

Baptist & Reflector

Wide Edition

Telling the Story of Tennessee Baptists

Vol. 168/No. 40; Oct. 23, 2002

Tennessee Baptists called to prayer

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — Tennessee Baptist churches are being asked to observe a time of solemn assembly during the course of their Sunday worship services on Nov. 3.

Tennessee Baptists also are being asked to observe a Day of Prayer and Fasting on Wednesday, Nov. 5. On that day, Tennesseans will decide "if our state will remain gambling free," said Don Pierson, prayer coordinator for the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

"Perhaps even more important, every voting believer will be forced to decide what Jesus would do.

"We ask that you fervently pray that Tennessee remain gambling free, that the lottery be defeated, and that the voice of Christ be heard as a united

voice," Pierson said.

TBC Executive Director James Porch joined in the call to prayer.

"I invite and challenge Tennessee Baptists to join me in fervent, diligent prayer as we approach decision day on the lottery in Tennessee.

"A defeat of this lottery proposal will be a Kingdom victory and help to safeguard the society of the people called Tennesseans.

"A lottery and all gambling creates losers. A vote against the lottery will be a vote for victory," Porch said.

"Tennessee Baptists, please examine the issues and seek the truth concerning the potential effect of the lottery on our lifestyle. May we together, under God, work in defeating this potential malignancy in our lifestyle," Porch concluded. □

Lottery will have negative impact on state budget, says national expert

Editor's Note: See chart on page 9 which gives the potential loss of local option taxes for Tennessee counties should the state initiate a lottery.

For Baptist and Reflector

NASHVILLE — In a series of news conferences Oct. 14 in cities across the state, a nationally recognized expert on the impact of lotteries on state revenues warned Tennessee's lawmakers to expect the proposed lottery significantly to impact state revenues if approved.

Paul Mason, chairman of the department of economics at the University of North Florida, and co-author of *The Economic Consequences of State Lotteries*, pointed out that the old axiom, "There's no such thing as a free lunch" is

true when it comes to lotteries and public finance.

"Policy makers need to be aware, and even expect, that state revenue sources will decline proportionately with the growth of lottery revenues and prepare the state budget accordingly," Mason said.

He emphasized that no state has been exempt. "I have studied every state that's initiated a state lottery. The loss of non-lottery revenue varies by state, but it's always a factor.

"Of more concern for Tennessee," Mason continued, "is the fact that Tennessee depends so heavily on sales taxes. Those states without a state income tax and high rates of sales and excise taxes lose considerably more non-lot-

tery revenue as a result of instituting a state lottery."

Mason noted that across the country revenue losses "range from 15 percent to as much as 23 percent.

"If Tennessee projects to bring in \$300 million in lottery proceeds, losses could be anywhere from \$45 million to \$70 million."

Mason explained that in addition to Tennessee's dependence on a sales tax, the lottery structure itself will make the effect on the state budget worse.

"In many states, lottery proceeds are earmarked for the general fund or a program (like K-12 education) that is already a budgeted expense. In these — See Lottery, page 9



es past to witness to others

Layman overcomes gambling addiction

Connie Davis
For Baptist and Reflector

NASHVILLE — In 1993 Dave Thomas moved his family here from Florida to escape creditors and legal gambling.

He knew his family had suffered in Florida due to his gambling addiction and that he needed to curb his gambling, especially on horse racing.

Though Tennessee has no legalized gambling, Thomas found illegal gambling was available through card games and playing numbers.

After a few years in the state Thomas was offered a dream job by a man he met while working as a truck driver for a chemical company. The man was anxious to help Thomas who had won him money while gambling.

The dream job, however, allowed Thomas to drive to Illinois so he could gamble there on the weekends at the casinos. His route also would take him through states where he could buy lottery tickets.

Thankfully, on Aug. 2, 2000, Thomas made a profession of faith while attending a service at Two Rivers Baptist Church. That decision changed his life and he turned down the "dream" job.

When Thomas sees former fellow gamblers they often comment on the

fact that he no longer gambles. He lets them know, "The Lord changed me."

He is still glad he lives in Tennessee, where it is more difficult to gamble than in most states. Thomas also is glad because he can join in the fight to keep the lottery from becoming legal in the Volunteer State.

Becoming a gambler

Thomas is committed to helping fight the lottery because it played a key role in his addiction to gambling.

He recalled when he moved to Florida he saw signs as they crossed the state line: "Welcome to Florida. Play the Florida Lottery."

Thomas, who had already begun to gamble before moving to Florida, began spending \$2-\$3 a week on lottery tickets. He justified it because of the low cost of the tickets. His other justification was to help his family. He dreamed of buying his parents a better house.

Soon, however the few dollars he



DAVE THOMAS, a member of Two Rivers Baptist Church, Nashville, and a former gambling addict, holds up a tract that he uses to distribute at lottery outlets in Kentucky and other states.

spent weekly on lottery tickets grew to \$50 by playing the daily "Cash 3, Cash 4, or Pick 5" tickets.

Then Thomas was introduced to dog racing where his addiction increased.

He began asking for advances on his salary and borrowing money from friends and family.

— See Layman, page 3

TBCH receives about \$7.5 million in restricted gifts

By Kim Burke
For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes (TBCH) has been notified that the ministry will receive four large restricted gifts totaling several million dollars over the course of the coming year from estates in Strawberry Plains and Nashville as well as from a Memphis charitable trust.

The news of these gifts has emerged over the last three months and will have very positive impact on all three of TBCH's service regions, according to Bryant Millsaps, TBCH president-treasurer.

The Children's Homes will receive an approximate \$2,500,000 bequest from the estate of Kathleen McGlothlin who resided in the Strawberry Plains community in Northeast Knox County and \$500,000 from the estate of Ann Dahlinger of Nashville.

The bequest from the McGlothlin estate represents the largest bequest received by TBCH in its 111-year history.

— See TBCH, page 2

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**Publisher - Tennessee Baptist
Convention Executive Board**

**Convention Communications
Committee -**

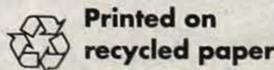
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Postmaster -

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

G-WU president steps down amid grading scandal

Baptist Press

SHELBY, N.C. — A month and a day after a grading scandal at Gardner-Webb University first became public, President Christopher White resigned.

Following a three-hour meeting Oct. 11, the executive committee of the school's board of trustees accepted White's resignation, which is effective Oct. 25, over a grading scandal involving Bulldogs' star basketball player during the 2000-01 season in which the team won the NCCAA (National Christian Collegiate Athletic Association) tournament crown on their home floor.

According to a statement from the trustees, White "chose to step aside so the unrest will end and the university can again focus on its mission of education."

Details of White's severance package were not released. □

LBC may tighten membership requirements

Associated Baptist Press

ALEXANDRIA, La. — The Louisiana Baptist Convention will consider changing its constitution to define a "cooperating" church as one that supports both the state and Southern Baptist conventions through the Cooperative Program unified budget.

Currently, churches qualify for messengers at the state convention if they cooperate "monetarily," meaning designated gifts, also count.

"The only thing that separates us from Independent Baptists is the Cooperative Program," executive board member George Bannister said during discussion on the motion, which passed the group and now goes

Amid sniper shootings, Christians should provide a witness, according to D.C. pastor

By Michael Foust
Baptist Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — A sniper is on the loose, and pastor Mark Dever has seen the fear on peoples' faces.

Events are canceled. Plans are changed. People stay inside.

"People are changing what they're doing," said Dever, pastor of Capitol Hill Baptist Church in Washington, D.C. "They're holding their breath. Games are canceled. If your son has a football game or a soccer game, it's probably been canceled. My son didn't go outside for recess at his school."

Dever spoke about the sniper shootings while visiting Southern Baptist Theological Seminary for the board of trustees meeting Oct. 15. Dever serves on the board and is a graduate of the seminary.

While he does not know any of the victims' families, he does frequent many of the locations that have turned into crime scenes.

His family bought a grill at the same Home Depot where

the ninth victim was shot. Several of the shootings took place just a couple of miles from his children's school.

"[Capitol Hill Baptist is] right in the middle of the city, so they're not close to our church," he said. "But they're close to where our kids go to school, where our kids ride horses, where we shop."

Instead of the heart of the city, the shootings are taking place miles away in the suburbs. Dever admitted that when he's been outside the shootings have come to mind.

"I have filled up my gas a time or two since it started, and I confess that I have thought about it," he said. "One day last week I was walking back from Union Station to the church — probably about a 10- or 15-minute walk — and I certainly considered the fact [that I could be shot]. The guy who was shot in the District was just walking along the street."

