

TENNESSEE'S BAPTIST & REFLECTOR

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May 19, 1999

this week's news

- ▶ Tennesseans help Kansas tornado victims. — Page 2
- ▶ MSC volunteer dies after accident. — Page 3
- ▶ 'The Macedonian Call' reports on missions. — Pages 5-8

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

Board encourages observance of 75th anniversary of CP

By Lonnie Wilkey
Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — Members of the Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board approved a motion to "officially recognize the 75th anniversary of the Cooperative Program and encourage the churches of our convention to have an official celebration of this significant event in Baptist history" during their May 11 meeting at the Baptist Center.

Gary Rickman, TBC ministry coordinator, reminded members of the board that the Cooperative Program began in 1925 during the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention held in Memphis that year.

Though it was adopted with little fanfare, Rickman said, "God honored that decision and has blessed it greatly. We need to remind our people of this."

Surveys reveal the Cooperative Program has been positioned as bureaucratic and disconnected from missions.

"Our goal is to reposition the Cooperative Program as the heartbeat of Southern Baptist missions," Rickman stressed.

In conjunction with the 75th anniversary of the Cooperative Program, to be observed convention wide in 2000, three goals have been established for Tennessee, Rickman said.

"First, we want to see 1,000 churches celebrate the Cooperative Program during the anniversary year," he said.

Second, Rickman continued, "we want to see those 1,000 churches involved in some form of hands-on missions."

The third goal, Rickman said, is for those 1,000 churches to increase their CP giving by 2 percent of undesignated gifts for the year 2001.

"We are not asking for a permanent commitment (to increase CP giving) but for a one-year commitment," he said.

In other business, the Executive Board:

▶ Approved a Disaster Relief partnership for Nicaragua. The TBC will serve as the lead

— See Executive, page 3



TBC EXECUTIVE BOARD member and former public affairs consultant Bill Bates, left, of Jackson, visits with his successor on Capitol Hill, Gary Anderson, a retired hospital chaplain from Bolivar who now lives in Waynesboro.

Nominations sought for top TBC pastors

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — Nominations for Bivocational Pastor of the Year and Small Church Pastor of the Year in Tennessee will be accepted through June 30.

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

Awards will be given to pastors in each major region of the state. Recipients will be chosen by the selection subcommittee of the TBC Church Programs Committee, chaired by Donald Cobb, pastor of First Baptist Church, Livingston.

This is the eighth consecutive year for the awards which will be presented during the annual meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Convention in November at First Baptist Church, Franklin.

Application forms for submitting nominations may be obtained from local association offices in the state or downloaded from the TBC Web site at www.tnbaptist.org/CSL.

Completed forms should be mailed to Bill Northcott, leader, Church Staff Leadership Group, Tennessee Baptist Convention, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37024. ■

In churches, homes

Conference considers ADD children, adults

By Connie Davis
Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — The first Conference on Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) offered by the Tennessee Baptist Convention was held at the Baptist Center here May 8.

Church leaders and parents of children who have been diagnosed with ADD or ADHD (Attention Deficit with Hyperactivity Disorder) heard presentations on the conditions from university professors, an official with Metro Nashville Public Schools, and a Tennessee Baptist Convention ministry specialist in the special education area.

The conference also considered adults who have ADD.

Conferees learned about 2 million school-aged children are ADD, according to

CH.A.D.D. (Children With Attention Deficit Disorders). They learned medical studies have found ADD is the result of a hereditary predisposition, pregnancy and birth complications, acquired brain damage, toxins, or infections. Little, if any, valid support exists for the notion that ADD can result from social or environmental factors, diet, or poor parental management.

Many children are being di-



VISITING during the conference are, from left, Gene Nabi, TBC; Cheryl Meadors, Metro Nashville Public Schools; Jerry Aldridge, University of Alabama; Patricia Kuby, Athens (Ala.) State University; and Gail Merritt, Woodmont Baptist Church, Nashville.

agnosed incorrectly as having ADD, according to Jerry Aldridge, University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Aldridge, who is a professor of Early Childhood Education

at the school and a member of Dawson Memorial Baptist Church, Birmingham, said one measure of the overdiagnosis of ADD is the fact that 10 percent — See Helping, page 3

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901 COMMERCE ST STE 400
NASHVILLE TN 37203-5628

about your newsjournal

▶ **Subscribe to the Baptist and Reflector** for one year and receive 48 copies. Individual subscriptions, \$10; Church Leadership Plan, \$8.50 per subscription; other plans available

▶ **Lonnie Wilkey, editor** — (615) 371-2046, wilkey@tnbaptist.org

▶ **Connie Davis, assistant editor** — (615) 371-7928, cdavis@tnbaptist.org

▶ **Susie Edwards, administrative secretary** — (615) 371-2003, sedwards@tnbaptist.org

▶ **Mary Nimmo, church pages coordinator** — (615) 371-7929, mnimmo@tnbaptist.org

▶ **Betty Williams, bookkeeper** — (615) 371-7930, bwilliams@tnbaptist.org

▶ **Office - Baptist and Reflector**, 5001 Maryland Way, Brentwood, TN, 37027

▶ **Mailing address** - P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN, 37024

▶ **FAX** - (615) 371-2080

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TBC volunteers aid Kansas tornado victims

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief staff member Gene Williams returned last week after coordinating SBC Disaster Relief efforts in the tornado-devastated area of Haysville, Kansas.

In addition to Williams, Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief cleanup crews and the Shower Trailer Unit were in Haysville to aid in the recovery efforts following a series of tornadoes in Kansas and Oklahoma May 3. At least 45 people were killed as a result of the tornadoes, including 35 in Oklahoma and 10 in Kansas.

In Haysville most of the town was destroyed and there were three deaths.

Three shelters remain in operation including one at First Baptist Church, Haysville.

When Williams arrived May 6 at First Church, he found a suitable location for the Disaster Relief Shower Trailer and lodging for Tennessee volunteers who served as "chainsaw crews."

A team from William Carey Association arrived on May 7

and were put to work clearing away trees. They were paired with David Morrow, a Missouri Baptist who was with their feeding unit at the site. Morrow is a professional tree trimmer.

Several projects were completed Friday and Saturday, Williams reported. The Tennessee team was joined by members of the Haysville congregation on Saturday.

The most notable project was at the home of Carmel Elkins, a widow who lived alone and needed two large trees removed from her yard, Williams related. One of the trees had almost fallen on the house.

"I did not believe the tree could be removed without falling on the house," Williams said. "The Lord supplied the talent required to get the work done that he had planned,"



TRANSPORTING THE Shower Trailer from Tennessee to Haysville, Kansas, were John and Virginia Cole of First Baptist Church, Huntingdon.

Williams noted, adding Morrow made strategic cuts and they were able to remove the tree without harming the home.

Williams spoke in two area churches about Tennessee Disaster Relief. Volunteers have since returned home. ■



WILLIAM CAREY BAPTIST Association volunteers included, from left, Allan and Charles Taylor, Flintville Baptist Church, Flintville; Don Pierson, director of missions; and Kenneth Mitchell, New Grove Baptist Church, Ardmore.

In The Washington Post

Chattanooga pastor uses full-page ad to address president

Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — In a full-page of *The Washington Post*, a Chattanooga pastor told President Bill Clinton that murder is the common thread in the school shootings in Littleton, Colo., ethnic cleansing in Kosovo, and abortion in America.

The two teens who gunned down 12 classmates and a teacher in Colorado "apparently thought it okay to do so" before taking their own lives, said James E. "Jim" Gibson II, interim pastor of Brainerd Baptist Church, Chattanooga, in the May 10 issue of *The Washington Post*.

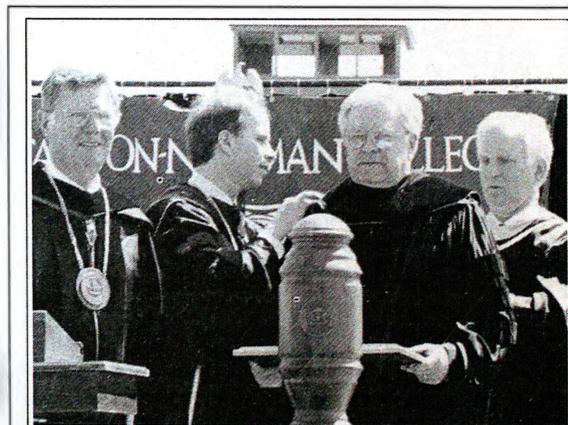
school shootings April 20. On April 29, Gibson's sermon appeared in the *Chattanooga Times/Chattanooga Free Press* in a two-page ad purchased by a member of the congregation.

"Mr. (Slobodan) Milosevic (of Yugoslavia) thinks it is okay to commit ethnic cleansing in Kosovo," Gibson continued in his open letter to Clinton. "You think it is okay to murder thousands of innocent babies who are in the safety of their mother's womb. Mr. President, I submit to you there is no difference! They are all the same. One is murder in Colorado, one is murder in Kosovo, and one is murder in the clinics, and we must see that changes are made."

Gibson first voiced his letter to Clinton in a sermon the Sunday after the Littleton

The full-page ad in *The Washington Post* then was purchased by another church member.

Gibson has been Brainerd's interim pastor eight months. He joined the church staff three years ago as associate pastor and minister of education, after 20 years in youth ministry in various churches. His full letter is posted on the Internet at www.freerepublic.com/forum/a37357467699f.htm. ■



TBC leader receives doctorate

Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Director James Porch received an honorary doctor of divinity degree from Carson-Newman College on May 8. Making the presentation were C-N President Cordell Maddox, left; Michael Carter, second from left, provost; and Ed Hart, right, dean of enrollment services.

For Camp Linden

Disaster Relief workers sought

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief Cleanup Teams are needed this Saturday, May 22, for a Perry County Cleanup Day for Linden including Camp Linden, according to Tim Bearden, Tennessee Baptist Convention State Disaster Relief director. The event is being held by the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency.

