilty of plagiarism, Duduit noted. A case of just such a problem was spotted recently by Bob Guffey, associate pastor of First Church, Shreveport, La.

"I received an e-mail with a copy of a prayer attributed to the Oklahoma City bombing memorial service. I happened to recognize it as a prayer from Marian Wright Edelman's *Guide My Feet*."

While the prayer may have been used at the memorial service, it was written by Edelman and published in a copyrighted book.

Such a technicality may not cause a preacher to break a law in simply preaching a sermon, Duduit explained. But it could be more significant if the sermon is published or broadcast in any form. ■



DUDUIT

hurt anyone, but it did disappoint at least one family.

"We tried the Easter cookies and were slightly disappointed," Echols said. "They weren't hollow when you broke them open. Thus, no 'empty tomb.' However, the rest of the analogies were OK."

Other religious-themed e-mails aren't so benign, though, said several experts in communications, theology, and computer systems.

For example, there are the numerous warnings about

computer "viruses" — hidden programs that are unwittingly downloaded from the Internet or another source and then wreak havoc on the recipient computer. While there are real viruses, there are also virus hoaxes all over the Internet.

Virus hoaxes share some common characteristics experienced e-mailers can learn to detect, said Charles Hymes, senior human-factors engineer with Hewlett-Packard Co. in Cupertino, Calif. He calls these messages "junk-mail viruses"

because they act like real computer viruses, "only they use people as the method of infecting new systems.

Hymes said "there is absolutely no way for an e-mail message to infect your computer with a virus just by reading it."

The only real danger lies in launching an executable program received via e-mail or from any source, he said. "For heaven's sake, don't run a program from a source you don't have very good reason to trust." ■



Sutton candidate for presidency of pastors' group

For Baptist and Reflector

NASHVILLE — Jerry Sutton, pastor of Two Rivers Church here, will be nominated for president of the Southern Baptist Convention Pastors' Conference in Atlanta in June.

Johnny Hunt, pastor of First Church, Woodstock, Ga., announced April 13 he would nominate Sutton. Hunt was in Nashville to preach revival services at LifeWay Christian Resources.

Sutton has been at Two Rivers since 1986. The Nashville Baptist Association church has 6,500 members with more than 2,000 people baptized since 1986 and more than \$3 million

channeled through the Cooperative Program for missions.

Sutton was a trustee for LifeWay from 1990-98 and was vice chairman for two years. He leads conferences for the publishing house and is a contributing writer.

A native of Mobile, Ala., Sutton is a graduate of the University of South Alabama and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

He and his wife, Fern, have two daughters. ■



SUTTON

Building/finance conference slated

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — A Church Building/Finance Conference will be held April 27 from 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. at Wallace Memorial Church, Knoxville.

The conference is designed to provide information, training, and resources for churches that are facing the need for space or are involved in the building process.

Conference leaders include Jerry Grubbs, architect and consultant, LifeWay Christian Resources; Bo Childs, president, Tennessee Baptist Foundation, and Archer Thorpe, church administration and stewardship specialist, Tennessee Baptist Convention.

The registration fee is \$10 and includes lunch. For more information, call Archer Thorpe at (615) 371-2017. ■

Academy students challenged to consider missions

For Baptist and Reflector

SEYMOUR — The King's Academy (Harrison-Chilhowee

Baptist Academy) spring spiritual emphasis week usually focuses on evangelism. Guest speakers typically try to draw students into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Affirming the essential nature of such a relationship, this year's attention was concentrated on responding to God as evidence of that relationship. Missionaries addressed upper school students daily, sharing their personal experiences, giving the students an

"insider's" perspective of life as a missionary and challenging them to be open to God calling them to some area of special service.

Speakers included Jonah and Jennifer Khokhar, Bob Stewart, David Sheldon, D. Wayne Dyer, and Don Walker.

Sheldon is a Knoxville native who is a former pastor of Mt. Harmony Church. He and his family served in Indonesia, and Malaysia. "God can use you," Sheldon told the students, whether it is in America or as a minority in a foreign country.

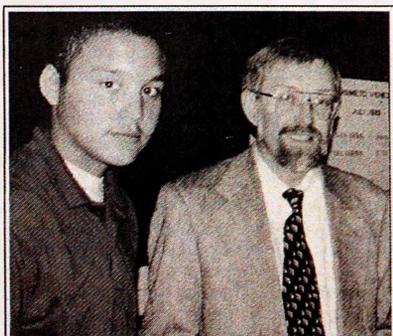
Sevier County Association assisted the academy in arranging for Stewart, Sheldon, and Dyer to speak. They were in East Tennessee for the association's World Missions Conference.

Don Walker, member of

Madison Avenue Church, Maryville, told students how a pharmacist such as himself can work full time in a secular profession and still be a missionary.

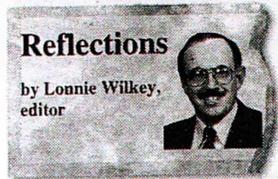
Walker shared about opportunities available in short-term missions projects and related personal accounts of medical missions trips to Venezuela and Haiti.

Steve Sharp, dean of students at the academy, and John Stair, chaplain, announced plans for a mission opportunity which will be available to academy students. Sharp organizes an annual excursion for students to allow them to experience missions first hand. The 1999 mission project is a late summer ministry trip to Canada. ■



MARYVILLE pharmacist Don Walker talks with eighth grader Elio Mijares of Venezuela about volunteer missions.

Perseverance paid off for children of Israel, Betty Williams



Reflections
by Lonnie Wilkey,
editor

Here's a Baptist trivia question.

What did the children of Israel have in common with Betty Williams, bookkeeper for the *Baptist and Reflector*?

They both persevered for 40 years.

The children of Israel did it in the wilderness. Betty has done it on the staff of the *Baptist and Reflector*.

On April 15, 1959 Betty was employed by then-editor Richard Owen. I occasionally remind Betty that I was only 1-year-old when that happened. Then I duck. Not really. Betty just gives that trademark shy grin. I think that's one reason she has

persevered. She takes everything in stride.

Betty has worked for five editors and two others on an interim basis. She has processed thousands of subscriptions and counted hundreds of thousands of dollars during her 40-year tenure with the *Baptist and Reflector*.

For years the paper used a terribly outdated system for keeping up with our mailing list. Betty knew that system, however, like a member of her family. When it didn't want to work just right, Betty, with just a little help, could coax it to print out our list for the week.

Last summer our mailing system entered the 21st century with a new state-of-the-art program designed specifically for Baptist state newspapers.

I held my breath for several weeks thinking this new technology might be the thing that would make Betty "hang it up" and quit.



BETTY WILLIAMS celebrated her 40th anniversary as a staff member of the *Baptist and Reflector* on April 15. As she has done for years, she's still processing checks sent in for subscriptions and ads.

To her credit, Betty buckled down and learned a new com-

puter program. She would say she has not yet mastered it because she relies on Susie Edwards and Mary Nimmo of our staff, but she certainly has done a good job in learning the new system.

That, perhaps, is another trademark of persevering — being willing to change with the times when change is needed, not changing just for the sake of change.

More than anything, Betty has gone about her work quietly, without seeking fanfare, and always giving her best effort.

In essence, she has followed the biblical example of Jesus Christ.

Jesus did his Father's business in the same matter. It's an example that would serve us all well, no matter what kind of position we have. God calls us to be faithful in the tasks he gives us.

Thank you, Betty, for 40 years of faithful service. **BER**



just for today

by Fred Wood,
pastor emeritus,
Eudora Church,
Memphis



Start with a smile

8-year-old Tommy: "What's the highest you've ever counted?" 9-year-old Johnny: "To 537." Tommy: "Why did you quit there?" Johnny: "Because church was over."

Take this truth

Nothing is work unless you'd rather be somewhere else. Boredom fits the same formula — for children and adults both!

Memorize this Scripture

"I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord." — Psalm 122:1

Pray this prayer

"Lord, help me to delight in spiritual things, knowing this is one of the surest signs we are growing into more mature thinking." — Wood can be e-mailed at docfred1@Juno.com

Sometimes eating healthy means you have to skip the fries



that's life
by Linda Jackson Roebuck

Baseball season is in full swing again. I love baseball but the schedule wears me out.

