

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

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Statewide Edition

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GFTA kicks off anti-lottery effort in state

Special to Baptist and Reflector

NASHVILLE — "The main reason that Tennesseans should vote 'No' on lottery is the danger a lottery poses to our youth, the threat to our state's integrity, the wholesale exploitation of the poor that a lottery represents, and the fact that a lottery is lousy economics — it'll wind up costing the state more money," said Joe M. Rodgers, former ambassador to France and chairman of the newly formed anti-lottery coalition, the Gambling Free Tennessee Alliance.

Rodgers was joined in the statewide, fly-around series press conferences by former House Majority Leader, Tommy Burnett, a member of GFTA's Board of Directors, Campaign Manager, Michael Gilstrap, James M. Birch, executive director-treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, and others.

Press conferences were held March 15 in Tri-Cities, Knoxville, Chattanooga, Nashville, Jackson, and Memphis.

Understanding the issues

"This campaign is not about 'right' vs. 'wrong,'" Rodgers emphasized, "but about what one is 'for' or 'against.' We want to be sure the public has access to all the information that it needs to understand the serious issues and concerns caused by lottery gambling."

"That's one of the reasons that the Gambling Free Tennessee Alliance has released a 'Guide to the Issues,'" Rodgers continued.

"You will find all the data and research supporting in detail why we believe the lottery is bad for Tennessee. We also published the entire guide on GFTA's web site at www.gfta.org."

See GFTA, page 2

1,869 attend Missions Get-Together

Women challenged to discover joy of missions

By Lonnie Wilkey
Baptist and Reflector

GATLINBURG — The annual Missions Get-Together, which drew 1,869 Baptist women across Tennessee here March 15-17, did more than provide a time for education and inspiration.

The theme of the meeting was "Discover the Joy of Missions."

Baptist women were challenged to pray and to do missions even while they were in the city.

On the opening night, Bill Black, a resort missionary in Gatlinburg, reminded the women in attendance that the people on his mission field "need your heart and they need the Lord."

Baptist women, who had been encouraged to bring supplies to the meeting, were given mission bags to distribute.

Black encouraged the

women, however, not to just give the bags away at random.

"Take the bags to my people, but prepare your heart and get in touch with God," Black said.

"Pray that the Lord will bring you the one who needs you and help you to recognize him or her."

Prayer was featured in a special way in every session of the three-day meeting.

Don Pierson, prayer coordinator for the Tennessee Baptist Convention, guided the Baptist women in prayer throughout the sessions, along with featured North American and International Mission Board missionaries.

Before leaving on Sunday, the



BETTYE SUMMERS, right, of First Baptist Church, Camden, visits with Joy Fenner, center, interim executive director of Tennessee WMU, and Wanda Lee, executive director of national WMU, during the Missions Get-Together held at Gatlinburg. Lee led Bible studies for the sessions.

women exchanged cards to become prayer partners with each other.

"God can unite hearts across geographic boundaries," encouraged — See Women, page 4

To retire as SBF head

Johnson lives by simple creed: Do the right thing

By Lonnie Wilkey
Baptist and Reflector

NASHVILLE — It matters little to Hollis E. Johnson III that when he retires June 30 as president of the Southern Baptist Foundation it signals the end of an era.

Johnson is the last Southern Baptist entity head who was around when the "conservative resurgence" of the Southern Baptist Convention began in 1979.

He survived the restructuring of the SBC when it took place in 1997 and the Foundation was moved from agency status to being a subsidiary of the SBC Executive Committee. "Nothing changed in what we did or the way we did it," Johnson said. "The only thing that changed was how we were governed and board size which was reduced from 35 to seven members."

Johnson wants to be remembered for one thing — integrity.

"I live by a simple creed," Johnson said. "I always try to do the right thing no matter what the consequences."

It was that creed, along with his strong belief in the goals and ministry of the Foundation, that kept the agency, for the most part, from being frayed by SBC politics.

"This business (financial management) is the kind that strife does not need to be a part of," Johnson noted. "The Southern Baptist Foundation is a trust institution. We succeed or fail based on people's trust."

And, the Foundation has succeeded under Johnson's leadership. He had a working knowledge of the agency when a trustee called him in 1976 to see if he would be interested in succeeding Kendall Berry who was retiring that year. Johnson was a vice president and trust officer of a local bank that had the Foundation as one of its clients.

"It is awesome to look back and see how everything I did was God-inspired, leading me to this place," he said.

Johnson was elected executive secretary/treasurer-elect (because of state law the title was later changed to president) and assumed his position Jan. 1, 1977. At that time the Foundation had \$17 million in assets. Today the Foundation manages more than \$226 million.

He takes little credit for the growth. "Financial assets in general have grown over

that time frame," he observed. Yet, he acknowledged, some of the growth is due to the fact the Foundation was "able to provide investment results that met the goals and expectations of the institution's clients."

"We provided a timely and effective service," he said.

One of the high points in his ministry came in 1977 at his first SBC annual meeting. The president of the convention that year happened to be James L. Sullivan, president of the Baptist Sunday School Board (now LifeWay Christian Resources). Years ago Sullivan had been Johnson's pastor at Belmont Heights Baptist Church in Nashville. "He did a marvelous introduction of me which helped to ease my apprehension," he recalled.

Johnson, who will be 67 in June, said he has enjoyed helping individuals realize their stewardship goals with what God provided them. "That has been a neat thing to see," the Nashville native said.

Johnson has worked with people with millions of dollars to those who had only "the widow's mite." No matter how much the person had, he or she could "give from now until Jesus comes" through trusts managed by the Foundation, he observed.

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JOHNSON

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GFTA kicks off anti-lottery effort in state...

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Commenting on the threat that a lottery poses to Tennessee's youth, Rodgers cited a study from the Georgia Department of Human Services that reveals that as many as 17,700 teens have developed compulsive gambling problems as a result of the Georgia lottery. He also referred to a study from the Connecticut Council on Problem Gambling that found that one out of 10 high school students were compulsive gamblers, and that among them, the lottery was the most popular form of gambling.

"A lottery is just not worth it if thousands of our young people end up with a lifetime of heartache and misery from a gambling addiction as a result of a state lottery," Rodgers said.

"The other side will argue that the lottery is 'for the children,'" Rodgers asserted. He went on to ask, "Are we really doing this for our children, or to our children?"

Potential for corruption

Tommy Burnett, former House Majority Leader and current member of GFTA's board was a major figure in the "Rocky Top" bingo scandal of 12 years ago. He echoed Rodgers' concerns about a lottery in Tennessee. "Everyone makes mistakes. I know I've made my share, but Tennessee doesn't need to make one with the lottery," Burnett said. "The potential for corruption with a state lottery is very real."

Burnett cited the director of the Kansas State lottery whom he quoted as saying, "Anytime you have a human element, there's an opportunity for mistakes or fraud."

"In every state where there's lottery gambling, there's been political corruption. From kick-



FORMER HOUSE Majority Leader Tommy Burnett, right, and former U.S. Ambassador to France Joe M. Rodgers of Gambling Free Tennessee Alliance address the media in Nashville, one of six sites used March 15 in a series of fly-around press conferences. — Photo by Mike Salva

backs to bribery to lavish perks to sweetheart contracts to money-laundering." Burnett emphasized, "Where the lottery goes, so goes a state's integrity."

According to GFTA, 24 of the lotteries nationwide are run by GTech, a lottery management company. According to *Fortune* magazine, "rare is the company that has faced as many allegations of baldly sleazy conduct as GTech."

"GTech is an example of the problems that a state embraces when it brings a lottery to town," Burnett said.

"Take it from me, another 'Rocky Top' is just not worth it. I don't want to see my state take a chance that what we went through 12 years ago will happen again," Burnett concluded. "We don't need a lottery in Tennessee. It's just not worth it."

judge in each case. The committee refused to report his nomination to the full Senate with a favorable recommendation. It also voted against reporting his nomination to the Senate without a recommendation or with a negative recommendation.

The president said he was "deeply disappointed" Pickering's nomination was not forwarded to the Senate.

Pickering, a Southern Baptist layman, was president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention for two years in the mid-1980s. ■

Union establishes Colson chair

Baptist Press

JACKSON — The executive committee of Union University's board of trustees, in cooperation with the board of Prison Fellowship, has announced that the Charles Colson Chair of Faith and Culture will be established at Union.

Exploiting the poor

Burnett described the other issue that has led him to oppose a lottery in Tennessee: the exploitation of the poor.

"It is the most regressive tax that I know of," he said. He cited two Duke University researchers who found that lottery players with incomes below \$10,000 spend more than any income group on the lottery — over twice as much in real dollars as players with incomes between \$50,000 and \$100,000.

"A lottery is nothing more than a tax on the poor, and the state of Tennessee doesn't need to become a predator on the most vulnerable citizens in our state," Burnett said, "It's just not right!"

Bad economics

The final reason put forward by GFTA focused on economics.

Hal Poe, currently Union's professor of faith and culture, was named to the chair.

"This announcement helps solidify our commitment to Christian worldview thinking as foundational to our work at Union," said David S. Dockery, Union president.

Colson, founder and president of Prison Fellowship, an international organization that assists prisoners and their families, is known by many for his involvement in the Watergate scandal under President Richard Nixon for which he served prison time.