In addition to providing Cleanup Teams, Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief is expected to serve over 2,000 meals that day to TEMA volunteers. To prepare the meals, workers will use the State Disaster Relief Feeding Unit.

About 40 people who attended a May 14-15 Disaster Relief Rally began cleanup work in the Linden area, reported Bearden.

Linden was struck by a tornado May 5 which killed three people and damaged the area. According to a damage assessment by Tennessee Disaster Relief volunteer Dick Staggs, three homes and one trailer were destroyed, one Baptist church was damaged, and power and telephone lines were torn down. In addition, many trees were blown down.

The roof of the Family Life Center of First Baptist Church, Linden, was destroyed and the sanctuary was damaged by water.

All Cleanup Teams who wish to join the effort or get more information should call the TBC Disaster Relief office at 1-800-558-2090 or (615) 371-2064. Lodging is available at Camp Linden for crews who make reservations. ■

Conference considers ADD children, adults

— Continued from page 1
cent of students are taking medication (primarily Ritalin) for the condition. The trend is by the year 2005, 30-50 percent of students will be taking a medication for ADD, said Aldridge.

So parents should be cautious about accepting a diagnosis, explained Aldridge, always relying on a team including a pediatrician.

Parents and workers should consider the impact of our society on children, which is fragmented and demanding. The emergence of ADD may be caused by an imbalance in living rather than an imbalance in metabolism, said Aldridge.

And the learning techniques being used with a child may not be appropriate for his/her age or circumstances. Teachers, understandably, would rather place the fault for lack of learning on the child rather than her/himself.

Another reason to be cautious about a diagnosis is that after a child is labeled with a certain disorder, the school system rarely questions that designation, Aldridge reported, citing a study.

Helping ADD children or those with ADD characteristics

To help a child who is inattentive or overactive, workers accept "a very sacred and very serious" task, said Aldridge, which is channeling energy and intellect in a positive direction.

In most cases, they should alter the way they teach, suggested Aldridge and Patricia Kuby, assistant professor of early childhood/elementary education, Athens (Ala.) State University.

Kuby, who also is a member of First Baptist Church, Decatur, Ala., told her family's experience with a member who has ADD.

Children with ADD may be hard to identify, said Kuby, with varied characteristics. They may act normal and have a high IQ, but have trouble in school.

She encouraged parents of ADD children. "Parents have

Teaching ADD children

By Jerry Aldridge

Use Reggio Emilia Teaching Concepts

- Use multiple forms of re-presentation (writing, telling, drawing).
- Listen to what children say and take their comments seriously.
- Avoid refrigerator art (one shot projects).
- Encourage and work with children on continually revising and taking pride in their work (while remaining on one theme or subject).
- Lead children to experiment with multiple media.
- Help children use all the senses as they learn.

Consider multiple intelligences

- Linguistic (language), mathematical, visual/spatial, bodily kinesthetic, interpersonal, intrapersonal, musical, naturalistic

Work with temperament

- flexible, fearful, and feisty (ADD)

Consider learning style

- sociological (alone or in groups), perceptual (auditory, visual, kinesthetic), time of day, place, mobility (most children are active learners)

Other options

- Sanctions — temporary exclusion from the group, calling the child's attention to consequences of actions, depriving child of what s/he has misused
- Restitution — correcting a wrong
- Rewards — as a last resort because they discourage natural interests, focus attention on the reward and not learning, and are a quick fix. Instead give a "related" reward.

to be assertive when it comes to the rights of the child," said Kuby, because the child usually has no other advocate.

Both Kuby and Aldridge referred parents to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 which provides accommodation for students of public schools and colleges.

Kuby encouraged parents of ADD children to join support groups.

Helping families

In church situations, teachers should focus on making experiences there successful ones so the child or the family won't leave, said Kuby. Church workers should be dealing with a family rather than just dealing with a child, she recommended. The stigma is real, and in some ways worse than a visible handicap. Fathers especially, have trouble dealing with the situation, she said.

And workers should try to consider the child's point of view. The child isn't trying to make a teacher's life difficult, said Kuby. And the child doesn't want to be different, embarrassed, or labeled. They have strengths, like all Christians, she noted.

Aldridge noted Sunday School may be the only place the child is accepted.

Other tips for workers

ADD is a behavior disorder, and teachers and workers with children must be active rather than reactive to the behavior part of the disorder, said Kuby. And the disorder is often compounded by related disabilities, she added.

Rather than "doing battle" with these children, she suggested a conflict resolution approach. Kuby said she uses this at her church with three-year-olds in Sunday School.

Actually, good teaching is good teaching, said Kuby, and will help all children.

She suggested eye-to-eye contact, close proximity when giving directions, and making directions concise. Transitions between activities should be made. And workers should avoid open spaces in room arrangement, bright colors, and clutter.

Aldridge warned workers against becoming "custodians" who focus on cleaning up and order. And workers and parents should avoid blaming the medicine rather than the child for misbehavior. For instance, said Aldridge, in response to misbehavior, some parents comment, "You forgot to take your medicine, didn't you."

Finally, involve other children as helpers/teachers/models, Aldridge suggested, maybe as a one-on-one helper for a child.

Cheryl Meadors of Metro Nashville Public Schools and a member of Harpeth Heights Baptist Church, Franklin, also spoke. She noted a child needs to hear something seven times to learn it and an ADD child needs to hear it 32 times.

General comments

Gene Nabi of the Tennessee Baptist Convention suggested many people incorrectly diagnosed with ADD have certain personality traits.

He reported ADD may be a result of the shifts in society. He cited two personas — "farmer" and "hunter." People with an ADD persona may be the "hunter" persona, said Nabi. That persona or personality is established at birth or soon after, he continued, citing the views of Gary Smalley and James Dobson.

"Christians are so uptight when we have great differences among us. ... We should see personality as something that God has made that I have rather than something that's wrong with me," said Nabi.

People with ADD "are naturally creative, compassionate, energetic people. It does not need to become a problem. It can be an asset." *B&R*



Executive Board ...

— Continued from page 1
state for the partnership with the partnership/ volunteer missions team providing coordination. The partnership, which includes the Baptist conventions of Virginia, Missouri, Arkansas, and Maryland/Delaware, along with the SBC International Mission Board and the Baptist Mission of Nicaragua, began April 1 and will end Dec. 31, 2000. Primary projects will be construction, medical, and agricultural.

➤ Approved that the percentage of Cooperative Program for SBC and TBC causes for budget year 1999-2000 be the same as the current year — TBC, 62.5 percent; SBC, 37.5 percent.

➤ Approved a recommendation from the Committee on Boards to fill three vacancies on TBC boards: Blanche McClure, layperson, First Baptist Church, Tullahoma, to fill the unexpired term of Annette Gregory of Tullahoma on the Committee on Committees; Gary Watkins, pastor, First Baptist Church, Collierville, to fill the unexpired term of Wayne Perkins, Union University; and Bob Cook, layperson, First Baptist Church, Jackson, to fill the unexpired term of Ed Hammons, Union.

➤ Approved a Golden State Mission Offering Allocation budget of \$1,375,000 for 1999, an increase of \$20,000 over the 1998 allocations.

Board members also heard an encouraging financial report from TBC Executive Director James Porch and an update on Executive Board ministries from group leaders.

Bill Troutt, who recently announced he is leaving Belmont University to become president of Rhodes College in Memphis, addressed board members for the last time.

He thanked the Executive Board for their support during his tenure as president and for their willingness to look at Christian higher education in different ways as needs changed.

"Belmont University values its relationship with the Tennessee Baptist Convention," Troutt said. "Thank you for extending your hand to us in partnership," he concluded.

The next meeting of the TBC Executive Board is scheduled for Sept. 14. ■

MSC volunteer Kelley Shelton of Gatlinburg dies after accident

For Baptist and Reflector

CLEVELAND — Kelley Shelton, 34, died May 16 after an accident on the Ocoee River May 10. Shelton was participating in an outing of the Tennessee Chapter of the Baptist Association of Resort and Leisure Ministries. She was on life support at Bradley Memorial Hospital here until it was removed by her family.

Shelton, along with her husband, Jeff, were North American Mission Board Mission Service Corps volunteers with Smoky Mountain Resort Ministries based in Gatlinburg. The couple worked with mis-

sionaries Bill and Cindy Black.

From Kansas City, Kan., they served as houseparents for SMRM before deciding to serve full-time. They had worked full-time for two months as SMRM special event ministries coordinators. Because MSC volunteers provide their own funding, Jeff Shelton also worked for a Gatlinburg architect.

Kelley Shelton was a member of Tennessee Woman's Missionary Union Resource



SHELTON

Team. Formerly she was Women on Mission consultant for the Kansas-Nebraska Baptist Convention. The couple had no children.

Bill Black reported the family and Tennessee workers involved in the tragedy have received support and assistance from the Tennessee Baptist Convention, North American Mission Board, and South Carolina Baptist Convention.

At press time, tentative funeral plans included a service at First Baptist Church, Gatlinburg; burial in Gatlinburg; and a memorial service at Emmanuel Baptist Church, Overland Park, Kan., where the Sheltons were members. ■

Are we becoming immune to tragedy?

By Lonnie Wilkey, editor

At a recent Executive Board staff meeting, Executive Director James Porch asked an intriguing question. Are we becoming immune to tragedy?

As he pointed out, you cannot pick up a newspaper, turn on a news report on television, or listen to a news report on the radio without hearing of at least one major calamity. Many times several are cited.

Just last Friday while listening to the radio driving to work, I heard about a 28-year-old woman in Nashville who shot and killed her three children (all under age 10) and then killed herself. That is so sad and so tragic.

In Tennessee we have had an unusual number of natural disasters within the last

two years — primarily tornadoes and floods.

Newspaper headlines shout out stories of murder and other violent crimes. Instances like the high school shootings in Colorado are becoming too commonplace.

