

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

Volume 166/ Number 17

Statewide Edition

April 26, 2000

this  
week's  
news

## Fourth leading cause of death

# Baptists consider Alzheimer's disease

By Connie Davis  
Baptist and Reflector

CHATTANOOGA — Baptists face a daunting task of dealing with family members and friends who are and will be stricken with Alzheimer's disease, but they can cope with God's help, the help of others, and humor, several speakers agreed at a conference, "The Church Responds to Alzheimer's Disease," April 11.

The conference was held at Ridgedale Baptist Church here by the Tennessee Baptist Convention, Brentwood; Hamilton County Baptist Association here; and the Southeast and Eastern Tennessee Chapters of the Alzheimer's Association. It drew about 30 participants.

### Medical perspective

Vijay Jethanandani, physician and medical director of a geriatric psychiatry unit for Baptist Hospital of East Tennessee, Knoxville, reported Alzheimer's disease is the fourth leading cause of death

in the United States but that treatment can delay its progress from five to six years.

Concerning heredity of the disease, Jethanandani said heredity plays a part only if a mother or father developed the disease before the late 50s. And then that person has a one in 20 chance of developing Alzheimer's.

He encouraged people at the age of 55 or 60 to begin monitoring their learning abilities to prevent or delay the disease. People in this age group can exercise their mental abilities and take Vitamin E and aspirin to assist the process.



LAMAR MOORE, second from right, pastor, Lookout Valley Baptist Church, Chattanooga, and Vicki Moore, his wife, spoke at the conference. They stand with sponsors David Myers, left, director of missions, Hamilton County Baptist Association; and Gene Nabi, Tennessee Baptist Convention. — Photo by Connie Davis

### Personal perspective

Vicki Moore, a member of Lookout Valley Baptist Church here spoke. She cares for her mother who has Alzheimer's and lives with them. Her husband, Lamar, pastor of the church, also spoke.

Vicki Moore said the experience is the toughest of her life.

Her mother, once independent and assertive enough to raise Vicki as a single mother and then to live alone, has become completely dependent. And the disease has transformed the assertiveness into aggressiveness and rudeness, said Moore.

"I don't want to be critical of — See Baptists, page 3

Church secretaries explore legal, copyright issues. — Page 2

TBC Church Staff Leadership Group adds new staff member. — Page 2

Woodbury pastor overcomes illnesses to continue his ministry. — Page 3

Find out what's happening in partnership missions. See "The Macedonian Call." — Pages 5-8



## Church secretaries elect officers

Officers elected during the business session of the Tennessee Baptist Convention Secretaries Conference held recently at the Baptist Center in Brentwood included, from left, seated, Betti Owens, First Baptist Church, Millington, West Tennessee representative; Susan Gamble, Indian Springs Baptist Church, Kingsport, vice president; Donna Haskins, Cumberland Homesteads Baptist Church, Crossville, Middle Tennessee representative; standing, Ann Beasley, First Baptist Church, Nashville, treasurer; Sarah Farmer, Southwestern Baptist Church, Johnson City, president; and Patsy Morales, First Baptist Church, Kingsport, East Tennessee representative. — Photo by Connie Davis

## Second of four planned Prayer emphasis slated for May 3

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — The second of four statewide nights of intense prayer in Tennessee is scheduled for May 3, the eve of the National Day of Prayer.

Last November, messengers to the annual meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Convention approved a resolution on "United Prayer for Revival and Spiritual Awakening" which called for four sustained initiatives of fervent prayer during the year 2000. The first effort was held March 8.

The special focus of the May 3 prayer meetings in churches across Tennessee is nationwide spiritual awakening and praying for the lost by name, said Gregory R. Frizzell, pastor of Georgian Hills Baptist Church, Memphis, and author of *Biblical Patterns for Powerful Church Prayer Meetings*, a resource that has been distributed to every TBC church.

In addition to the prayer booklet, every pastor will receive a helpful

guide on "leading congregations to effectively pray for revival and spiritual awakening," Frizzell said.

"So many modern believers indicate they really don't know how to pray effectively for revival and awakening," he noted.

Churches have permission to copy the prayer guide to give to their members for use in personal prayer, he added.

Gary Rickman, TBC ministry coordinator, encouraged churches to participate in this second statewide prayer effort.

"It is imperative that we, as Tennessee Baptists, lift up our nation in prayer. Our future as a nation depends upon revival and spiritual awakening in our land," Rickman said.

The effort which began in Tennessee has spread to other state conventions, Frizzell noted.

"Reports of powerful, transformed prayer meetings have come from all across our nation. Let us pray this rising tide of prayer will become a flood of genuine revival," Frizzell said. ■



## 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, lwilkey@tnbaptist.org

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

► **Susie Edwards, circulation/executive assistant** — (615) 371-2003, sedwards@tnbaptist.org

► **Mary Nimmo, church pages/administrative assistant** — (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

► **Web Site** — www.tnbaptist.org

► **Publisher** — Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board

► **Convention Communications Committee:** Mattie Mullins, chairman; Benny Keck, vice chairman; Randall Cummings, Mark Gregory, Jerry Legg, Mark Mangrum, Wallace McGill, Bob Osburn, Vern Powers, Glenda Roach, Michael Smith, Joseph Sorah, Ambers Wilson

► **Postmaster** — Periodical postage paid at Brentwood and at additional mailing office. (USPS 041-780) POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Baptist and Reflector, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37024.

► **Frequency of issue** — Published weekly except for the weeks of Christmas, New Year's, Fourth of July, and Labor Day.



Printed on  
recycled paper

## Baptist attorneys say

# Churches must consider legal issues

By Lonnie Wilkey  
Baptist and Reflector

**BRENTWOOD** — When it comes to legal issues, church leaders "cannot bury their heads in the sand," said Randle Davis.

Davis, a member of First Baptist Church, Hendersonville, and attorney for the Tennessee Baptist Convention, spoke recently during the Tennessee Baptist Church Secretaries Conference held at the Baptist Center here.

Another attorney, Larry Cannon of LifeWay Christian Resources and a member of First Baptist Church, Antioch, also talked to secretaries about copyright issues.

### Legal issues

Davis told church secretaries in his conference legal issues are not that difficult if mixed with "a little common sense."

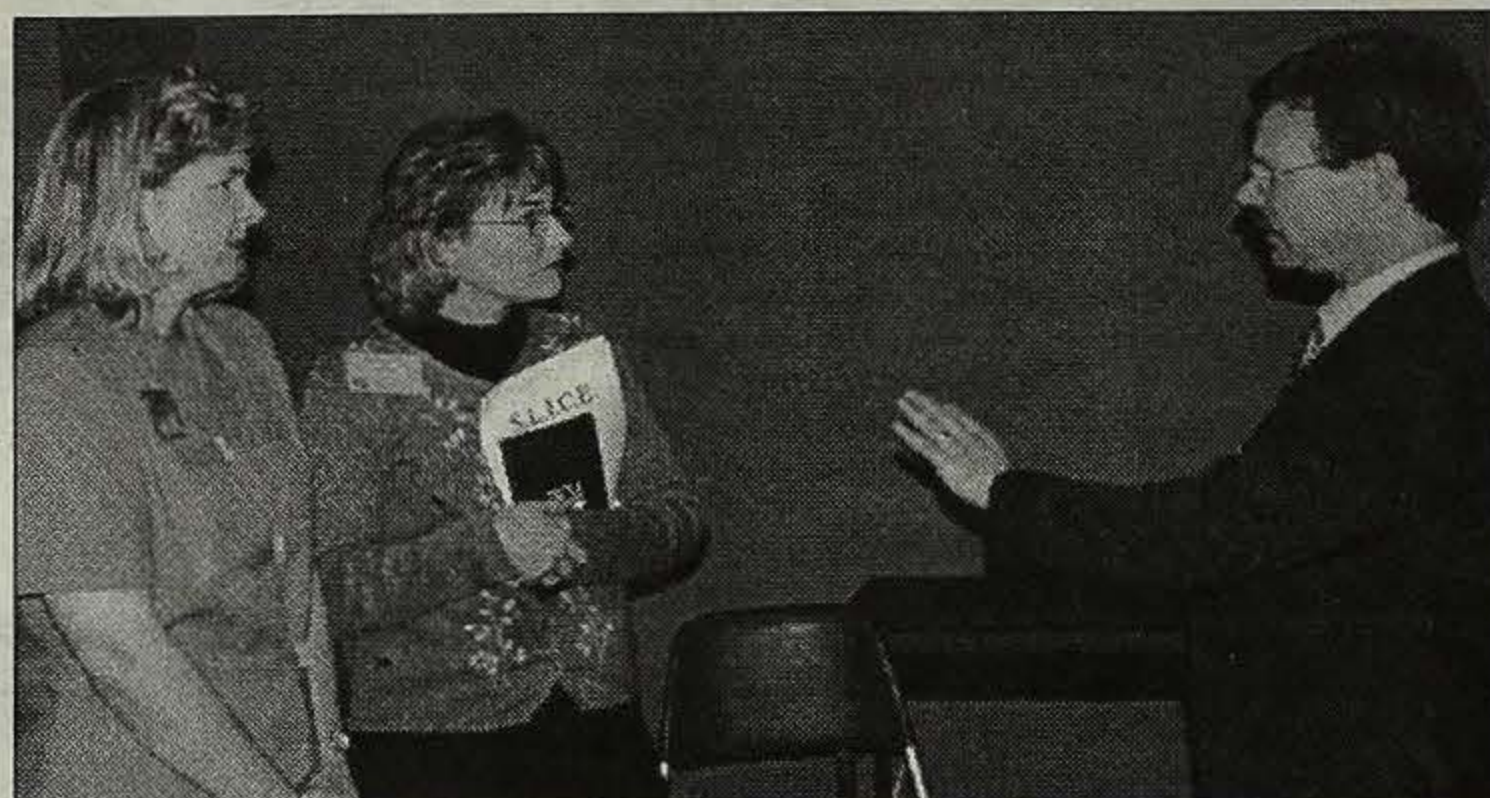
"It's best to do things to prevent problems from occurring rather than taking the band-aid approach after problems occur," Davis said.

He noted churches face two types of liabilities — internal and external.

Davis said churches should not be lulled into thinking their own members will not sue. They do and they will, he



**TBC ATTORNEY** Randle Davis speaks about legal issues with church secretaries at a recent conference in Brentwood.



**ATTORNEY LARRY CANNON** of LifeWay Christian Resources, visits with Mary Myers, left, and Rhonda Wolfe of Colonial Heights Baptist Church, Kingsport, during the recent Tennessee Baptist Church Secretaries Conference.

said, citing an instance where a member tripped over a wrinkled carpet, was injured, and then sued.

External liabilities are greater if the church has a ministry that reaches outward, such as a counseling, bus or day care ministry, he noted. In some areas, churches need more than just regular liability insurance, he said.

Davis also stressed that all churches are vulnerable to lawsuits, regardless of size.