Since that time, Colson has pursued his passion for integrating faith and culture. ■

GBC committee gives more power to college trustees

Baptist Press

ATLANTA — The bylaws of Brewton-Parker College and

According to Rodgers, states with lotteries receive about one-third of the total revenues to be spent on what the lottery funds are designed for.

"That means that to get a million, Tennessee businesses must forgo \$600 million in revenue," Rodgers said. Furthermore, the state will lose \$1 million in state sales tax and governments will lose a \$5.5 million in taxes.

"Not only will Tennessee businesses lose profits a state will lose tax dollars the lottery will actually cost the state of Tennessee money," Rodgers said.

He explained that at a college scholarship covering 50 percent of the cost of tuition at one of our universities. "If the state provides \$20 million in free college scholarship and more kids attend Tennessee's colleges, where other \$200 million come from," Rodgers asked. "Where do the funds for buildings and dorms come from?"

Rodgers concluded, "The lottery is anything but harmless. It is corrupting and divisive. Children as well as suffer where there's a lottery. It's bad economics and bad public policy. We don't need a lottery in Tennessee."

The Gambling Free Tennessee Alliance is a single-issue political campaign committee of business, civic, religious and community leaders across the state of Tennessee. The sole mission of GFTA is to oppose in the November General Election the state constitutional referendum that, if approved, will authorize lottery gambling in Tennessee.

The Tennessee Baptist Convention is a partner in GFTA.

Shorter College have been asked to allow trustees to remove one of their own from the cause, according to articles approved by the Georgia Baptist Convention's executive committee.

The GBC executive committee voted unanimously March 12 to change the bylaws of the Baptist-affiliated colleges and Southern Association of Schools (SACS) requirements.

In January, the SACS trustees' executive committee rescinded the action they took in November that shifted the college's assets and control to a self-perpetuating foundation board. Shorter's trustees quietly voted to become a self-perpetuating, citing the trustees' lack of authority to remove any of its own as a reason.

The GBC executive committee agreed to work with Shorter's trustee board in the selection of future trustees and to work with SACS in resolving any concerns related to Shorter College. ■



Senate committee rejects nomination

Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — The Senate Judiciary Committee rejected the nomination of Charles Pickering to the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals March 14, demonstrating it will strongly resist President George W. Bush's selection of conservative, pro-life judges to the federal bench.

The 10 Democrats on the committee voted three times against Pickering, while all nine Republicans voted for the federal



Lewisburg, and Larry Chatman, pastor, Holts Corner Baptist Church, Chapel Hill, said their motivation for being involved was their DR service in New York City.

It changed the life of everyone who served, they said. They don't react the same way to the wail of an ambulance or fire truck's siren, which they hear repeatedly, they said.

But as ministers they felt their "hands were tied," Bennett said, because they learned they were not trained to help people spiritually.

But now they are, both reported, and they are well prepared because of the excellent training, they said.

Now they understand why residents they met in NYC said they had nightmares or thought the world was coming to an end, said Chatman.

From NOVA they also learned many skills they can apply to their day-to-day ministry, Bennett and Chatman said. They learned crises will strike. In Tennessee, it may be an earthquake along the New Madrid Fault which could damage buildings as far away as in Oak Ridge.

The training gave Chatman "a completely new tool for ministry as far as I am concerned," he said.

"I want to be ready (for a crisis) in my own hometown," said Bennett. ■

Team from New Duck River Association

Association, others train as crisis chaplains

by Connie Davis
Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — Fifty-one Tennessee Baptists are now crisis intervenors or crisis chaplains certified by the National Organization for Victim Assistance based in Washington D.C. The volunteers were trained at the Tennessee Baptist Convention Center here Feb. 18-22.

The volunteers were trained as an outgrowth of Sept. 11, said Tom Bearden of the TBC staff who directs Disaster Relief efforts of the convention.

Disaster Relief workers who served after the terrorist attacks were impressed by the need for crisis intervention, said Bearden. Even the American Red Cross realized the need for spiritual emphasis in their crisis intervention after Sept. 11, he reported. But Disaster Relief workers, even ministers, found they could not serve without further training.

Crisis intervenors or chaplains provide "an immediate response to the emotional needs of victims, survivors, and workers," he explained. The skills they are a kind of counseling, but even trained counselors need training to serve as crisis chaplains, Bearden said.

Two national organizations provide such training, he continued, and after some investigation and work with the North American Mission Board, the convention staff decided to offer NOVA training. NOVA certified chaplains served in the three sites of terrorist attacks following Sept. 11 but also



THE NEW DUCK RIVER ASSOCIATION team attending NOVA training for crisis chaplains were, from left, first row, Michael Burgess, pastor, Lakeview Baptist Church, Lewisburg; James Hickey, pastor, East Commerce Baptist Church, Lewisburg; Larry Chatman, pastor, Holts Corner Baptist Church, Chapel Hill; and Barbara Clevenger, member, Shelbyville Mills Baptist Church, Shelbyville; second row, Phillip Bennett, pastor, Farmington Baptist Church, Lewisburg; Ronnie Grooms, pastor, Rover Baptist Church, Eagleville; Tom Dumser, pastor, First Baptist Church, Lewisburg; Billy Howell, pastor, First Baptist Church, Normandy; and Dan Clevenger, director of missions.

served in Oklahoma City following the bombing and at Columbine High School in Colorado following the school shooting there, he noted.

Bearden said Tennesseans should be proud of the volunteers who were certified as crisis chaplains. They endured 40 hours of training. And he said Baptists can be proud the convention offered the training. It cost about \$6,000, which was funded by the Cooperative Program and Golden State Missions Offering.

Now Tennessee Disaster Relief is able to address both the physical and spiritual needs of disaster victims, he said.

The basic training will be offered again Feb. 10-14, 2003. And advanced training will be

May 12-15, 2002, and June 23-25, 2003.

Associational team

Dan Clevenger, director of missions, New Duck River Baptist Association, based in Shelbyville, was glad to hear the convention was going to offer training for crisis chaplains. He had a vision for such volunteers for a long time, he said.

That vision was revived when he heard the reports of an eight-member team from the association who served as Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief workers in New York City.

Clevenger was involved in both chaplaincy and DR work in Arkansas while on the staff of the Arkansas Baptist Convention. He also has been a hospital chaplain who completed clinical

pastoral education and was endorsed by NAMB.

He knew crisis chaplains also were needed because of local crises which had occurred such as a school shooting and the attack on a Greyhound bus driver by a passenger.

Clevenger started talking to folks, mainly pastors, in his association and many wanted to be involved, he described. The association is very involved in missions and DR. Its clean-up team has served in Arkansas, Jackson, and Clarksville in recent years.

The training, which was very intensive, he said, helped the ministers and one layperson who were trained "develop their pastoral care ministry skills."

Phillip Bennett, pastor, Farmington Baptist Church,

Hollis Johnson lives by simple creed: Do the right thing ...

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His main concern over the years has been to be faithful to God's calling. "God going to judge us on faithfulness, not profits. He is in charge of the results.

Results will happen if we are faithful," Johnson observed.

Since he first assumed his position Johnson regarded it as a ministry and not just a job. A life-long Southern Baptist Johnson likes to joke that he was "born and re-born" at Belmont Heights.

He noted God began to "work on him" a few years before accepting the Foundation post. He and his wife, Celeste, lost two children, one before birth and one 48 minutes after birth. "God used that to turn me back to depending on Him, which turned got him more involved in church.

Over the years at Belmont Heights he held numerous committee positions, served as deacon chairman three times, and has taught Sunday School for more than 20 years. The Johnsons now have grown children — Hollis E. Johnson a teacher and coach in Nashville, and Martha S. Johnson, an FBI agent in Chicago. They also have one grandchild "one on the way," Johnson added.

Johnson said he has never regretted a minute his decision to come to the foundation. "Once I believed it was a calling, I couldn't say no.

I never wanted to 'be somebody' in Chicago. I just wanted to be the person God

wants me to be the best I can."

Those who have worked with Johnson over the years can attest to that.

Morris H. Chapman, president of the SBC Executive Committee, said Johnson has built the foundation "into an institution known for its integrity and trustworthiness throughout the Southern Baptist Convention.

"He had the intuitive ability to put together an excellent staff and has established good rapport with the foundation's constituency and state foundation executives," Chapman said. "He and his wife, Celeste, are wonderful Christians and faithful witnesses to Christ's saving power. I am especially grateful for the privilege of working with him during these last 10 years and congratulate him on the coming opportunity to pursue some of the things he has always wanted to do, but never had the time. ... Due to his leadership, the Southern Baptist Foundation is built upon the 'solid rock,' both spiritually and fiscally."

"Hollis Johnson is a unique person in that he has all the investment skills and knowledge of an excellent money manager, but at the same time he has the heart of a pastor," said Clay Warf, executive director of the North Carolina Baptist Foundation.

"He knows the jargon of Wall Street while at the same time he knows how to relate to Baptist people in a compassionate way," Warf said.

Clay Corvin, vice president for business at New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary, agreed. "Hollis Johnson is one of the most knowledgeable investment people I've ever worked with," he observed, adding that Johnson helped the seminary invest its money at the highest rate possible while understanding the possible risks.

"He has always been helpful and honest about sharing his views on what we should or should not do. He's been a real friend of the institution," Corvin said.