Back to Dr. Porch's question phrased another way:

Are we allowing ourselves to become callous so we do not feel the hurt and pain of others?

During the recent surge of tornadoes that swept the state two weeks ago, the electricity went off at my house and remained out of service for almost two full days. Needless to say, after day one I was not happy.

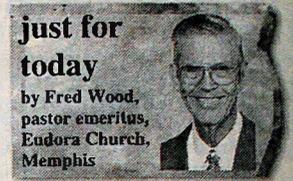
Yet, on the second day I went to Linden to do a story on the tornado devastation

there and as I returned home, I asked God to forgive me for my selfishness. Here I was worried about having no electricity while in a nearby community there were people who lost everything they owned and some even lost their life.

There needs to be a fine line between dwelling on these tragedies to the point it drives us crazy and ignoring them completely. Allowing ourselves to become callous to someone else's pain is not the solution.

Our Lord is a Lord of compassion and grace. As Christians we must show that love and compassion to those who need it.

Society in general may be in the process of immunizing itself against tragedies and disasters. For Christians, however, becoming immune to tragedy is not an option. *B&R*



Start with a smile

Preacher to wife: "What's with this box under the bed with three eggs and more than \$100 in cash?" Wife: "For six months, a wealthy widow has been giving me an egg every time you preach a bad sermon." Preacher: "I only see three eggs. That's not bad for six months. What about the money?" Wife: "Every time I get a dozen eggs, I sell them."

Take this truth

All of us who have strong egos need someone around to bring us back to reality. Thank God for what one writer calls DSED (Divinely Sent Ego Deflators).

Memorize this Scripture

"For I say ... to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think." — Romans 12:3

Pray this prayer

"Lord, help me to realize though I need proper self esteem, I need to balance it with common sense." ■

'Serious' church prayer ministries are effective

Awaken Tennessee!

by Greg Frizzell, Memphis pastor



In the midst of discouraging social trends, one great sign of hope is the rising number of church prayer ministries. Indeed, just before past Great Awakenings, churches exploded with a new level of prayer. Though today only a small minority of churches have serious prayer ministries, it is a growing minority! It should be no surprise that these are often the churches that are seeing miraculous unity, church growth, and

rising baptisms.

In Matthew 21:13, Jesus clearly stated that his house is to be a house of prayer. A few years ago, many churches were surveyed as to what time priority they committed to various activities. In terms of actual time spent and emphasis given, prayer came in dead last. Thank God that trend is changing.

Growing numbers of pastors are discovering that a strong prayer ministry has dramatic effect on all areas of church life. Some areas of direct impact are evangelism and baptisms, church unity, genuine revival and repentance, church finances, and missions involvement. Starting a strong prayer ministry is truly the most biblical and "practical" thing many churches could do. Part of the

beauty is that any size church can embrace serious prayer strategies. It doesn't require money, staff, or great numbers.

However, I must strongly emphasize the importance of establishing a "serious" prayer ministry. Unfortunately, many churches have adopted a weak substitute and have thus seen little or no results.

To start your church on sound biblical footing, please consider some or all of the following strategies.

- ▶ Elect and thoroughly train a prayer director and prayer committee.

- ▶ Establish a prayer room ministry or a continuous church-wide prayer chain.

- ▶ Establish an evangelistic prayer group (to greatly increase conversions).

- ▶ Establish intercessors during worship services.

- ▶ Turn Wednesday nights into genuine prayer meetings.

Today there are many helpful resources and inexpensive conferences for all of the above subjects. Beyond question, God will mightily bless and grow any church that gets serious about prayer.

Yet, developing powerful prayer will not happen by accident. It requires your definite choice to act.

Given America's shocking condition, surely now is the time for action. ■ — Frizzell is pastor of Georgian Hills Church, Memphis, and director of the Spiritual Awakening Council of Shelby Association and frequently conducts prayer conferences to assist churches and associations.

Distractions occur, but keep the focus on God

that's life

by Linda Jackson Roebuck



My mother went to a community worship service recently with four friends. When she saw the offering bearers get up and begin passing the plates it was the first time she thought about needing some cash. (Since my mother has been a Southern Baptist for almost 50 years, I'm at a loss for how she could fail to see this coming, but that's not the point.)

Anyway, she rummaged through her pocketbook until she finally came up with a one dollar bill. Rushing to get it out before the plate went by, she tried to conceal the big ONE, hoping those around her who might happen to glance would assume a five, or even a 10. In the awkward process she dropped the dollar bill and it sailed away and came to rest under a nearby pew.

One of the offering bearers who was waiting on his plate

saw my mother motion to him and he came over. Without hesitating she pointed to the one, obviously expecting this grown man to crawl around on the floor and retrieve the bill. He did and handed it back to her.

It was then she felt a hand grab her by the wrist as another offering bearer pried the bill from her clenched fist and placed it safely in the wooden dish. I don't think I have to tell you how funny this was to my mom and her friends.

Some distractions, like Mama's, are unexpected; some are routine. What goes through your mind during the offertory, hymns, prayers, and

announcements? (I'm not stupid enough to include sermon on that list.)

"Ooh, I like her hair like that." "Whose kid is playing with the cellophane?" "I cannot keep my eyes open." "That sure was a good point I made in Sunday School this morning." "Eat out or go home?" "Can those parents not hear that cellophane rattling?"

"Weird. If I stare at the preacher without blinking for 10 seconds, everything around him goes white." "I think Glavine's pitching today." "How awful would it be if I stood up right now and just screamed something out." "I wonder how

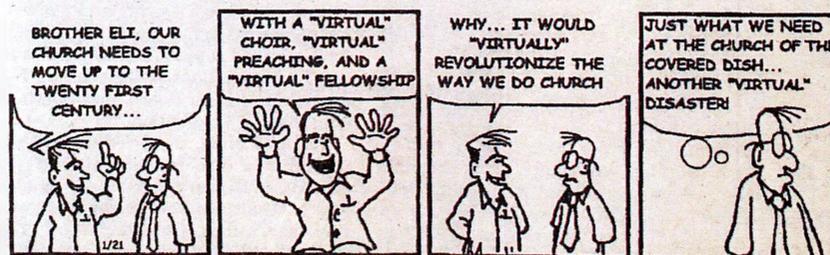
mad those parents will be when I reach two rows back and yank that cellophane from those sticky 4-year-old fingers."

Sometimes things happen to grab attention away from worshiping. Sometimes we come to church tired and preoccupied. Both physically and spiritually, preparation has to occur for us to worship God, praise God, learn, and grow in our personal relationship with him. (And, if you want my advice, eat out!). ■ — 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*.

Church of the Covered Dish

By Thom Tapp, pastor, Oral Church, Lenoir City



Partnership Prayer Requests

May

- 20 — Pray for the National Women with a Mission organization in Costa Rica.
- 21 — Pray for Baptist Student Ministries at Humber College and York University, both in Ontario, Canada, where they are in battle with cult organizations for meeting places.
- 22 — Pray for Michigan Baptists' Cooperative Missions Committee as they seek a language missions teacher.
- 23 — Pray for the six summer missionaries from the University of Alberta and Grant MacEwan Community College in Canada.
- 24 — Pray for Jim Marcus, a new DOM in Michigan's Genesee Baptist Association.
- 25 — Praise God for the creative ministry team from Union University that served in April in Costa Rica.
- 26 — Pray for Leonard and Betty Quick, IMB ISC missionaries in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, was they work with International Baptist Church there to prepare for the May revivals and crusade.



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/fmissopp.htm

From your missionary

Thank you, Tennessee volunteers! God is using Tennessee volunteers in a great way, locally, nationally, and around the world. Thousands continue to serve as volunteer missionaries in Tennessee and the USA.



SHARP

Look at the numbers of volunteer missionaries who have served over the last few years — overseas!

Year	No. of Volunteers
1989	328
1990	266
1991	336
1992	530
1993	725
1994	1,047
1995	1,374
1996	1,248
1997	1,384
1998	1,623

The East Tennessee Recognition and Commissioning Service was such a blessing. We had over one thousand people in attendance. Thank you pastors, directors of missions, mission leaders, and volunteers for making this special event so memorable.

A special thanks is given to the East Tennessee Planning Committee for its many hours of prayer and hard work. The committee was made up of Bennie Creel, Sweetwater Association director of missions; Ray Luck, Loudon County Association director of missions; Randy Davis, pastor of First Baptist Church, Morristown; Steve Peek, minister of missions, at First Baptist Church, Concord; and Doug Sager, pastor of First Church of Concord.

Another special thanks to the Acteen Activators from Calvary Baptist Church, Knoxville, who helped with registration.

In Christ,

Terry

For volunteers

Third recognition/commissioning service set

By Marcia Knox
For *The Macedonian Call*

West Tennessee Regional Volunteer Recognition and Commissioning Service will be held Tuesday, Sept. 21 at Union University, Jackson, from 7-8:30 p.m. Jerry Rankin, IMB president, will be the guest speaker.

Several West Tennessee churches and associations are coordinating their efforts to make the Union University service a great success.

Planning for the West Tennessee service are: Roger Oldham, pastor of First Baptist Church, Martin; Clark Brown, pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Greenfield; Gary Williams, executive director of Alumni Services at Union University, Jackson; and Todd Brady, Campus Minister at Union University, Jackson.

Others are Jerry Essary, director of missions of Beulah Association; Terry Kirby, pastor of First Baptist Church, Dover; Carol Vaughan, CCM director for Madison-Chester Association; Elwood

Doss Jr., minister of music at First Baptist Church, Martin; and Larry Murphy, director of missions for Madison-Chester Association.

Tennessee Volunteers are still making a difference at home and around the world whether it is Disaster Relief, World Changers, or Partnership Missions volunteers. Terry Sharp, TBC Partnership/Volunteer Missions specialist, will recognize those volunteers who have served anywhere. James Porch, TBC executive director-treasurer, will commission those volunteers who will serve in 1999 and 2000. All mission volunteers will be honored.