I'm determined this year to somehow slow down and, here's the big goal — eat better. I knew last year we'd been eating at ballparks too often when my three grade school children asked one night if they could have vegetables for supper. I'm not kidding. I fixed them vegetables. After dinner they hugged

me and asked if they could have them again the next day. Yes, I'm still saving that spot on my mantle for my "Mother of the Year" Award. Pitiful. If it wasn't hot dogs or nachos at the concession stands, it was Big Macs, Whopper Jrs., or Happy Meals on the way.

Drive-throughs are so easy. However, my husband continues to be confounded by my ordering behavior. Invariably, when the kid on the loudspeaker welcomes us and offers to take our order, I say, "tell him to hang on a second." Jon's head drops down, then he turns and looks at me incredulously and says, "It's McDonald's Linda. Do you really have to look at the menu?" Just wears him out. He thinks after 10,000 trips through the drive-

through and 10,000 more in frequent diner miles I should know what's for supper at the Golden Arches.

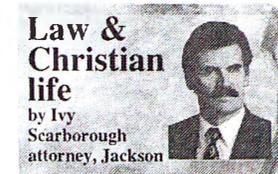
I'm not real sure myself why I continue to behave that way. Sometimes it's late afternoon and I have to decide if it's too late for caffeine. Sometimes it's simply to decide if I can stomach one more grilled chicken sandwich. But mostly I do it to see if Jon's head drops exactly the same way again. Just wears him out.

So Jon should be behind me all the way on my determination to eat and feed my family more healthy food this spring and summer. And he's become a good role model. Jon began eating better as he got more consistent with his exercising. Always

healthy, he began working out on his NordicTrak just over a year ago, and he never, ever misses a day. It's quite amazing. No matter what, he's on that thing. Sometimes I'll just pile up on the couch and watch him and become so fascinated with his unrelenting commitment to making himself healthy, I can hardly finish my coffee and few dozen Oreos. I mean, grapes. But I'm proud of him and thankful for that kind of example for our kids.

So, this year we're out for a winning and a healthy baseball season. And, uh, no fries with that. — Roebuck is a freelance writer in Nashville where her husband, Jon, serves as pastor of Woodmont Church. Her column will appear regularly in the *B&R*.

Gambling addiction can have negative impact on family life



Law & Christian life
by Ivy Scarborough
attorney, Jackson

"My husband has begun to gamble. He buys lottery tickets, travels to out of state casinos, and has brought us to bankruptcy. Would this be grounds for divorce?"

Yes, the behavior and its consequences which you describe could be grounds for divorce, but I urge you not to give up. Divorce laws make it easy to get a divorce, but just because man's law says it is permissible does not mean God would want you to do it.

Your husband's behavior suggests a gambling addiction. Addictions begin with small acts which appear relatively harmless (Matthew 7:20-23), but they

are the seeds of personal destruction. Do everything you can with the help of friends, family, and your pastor to convince your husband to get professional help. Even though you are in bankruptcy and it would appear your husband can go no further, he will continue to try to gamble until he fully confronts his problem. If he will not listen you may have to take strong steps, such

as separating, to cause him to understand the harm he is doing to you and your family.

Those of us in the professions which deal with human problems are seeing ever worsening tendencies to addictive behavior, whether gambling, pornography, alcohol abuse, etc. The evidence overwhelmingly points to our society's willingness to permit greater access to the causes of

these actions. The movement to legalize gambling makes gambling accessible to nearly everyone in our culture.

These movements are always characterized by two features: greed on the part of their promoters, and a deceptively convincing legal argument such as free speech or "the people have a right," etc. They promise freedom, but produce slavery. ■

Church of the Covered Dish

By Thom Tapp, pastor, Oral Church, Lenoir City



Thanks expressed

Recently many of you have written and called to say that our names were lifted in prayer often, but especially on Resurrection morn. Tennessee Baptists acted in response to the lovely letter written in the *Baptist and Reflector* by David L. Thompson, pastor of Alta Loma Church in Madison. His gesture of a call to prayer was a beautiful aspect of intercessory ministry.

Many of you know of the wonderful feeling that prayer warriors give when you do not feel well physically or there is emotional, physical, or spiritual anguish in your life.

May we take this opportunity to say a word of thanks to all of you who so graciously took time to remember us in prayer.

James and Lynn Porch
Tullahoma 37388





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

From your missionary

Tennessee volunteers are still making a difference! And Volunteer Challenge 2000 is continuing with more and more churches and individuals taking the challenge.

Volunteers continue to be an important strategy in reaching Tennessee, our nation, and the world with the Gospel.

Imagine what would happen if every Tennessee Baptist Church sent out at least three volunteers over the next two years on a Partnership/Volunteer Mission project. Imagine the impact on your church.

Catch the vision. Dream the Dream. Accept the challenge to be "On Mission" with God. Accept the Volunteer Challenge 2000 to serve in a Tennessee, national, or international volunteer missions project during 1999 or 2000.

Accept the Challenge to send one volunteer from your church to a Tennessee, national, and international volunteer missions project. Accept the Challenge to be a Partnership Anchor Church with a commitment to two or more Partnership/Volunteer Missions Projects per year, and provide link up opportunities for other churches.

Accept the Challenge to attend a Regional Volunteer and Recognition and Commissioning Service in Knoxville, April 29, at First Church of Concord or in Jackson, Sept. 21, at Union University.

In Christ,

Leary

Pray for May
Simultaneous
Revivals and City-
wide Crusade in Rio
de Janeiro, Brazil,
May 23 — June 1.

New paradigm of missions partnering begins

By Marcia Knox
The Macedonian Call

A new paradigm of missions partnering has begun with the alliance of five state conventions and two teams within the Tennessee Baptist Convention to meet Disaster Relief needs in hurricane stricken Nicaragua, according to TBC State Disaster Relief director Tim Bearden.

"The TBC Partnership/Volunteer Missions team and Tennessee Baptist State Disaster Relief have joined forces to help Tennessee Baptist volunteers respond to the needs in Central America," Bearden said.

"Due to the overwhelming response of volunteers to Honduras and other areas of Central America, the TBC along with Virginia, Missouri, Arkansas, and Maryland/Delaware Baptists have decided to concentrate on Nicaragua."

Three Nicaragua construction projects are now available for Tennessee teams who would like to help people in the aftermath of Hurricane Mitch, according to TBC Partnership/Volunteer Missions specialist Terry Sharp.

Representatives from the Disaster Response Partnership of the Arkansas Baptist Convention, Baptist Convention of Maryland and Delaware, Missouri Baptist Convention, Baptist General Association of Virginia, and the TBC met last month to finalize plans for the joint alliance of Disaster Relief volunteers.

The state convention representatives divided up the weeks from May 1999 to December 2000 to send in volunteer

teams. In addition to construction teams, medical personnel may be used if they are available to serve during the allotted dates, Sharp added.

"Teams that traveled prior to May 1999 had already signed up to go before the response of the recent Tennessee and Virginia Assessment Team," Sharp said. "As the Disaster Response Partnership (DRP), we were told by the IMB not to send any more teams until the volunteer coordinators were on the field."

Art and Dottie Dennis are serving as ISC volunteers who have been assigned by IMB to work as the volunteer coordinators for DRP. They are scheduled to arrive in Nicaragua this month.

"Plans call for the first team to arrive in Nicaragua at the end of May 1999 and other teams will continue to arrive every other week through December 2000," Sharp said. "This schedule will be re-evaluated as the partnership progresses."

Each team will be made up of a minimum of eight people and a maximum of 12. Around 90 percent of the Nicaragua projects are under construction, but medical teams may

be needed, he added.

"We would like to apologize to those people who have called to volunteer, but were unable to receive a response from us. We have been experiencing problems with our e-mail and voice-mail systems."

"If you called our Partnership/Volunteer Missions office and have not received a phone call, please call us back," said Sharp. "All who we have heard from have had an initial contact."

The following weeks are available to Tennessee teams in 2000: July 1-9, Aug. 26-Sept. 3, Oct. 7-15, Nov. 25 — Dec. 3. Call the TBC Partnership/Volunteer Missions office to volunteer at 1-800-558-2090 or (615) 371-7927. ■



SHARP



AS GARY RICKMAN, left, of the TBC walks through a relocation community in Nicaragua to assess disaster relief needs, children join him. Rickman was part of a Tennessee/Virginia Baptist Assessment Team recently.