One area in which churches need to especially be careful of today is in the area of children's and youth workers, Davis stressed.

Child care workers are the number one hot issue in the nation, Davis said.

And, Davis added, the law does not distinguish between a paid or volunteer worker.

Davis suggested churches have detailed policies about child care workers. For paid staff, do background checks, he suggested. If policies are in effect, follow them, Davis said. "It's better to have no written policy than to have one and not abide by it," he said.

For volunteer workers in Sunday School or other church

programs, he suggested those individuals should be church members for at least six months. Also, he suggested, have them fill out a volunteer application which should include lifestyle questions. "Have them sign it and keep it on file."

He stressed churches should check references on people. The bottom line question to answer, Davis said, is "Would you want to leave your child with this person?"

### Copyright principles

The word copyright basically means "the right to copy," Cannon told the secretaries.

Cannon discussed various aspects of copyright law and then dealt with specifics that churches deal with regularly.

► Is it OK to use other people's material without getting written permission?

Works produced before 1923 are in the "public domain" and can be used without permission, Cannon said. Various rules apply to works produced after 1923, but for the most part, permission would be needed to copy those works, he said.

► Is it OK to use things you get off the Internet?

The same rules apply, Cannon said. "It's OK to download off the Internet for personal use, but not to distribute," he said.

► Is it OK for choirs to copy music?

Choirs cannot copy music unless there is an imminent performance and photocopies are replaced with purchased copies later, Cannon said.

► Is it OK to make overheads or print lyrics in bulletins?

Cannon said this is not acceptable unless permission is obtained from each publisher.

► Is it OK to make copies of magazine articles for Sunday School classes?

Cannon said this is acceptable if it is a spontaneous idea of the teacher and it is not repeated over and over.

► Is it OK to distribute audio copies of worship service for the homebound?

It is appropriate to make copies for archival purposes but if the tapes are distributed, the music needs to be edited out or permission must be granted from the music publishers or licensing company, Cannon said.

The last issue Cannon addressed was "who owns the preacher's sermons?"

If the pastor is considered an "independent contractor," then he owns the sermon, Cannon said.

If the pastor is considered to be an employee of the church then the church "owns the sermon unless there is a written agreement to the contrary," he said. ■

## Paul Clark Jr. joins TBC staff

For Baptist and Reflector

**BRENTWOOD** — Paul Clark Jr., minister of music at Briarlake Baptist Church, Atlanta, Ga., has been elected unanimously by the TBC Executive Board's Church Programs Committee to serve at church worship/music specialist for the TBC Church Staff Leadership Group.

"We are most pleased to have someone of Paul Clark's experience and ability to serve the churches of Tennessee in this critical area," said Bill Northcott, CSL group leader. "He brings to this position the qualities of spiritual depth and commitment, as well as a working knowledge of Tennessee Baptist life."

Prior to assuming his present position, Clark was minister of music at First Baptist Church, Jackson, for seven years.

Clark is a member of the Centurymen, an auditioned group of Southern Baptist ministers of music from across the convention. He will serve as acting president of the group next year.

Clark is a graduate of Union University, Jackson, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., where he received the Outstanding Musician award in 1985. ■



CLARK

## Churches, association join family of Baptist and Reflector subscribers

For Baptist and Reflector

**BRENTWOOD** — Two Tennessee Baptist churches have joined the Baptist and Reflector family of subscribers.

Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church in Covington and Hannahs Gap Baptist Church, Petersburg, recently added subscribers to the paper under the Church Leadership Plan.

This plan enables churches to send the paper to two or more people at a reduced rate of \$8.50 per subscription.

In addition, New Duck River Baptist Association has begun printing a monthly newsletter

on the back page of the Baptist and Reflector. The paper is sent to all the churches in New Duck River that subscribe for their membership.

"We are excited to have these new additions to our family of subscribers," said Editor Lonnie Wilkey.

"We want other Tennessee Baptist churches, regardless of size, to know of the options that their state paper has for them," Wilkey said.

For more information about the Church Page Plan or other subscription plans, contact Susie Edwards at (615) 371-2003. ■





# Baptists consider Alzheimer's ...



beyond the critical needs period until the caregiver reaches closure, just like a biological family would, he described.

## Services

Steve Witt, director, Southeast Chapter, Alzheimer's Association, Chattanooga, reported Tennessee ranks 50th in the home and health care services available to people with Alzheimer's disease. He suggested people contact state legislators to request improved services.

## Other speakers

Gary and Diane Pitzl of Chattanooga spoke. Gary, a former metallurgical engineer, was diagnosed with Alzheimer's at age 50.

Although he can barely read now two years later, he tried to read a statement. He had difficulty remembering many words and skipping some words, but communicated by distributing copies of the statement and with help from his wife.

He said "I can write. Reading's hard for me. Talking is hard. I get cold feet and I have muscle jerks. I wonder (actual quote) why my shoes weren't working right because ... ." Diane added it was because he had his shoes on the wrong feet.

Another speaker was Gary Coltharp of the Tennessee Baptist Foundation, Brentwood, who spoke on a Christian response to the needs of Alzheimer's patients and their families. **B&R**



**SPEAKERS** Diane and Gary Pitzl, left, of Chattanooga, and Gary Coltharp visit. Gary Pitzl, a former metallurgical engineer, was diagnosed with the disease at the age of 50. Coltharp is with the Tennessee Baptist Foundation, Brentwood.

local Alzheimer's association and a counselor it recommended.

Lamar Moore said the experience has added the unexpected to their lives. In response they have learned to live for the moment. They have learned to seek help. And he personally has been helped by talking about it, he added, and using humor.

"We take it one day at a time. I'm practicing some of the things I've been preaching for 26 years," said Lamar.

"As difficult as it is, God is faithful and he continues to be faithful," concluded Vicki Moore.

## Churches can help: Nabi

Gene Nabi of the Tennessee Baptist Convention staff suggested congregations help families with members who have Alzheimer's and similar needs by developing "Care Families."

Care Families are better

equipped than a Sunday School class because it usually focuses on visiting a needy family. A benevolence committee usually just offers money. A task force or committee usually kills a ministry. And an individual cannot offer a comprehensive ministry, said Nabi.

A Care Family would relate to the caregiver of a family dealing with Alzheimer's. The Care Family would be made up of members offering the following services — legal, medical, respite care, spiritual, general helpers, and the "worrier," who would lead the family, described Nabi.

They would operate like a family, which would help them better assist the needy family and avoid the pitfalls of modern philosophy which tends to "think big," he said.

The Care Family would commit themselves to one person and continue that ministry

The household centers around her mother, said Vicki Moore, even during mealtime. If her mother sees a dish added to the table after she has started eating, she wants that dish rather than her plate. After she receives it, she might say she doesn't want it. Then she will see another person's plate or dish and want that instead, explained Moore.

Vicki Moore has not found an effective way of dealing with her in public either, she said. For example, in doctors' offices she can be very rude to people. When Moore tries to hush her or apologize to the person, her mother becomes even more antagonistic.

The couple has found writing an answer to the woman's repeated, same questions is effective.

Moore and her mother still attend church services although they sit in the back of the auditorium because of the loud comments and questions of her mother.

## Help received

The Moores praised members of Lookout Valley Baptist Church for their response to Vicki's mother and for their help.

"You have to have help under the best of circumstances. You can't do it by yourself," said Vicki.

Many members have stayed with her mother, sometimes even to allow the couple a weekend away.

Church members have been "so gracious and kind" to the couple and her mother, Vicki added.

And the couple praised the

Jones recovered enough to get out of bed without help and eventually learned to walk again. He remembers asking Dot to drive him through town. It was such a thrill to be out of bed, Jones explained.

Then he faced another struggle. During his inactivity, Jones had gained about 50 pounds. With Dot's help by way of low-fat meals, Jones lost the extra weight.

In about four years, Jones was almost fully recovered, even able to drive an automobile. He still can't play the bass guitar as part of the Jones family music group so the family doesn't perform any more. But Bud Jones doesn't fret about that.

He began speaking in churches again. Then about a year and a half ago, Jones was called as pastor of Shiloh Church here. He had not served as a pastor for 13 years.

He has enjoyed serving a congregation again and reports the church has added 43 members during his service.

"I realize I'm a walking testimony," said Jones. His experience energizes him "to work for the Lord," he said.

He gives credit for his recovery to God. He also credits Dot, to whom he has been married for 49 years. God worked through her, he explained.

The good thing about such an experience is "after a person suffers through it they can do anything. Today is my best day," he stated. **B&R**



**BUD AND Dot Jones** dealt with his health problems together.

## State nursing group to hold annual meeting

For Baptist and Reflector

**NASHVILLE** — The Annual Meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Nursing Fellowship will be June 3 at Woodmont Baptist Church here from 9:30 a.m. — 3:30 p.m. The theme will be "Sharing Jesus Without Fear."

The meeting will include testimonies from mission efforts, chapter reports, and business. John Tarpley will lead an education session. He is a physician at Veterans' Administration Hospital here.

Participants are invited to attend the Billy Graham Crusade June 1-4. For more information, contact Vickie Anderson, Tennessee Baptist Convention, (615) 371-2030 or 1-800-558-2090. ■

## Woodbury pastor recovers from years of invalidism

Baptist and Reflector

**WOODBURY** — He rarely mentions his illness, not even to people he visits who are ill. People don't believe him, he explains with a grin, and he doesn't want people's sympathy. Bud Jones, pastor, Shiloh Baptist Church here, also doesn't complain about how he is feeling. He is just glad to be healthy again.

Jones, 67, was bed-ridden about three years at the age of 53 after suffering several strokes. The strokes forced him to retire as a pastor in Georgia. He and Dot, his wife, decided to try to recuperate in Tennessee.

His left side was paralyzed. He couldn't talk, sit up, or walk. He was cared for by Dot and home health care nurses who came three times a day at first, he reported.

After about three years,



# Are we providing for future needs of ministers?

By Lonnie Wilkey, editor

Youth is a great thing. When we are young we think we are invincible and that we will never grow old.

But we do. I'm living proof. Every time I throw a softball, swing a golf club (notice, I didn't say hit a golf ball), or mow my front yard (which has a steep slope), I realize I'm not getting any younger. And, I'm not alone. The Baby Boomer generation, of which I am included, is slowly but surely graying. Are we preparing for "old" age?

Let me ask several questions.

First, are you a minister in a Tennessee Baptist church under the age of 35? If so, does your church contribute to your retirement account through the Southern Baptist Annuity Board's annuity (retirement) plan?

Second, are you a member of a Tennessee Baptist church with a minister on staff who is under the age of 35? And, does your church provide for the retirement of that minister?

There's a 50 percent chance in Tennessee that the minister is not enrolled and the church does not contribute toward the retirement of the pastor or church staff.

Recent statistics from the Annuity Board show that only 49 percent of Tennessee Baptist churches are in the Church Annu-

ity Plan. Only Missouri and Alabama, among traditional, old-line Baptist conventions, fall below Tennessee.