William F. "Bo" Childs, president of the Tennessee Baptist Foundation, also worked with Johnson and the Southern Baptist Foundation while serving at the Baptist foundations in Alabama and the Northwest. "Hollis Johnson is a Christian gentleman. Probably no one in Southern Baptist foundation life is more respected than Hollis," Childs observed.

"I have found him to be a professional person in all aspects. He's a man of integrity and a man of trust. We will miss him," Childs said.

Johnson also has earned the respect of those who have served as trustees of the Southern Baptist Foundation. "It's almost an oxymoron to speak of a Christian businessman, but that's what Hollis is," said John Blackman, a current trustee of the Foundation who also serves as chairman of its investment committee.

He noted Johnson has "gone a long

way in establishing relationships with our Baptist clients.

"He's an excellent investment person, but he is even better at building a sense of confidence and trust among people," added Blackman, a member of Immanuel Baptist Church, Nashville.

Bill Lovell, a member of Brentwood Baptist Church, Brentwood, and another current trustee, echoed comments about Johnson's investment skills.

Lovell cited Johnson's loyalty as one of his attributes. "I am impressed with his loyalty to people. He stands with them and supports them. He has appreciated his trustees and has listened to them," Lovell observed.

"He is very devoted to the Southern Baptist Foundation and he will be missed," Lovell added.

As he looks to retirement, Johnson said the thing he will miss most is the people. "I won't miss the computer, the reports, and the meetings, but I will miss the people. I've been associated with a lot of quality people who have been committed to God's work," he said.

He plans to remain busy doing God's ministry, just in a different setting — Belmont Heights.

"There's no place like the local church to do God's work. That's where most of my time and energy will end up — doing kingdom work at Belmont Heights," Johnson said. ■

Women challenged to discover joy of missions ...

— Continued from page 1
aged Leighann McCoy, Women on Mission adult specialist for Tennessee WMU.

The Saturday night session included a celebration of the fifth birthday of Christian Women's Job Corps, a national WMU program, that has eight site locations in Tennessee.

Bible study

National WMU Executive Director Wanda Lee of Birmingham, Ala., led three Bible studies.

Lee encouraged Baptist women to think about the "missions thread" that is woven in Scripture.

God's mission plan is in the Bible, Lee said. "The Bible is a record of God's call of His people to missions."

And missions, Lee continued, is "the call of God in the hearts of His people to share the gospel with people who do not know Him."

After examining passages in both the Old and New Testaments which described the "missions thread," Lee challenged the women to find their place in God's plan.

"God has called each of us to discover our place in his great plan in reaching the world with the gospel," she said.

Also at the final session, Lee expressed appreciation to Tennessee women "for setting the pace for the future of WMU."

She encouraged the Tennesseans to "stir up the missions spirit" in their churches.

Conferences

Participants could attend five different conferences from a total of 24 choices.

Conferences dealt with a variety of topics including dealing with aging parents, a Christian response to terrorism, literacy missions, prison ministry, and more.

Business

During the Missions Get-Together Tennessee WMU held its 114th annual meeting.



BAPTIST WOMEN from First Baptist Church, Nashville, led by Denise Bronaugh drove "missionary" vans to the Missions Get-Together. Other vans included "Millie" (Mildred Golden of the Golden State Mission Offering), "Candie" (Tennessee WMU President Candy Phillips, a member of FBC), and "Margie" (Marjorie Denise Bronaugh).

State WMU President Candy Phillips of First Baptist Church, Nashville, gave an update on the search for a new executive director and informed the women that the name of the Golden State Missions Offering had been changed to Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions (see story below).

TBC Executive Director James M. Porch challenged the women to "stand on the edge" for missions.

If Tennessee Baptists, who are so many times led by Tennessee Woman's Missionary Union, are to stand on the edge

of missions with anticipation, expectation, excitement, and wonder, "we need to put our past into perspective, be willing to recognize that our God is a God of new beginnings, and honor the challenges God gives us."

Joy Fenner, interim executive director of Tennessee WMU, examined the "ABCs" for WMU.

She encouraged the women to be Advocates for missions in their churches, to Believe in the concepts of missions and missions education, and to be Catalysts for change.

Officers for the coming year were presented and elected (see

photos below). Lee commissioned the new officers to never lose sight of God's plan, to trust God to lead in every situation, and to be open to learn new ways to accomplish the ultimate goal of missions.

Tennessee women also were reminded of endowment opportunities. An offering of \$17,000 was collected which will go to endow missions causes at both the state and national levels.

The first Tennessee N Touch Endowment Dinner was held and drew about 160 participants. A portion of the proceeds was slated for endowment funds. ■



OFFICERS OF Tennessee Woman's Missionary Union for the coming year include, from left, Candy Phillips, First Baptist Church, Nashville, president; Martha Pitts, Germantown Baptist Church, Germantown, west vice president; Tammy Saffel, First Baptist Church, Waverly, middle vice president; Anne Heiskell, Kimball Baptist Church, Kimball, east vice president; and Carol Gilmer, Fairfield Baptist Church, Centerville, recording secretary.



ELECTED AS regional promotional directors for Tennessee WMU were, from left, Jimmy Lynn Phillips, Beech Bluff, southern western; Laura Strickland, Whitwell, southeastern; Anna Crutcher, Taft, south central; Peggy Bell, Trenton, northwestern; Bob Turner, Jefferson City, northeastern; Ann Boyd, McMinnville, north central; and Dorothy Adams, Walland, eastern. Not pictured was Becky DeWaal, Lebanon, central.



MISSIONS GET-TOGETHER DISCOVER THE JOY OF MISSIONS MARCH 15-17



ENJOYING THE Missions Get-Together from First Baptist Church, Bean Station were, from left, Nancy Ritt, Patsy Long, Mary Brew, Bobbie Samsel, and Dele Johnson.

WMU executive board approves job profile, name change for GSMC

For Baptist and Reflector

GATLINBURG — The Executive Board of Tennessee Woman's Missionary Union approved a profile and a position description for the position of executive director-treasurer during their spring meeting March 15.

The profile was developed after surveys and listening sessions throughout the state and was presented by Dottie Sampsel, chair of the search committee.

The profile calls for a woman, divinely called by God, who:

- ▶ Has active knowledge of WMU at all levels.
- ▶ Has a variety of personal missions experiences, and demonstrates a missions lifestyle.
- ▶ Is a person of prayer who possesses self-confidence in knowing who she is in Christ and allowing Him to work through her.
- ▶ Is a servant leader who models Christian integrity and authenticity.

- ▶ Has vision with discernment based on reality.
- ▶ Is able to build and sustain relationships based on mutual respect.
- ▶ Possesses strong oral and written communication skills with the ability to relate to all audiences.
- ▶ Has experience in managing a team of peer leaders and is able to motivate and inspire them to reach their potential.
- ▶ Exhibits a thirst for knowledge and demonstrates a willingness to pursue learning; an advanced degree is preferred.
- ▶ Possesses business acumen and understands financial management.
- ▶ Is aware of current corporate legal issues.
- ▶ Uses technology wisely to accomplish work.
- ▶ Recognizes and values the diversity of Tennessee Baptists.
- ▶ Is willing and has the freedom to travel.

- ▶ Maintains a balanced life between career and family.
- ▶ Maintains active membership in a cooperating Southern Baptist church.

In other business, the board approved 2002 Golden State Missions Offering allocations totaling \$1.6 million, upon recommendation of the policy-finance committee, chaired by Norma Hancock.

Board members also approved a recommendation to change the name from Golden State Missions Offering to Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions.

Forty-three scholarships, totaling \$44,000, were granted upon recommendation of the scholarship committee, chaired by Nancy Hammons.

The board's Tennessee N Touch Selection Team also awarded its first grant of \$278 to the Shelby County Christian Women's Job Corps site to pursue basic GED resources in celebration of Christian Women's Job Corps' fifth birthday.

In matters of information, board members were given an update on the 2003

National Acteens Convention which will be held July 29-Aug. 1 in Nashville.

Tennessee WMU President Candy Phillips also encouraged board members to be informed about the lottery gambling issue and how it will affect Tennessee.

Phillips also told board members she has written letters to Jerry Rankin of the International Mission Board and the Record of the North American Mission Board concerning recent actions which impact missions personnel. ■

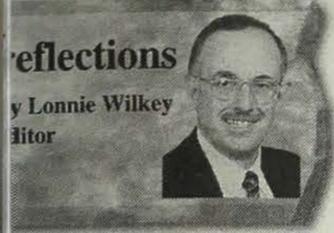
Applicants sought

For Baptist and Reflector

GATLINBURG — The search committee of Tennessee Woman's Missionary Union will receive resumes for the position of executive director-treasurer from April 1-July 31.