First pre-convention meeting effort

Nashville Reach '99 set for Nov. 13-14

By Marcia Knox
The Macedonian Call

Every year at the Southern Baptist Convention's Annual Meeting, thousands of volunteers blanket the hosting city to reach people for Christ before the beginning of the convention.

This November thousands of volunteers will blanket the city of Nashville Nov. 13-14 prior to the 125th Annual Meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. These volunteers will try to win the city of Nashville for Christ.

"This is the first time that a Tennessee association has sponsored a 'Crossover' event mod-

eled after the SBC Crossover events every June," said Jim Freedman, Nashville Association director of missions. "We are anticipating being able to present Jesus to thousands of people and seeing many come to faith in him. We see Nashville Reach as a kick off event for Celebrate Jesus 2000."

"This is a wonderful opportunity to involve your church in a volunteer missions project and to accept the Volunteer Challenge 2000 at the same time," said Terry Sharp, TBC Partnership/Missions Volunteer specialist. "By participating in Nashville Reach, churches accept the challenge to serve in a Tennessee Volunteer Missions project and to send one volunteer from their church to a Tennessee project."

As part of the Tennessee Baptist Convention's 125th Anniversary celebration, the

TBC Evangelism Priority Team is partnering with the Nashville Association for Nashville Reach, a series of saturation evangelism events.

Currently, 36 Nashville Association churches have signed up to participate in Nashville Reach. The Nashville Reach participation goal is 80 Nashville Association churches and 80 TBC churches from across the state.

Nashville Reach seeks to be used by God as a concerted effort Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 13-14, to attract and win people to faith in Jesus Christ to nurture them in our Christian faith, and involve them in a participating church.

Churches may choose from these Nashville Reach events:

► Block Parties are special evangelistic events that introduce — See Nashville, page 6



FREEDMAN

Nashville Reach '99

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| Friday Night — | Training/Orientation in churches |
| Saturday — | Block Parties, Saturday Search, One-Day Revival, Street Evangelism, Kindness Blitz, Canning Hunger, Prayer-walks, and other events planned by individual churches |
| Sunday — | One-Day Revivals |
| Sunday Evening — | Citywide Youth Concert |

Churches/Association accept Volunteer Challenge 2000

For The Macedonian Call

About 220 churches and one association have accepted the Volunteer Challenge 2000 to send a volunteer to serve in a Tennessee, national, or international volunteer missions project during 1999 or 2000.

Volunteer Challenge 2000

was introduced to Tennessee Baptists during the 124th annual meeting of the TBC at MeadowView Convention Center in Kingsport on Nov. 10, 1998 when Doug Sager, pastor, First Church of Concord, Knoxville, challenged the 2,245 messengers to have a world vision.

Tennessee Baptist churches

need to wake up and have a world vision, and not just rely on the International Mission Board, according to Doug Sager, IMB trustee and TBC 1997-98 president.

"We are on the cutting edge of the 21st century," said Sager. "Tennessee Baptist churches have to have a world vision, even those

churches who have never looked at the world as a mission field.

"We need to get on with the program to win the world for Jesus," he said. "My goal within our church at Concord is to have people going on mission trips 52 weeks of the year.

"We even tell people who

join the church to go get your passport. We need to be on mission with God every week."

The following Tennessee 2000 churches and associations have pledged to send one volunteer from their church or association to a Tennessee, national, and international volunteer missions project. ■

Tennessee 2000 Churches and Associations

Church Name — Association	Chester	First Madisonville — Sweetwater	Harvest — Dyer	Mount Vista — Chilhowee	Santa Fe — Maury
Adams Chapel — Weakley County	Fairfield — Alpha	First Martin — Beulah	Haywood Association — Haywood	Mt. Gillead — Beech River	Second Clinton — Clinton
Allensville — Maury	Fairview — Sweetwater	First McEwen — Truett	Hickman — New Salem	Mt. Harmony — McMinn-Meigs	Second Millington — Shelby
Alpha — Nolachucky	Faith — Shelby	First McKenzie — Carroll-Benton	Hickory Grove — Gibson	Mt. Horeb — Lawrence	Sevier Heights — Knox
Antioch — Bledsoe	Faith Bartlett — Shelby	First Millington — Shelby	Hickory Grove — Gibson	Mt. Lebanon — Chilhowee	Sevierville Second — Sevier
Ardmore — Shelby	Fellowship — Big Hatchie	First Morrison — Central	Highland Park — Maury	Mt. View — Cumberland Plateau	Sevier Home — Knox
Aspport — Big Hatchie	First Alcoa — Chilhowee	First Morristown — Nolachucky	Hillcrest — Nolachucky	Mt. View Missionary — Sevier	Shiloh — Sevier
Barker's Chapel — Crockett	First Athens — McMinn-Meigs	First Nashville — Nashville	Hillcrest — Wilson	Mt. Zion — Judson	Siam — Watauga
Bath Spring — Beech River	First Bailey — Holston	First Niota — McMinn-Meigs	Hillhurst — Nashville	Natchez Trace — Carroll-Benton	Sky View — Shelby
Bayside — Hamilton	First Bemis — Madison-Chester	First Obion — Beulah	Hunter First — Watauga	New Blackwell — Grainger	Smokyview — Chilhowee
Beaver — Big Hatchie	First Bluff City — Holston	First Robinson — Sullivan	Indian Springs — Sullivan	New Harmony — Western District	South Liberty — McMinn-Meigs
Beech Park — Big Emory	First Centerville — Alpha	First Russellville — Nolachucky	Judson — Nashville	New Hopewell — Knox	Southwestern — Holston
Belmont Heights — Nashville	First Church Hill — Holston	First Savannah — Shiloh	Kidwell's Ridge — Nolachucky	New Market — Jefferson	Springview — Chilhowee
Black Oak — Clinton	First Columbia — Maury	First Seymour — Sevier	Lakeview — Gibson	New Salem — Holston	Stevens Street — Stone
Briarwood — Shelby	First Concord — Knox	First Sneedville — Holston Valley	Lantana Rd — Cumberland Plateau	New Song — Maury	Sullivan — Sullivan
Broadway — Chilhowee	First Crossville — Cumberland Plateau	First Somerville — Fayette	Laurel Bank — Chilhowee	North Springfield — Robertson	Sunnyside — Sullivan
Buffalo Grove — Jefferson	First Dandridge — Jefferson	First South Pittsburg — Sequatchie Valley	Lebanon — Nolachucky	Northside — Concord	Sunrise — Nolachucky
Calvary — Sullivan	First Donelson — Nashville	First Spring Hill — Maury	Lee Station — Sequatchie Valley	Oak Grove — Big Hatchie	Sylvania — Truett
Cane Creek — Sweetwater	First Dover — Stewart	First Trenton — Gibson	Liberty — Big Emory	Oak Hill — Cumberland Plateau	Trinity — Holston
Cash Point — William Carcy	First Dyersburg — Dyer	First Watauga — Watauga	Lights Chapel — Robertson County	Oak Street — Watauga	Trinity — Duck River
Cedar Fork — Sweetwater	First Englewood — McMinn-Meigs	First Woodbury — Salem	Lincovy Hills — Nashville	Oakwood — Hamilton County	Tumbling Creek — Weakley
Central — Holston	First Fairfield Glade — Cumberland Plateau	Forest Hill — Chilhowee	Lynn Valley — Watauga	Paint Rock — Hiwassee	Una — Nashville
Clear Springs — Midland	First Fairview — Nashville	Fort Hills — Nashville	Lyons Creek — Knox	Park City — William Carey	Unaka Ave — Holston
Clearwater — McMinn-Meigs	First Fountain City — Knoxville	Fort Robinson — Sullivan	Macedonia — Dyer	Parkview — Duck River	Unaka — Watauga
Clinton — Holston	First Franklin — Nashville	Friendship — Crockett	Magna View — Nolachucky	Parkway — Knox	Union — Watauga
College Heights — Bledsoe	First Huntington — Carroll-Benton	Galilee — Knox	Manly — Nolachucky	Philadelphia — Indian Creek	Union Ave — Shelby
Cornerstone — Clinton	First Jamestown — Riverside	Gath — Central	Maple Springs — Madison-Chester	Pleasant Heights — Maury	Union Friendship — Western District
Corryton — Knox	First Jonesborough — Holston	Gillespie Ave — Knox	McPheeters Bend — Holston Valley	Pleasant Hill — Copper Basin	Unity — Riverside
Crossland Ave — Cumberland	First Kingsport — Sullivan	Goodsprings — McMinn-Meigs	Memorial — Cumberland Plateau	Pleasantview — Nolachucky	Unity — Knox
Cumberland — Knox	First Kingston — Big Emory	Grace — Watauga	Meridian — Madison-Chester	Prospect — Chilhowee	Vonore — Sweetwater
Cumberland Homesteads — Cumberland Plateau	First LaFayette — Campbell	Grace — Knox	Middlebook Pk — Knox	Providence — Chilhowee	Walnut Hill — Crockett
Dallas Bay — Hamilton	First Lawrenceburg — Lawrence	Grace Covenant — Knox	Mine City — Copper Basin	Richland — Giles	War Creek — Holston
Dumplin — Jefferson	First Lenoir City — Loudon	Green River — Indian Creek	Monte Vista — Chilhowee	Ridgetop — Robertson	Washington Pike — Knox
East Maryville — Chilhowee	First Linden — Alpha	Hamptons Crossroads — Stone	Montvue — Nolachucky	Rogers Creek — McMinn-Meigs	Wells Station — Shelby
East Niota — McMinn-Meigs	First Livingston — Riverside	Harsh Chapel — Nashville	Morganton — Loudon County	Sand Ridge — Beech River	West Haven — Knox
Eastview — Carroll-Benton			Mount Hermon — Shiloh		West Jackson — Madison-Chester
Elkton — Giles			Mount Olive — Knox		West Memorial — Hardeman
Elohim — Knox					Westside — Dyer
Englewood — Madison-					Wolf Creek — Tennessee Valley
					Zion Hill — Copper Basin