This special service will also feature volunteer testimonies. IMB, NAMB, TBC Partnership/Volunteer Missions, and Cooperative Program Mission Displays will be held at 6-7 p.m. and from 8:30-9:30 p.m.



RANKIN

"Volunteer Missions continues to be used by God in a tremendous way," said Sharp. "Both our International and National Mission boards see Volunteer Missions as an important and strategic way to effectively reach people for Christ."

"These services could be one of the most exciting and life-changing events to happen in 1999," Sharp added. "Perhaps each church will consider bringing a bus or van to encourage attendance to this historic meeting."

Each church is being counted on to spread the word by placing the Tennessee Volunteers Recognition and Commissioning Service poster in a strategic location in the church. Please clear your calendars now for this date in 1999 and plan to attend.

The first recognition and commissioning service was held Tuesday, Feb. 23 at Una Baptist Church in Nashville. Volunteers who served in 44 countries and 14 states were recognized.

— See Third, page 8

First partnership team ministers in Portugal

For *The Macedonian Call*

Long before the plane took off from Memphis, God had been at work preparing the way for the first Tennessee partnership team to Portugal. In the meantime Glenn Watson, IMB missionary to Portugal, was busy preparing for a series of lay leadership conferences to be led by a Tennessee team.

Even though the TBC's partnership with Portugal doesn't begin officially until 2000, there are 12 projects already scheduled for 1999. The first Tennessee venture into Portugal was undertaken March 25 - April 4 with a team of four teaching lay

leadership training.

The team was composed of lay teachers: Walton Padelford and Patrick Beard, both members of Woodland Baptist Church, Jackson; Ross Guthrie, a member of Christ Bible Baptist Church, Jackson; and Steve McKown, a member of Beaucoup Baptist Church in Pinckneyville, Illinois.

Padelford is professor of economics at Union University, Jackson, who has been on many short-term trips to Spanish speaking countries. Beard is the director of Indigenous Outreach, which supports native ministers in Ethiopia. He is a former IMB missionary who has also served on short term trips to

South America and Africa.

Guthrie is a businessman, who serves as director of Downtown Discipleship Ministries, an inner-city ministry in Jackson for young boys. McKown is a bi-vocational pastor and a carpenter. This was the first mission trip for both Guthrie and McKown.

Portugal is located on the western coast of the Iberian Peninsula in Europe. It is a beautiful country with Old World charm and many ideal vacation spots. The Portuguese enjoy a long proud history of exploration and international trade. Being located on the eastern coasts of the Atlantic Ocean, they also enjoy a very tasty diet that includes many types of seafood.

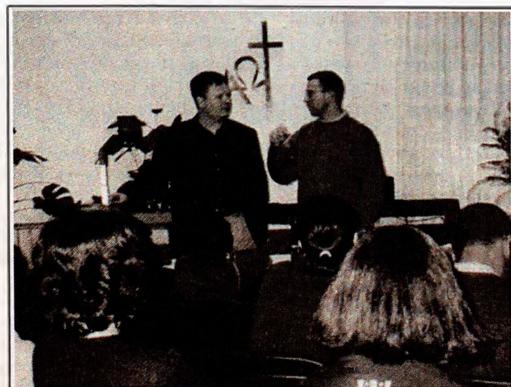
Narrow roads that were laid out in the Middle Ages lead to small towns with exotic names and white homes with clay tile roofs. Many of the homes are decorated with hand painted blue and white tiles. The cities of Lisbon and Porto are connected by a mod-

ern toll-way that winds through mountain vistas and a series of castles and cathedrals.

The main religion of Portugal is Catholicism. However, even an American Catholic priest commented that the practices of the Portuguese are infiltrated with pagan worship. At one shrine in Fatima, adherents crawl on their knees around a chapel filled with icons. Wax figures of body parts are burned in hopes that Mary will perform a miracle of healing. The faith of many is in manmade rituals.

The Tennessee team used their personal experiences and training for their conference programming. The lay evangelism theme reflected the head, heart, and hands in the conferences. Padelford spoke on doctrine and theology. Beard spoke on calling and passion. Guthrie and McKown spoke on application.

The series of conferences were held over a period of 10 days in the cities of Porto, Aveiro, and Lisbon in various churches. There were also other opportunities for team members to preach, and show the "Jesus" film where over 20 — See First, page 8



LEADING a seminar in Portugal is Ross Guthrie, right, of Jackson with help from Glen Watson, left, missionary who is translating for him.

McMinnville medical team treats, serves Costa Ricans

For The Macedonian Call

Recently a medical team from McMinnville traveled to the South Zone of Costa Rica. Their mission was to strengthen the ties between local IMB missionary Bill Egbert and the indigent Indian population around San Vito.

This mission actually began three years earlier when Egbert saw the Indians in town and was told that there were a few Indians in the hills. It wasn't until he actually visited the mountain villages that he learned that those few were actually 30,000 in number. Egbert knew that God wanted him to work with this people group.

Since that time, Egbert has been steadily advancing further into the mountains to witness to the Indians. Along the way, he met a Guaymi missionary and the two became close friends in their efforts to bring God's word to these people. This friendship opened even more doors toward reaching the Guaymi people. They have even managed to have the "Jesus" film translated into the Guaymi language. Their goal is to take this movie into the villages.

It is this ministry that the McMinnville team came to support Feb. 18-28

in Costa Rica. Nurse, Christy Swanson, member of Trinity Baptist Church in Estill Springs; nurses, Debbie Martin, Greta Minton, and Theresa Hill, and physician Bryan Chastain, all members of First Baptist Church, McMinnville, worked in a rural clinic along side local Costa Ricans doctors. This was a time of learning, sharing, and working together, which resulted in an atmosphere of trust and respect between the health professionals.

Over the following days the team divided into two groups. One group concentrated its efforts in rural clinics at the foot of the mountains. Here they ministered to the health needs of Costa Ricans and Indians alike. They worked side-by-side with local physicians cementing the relationships that had already begun to form.

The other group, made up of Minton and Chastain, traveled on foot to remote Indian villages high in the surrounding mountains. They attended inhabitants of local villages, many of whom had never before seen a doctor. The very shy Guaymi were also very gracious hosts, always wanting to make sure their guests were well fed and watered. With sore feet and dry mouths, the team returned each day grateful for the traveling mercies and



STANDING WITH Guaymi Indians in Costa Rica are Bryan Chastain and Greta Minton who helped them and became their friends during the medical project.

packhorses that God had promised.

The team began its final day of work with a short devotional before a beautiful vista of the lush mountains of Costa Rica. They celebrated the beautiful handiwork of God's creation. At the end of the day with mixed emotions, the team began its journey back to San Jose.

While anxious to return home and for loved ones awaiting them there, they already missed their friendship in Christ in Southern Costa Rica. Prior to leaving, they were able to fund the purchase of a hardy packhorse for the local missionaries to use. Aptly they decided his name would be "Missionary." ■

Nashville health care team serves in Rio

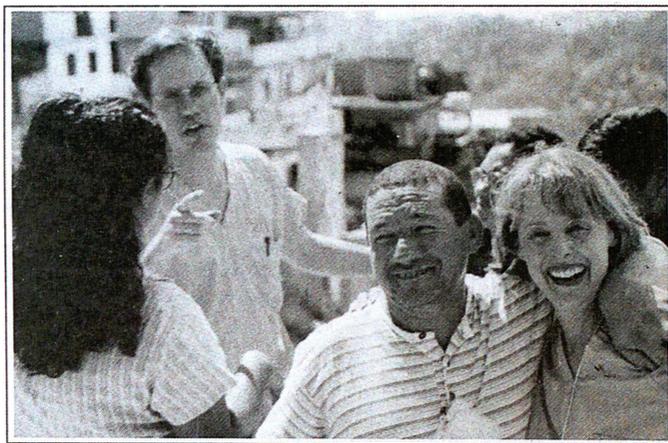
By Michael Vaughan
For The Macedonian Call

Beautiful beaches, people, and exotic scenery dance through the mind at the mention of the tropical port city of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, a glittering gem and a playground for the world's rich and famous.

But a conscious glance behind the carefully crafted façade of wealth and frivolity reveals a subculture rarely featured on tourism brochures — a vast population living in abject poverty with staggering physical and spiritual needs.

Such imagery greeted a 13-member medical team from First Baptist Church, Nashville, April 10-18. From a small seed group of interested persons, assembled in late 1998, blossomed a full contingent of highly trained medical personnel including a dentist, pharmacist, three physicians, six nurses, and two support staff.

Besides myself, a dentist, the team included: nurses, Judy Mikesell, Jason Jean, Nancy Schwartz, Carolyn Brakefield, Claudia Gifford, and Emily Ramer; photographer, Cliff Abel; computer consultant, Clay Coulter; physicians, Jeremy Tarter and James Brakefield; pharmacist, Melinda Matthews, all of First Baptist Church, Nashville, and Mark Bowles, physician, of Wichita Baptist Church, Wi-



NURSE Claudia Gifford, right, gets a hug from a new friend as Michael Vaughan, second from left, visits with another new acquaintance in Rio de Janeiro.

chita, Kansas.

Each member felt their personal calling to be part of this first medical mission to Prazeres — a slum in Rio de Janeiro. Serving with us were 13 Brazilian translators who became like family, four IMB missionaries, a team of social workers from the Carioca Convention, and an evangelist team from the Mission Baptist Church at Santa Teresa.

Supplied with 13 trunks of donated antibiotics, analgesics, eyeglasses, two trunks of McDonald's toys, and a mobile dental operator, our team climbed the hill of Prazeres, a favela or slum home to 30,000 people.