Exactly, what does that mean?

It means that 51 percent of our churches do not help ministers or other church staff members, including secretaries and custodians, get ready for their retirement.

It's a sad but true fact that many Tennessee Baptist ministers who have given their life to serve Jesus Christ enter their retirement years woefully unable to meet even basic needs. Instead of having time for family and friends and having funds to do volunteer mission work, many of these ministers must find part-time work in order to just "get by."

Many of these ministers served small to medium size churches that were unable to pay large salaries. Most did provide the pastor a house to live in. While that undoubtedly was helpful, think about this: what happens when the pastor of your church retires? He and his wife must leave that parsonage. I know of ministers who actually have bought their first house after they retired. That's a sobering thought.

For those who did contribute something to their retirement plan, many began very late in their ministry or contributed just a very small sum. Annuity Board statistics

show that in Tennessee we have a total of 1,890 annuitants (as of December 1999). Of those 399 receive \$101 to \$200 a month. Another 258 receive less than \$100 a month. Even with adding Social Security funds to those dollars, that doesn't provide very much after rent, food, and utilities are paid.

As Christians, we have a responsibility to help our ministers and other church staff who have dedicated their life to serving the Lord in the local church. If your church does not provide retirement assistance, consider doing so even if it is only a small sum. By enrolling your minister early in the program, even the smallest sums will begin to add up.

And for churches that want to do something now to help ministers currently retired, leaders may want to consider the "adopt an annuitant" ministry which provides a \$75 a month supplement to eligible ministers and spouses. This is indeed a worthy ministry.

Consider enrolling your ministers and staff. It's never too late, but remember, the earlier the better.

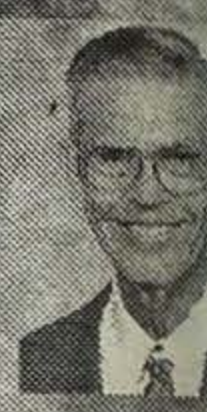
For more information about the services provided by the SBC Annuity Board, contact Richard Skidmore at the Tennessee Baptist Convention at 1-800-558-2090, ext. 2009. B&R



editorial/  
opinion

just for  
today

by Fred Wood,  
pastor emeritus,  
Eudora Church,  
Memphis



## Start with a smile

Secretary to new office worker: "You seem puzzled. Can I help you?" Worker: "What is this machine?" Secretary: "It's a shredder." Worker: "How does it work?" Secretary: "Put your papers in here and press the button." Worker (putting in quarterly financial report): "Thank you. Now where do the copies come out?"

## Take this truth

Complex problems often have easy to understand, wrong answers.

## Memorize this Scripture

"Every prudent man acts out of knowledge, but a fool exposes his folly." — Proverbs 12:1 NIV

## Pray this prayer

"Lord, help me to understand the problem before I seek the solution." ■ — Wood can be mailed at drfredwood@aol.com

## Springtime, gatekeepers, and a man called Philemon

making  
marriages  
stronger

by Rodney Wilson



Have you noticed how "springy" everything looks outside lately? Surely no other state has Red Bud and Bradford Pear trees like Tennessee! Spring reminds us of renewal, the rebirth of beautiful things that have struggled through another winter. Each year, it is amazing how life and color and energy somehow emerge from such dormancy and apparent death.

Marriages have that opportunity, and more often than every spring. The relationship of a couple can often be renewed by the simple act of forgiveness. It can be the catalyst to spring new life into a marriage. If you have been married any time at all, you've most likely had the

experience of asking forgiveness and being asked to forgive. I've sat in both of those chairs quite a few times in my 23 years of marriage!

I've been reading in the book of Philemon lately for my quiet time. It's the story of Onesimus, the slave, who runs away from Philemon, finds Paul, and becomes a Christian. Paul appeals to Philemon to forgive Onesimus and take him back as a Christian brother.

We don't know how the story ends. We hope he forgave because of Onesimus' changed life, but the ball ended up in Philemon's court. It was his choice and his alone to forgive or not. He was the "gatekeeper" of his relationship with Onesimus. No one, not even Paul, could make Philemon forgive him, although Paul did remind him that because of something in the past, Onesimus owed his very life to him.

Such is the scenario of marriage. As long as you are married, you will have "opportuni-

ty" to forgive. The ball will most definitely be in your court from time to time. That is because you are married to a human being. Your mate will make mistakes.

When your spouse pleads guilty to doing something wrong, you become the gatekeeper of the relationship. And what will you do with this situation? Will you forgive and allow your relationship to deepen or will it stagnate?

Sometimes forgiveness may be hard to grant. Temptation may even arise for you to just "brush off" the problem. However, a flippant "I forgive you" on an important issue will often only complicate matters. There are times when confrontation is necessary. Other times simply talking through an issue and sharing your feelings can bring you to forgiveness.

The key is for both partners to have a spirit of forgiveness, wanting to resolve any issues that come between them. Proper processing of anger situa-

tions can actually draw couples closer together. (But that's another article!)

Without forgiveness, the marriage relationship cannot experience the spring-like freshness of renewal. It cannot grow like God wants it to. Instead, a distance occurs that, when left to fester, can develop into bitterness and resentment — all this toward your helpmate. How sad!

Imagine Onesimus standing before Philemon giving him Paul's letter.

Like Onesimus, your spouse stands before you in need of forgiveness. Like Philemon, you must decide whether or not to forgive. And like Paul encouraging Philemon, the Lord himself encourages you to forgive (Can you say 70X70?)

And also like Paul, our Lord could say, "I don't need to remind you, do I, that you owe your very life to me?" ■ — Wilson is minister of marriage and family enrichment at First Baptist Church, Smyrna.

## Spring is a time to 'weed out' spiritual blemishes

making  
Christ  
known

by Larry Kirk  
TBC staff



Spring is a marvelous time of the year. Nature sheds her dull, ragged winter coat and adorns herself with a colorful spring outfit. Brown house slippers are exchanged for green shoes that match the dress. A transforma-

tion is made right before our very eyes. Ah, it's a great big beautiful world.

But wait! Is that a blemish I see? It's a weed. There's another one. And another. Ah, our great big beautiful world isn't perfect. It needs some work. Now! Weeds spread rapidly. The longer the delay, the more work needed.

What a parable of our Christian lives. Through the blood of Christ, God washed away our "winter coats" of sin. He created a new life, a new look. We literally sprang forth in newness. Ah, what a great big beautiful life,

this new life is.

But then comes a spiritual blemish. A weed springs up in our spiritual gardens. Its ugliness begins to ruin the new look. We must do something. The Christian life left to its own will quickly deteriorate. We must continually turn to God's grace for some "weed pulling."

We are all familiar with the term "walk the walk," and rightly we should, but that will never happen until we "work the work." God calls us to "work out our own salvation." We are co-laborers with God. And while he

will never force our labor, he calls us to the committed, disciplined life that permits, yea even asks, him to remove the weeds.

Just as ridding a yard of weeds is never easy, neither is it easy in our spiritual lives. But if we want to know Christ in his fullness and make him known to others, we must give him our weeds. Then again we can say, "Ah, it's a great big beautiful life." As others view our victories, they will want to know our resurrected Christ. ■ — Kirk is leader of the TBC Evangelism/Missions Strategies group.





# The Macedonian Call

## Partnership/Volunteer Missions Newsletter

Featuring news from Tennessee Baptists' five partnerships — Canada, Michigan, Rio de Janeiro, Portugal, and Tennessee

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

Phone — (615) 371-7935; FAX — (615) 371-2014; Internet — [www.tnbaptist.org/services/missions/missopp.htm](http://www.tnbaptist.org/services/missions/missopp.htm)

### From your missionary

God is providing Tennessee Baptists with some incredible opportunities for missionary service. Through our partnerships in Rio de Janeiro, Portugal, Nicaragua, Canada, Michigan, and in our state, Tennesseans are making an impact through our volunteer missions involvement.



SHARP

In 1999 we saw over 2,000 missionary volunteers go and serve internationally with IMB missionaries. Thousands more served here at home and nationally.

As Tennessee Baptists we have a unique opportunity to serve as volunteer missionaries while at the same time educate our people about Southern Baptist Missions. Our volunteers come back home seeing what the Cooperative Program has done and is doing, and seeing how the mission offerings: Lottie Moon, Annie Armstrong, and the Golden State Missions Offering are making a difference.

Why not make your next mission trip one that not only shares the Good News of Jesus, but also demonstrates what God is doing through a people called Southern Baptists.

In Christ,

*Terry*

### 1st Youth International Missions Training Institute

May 12-14

Tennessee Baptist Center, Brentwood

Led by IMB Volunteer Missions Staff and TBC Partnership/Volunteer Missions Staff

For reservations, please contact Vicki Pearson at (615) 371-7935 or [vpearson@tnbaptist.org](mailto:vpearson@tnbaptist.org) as soon as possible.

### To prepare missions teams

## Ministers of missions gather for training

By Marcia Knox  
For "The Macedonian Call"

"I found the Ministers of Missions Conference to be thought provoking especially as it related to being more sensitive to preparing teams for culture shock," according to a Tennessee Baptist associate pastor.

Chuck Tanner, associate pastor/minister of missions of Silverdale Baptist Church, Chattanooga, was one of 50 Tennessee Baptists who learned how to better prepare for an international mission trip when they previewed the new IMB pilot program of the International Missions Training Institute during the Tennessee Baptist Convention Minister of Missions Conference March 29-31 at First Baptist Church of Nashville.

"I also enjoyed meeting the other ministers of missions since I had not met any since assuming my new position almost a year ago."

Sponsored by the TBC Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team and staffed with trainers from the IMB, the Ministers of Missions Conference catered to the information needs of ministers of missions and missions coordinators in churches across the state.

Training for the IMB were: Corella Ricketson, Cross-Cultural Training Resources associate director; Bill Cashion, Volunteer Missions Department director; and Tom Warrington, Volunteer Missions Department, Spanish South America and Middle America associate director. Bill Morgan, IMB Public Relations vice president, spoke on Global Priority Churches.

TBC speakers were: James Porch, executive director-treasurer; Tim Bearden, Missions Awareness and Involvement Group leader; and Terry Sharp, Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team leader.

"The foundation in cross-cultural training examines and calls for the participant to examine their own culture to learn while recognizing similarities and differences in another culture along with communication," said Ricketson.

"The training is highly interactive centered on biblical basis, missiological issues, cross-cultural inventory, and witnessing."

Ricketson led the conference participants in "hands-on" activities where key issues of cross-cultural differences were discussed. Case studies of true incidents that occurred on mission trips were passed out to three groups, and the groups were asked to come up with workable solutions.

"Most of the case studies' mistakes resulted from communication breakdowns on the field," Ricketson noted. "You don't have to solely rely on a missionary to learn about the country that you are going to visit. Go to the country's web sites. There is a whole new world of information online that we can access."