First pre-convention meeting effort

Nashville Reach '99 set for Nov. 13-14

— Continued from page 5

duce entire inner city neighborhoods, suburban subdivisions, and multifamily housing communities to Jesus Christ. These parties are planned to meet specific needs, but most include food, music, an informal program, and tract or Scripture distribution.

► Saturday Search is a day of focused going and seeking, preceded by one or two weeks of praying and hearing. This time focuses on prayer for the laborers and for the lost. It includes breakfast, lunch and all day visitations on Saturday, November 13. The visitation focus is on the unchurched and inactive church members. Door to door

survey calls, follow-up calls, prospect calls, and personal witnessing visits could be made.

► Street Evangelism is any evangelistic event held in a high-traffic area. Usually it is in an open-air area where people feel comfortable joining a crowd. Street evangelism events can involve puppets, magicians, creative arts teams, clowns, balloon artists, musical groups, sketch artists, or any wholesome activities that draw people.

► Prayerwalking is simply walking and praying. It is praying on-site with insight. Prayerwalking is intentional. The prayerwalker allows the Holy Spirit to direct his eyes and his prayers to

specific needs. Prayerwalk teams have no more than three or four persons per team.

► One-Day Revivals will be held in many churches on Sunday, Nov. 14. Revival preachers will be assigned or churches may also enlist a preacher.

► Kindness Blitz is a group of Christians getting together to perform acts of kindness without cost for persons whose lives they intersect. Examples are: free car wash, returning empty garbage cans from the street to the house, car drying at self-serve car washes, leaf raking, lawn care, Coke giveaway, free coffee (maybe at the bus stops on Deaderick Street!), Popsicle

giveaway, windshield washing, balloon giveaway, free community dinner, free Polaroid pictures at horse carriage stands, or anything else teams can devise!

► Canning Hunger is the enlistment of individuals to develop a food collection route on their block. People who have food will share food if it is convenient for them.

If you are interest in participating, please contact Terry Sharp, MAI Partnership/Volunteer Missions Ministry specialist, at 1-800-558-2090, (615) 371-7927, e-mail at tsharp@tnbaptist.org, or TBC web site at www.tnbaptist.org/services/nashvillereach.htm. ■

TBCH helps Rio resocialization center for children

By Marcia Knox
For The Macedonian Call

A four-member team from the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes Inc. (TBCH) recently returned from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, where TBCH plans to provide an additional facility for the Resocialization Center for Street Children.

TBCH executive treasurer Gerald Stow, Boys Ranch vice president Bert Sutton, TBCH Board of Trustees member Peggy Patterson and her husband Paul traveled March 4-12 to Rio de Janeiro to finalize plans for an additional facility for the Resocialization Center for Street Children.

The Resocialization Center is only one of the ministries of the Rio Christian Social Ministries (CSM), which is part of the Carioca Convention. The Rio CSM operates a variety of services to children and their families which include halfway houses for prisoners, prostitutes, and drug and alcohol addicts.

"TBCH has partnered with the Christian Social Ministries

of Rio working in connection with the Tennessee/Rio Partnership to double the Rio ministry to street children," said Stow. "The funds for the additional facility for the Resocialization Center were provided through private sources, given to TBCH and designated for the Rio project."

According to Stow, TBCH personnel have been working with Rio CSM director Enrique Sezar for several months on the project. "We made the initial plans last October to double the space for the center. However, at the request of the CSM on this visit we found another house in a different location, and are negotiating to buy the property."

TBCH trustee and pastor of First Church, Paris, Jerry Massey will lead an August construction team along with medical personnel to Rio de Janeiro to renovate the existing Resocialization Center facility and ready the new property.

Currently 18 volunteers from First Church, Paris, are signed up for the project that

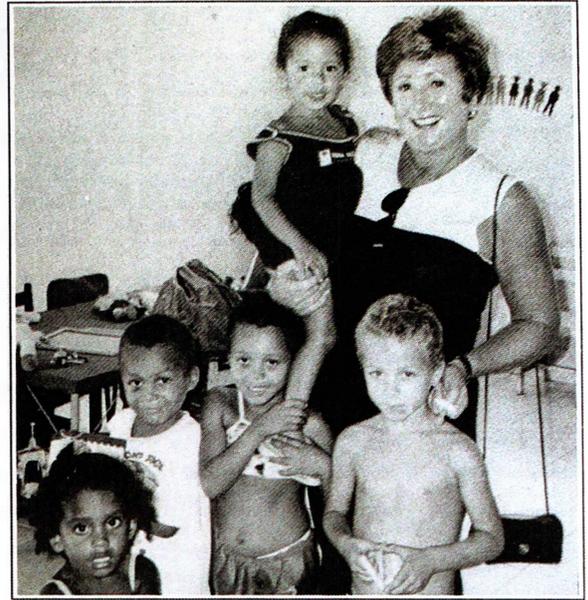
involves re-roofing and repairing the Center and other facilities as well as working with children in Bible studies and medical needs.

While working with the Rio Christian Social Ministries, the TBCH team reaped the rewards of the recent Tennessee volunteer medical team, led by Dewey Dunn in January. According to Stow, the TBCH team met with a former drug dealer whose mother was won to Christ through the medical team efforts. The TBCH team saw people who were treated by the medical team and given glasses.

The team was able to enter the favela or slum area because of the ministry of the medical team, and witness and hand out tracts to people, Stow said.

"They identified us with some people who had been in the slum before, and it opened the door."

"Many of the children coming into the care of the Resocialization Center would be involved in drugs and prostitution if it had not been for the



PEGGY PATTERSON, trustee of the TBCH from First Church, Franklin, interacts with some children at the center.

program of the Center," Stow said. "We are thankful for the privilege of joining hands and hearts with our Brazilian Baptist friends in this unique partnership." ■

Union University students work in Costa Rica

By Andy Pettigrew
For The Macedonian Call

During "Passion Week" March 26-April 3, 16 students from Union University, Jackson, experienced this special Christian holiday in Costa Rica.

The students, led by Todd Brady, Union University minister, and Julie Glosson, Union assistant Spanish professor, spent their spring break in Cartago, Costa Rica, working through the Tennessee/Costa Rica partnership.

The team worked with IMB missionaries and project coordinators, Greg and Sue Smith, and with Carlos Guzman, pastor of Jesucristo Es El Senor Church in Cartago. This church is actively involved in inner-city ministries in the Manuel de Jesus

Jimenez housing project.