High atop Rio de Janeiro, the view of downtown skyscrapers and the ocean was breathtaking. Up the narrow path we climbed to a newly painted community building which was to be our clinic for a week. Equipped with bare wires and light bulbs, barely running water, and missing windows, it was more than sufficient for our needs.

From 9 a.m. — 5 p.m. people poured out of their cramped, tiny homes to our triage area. As people were waiting in line to register, counselors were asking them if they knew the Lord. A Bible study took place and a musical team entertained the children.

family, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit prayed to receive Christ.

For each doctor and each member of our team the experience was the same. All of us were sharing our faith and leading others to the Lord!

A total of 1,200 patients were treated. Thousands of medicines and 200 eyeglasses were dispensed.

Countless lives were changed. This is how the Lord works. He takes our limited ability and our willingness to serve and magnifies it to do great things, opening communities and changing lives. Won't you be a part of this? ■

IMB names coordinators for speakers

For the Macedonian Call

Howard and Joyce Clark, recently retired IMB missionaries to Spain, are now coordinating speaking assignments of furloughing missionaries (stateside assignment) with churches in Tennessee, according to Terry Sharp, TBC Partnership/Volunteer Missionary specialist.

In their new roles, the Clarks will insure that Tennessee churches have opportunity for personal contact with their missionaries. 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 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 seven participating state conventions.

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

BSU members at APSU minister to Costa Ricans

By Emily Chambers
For The Macedonian Call

What do raw fish, hiking, face painting, preaching, and giant grasshoppers have in common?

Austin Peay State University's BSU SPOTS (Special Project Other than Summer) spring break mission trip to Guanacaste, Costa Rica, had it all.

A total of 16 Austin Peay BSU students and their BSU director, Jim Alexander, worked March 6-12 with Costa Rica Baptists in community outreach.

The team worked together in schools, visiting homes, offering entertainment in the plazas, and participating in nightly evangelistic services. Team members were exposed to all sorts of experiences.

The Austin Peay student team were: Vanessa White, Sharon Wynn, Amanda Wyatt, Stephanie Wilson, Kyle Roy, Becky Rinehart, Stacy Murphree, Casey Murphree, Ronald Morgan, Kristy Lumpkins, Alecia LeMay, Krista Hampton, Stephanie Gunn, Andy Cook, Melanie Arnold, and myself.

God provided for each team member the necessary funds through contributions received from the Cumberland Baptist Association, TBC Collegiate Missions team, APSU BSU Alumni, APSU Student Government, and several team members' churches.

The team arrived in Costa Rica on a Saturday to their



EMILY CHAMBERS, APSU student, paints a design on the arm of a child in Deer Island, Costa Rica.

first of many beans and rice dinners. They learned that they would lead two church services the next day with dramatic sketches, a special ministry to children, and preaching.

The first evening was spent making preparations and learning Spanish phrases to use with the children. IMB missionary, Sue Smith and her mission assistant, Walter Rodriguez, and some translators were there to aid the team in breaking the language barrier and helping with cultural transitions.

Monday through Friday was filled with community outreach as students entered homes and schools. House-to-house visits were to give out the book of Romans and the

Gospel of John, and to invite children and adults to the evening worship services.

Many doors of opportunity were opened to the team. Students grew more comfortable with the language and began to make the invitations without the help of translators. At one home, a church member told the team that she would not be at the service since she had been very ill for a while and had almost died the night before. The team prayed with her along with our host Pastor Paulino Benevides, and that night she joined us for worship at the church.

On another day half of the team visited homes on Deer Island while the others visited the island schools. The island has two Baptist churches. As a

result of the team visiting homes on both sides of the island, members from both churches came together that evening.

This was the first time for the churches to have a joint community worship experience. That evening was a joyful experience seeing the pastors of the two churches working together.

The team visited the elementary, middle, and high schools on the island. When the team finished presenting a message about the dangers of drugs and alcohol, the principal of the high school encouraged his students to attend the worship service and emphasized that he would be there. Some girls from the high school, who spoke with a translator and a team member, accepted Christ. Powerful and enriching experiences such as these continued throughout the week.

Prior to the services each evening, team members gathered in the plazas, open parks with large soccer fields. Children would gather to play soccer, parachute games, have their faces painted, and see the clowns. Face painting and balloon animals soon won the children over to the students. Most of these children would come along with the students for the evening worship services.

During the evening services in each community, team members participated in dramas that told the message of Christ. The team found word-

less dramas communicated very effectively and bridged the language barrier.

Usually nationals led the music and preaching, but each team member had the opportunity to share his or her personal testimony at least once. For many students it was their first time to share their testimony before a large audience. God was sharpening the students and the listeners.

When in a country for the first time, there are many new and exciting experiences that await you. Whether you are offered raw fish for the first time, which wasn't all that bad, or you have encountered a six-inch grasshopper on the hotel door, you deal with it.

Sometimes the team had language blunders such as confusing the Spanish (lociento) for "excuse me" with (lo niente), "you feel that," but communication was overall easy and even fun.

While other new cultural experiences were all around, the greatest cultural experience was sharing the joy of Christ with one another and with Costa Rican brothers and sisters.

Looking back, the team can truly know that "He who began a good work in (the churches of Guanacaste) will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus" (Philippians 1:6).

God went before us, and his good work continues through the able hands of IMB missionaries and Costa Rican national Christians. ■

Broadmoor Church team builds in Costa Rica

For The Macedonian Call

Broadmoor Baptist Church, Memphis, sent a construction team April 24-May 1 to Costa Rica to assist IMB missionaries for the second year in a row

to complete an addition to a home.

"We were assigned the task of trying to finish a project at the home of IMB field director Gary Tufts, which was begun last June by another team

from Broadmoor Church," said Broadmoor team leader Keith Bates Sr. "Other church teams were unable to take the project because of the Hurricane Mitch relief effort. Finally three of us who had begun the project were able to return and see a measure of completion to the room addition."

Returning from last year's team were Clay Staggs, Darin Way, and Bates. Other team members included: Keith Bates Jr., Richard Cantrell, Carol and James Grogan, Joe Hamer, Kathy and Gene Land, Anthea and David Moyes, and Keith Whaley.

"We were able to finish the walls, electrical and plumbing rough-in, the steel, and the roof structure to a point," said Bates Sr. "Now Costa Rica mission administrator, Steve Sloas,

formerly of Cordova Baptist Church in Memphis, can have the room addition for the Tufts completed with the help of Costa Rican nationals.

"We are excited about how much progress was made on the job with the hard afternoon tropical rains that fell daily. Hopefully the effort we put into the work will be a testimony to those who follow. We will continue to pray that God will use our efforts and those of the Tufts family and the mission staff to reach the lost in the San Jose area."

While on the trip, the team also attended worship at the newest church in the San Jose area, the Conception Baptist Church, which is located in the hills. The church overlooks the lowest income section of town.

"We were truly blessed by the love of the fellow believers there, a love that bridged the language barrier, and touched the hearts of all who attended." ■



MEMBERS of the team include, from left, missionary Gary Tufts, Joe Hamer, Keith Whaley, James Grogan, Carol Grogan, Gene Land, Kathy Land, Richard Cantrell (kneeling), Keith Bates Sr., Anthea Moyes, Clay Staffs, Keith Bates Jr., David Moyes (kneeling), Darin Wray, and Walter Rodriguez, Costa Rica Mission assistant.



Seeking reports on Michigan, Canada

For The Macedonian Call

Are you taking a Partnership/Volunteer Mission trip to Canada or Michigan? Why not share it with Tennessee Baptists by sending it to the Macedonian Call? The MAI Partnership/Volunteer Missions team newsletter is published monthly in the *Baptist and Reflector*.

Please send any Partnership/Volunteer Missions stories to: Marcia Knox, Macedonian Call, Tennessee Baptist Convention, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37024-0728. Contact her on the Web at mknnox@tnbaptist.org. Or call her at (615) 371-2089 or 1-800-558-2090. ■