"Yes, those things certainly come to mind."

But Christians in the area

should not live with the fear that others have, Dever said adding that he has seen his congregation handle the crisis well. "That's not just a pastor trying to speak well of the church. We know that the world is not our final home," he said.

Offering advice for Christians praying for the situation Dever said Christians should pray that God will convict the sniper's conscience and that he will be apprehended. Dever pointed out that I Corinthians 6:9 lists a series of sins — including murder — and concludes by saying, "such were some of you."

He also requested prayer for D.C.-area Christians that they will be bold witnesses to non-believers in the midst of anxious times.

"We should pray particularly just for ourselves — that we are able to live in such a way that it shows that we have hope that can't be exhausted by this life ending," he said. "That's a great thing to show to other people. It's a good witness for Christ." □

to the state convention this fall. "We need to set the guideline to say this defines us as Southern Baptists." □

Sniper victim's funeral held at baptism site

Baptist Press

GAITHERSBURG, Md. — A Baptist church member was the second of the nine people murdered in a sniper's random attacks in the Washington, D.C., area, since Oct. 2.

James L. "Sonny" Buchanan's funeral was conducted Oct. 11

at First Baptist Church here, where he had been baptized as a child. The funeral service was the subject of a *Washington Post* story Oct. 12.

Buchanan, a 39-year-old landscaper, was killed the morning of Oct. 3 by a bullet to the chest as he was mowing the lawn at the Fitzgerald Auto Mall in White Flint, Md.

He had remained a member of the Gaithersburg church over the years but had devoted his volunteer energies to the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Washington, serving both as a mentor to at-risk youth for more than 10 years and as a regional board member.

Charles Updike, pastor of

First Baptist, Gaithersburg, conducted Buchanan's funeral.

One of Buchanan's two sisters, Vicki Snider, is "one of the best Sunday School teachers," Updike told Baptist Press.

About 800 people attend the 11 a.m. funeral, Updike said. "I think it was a wonderful witness to the community," he said, which included a reception organized by church members after the service. "There was a lot of love in here," the pastor said.

Among Updike's reflections in his funeral sermon: "A sniper's bullet can end an earthly life, but it cannot separate from the love of God in Christ Jesus." □

TBCH receives about \$7.5 million in restricted ...

— Continued from page 1

This gift will allow TBCH to establish a permanent place of ministry in the greater Knoxville/Knox county area. Mrs. McGlothlin was preceded in death by her husband Elmer. Their estate plans were established almost 20 years ago and were unknown to TBCH officials until they were notified by representatives of the estate.

In addition to these bequests, TBCH has also received a \$2,500,000 grant from The Paul W. Barrett Jr. Charitable Trust of Memphis. This grant is designated for capital improvements to TBCH in Memphis after submitting a grant proposal for funds that would be used to "modernize, renovate, and upgrade facilities" in West Tennessee. Facilities at the Bartlett campus were built in the 1950s and, with the exception of replacing appliances and HVAC equipment,

have not seen significant upgrading since that time.

The Barrett Trust has also advised TBCH that it is in the process of transferring approximately 430 acres to TBCH to be used to enhance the program of the Double B Boys Ranch in Millington.

The Double B Boys Ranch is a ministry of TBCH to young boys who can benefit from the work program that is a major part of life on the Ranch.

The 430 acres are contained in six tracts of land located in North Shelby County near the boundary with Tipton County. While the exact acreage is uncertain at this time, it is estimated that the value of the property could be as high as \$2 million.

Any proceeds from the sale of this land will be primarily used to develop the pro-

grams of the Boys Ranch as well as other aspects of TBCH's West Tennessee operations.

"We are humbled and honored to receive these incredible gifts," said Dr. Bryant Millsaps, TBCH president/treasurer.

"We are indeed grateful to the McGlothlin's, Mrs. Dahlinger, and Mr. Graves Liggett and Mr. John Douglas (Executors of the Barrett Trust). Their decisions to affirm the importance of the ministry of the Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes is a source of great joy and humility to all of us.

"Obviously, they all viewed TBCH as a ministry that is relevant for today's families and as making a difference for the kingdom of God as we minister to children and families in crisis. We are grateful that they have allowed God to use them to provide for the children and families in our care." □

Carson-Newman receives two \$1 million gifts

By Sara Horn
For Baptist and Reflector

JEFFERSON CITY — The Carson-Newman College landscape will soon change, both physically and programmatically, according to school officials.

At a press conference Oct. 3, the first day of the institution's annual homecoming celebration, C-N officials announced the receipt of two \$1 million donations, plans for a new state-of-the-art business building, the establishment of two new academic laboratories, and the renovation of an existing facility.

Thanks to the generosity of Knoxville businessman Ted Russell and his wife, Drama, Carson-Newman will begin the design and construction process on a home for the college's growing business division.

The Russell's \$1 million do-

nation is the lead gift for the project. Russell, a 1962 graduate of Carson-Newman, is recognized as one of the leading automobile dealers in the country. He owns Ford, Isuzu, and Nissan dealerships as well as Ted Russell marine and Smoky Mountain Rentals.



The C-N NETHERTON business division named him as outstanding alumnus for 2000-01.

The new facility will be the first academic building to be planned in more than 20 years. It will feature innovative instructional and learning spaces as well as growing room for the business division which now has about 300 current students.

"I cannot begin to express

what this type of commitment means to Carson-Newman and our division of business," said C-N President James Netherton.

"The Russells have not just helped us craft a vision, they are helping us secure that vision. These gifts will serve as the cornerstone on which our fundraising efforts for this facility will rest," Netherton said.

A \$1.15 million contribution from the estate of Gertrude Blye is slated to be used for student scholarships and to help fund the renewal of the Baker Building, a 50-year-old facility that houses the school's family and consumer science division. A Knoxville resident and 1928 C-N graduate, Blye died last year.

With construction slated for next May, the refurbished building will offer industry-standard classrooms, a nutrition and food laboratory, and

offices. "These two projects are the beginning of a virtual transformation of the teaching facilities on our campus," Netherton said.

C-N will use donations from two East Tennessee families to establish a pair of resource programs that will be the centerpiece for the new Academic Center, which will be housed on the unfinished fourth floor of the Henderson Humanities Building. Though the building opened in 1976, following a fire that destroyed its predecessor two years earlier, the upper floor of the structure has never been used.

In planning their estate, the late Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence Smith of Rutledge, made what Netherton called "a very significant provision for Carson-Newman." In recognition of their generosity, C-N's trustees voted at their last meeting to establish the Dr. and Mrs.

Lawrence Smith Laboratory for Learning.

The Academic Center also will feature a writing laboratory that has been established with a gift from Richard and Patricia Wallace of Sevierville.

Netherton said the day's news will help ensure Carson-Newman continues its emphasis on the primacy of teaching now and into the future.

Netherton also said, that in light of the current economy, the college will expand through the generosity of donors and not by borrowing money for the announced projects.

"I have pledged to our trustees and to our faculty that we will not mortgage our future in order to secure facilities today.

"These buildings will be completed as we receive gifts and firm commitments to pay for the total cost of the facilities," Netherton stressed. □

Opposing gambling Union faculty approve resolution

By Sara Horn
For Baptist and Reflector

JACKSON — By an overwhelming vote, the faculty of Union University recently approved a resolution against gambling and voiced their disapproval of the lottery bill which is up for a vote by Tennesseans on Nov. 5.

"I think this resolution by our faculty sends a message that is an important one," said Bryan Dawson, chair of the math and computer science department, who helped draft the resolution, along with Don Richards, associate professor of mathematics.

"It says that well-educated individuals who are able to think carefully about the implications and its various facets that the lottery has — that we've thought very carefully through this issue and as both individuals and a group of educators, we feel like this is the wrong thing to do," Dawson added.

Union President David S. Dockery also voiced his support for the resolution.

"I appreciate the initiative of our faculty taking this thoughtful and responsible action," said Dockery.

The resolution follows:

"Be it resolved that the faculty of Union University stand opposed to the state lottery and urge all who are able to vote against it in the upcoming election.

Among the many reasons for this opposition are:

(1) Morality and Ethics. The lottery is based upon the hope of obtaining great wealth without earning it, which is contrary to a biblical worldview. The lottery is a tax on the poor, even if they do not become addicted. The lottery exploits the false hope that it is a way out of poverty, and state sponsorship of such a system amounts to oppression of the poor.

(2) Psychology and Social Work. Im-

plementation of a state lottery will make it that much more likely that those individuals who have a predisposition to compulsive gambling will begin gambling and become addicted. This increases the social services burden on the state as such individuals suffer family and financial problems.