Union's GO "Global Outreach" team worked with Backyard Bible Club type activities in the mornings, and singing, preaching, and personal evangelism with the adults. In the evenings, the team shared in revival services in both the church in Cartago and another church in the Ochumogu village. Students led in music and drama while Brady, Brad White, and I preached.

One afternoon the students worked with IMB missionary field coordinators Gary and Sis Tufts in a very poor area called La Concepcion. There is currently a new church meeting in the front yard of a new family of believers.

"There was just a sense of hopelessness everywhere we went," said Charis Gilmore, a Union sophomore Education

major. "I was excited that I could share with them the hope that I had."

"When you take an active part in what God's doing, it changes you," said Steven Chipman, Union senior Biology major. "God's movement in the world is no longer something you read about in books. The person of God and his involvement becomes so much more real."

The team was thrilled to experience the many things that God is doing in Costa Rica, and now they have a more specific way to pray. The week was packed with many activities, yet the students found it difficult to leave.

Union's "GO Trips" give students a greater worldview, and help them to understand that God is at work in a powerful way throughout the world. ■

Board names coordinators

For The Macedonian Call

Howard and Joyce Clark, recently retired IMB missionaries to Spain, are the new missionary speaker coordinators for Tennessee, according to Terry Sharp, TBC Partnership/Volunteer Missionary specialist.

In their new roles, the Clarks will coordinate speaking assignments of furloughing (stateside assignment) missionaries with churches in Tennessee. Their priority is to assign speakers to churches who have not had a missionary speaker or who have not had a speaker in recent years.

Though funded by the IMB, the Clarks will work closely with the TBC in placing missionaries in the churches. Sharp will serve as the liaison with the Clarks.

The speaker coordinator program is a two-year pilot project of the IMB and each of the participating seven state conventions. The program will be evaluated at the end of the time period.

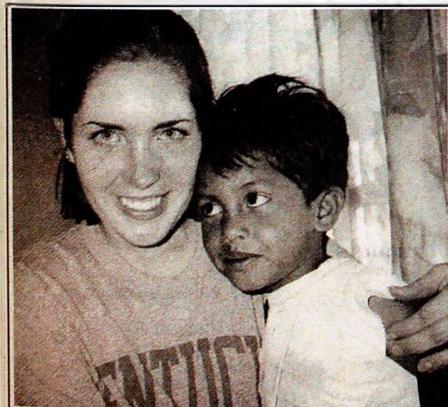
If you wish to schedule a missionary for your church during 1999-2000, call Terry Sharp at 1-800-558-2090 or (615)-371-7927. ■



H. CLARK



J. CLARK



MAKING A new friend of a child she met in Costa Rica is Cassie Howle, a freshman at Union University.



POSING on a street in Costa Rica is the team, which was led by Todd Brady, back row, far right, university minister, and Julie Glosson, second row, far right, associate professor of Spanish.

The Macedonian Call

Place	Project ID	Work	Dates	Volunteers Needed	Place	Project ID	Work	Dates	Contact Persons
Rio de Janeiro Projects					Tennessee Projects				
Rio de Janeiro	Church Dev	Church Planting	Open	Open	Beulah	T-99-61	Construction	Open	Jerry Essary-901-885-2151
Rio de Janeiro	Medical	Medical Clinics	Open	Open	Beulah	T-99-62	Construction	Open	Jerry Essary-901-885-2151
Rio de Janeiro	PM41999986	Construction	Open	25	Bolivar	T-99-55	Special Services	Open	Carolyn O'Hara-901-658-7273
Rio de Janeiro	PM41999994	Music	Open	1	Bolivar	T-99-51	Camp	Open	Hardeman Assoc.-901-658-3534
Rio de Janeiro	PM21999902	Evangelism	Open	20	Cordova	T-99-48	Construction	Open	Wrex Hauth-901-835-4654
Rio de Janeiro	PM21999901	Construction	Open	25	Cordova	T-99-49	Construction	Open	Mike Mathis-901-381-1979
Rio de Janeiro	PM21999904	Student Ministries	6/06/99-8/03/99	2	Cordova	T-99-65	Evangelism	Open	Effort Alexander-901-398-5000 or 544-3607
Rio de Janeiro	PM42000900	Student Ministries	1/03/2000-1/12/2000	1	Cordova	T-99-63	Construction	Open	Effort Alexander-901-398-5000 or 544-3607
Rio de Janeiro	PM41998931	Hospital Chaplain	Open	1	Covington	T-99-59	VBS/BYBC	Open	Donna Ralph-901-476-8761
Canada Projects									
Prince Albert, SK	98MID032	VBS/BYBC	7/03/99-7/12/99	6-10	Dyersburg	T-99-47	Evangelism	Open	Joe Naylor-901-285-2727
Allan, SK	98NOR030	Evangelism	7/01/99-7/31/99	10+	Dyersburg	T-99-46	Special Services	Open	Joe Naylor-901-285-2727
Charlottetown, PEI	98NOR039	Evangelism	7/18/99-7/24/99	10	Elizabethton	T-99-25	VBS/BYBC	7/25/99-7/31/99	Becky Brumitt-423-547-2560
Edmonton, AB	98MID033	VBS/BYBC	7/15/99-08/15/99	2	Elizabethton	T-99-26	Camp	8/01/99-8/07/99	Becky Brumitt-423-547-2560
Love, SK	98NOR032	Construction	7/17/99-7/24/99	4	Elizabethton	T-99-22	VBS/BYBC	7/04/99-7/10/99	Becky Brumitt-423-547-2560
Love, SK	98NOR031	VBS/BYBC	7/03/99-7/10/99	Open	Elizabethton	T-99-24	VBS/BYBC	7/18/99-7/24/99	Becky Brumitt-423-547-2560
PEI	KC4	Church Planting	Open	2	Fayette	T-99-54	Construction	Open	Bob Campbell-901-854-6290
Pincher Creek, AB	98MID034	VBS/BYBC	7/01/99-7/31/99	4-6	Henry	T-99-27	Construction	Open	Larry or Tammy Bell-901-243-7150
Prince Albert, SK	98NOR034	Evangelism	7/08/99-7/19/99	15+	Jackson	T-99-58	Construction	6/01/99-7/31/99	Carol Vaughan-901-668-5690
Prince Albert, SK	98NORO27	Library	Open	Open	Knoxville	T-99-32	Construction	3/20/99-9/30/99	Walter Taylor-423-693-9097
Vanderhoof, BC	98ALP002	Construction/VBS	7/01/99-7/31/99	Open	Memphis	T-99-30	Construction	Open	Tim Cox-901-458-0617
Costa Rica Projects									
South Zone	PM71988832	Medical	Open	5	Memphis	T-99-29	Student Ministries	Open	Tim Cox-901-458-0617
Portugal Projects									
Lisbon	GEN1999205	Drama Teams	8/04/99-8/22/99	8	Memphis	T-99-31	Special Services	8/01/99-Open	Tim Cox-901-458-0617
Portimao	EVN1999077	Evangelism	8/01/99-8/15/99	10	Memphis	T-99-66	Special Services	Open	Bobbye Clark-901-386-8141 or 458-0617
Porto	GEN1999206	Construction	7/30/99-8/14/99	6	Memphis	T-99-71	Special Services	Open	Tim Cox-901-458-0617
Porto	GEN1999177	Construction	8/14/99-8/28/99	6	Memphis	T-99-70	Construction	Open	Tim Cox-901-458-0617
Portugal	EVN1999043AD	Prayerwalking	Open	10	Memphis	T-99-69	Special Services	Open	Tim Cox-901-372-7477
Michigan Projects									
Ann Arbor	GD-3G	Construction	July	3 teams	Memphis	T-99-67	VBS/BYBC	Open	Tim Cox-901-468-0617
Cadillac	N-3A	Revival	10/02/99-10/09/99	2	Memphis	T-99-50	Camp	Open	Penny Looney-901-372-6835
Cadillac	N-6	VBS/BYBC	7/18/99-07/23/99	15-20	Memphis	T-99-78	Construction	Open	Ricky Ray-901-357-9581 or 353-4532
Detroit	GD-4	Construction	Open	Open	Memphis	T-99-68	Special Services	Open	Sam Wilson-901-458-0617
Detroit	GD-3	Construction	Open	Open	Nashville	T-99-43	Construction	Open	Paul Morris-615-776-2266
East Jordan	N-1A	Evangelism	Open	Open	Pulaski	T-99-75	Construction	Open	Carl Bond-931-363-3529
Eaton Rapids	C-1	Student Ministries	7/25/99-7/31/99	30	Pulaski	T-99-76	Construction	Open	Darrell Lingerfalt-931-766-0749
Grayling	N-4D	Construction	7/09/99-7/16/99	Open	Ripley	T-99-56	Construction	Open	Wayne Rowa-901-635-7128
Kalamazoo	SC-2A	Construction	Open	Open	Ripley	T-99-45	ESL/Education	Open	Joe Naylor-901-285-2727
Lansing	C-2	VBS/BYBC	7/17/99-7/24/99	1	Rossville	T-99-52	Construction	Open	Bob Campbell-901-854-6290
Marquette	UP-4	Construction	Open	1	Shelby	T-99-60	VBS/BYBC	Open	Don Aycock-901-274-3766
Prudenville	N-5	Music	Open	1 or 2	Shelby	T-99-64	VBS/BYBC	Open	Ronnie Wilburn-901-458-4469 or 684-8088
Roseville	M-4	Sports	Open	2	Somerville	T-99-57	Construction	Open	Ronald Gruenwald-901-867-7259
Roseville	M-1A	Student Ministries	Open	Open	Somerville	T-99-53	Construction	Open	Bob Campbell-901-854-6290
Sault Ste Marie	UP-3	Construction	7/18/99-7/24/99	5	Mission Service Corps Projects				
Southfield	SEM10	Student Ministries	6/10/99-8/12/99	20	Cleveland	MSC2	MSC	Open	Michelle McCluskey-423-476-5493
					Cleveland	MSC4	MSC	Open	Michelle McCluskey-423-476-5493
					Ducktown	MSC1	MSC	Open	Al Patterson-423-496-7977
					Memphis	MSC6	MSC	Open	Sam Wilson or Tim Cox-901-458-0617
					Memphis	MSC7	MSC	Open	Sam Wilson or Tim Cox-901-458-0617