Place	Project ID	Work	Dates	Volunteers Needed	Place	Project ID	Work	Dates	Contact Persons
Rio de Janeiro Projects					Tennessee Projects				
Rio de Janeiro	PM21999915	Construction	open	20	Beulah	T-99-62	Construction	open	J. Essary/(901) 885-2151
Rio de Janeiro	Church Development	Church Planting	open	open	Beulah	T-99-61	Construction	open	J. Essary/(901) 885-2151
Rio de Janeiro	Medical	Medical Clinics	open	open	Bolivar	T-99-51	Camp	open	Hardeman Asso./(901) 658-3534
Rio de Janeiro	PM41999996	Construction	open	25	Bolivar	T-99-55	Prison Ministry	open	C. O'Hara/(901) 658-7273
Rio de Janeiro	PM41999994	Piano Tuner	open	1	Cordova	T-99-63	Construction	open	E. Alexander/(901) 398-5000, 544-3607
Rio de Janeiro	PM21999902	Evangelism	open	20	Cordova	T-99-65	Evangelism	open	E. Alexander/(901) 398-5000, 544-3607
Rio de Janeiro	PM21999901	Construction	open	25	Cordova	T-99-49	Construction	open	M. Mathis/(901) 381-1979
Rio de Janeiro	PM42000900	Student Ministries	1/03 - 1/12/2000	1	Cordova	T-99-48	Construction	open	W. Hauth/(901) 835-4654
Rio de Janeiro	PM41998931	Chaplain	open	1	Covington	T-99-59	VBS/BYBC	open	D. Ralph/(901) 476-8761
Canada Projects					Mission Service Corps Projects				
Mississauga, Ont.	99ONT002	VBS/BYBC	8/15 - 8/25	5-10	Covington	T-99-77	Construction	open	J. Tanner/(901) 476-8344
Prince Edward Island	KC4	Church Planting	open	2	Dyersburg	T-99-47	Evangelism	open	J. Tanner/(901) 285-2727
Portugal Projects					Memphis				
Lisbon	GEN1999205	Drama Teams	8/04 - 8/22	8	Dyersburg	T-99-46	Food Ministry	open	J. Naylor/(901) 285-2727
Portimao	EVN1999077	Street Ministry	8/01 - 8/15	10	Fayette	T-99-54	Construction	open	B. Campbell/(901) 854-6290
Portugal	EVN1999043AD	Prayerwalking	open	10	Henry	T-99-27	Construction	open	L. or T. Bell/(901) 243-7150
Michigan Projects					Knoxville				
Cadillac	N-3A	Revival	10/02 - 10/09	2	Knoxville	T-99-32	Construction	3/20 - 9/30	W. Taylor/(423) 693-9097
Detroit	GD-4	Construction	open	open	Memphis	T-99-31	Teacher	8/01/99 - open	T. Cox/(901) 458-0617
Detroit	GD-3	Construction	open	open	Memphis	T-99-30	Construction	open	T. Cox/(901) 458-0617
East Jordan	N-1A	Evangelism	open	open	Memphis	T-99-29	Student Ministries	open	T. Cox/(901) 458-0617
Kalamazoo	SC-2A	Construction	open	open	Memphis	T-99-50	Camp	open	P. Looney/(901) 372-6835
Marquette	UP-4	Construction	open	1	Memphis	T-99-78	Construction	open	R. Ray/(901) 357-9581, 353-4532
Prudenville	N-5	Music	open	1 or 2	Memphis	T-99-66	Clothing Ministry	open	B. Clark/(901) 386-8141, 458-0617
Roseville	M-4	Sports	open	2	Memphis	T-99-67	VBS/BYBC	open	T. Cox/(901) 458-0617
Roseville	M-1A	Student Ministries	open	open	Memphis	T-99-68	Counseling Ministry	open	S. Wilson/(901) 458-0617
					Memphis	T-99-69	Tutorial Ministry	open	T. Cox/(901) 372-7477
					Memphis	T-99-70	Construction	open	T. Cox/(901) 458-0617
					Memphis	T-99-71	Construction	open	T. Cox/(901) 458-0617
					Nashville	T-99-43	Construction	open	P. Morris/(615) 776-2266
					Pulaski	T-99-75	Construction	open	C. Bond/(931) 363-3529
					Pulaski	T-99-76	Construction	open	D. Lingerfalt/(931) 766-0749
					Ripley	T-99-45	ESL/Education	open	J. T. Naylor/(901) 285-2727
					Ripley	T-99-56	Construction	open	W. Rowan/(901) 635-7128
					Rossville	T-99-52	Construction	open	B. Campbell/(901) 854-6290
					Shelby	T-99-60	VBS/BYBC	open	D. Aycock/(901) 274-3766
					Shelby	T-99-64	VBS/BYBC	open	R. Wilburn/(901) 458-4469, 684-8088
					Somerville	T-99-57	Construction	open	R. Gruenwald/(901) 867-7259
					Somerville	T-99-53	Construction	open	B. Campbell/(901) 854-6290

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

Pray for the 350 volunteers in Rio May 23 - June 1

First partnership ...

— Continued from page 5

people made professions of faith.

An estimated five to six hundred people attended the conferences and other speaking opportunities that the team had. While the conferences may have been small in number, the participants were very zealous.

One elderly lady spoke to the team members after one conference saying, "I have been praying for three months that God would send someone here to explain these Scriptures to us." Another commented afterwards, "This has been a holy night."

Evening services in Portugal began at nine o'clock and many did not end until midnight. Fellowship followed each session. The Portuguese were very hospitable.

Watson is using the partnership with Tennessee to achieve a portion of the IMB's strategy of a locally led church planting movement.

"We do not want Americans

to come and do our work," commented pastor Paulo Pascoal of Parede, "What we need is training." The training must be done from a humble spirit since Pascoal Baptist Church has already planted eight churches in the Lisbon area. "We want to put our resources into people, not buildings," he said.

Many who have had cross-cultural missions experiences say they have received more than they gave. The same is true of the Tennessee Lay Leadership team.

"I have been encouraged by seeing small churches doing big things," said Guthrie. "It has given me a new zeal for my church."

"Of all the trips I have been on, I can say that this was one of the best," said Beard. "I have performed many tasks, but the simple teaching of Christ's commands, and the sharing from my own experiences to a hungry audience has to be the most fulfilling experience in life." ■

Third ...

— Continued from page 5

The second recognition and commissioning service was held Thursday, April 29, at the First Baptist Church of Concord, Knoxville. Over 1,000 people attended the service including volunteer missionaries from 45 countries, 25 states, and the Olympics.

"I wish to commend Terry Sharp and the partnership mission section of our convention for organizing and sponsoring the Middle Tennessee Volunteer Missions Rally," said Dean Haun, pastor of Hermitage Hills Baptist Church, Hermitage. "It was truly an inspiring and challenging service."

For more information on the regional services, call the TBC Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team at 1-800-558-2090 or 615-371-2021. ■

Nashville Reach '99 set prior to TBC Annual Meeting

For The Macedonian Call

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 modeled after the SBC Crossover events every June," said Jim Freedman, Nashville Association director of missions. He said planners anticipate presenting the Gospel to thousands of people.

We need your help! If you are interested 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. ■

Nashville Reach '99

Friday Night — Training/Orientation in churches

Saturday — Block Parties, Saturday Search, One-Day Revival, Street Evangelism, Kindness Blitz, Canning Hunger, Prayerwalks, and other events planned by individual churches

Sunday — One-Day Revivals

Sunday Evening — Citywide Youth Concert



national/global news

NAMB releases \$150,000 to help tornado victims

Baptist Press

ALPHARETTA, Ga. — The North American Mission Board has released \$150,000 in disaster assistance funds to help victims of May 3's deadly tornadoes in Oklahoma.

The money will be used primarily for \$500 grants to individual families through local churches, said Jim Burton, director of volunteer mobilization for NAMB.

Burton said the expenditure is the largest amount released at one time since Disaster Relief

became the responsibility of NAMB at its formation in 1977. ■

NAMB training conference sees 1,040 accept Christ

Baptist Press

MIAMI — The North American Mission Board's Inner City Evangelism (ICE) team saw 1,040 men, women, and young people come to Christ during a mid-April ICE training conference here.

During the conference, 18 members of the NAMB-spon-

sored ICE team worked closely with five African American churches in inner-city Miami.

"This is the greatest on-the-job training I've ever had — and I've worked in Miami for years," said Clyde Judson, pastor of Good News Little River Church.

ICE conferences, held periodically in different major cities since 1997, provide a three-track approach with training in street witnessing, personal evangelism, and the SAFE (Setting Addicts Free Eternally) substance-abuse rehabilitation program. A heavy emphasis is placed on sharing Christ with people on inner-city streets. ■

Summer Vacation House

Available to Christian families, weekly rate savings, 3BR on Panama City Beach. 1/2 block from Gulf. For details, call First Baptist Church, Panama City Beach, Fla., (850) 234-0488, web site: www.fbcpbc.com. e-mail: fbcpbc@panacom.com

Church Retreat

Open year round. Panama City Beach, Fla. Choice dates available this summer. Reasonable rates, modern dorm facilities, 300 ft. from Gulf of Mexico. A ministry of First Baptist Church. (850) 234-0488 for details, web site: www.fbcpbc.com, e-mail: fbcpbc@panacom.com

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FBC, Dallas, calls Brunson as pastor

Baptist Press

DALLAS — Mac Brunson, 41, president of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, is the new pastor of First Baptist Church here, following a unanimous vote May 9. He has been senior pastor of Green Street Baptist Church, High Point, N. C., since 1992. ■

CLASSIFIED

FURNITURE: Baptistry (13' long), Lord's Supper Table (5' x 2'), pulpit (40" x 38"), complete railing for 30-seat choir, 2 2' pulpit pews. \$700 total. Call Antioch First Baptist Church, (615) 832-7486.

CHILDREN/YOUTH: Full-time Minister of Children/Youth opportunity. Resume to PCBC, Box 376, Brownsville, TN 38012, or request job description.

PEWS: Liberty Baptist Church of Sparta, Tenn., is wanting to purchase pews for their new sanctuary. If you have any, please call Bro. Elmore Judd at (931) 761-5236 or Herd Sullivan, (931) 761-3171, 836-3203.

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ORGANIST: Valley Grove Baptist Church, 9000 Sevierville Pike, Knoxville, TN. Sunday morning and evening, blended worship, \$75 per week. Church office: (423) 577-6620, e-mail: jeff@valleygrove.org.

YOUTH: Bivocational Youth Minister. Resumes: Lynn Valley Baptist, 1367 Broad St., Elizabethton, TN 37643.

SINGLE ADULTS: Single Adult Minister, Village Baptist Church, Oklahoma City. Church staff experience required. Send resumes to Single Adult Search Committee, 10600 N. May Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73120.

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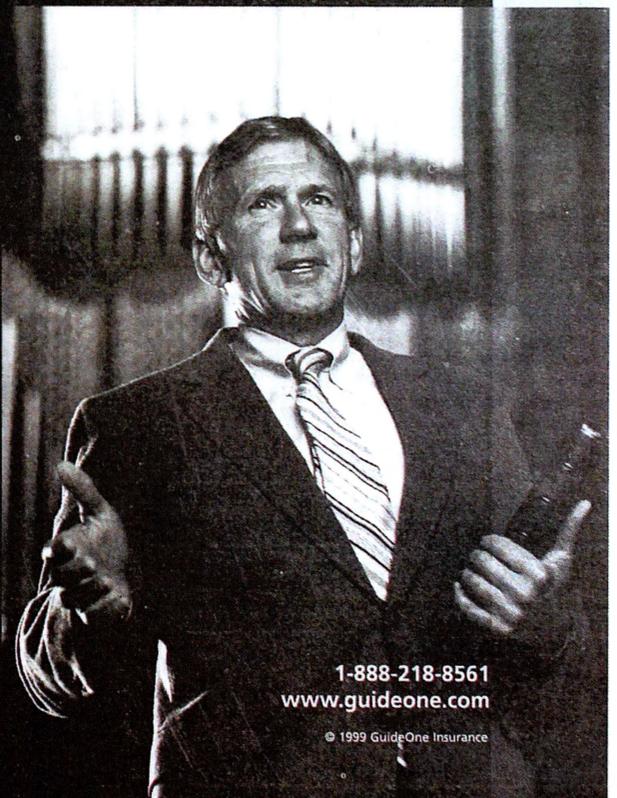


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LifeWay joins groups to uplift covenant marriage

Baptist Press

NEW YORK — LifeWay Christian Resources has joined with approximately 20 Protestant, Catholic, and parachurch groups to encourage married couples to stay committed for life.