(3) Mathematics. Those who play the lottery in an attempt to improve their financial condition are working against themselves, since the theory of expected value shows that the more money bet on the lottery, the more you expect to lose. Most lottery players do not have a good concept of what one chance in several million really means.

(4) Finance. If you invest \$100 per week in Powerball tickets from your 18th birthday until your 65th birthday, you still have less than one in 300 chance of winning the Powerball during that time span. If, instead, you invest that same amount at 5 percent interest, you will have nearly \$1 million by age 65. In comparison, the lottery is a very poor investment.

(5) Politics. The lottery is, by its nature, a source of revenue for the state, not a source of expenditure. The legislature currently has the authority to spend any source of revenue in any area, including education. Analysis of lotteries from other states shows that spending on education as a percentage of revenue does not significantly increase after passage of a lottery. Coupling the lottery with education spending is misleading at best and deceptive politics at worst.

Furthermore, the method of administration of the lottery has not been decided, and will not be decided by vote of the people.

Tennessee has a poor record of administering gambling activities, as witnessed by the bingo fiasco in the 1980s, when several were sent to prison for corruption. □

Layman overcomes ...

— Continued from page 1

In the 10 years that Thomas and his family lived in Florida, they moved 11 times, often in the middle of the night, to avoid landlords. Many times utilities were cut off and they didn't know the source of their next meal. All this happened despite the fact that Thomas worked in well-paying jobs the entire time and never missed a day of work.

Changed life

After moving to Tennessee Thomas' life changed dramatically on that August night at Two Rivers when he heard evangelist Ken Freeman of Texas speak on freedom robbers.

Although he was "scared to death," Thomas described, he committed his life to God.

He did it although he believed he wouldn't have anything to live for without gambling and the adrenaline rush he received while gambling.

He soon realized he would get his adrenaline rush from his relationship with Jesus.

That decision to accept Christ not only changed his goals. It also changed his way of thinking.

As a result Thomas developed a ministry of helping former gambling friends, gamblers, and other people God leads him to.

He goes to Kentucky convenience stores and gives people buying lottery tickets a tract he developed.

While working as a truck driver in Kentucky, Thomas heard a Christian radio station broadcasting information about gambling. He called the show and developed a relationship with the staff. As a result he has been interviewed on the radio several times and has spoken in churches in the area. He



DAVE THOMAS passes out a tract which points out the negative aspects of the lottery at an intersection near Portland, very close to the Kentucky line.

also has given his testimony about his gambling addiction at several churches in Tennessee.

Life after gambling

Thomas admits life without gambling is not easy. "I'm still fighting it, still staying with it."

He asked his wife, Zarena, and his daughter to write about their experiences when he gambled. He often reads them when he speaks and he keeps them with him to remind him of the pain he inflicted. He has tried to make restitution to friends and family by paying them money he borrowed and apologizing. He realizes some of those relationships will never be mended on earth.

What motivates him, Thomas said, are the victims of gambling, especially the children. If Tennessee legalizes the lottery, "how many church people will start playing the lottery who do not think there's anything wrong with it?"

"Everything comes at a price."

Concerning the upcoming vote, Thomas knows he's on the winning team no matter what happens.

"I won't lose because God doesn't ever lose."

If Tennesseans do legalize the lottery, that will just allow him to witness to more gamblers, he said. □

Lottery has potential to seriously harm Tennesseans

heart talk



By James Porch

Many changes benefit life. All changes require risk! Some changes birth unending heartache that damages persons, destroys families, and erodes societies. No currently proposed change has the potential to harm the people of Tennessee more than a state-sponsored lottery. Such a statement merits explanation. A decision to enact a lottery will be irreversible. Regardless of the detriment, like alcohol, we will live with gambling. A lottery will only be the beginning of gambling in Tennessee. Gambling always breeds gambling. One type of chance never satisfies. Rather,

gambling engenders an insatiable appetite, and more types of gambling will be demanded to feed the beast. Citizens of Tennessee should wonder, "What future plans does the gambling industry have for Tennessee." Millions of people travel the interstate roads to Tennessee. More families visit the Smokies than any natural tourist attraction east of the Mississippi River. Nashville currently still attracts thousands of tourists because of Country Music. Will a new gambling Mecca replace the natural and cultural attractions to our beautiful state?

A lottery in Tennessee will create a new competition for the dollar. If \$900 million worth of lottery tickets are bought, \$900 million dollars of groceries, clothing, and other essential items will not be purchased. Legitimate businesses will feel the loss on a day-to-day basis.

Companion vices, such as,

corruption, extortion, and prostitution, usually accompany gambling. Has any projection been offered as to the cost for additional police, health services, or other regulatory measures demanded because of corruption?

A lottery violates the time honored American business ethic. In a gambling "transaction" no good faith promise of goods or services is ever given for money received. The "gambling business" depends entirely on losses for profit. The size of their profit is always determined by the amount of the loss of the person who gambles.

A lottery will create more poverty. Currently, state government has no plan, no desire, no commitment to care for neglected children and families victimized by gambling. Baptists and other churches will receive additional calls for baby

formula, diapers, groceries, utility payments, and housing.

A lottery can require additional taxes in Tennessee. The lottery dollar will not be subjected to sales tax. The purchase of \$900 million of lottery tickets removes from \$63 million to \$81 million of sales tax from the state, county, and local governments. How will such a loss in tax revenue be recovered? Possibly, such recovery will require more sales tax.

A lottery in Tennessee offers no guarantee for increased quality in education. The state of Georgia currently ranks 50th in SAT scores after years of lottery-sponsored "Hope for Scholarship Program." At the most, our state government has only some "ideas" about the lotteries help to education.

My comments may sound like scare tactics. Maybe so! I

am alarmed. Parents of children and teenagers struggle daily with the temptations of tobacco, alcohol, and drugs.

If the lottery becomes a reality in Tennessee, a new allure, one very addictive and often fed by theft will serf forth to attract more of our youth.

Repeatedly, throughout the anti-lottery campaign, I have heard from people, even Baptists in Tennessee, the expression, "The lottery won't affect me." Such an attitude has bred much apathy about the issue. The truth is — a state-sponsored lottery will affect every Tennessean and not for good.

A final plea: Tennesseans are nearing the eve of a decisive battle of spiritual warfare. A vote against the lottery will be a Christ-like action for the betterment of our Tennessee and for the kingdom of God. — Porch is executive director of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.



Consider members of Sunday School the church's ministry list

servicing churches



By Ken Marler

Editor's Note: The following is the second in a series of articles based on one-day consultations. For years we have misunderstood what the Sunday School roll was designed for. Most churches have the idea that if you get on the Sunday School roll then you have obligated yourself to the church. We give the new enrollee a book and some envelopes for offering and wish them well. No wonder after three months we can't find these new people. My question is, "whose fault is it they dropped out; theirs or ours?" Mostly our fault is the right answer if we truthfully think about it.

Why not change the name of

Sunday School roll to Sunday School ministry list? In other words every class would have a ministry list instead of a roll. The church would have a Sunday School ministry list instead of a Sunday School roll. This would better describe what we should be doing.

Our challenge then is to get as many members on the ministry list as possible. Attendance is not the issue, ministry is. However, we know that attendance follows ministry. That is the reason people in our churches drive by other churches to go to the one they attend. Ministry needs being met is why we attend where we do. People will absent themselves when their needs aren't met!

There should be value in being a member besides ministry. Churches should let every member know the value of membership. Here are some values.

(1) Life changing Bible

study. Living God's Word is our objective. Every person who attends Bible study should be challenged to do something with what they learned. It grieves me when I visit a Bible study class and the teacher reads a verse and asks everyone their opinion. The teacher should have a word from God, not opinions from the learners. There should be an "ouch" time every week in Bible study class. That time when the student is convicted and convinced that they must live God's Word even if it means changing their life.

(2) Weekly ministry. Someone is in contact every week with me about ministry and prayer needs.

(3) The opportunity to use my Spiritual Giftedness. Good teachers encourage and assist members to use their giftedness. It is the job of an adult teacher to get rid of their members, if God has called them to

service elsewhere. A missionary member board, listing all sent out members, in every adult class room is a reminder of members sent out to serve.

(4) Regular fellowship opportunities with other believers. We gain strength from other believers. Strength to be the witness we should to non-believers.

Those are some of the benefits of membership. We need to do a better job in helping the members and prospective members understand these values.

There are distinctive benefits to building the ministry list. The more people we get on the ministry list the more people we can care for and assist in their spiritual development.