Interested applicants should send resumes to Dottie Sampsel, chair, 5245 Oakhill Drive, Knoxville, TN 37912. ■

Saturday's hero' gave life to ministry



Reflections
by Lonnie Wilkey
Editor

When I moved to Nashville years ago to accept a job in the Southern Baptist Education Commission, I felt like I had been thrown out of water. Where I was from small in South Carolina (we didn't have a traffic light until last year or so) now living in the big city. Suffice it to say, I was awed by my surroundings. I grew up in a small, country Baptist church where 50 on any given day was considered a great day attendance-wise. To actually work in "the"

SBC building" seemed unreal. One of the first persons I remember meeting and getting to know was Hollis Johnson, president of the Southern Baptist Foundation. It never mattered that he was "an agency head" and I was the newest staff member in an agency that one day would cease to exist. Hollis was real and genuine. We had a common love of sports: He was a former baseball player at Vanderbilt University, so we would talk football, baseball, you name it. In his office at the Foundation is a baseball scene from an old newspaper clipping painted by his wife Celeste. It shows Hollis as a Vanderbilt shortstop diving to tag a University of Tennessee runner out at third base. Question Hollis about that particular play and he

gives that patented grin of his and noted that he had Celeste take artistic license. The runner not only was safe but he later scored one of the many runs UT had that day to beat the Commodores. Though modest about his playing days, Hollis was a solid player. He once was referred to as "Saturday's Hero" in a newspaper account after he had game-winning hits on back-to-back weekends to defeat Auburn and Kentucky. Hollis would later trade his bat and glove for golf clubs. Those who know him well know how much he enjoys playing that sport today. Yet as much as he now enjoys golf, that sport ranks a distant third behind his love for his family and God. In the feature I was asked by

Baptist Press to write on Hollis' career and upcoming retirement (see page 1), he noted that he never wanted to be "somebody" in life. Instead, "he just wanted to be the person God wants me to be the best I can." That probably sums Hollis up as much as anything could. Hollis never sought the spotlight as an agency head. He never looked for "credit" for the way he led the Southern Baptist Foundation into being the solid financial institution it is today. Hollis may no longer be "Saturday's hero," but he is still a "hero" to many because of his commitment, love, and dedication to Jesus Christ. Southern Baptists are losing not only a great leader when he steps down as president of the Foundation in June, they are losing a true



"Christian gentleman." Southern Baptists' loss will be his local church's gain. While he has always been an active member at Belmont Heights Baptist Church in Nashville, he plans to devote even more time to his ministry there. His philosophy is "there's no place like the local church to do ministry." Hollis Johnson has said he has tried to follow a simple creed: "Always do the right thing no matter what the consequences." Wouldn't our convention and our world be better off if we all did the same? ■

Prayer, giving are vital elements of missions strategy



Guest Columnist
by Wanda Lee
SBC WMU

Throughout my involvement with WMU, I have heard many missionaries state how much they depend on WMU for faith-praying. One missionary said, "If the WMU stops praying, I'm coming home." Praying for missionaries has always been a key emphasis of WMU. In 1997, the national Executive Board adopted statements that articulate foundational truths for all to do in WMU. We refer to these as our Core Values. Core values are those things that an organization feels are at the

heart of who it is and why it exists. That is true of WMU and praying for missionaries, so we identified this as one of our core values: "We embrace the strategic role of prayer and giving for missionaries and missions needs." For nearly 114 years, WMU members of all ages have prayed for missionaries in their meetings and worship, as well as during their personal quiet times. Some of the earliest lists of strategic principles of WMU describe praying for and giving to missions as a priority. It was assumed that what women prayed for they would also give their money to support. Setting aside special weeks for prayer related to missions began in 1892 in connection with the Christmas offering suggested by Lottie Moon. The first Week of Prayer for Home



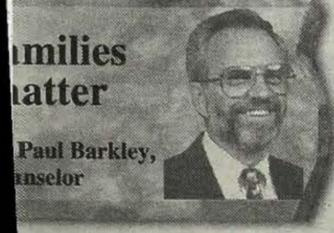
National Goal: \$52 million

Missions was held in 1895. These early efforts for stirring up prayer support for missionaries were provided specifically for women. Their focus changed in 1956 as WMU reached out to the entire church to broaden the base of support for missions. These churchwide efforts have grown through the years and are a significant part of WMU planning for the church today.

In addition to the weeks of prayer, the most popular method for members is the Prayer Calendar, which was first used as far back as 1891. After sporadic printing as a separate piece, the calendar of prayer became a part of WMU publications in 1918. Many other prayer emphases and prayer projects through the years have served to equip and call out faithful

praying on behalf of missions. What about the future? How can we reach the millions who are lost in our own country, much less around the world? Minette Drumwright, who served for many years in the prayer office of the International Mission Board, has written a book for WMU entitled *The Life That Prays*. She challenges us to take one step further in our commitment to praying for missions. She asks us to see prayer as a strategy for missions. Praying for missionaries and for the salvation of all the peoples of the world is at the heart of all we do through WMU. Join us as we embrace the strategic role of prayer and giving as a missions strategy. ■ — Lee is executive director of Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union.

Memphis counselor, professor considers 10 'steps for stepfamilies'



Families Matter
by Paul Barkley
Counselor

These thoughts are adapted from an article by Jeannette in an article on the Stepfamily Foundation web site. Step 1. Recognize that the family will not and can not function as does a natural family. It has its own special dynamics and behaviors. When learned, these behaviors become predictable and manageable. Do not try to overlay expectations and dynamics of the intact or natural family

onto the stepfamily. Step 2. Recognize the hard fact that the children are not yours and they never will be. We are stepparents, not replacement parents. Mother and father (no matter how AWFUL the natural parents) are sacred words and feelings. We are stepparents, a step removed, yet in this position can still play a significant role in the development of the child. Step 3. Super stepparenting doesn't work. Go slow. Don't come on too strong. Step 4. Discipline styles must be sorted out by the couple. The couple, ideally with the help of a trained professional, needs to immediately and specifically work out what the children's duties and responsibilities are. What is acceptable

behavior and what are the consequences when children misbehave? I suggest that the biological parent does the disciplining. Step 5. Establish clear job descriptions between the parent, stepparent, and respective children. What specifically is the job of each one of us in this household? We need to be as detailed as we are in business. Step 6. Know that unrealistic expectations beget rejections and resentments. There is no model for the step relationship except for the wicked stepchild and invariably cruel stepmother of fairy tales. Note the absence of myth around the stepfather. It is vital for the survival of the stepfather to be able to see and delineate expectations for each member of the

family, especially the primary issues of upset in step: e.g., money, discipline, the prior spouse, visitation, authority, emotional support, territory, and custody. Step 7. There are no ex-parents ... only ex-spouses. Begin to get information on how to best handle the prior spouse. Step 8. Be prepared for conflicting pulls of sexual and biological energies within the step relationship. In the intact family, the couple comes together to have a child. The child is part of both parents, generally pulling the parents' energy together for the well-being of the child. In step, blood and sexual ties can polarize a family in opposite energies and directions. Step 9. The conflict of loyal-

ties must be recognized right from the beginning. The conflict is particular to step and is a round robin of confused emotions. Often, just as the child in step begins to have warm feelings toward the stepparent, the child will pull away and negatively act out. He/she feels something like this: "If I love you, that means I do not love my real parent." The feelings are normal and must be dealt with. Step 10. Guard your sense of humor and use it. The step situation is filled with the unexpected. Sometimes we don't know whether to laugh or to cry. Try humor. ■ — Barkley is professor, Baptist Memorial College of Health Sciences, Memphis, and a family therapist in private practice.

During spring break

Cookeville teenagers do missions work

By Lonnie Wilkey
Baptist and Reflector

COOKEVILLE — College students traditionally have taken their spring breaks and gone on mission trips to a variety of locations.

If college students could do it, why not high school and middle school students?

That was the consensus of youth ministers in Cookeville.

As a result, "Spring Break-out" took place across the city last week as approximately 100 teenagers gave up three days of their break to do missions activities and projects at various locations in the city, according to Rick Burnett, minister of youth at Wilhite Baptist Church and coordinator of the event.

"It has been a partnership with the other churches in Cookeville, especially the youth ministers," Burnett said.

He noted the effort was the brainchild of "The Timothy Team," a network of youth ministers from various denominations who meet together once a month to share ideas and discuss common concerns.

The Cookeville teens did a variety of work ranging from doing survey for a new Baptist church in Stone Baptist Association, painting at the local rescue center, landscaping at a YMCA, retirement home ministry, and picking up trash on Cookeville streets, Burnett said.

The youth responded well with very little complaining, Burnett said.

"We have had glowing reviews from the places where they have worked," Burnett said.

One "employer" who was pleased with the teams was Larry Self, executive director of the Cookeville Rescue Mission.

They have been an incredible



PICKING UP trash beside a Cookeville street are Vicki Purtell, left, and Jennifer Stewart, both of West View Baptist Church.

help, Self said.

He noted that while some volunteer groups do a "token job," the Cookeville teens took their work seriously. "I'm pleased with what they've done," he said.

Jeff Eddlemon, youth minister at West View Baptist Church, said the project was a good experience for the youth and gave them an opportunity to participate in evangelism and other ministry opportunities.

T.J. Wright, youth minister at Eastwood Baptist Church, said the experience has helped his youth "realize what it means to be a servant. I really see them growing in their relationship to Christ," he said.

Wright said he also was pleased that churches of various denominations worked together in the effort. "You know it's God when the churches



PASTOR STEVE TIEBOUT shows girls how to prepare care bags to distribute in the community around The River Community Church, a new start in Stone Baptist Association. Helping are, from left, Brittany Eddlemon and Elizabeth Branch, West View Baptist Church, and Mateka Pittman and Brittany Buck of Trinity Assembly of God.

work together like that," he said.

Pastor Steve Tiebout of The River Community Church, a new church in the city, agreed.

"It's neat for churches and youth from all denominations to get together. It strengthens them at their schools to know there are other Christians there," he said.