The TBC Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team stands

ready to assist volunteers with valuable resource information online through the TBC Web site at [www.tnbaptist.org](http://www.tnbaptist.org) and through the office, according to Sharp.

Another example of this information online was presented at the conference, which offered one of the first TBC Web site Discussion Groups to participants at the Minister of Missions Conference.

Through the TBC Web site conference participants are able to enter an online discussion group which will be monitored by Sharp. This group operates an interactive bulletin board that allows registered Internet users to post messages on specified topics. Visitors to the Discussion Group can participate in multiple forums, which can be public or private.

The Ministers of Missions forum is a private, password-protected forum, which was activated April 4. ■



STEVE PEEK, left, of First Baptist Church, Concord, Knoxville, visits with IMB trainers Bill Cashion and Corella Ricketson.

### For culture shock

## Missions training institutes prepare participants

By Marcia Knox  
For "The Macedonian Call"

"I totally went into culture shock, and I haven't even left for Brazil," according to a recent participant to the first International Missions Training Institute, held March 31 - April 1 at the TBC Baptist Center.



HUGHES

Dianna Hughes, TBC Missions Awareness and Involvement's Assistant to the Group Leader, said that the role playing at the Institute put her on the spot where she forgot her testimony, which she

has been revising for her upcoming mission trip.

"The role playing scenario was to make good use of our time at the airport by witnessing to people that we didn't know," noted Hughes. "I froze. Being faced with the unexpected causes culture shock, and I was taken out of my comfort zone."

Dealing with culture shock was only one of the many issues that occur with international mission trips, which around 70 Institute participants experienced. They also dined on an international meal from India where the food was similar to creamed up spinach, rice, and deep fried vegetables, Hughes added.

The Institute specializes in

cross-cultural training where participants are taught to be sensitive to their own culture while dealing with similarities and differences in an international culture. Communication methods are also stressed.

Eight International Missions Training Institutes remain to be held this year at the Tennessee Baptist Convention in Brentwood. The Institutes are designed to equip mission volunteers for cross-cultural ministry in strategic locations throughout the world.

The Institutes will be offered May 6, June 3, July 8, Aug. 5, Sept. 9, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, and Dec. 2.

The Institutes will offer: prayer, praise, music and tes-

timony; Biblical basis of missions; strategic utilization of volunteers; international travel tips, culture shock survival guides; and sights, sounds and foods of other countries. Other highlights will be: how worldview helps or hinders ministry; how to share your missions ministry experience; and developing personal testimonies to share across cultures.

To attend any of these Institutes make reservations two weeks prior to the meeting of your choice. For information contact Terry Sharp, TBC Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team leader at 1-800-558-2090 or 615-371-7935 or email [tsharp@tnbaptist.org](mailto:tsharp@tnbaptist.org). ■



From local Methodist college, other schools

## Pulaski church leads students to serve in Nicaragua

By Lewis Thomas  
For "The Macedonian Call"

The sky was fairly clear from the plane March 4 as the ocean gave way to the mountainous terrain of northern Nicaragua. My heart became heavy as I thought of the people.

Being there once before, I knew that a tremendous pain would grip my soul before leaving once again on March 12 these precious people once again. I told myself to focus on the task at hand which was to build shelter for families who had lost everything during Hurricane Mitch.

It was so good again to see Art and Dottie Dennis, IMB ISC missionaries and Tennessee/Nicaragua Volunteer coordinators, and Gus, our driver and interpreter.

Our team this trip was much different than my last Disaster Relief Response trip to Nicaragua. First Baptist Church of Pulaski has started a Wednesday night Bible study at Martin Methodist College in Pulaski, and all but one of the students came out of the Bible study for the trip.

The eight college students from Martin Methodist College were: Nathan Baker, member of Temple Praise Baptist Church, Pulaski; Michael Clinger, member of Christ Church, Nashville; Leah Jones, Melissa McFarland, Jacqueline Mwangi, Rick Reynolds, Kamala Dale, and Jessica McDougal, who all are members of First Church of Pulaski. Andrew Cook, a student at Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, and a member of Orlinda Baptist Church, Springfield, also

joined the team. There were two other adults, John Dale and Thelma McDougal, both members of First Church, Pulaski, and myself, minister of students at the church. Only two of the students had ever been on a mission team.

I had presented the idea of a mission trip to the Bible study group. In talking with the TBC Partnership/Volunteer Missions team, I found out about a project, which had been cancelled and was to be the same week as Martin College's spring break. From then on it became the Martin Methodist College trip, and the college officials became excited.

As we drove Sunday afternoon to our project sight in Somotillo, Nicaragua we were informed of the extreme heat there. We would be the last team to work in the area because March and April are deadly months for the weak and elderly in Somotillo. Temperatures can rise to 115 plus degrees, and many could not escape the heat especially at night. In spite of the heat, I preached on Sunday night at the First Baptist Church of Somotillo where two people were saved.

We would pray for God's protection and strength, and he would graciously provide. The Dennises took great care of our team. Although unseen adversities would come our way, the Lord would be our strength.

Our first obstacle was not the heat, but a stomach virus that we brought with us from home. By Tuesday morning two of our team members were sick along with Dottie Dennis, who we depended on for many things.



**APSU STUDENT** Andrew Cook visits with children in Nicaragua during the effort. Cook joined the team although he wasn't from the same area in Tennessee. He is a member of Orlinda Baptist Church, Springfield.

By lunch two more of our team members were not feeling well. One person stayed behind to tend the sick while those who were able continued to work building houses. That night I could see the look of concern etched in Art Dennis' face. Those who got the virus first were still very ill. In a meeting Dennis and I decided if the sick weren't better by morning, then we would transport them back to Managua to see a doctor.

We continued to pray. Many prayer chains were started literally around the world, and God's power worked through the prayer warriors. The following morning just as the darkness gave way to the light of day, the sickness lifted, and all were much better.

Those who had been sick fought their way back to the job sight not willing to allow weakened bodies to stop them. We built two concert houses from the ground up and finished up two other houses from their foundations. While working on the project, Pastor Diomidez of

the First Church of Somotillo asked us to go to a remote area that night. He wanted us to share the Gospel in an area around 30 miles from Somotillo and near the coast.

First, I thought how much more remote could we get. Secondly, there was concern about our team's health. We wondered if they needed more rest. After a brief team meeting we came to a unanimous decision to go.

All but two of our team were able to make the slow and bumpy journey. We traveled down roads meant only for oxen and carts and finally arrived at the middle of nowhere.

As young people played soccer in a cow pasture we set up a portable public announcement system. Several adults and children had soon gathered. Pastor Diomidez told the small crowd that he wanted to start a Baptist church in the farming community area. We were the first Americans to be seen by these people.

I thought what an area! How do these people survive

out here? We sang some songs, and I was asked to preach a very simple Gospel message. As the sun was setting, some 18 adults and many children had prayed to receive Christ into their hearts. Diomidez had his new church!

With only two more days to work the team became more intense about completing the task at hand. The extreme heat made the effort very difficult. Determined not to be stopped by sickness or the unmerciful temperatures, we pressed on.

Many had become very close to the nationals since they had worked beside each other every day, and hearts began to break as the final blocks were laid. The pace now slowed, and hugs were traded and tears. We will never forget them or the experience of working in Nicaragua.

We shall always remember Diomidez and his wife Claudia, and Luis Manuel, a young man who loved the Lord and will lead the new church. Manuel is one of 20 cell group leaders from the First Church of Somotillo.

This story would not be complete without mentioning the children who met us with smiles each day. You see we learned of the "brown eyed syndrome," and our hearts were changed forever. The children wanted nothing but our love. As we walked along a little hand would find its way into our hands, and then another and another. Soon our hands would be much too full to hold anymore little hands.

May God bless the children and the people of Nicaragua and may a cool breeze blow in the town of Somotillo. ■

## Sullivan Association members build houses, witness in Nicaragua

For "The Macedonian Call"

A total of 11 Sullivan Baptist Association Disaster Relief Response volunteers recently worked to rebuild three houses in Somotillo, Nicaragua, to help victims of Hurricane Mitch.

Eight of the 11 volunteers from Sullivan Association were from Higher Ground Baptist Church, Kingsport, two were from Sullivan Baptist Church, Kingsport, and one from First Baptist Church, Kingsport.

Making up the team were: Mike Hartgrove, David Merrill, Steve Bradley, Harold Nappier, Rod Pickwell, John Douglas, Aaron Valentine, Marion White, all of Higher Ground Church; Dwight Smith and Linton Kerr, Sullivan Bap-

tist Church, Kingsport, and Tommy Holtzclaw, Sullivan Association director of missions.

The group worked with IMB missionaries Keith Stamps and Randy Pool and ICS Disaster Relief volunteer coordinators Art and Dorothy Dennis to rebuild houses for hurricane victims.

While the Sullivan Association was in Nicaragua, 76 professions of faith were recorded through the presentation of the "Jesus" film. Even though this was a Disaster Relief project, we expressed a desire to do evangelism to the Dennises," said Holtzclaw. "We were a part of the Jesus Film presentation for two nights in Somotillo, and we also gave out 200 Bibles." ■



**WORKING IN NICARAGUA** with Disaster Relief Response were, kneeling, from left to right, an interpreter, Mike Hartgrove, David Merrill, Steve Bradley, all from Higher Ground Baptist Church, Kingsport; Dottie Dennis, IMB ISC Nicaragua volunteer coordinator; standing, Harold Nappier, Rod Pickwell, John Douglas, Aaron Valentine, all of Higher Ground Church; Dwight Smith, Sullivan Baptist Church, Kingsport; Tommy Holtzclaw, Sullivan Association director of missions; Marion White, Higher Ground Church; Art Dennis, IMB ISC Nicaragua volunteer coordinator; and Linton Kerr, Sullivan Baptist Church, Kingsport.



## Birmingham health care team draws Tennesseans

by Marcia Knox  
for "The Macedonian Call"

A team of 34 medical volunteers from Brookwood Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, including four Tennessee Baptists, recently worked in the Acir community in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, where they saw over 4,000 patients through a Tennessee Partnership/Volunteer project.

In addition to the medical volunteers, several IMB missionaries including Sharon Fairchild and her son David Fairchild and dozens of Brazilian Baptist volunteers participated in the weeklong mission project.

Included in the Brookwood team were four Tennesseans: Greg Boston, a dentist from Bartlett; his daughter, Ashley Boston, a student at Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City; both members of Gum Springs Baptist Church, Gallatin; Ashley Guider, an occupational therapist from Harman; and her fiancé Rob Nelson, an occupational therapist from Chattanooga, both members of Central Baptist Church, Knoxville.

"This was my first mission trip," said Greg Boston. "I don't know how anyone can go on a mission trip without it being a life-changing experience. Brookwood Church was well

prepared for the mission and so were the IMB missionaries when we arrived in Rio de Janeiro."

"Ron and I were definitely blessed by the missions trip," said Guider, who has plans to marry. "It's wonderful to go on a medical missions trip."