A representative group of the national organizations, with a combined constituency of more than 30 million, publicly kicked off the "Covenant Marriage Movement" May 11 here at the Regency Motel. The group signed an agreement committing to help couples make their marriages stronger.

In addition to Southern Baptists, participants in the Covenant Marriage Movement include the Assemblies of God, Focus on the Family, Promise Keepers, Moody Bible Institute, and Marriage Savers.

"The focus of the Covenant Marriage Movement is to uplift the positive in marriages and challenge couples to stand in support of a lifelong commitment," said Phil Waugh, LifeWay family enrichment specialist who is co-chair of the Covenant Marriage steering team. "As a collective body of cooperating ministries, our desire is to affirm God's design for marriage." ■

Southwestern, Cuba seminaries sign training agreement

Baptist Press

FORT WORTH, Texas — Fifteen teachers from a Baptist seminary in Cuba will travel to Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here

this summer to take advanced courses in theological education.

Southwestern President Kenneth Hemphill and other seminary officials met with Cuban seminary leaders in

late April to sign the agreement. Leoncio Veguilla, president of the Cuban seminary, said through a translator, "For us, this (sending professors from Cuba to a U.S. seminary) marks a moment that

is very historic."

As part of the agreement, Southwestern will send two professors to the Cuban seminary each semester to teach an intensive one-week lecture series. ■

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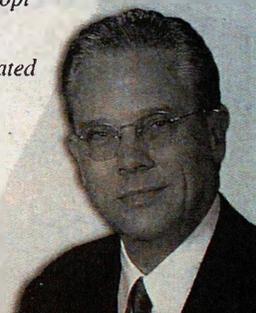
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Adopt An Annuitant Sunday

Churches across the Southern Baptist Convention are being challenged to adopt a retired annuitant through the Annuity Board for \$900 per year. The Adopt An Annuitant ministry provides a \$75 monthly supplement to retirement incomes of Southern Baptist ministers and their widows in desperate need. June 27 is "Adopt An Annuitant Sunday" through the SBC. Free bulletin inserts which explain this worthy ministry are available for your worship service by calling our toll-free number, 1-800-262-0511. Order your inserts today.



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Large video store shifts to violence, sex, says HomeLife

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — With more than 4,000 stores nationwide, Blockbuster Video boasts it's larger than its next 550 competitors combined, and the company's success is largely based on its reputation for family friendly video-rental policies.

But all that has changed, reports the June 1999 issue of *HomeLife*, the family magazine of LifeWay Christian Resources.

For example, among its 4,000-plus video titles, Blockbuster features more than 70 Playboy and Penthouse Videos.

In addition, Blockbuster has created an in-house 17+ rating that identifies videos containing sexually explicit material closer to X-rated than R-rated. The 17+ rating, which differs from the NC-17 rating mandated by the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA), is labeled on videos with themes including lesbian sex and sexual bondage.

"It's our opinion that the 17+ rating soft-pedals videos that should be X-rated," said Jon Kent Walker, editor in chief of *HomeLife*.

"We want parents to also be aware that Blockbuster is providing two versions of many movies, one cut and one uncut," Walker continued. "The uncut versions include explicit scenes originally edited by movie companies in order to avoid a harsher MPAA rating. Now they're available uncut in your local Blockbuster store."

The upcoming *HomeLife* article, written by youth culture specialist Bob DeMoss of Franklin, also notes the company has an abundance of sexually violent "slasher" films. ■

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Are they worth it?

By Roy Graves

Focal Passage — Acts 9:10-17, 19-22, 26-28

James Whistler was a great American artist. He was never known to be backward or bashful about his ability and talent as an artist. One day he was told that a shipment of blank canvases he had ordered had been lost in the mail. When questioned whether the canvases were of any value, Whistler replied, "Not yet, not yet." The blank canvases as they were, were but canvas. However, they had potential to become masterpieces. Every person who comes into the family of faith is an awaiting canvas to be made into a masterpiece.

The risk of relationship (vv. 10-12). The God-given visions of Ananias and Saul were going to bring these two men into a God-sized relationship. Ananias believed it would be a high risk relationship for him and Christians in Damascus. Nevertheless, under the Lordship of the Holy Spirit Ananias received "Brother Saul." The church must build genuine "brother and sister" relationships among the members if we ever expect to have an impact on, and win our world to Jesus as Savior.

The promise of potential (vv. 13-17). Ananias was quick to remind God of all the atrocities Saul had brought upon the church. "He was an enemy of Christians. He had caused great suffering and adversity. He was the great persecutor." God knew all of these things and hand-picked Saul to be his "chosen instrument" for taking the Gospel to "Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel." God knew within Saul there was the potential to go from an enemy to a brother, from a persecutor to a proclaimer, from Saul to Paul. Do we see potential in people when they come into our congregations? Do we give them the opportunity to live up to their potential?

The glory of growth (vv. 19-22). Praise God Paul wasn't "saved and satisfied" with being a "babe in Christ." He desired to grow. Paul was schooled in the Old Testament and had learned about Christianity as a persecutor of Christians, yet he was a new believer and needed to learn more before he could "defend the faith." Paul was a quick study. He was "at once" preaching the Gospel concerning the "Son of God." His growth was rapid and real. Paul's enemies in the synagogues felt the only way they could stop his spiritual growth was kill him. And they tried. God is glorified when we grow spiritually and become a real threat to Satan and his world dis-"order."

The attitude of acceptance (vv. 26-28). Being accepted by other people is a strong emotional need. Christians should meet that need by being accepting of people who come into the church. Initially the disciples at Jerusalem rejected the idea of Paul becoming a part of their ministry. However, with the encouragement of Barnabas the Jerusalem disciples accepted Paul as a "brother." They couldn't "forget" Paul had been a persecutor, but they could "forgive" him of his persecution. And they did. Herschel Hobbs wrote: "While a wrong done to us may still be in our minds, however, it needs not be in our hearts. This means that we do not continue to hold in our hearts the wrong done to us. If God has put our sins behind us, we can do the same with the sins others commit against us." — Graves is pastor, First Church, Kingston.

Holy Spirit empowers

By Tommy Ferguson

Focal Passage — John 14:15-18, 24-26; 16:7-15

God's commandments are his enablements. Many folks express their endearment for God without adhering his words. Their chatter is simply without credit. Jesus zeros in on the influence of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer. The Holy Spirit is addressed in chapters 14-16. The Holy Spirit is our enablement for loving the Lord and carrying out his purposes. So let's examine the role of the Holy Spirit.

Holy Spirit's deity (ch. 14:16-18). These three verses reveal the Holy Spirit's deity. The Holy Spirit is as much God as the Father and the Son. Jesus is saying, "one of the same nature as me." "But ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you," (v. 17b). We as Christians believe in one God in three manifestations. God the Father and Son and Spirit are not separate identities but one. Look up Acts 5:1-4 for more on the Holy Spirit.

Family Bible Lesson

Dwelling (vv. 16c, 23c). When we become Christians the Holy Spirit comes into our lives to seal us and control us. We become the property of God. "And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption," (Ephesians 4:30). "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are," (1 Corinthians 3:16, 17). "What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price; therefore

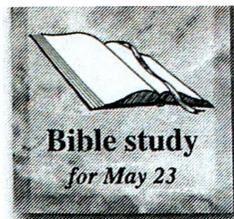
glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's," (1 Corinthians 19, 20).

Because we have God in us, we can keep his commandments and love and live a life that brings honor to Jesus. We are without excuse.

Doctrine (ch. 14:26; 16:13a). "But the comforter, which is the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring in all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you," (vv. 26). "Howbeit when he, the spirit of truth is come he will guide you into all truth," (v. 13a). Doctrine and truth are important because he is the Spirit of truth. We view so many TV evangelists/pastors who claim to be spirit-led. The Holy Spirit does not lead someone to false doctrine or sinful living. Yet some claim to be Holy Ghost filled, tongue speaking, word of knowledge giving preachers. They are led by some spirit but not the Holy Spirit. Truth takes precedence over experience and feelings. True love operates in truth not error.

Directive (vv. 8-15). He will confront us about our sin of unbelief. This is where we become Christians. Many of us recall when we realized that we were sinful, in need of a Savior. The Holy Spirit also confronts us about the right way to live. It's not enough just to tell us where we have gone wrong, but how we are to live the righteous or right way. Then the Holy Spirit reminds us that the prince of this world is judged and defeated. Sometimes we can get discouraged and the Holy Spirit speaks to our hearts, "the devil is a defeated foe, don't give up, don't give in."

The Holy Spirit does not desire glory, but desires that all glory go to the Savior. When Jesus was on the earth he glorified the Father. Likewise, the Holy Spirit lifts up Jesus. — Ferguson is pastor, Ivy Memorial, Nashville.



Celebrating restoration

By Jerry Reagan

Focal Passage — Psalm 126:1-6

This psalm is an account of a time when God intervened in the affairs of a powerful nation and caused the ruler of that nation to allow his people to return to their homeland.