Put people on your ministry list in as many ways as you can as long as they agree to be on your list. Any type of outreach ministry by the church should be connected to the Sunday School. After all, we organize

and design Bible study groups to reach certain groups. In other words, the class of 18-29 year olds is responsible for reaching all 18-29 year olds in the church field. If any 18-29 year olds go unreached it is that classes fault.

Most churches operate on this principle, "Preacher, you reach 'em and we'll teach 'em. So, if the church is not growing we blame the preacher. Truth is, Matthew 28:18-20 is for all believers. Classes are designed to reach. That is our primary reason for age grading.

Make sure your outreach is attached to your Sunday School. Ask people anywhere anytime if you can put them on a ministry list. Then explain the benefits. Remember, we obligate ourselves to them, not them to us. — Marler is adult specialist in the Christian Growth Development Group of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. He can be reached at (615) 371-7934.

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Conversational English Workshop

There will be a 16-hour Conversational English Workshop November 8-10, 2002, at Two Rivers Baptist Church, 2800 McGavock Pike, Nashville. The times for this workshop will be Friday, 6:00-9:00 p.m., Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., and Sunday, 1:30-5:30 p.m. In order to receive certification for the workshop attendees must attend all sessions. The workshop will be led by Anne Townes, Literacy Mission Consultant, Nashville. There is a \$20 registration fee. To register or request additional information, please contact the church office, (615) 889-3950 or the Tennessee Baptist Convention, (615) 371-7916. The deadline for registration is November 4, 2002.

CLASSIFIED

MINISTRIES — EDUCATION

Rich Pond Baptist Church, Bowling Green, Ky., is seeking an associate pastor of education and administration. Rich Pond is a growing church in a growing community. Send resume and references to Personnel Committee, Rich Pond Baptist Church, 200 Brad Ave., Bowling Green, KY 42104.

MINISTRIES — CHILDREN

Children's minister position (grades 1-6) available. Full-time. Great benefits package. Council Road Baptist Church, Bethany, OK — suburb of Oklahoma City. Over 5,000 membership. Email resume to rushing@councilroad.org. Visit web site at www.councilroad.org for additional church information. Experience and seminary a plus.

Nursery coordinator wanted for Sunday mornings. Hours are 8 a.m.-12 p.m. Experience with children

preferred. \$10/hour. Call Walker Memorial Baptist Church, Franklin, Tenn., at (615) 794-7000 to inquire.

MINISTRIES — PASTOR

South Effingham Community Church (SBC, GBC affiliated), is prayerfully seeking an experienced senior pastor with a heart for prayer, Bible study, evangelism, missions, and community service. Submit resume and references by Nov. 30, 2002 to SECC Pastor Search Team Chairman, South Effingham Community Church, 289 Harley Rd., Guyton, GA 31312. Further information on community and church visit www.effga.com and www.SouthEffingham.com.

MINISTRIES — OTHER

Pianist or organist. Send resume to Pastor, El Bethel Baptist Church, 1624 Hwy 41A North, Shelbyville, TN 37160.

UPDATE

Volunteer Missions Team, TBC; P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37024; Phone - (615) 371-2021; FAX - (615) 371-2014; Internet - www.tnbaptist.org/mam/missions/update

From the Group Leader

I cannot believe that the year 2002 is almost over. Everyone is already planning for 2003. Mission plans and projects are being calendared even as you read this paper.

Here are some tips to help make your next missions project a success:

1. Pray for God's guidance to the right project.
2. Research the types of mission projects available.
3. Pray that God will show you a need to be met.
4. Participate in Team Leader Training.
5. Pray that God will help you to be a good team leader or member.
6. Make contact with the missions site.
7. Pray that God is preparing the mission field for cultivation and harvest.
8. Set the date, make the plans, enlist the team.
9. Pray that God will pull the right team together for the task.
10. Train and orient the team to the culture they will be countering.
11. Pray that the team will be sensitive to the need for flexibility and versatility.
12. Enlist partners to pray for the team and the mission field.
13. Pray that the partners will pray without ceasing.
14. As you are on the mission trip enjoy God's creation and tell about His redemptive plan.
15. Pray that God is using you as His messenger.
16. Upon return evaluate the trip.
17. Pray that God will lead you to the right project for next year.
18. Pray throughout the year for the new believers and the seeds planted, because you are a missions volunteer.
19. If you have questions about anything I mentioned above including finding a mission project, missions education throughout the year, team leader training, orientation and Cross-Cultural Training, or even praying give us a call.



BEARDEN

Brentwood Church helps infant, others in Rio

By Marcia Knox
For "TBVMN Update"

BRENTWOOD — A phone call for special medicine from an IMB missionary in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, to the Tennessee Baptist Convention recently saved a dying baby's life during a Brentwood Baptist Church medical team project.

Due to the quick thinking of one of the 25-member medical team from Brentwood Church working Aug. 2 - 11 in Rio de Janeiro a one month old baby's life was saved when IMB missionary Sharon Fairchild called TBC volunteer missions specialist Kim Huff at the Baptist Center in Brentwood for special medicine.

Huff who drove to Cookeville to secure the medicine had the medicine taken to Rio de Janeiro with the next scheduled mission team, and a Brazilian hospital administered the life-giving dosage.

Second Baptist Church in the Rio das Pedras favela hosted the Brentwood Church team consisting of two doctors,

six nurses, and others who had a range of some medical experience to those with no medical experience.

Nurse Laurie Parrish saw the almost comatose baby on Wednesday in line with its mother and took the baby directly to one of the doctors. Fairchild immediately began calling hospitals to take the baby. After pursuing four hospitals, baby Jonathan, who had a congenital adrenal disease that effects hormones in regulating electrolytes, was admitted.

On Thursday Parrish and part of the team did a follow up visit at the baby's home while they waited for hospital admission. The family was located on the outskirts of the favela. While the team visited, the baby's grandmother and uncle accepted Christ. By Thursday night the baby was admitted to the hospital.

Within 24 hours the baby was greatly improved, but a special medicine was needed. Fairchild called Huff, who obtained the medicine by driving

to Cookeville to meet a pharmacist's wife, and Huff sent the medicine with the Woodmont Baptist Church, Nashville, team to Brazil.

"I felt frustrated when the baby with the congenital disease could not be admitted until the fourth try with different hospitals," said Parrish. "As it turned out, the hospital that admitted him was the only one equipped to care for this baby's needs." — See Brentwood, page 6



MOTHER HOLDING her sick baby is visited by Traci Wood of Brentwood Baptist Church while they wait for health care.

Couple reports God is at work in Palestine

By Marcia Knox
For "TBVMN Update"

WINCHESTER — "Wow, God is at work in Palestine," according to Ann and Dick German, two Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief volunteer coordinators for Gaza, who worked July 14-Sept. 9 in the

West Bank and Gaza.

Members of Riva Lake Baptist Church in Winchester, the Germans saw God at work in the Middle East as they served as volunteer coordinators for SBC Disaster Relief volunteer teams who did food distribution, taught ESL day camps, worked with traumatized chil-

dren, distributed school uniforms, prayerwalked, and shared God's love through implementing "Project Hope and Future."

"It has been an experience of a life time," said Ann German, who had traveled twice before to Israel as a tourist and returned this summer to work with the Palestinians.

"God still used us as he did all of the volunteers that came from North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, Mississippi, Tennessee, Alabama and Kentucky to make a difference in the lives of hurting, traumatized Palestinian refugees," said Dick German.

The Germans served as one of four Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief teams to serve in Gaza.

During the last two weeks of July the Germans went to four out of the eight Palestinian refugee camps in Gaza where more than 20,000 people were in Shaykh al Maghazi, 87,000 were in Jabaliya, 60,000 were in Beach, and 17,000 in Dayr al Balah. They did day camps for four days in each camp where they taught English classes to 55 select

students from the ages of 10-13.

"We also taught 'English Camps' in two elementary schools," said Ann. "We worked with Muslim teachers to teach English as a Second Language (ESL)."

"Some of these students were traumatized from the conflict, and it was a real treat to be selected by the school," added Ann. "The Texas team worked with us in the day camps where we did crafts, sports, conversational English, American holidays, beginner English, and other classes. After we finished the English camps during the day, we did food distribution of the 85 lbs. bags of staples. We also gave out backpacks with school supplies."

"This was a most rewarding experience as we worked with the boys and girls since most had never seen an American," said Dick. "We were ambassadors for peace! We taught the children and their Muslim teachers to sing in English songs such as 'This is The Day That The Lord Has Made' and 'God Is So Good.'"