"When we found out that the Brookwood Church trip was cancelled to Venezuela, all it took was one call to the TBC Partnership/Volunteer Mission Team and we were on our way to Rio de Janeiro," said Greg Boston.

According to Brookwood Church minister of education Steve Danzey, the medical team had originally planned to go to a mission site in Maracaibo, Venezuela. However, changes in Venezuela government procedures prevented the team from getting the needed approval at that time. The Brookwood medical team found out about Tennessee's Rio de Janeiro medical projects through Dewey Dunn, Nashville physician and member of Woodmont Baptist Church, Nashville.

"Each patient who was examined in medical, dental, and eye clinics were interviewed at registration to determine if they were a believer," said Mike Drummond, Brookwood Church team leader and Birmingham physician. "They were also in-

vited to sign-up for an in-home Bible study. A surprisingly high percentage of patients were interested in Bible study especially among the nonbelievers."

"The First Baptist Church of Acir in Rio de Janeiro where we worked is committed to an organized follow-up of these patients with discipleship. Several of our workers saw non-believers come to know the Lord and His Kingdom for the first time. One family of 11 received Christ throughout the week."

Carolyn Josey, a member of Brookwood Church, help fit glasses for three small children, who were the same ages of her grandchildren. The Brazilian children could see perfectly for the first time in their lives. This experience of helping children to see was worth the whole trip for Josey.

Some of the Brazilians stayed in line over night to get the opportunity to see the medical team. For the volunteers it was a very humbling experience to hear these people express their need and their gratitude, according to Drummond.

It is also a learning experience for the volunteers to see the structure of the Carioca



HEALTH CARE workers wait on the steps of First Baptist Church, Acir, Rio, as patients arrive for treatment.

Baptist Association's ministry in this area. Simultaneously with the medical team, the association had an ongoing evangelism ministry, a discipleship ministry, clothing ministry, sports ministry, drug recovery, street children recovery team, prostitution recovery team, elderly ministry, and huge job retraining ministry.

"It is truly the New Testament church living its mission and we are only a small part," said Drummond. "We have a lot to learn."

"We saw dire medical and social needs, but also experienced the joy of helping to relieve some of that suffering. We even saw a man with leprosy

receive treatment for the first time. This favela now has an eternal hope."

The Tennessee Volunteer/Missions Team receives frequent calls from pastors, youth ministers, and other out-of-state church staff, whose mission plans fall amiss. The Tennessee Team is well known as a Total Missions Resource Center for its numerous partnership projects, dependability, and proven track record.

For information on mission projects in Tennessee, nationally, and internationally, contact the TBC Partnership/Volunteer missions team at 1-800-558-2090 or (615) 371-7935 or email [tsharp@tnbaptist.org](mailto:tsharp@tnbaptist.org). ■

## Tennessee churches link up with beginning Rio congregations

Marcia Knox  
for "The Macedonian Call"

A total of four Tennessee Baptist Churches and one association have committed to help start new churches in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, during the next three years, according to Partnership/Volunteer Missions team leader Terry Sharp. The pastors of the four churches and a director of missions traveled to Brazil Feb. 19-24 to visit the mother churches in Rio de Janeiro where the new missions will be started.

The pastors and the Lawrence County director of missions met with four Rio de Janeiro mother churches and are working with the mother churches to bring several mission teams this year to establish the new churches.

Accompanying Sharp and James Porch, TBC executive director-treasurer, were: Clark Brown, pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Greenfield; John Albright, pastor of Faith Baptist Church, Loretto; Jeff Walters, pastor of Smyrna Baptist Church, Chapel Hill; Larry Riley, minister of missions at First Baptist Church, Clarksville; and Larry Smart, director of missions for Lawrence County Baptist Association.

ville; and Larry Smart, director of missions for Lawrence County Baptist Association.

"Bethel Church will be starting a new mission of Ebenezer Baptist Church, which is located in the Jacarepagua Association in Rio de Janeiro," said Brown. "We are looking at a new area for the mission and are committed to building a chapel."

"We are awaiting project dates and the name of the church for the new chapel. We will send one construction team of 10 people and an evangelism team of five."

"Our recent trip was the first time a Rio de Janeiro project was used to start new works and gathering information. We were able to preach in the host churches, and some churches saw several people saved."

Faith Baptist Church in Loretto has teamed up with the Lawrence County Baptist Association to do four possible projects, said Albright. "We are also looking to team up with another Tennessee association."

Faith Church and Lawrence County Association will be starting a new mission for En-



MEMBERS OF a fact finding team were, from left, Larry Smart, Lawrence County Baptist Association; James Porch, TBC; Larry Riley, First Baptist Church, Clarksville; Jeff Walters, Smyrna Baptist Church, Chapel Hill; and Terry Sharp, TBC.

genho Novo Baptist Church in the Campinho area. Plans call for the teams to go to Rio de Janeiro either in June/July or September/October.

"Currently there is no meeting place for the new mission and families will come from outside the area to start the new work," said Albright. "There is very little evangelical work in the area, which is a highly populated area. The church and the association are very excited to be involved in this project."

"At Smyrna Baptist Church, we are planning to help establish a mission church of First Baptist Church of Barros Fil-

ho," said Walters. "The new mission is in the area of Honório Gurgel where we plan to send construction, outreach, youth, prayerwalking, and discipleship teams within the next three years."

"Our first mission trip is planned for Aug. 28 - Sept. 5 where we will prayerwalk the Honório Gurgel area and lead an *Experiencing God* weekend for the mother church and the new work."

"The First Baptist Church of Clarksville will send 30 volunteers July 23 - Aug. 1 to do general evangelism for the new church start of First Baptist



JEFF WALTERS makes a new friend of the son of a pastor in Rio.

Church of Governors Island in Zumbi," said Riley. "The Cacua Mission will be helped with medical, evangelism, and home repair construction teams during 2001, and in 2002 additional medical, evangelism, and church construction teams will be needed."

Churches that would like to link-up with churches in partnership countries may contact, the TBC Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team at 1-800-558-2090, 615-371-7935, or email Terry Sharp, Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team leader at [tsharp@tnbaptist.org](mailto:tsharp@tnbaptist.org). ■



# The Macedonian Call

Place	Project ID	Work	Dates	Volunteers Needed
<b>Portugal Projects</b>				
Central/West	PM12000112	Street evangelism through art.	July 15-29	4
Three Key Cities	PM12000100	Black Gospel choir to tour three cities for church planting.	open	open
Lisbon	PM12000111	Paint and lay tile in new church.	open	5
Northern Region	PM12000102	Prayerwalk teams to pray for northern Portugal.	open	6 or less
<b>Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Projects</b>				
Rio de Janeiro	PM42000932	Construct chapel for Carioca Baptist Camp.	Oct. 7-22	25
Rio de Janeiro	PM42000936	Construct chapel for the Missao Batista Bandeirantes.	open	20
Rio de Janeiro	PM42000937	Construct chapel for the Araujo Mission	open	20
Rio de Janeiro	PM42000960	Instrumental performers to present concerts.	July 5-17	5
Rio de Janeiro	PM42000956	Choir/large ensemble to perform throughout Rio.	open	open
Rio de Janeiro	PM42000920	Contemporary Christian band to perform in a variety of locations.	open	open
Rio de Janeiro	PM42000921	Bluegrass/Country band to perform in variety of locations	open	8
Rio de Janeiro	PM42000945	Conduct medical clinics.	open	15
Rio de Janeiro	PM42000944	Conduct medical clinics.	open	15
Rio de Janeiro	PM42000942	Conduct medical clinics.	open	15
Rio de Janeiro	PM42000941	Conduct medical clinics.	open	15
Rio de Janeiro	PM42000957	Conduct medical clinics.	open	20
Rio de Janeiro	PM42000943	Conduct medical clinics.	open	15
Rio de Janeiro	PM42000966	Conduct medical clinics.	Aug. 31-Sept. 9	10
Rio de Janeiro	PM42000940	Conduct medical clinics.	Aug. 31-Sept. 9	30
Rio de Janeiro	PM42000931	Conduct new church start — evangelism, witnessing, revivals and discipleship.	open	12
Rio de Janeiro	PM42000955	Teams to do simultaneous revivals — evangelism, witnessing.	Sept. 17-26	45
<b>Canada Projects</b>				
Calvary, AB	00M1D003	Build and install cabinets in new church	May	3-5
Ottawa, OT	00ONT002	Teams to help rebuild church gutted by fire.	open	open
Prince Albert, SK	99NOR044	Evangelistic team to reach the Indian people.	open	1-2
Halifax, NS	99ATL007	Orchestra team to perform at waterfront.	July 21-31	15-30
Fairview, AB	99MID036	Conduct evangelistic services and survey community.	July 8-17	6
St. Albert, AB	00MID001	Conduct evangelistic services and survey community.	July 30-Aug. 6	5-10
Halifax, NS	99ATL010	Conduct revival, drama presentations.	Oct. 19-23	2
Penticton, BC	00ALP002	Conduct evangelistic outreach in different communities.	June-August	open
Victoria, BC	00CAP001	Conduct sports camp and youth outreach programs.	July 9-15	5-12
Salmon Arm, BC	00ALP001	Conduct sports clinic and leadership training for adults.	Aug. 26-Sept. 2	4-10
Saskatchewan	00NOR002	Conduct children and youth VBS programs.	May 21-27	5-10
Mississauga, OT	99ONT002	Conduct BYBC and do literature distribution.	June 2-16	5-10
Salmon Arm, BC	00ALP003	Conduct BYBC in mornings and evenings.	July 9-15	8-10
Ontario	00ONT001	Conduct VBS and campground ministries.	July 29-Aug. 7	8-15
<b>Michigan Projects</b>				
Midland	B-2	Conduct BYBC.	June 17-23	open
Brighton	H-1	Conduct BYBC, sports clinics, choir concerts and drama.	July 22-29	10-20
Detroit	GD-2B	Team needed to repair/remodel classrooms and church offices.	June 25-July 1	open
Woodhaven	GD-1A	Do first rough in for church addition.	July 2-8	open
Woodhaven	GD-1B	Electrical/plumbing for church additions.	July 9-15	open
Portage	SC-1B	Teams to do VBS and work with youth.	July 9-15	open
Portage	SC-1A	Teams to install roof.	July 9-15	open
Woodhaven	GD-1C	Drywall/painting for church addition.	July 16-22	open