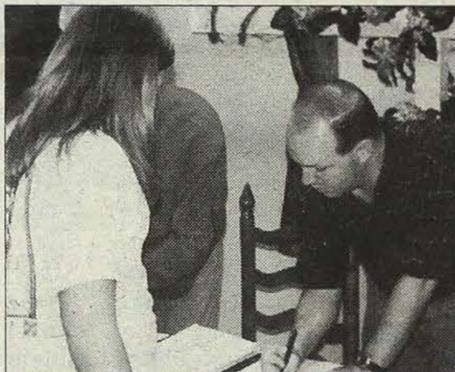
Tiebout noted his church already has begun to benefit from the efforts of the teenagers. There have been calls to his church generated from care bags they handed out which included

information about the church, a smoke detector battery, and a magnet with emergency phone numbers as well as that of the church.

"This has been a great support to what we've already been doing," he said. The church held its first service on Feb. 24.

And at least for one student, the work on spring break gave her an idea of what to expect on an M-Fuge trip this summer.

"I thought this would be a good experience to see what being a missionary is all about,"



LEFT, Rick Burnett, minister of youth at Wilhite Baptist Church, Cookeville, registers a teenager for "Spring Breakout," a missions endeavor of churches of various denominations in the city. **RIGHT, Mark Adams**, right, and **Jeremy Hamm** of Wilhite Baptist do landscaping at the local YMCA.



JENNIFER ROBERTS Brotherton Missionary Baptist Church paints in Cookeville Rescue Mission.

said 15-year-old Mary Ann S

cox of Stevens Street Baptist Church. Cookeville Baptist church involved in the effort include Bangham Heights, Brotherton Missionary, Eastwood, First Baptist, Midway, Stevens Street West View, and Wilhite. ■

First Mission Express event offered for boys and girls

By Connie Davis
Baptist and Reflector

JEFFERSON CITY — The first Mission Express for boys

and girls in grades 1-6 was held March 8-9 at Carson-Newman College here. The event replaces the Royal Ambassador Congress which was held an-

nually for boys in grades for 47 years.

The Mission Express some similar events to the congress, like a derby car race named Mission Derby and conferences. 11 missionaries missions volunteers. The event also has speaking competition, missions fair, and object competition. Also offered a computer where children study missions web sites.



TBC SUMMER CAMP staffers Jill Parrott, Carson-Newman College student of LaFollette, and Greg Channell of Loudon lead participants in praise and fun songs at First Baptist Church, Jefferson City. Missionaries and missions volunteers are also on the platform.



ANN GERMAN, missions volunteer from Winchester, holds a wall hanging which Mission Express participants sign during the final session. The wall hanging will be sent to the Presidential Prayer Team for President George Bush.

Unlike the congressional Mission Express, coed and included Bible and mission knowledge competition between teams like college bowl and hands-on mission activity.

— See First, page

First Mission Express event offered ...



Continued from page 6
 Bob Davison who directed the event for the Tennessee Baptist Convention staff, said the event was a success although the crowd was smaller than expected. About 200 participants attended.

He said Mission Express is offered to meet the changing needs of Tennessee Baptist churches who are offering RAs, Girls in Action and also drama and other programs. He hopes the TBC can offer

Mission Express again in 2003 and the turn out will be better.

Tentative plans are for Mission Express to be held at Belmont University, Nashville, on a Friday and Saturday in March, said Davison.

As a result of this year's Mission Express, four boys and girls made professions of faith and four others, including an

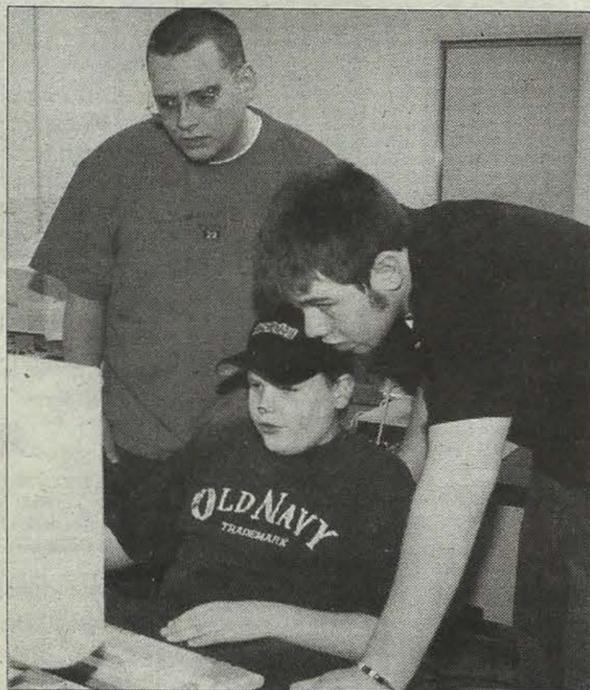
adult, made other spiritual decisions. A time of commitment was led by Tom Toombs, ministry specialist at East Maryville Baptist Church, Maryville, and speaker/performer. Toombs also used drama to tell a story

about a famous highwire artist which he used to tell the children about their need for God.

Participants also gave an offering of \$296 to buy health kit items for the Brantley Baptist Center in New Orleans, La. ■



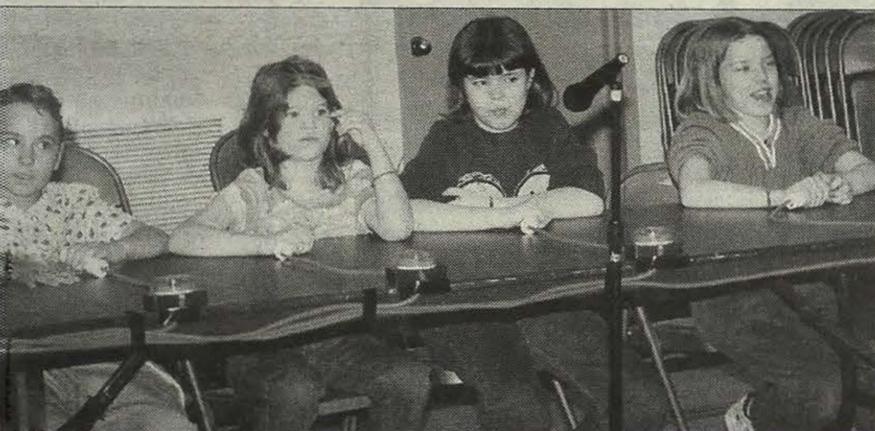
DERBY DIRECTOR Paul Russ of Cleveland presents the first place award in grades 1-3 in the derby to Eli Hammer of First Baptist Church, Dandridge.



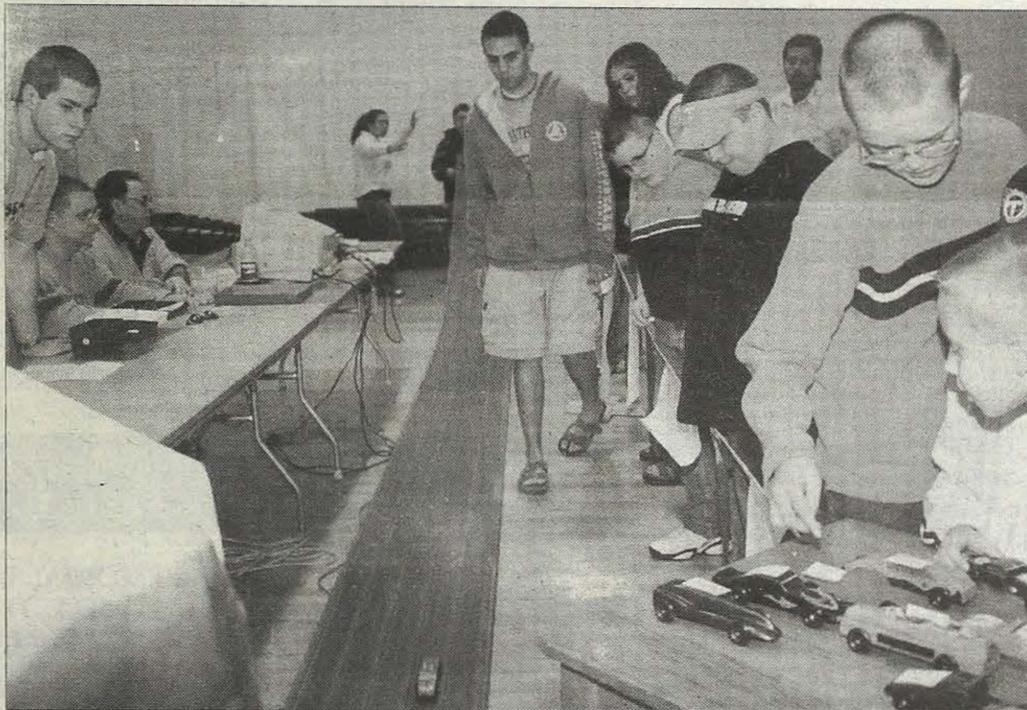
CODEY WATKINS of Clingan Ridge Baptist Church, Cleveland, surfs the web with help from Mission Express volunteers from Calvary Baptist Church, Morristown, Scott Ezell, left, interim youth minister, and David Payne.



TOM TOOMBS, ministry specialist, East Maryville Baptist Church, Maryville; former chaplain at Dollywood, Sevierville; and speaker/performer; entertains the crowd with help from Roger Watkins, Clingan Ridge Baptist Church, Cleveland. Toombs is helping a puppet animal cross a high wire. The act led to a presentation about a famous highwire artist and the need for God in people's lives.