— See Couple, page 6



ANN AND DICK GERMAN of Winchester visit with a family they just gave food to in Shaykh al Maghazi, a Palestinian Refugee Camp in Gaza.

Jim

Couple reports God is at work in ...

— Continued from page 7

According to Ann, the children would constantly ask what their names were. When she replied "Ann" the children didn't understand, but they would echo her response. Later when they asked her name, she answered them "God bless you." The children would then echo "God bless you" as she shook hands with every child.

Since school had already started, there was an urgency to get the uniforms to those in need. IMB missionary Paul Lawrence and the Gaza Palestinians planned a mass distribution of over 300 uniforms at a Health Center in Dayr al Balah.

As the three loaded vans approached the Health Center, 1,000 men, women, boys, and girls met them. The team had to "bulldoze" their way through the crowd to unload the uniforms. This distribution of uniforms lasted for three hours.

After the distribution was complete, the team was invited upstairs for a meeting with the men of the community. A Palestinian schoolteacher, who taught and spoke English, interpreted for the leader of the community.

The leader told the team

that they appreciated what Baptists had done for the families of their community. "You have demonstrated to us what our creator God has intended for all His people," said the leader. "For that, we are extremely grateful."

"Three days after we left Israel bombed Dayr al Balah," added Ann.

"The Palestinians were elated and at the same time shocked that Americans would visit them," Dick said.

"The women wanted to have that personal one-on-one contact, they wanted to hold on to you, and they didn't want you to leave," said Ann. "Everybody in Gaza is in the same similar situation. Men cried and shed tears. There were a lot of emotions. Children needed a lot of attention."

"There is a great need among the Palestinian refugees," said Dick. The refugees prayed for peace and for jobs since they have been living under siege for two years. Even the most highly educated and skilled are falling into poverty.

"Most said they had worked side by side with Israeli previously, and would be glad to do it again. Yet, there were pock-

ets where hate for Israel is being fed and encouraged even in a few of the elementary schools."

During the third through the fifth weeks since no teams arrived, the Germans continued food distribution, and Dick did painting at the Baptist Compound in Gaza.

Everyday the Germans prayerwalked in Gaza. "We prayed for six weeks hoping that the borders would open up in Bethlehem and Ramallah, both in the West Bank, and they did," added Ann.

The Germans led a portion of the South Carolina team across the border check points to meet with the Palestinian Christians in Bethlehem in the West Bank to deliver food vouchers and school uniform vouchers while a missionary took part of the team to another city.

"We went on to share Christ, but the Lord just blessed beyond our expectations in the home visits in the West Bank in Bethlehem," noted Ann.

"During the last two weeks of the project we would drive from the Baptist Village in Petah Tiqwa near Tel Aviv, Israel, where we would pick up

the South Carolina team. We met with them during orientation and told them what to expect. We did coupon and food distribution and went to schools in the camps outside Bethlehem."

The Germans went to Deheisa and Beit Shors where they gave out packets prepared by the International Bible Society, Campus Crusade for Christ, and Agape House, a three-way partnership. They distributed the packets in schools. The packets were made up of Bibles, "Jesus" videos, coupons for school uniforms, and preschool uniforms.

"Can you imagine passing out 'Jesus' videos to Muslims?" Ann said. "Along with Youth With A Mission (YWAM), we passed out food coupons in homes for around \$20 in American currency. They were delighted to have the coupons, which were supplied through the SBC World Hunger Fund."

"One day we prayed for two hours with the South Carolina team that the Lord would give us one person to accept Christ. That day on the food distribution seven people accepted and after that more people accepted Christ."

When the team shared their testimonies and went through the plan of salvation using a born again Palestinian interpreter, 26 persons made a lifetime profession during the last week in Bethlehem.

The team also went to Ramallah, West Bank, when the border opened for one morning. School was starting that day. The Germans talked to the teachers and students and gave out "Jesus" videos, pencils, a paper. They also returned on their second visit to the schools.

While in Gaza, the Germans experienced the bombing and rocket attacks.

"In Gaza, we heard helicopters at night," said Ann. "We could see missiles firing and explosions hit just two blocks over where we were staying with IMB missionary Paula and Harriet Lawrence. We prayed for our safety."

"I was sitting in a WMU restorative justice meeting at the Baptist Building when Tom Bearden, Missions Awareness and Mobilization Group leader asked if we wanted to go to Israel," said Ann. "Now that I have returned home I know that they need justice in Israel. It seems ironic to me where this mission trip all started."

Brentwood Church helps infant, others in ...

— Continued from page 7

According to Parrish, the baby was admitted to the teaching hospital, because IMB missionary Angie Findley had a friendship with a lady physician. Tests confirmed the diagnosis of the baby's condition, which is extremely rare. The fourth and final hospital had the resources to treat the baby.

"When the fourth hospital admitted the baby that's when God's plan became clear to me," said Parrish. "God knew where the baby needed to be in the right hospital with the right diagnosis. To me that was pretty awesome, God has never ever been that clear to me before to get an obvious response within 48 hours. It's so easy to be in touch with God over there on a mission trip. Everything that gets in your way at home is not there."

"You could just feel God's presence and feel the heartbeat of the whole team as they evolved around the care of the baby," said Barbara Oldham, TBC Administrative Services ministry assistant. "When the team returned home, Fairchild called to say that the baby was going to be 'OK.'"

"We helped diagnose a congenital disease in a baby, who was very near death," said physician Kevin O'Brien. "We visited him in the hospital the next day, and he was markedly improved even though the hospital could not provide the nec-

essary medicine. The whole experience reminded me of Jesus' words - 'Whatever you do for the least of these, my brethren, you do for me.'"

According to Parrish who was on her first mission trip, in Brazil the baby's special medicine runs around \$300 a week in U.S. dollars, which was not a workable solution for Brazilian government's medical program. In order to maintain a continuous supply of medicine for the baby, several members of the Brentwood team are pursuing American pharmaceutical contacts.

Since the Rio das Pedras favela had never had a medical clinic, word soon spread that Americans were holding a free clinic. The line to the clinic grew. Some patients waited in line from 6 p.m. to 9 a.m. for the clinic to open.

"No one knows how long the mother stood in line with the baby," said Parrish.

"God moves according to His plan and not mine. The baby is doing well and responding to treatment. God is merciful."

"Going to Rio de Janeiro on this medical team made me more prayerful as we prepared to go and while I was there," said Oldham. "The people were very poor, but they had a smile on their face. One woman, who was a Christian, said she was thankful that we had come so far from America to serve God and do His work. This truly



BARBARA OLDHAM of Brentwood Church and the TBC staff talks with a patient with help from an interpreter.

was a wonderful experience as I felt God working through this team and the Brazilian Christians."

Several of the team members had been to Rio de Janeiro before including Bill Wilson, Brentwood Church pastor emeritus. Wilson, a retired TBC Convention Ministries director, helped Tennessee set up the Tennessee Baptist/Carioca Baptist partnership which began in 1998.

"This mission trip was one of the best trips ever taken," said Wilson. "It was such a rewarding time and experience especially for our people who had never gone on a mission trip. The team just came together and worked well together. We are grateful that we were able to see as many people as we

did."

The Brentwood Church team saw almost 1,100 patients. The eye clinic handed out over 1,000 pairs of eyeglasses; and the pharmacy dispensed over 2,400 prescriptions.

Over 150 people made first time decisions to receive Christ; 111 made requests for a home Bible study; and 125 requested home visits from church members. □

Fairchild's sister dies

Gail Hedges, sister of IMB missionary to Brazil Sharon Fairchild, died Oct. 11 in Houston, Texas. Services were held Oct. 14 there. Cards may be sent to the TBC, Volunteer Missions Office, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37024. □

Tennesseans trained

For "TBVMN Update"

Four Tennessee Baptists were certified as National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA) Trainers of Trainers in Washington, D.C. June 22-26, according to Don Pierson, state NOVA Crisis Intervention coordinator.

The North American Mission Board has encouraged the National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA) as a possible crisis response model to be used by those who respond as crisis interveners.

Crisis interventionist teams help victims put the events in perspective through group and individual interaction.

Since February over 50 Tennessee Baptists received basic NOVA training at the Baptist Center in Brentwood. Also in May, seven went to South Carolina to receive advanced training.

Certifying in Washington were: Pierson; Steve Hayes, staff counselor at Two Rivers Baptist Church, Nashville; Rocky Churchwell, pastor of First Baptist Church of Jamestown; and Dan Haskins, pastor of Cumberland Homesteads Baptist Church, Crossville. □

Watauga Association sends workers to PEI, Canada

For "TBVMN Update"

Between July 6-14, 28 people, ranging in ages 23 to 73 from Watauga Baptist Association, Elizabethton, including two people from Summertown, worked in various missions ministries on Prince Edward Island, Canada.