## Tennessee Projects

- ◆ **Benton** — Kitchen/Dining Hall Supervisor to coordinate and plan menus. Purchase food, oversee kitchen staff and help with other ministries. May 15-Aug 15  
Kitchen/Dining Hall Staff to work with kitchen supervisor and staff in meal preparation, set-up, serving, cleaning of kitchen and dining hall. May 15-Aug 15  
General Maintenance — Light maintenance, lawn care, maintain equipment and help with other ministries. May 15-Aug 15  
Camp Nurse — Serve as nurse for summer camps, mission groups and retreats. Maintain medical supplies, handle medication for campers. May 15-Aug 15. Contact: Debbie Brock, Camp Agape, 423-338-4153.
- ◆ **Chattanooga** — Teams of 12-50 to roof and paint inner city widows homes with optional afternoon and evening ministries.  
June 25-July 1      July 2-8      July 9-15  
Contact: Stan Braley, Hamilton County Baptist Association, 423-267-3794.
- ◆ **Columbia** — Teams to do new church construction starting in April. Contact: Fred Hawkins, 931-388-5267.
- ◆ **Elizabethton** — Teams of 12-16 to do daycamps in the morning and BYBC in the evenings with local churches.  
June 11-17      July 9-15      June 18-24  
July 16-22      June 25 - July 1      July 23-29  
July 2-8      July 30- Aug 5  
Teams of 10-20 to do BYBC at local state park during the day and home improvements in the evenings. Project open for summer.  
Teams of 2-20 to do home repairs for the elderly, disabled, and single-parent families. Project open for summer. Contact: Becky Brumitt, Hale Community Ministries, 423-547-2560.
- ◆ **Gleason** — Teams to build new church sanctuary and conduct BYBC. Contact: Jerry Esch, 901-648-0408.
- ◆ **Franklin** — Teams to do new church construction in June. Contact: George Temple, 615-790-8515.
- ◆ **Harriman** — Teams to do BYBC, sport clinics, and block parties in multi-housing areas.  
June 5-9      July 10-14      June 12-16  
July 17-21      June 26-30      July 24-28  
Contact: David Acres, 865-882-6446.
- ◆ **Humboldt** — Brick layers to build new church sanctuary in May. Contact: Charlotte Cole, Smyrna Baptist Church, Humboldt, 901-686-9653
- ◆ **Jackson** — Teams of 10-40 to repair, paint and roof elderly and needy homes and assist small churches with BYBC in low-income housing communities.  
June 4-9      July 9-14      June 11-16  
July 16-21      June 18-23      July 23-28  
June 25-30  
Contact: Amy Brady, Madison-Chester and Crockett Baptist Association, 901-668-5690.
- ◆ **Jefferson City** — Teams of 10-15 per team to remodel low income homes and conduct BYBC in low-income housing and Boys/Girls Club.  
June 4-9      July 9-14      June 18-23  
July 16-21      July 25-30      July 23-28  
July 2-7      July 30 - Aug. 4  
Contact: Shannon Washam, Appalachian Outreach, 423-475611.
- ◆ **Johnson City** — Teams of 6-10 to do BYBC for preschool children.  
June 4-9      July 9-14      June 11-16  
July 16-21      June 18-23      July 23-28  
June 25-30  
Contact: Ginger Dalton, Holston Baptist Association, 423-91196.
- ◆ **Millington** — Teams to construct interior of a 16,000 sq. ft family life center in May. Also need painting and suspended ceiling crew to start in July-September. Contact: Mike Owe Big Hatchie Baptist Association, 901-835-2143.
- ◆ **Memphis** — A team of 6-10 to conduct BYBC in single-parent housing area for June 17-24. Contact: Roger Hagan, Audubon Park Baptist Church, 901-324-5541.
- ◆ **Memphis** — Teams to do BYBC and church construction from March 1999 to August 2000. Contact: Tim Cox, 901-374777
- ◆ **Nashville** — Teams of 15 to repair elderly and disabled residents homes. Volunteers work year round. Contact: Paul Morris, 615-776-2266.
- ◆ **Nashville** — Teams in May to do masonry and electrical work on existing church building. Contact: George Lang, 615-793-5402.

For more information about the above projects, call Tennessee Baptist Convention Partnership/Volunteer Missions Team at 1-800-558-2090 or (615) 371-20



## churches

■ **Ridgeview Baptist Church, Knoxville**, will hold revival April 30 - May 3. **Wesley Hobbs** of Scottsboro, Ala., will speak beginning Sunday evening. For more information, call the church at (615) 688-8822.

■ For the third year, an **Seaside Crusade** for students at the Union County school system will be held May 8-12 from 9:30-11 a.m. and at 7:30 a.m. It will be held in Wilson Park near Union County High School, Maynardville. Students end the crusade on released time with permission of parents. Crusade organizers also distribute Bibles to students. For more information, contact **Don Dalton** at (423) 974-3131 or **Gary Beeler**, pastor, **First Baptist Church, Knoxville**, (865) 922-4614.

■ To observe Black History Month, **Temple Baptist Church, Paris**, participated in an interracial service with **Zion Baptist Church**.

■ **Ridgeview Baptist Church, Church Hill**, will have with other Baptists in July. They will conduct street evangelism, lead door rallies with the "Jesus" film, lead Vacation Bible



**FRANCES HILL**, left, secretary at Parkview Baptist Church, Lewisburg, recently was recognized at the Tennessee Baptist Convention Secretaries Conference for 49 years of ministry as a church secretary. She received her plaque from Sarah Farmer of Johnson City, conference president.

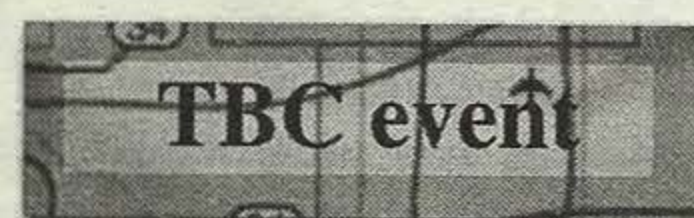
School, conduct health care work, and do construction work.

■ **First Baptist Church, Jacksboro**, will hold revival April 30 - May 3. **Bob Brown**, pastor, Smoke Rise Baptist Church, Stone Mountain, Ga., will speak. **Bill Adcock**, minister of music, First Baptist Church, Somerset, Ky., will lead the music.

■ **Tulip Grove Baptist Church, Old Hickory**, will hold a special 25th anniversary service on Sunday, May 21, at 10:30 a.m. The guest speaker

will be **Joe Stacker**, pastor of Belmont Heights Baptist Church, who formerly served as an interim pastor at Tulip Grove.

■ **Idlewild Baptist Church, Idlewild**, will hold revival services May 7-10 with guest evangelist **John Adams**.



■ **Missions Skills School** will be May 5-6 at Linden Valley Baptist Conference Center, Linden. The school, sponsored by the Tennessee Baptist Convention, will offer 21 training sessions in areas ranging from multi-housing ministries, creativity in missions, witnessing construction, prayerwalking,



**Men's Ministries, Royal Ambassador and Challenger Leaders, and Disaster Relief.** For more information, contact **Carol Davidson** of the TBC at 1-800-558-2090 ext. 2025, or (615) 371-2025.

## leaders

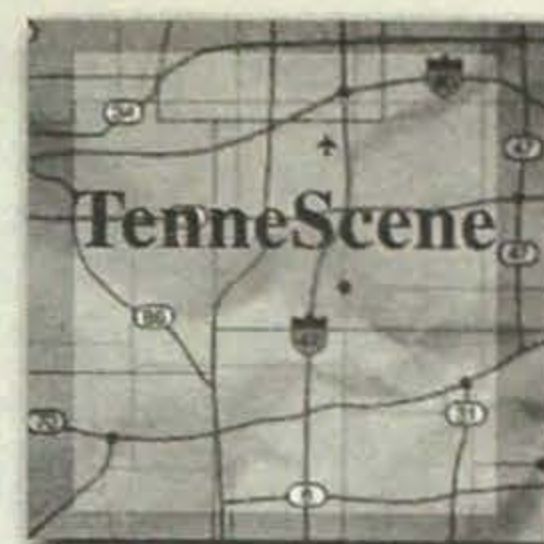
■ **Pete Pollard**, minister of single adults, Southeast Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, has been called as pastor of singles and adult education, Capital Baptist Church, Anondale, Va. He served the church for two years. He will be ordained to the ministry at Hermitage Hills Baptist Church, Nashville, May 7.

■ **Lincoln Park Baptist Church, Knoxville**, has called **Keith Walker** as pastor, effective May 21. The Knoxville native is coming to the pastorate from Eagles Landing First Baptist Church, McDonough, Ga., where he was serving as minister of education and evangelism. Walker is a graduate of East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

■ **Maplewood Baptist Church, Paris**, named its church library after **Marie Beville** to honor her for starting it.

■ **Blue Springs Baptist Church, Rutledge**, called **Marty Shelton** recently as student/administrator minister.

■ **Henards Chapel Baptist Church, Rogersville**, has called **Joe Frazier** as pastor, effective April 9. He was pastor of Fairview Baptist Church, Mohawk. **Don Mitchell**, retired from Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, was interim pastor for 15 months. He is



available for part-time church work. Mitchell can be reached at (865) 475-5240.

■ **Liberty Baptist Church, Wartburg**, has called **Michael T. Justus** as pastor. He was pastor of Alder Branch Baptist Church, Sevierville, and a church in Madison, Mo.

## death

■ **Everette M. Sherwood** of Lenoir City, pastor of several East Tennessee Baptist churches for a total of more than 60 years, died recently. He wrote the book, *Beyond the Gold*, about his ministry. Sherwood also was a musician who wrote several songs and sang.

## Fowler to retire as DOM in July

For Baptist and Reflector

**ATHENS** — **Roy A. Fowler**, director of missions in McMinn-Meigs Baptist Association based here since 1991, will retire July 1 after 48 years in the ministry.

The Georgia native and his wife, **Pat**, served for 13 years as Southern Baptist missionaries in Brazil.

Prior to becoming director of missions in McMinn-Meigs, Fowler was pastor of First Baptist Church, Mountain Home, Ark. He also has served churches in Kentucky and Illinois.

The Fowlers plan to reside in Athens. They have six children and 11 grandchildren. ■



**FOWLER**

## CLASSIFIED

**MUSIC MINISTER:** Maplewood Baptist Church is seeking a part-time minister of music. Please call and send resume to Maplewood Baptist Church, 812 Tiny Town Rd., Clarksville, TN 37043, (931) 431-4378.

**YOUTH MINISTER:** Maplewood Baptist Church is seeking a part-time youth minister. Please call or send resume to Maplewood Baptist Church, 812 Tiny Town Rd., Clarksville, TN 37042, (931) 431-4378.

**POSITIONS:** Resumes for two staff positions are being sought: associate pastor of worship and ministry (a combination of minister of music and pastoral care) and associate pastor of youth (a part-time minister to youth). Resumes should be sent to Search Committee, 6513 Chapman Hwy., Knoxville, TN 37920.

**MUSIC MINISTER:** Hickory Hollow Baptist Church, Antioch, Tenn., is accepting resumes for vocational minister of music. Send resume to 419 Randall Ln., Vergne, TN 37086-4211.

**DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS:** Musc Shoals Baptist Association is accepting resumes from May 1 until May 31. Send resume to Rev. Steve Agee, 2412 County Rd. 317, Moulton, AL 35650.