ACTING TO THEIR opposing team, which was made up of boys, is a team participating in a Bible/missions knowledge competition. They are, from left, Cassidy Millington, Kelsey Mathews, Whitney Guinn, and Jennifer Guinn of Implin Baptist Church, New Market.



RACERS PARTICIPATE in the Mission Derby and pick up their cars which have been labeled with computer-generated speeds. The racers are helped by youth from Calvary Baptist Church, Morristown, including P.J. Haun, center, and other volunteers.



ANNY AND ROGER STACY of McMinnville share their experiences as missionaries to the Ukraine and Brazil with several boys. Roger Stacy is now director of missions, Central Baptist Association, McMinnville.



SOME OF THE EVENT DIRECTORS gather with Bob Davison, second from left, of the TBC staff to plan. They are, from left, Joyce Russ, Cleveland; Mark Jenkins, Humboldt; Frank Green, Sparta; Max and Doris Thomas, Chattanooga; and Charlie Hysinger, Cleveland.

Legacy of Henry, future of evangelicalism examined

By Sara Horn
For Baptist and Reflector

JACKSON — Carl F.H. Henry was just a young man when he came in contact with the gospel. A son of German immigrants living in one of the poorest sections of New York growing up, Henry had little luxury or evidence of religion within his family, but as a successful and promising reporter and editor for several New York papers, Henry soon came to the first major intersection in his life.

"The big turn came," he wrote in his autobiography *Confessions of a Theologian*, "when I was 20, and received Jesus Christ as personal Savior and Lord of my life. Into the darkness of my young life He put bright stars that still shine and sparkle. After that encounter I walked the world with God as my friend."

Henry, the young man who chose to leave the field of journalism and attended Wheaton College where he made friends with Billy Graham and studied with philosopher Gordon Clark, went on to become what many of today's theologians consider one of the greatest Christian thinkers of the 20th century, encouraging a belief in divine revelation over natural law.

The Christian leader was the focus of a recent national theological conference jointly sponsored by the Carl F.H. Henry Center for Christian Leadership at Union University and Broadman and Holman Publishers, held at Union and titled "Remaking the Modern Mind." More than 150 pastors, theologians, and interested laypeople came together to hear from eight different scholars and speakers on various subjects related to issues of evangelicalism, Christian ethics, inerrancy of Scripture, and others — all using Henry's life and ministry as the backdrop for reflection.

"In an age of declining theological vigor and few theological giants, Carl F.H. Henry has emerged as one of the theological luminaries of the twentieth century," said Al Mohler, president of Southern Seminary and one of the plenary speakers at the conference, who addressed the health of evangelicalism.

Other speakers included Millard Erickson of Baylor University; Stanley Grenz of Regent College, Vancouver, BC; Anthony Thiselton of Nottingham University; C. Ben Mitchell of Trinity Evangelical Divinity School; Paul House of Wheaton College; Union President David S. Dockery; and Union professors and Wilber-

force Forum fellows David Gushee and Gregory Alan Thornbury.

Completing both his bachelor and master's degrees at Wheaton, Henry went on to finish his M.Div and TH.D. at Northern Baptist Seminary and later the Ph.D. in philosophy at Boston University. After several years of serving as one of the founding faculty of the Fuller Theological Seminary in Calif., Henry accepted the invitation to serve as founding editor of *Christianity Today*. Now 89 years old and currently residing in Watertown, Wis., Henry was unable to attend the symposium due to his inability to travel. He gave his name to Union's Center for Christian Leadership in 2001.

"Few people in the 20th cen-

tury have done more to articulate the importance of a coherent Christian world and life view than Carl F.H. Henry," said Dockery, who argued in his address that a truly evangelical doctrine of Scripture alone could provide both a center and circumference for evangelical definition.

In other plenary addresses, Grenz called for evangelicals to stress the piety of the evangelical movement while simultaneously maintaining concern for good theology, Erickson uncovered the philosophical presupposi-

tions of the openness of God movement, and Anthony Thiselton showed that biblical authority need not be compromised in light of recent philosophical developments.

"The mission of the Henry center is to provide the tools to equip students and other leaders with Christian worldview thinking skills necessary for faithful engagement of the culture in every avenue of modern life," explained Thornbury, the center's director.

Previous conferences hosted by the center have covered topics ranging from bioethics, Christian higher education, and politics. The Henry Center



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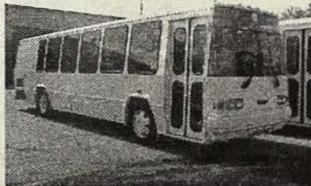
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KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE
8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

This is a conference designed to provide information, training, and resources for churches that will enable them to better plan to minister in their community, utilizing their facilities as a tool for ministry.

FEATURED TOPICS: Leading Your Church Through the Planning and Building Process, Master Planning For Long Range Growth, Planning a Building Budget: A Look At Total Project Costs, How Churches Finance Church Buildings, User Friendly Church Facilities, Rules of Thumb, Multi-Use Space

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?: Pastors and Church Staff, Building Committees, Finance Committees, Trustees, Others facing the need for space, involved in the building process, or responsible for facilities planning and funding development.

CONFERENCE PERSONALITIES: Gary Best, Architect, Gary Best and Associates, Jerry Grubbs, Architect and Consultant, LifeWay Christian Resources, SBC, Bo Childs, Certified Financial Planner and President, Tennessee Baptist Foundation, Archer Thorpe, Church Administration and Stewardship Specialist, Tennessee Baptist Convention

WE NEED YOUR RESPONSE: Please complete the registration form and include your check made payable to Church Administration. Registration fee includes lunch.

Church Building and Finance Conference April 11, 2002

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MINISTRIES — MUSIC

First Baptist Church, Rockwood is prayerfully seeking enthusiastic full-time minister of music blended services (average attendance of 275). Seminary preferred. Send resume and visit First Baptist Church, Rockwood Attn. Music Search Committee, P.O. Box 54, Rockwood 37854.

◆◆◆◆

First Baptist Church, Elizabethton, Tenn., is seeking a full-time minister of music. If interested please send resume to Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 212 E F St., Elizabethton 37643.

MISCELLANEOUS

For Sale: A two-year-old 60' modular building w/HVAC for sale. Used as educational small worship center. Gladeville Baptist Church, 444-0550, for details.

MINISTRIES — EDUCATION

Cherry Road Baptist Church seeking an associate pastor of education. Resumes to Les C. Business Administrator, Cherry Road Baptist Church, 1421 Ry Rd., Memphis, TN 38117.

◆◆◆◆

Broadway Baptist Church, Worth, Texas, is seeking a full-time minister of education and discipleship. Broadway is a denominationally-minded CBF affiliated congregation with a commitment to inner-city ministry. We value the liturgical tradition. Send resumes or recommendations to Cindy Johnson, Chair, Education Search Committee, 305 W E Highway, Ft. Worth, TX 76104.

◆◆◆◆

Calvary Baptist Church is seeking a full-time minister of education/evangelism. If you are interested, please send a resume to Pastor Steve M. Ald, 163 N. Jefferson Circle, Ridge, TN 37830, phone (423) 483-7470, fax (423) 482-7211.

◆◆◆◆

Centreville Baptist, seeking a full-time minister of education/youth. MRE degree required. Some experience preferred. Church has new education building, excellent benefits, salary package. Send resume to Centreville Baptist Church, PO Box 326, Centreville, AL 35004.

MINISTRIES — YOUNG ADULTS

Seeking full-time young adult minister. Send resume to Hunter First Baptist Church, Hwy. 91, Elizabethton, TN 37643, fax (423) 543-2948, email church@hunterfirst.com.

leaders

■ Fowlkes Baptist Church, Dyersburg, recently called Mike Ray as pastor. Ray has served as a minister in Tennessee for 18 years, including the last eight as pastor of Skyview Baptist Church, Memphis. Ray was reared in Dyersburg and was a member of Friendship Baptist Church there. He is a graduate of Union University, America Baptist Theological Seminary, and Anderson Baptist Seminary.



RAY

■ Michael Smith, pastor of Second Baptist Church, Memphis, for the past eight years, has been called as pastor of First Baptist Church, Memphis.

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SMITH

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churches

■ First Baptist Church, Monterey, will hold revival services March 24-27 with guest evangelist Phil Glisson of Memphis.

■ New Salem Baptist Church, Soddy-Daisy, will present an Easter musical/drama "Lamb of God" on March 9 at 7 p.m. each night. For more information, call the church at (423) 842-3078.

■ LeBelle Haven Baptist Church, Memphis, has revival services scheduled for March 7-10 with evangelist Phil



NEW TRUSTEES of Belmont University who met President Robert Fisher, far left, recently at their first meeting included, from left, Don Kohanski, Hermitage Hills Baptist Church, Hermitage; Larry Otis, Tupelo, Miss.; Cathy Jones, Two Rivers Baptist Church, Nashville; Mike Glenn, pastor, Brentwood Baptist Church, Brentwood; Brenda Law, Brentwood Baptist Church; Bernardette Woodbury, Simeon Baptist Church, Antioch; Andrea Overby, First Baptist Church, Nashville; Jim McAfee, Atlanta; Jon Roebuck, pastor, Woodmont Baptist Church, Nashville.