For more information about the above projects, call Tennessee Baptist Convention Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team at 1-800-558-2090 or (615) 371-2021.

Cumberland DOM takes new position

For Baptist and Reflector

CLARKSVILLE — R. Wesley Pitts, director of missions for Cumberland Association since 1990, will become director of missions for Long Run Association in Louisville, Ky., effective May 10.

Long Run is the largest association in Kentucky and includes about 140 churches from Jefferson and surrounding counties.



PITTS

Pitts served as pastor of three Tennessee Baptist churches — West Shiloh, Stantonville; First Church, Collierville, and First Church, McKenzie.

He has been active in Baptist life at all levels. Pitts served as a vice president of the TBC in 1994-95. A native of Pontotoc, Miss., Pitts and his wife, Diane, have a grown son. ■

Historical society taps Tennessee Baptist

For Baptist and Reflector

NASHVILLE — Officers of the Southern Baptist Historical Society have named Charles Deweese as executive director-elect, pending final approval during the SBHS annual meeting in May.

Deweese, a member of First Church, here, will take over the position vacated by S l a y d e n Yarbrough of Shawnee, Okla., who has served as interim executive director since the Southern Baptist Historical Commission was



DEWEESE

disbanded as part of SBC restructuring several years ago.

The SBHS has been housed at Oklahoma Baptist University, where Yarbrough teaches, but plans are being made to move the organization's offices to Nashville.

Deweese served on the staff of the Historical Commission for 21 years, from 1973-1994. For the past four years he worked for a Franklin-based publisher.

Deweese is author, co-author, or editor of seven books and more than 150 booklets, ar-

ticles, pamphlets, editorial's reviews, and curriculum units.

He received the Historical Commission's Distinguished Service Award in 1995.

Of Deweese's selection, Yarbrough said "there is no person more qualified in Baptist life to fill this position. ...

"His reputation among Baptist historians enhances the respect of our organization," Yarbrough added. ■



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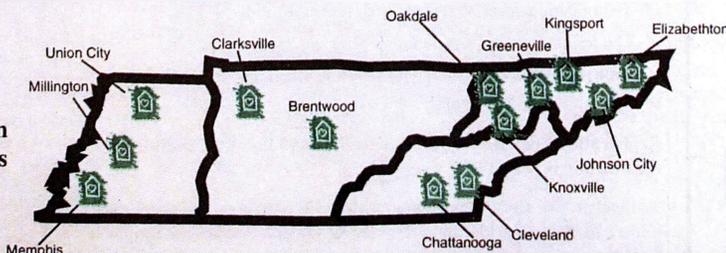
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Southern Baptists may be asked to help in resettlement
Baptist Press

ALPHARETTA, Ga. — If the United States begins accepting refugees from war-torn Kosovo, Southern Baptists likely will be among those asked to help, the North American Mission Board's immigration ministries specialist said.

"At this point there has been no discussion to resettle Kosovo refugees in the United States, but this discussion will likely take place very soon,"

said Richard Robinson of NAMB's ministry evangelism team.

Robinson said he anticipates that refugees will request asylum in the U.S. and asks that Southern Baptists begin praying about their involvement. He noted the U.S. government does not finance the resettlement of refugees.

"Charitable organizations and churches bear the responsibility," Robinson said. He called on Southern Baptists to pray fervently for an end to hostilities in Kosovo and about serving as a sponsor for Kosovo refugees through the IMB.

"Refugee sponsorship is an exciting way to be on mission with God among future Americans," Robinson said.

For more information on refugee resettlement ministry, call the NAMB's office of immigration ministries at (770) 410-6343. ■

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A workshop featuring Cassidy Dale, a trained futurist and Director of the Office of Research for the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina.
Designed for those who are serious about reaching the next generation for Christ and His church.
Cost is \$6.00; lunch will be provided.
Make reservations before Friday, May 14, by calling 1-888-661-8223.
Workshop sponsored by the Tennessee Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Dr. Ircel Harrison, Coordinator.

Missile destroys Baptist storage facility
Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — A Baptist church's storage facility for humanitarian aid in Nis, Serbia, has been destroyed by a missile, according to Denton Lotz, general secretary of the Baptist World Alliance in a statement on "The Missiological Implica-

tions of the Kosovo War for the Baptist Witness in Eastern Europe.

The Baptist facility, located 125 miles southeast of Belgrade, contained Christian literature, food, clothing, and furniture.

Lotz joined an "ecumenical appeal" by various religious leaders for a cessation of the bombing during the Easter season, but his April 8 statement made no specific call for a NATO cease fire. ■

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First Baptist Church, Nashville
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Easum is author of *Dancing With Dinosaurs*, *Sacred Cows Make Gourmet Burgers*, and *Growing Spiritual Redwoods*.
This conference will address the emerging church of the 21st Century. It will help answer the questions, "What does your spiritual journey look like?" and "What can your church do to help people to grow spiritually?"
Topics will include —
✓ Understanding the forest in which "spiritual redwoods" grow.
✓ Jesus the "heartwood" of the spiritual redwood.
✓ Transformation of individuals is the key.
✓ Worship is the "fluid" that flows through the spiritual redwood.
✓ The organic nature of the spiritual redwood.
✓ The importance of cells, small groups, and teams.
✓ "Spiritual midwives" are the leadership.
✓ A glimpse into the future.
Registration Fee: \$15 (includes materials and lunch). Deadline for registration is May 14.
To register, call Jerry Chapman at 1-800-558-2090, ext. 7932 or write Center for Discipleship and Laity Development, Tennessee Baptist Convention, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37024.