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# SBC, Texas Baptist leaders meet behind closed doors

By Marv Knox  
For Associated Baptist Press

FORT WORTH, Texas — Key leaders of the Southern Baptist Convention and Baptist General Convention of Texas met April 6 here on the campus of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

But, according to an agreement reached by all the participants, they're saying very little about their discussions.

The only official word about the meeting is a brief statement released by Southwestern Seminary President Ken Hemphill and affirmed by BGCT Executive Director Charles Wade.

It states: "Participants said the informal luncheon was a friendly and helpful conversation concerning ways the conventions can continue to work together in Kingdom causes. While acknowledging that there are concerns which continue to be studied, participants said it was the sort of conversation that can lead to a new level of trust and partnership."

Relationships between the Texas convention and the SBC

have been strained in recent years.

The Fort Worth meeting apparently was prompted by SBC leaders, who learned Wade was scheduled to preach in the seminary's chapel service that morning.

Hemphill reportedly asked Wade to meet with a group representing SBC concerns. The size of the meeting grew steadily, with participants added to the group up until late the night before the meeting.

In addition to Hemphill, SBC representatives included Morris Chapman, president of the SBC Executive Committee; Jimmy Draper, president of LifeWay Christian Resources; Jack Graham, pastor of Prestonwood Baptist Church in Plano and a member of the Executive Committee; O.S. Hawkins, president of the Annuity Board; Don Kammerdiener, executive vice president of the International Mission Board; Albert Mohler, president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; and Randy Singer, executive vice president of the North American Mission Board.

In addition to Wade, BGCT

representatives included Jim Denison, chairman of a BGCT committee studying missions-sending agencies and pastor of Park Cities Baptist Church in Dallas; Clyde Glazener, BGCT president and pastor of Gambrell Street Baptist Church in Fort Worth; Dick Maples, associate executive director; Bernie Spooner, director of the Bible study/discipleship division; and Phil Strickland, director of the Christian Life Commission.

Participants generally characterized the meeting as cordial, with some conciliatory statements expressed. "It was a good meeting," said Draper, who was a longtime Texas Baptist pastor before he took the helm of Life-

Way in Nashville. "Any time we can communicate and talk together, that's good."

"The meeting was polite. There was not any hostility or anger. We were able to surface some things that will give us a foundation for discussion in the future."

Wade affirmed the BGCT's intention to work with groups, such as the SBC, that will reciprocate goodwill, Draper added, expressing a hope for future cooperation built on relationships.

"There was a time when everybody trusted everybody," Draper noted. "Unfortunately, we're in a time when there's little trust. Building relationships is how you restore trust." ■



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**MUSIC MINISTER:** Bakers Grove Baptist Church is seeking part-time music minister, Heritage/Mt. Juliet area. Send resume to Bakers Grove Baptist Church, 3562 Earhart Rd., Mt. Juliet, TN 37122 or call (615) 883-5039.

**YOUTH/CHILDREN:** Part-time minister of youth/children needed. Contact Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Martin, Tenn., (901) 559-5939.

**YOUTH MINISTER:** Part-time staff position is available at Benton Baptist Church, Ringgold, GA. Church is located off I-75 approximately 8 miles from Canton. Interested youth ministers mail your resume to Youth Minister Search Committee, 4 Boynton Dr., Ringgold, GA 30288 or fax (706) 861-7234.

**MUSIC MINISTER:** First Baptist Church, Mt. Zion, Ill., is seeking full-time music minister. Please send resume to FBC, P.O. Box 137, Mt. Zion, IL 62549, or Scott Doughty.

**DAY CARE DIRECTOR:** Inglewood Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn., is accepting applications for director for their day care/kindergarten program. Send resumes to Inglewood Baptist Church, 3901 Gallatin Rd., Nashville, TN 37216, Attn: Rev. Tom Riley.

**MINISTER:** First Baptist Church, Monroe, NC, is seeking a minister to lead a dually-affiliated SBC/CBF fellowship. The church is a mission-minded, community-oriented congregation which affirms autonomy, corporate stewardship, service, and ecumenical activities as central to the life of a New Testament church. The church is a progressive, multi-staffed, and growing fellowship with 600+ members. Send resume to First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 99, Monroe, NC 28111.

**YOUTH MINISTER:** First Baptist Church of Sunbright, Tenn., is seeking a bivocational youth minister. Please send resume to FBC, Search Committee, P.O. Box 237, Sunbright, TN 37887.

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## Life and Work Lesson

# Willing to serve

Jimmy Gentry

### Focal Passage: I Samuel 16:1, 6-13

The text in I Samuel 16 facilitates a richer understanding of service as part of God's mission for church. Willingness is the key to God's anointing service. David is depicted as a man after the heart of God (I Samuel 13:14) who, in Hebrew story, is the most celebrated Judean king. One after the heart of God is attuned to his voice and is determined to respond affirmatively whenever he speaks. How can believers best serve God? The text in Samuel 16 explores some answers to that question.

God has a plan for every believer's life (v. 1). It is important to keep the context in view. One must have a better grasp of these Scriptures if chapters 1-15 are read along with chapter 16. The prophet Samuel observed the potential in Saul to be the Lord as king. Saul did serve with what appears to be a willingness; yet, he failed to "obey" the Lord's commands which resulted in the Lord's rejection of Saul for another. Samuel grieves over Saul's failure. The text indicates that Samuel was afflicted in grief that the Lord tells him he has to go on with his life. In contrast to Saul, Samuel is obedient to the Lord's instruction and does get on with his life by going to the house of Jesse in Bethlehem. There the Lord "has provided for himself" a son from among the sons of Jesse. God continues to provide for himself individuals who will serve Him. He creates a plan for each of his children and works on their abilities.

What's what's on the inside that really counts (vv. 6-7). If there is a text that challenges the secular approach to securing persons for service, it is in these verses. The world judges on the basis of outward appearance while the Lord appraises on the basis of inward appearance. God instructs Samuel to go of himself and trust him. How easy it is to fall into the trap of failing to grasp a person's substance. This is not to say that awe-inspiring, handsome, and beautiful people have no depth in character. It is to say that God looks at people differently than humans do. He always looks at one's heart before when all is said and done, it really is what's on the inside that counts. Believers are to continually ask what their hearts are like. "What does God see when he looks into my heart?"

Be devoted to your current labor (vv. 8-12). One of Jesse's seven sons are brought to Samuel, and none of them is the Lord's choice. One readily serves Samuel's diligence in "letting go" and trusting the Lord to guide him, not allowing the outward manifestations of each to influence him. Samuel asks Jesse if there are other sons. He tells there is one — the youngest, perhaps the least, who is in the fields tending the sheep. The text does not indicate why David was not invited to be by Samuel as his older brothers did. Whatever the reason, David is in the fields caring for the sheep. The Lord recognizes a devotion in David to his current work. His heart reveals a pastoral quality of devotion. God looks for persons who are faithfully devoted to a cause. As believers serve, they are to do so with utter allegiance to the task to which they have been called with a willingness to engage another assignment if so led by the Lord.

God will empower willing servants (v. 13). After Samuel anoints David with oil, symbolic of God's blessing on his choice, the Holy Spirit comes upon David, empowering him for the responsibility of service. The greatest anointing is that of the Holy Spirit. Willing servants are empowered by the Holy Spirit to serve. — Gentry is pastor Springfield Baptist Church, Springfield.

# Ultimate solution

By Joe Sorah

### Focal Passage: I Corinthians 12:31-13:13

The last several generations were raised hearing songs like, "What the world needs now is love, sweet love" and "All we need is love, love, all we really need is love." There is so much truth to lyrics; however, our generation has so blurred the definition of love that we are not sure what it means. We love everything from ice cream to cars to people, you name it.

The ultimate solution to the problems of life is love. Paul authored, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the most profound, yet simple explanation of love ever given. In the climate of self-exalting, self-edifying believers at Corinth, Paul pronounced what everyone should seek (12:31). Love is the ultimate solution.

## Family Bible Lesson

**The pre-eminence of love (13:1-3).** Paul esteemed love above all spiritual gifts. The Corinthians were partial to the gift of tongues. Without love, tongues are worthless. In chapter 14, Paul would encourage seeking the higher gifts such as prophecy. However, without love, the higher gifts are of no value. The Apostle proposed doing charitable acts and giving one's life as a martyr. Without love, these accomplish nothing. Love reigns supreme over these things.

**The performance of love (vv. 3-7).** In order to define love, Paul gave 15 descriptions. If a person claims to love, he should perform in the following ways.

Love "suffereth long" speaks of patience with people. It describes one who is slow to anger. Love "is kind" means that we are to be "gentle in behavior" as A.T. Robertson put it. This is being actively engaged in doing good for others. Love "envieth not" encourages us not to begrudge others of possessions, positions, and gifts. Love "vaunteth not

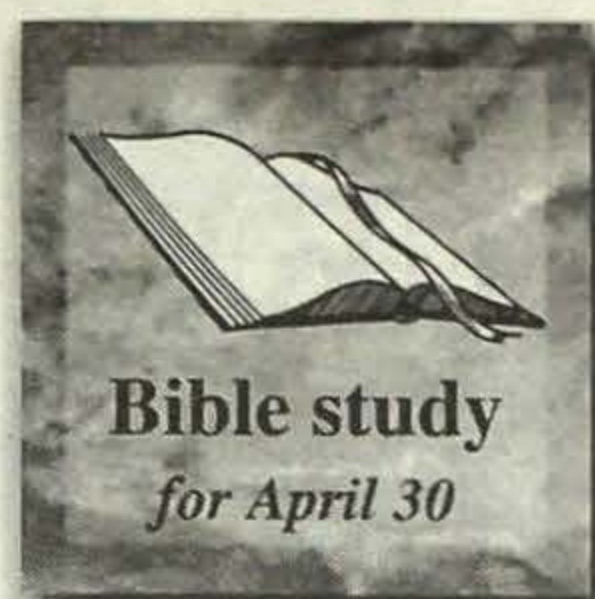
itself" means not to have an inordinate desire to call attention to oneself. Love "is not puffed up" points to the humility of love and being willing to serve another.

Verse 5 continues the string of instructions in the negative form. Love "does not behave itself unseemly." Another way of putting this, love does not behave rudely. Love "seeketh not her own" points to how love does not insist upon its rights. Love "is not easily provoked" deals with anger. Love does not throw temper tantrums. Love "thinketh no evil." This speaks of keeping a list of wrongs performed by another.

Love "rejoiceth not in iniquity." Love finds no pleasure in anything that is wrong. Love "rejoiceth in the truth" points to the nature of love always wanting truth to prevail.

In verse 7, Paul gives four ways love is always expressed. Love "beareth all things" means that love always covers the faults of others. Love can bear the disappointments of life and overcome them. Love "believeth all things" points to the trusting nature of love. Love "hopeth all things" gives the idea that we are never to give up on another. Love "endureth all things" lends itself to the persevering nature of love. Contrary to the modern definitions and pictures of love, these verses clearly explain to us how love performs.