Glisson of Memphis.

■ Beginning Sunday, May 26, at 10:45 a.m., **Shelby Avenue Baptist Church, Nashville**, will hold a Falling in Love with Missions Revival. Retired Southern Baptist missionary to Paraguay William Skinner will speak during the morning service. State WMU President Candy Phillips will speak at 6:30 p.m. on May 29; followed by Bryant Millsaps, president of Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes on June 2; and Larry Robertson, evangelism specialist for the Tennessee Baptist Convention, on June 5. For more information, call the church at (615) 227-2961.

■ Members of **First Baptist Church, Millington**, voted recently to build a new church plant on the property at West Union and Wilkinsonville Road in Millington. Groundbreaking for the new facility will be held April 14.

■ **Dalewood Baptist Church, Nashville**, will present "God So Loved The World," an Easter celebration depicting the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus through music and drama, on March 29-30 at 7 p.m. each night. Admission is free and no tickets are needed. Call the church office at (615) 227-7000 for more information.

■ **Eastside Baptist Church, Burns**, will host Rescue 101 Youth Conference on May 4. The event will feature Dawson McAllister and eight break-out session leaders from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. For more information, including costs, call the church at (615) 446-5816 or Kent Robbins at (615) 512-3642.

■ **Edgefield Baptist Church, Nashville**, will cele-

brate its 135th anniversary in April. On Saturday, April 13, a reception will be held from 3-5 p.m. in honor of former pastors, staff, and church members. A homecoming celebration will be held the following day with worship at 10:30 a.m., a covered dish lunch at noon, and a praise service at 1:30 p.m. For more information, call the church at (615) 255-0468.

■ **Pine Grove Baptist Church, Parkers Cross Roads**, will present the Easter musical/drama "Who Do You Say I Am?" at 6 p.m. on March 24. For more information, call the church at (731) 968-7165.

■ The drama team of **Central Baptist Church, Hendersonville**, will present "The Living Lord's Supper" on March 23-24 at 6 p.m. For more information, call the church at (615) 824-1904.

need their own tools for construction and refurbishing projects.

■ The Tennessee Baptist **Acteens Retreat** is set for April 5-6 at the Opryland Hotel in Nashville. The event will center around the theme "God, Others, Myself." To receive registration forms and hotel information, contact Tennessee Woman's Missionary Union at 1-800-558-2090, ext. 7921.

■ **Bible Fun Field Days** will be held April 6 at Carson-Springs Conference Center and April 13 at Linden Valley Conference Center. The day is designed for leaders of children in grades one-six, along with those children too. Registration begins at 10 a.m. and the day's activities conclude at 3 p.m. For more information, call the TBC Christian Growth Development Group at 1-800-558-2090, ext. 7905.

hospitals

■ The National Air Filtration Association recently presented **Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis**, with the 2001 Clean Air Award. The award is given annually to organizations which use effective air filtration.

TBC events

■ **Tennessee Baptist Campers on Missions** will hold a rally April 5-7 at the Tennessee Baptist Children's Home in Bartlett and a ministry project there on April 8-12. For more information, call Ralph and Glynda Tate at (731) 847-2839. People will



Yarborough to retire as TBC group leader

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — Eleanor Yarborough, leader of the Tennessee Baptist Convention's Communication Services Group since July 1, 1996, has announced her retirement effective April 30.

A native of Mobile, Ala., she has resided in Tennessee for the past 31 years and has served on the TBC



YARBOROUGH

staff since 1981. Prior to her present position Yarborough served as church media library department director which also included several other programs of ministry (church history, church recreation, and church drama).

Yarborough earned a bachelor's degree from Samford University, Birmingham, Ala., and a master's degree from Vanderbilt University, Nashville.

She and her husband, Larry, have two grown children. They are active members of First Baptist Church, Nashville. ■



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, Parsons, members recently heard a report about Campers on Mission, a North American Missions Board project with a chapter in Tennessee. The Tennessee chapter has 210 members across the state. Last year Tennessee Baptist Campers on Mission led 29 people to the Lord, distributed 2,100 Bibles, and traveled 34,000 road miles to conduct mission projects, according to Ralph Tate, right, president of the Tennessee chapter and a member of First Baptist Church, Parsons. His wife, Glynda, second from right, is secretary/treasurer of the chapter. With them are Travis and Judy Tanner, also members of First Baptist. He serves as on-site project coordinator while his wife is the group's historian.



D.C. Baptists turn down NAMB

governance request

Associated Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — The District of Columbia Baptist Convention has refused demands for increased accountability to the Southern Baptist Convention, setting up a showdown that could end 125 years of a joint Baptist witness in the nation's capital.

In a meeting closed to the press, the DCBC executive board voted March 11 to turn down a series of requests by the SBC North American Mission Board to address a perceived rift between Southern Baptists and the state affiliate.

Among them was that the DCBC change its organizational structure so that all funding from NAMB would be administered by a person directly ac-

countable to Southern Baptists and not the state convention's executive director.

But leaders of the Washington convention said that would "violate basic management principles" in rejecting a 12-month trial period proposed by NAMB to implement the changes.

The four-page response to the NAMB proposal further requests a formal statement within 45 days from NAMB President Robert Reccord about the agency's intentions concerning the future of its partnership with the DCBC.

Southern Baptists provide nearly a third of the D.C. convention's \$1.5 million annual budget. Most of that comes from the Alpharetta, Ga.,-based NAMB in the form of joint funding of projects outlined in a cooperative agreement.

Unlike most other Southern Baptist state conventions, however, the DCBC isn't aligned solely with the SBC. Historically affiliated with both the SBC and American Baptist Churches

in the U.S.A., the group added ties to the predominantly African-American Progressive National Baptist Convention in 1998.

NAMB officials had cited disagreement with American Baptists in stated positions on abortion, women's ordination, and acceptance of gays, saying those differences raised "stewardship" issues about continuing the joint witness.

Reccord said through a spokesman March 12 that he hadn't had time to review the response thoroughly, but he is "disappointed that it appears

the D.C. convention has rejected NAMB's proposal."

Reccord said NAMB officials and trustees "will carefully study" the issue before responding. He said he doesn't feel constrained to respond within the 45-day limit, however, noting that the DCBC took nearly six months to respond to NAMB's proposal.

NAMB spokesman Marty King said he was disappointed that neither agency representatives nor the media were allowed to attend the meeting "in order to better understand" the convention's response. ■

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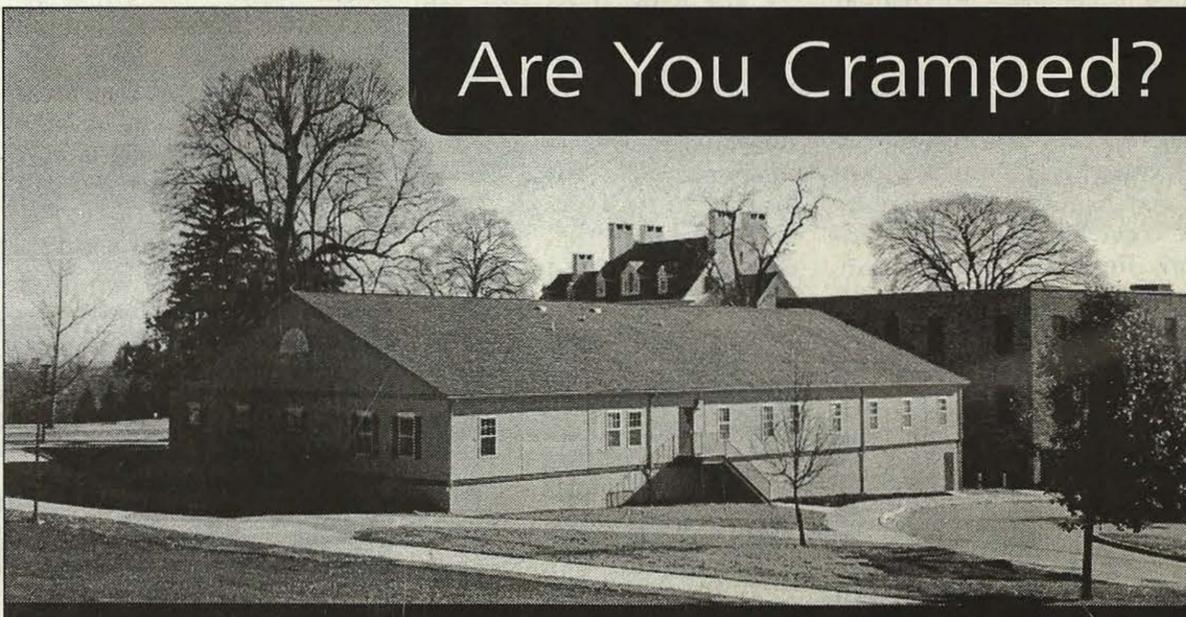
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First Baptist Church, Rogersville, Tenn., is seeking full-time youth/family minister. Please send resume to Mrs. M. Brooks, Personnel Chair, 140 Robertson Blvd., Rogersville, TN 37857. Resumes will be accepted until the position is filled.

MINISTRIES — OTHER

Houseparents. Immediate need for full-time relief houseparents for the Tennessee Baptist Children's Home in Chattanooga and Cleveland. Married couples only. Contact Bob Segrest or Lynn Jordan (423) 892-2722.