CLASSIFIED
CHILDREN: The Church at Grace Park (SBC), White House, Tenn., seeks a Children's Minister to provide vision and program leadership for preschool through fifth grade, approximately 150 children. Position requirements available upon request at (615) 672-3752. Senior Pastor, Bob Cook.
BAPTISTRY: Baptistry for sale, \$600, length 14 1/2 ft., width 54 inches, depth 42 inches. 14-inch plexiglass front, with accessories. Call or write Memorial Baptist Church, P.O. Box 39, Crossville, TN 38557, (931) 484-9278.
ORGANIST: Ball Camp Baptist Church is seeking an experienced church organist. Send resumes to 2412 Ball Camp-Byington Rd., Knoxville, TN 37931. Telephone inquiries welcome at (423) 693-1641.
PASTOR: Seeking full-time minister, averaging 130-150 in Sunday School, 250-300 in worship service, with six part-time staff. Send resume to Search Committee, Union Baptist Church, 3615 Knoxville Hwy., Wartburg, TN 37887. Receiving resumes through May 15.
PASTOR: Second Baptist Church of Greenville, Ky., is prayerfully seeking a senior pastor. Second Baptist is known as a progressive, growth oriented, mid-size church with an average Sunday School attendance of 195 and 270 in morning worship. The church is aligned with the Southern Baptist Convention. Please send resumes to Second Baptist Church, Attn: Pastor Search Committee, P.O. Box 390, Greenville, Ky 42345.
STUDENTS: Minister of Students needed, a full-time position working with children through college with an emphasis on youth. Send resume to Search Committee, First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 497, Pocomoke, MD 21851.
CHILDREN: Second - Ponce de Leon (SPdL) Baptist Church of Atlanta, Ga., is seeking a Minister with Children. This person will serve as one of 12 Pastoral Staff team ministry equippers. SPdL is a 3,600 member congregation in north Atlanta drawing people from 108 zip codes throughout the metro region. Offering both traditional and contemporary approaches to worship, SPdL offers its members the choice to support missions and ministries through either the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and the Southern Baptist Convention and ordains women and men to the diaconate. Applicants should have a seminary degree, professional experience in Baptist congregational leadership with children's ministry, awareness of the contemporary challenges facing children and their families, and a desire to build a team of children's teachers & leaders. Resumes with references should be sent to Second - Ponce de Leon Baptist Church, Minister with Children Search Committee, 2715 Peachtree Rd. NE, Atlanta, GA 30305. (Deadline is April 28, 1999.)

Through failure to purpose

By Roy Graves

Focal Passage — John 8:15-18, 25-27; 21:15-22

Introduction

Failure is an event in the life of a person, not the person. "Failure should be our teacher, not our undertaker. Failure is delay, not defeat. It is a temporary detour, not a dead-end street." Even though we fail God we are reminded in Deuteronomy 4:31: "For the Lord your God is a compassionate God; He will not fail you nor destroy you ..."

Peter's Failure (ch. 18:15-18, 25-27)

Peter would have been better off that night if he had not entered the courtyard of the high priest. Yet, Theodore Roosevelt said, "The only man who makes a mistake is the man who never does anything." Peter did three things that night that forever changed his life. He failed Jesus with the decoy of denial. This is the same Simon who said, "Lord with you I am ready to go both to prison and to death!" This exclamation is far from the explanation of why Peter said, "Woman, I do not know Him" (Luke 22:57). Peter had his defining moment of failure. The Bible records these words about that moment: "And he went out and wept bitterly" (Luke 22:62). Perhaps you too have heard the barnyard sound of crowing in the courtyard of failure.

Peter's Future (ch. 21:15-17)

Peter's future never looked brighter because Jesus was going to use this failure as an opportunity to exercise grace and forgiveness. Jesus loved Peter. "And the Lord said, 'Simon, Simon! Indeed Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail, when you have returned to me, strengthen your brothers!' (Luke 22:31-31). Before Peter denied him, Jesus was telling him that he knew his flesh would fail, but not his faith. Henry Blackaby writes of this time in the life of Peter: "Even as Jesus faced his imminent arrest and crucifixion, he took time to strengthen Peter for what was to come! He assured him that God had set limits on Satan's influence. He expressed his confidence that though Peter's faith would falter, he would overcome to the point of strengthening others. Since Jesus was interceding for Peter, Peter might fail for a moment, but his life would ultimately be victorious."

Peter's "Follow"-ship (vv. 18-22)

Peter ultimately overcame his failure by "taking up his cross and following Jesus." Peter couldn't be John. Jesus didn't want him to be. Jesus wanted Peter to follow him in the call and purpose placed upon his life to be "a rock." Peter learned a valuable lesson the night he denied Jesus and wrote approximately 30 years later these words in 1 Peter 5:8, 9, "your adversary the devil prowls around like a lion ... Resist him, (be) firm in your faith." Peter was no longer sifted sand, but a solid rock.

Tear down a spider's web and the spider will rebuild it; rob a beehive and the bee will continue to gather pollen and make honey; kick an ant hill into the wind and the ant immediately begins to clean up the debris and rebuild the hill. When failure or calamity comes your way, begin again. — Graves is pastor, First Church, Kingston.

Truth sets people free

By Tommy Ferguson

Focal Passage — John 8:12, 21-38

These 47 verses give the formula from being free from any sin or destructive hold that Satan through the avenue of religion may have on a person. Jesus makes four contrasting statements that the people rejected. Although they rejected them we don't have to.

Family Bible Lesson

Light and darkness. Jesus makes one of his "I Am" statements. "I am the light of the world." Light is life. Light is required for photosynthesis, the process of oxygen being produced. Without oxygen no life could exist. Likewise, no spiritual life can exist unless the Sonlight shines and resides in our hearts. Doctors can take a concentrated beam of light and remove obstructions to our health. Jesus, the "Son of righteousness rising with healing in his wings" can heal any emotional or spiritual infirmity that we may have.

Light is energy. Today cars run because of solar energy afforded by the sun. The Sonlight provides spiritual energy to carry out the will of God. Light cheers. Jesus, the light of the world shines in our dark world and brings enjoyment to our lives.

Light warns. A lighthouse, placed at a pivotal point, warns sailors of unexpected land that can tear their vessel. Jesus does the same in our lives. Light blinds. Poachers will shine a light that will momentarily paralyze an animal, so that they can kill the animal. Likewise, someday all will enter the presence of the bright and morning star, Jesus. His glory will paralyze the lost. Then only the saved will survive.

Life above or below. There are two characteristics of a life lived above. The person has a high and holy

view of Jesus. Jesus continues to make himself equal with God the Father in nature although different in function.

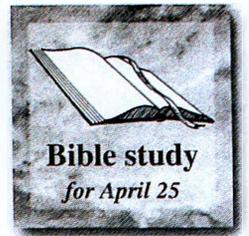
But Jesus was saying even more. My life is different than yours in that I am from above, and my life is lived for the above. The Jews were concerned with an earthly kingdom, Jesus was with the heavenly one.

We as Christians make the same mistake. We must be reminded, "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth," (Colossians 3:1-2).

Son of God or servant of sin. The Jews reasoned that because they were from the seed of Abraham they were God's children. Jesus, being a Jew in the flesh, understood that salvation was of a spiritual nature. The Jews were in bondage to sin and meaningless tradition. That's why the Lord claimed that experiential knowledge of the truth would set them free. The intellectual knowledge they possessed only imprisoned their hearts from the truth.

God or the devil. Jesus reveals that their spiritual father was the devil. Why? Because they were living a lie, and the devil is the father of lies. They also would not hear the word of God revealed by Jesus. They claimed Jesus was of the devil because he claimed he was greater than Abraham. In fact, he claimed that he was before Abraham.

To the Jews Jesus was a prophet at best. When Jesus claimed superiority over Abraham, they picked up stones to kill him. Jesus said that he was from God, this means from the nature of God. Like Eve was taken from Adam's side and of the very nature of Adam, Jesus was of the nature of God himself making him fully human and fully God. — Ferguson is pastor, Ivy Memorial Church, Nashville.



Confidence for life

By Jerry Reagan

Focal Passage — Psalm 46:1-11

Where do you go when trouble comes? Where can you feel safe and secure when trouble comes? Psalm 46 is a description of the psalmist's place of safety when trouble came into his life.

God's presence is a refuge from the ravages of nature (vv. 1-3)

The problem faced by the psalmist in this first stanza seems to be the destruction caused by an earthquake. "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, even though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; though its waters roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with its swelling. Selah." To the Israelite, mountains symbolized all that was strong, enduring, and unchanging. When earthquakes occurred and the face of the earth and mountains changed, the Israelites felt that their world was literally falling apart. There could be no man-made escape from an earthquake. To the psalmist, God was his refuge, his place to hide, his place of safety when nature appeared to go wild. God was his strength or his shelter during troubling times. God is al-

Explore the Bible Lesson

ways available and accessible to all his people when trouble comes.