MSC volunteer, Joe Ledford, encouraged the team to be flexible with their plans.

Ledford and his wife Linda, whose home church in PEI is Community Baptist Church in Charlottetown, are originally from Lynn Valley Baptist Church in Elizabethton. Three summer missionaries also assisted the team including Rebecca Smalling of Brentwood, Sara Barnes of Greeneville, and Corrine Johnson of Alberta, Canada.

Watauga Team members

were from Union Baptist Church, Hampton; Little Milligan Baptist Church, Butler; First Baptist Church of Hunter; Community Baptist Church, Summertown; Oak Street Baptist Church; Zion Baptist Church; Lynn Valley Baptist Church; and First Baptist Church; all of Elizabethton. Jesse James, Volunteer Missions director for the Watauga Association, led the group.

The group was divided into three teams that worked in various types of ministries. From Backyard Bible Clubs, construction, and quilting to cooking for the team, each member felt led by God that they were doing what they had been called to do.

Two groups organized BYBCs where Bible stories, songs, crafts, and games were taught to children of all ages. The morning BYBCs were done in Slemmon Park Housing Community in Summerside.

Nearby is Park Way Baptist Mission, located in Slemmon Park, an outreach of Community Church.

In the afternoons, one group went to Highfield Heights subdivision and the other group ministered in a nearby trailer park, both located in Charlottetown. A third BYBC was developed for youth at Slemmon Park in the mornings, and afternoons were spent with the Guys and Girls in Action of Community Church.

The contacts with parents at BYBCs gave the opportunity to promote Community Church and its ministries. Also working with the children allowed the team to begin building relationships.

There were two construction teams. One team worked at Community Church on the downstairs to complete three apartments, a shower area, and extra classrooms. The team built all the interior

walls and did electrical wiring.

The other construction team traveled to Montague to work on Community Church's mission, called King's Way. They completed some interior walls inside the church and built an outside 60-foot handicap ramp.

One team member worked with the women of Community Church in the afternoons conducting a Bible study and a quilting class that seven women attended daily.

Not only was the team able to build relationships with the islanders, but they also built relationships with each other spending hours together in airports and on planes.

"I was amazed at the spirit of everyone working together to get the various tasks completed," said Pat Seals, wife of Brent Seals, pastor of First Church, Elizabethton. "God was truly with this team." □
Complied from reports by Marcia Knox.



BACK YARD Bible Club is held at Slemmon Park in Summerside, Prince Edward Island.

Antioch congregations minister on Prince Edward Island

For "TBVMN Update"

"What struck our people was the openness to our team's presence and the hunger to know about God on Prince Edward Island," said Mark Puckett, pastor of South Gate Baptist Church in Antioch, who recently led a VBS mission team to Canada.

Puckett and his 10 member VBS team were amazed at the friendliness of the people in PEI.

"People actually had time to talk to us and wanted to spend time talking to us about the gospel," he said.

The South Gate Church team ministered on PEI July 10-12 where they conducted

VBS in the towns of Montague and Georgetown. Other members of the team were: Butch Anderson, Janice Anderson, Charles Bobbitt, Janice Bobbitt, Nancy Hammons, Randy Hammons, Lyndee Harlan, A.C. Puckett, and Linda Puckett.

The team held the first VBS in King's Way Mission's new building in Montague. King's Way Mission is a new church start of Community Baptist Church in Charlottetown, PEI.

In Montague the team did outreach activities including a Youth Night with games, cook-out, and videos shown on the new building's outside wall for a screen. In addition, the team

did a servant evangelism car wash and prayer-walked.

In Georgetown, the team led VBS at Georgetown Baptist Church, which is a former mission of Community Church.

During the same week, a team from First Baptist Church of Antioch made up of pastor Sim Hassler and his wife Betty served at Community Church. □



SIM HASSLER, right, pastor, First Baptist Church, Antioch, speaks to children during a Vacation Bible School on Prince Edward Island as Janice Anderson of South Gate Baptist Church, Antioch, listens.

Inskip Church team treats animals to reach residents of Rio de Janeiro

For "TBVMN Update"

It was an interesting concept to hold a veterinary clinic in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, to attract children to teach them the gospel, and it worked July 5-22.

This was the first time that a veterinary clinic was held as a mission project in Rio de Janeiro, and it was the brainchild of Knoxville's Inskip Baptist Church mission team.

The team arrived on Monday morning and met with MB missionary Sharon Fairchild for orientation. The schedule included home and school visits on Tuesday and Wednesday with a veterinary clinic and children's ministries Wednesday through Saturday. Inskip Church pastor Mike Segers led Sunday services at Igreja Batista da

Praia De Ramos.

Other team members were: veterinarians Angie and Bill Dubois; teachers Michele and Tim Reeves; nurse Becky Harrell; and student Matthew Rogers.

"Their receptiveness and openness at the Igreja Batista de Praia De Ramos showed every day in their wonderful hospitality and genuine love for our team," said Michelle Allan, team leader and nurse. "There may have been a language barrier, but the hugs and smiles filled in the gaps. God was and is truly at work in Rio de Janeiro and in Praia De Ramos."

"We visited classrooms on Tuesday where we invited children to the upcoming veterinary clinics and children's ministries," said Allan. "We answered questions from the chil-

dren about pet care, United States schools, what children study and what types of sports they play, living conditions, and Sept. 11. Several questions were asked about why we chose to visit Brazil and what our opinions of Brazil were."

Wednesday morning the team split up into three groups and handed out tracts to people on the street. Several contacts were made and follow-up visits were planned.

The veterinary clinic began Wednesday afternoon with veterinarians and nurses making up the team. The clinic was setup outside the church in a small courtyard area.

"The team brought medicine to de-worm the animals," said Allan. "We were also able to supply pet owners and their children with de-worming medicine for themselves."

As the children brought their animals for treatment, they were invited to join in the children's ministries involving Bible stories, puppet shows, crafts, and music. Children were asked to come back at set times during the day when three team members and interpreters taught the children's activities.

Segers assisted by an interpreter, shared the gospel with a number of people outside the church during the week, and there were 8-10 decisions made during that time. He also made several home visits resulting in more decisions.

Around 500 animals were seen in the clinics and 90-100 children participated in the ministries each day.

One memorable event involved an extremely sick dog that was brought to the clinic,

according to Allan. One veterinarian was unsure if the animal would live, but he instructed the owner to bring the animal in each day for IV fluids and medication. By the end of the three days, the owner acknowledged the veterinarians' help. Due to the veterinarians' hard work and caring, the man attended a worship service on Sunday.

"Several members of the team participated with music and testimonies. There was an additional decision made during the morning service."

The team visited 3 schools with around 500 children in attendance, saw 250-300 people bring their animals to the clinic, treated 500 animals, had an average of 90-100 children in attendance each day for the activities, and witnessed 15-18 decisions. □