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Giles Baptist Association is currently searching for a director of missions. Send resume to Giles Baptist Association, Attn. Search Committee, P.O. Box 404, Pulaski, TN 38478.

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Church secretary needed. Forest Hills Baptist Church of Nashville is searching for qualified applicants who have a minimum of years college experience in marketing/communications as well as desktop publishing skills. For more information, call (615) 378-8074. Resumes may be sent to Forest Hills Baptist Church, 210 Old Hickory Blvd., Nashville, TN 37215.

MINISTRIES — PASTOR

Ridgewood Baptist Church, Wadsworth, Ohio, is seeking senior pastor for our congregation. The ideal candidate will be seminary trained with at least five years of pastoral experience. Average attendance for Ridgewood for 2001 was 130. Receipts for the period were \$177,000. Our church is founded on traditional Southern Baptist principles and doctrines as outlined in the 19th Baptist Faith and Message. We are fully supportive of the Cooperative Mission Program. Resumes may be sent to Dr. Dick Marsh, Ridgewood Baptist Church, 78 Ridge Rd., Wadsworth, OH 44281.

MINISTRIES — MUSIC

Full-time minister of music at youth for FBC, Salem, IL. Send resume to Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 721 W. Main St., Salem IL 62881 or contact fbcb1@midwest.net.

◆◆◆◆

Strong church in metro-Atlanta seeks energetic leader to help continued growth. Minimum five years experience, seminary degree, strong choral skills a goal orientation required. Should be versatile and able to blend of traditional and contemporary music and direct orchestra. Be part of ministry team that does FAITH SS. Lead youth choir. Send resume to Search Committee, McDonough Road Baptist Church, 352 McDonough Rd., Fayetteville, GA 30214.

minister's corner

by Jack Lewis

Easter is the time we celebrate the risen Lord. I want to encourage you and your family to read about the events that occurred

during the last week of Jesus' life. The following is a guide for you to use as you remember these special events of our Lord.

Sunday — Day of the King's Coming — "Palm Sunday"

Mark 11:1-11 — Jesus came into Jerusalem on a donkey, the beast of peace, rather than a horse, the symbol of war.

Monday — Day of Authority

Mark 11:12-19 — Jesus declared HIS authority on this day by the cursing of the fig tree and the cleansing of the temple.

Tuesday — Day of Conflict

Mark 11:20-14:9 — Many events are recorded here showing Jesus facing conflict and rejection while engaged in a teaching ministry.

Wednesday — Day of Rest

Matthew 26:1-5; Mark 14:1-11; Luke 22:1-6 — Following the intense day of conflict on Tuesday, the gospels do not record any events of Jesus on Wednesday. Jesus spent this day in Bethany. He was resting, Satan was busy.

Thursday — Day of Preparation — "Maundy Thursday"

Mark 14:12-31 — Jesus and His disciples met in a large upper room for the Lord's Supper. He established "The Lord's Supper" replacing the Passover meal creating a new memorial supper to remember God's deliverance from sin.

Friday — Day of Suffering — "Good Friday"

Mark 14:32-15:47 — The darkest day in history, also known as Good Friday because God demonstrated His supreme love for all mankind through Jesus.

Saturday — Day of Sabbath Rest

Matthew 27:62-66 — The tomb was secured; however, there is no action of man that will stop the purposes of God.

Sunday — Day of Resurrection — "Easter Sunday"

Matthew 28:1-15; Mark 16:1-8 — He is alive. We celebrate the joy of His Living Presence on this Holy Day.

Take this opportunity to teach your children about the life of Christ and make plans to be in worship on Easter Sunday! ■ — Lewis is minister of education, Tulip Grove Baptist Church, Old Hickory.

just for today

by Fred Wood, pastor emeritus, Memphis



Start With a Smile: Four-year-old Johnny to five-year-old Tommy as he points to something as they walk through a department

store: "What is that?" Tommy: "They call it a bathroom scale." Johnny: "What's it for?" Tommy: "I don't know, but when they step on it, they always get mad."

Take this Truth: Childhood is the wisdom of youth before it's lived long enough to have an opinion.

Memorize this Scripture: "Better a patient man than a warrior, a man who controls his temper than one who taketh a city." — Proverbs 16:32 NIV

Pray this Prayer: Lord, help me to know what things in life are worth "getting mad about."

Fulfilling Jesus' prayer

By Charles Fritts

Focal Passage: John 17:6-11, 15-18, 20-26

Sometimes we're self centered and don't know it. Like the husband of a couple expecting their first child. The time came and he rushed her to the hospital. It was Friday and her labor was intense. Saturday and still no baby. He paced and worried and drank coffee. He paced some more, into Sunday. Finally the nurse came to tell him he was a father. "What was it?" "A girl." "Thank heaven," he said. "She'll never have to go through what I just did."

In the final hours Jesus had with His disciples, He prayed for them (and us). His prayer is so rich it's worth studying in detail.

He prayed for the disciples who were there and for those who would follow. That's you and me. Think of it! He prayed for you! For what did He pray? He prayed for your protection. He prayed for you to be sanctified by His Word. He prayed for you to continue what He began. He prayed for you to eventually be with Him. Yet the dominant theme of His prayer is for unity.

"... that they may be one as we are one" (v. 11).

"... that all of them may be one" (v. 21).

"May they be brought to complete unity ..." (v. 23).

Out of this comes three giant truths: (1) We are to be one, (2) we are all to be one, (3) we're not there yet.

We are to be one as Jesus and the Father are one (v. 11). They are driven by the same force — love. They have the same goal — redemption. To know one is to know the other. Neither is self centered. No hidden agenda. They are always on the same page. What a church that would be! An impossible dream? Well, it's what Jesus prayed for. It's worth considering. The best

place to begin is with ourselves. Could it be that we're more like the expectant father than we want to admit? We join churches that meet our needs and leave churches that don't. Obviously we do have needs and it's only human nature to want them met. However, Jesus gave up His needs (and rights) to provide something better for us. It appears that our churchmanship is rather self-centered and individualistic. It's easy to "flee." It's Godly to "fix it." The first step in "fixing it" is to maintain an attitude of oneness with our brothers and sisters.

We are all to be one (v. 21). Just look at that bunch of disciples. They're guilty of "bad mouthing" each other, jockeying for position in the kingdom, and behaving like super saints. They're typical people — all different and all opinionated.

Family Bible SS Lesson — March 24

Demonstrate reconciliation

By Thurman Seber

Focal Passage: Ephesians 2:11-22

Writing to a church made up mostly of Gentile Christians, Paul called upon them to demonstrate their reconciliation through Jesus Christ.

The word reconciliation means, "bringing together again, that which has become separated." God had made only one human race. With the passing of time, sin had so infiltrated the lifestyle of man that God called out a separate people through Abraham. They were to be a peculiar people in their lifestyle and religious practice. Circumcision was the sign given of God to mark this separation. A part of their mission was to be the channel of blessing through which God would reach out to an unbelieving world.

By the time of Christ's coming, a wall of division had been erected which completely separated Jew from Gentile. This wall was symbolized by the wall inside the temple which separated the court of the Gentiles from the inward places where only Jews were allowed to enter.

How had this, "middle wall of partition" (v. 14) been dealt with by God? This question, and it's answer, is the focus of our Scripture passage.

We sometimes hear someone referred to as a "piece of work." In

verse 10, Paul indicates that we are all exactly that, the workmanship of God. How has God brought those who were without (v. 12) to be within? Only God could do such work.

More than a piece of work, we are also a work of peace. Man constantly searches for peace. We seek peace with our self and peace with others. How many millions today are seeking inner peace and not finding any? World leaders sign peace treaties that are mostly short lived.

Only a mediator with power and wisdom far beyond Jew or Gentile, could ever bring together such divergent people. Only God could present such a plan for peace. This reconciliation plan contains three elements as outlined in these verses.

First, He broke down the wall of separation (v. 13-14). This wall must fall and only one thing could cause it to crumble. The precious blood of Jesus Christ did exactly that (v. 13). For those Jews and Gentiles who remain outside the blood of Jesus, the wall of separation remains in place. For those under the blood, the wall is gone.

Next, He brought Jew and Gentile together in Himself, making one new body from the two (vv. 15-17). This reconciliation was only possible "by the cross" (v. 16).

So then, those who were afar off, the Gentiles, and those who were

near, the Jews, all heard the same message of peace in Christ. Without the blood, the wall still stands. Without the cross, no reconciliation takes place.

Last, He brings us together before the Father (v. 18). Let it be clearly understood that we stand before the Father as one body, or we have no access to the Father at all. The Spirit does not present believers before the Father as Jew or Gentile but only as saved Christians.

Would it make a difference in the way churches conduct themselves if this was kept clearly in focus? How do we stand before our God as a divided body? The wall between Jew and Gentile is not an issue in most modern day churches. There are other walls, often built in anger, which stand as barriers between brothers. Let us not forget, those walls also hinder our access to the Father.

There it is then, His peace initiative broke down the wall, brought us together in one body, and brings us before the Father as one.

The Gentile believers in Ephesus could see that they had come from being foreigners to fellow citizens and from sinners to saints (v. 19). Now part of the holy temple, they have become the habitation of God (vv. 21-22).

We stand together then as a body and a building while the world watches. Let there be no dividing walls. — Seber is pastor of Upper Helton Baptist Church, Alexandria.



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