What God had done — vv. 1-3. "When the Lord brought back the captivity of Zion." The people of Zion (Jerusalem) had been taken captive and sent into exile. God had allowed this to happen because of their disobedience. Now God had intervened on their behalf and had allowed them to return to their homeland. The people seemed to be overwhelmed by the good news of their freedom. "We were like those who dream. Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing." Their joy was noticed by the surrounding nations and the nations said of them, "The Lord has done great things for them." Then they gave their own testimony, "The Lord has done great things for us and we are glad." Their freedom was a political, cultural, and religious freedom. In the mind of the Jew, one could not worship appropriately if he was away from Jerusalem.

What the people wanted God to do — v. 4. "Bring back our captivity, O Lord, as the streams in the south." These people in Zion had

Explore the Bible Lesson

been set free. But there were still some that had not returned to Zion. The prayer of these people was for God to return those still in exile to Zion in great numbers. The figure of speech used concerns "as the streams in the south." The psalmist wants the people to return from exile in the way that a substantial rainfall would fall upon the dry stream-beds in the south and cause them to overflow and cause a dramatic change in the surrounding area, so he wanted the people still in exile to return home in large numbers and cause a dramatic change in the life of God's people.

Some of these people may not be able to return. Some may be able to return but they have adjusted to exile, and refuse to return to the land of their fathers. Some may be on the way back and may be experiencing hardships on the way. Those who are already in Zion are concerned about those who are still outside what they consider as the safe influences of Zion.

We who are in Christ and the church experience similar feelings about those we love who are not in Christ, and seem to be away from

the influence of the church. Sometimes, they seem to be in a form of captivity. We who have been made free in Christ feel the need to pray to God for our friends, relatives, and acquaintances to be brought into the shelter of faith and away from ungodly influences.

What God would help the people to do — vv. 5-6. It is important that we remember that what the people want is for the rest of the captivity to come home. The psalmist advises them to "sow and go," "weep and reap." Just as their deliverance came after many years of distress, the deliverance of their loved ones would have to come the same way. The seeds of faith and tears of hope would have to grow through times of adversity. The hard stream-beds of the south could be softened by rainfall. The hard circumstances they must endure will be softened by their tears.

As surely as they sow in tears, they will reap in joy. God is not unaware of their concern and their need. "He who continually goes forth weeping, bearing seed for sowing, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." Just as God had arranged for the first of the captivity to be returned home, he would bring the rest home in his time. — Reagan is pastor, South Fork Church, Friendship.



■ **Mary Britton**, director of Mothers' Day Out/Weekday Early Education, Bluegrass Baptist Church, Hendersonville, was honored May 16 for 19 years of ministry.



■ **Paul Moody**, pastor, of Erin Baptist Church, Erin, for the last 25 years of his ministry, retired May 1.

■ **Carl Strickler**, pastor, Lynn Garden Baptist Church, Kingsport, retired May 15 after 28 years of service. He is available for interim or supply work.

■ First Southern Baptist Church, Pikeville, has called **Jon Culver** and **Laura Berry** as ministers of youth/children for the summer.

■ West Hills Baptist Church, Knoxville, has called **Cody Froelich** of Baton Rouge, La., as interim youth director. He is a recent graduate of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City.

■ Inglewood Baptist Church, Nashville, ordained **Walter J. Riley III**, minister of education. June 6.

■ **Don Foster** has been called as administrative pastor/senior adult minister, Higher Ground Baptist Church, Kingsport, March 1. He is former pastor, Oak Grove Baptist Church, Boones Creek.

■ First Baptist Church, Old Hickory, has called **John Lemonis** as minister of worship and evangelism.

■ **Dean Haun**, pastor, Hermitage Hills Baptist Church, Hermitage, has been called as pastor, First Baptist

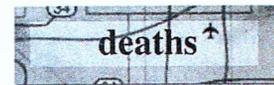
Church, Jonesboro, Ga., a suburb of Atlanta. He served the church for seven years.

■ **Kevin Marsh** has been called as minister of music and youth, First Baptist Church, Jamestown. He formerly was youth minister for a church in Athens, Ala.

■ Bread of Life Baptist Church, Lyles, will hold a Pastor Welcome Day May 23 to welcome **Allen Livengood**, who was been called as pastor. Activities include a special morning worship service followed by a luncheon. For more information, call (615) 799-0551.

■ **Joe T. Lusby**, pastor, First Baptist Church, Greenfield, earned the doctor of ministry degree from Louisiana Baptist Theological Seminary, Shreveport, La., May 7. Lusby also holds degrees from the University of Mississippi and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Texas.

■ White's Creek Baptist Church, Rockwood, recently called **Wade Kelly** as interim minister of music.



■ **Sally Ann Bell Parker**, 63, died May 9 in Newport. She was the widow of Jackson Calvin Parker. At his death in 1998 Parker was pastor, Forest Hill Baptist Church, Parrotsville. Mrs. Parker was a public school teacher, resource teacher, and counselor; social worker; and teacher of the mentally retarded. She also was a musician who led many music programs in churches.



■ **Elizabeth Chapel Baptist**



RECOGNIZED by the Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board May 11 for their tenure were, from left, **Keith** and **Dori McKinney**, Camp Carson, Newport, for five years of service; **Bill Choate**, Christian Growth Development Group, 15 years; and **Betty Williams**, Baptist and Reflector, 40 years.

Church, Smithville, will hold homecoming activities, a 98th anniversary celebration, and a note burning to represent the debt-free status of its new auditorium June 13. The 400-seat auditorium, which was completed in September of 1994, had a debt of about \$300,000.

■ **Criewood Baptist Church**, Nashville, dedicated the Irene Hodgkins Library May 16.

■ Youth from **Oak Street Baptist Church, Elizabethton**, and **First Baptist Church, Bluff City**, will do missions work this summer in Buffalo, N.Y.

■ **Oaklawn Baptist Church**, Jackson, recently baptized 18 people and added 20 new members.

■ **Bethel Baptist Church, Greenfield**, is sending Clark Brown, pastor, Vern Smith, and Phil Rowlett to participate in Rio '99 May 23 - June 1 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, to support the Tennessee/Rio Baptist Partnership.

■ **Beech Springs Baptist Church, Gleason**, held revival recently which resulted in seven people making professions of faith. Wayne Perkins, director of missions, Weakley County Baptist Association, based in Dresden, spoke.

■ Sixteen people made professions of faith, five committed their lives to ministry, and 77 people made other spiritual decisions recently during a revival at **Bible Union Baptist Church, Martin**. Brady Well-don spoke.

■ **Central Baptist Church, Martin**, had a revival recently which resulted in 19 people making professions of faith and one person committing his or her life to ministry. Benny Jackson spoke.

■ A recent revival at **New Hope Baptist Church, Palmersville**, was unusual in that it was held when it was

scheduled and then several days later was continued for several days. As a result, 13 people made professions of faith. Troy Doster spoke.

■ **Brints Baptist Chapel, Middleton**, recently held activities to celebrate its debt-free status.

■ **Lynn Valley Baptist Church, Elizabethton**, recently held revival which resulted in three people being baptized, including a 72-year-old man. Michael Duff and Luell Smith of Michael Duff Ministries, Springfield, led the services.

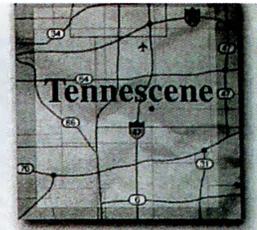


■ **Cumberland Association**, based in Clarksville, named Doyle Turney as interim director of missions April 26. Turney is a retired businessman and deacon, First Baptist Church, Clarksville: He began serving May 3.

■ **Central Baptist Association**, based in McMinnville, will host Fred Wolfe in a Regional Pastors' Conference May 23-24 at Cornerstone Baptist Church, McMinnville. Wolfe is president of Barnabas: A Ministry of Encouragement. For more information, contact the association at (931) 668-3690 or rdstacy@blomand.net.

■ An Interfaith Awareness Conference will be held by **Nashville Baptist Association** on the beliefs and practices of Hinduism and New Age June 28 at First Baptist Church, Nashville. The conference will be led by N.S.R.K. Ravi of the North America Mission Board. The meeting will begin with lunch and be held from noon to 2 p.m. in Room 150. The cost is \$4. For more information, call the association office at (615) 259-3034.

■ **Fayette Baptist Associ-**



ation, based in Somerville, is seeking a director of missions. Resumes may be sent to the association at 12975 Hwy 64, Somerville, TN 38068.



■ **Carson-Newman College**, Jefferson City, recently honored two faculty members during its annual Honors Convocation. Charles Moffat, professor of history, was named Distinguished Faculty Member, and Stephen Karr, associate professor of biology and department chair, received the Community Service Award.

■ A Conversational English Workshop will be held by the **Baptist Student Union** of the University of Tennessee, Martin, June 4, 11, 18, and 25 at the BSU Center from 6-10 p.m. The workshop is for people who wish to learn to teach English as a Second Language to a person who speaks and reads little or no English. It will be led by Adam Hall, Tennessee Baptist Convention collegiate ministry specialist, and Pat Hall. Registration fee is \$20. For more information, contact the Halls at (901) 587-2265.



ARCHIE KING visits with **Joy Edwards**, wife of Don Edwards, during the recent 40th anniversary celebration at Southeast Baptist Church, Murfreesboro. King and Edwards, who attended, are the church's only former pastors. King, of Murfreesboro, is retired from the TBC. Edwards is pastor, First Baptist Church, Sweetwater. Also leading activities was Eugene Cotey, retired pastor, First Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, which sponsored the beginning congregation.



BREAKING GROUND for the new 20,000-square-foot worship center of Northside Baptist Church, Columbia, April 18 were leaders, from left, **Carter South**; **Chris Rushing**, minister of youth; **Mark Bates**, minister of music; **Charles Kirkland**; **Bill Wheeler**; **Larry Warren**; and **John Rushing**, pastor. Guest speaker for groundbreaking activities was **Gerald Stow**, president, Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, based in Brentwood.