Tennessee Baptist Volunteer Missions Network UPDATE

Place	Project ID	Work	Dates	Volunteers Needed
2003 Rio Projects				
Rio de Janeiro		100 teams of 3 to do revivals. Each team consists of a preacher, musician and layperson.	8/4-12	300
2003 Iowa Projects				
Anamosa	IA-03-04	Build foyer for church.	open	10-15
Anamosa	IA-03-43	Add on to front of auditorium and replace back entry.	June-Aug.	open
Altoona	IA-03-44	Conduct VBS and BYBC.	6/7-14	8-14
Carter Lake	IA-03-45	Repair work around church.	open	open
Carter Lake	IA-03-46	Paint murals, trim trees, install gas water heaters, run electricity to church sign.	open	open
Cedar Rapids	IA-03-55	Assist with organization and leadership of VBS and BYBC.	open	6-20
Cedar Rapids	IA-03-56	Work with church and staff on renewal training.	open	open
Cedar Rapids	IA-03-57	Revival team.	open	open
Chariton	IA-03-62	Construct new church building	June-Aug.	30-40 each week
Claremont	IA-03-58	VBS/BYBC in area campgrounds.	open	open
Claremont	IA-03-59	Concerts at area campground.	open	open
Clive	IA-03-21	BYBC, clown ministry, crafts, drama, sports in neighborhoods and parks for school-age children.	June	12-15 per week
Clive	IA-03-22	Work with children grades 3-7 as camp counselors, recreation leaders, crafts.	7/14-18	15-20
Creston	IA-03-63	Construction of fellowship hall, kitchen and restrooms.	open	open
Denison	IA-03-23	VBS, clowning, music, etc. in parks.	8/4-8	12-20
Denison	IA-03-24	VBS in park, work at county fair distributing Bibles and tracts.	7/21-27	12-15
Denison	IA-03-25	VBS in parks reaching mission areas.	6/16-20	15-25
Denison	IA-03-27	Pouring concrete for parking lot and sidewalks.	May-Aug.	4-16
Denison	IA-03-28	Bible study for every age group.	1/17-2/23	2
Des Moines	IA-03-47	VBS in the morning and survey work in afternoon.	6/23-27	open
Ft. Dodge	IA-03-34	Youth team to conduct children VBS.	6/8-13	20-25
Ft. Dodge	IA-03-35	Conduct revivals at night. Hand out flyers, tracts, witness during day.	7/16-20	20-25
Ft. Dodge	IA-03-36	Repair work around church.	5/18-23	20-25
Iowa City	IA-03-02	BYBC during the day at park and VBS in the evening at the church.	6/7-14	7
Lamoni	IA-03-01	Winter Bible study for every age group.	3/7-10	7
Lamoni	IA-03-64	Replace church roof.	open	open
Lamoni	IA-03-65	Youth VBS.	6/7-14	10
Quimby	IA-03-39	Install baptistry in church.	July-Aug.	6
Quimby	IA-03-40	BYBC	June	10
Quimby	IA-03-41	VBS	June	10
Quimby	IA-03-42	Conduct revivals.	Feb.-March	3-4
State of Iowa	IA-03-06-19	Teams of 5-6 people to prayerwalk and survey work.	4/12-17	50-75 teams
Sioux City	IA-03-49	Pastor's wife retreat.	open	2-3
Sioux City	IA-03-50	Lead small groups, organize recreation, lead worship, etc., at youth camp.	July	6
Sioux Center	IA-03-51	Build float for tulip festival and light repair work around church.	5/12-19	open
Sioux Center	IA-03-52	VBS in park and conduct ministry at the Sioux County Fair.	7/12-19	10-40
Waukeez	IA-03-53	BYBC and light repair work around church.	6/10-13	8-10
Long-term Iowa Projects				
Anamosa	IA-03-04	Music director for small church.	3 mths. or more	1-2
Cedar Falls	IA-03-30	Start and head student ministry on local college campuses.	1 year or more	1 or a couple
Cedar Falls	IA-03-31	Help with outreach and lead worship services.	3 mths. or more	Couple
Claremont	IA-03-60	Lead music at area campgrounds.	2 mths. or more	1 or a couple
Dunkerton	IA-03-20	Start and head-up young adult ministry.	1 year or more	1 or a couple
Independence	IA-03-05	Music director for small church.	3 mths. or more	1-2
2003 Canada Projects				
Edmonton, AB	03MID009	Gardening, landscaping, light carpentry, secretarial/office/administration.	June-Sept.	1-2
Cochrane, AB	03MID003	Community outreach.	6/20-8/5	5-30
Cochrane, AB	03MID004	Outreach ministry to skateboard and trick bike riding ministry at church.	July-Aug.	3-15
Cochrane, AB	03CCSB001	Conduct children's ministry at Canadian Convention annual meeting	7/1-3	10-15
Cochrane, AB	03CCSB002	Conduct youth track at Canadian Convention annual meeting.	7/1-3	5-15
Cochrane, AB	03CCSB003	Prepare for annual convention (photocopy, binding, assembly, etc.).	6/16-20	5-6
Cochrane, AB	03CCSB004	Assist with preparing and serving refreshments at annual convention.	7/3-5	3
Fairview, AB	03MID005	Light construction and renovations to existing building.	June	2-10
Montreal, QB	03QUE002	Prayerwalking and "Jesus" video distribution.	March-June	2-200
Maniwaki, QB	03QUE003	Renovations to Sunday School rooms, street and servant evangelism, VBS.	June-July	2-15
Rouyn-Noranda, QB	03QUE001	Paint outside of church building.	7/1-15	4
St. Albert, AB	03MID001	VBS.	7/5-12	6
St. Albert, AB	03MID002	Sports Camp.	7/5-12	5-15
Surrey, BC	03CAP001	VBS or family fun fair at church.	7/1-5	5-15
Victoria, BC	03CAP002	Community outreach.	8/1-15	5-15
Victoria, BC	03CAP003	Outreach at community picnic.	6/30-7/12	15-25

All international projects are conducted through the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. For more information about the above projects, call Tennessee Baptist Convention Volunteer Missions Team at 1-800-558-2090 or (615) 371-2021.

Tennessee Projects

East Tennessee

- **Benton** — Volunteers needed each week from June 4-Aug. 8 to do: 1) Community ministry through sports clinics, day camps, BYBC throughout community, VBS at Boy's & Girl's club, VBS at area churches and community centers, senior adult ministry at nursing homes and assisted living centers. Also ministry at homeless shelters; 2) Construction ministry for low-income families, single-parent families, senior adults, etc. with needed home repairs. Contact person: Beth Marshall or Debbie Brock, Camp Agape, 423-338-4153.
- **Cleveland** — Volunteers needed each week from June 4-Aug. 4 to work with Ocoee Resort Ministries in resort and leisure ministries in and around the Ocoee River and Cherokee National Forest. ORM will work with each group to customize a mission experience that incorporates the team's skills and talents. Contact person: Chris Stewart, Ocoee Resort Ministries, 423-476-5493.
- **Elizabethton** — Volunteers needed each week from June 8-Aug. 2 to staff on-site day camp in the morning and provide resort ministry/BYBC in local state park in the afternoons. Thursday night provide family night program at local state park. Contact person: Becky Brumitt, Hale Community Ministries, 423-547-2560.
- **Gatlinburg** — Volunteers needed each week from June 1-Aug. 9 to conduct day camps and family evening programs in campgrounds in the Gatlinburg and Pigeon Forge area. Contact person: Bill Black, Smoky Mountain Resort Ministries, 865-436-4076.
- **Mountain City** — Volunteers needed for: 1) Remote campsite development, trail building, gravity solar shower construction, composting facility, solar electrical installation, and landscaping. Dates are open; 2) Two construction teams and one BYBC team. BYBC will be in a trailer park and two apartment complexes with some door-to-door evangelism. Construction projects will be on homes of individuals who are not able to afford repairs without assistance. Dates: 6/1-21 and 6/21-28. Contact person: Stuart Stephens, Uphill Ministries at Cherokee Cove, 423-727-8560.

Middle Tennessee

- **Springfield** — Volunteers needed to: 1) Conduct prayerwalking in several new subdivisions and apartment complexes along with surveys and possibly block parties; 2) work at local food distribution or clothing thrift store to help sort clothing and/or prepare food boxes; 3) BYBC at two different apartment complexes; 4) VBC or BYBC for new black church start that meets at local community center; 5) Day camp through local missions for low-income neighborhood. Team would need to prepare lessons, crafts, music, lunch; 6) Volunteers to do light construction for elderly home owners or Christian Women Job Corp participants with light construction needs and yard work. Dates are open. Contact person: Belita Howard, Robertson County Baptist Association, 615-384-8197.

West Tennessee

- **Memphis** — Conduct BYBC in apartment complexes. Dates are open. Contact person: Lisa Travis, Hope Fellowship, 901-373-6161.
- **Memphis** — Conduct VBS June 23-27 at local church. Contact person: Durwood Howard, Highland Heights Baptist Church, 901-454-0546.

Lottery will have negative impact on state ...

Continued from page 1
 states, the negative effect is lessened because funds from the lottery will actually offset the decline in non-lottery revenues. But because Tennessee's proposed lottery creates an entirely new expenditure, the full, negative impact of the lottery on non-lottery revenues will be felt."

Ambassador Joe M. Rodgers, chairman of the Gambling Free Tennessee Alliance, said that he is very concerned about the economic impact of the proposed lottery on Tennessee's budget.

"We continue to live through a state budget problem that has plagued Tennessee's government for the last three years," Rodgers said. "Taxpayers need to understand that this lottery proposal will make matters worse for all of us."

"Not one penny of these lot-

tery proceeds will go to the general fund to help offset higher taxes," Rodgers continued. "Not one penny will go to buy a school book or give a teacher a raise, and that's a shame," Rodgers emphasized.

"When Tennessee voters cast their vote for or against the lottery, we want everyone to understand this truth about the lottery," Rodgers said. "This lottery will not help Tennessee classrooms, and to make matters worse, this lottery will actually hurt Tennessee's already over-stressed state budget."