**The permanence of love (vv. 8-13).** Paul proclaimed that "love never fails." While spiritual gifts will not be needed in heaven, love will always be present. We presently live with limited knowledge. There is coming a day when our knowledge will be full. Faith, hope, and love will last forever. The greatest of these is love. Love will continue to be the ultimate solution to the problems of life for God is love (I John 4:16). Jesus said that the world will know that we are his followers by our love (John 13:35). Love, as described by Paul, was what Jesus was speaking of and what the world needs to see. — Sorah is pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Elizabethton.



# Repeatedly forsaking the Lord

By Garry Miller

### Focal Passage: Judges 2:11-22a

"Previously on \_\_\_\_\_" (Fill in the name of your favorite episodic television series). This is a phrase viewers of "soap opera" type programs have come to expect. The Book of Judges is a series of six episodes with a recurring theme: Disobedience brings God's discipline and obedience brings God's blessing. Each episode divides into four acts — Act 1, Sin; Act 2, Suffering; Act 3, Supplication; and Act 4, Salvation.

Act 1 usually begins with "All God's children" living in prosperity. They have been obedient and God has blessed them. However, they begin to believe that they are responsible for their successes and to presume upon God's grace. This leads to pride and their inevitable fall. Six times it is said in the book that "The children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord," or some similar expression (3:7, 12; 4:1; 6:1; 10:6, 13:1). God's discipline naturally follows and...

Act 2 opens with the Lord chastening Israel by delivering them into the hand of an oppressor (Eglon, 3:16; Jabin, 4:2; the Midianites, 6:1; the Philistines, 10:7, 13:1) because "the anger of the Lord was hot against Israel" (3:8, 10:7). When God cannot rule he overrules. Even when God's

## Explore the Bible Lesson

people are unfaithful God's Word still stands. He uses the most unlikely instruments to accomplish his will and fulfill his purposes.

Act 3 finds the children of Israel on their faces before God crying out for deliverance (3:9, 15; 4:3; 6:7; 10:10, 15). According to S.D. Gordon, "True prayer moves in a circle. It begins in the heart of God, sweeps down into the human heart upon earth, so intersecting with the circle of the earth, which is the battlefield of prayer, and then goes back again to its starting point, having accomplished its purpose on the downward swing." Nowhere is this more true than in the arena of God's chastening. When we sin, God's love impels him to bring us to our knees in utter dependence upon him for forgiveness and deliverance. While leads to...

Act 4, Salvation — "The Lord raised up a deliverer..." (3:9, 15; etc.). The deliverers God selected were, many times, unlikely to say the least. From a woman with a tent peg, hammer, and a bowl of warm milk (4:17-21), to the son of a harlot (11:1), they were a strange lot these judges. It just goes to show that "God can hit a mighty

straight lick with a crooked stick." After all, it is not the weapon that makes the difference but the hand that wields it. God can use, or not use, anyone he chooses. The moral of the story is that God graciously forgives and helps us to begin again.

The sad part is that there is an epilogue to the story. Judges 17:21 tells the story of religious confusion (17:1-18:31), immorality (19:1-30), and civil war (20:1-21:25). Twice in this section it is stated, "In those days there was no real king in Israel (but) every man did that which was right in his own eyes" (17:6; 21:25). It seems that there was no controlling legal authority so each man became a law unto himself. It is sad that such potential for good was squandered and opportunities were lost to make God known among those who so much needed to learn of him.

At the end of those television programs you sometimes hear, "Next time on \_\_\_\_\_," or, "Stay tuned for scenes from our next episode." If scenes from your life could be viewed, which would you rather see: scenes that depict God being glorified, your church being edified, and the lost being evangelized, or you doing that which is right in your own eyes?

The choice is yours. — Miller is pastor, Emmanuel Baptist Church, Humboldt.





## SBTS trustees eliminate Covenant Renewal document

Baptist Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Trustees of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary eliminated the Covenant Renewal, a document intended for a time of transition implemented by the school in 1991, during their April 10-11 meeting here.

The elimination of the Covenant Renewal document was an action that symbolically marked the end of the period of extreme controversy in Southern Seminary's history.

Adopted in 1991 by the seminary's faculty, administration, and trustees, the Covenant Renewal document was a "negotiated way of pointing toward the future," Southern Seminary President R. Albert Mohler Jr. said. "It was a document adopted unanimously by neither the faculty nor the trustees. It represented a very difficult time."

The document pledged the school's "respect for the convictions of all Southern Baptists and our intention to be sensitive to conservative viewpoints within the Southern Baptist Convention."

It was designed in an "effort to achieve a balanced representation through intentional employment of conservative evangelical scholars" for future faculty openings.

"It came at a particular time in this institution's history when the trustees and administration and faculty were not unified on the direction of the seminary and its future," Mohler said. "Looking back in a historical perspective I can understand the origin of this document, but the time has clearly come when it is no longer necessary."

In other business, trustees also approved a 2000-2001 op-

erating budget of \$18,440,732, a 9.4 percent increase over the current year. As part of the budget, trustees agreed to reinstate revenues and expenditures for the seminary's Child Development Center, which was scheduled to close in July.

After reconsidering the matter, however, seminary officials decided to leave the center open, at least for another year. Mohler asked trustees to appoint a task force to study the matter and propose a course of action.

Trustees also changed the name of the James P. Boyce College of the Bible to Boyce College. This change was made primarily to remedy problems graduates might face when trying to enter some foreign countries. The college opened in the fall of 1998 and is the undergraduate school of Southern Seminary. ■

## Historical Society to meet in May

Special to Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — "Reflections on Baptist Life in the 20th Century" will be the theme of the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Historical Society to be held May 25-27 at First Baptist Church, Savannah, Ga., on the occasion of the church's 200th anniversary.

Topics to be addressed include "Baptist Identity in the 20th Century," "Baptist Theological Education in the 20th Century," and "Baptists and Women's Issues in the 20th Century."

Speakers include Carolyn Blevins, associate professor of religion, Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City.

For more information, contact Charles Deweese, executive director, at 1-800-966-2278. ■

## Ministers' Wives to meet during SBC

Special to Baptist and Reflector

DURANT, Okla. — The Southern Baptist Convention Ministers' Wives Conference will be held June 13 at noon at

## Separate accidents

### C-N professor, Cleveland pastor killed in wrecks

Compiled by Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — Bruce Whitney Jr., a Carson-Newman College faculty member for 32 years, was killed in a two-car wreck on April 12. Whitney, a native of South Carolina, was associate professor of French.

Whitney was well known and an involved member of the Jefferson City community. In 1979 he received the college's Lane Bryant Award, the college's highest recognition for community service.

"Our entire campus mourns the loss of Dr. Whitney," said C-N President James Netherton.

"As a very active member of the community, he was an excellent ambassador for Carson-Newman, one whose spirit and compassion made a lasting impact on people."

Whitney is survived by his wife, Carole, and two children.

In an unrelated accident, Richard Paul Lee, pastor of Hopewell Baptist Church, Cleveland, was killed April 18 when a tractor-trailer tipped over on Interstate 24 near Chattanooga and crushed the car Lee was driving.

The Tennessee Highway Patrol said excessive speed by the truck may have been a contributing factor to the crash. As of April 21, the accident remained under investigation. Charges had been filed against the driver.

Lee had been pastor of Hopewell for 17 years. A graduate of Belmont University, first served as youth minister at Una at Richland Baptist churches in Nashville. He also had served as pastor of Pistole Baptist Church, Sparta, and Rover Baptist Church, Eagleville.

"Richard had a big heart. He prayed for unity in his church passionately," said Phil Taylor, director of missions in Bradley County Baptist Association. "He was serving his church with a great desire to be all that God wanted him to be. He longed for revival in the church," Taylor said.

Lee is survived by his wife, Bonita, and three children. The association and church have begun a trust fund for the family. For information, call Taylor at (423) 476-5493.

— Mark Brown of Carson-Newman and Tom Starnes of Baptist Press contributed to this report.

the Omni Rosen Hotel in Orlando. The theme of the meeting is "Woman of Influence."

Guest speaker will be Vonette Bright, co-founder of Campus Crusade for Christ. Contemporary Christian recording artist Alicia Williamson will provide special music.

Advance tickets are \$10 if ordered before May 30, and \$12 at the convention.

To order tickets, send the correct amount to: Mrs. Leigh Lowery, 2810 East Texas St., Bossier City, LA 71111.

Joyce Rogers, wife of Adrian Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Cordova, is president of the Ministers' Wives Conference. ■

## Colson, F. Graham spend Easter in jail

Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — Chuck Colson, Franklin Graham, and Charlie Daniels went to jail on Easter Sunday.

No, they were not arrested.

Colson, founder of Prison Fellowship Ministries, and Graham, president of Samaritan's Purse relief organization, launched "Operation Starting

Line," a collaboration of more than a dozen Christian ministries, on Easter Sunday at Sussex Correctional Institution in Georgetown, Del.

The April 23 event kicked off an effort by athletes, musicians, comedians, clergy, and thousands of volunteers from across the country to reach every federal and state prison in the nation in the next five years through 55 state and multi-state campaigns. Earlier this year, for the first time, the nation's prison population topped two million people.

Country music legend Charlie Daniels and his band joined Colson and Graham at the event.

Two SBC North American Mission Board members are among Operation Starting Line's organizers — Kenneth Ellis, NAMB national coordinator for restorative justice ministries, and Robert C. Vickers, NAMB's director of chaplaincy evangelism. ■

## Wildmon refused to watch Easter special on ABC television

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — A key leader of the boycott of The Disney Company, Donald Wildmon, said he would not watch "The Miracle Maker" aired on ABC-TV Easter Sunday night.

"I hope a million pagans watch it, and I hope a million pagans get saved," Wildmon told Baptist Press April 17.

Wildmon, head of the American Family Association, said, however, "I'll be watching

something else. A boycott boycott."

The AFA in 1995 became the first evangelical organization to call for a boycott of Disney over the entertainment conglomerate's moral drift. ABC-TV is a Disney subsidiary.

Wildmon's comments were in response to an April 17 boycott by two prominent Southern Baptists, Jim Henry and Moody, for Baptists to support the Disney boycott at least Easter night in order to support the ABC special which Henry described as a true depiction of the life, death, resurrection of Christ. SBC supported the Disney boycott in a 1997 resolution.

Henry, a Tennessee native, is pastor of First Baptist Church, Orlando, and a SBC president. ■

## Tennessee native joins Mercer faculty

Associated Baptist Press

ATLANTA — Tennessee native Peter Rhea Jones joined the faculty of Mercer University's McAfee School of Theology. Jones resigned March after more than 10 years as pastor of First Baptist Church, Decatur, Ga. He became professor of preaching and theology at the theological school July 1.

A native of Dyersburg, Jones is a graduate of University of Mississippi, and holds degrees from the University of Mississippi, Princeton Theological Seminary, and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, where he also is a former professor. ■

## Church of the Covered Dish

By Thom Tapp, pastor, Oral Baptist Church, Lenoir City