God's presence is a refuge to the city when enemies attack (vv. 4-7)

The Lord's blessing (v. 4). God's presence in the city of God is pictured as "a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place of the tabernacle of the Most High." The city of God, Jerusalem, had an underground water supply that made it possible to resist enemies for long periods of time. But the psalmist is referring to the continual blessing brought by the presence of God among the people of the city.

The Lord's presence (v. 5). "God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved; God shall help her; just at the break of dawn." God was not only present but he was active; his timing would be perfect. Dawn was the best time for an attack. God would be present when needed most.

The Lord's voice (v. 6). God has power over nature and nations. "The nations raged, the kingdoms were moved; he uttered his voice, the earth melted." The voice of God is powerful. "The earth melted" means

that the nations submitted to God's authority.

The Lord's assurance (v. 7). "The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge." This is a refrain that occurs again as verse

11. "The Lord of hosts" is a term used to describe the stars and planets, the angelic hosts, or the armies of Israel. "The God of Jacob" refers to the covenant-making God who was so patient with that wayward man called Jacob. This refrain assures us that there is refuge in God regardless of the size of the problem. He is "The Lord of hosts" and "the God of Jacob."

God's presence is a refuge from the dangers of a warring world (vv. 8-11)

The psalmist calls for someone to "Come, behold the works of the Lord, who has made desolations in the earth." God will be our refuge through desolations; he will put an end to war by destroying the implements of war. But the best way to insure peace is to stop striving and become intimately acquainted with, and submissive to, God. When all persons and nations acknowledge God's authority then there will be universal peace. There is reassurance given by the repetition of the refrain: "The Lord of hosts is with us; The God of Jacob is our refuge." — Reagan is pastor, South Fork Church, Friendship.

people

■ Mount Harmony Church, Knoxville, ordained **Chris Hutchins** to the ministry April 18.

■ Lincoln Heights Church, Tullahoma, licensed **Brett Ryan Champion** to the ministry March 28. He is a youth worker for the church and will study soon at New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary. Champion served as a journeyman through the International Mission Board in Brazil for two years.

■ **Bettie Stevens**, member of First Church, Nashville, and business and financial office supervisor, Executive Committee, Southern Baptist Convention, was elected an officer of the Southern Baptist Business Officers Conference, Agency Division, recently.



STEVENS

leaders

■ **Joe Day**, minister of administration, Westwood Church, Cleveland, was elected an officer of the Southern Baptist Business Officers Conference, Church Division, recently.



DAY

■ At the 1999 Collegiate Spring Conference held April 9-10, **Alecia LeMay** of Austin Peay University, Clarksville, was elected Baptist Student Union president and **Freddie T. Wyatt** of University of Tennessee - Martin was elected vice president. Both are members of First Church, Clarksville. They will serve during 1999-2000.

■ First Church, Lawrenceburg, has called **Jeremy "Jack" Duffer** as associate pastor for student and recreation ministries. He is a graduate of Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo.



DUFFER

■ Trinity Church, Hendersonville, has called **Patrick K. McGill** as its first full-time pastor, effective May 1. The church is seven years old. McGill is a student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary,



SGT. Chuck Denton, right, of the Clarksville Police Department receives a certificate of commendation from Clarksville Mayor Johnny Piper recently for administering CPR to a victim of a heart attack. The action helped save the victim's life. Denton is chairman of deacons, Bethel Church, Cunningham, and serves alongside his pastor, Ted Denny, a retired Clarksville police officer.

Louisville, Ky. He is a graduate of Union University, Jackson, and New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary. He served as associate pastor, Salem Church, Knoxville, for seven years until returning to school.

■ **Michael E. Driver**, pastor, Lyons Creek Church, Strawberry Plains, recently completed all requirements for a doctor of ministry degree from Trinity Theological Seminary, Newburgh, Ind. He is a graduate of Bethel College, McKenzie, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Texas.

■ **A. Sidney Waits** has been called as minister of evangelism, Tusculum Hills Church, Nashville, effective March 1. He is retired pastor, Rugby Hills Church, Memphis.

■ **Eulas Scoggins** has resigned as pastor, Antioch Church, McDonald, after serving the church for 10 years. He is available for supply and other ministry.

■ Mount Harmony Church, Knoxville, has called **Bruce Martin** as pastor, effective May 2.

death

■ **Rose Anderson**, wife of Charles Anderson, pastor, First Church, Mitchellville, was killed in a car accident April 14.

associations

■ Christian Women's Job Corps (CWJC) of Nashville will



ELECTED as officers of the Tennessee Baptist Royal Ambassador Congress for 1999-2000 were Nathan Barrett, left, vice president, and Kris Daw, right, president. Both are members of Brainerd Hills Church, Chattanooga. With them at the recent RA Congress held at Carson-Newman College is Bob Davison of the Tennessee Baptist Convention staff.

hold Mentor Training April 24 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. CWJC is a ministry of Woman's Missionary Union of Nashville Baptist Association and is located at Lockeland Church. CWJC also needs a computer trainer on Tuesday and/or Thursday evenings from 6-8 p.m. The ministry seeks to equip women for life and employment. It is directed by DeDe Vines of Two Rivers Church. For more information, call the CWJC office at (615) 226-1222.

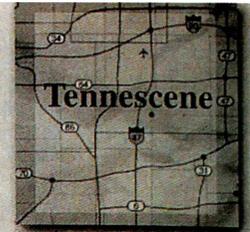
■ **Carroll-Benton Association** recently held its Evangelism Enrichment Retreat at Camp Linden, Linden. It drew 51 participants. According to Tommy Strong, camp director, the event was the first overnight evangelism meeting at the camp.

■ Forty-eight of the 60 churches of **Sevier County Association** participated in a March 20-24 World Missions Conference. It was led by 43 missionaries and drew many participants. One result was that seven people made professions of faith and many other people made other spiritual decisions, reported Richard W. Everett, director of missions. Also those attending gave \$18,000 to the missionaries, which they shared.

churches

■ **Center Grove Church**, Tullahoma, held revival recently. As a result, four people made professions of faith, one person joined the church, and several others made other spiritual decisions. Leading the services were John Norman, pastor, First Church, Decherd, and Wayne Alexander, member, Center Grove Church.

■ The Mary Rose Harding Concert Series of **Second Church**, Memphis, will pre-



lation. Christians are encouraged to bring people who need to hear the Gospel. For more information, including cost, call 1-800-254-2022.

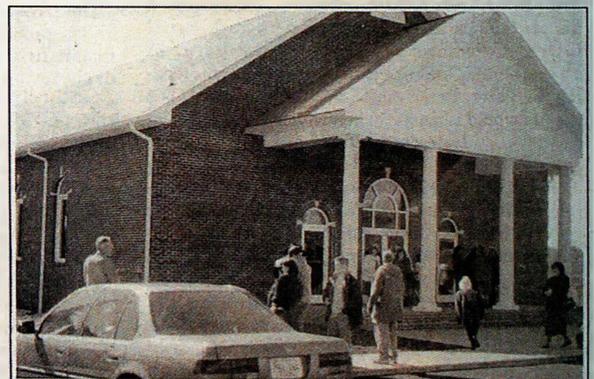
■ **Bloomingdale Church**, Kingsport, celebrated two anniversaries April 4, Easter. The church observed its 55th anniversary and Joe Byrd, pastor, was honored on his 48th year of service. As part of the activities, members dedicated a Christian Activity Center in Byrd's honor.

state events

■ **Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes**, based in Brentwood, dedicated the Reed Administration Building of the Double B Boys Ranch in Millington April 10. The building was dedicated to the memory of Garvis E. and Louise B. Reed.

schools

■ Over 100 **Carson-Newman College** students will be commissioned for their summer missions work April 27 at 9:30 a.m. at the school in Jefferson City. Timothy George, dean, Samford University's Beeson School of Divinity, will speak during the service. George is a native of Chattanooga. For more information on the service, call the school at (423) 476-9061.



MEMBERS and visitors attend the first service in the new building of Ridgeview Church, Church Hill, recently. The congregation, formerly Oak Grove Mission, Mt. Carmel, has been meeting for nine years. Members helped construct much of the building, reported Pastor Mark Dance, giving member Jim Hurd much of the credit for leading the work. Dance, who received a salary supplement from the TBC to enable him to lead the congregation when it was small, added the building is nearly paid for.