Rodgers went on to point out that the way this constitutional lottery is structured will

not only negatively impact state revenue, but if passed, it will add expenses to a state budget already stretched thin.

"Georgia added about 7 percent of their college enrollment after instituting the lottery scholarships. That's great! Everyone wants to see more

that?" Rodgers asked.

"According to the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, taxpayers pay \$5,330 from the general budget per full-time student in four-year institutions. If Tennessee only realizes a 5 percent increase in our four-year colleges, additional funds from the budget at the current rate of support would be over \$30," Rodgers said, "and that would not include increased enrollment in our two-year institutions."

"Furthermore," Rodgers concluded, "other states have also seen increased social service costs as well as increased law enforcement costs after a lottery is implemented.

"This lottery will not only negatively hit revenue, but it's going to add expenses to our state budget. How can we afford it? We don't need this lottery." □

Early voting period extends to Oct. 31

For Baptist and Reflector

NASHVILLE — Tennessee Baptists and other voters in the state can get a headstart on the lottery referendum as the early voting period which began on Oct. 16 will continue through Oct. 31.

To learn the locations for early voting, call your local election commission, suggested Bobbie Patray, president of Tennessee Eagle Forum and a member of the board of directors of Gambling Free Tennessee Alliance. □

Not one penny of these lottery proceeds will go to the general fund to help offset higher taxes. Not one penny will go to buy a school book or give a teacher a raise, and that's a shame. — Ambassador Joe M. Rodgers

young people attend college. But what Georgia also had to do was increase the state budget to higher education. How will Tennessee afford to do

Potential Loss of Local Option Taxes Due to Tennessee Lottery

In 1991, Mary O. Borg, Paul M. Mason, and Steven L. Shapiro studied the effect of lotteries on local economies. The results of this study appear in their book, *The Economic Consequences of State Lotteries*.

Their study concluded that, after the inception of a

state lottery, states experienced a decline in pre-existing forms of state revenue such as the sales tax. Their study revealed that, depending on the tax structure of the state, anywhere from 10 to 30 cents of each dollar of lottery profit came at the expense of pre-existing forms of state revenue.

While the estimates here are by no means conclusive, they offer a picture of the potential losses to cities and counties because of the transfer of funds from the sales of products to sales of (untaxed) lottery tickets. — This information is from the Gambling Free Tennessee Alliance web site.

County	2001 Local Option Revenues	Minimum Potential Loss	Maximum Potential Loss
Anderson	\$14,775,406	\$219,437	\$731,448
Bedford	\$4,478,420	\$66,511	\$221,702
Benton	\$2,850,377	\$42,332	\$141,106
Bledsoe	\$864,203	\$12,835	\$42,782
Blount	\$22,819,178	\$338,899	\$1,129,651
Bradley	\$16,928,979	\$251,420	\$838,060
Campbell	\$5,500,090	\$81,685	\$272,279
Cannon	\$689,661	\$10,242	\$34,141
Carroll	\$3,592,497	\$53,354	\$177,845
Carter	\$5,901,914	\$87,652	\$292,171
Cheatham	\$3,739,279	\$55,534	\$185,111
Chester	\$1,948,127	\$28,933	\$96,441
Claiborne	\$2,750,518	\$40,849	\$136,163
Clay	\$913,663	\$13,569	\$45,230
Cocke	\$5,937,162	\$88,176	\$293,916
Coffee	\$10,377,665	\$154,124	\$513,741
Crockett	\$1,289,249	\$19,147	\$63,824
Cumberland	\$12,105,623	\$179,786	\$599,282
Davidson	\$224,145,280	\$3,328,890	\$11,096,190
Decatur	\$1,992,717	\$29,595	\$98,648
Dekalb	\$1,352,937	\$20,093	\$66,976
Dickson	\$9,085,510	\$134,933	\$449,773
Dyer	\$8,785,762	\$130,482	\$434,934
Fayette	\$2,495,989	\$37,069	\$123,563
Fentress	\$2,117,456	\$31,447	\$104,824
Franklin	\$5,101,370	\$75,763	\$252,541
Gibson	\$7,371,908	\$109,484	\$364,942
Giles	\$4,798,014	\$71,258	\$237,523
Grainger	\$1,497,908	\$22,246	\$74,153
Greene	\$11,979,156	\$177,908	\$593,022
Grundy	\$1,054,009	\$15,654	\$52,178
Hamblen	\$15,206,375	\$225,837	\$752,783
Hamilton	\$83,061,656	\$1,233,589	\$4,111,922
Hancock	\$295,732	\$4,392	\$14,640
Hardeman	\$2,437,854	\$36,206	\$120,685
Hardin	\$4,345,024	\$64,530	\$215,098
Hawkins	\$6,113,450	\$90,794	\$302,643
Haywood	\$2,705,458	\$40,180	\$133,932
Henderson	\$4,620,372	\$68,619	\$228,729
Henry	\$6,073,667	\$90,203	\$300,674
Hickman	\$1,735,180	\$25,770	\$85,899
Houston	\$853,768	\$12,680	\$42,265
Humphreys	\$2,602,082	\$38,645	\$128,815
Jackson	\$762,087	\$11,318	\$37,727
Jefferson	\$5,966,236	\$88,607	\$295,355
Johnson	\$1,004,283	\$14,915	\$49,716
Knox	\$124,761,880	\$1,852,899	\$6,176,269
Lake	\$687,637	\$10,212	\$34,041

County	2001 Local Option Revenues	Minimum Potential Loss	Maximum Potential Loss
Lauderdale	\$3,470,452	\$51,541	\$171,803
Lawrence	\$7,220,482	\$107,235	\$357,446
Lewis	\$1,478,328	\$21,955	\$73,184
Lincoln	\$4,850,934	\$72,044	\$240,143
Loudon	\$5,827,305	\$86,544	\$288,478
McMinn	\$7,328,546	\$108,840	\$362,796
McNairy	\$2,769,550	\$41,132	\$137,105
Macon	\$2,491,372	\$37,001	\$123,334
Madison	\$35,419,648	\$526,034	\$1,753,430
Marion	\$4,666,761	\$69,308	\$231,025
Marshall	\$4,286,005	\$63,654	\$212,176
Mauzy	\$13,976,119	\$207,566	\$691,880
Meigs	\$699,993	\$10,396	\$34,653
Monroe	\$5,737,287	\$85,207	\$284,021
Montgomery	\$29,156,513	\$433,018	\$1,443,377
Moore	\$349,626	\$5,192	\$17,308
Morgan	\$988,804	\$14,685	\$48,950
Obion	\$7,497,301	\$111,346	\$371,150
Overton	\$2,257,696	\$33,530	\$111,766
Perry	\$692,960	\$10,291	\$34,305
Pickett	\$681,696	\$10,124	\$33,747
Polk	\$1,221,030	\$18,134	\$60,446
Putnam	\$19,775,469	\$293,695	\$978,974
Rhea	\$3,753,156	\$55,740	\$185,798
Roane	\$8,817,167	\$130,948	\$436,489
Robertson	\$7,579,580	\$112,568	\$375,223
Rutherford	\$47,730,134	\$708,863	\$2,362,854
Scott	\$2,938,156	\$43,636	\$145,452
Sequatchie	\$1,271,920	\$18,890	\$62,966
Sevier	\$44,812,798	\$665,537	\$2,218,433
Shelby	\$229,954,776	\$3,415,170	\$11,383,786
Smith	\$2,633,803	\$39,116	\$130,385
Stewart	\$1,146,923	\$17,034	\$56,778
Sullivan	\$38,284,694	\$568,585	\$1,895,263
Sumner	\$18,173,877	\$269,909	\$899,688
Tipton	\$4,931,232	\$73,236	\$244,118
Trousdale	\$637,984	\$9,475	\$31,583
Unicoi	\$1,688,589	\$25,078	\$83,593
Union	\$1,024,430	\$15,214	\$50,714
Van Buren	\$425,174	\$6,314	\$21,048
Warren	\$5,842,347	\$86,768	\$289,222
Washington	\$31,524,108	\$468,180	\$1,560,584
Wayne	\$1,640,621	\$24,366	\$81,218
Weakley	\$5,102,815	\$75,784	\$252,612
White	\$2,745,685	\$40,777	\$135,924
Williamson	\$43,779,433	\$650,190	\$2,167,277
Wilson	\$14,910,574	\$221,444	\$738,140
Totals	1,346,666,621	\$20,000,000	\$66,666,000

Dockery chosen for Christianity Today board

Union News Office

JACKSON — Union University President David S. Dockery has been appointed to the board of directors for *Christianity Today International*.

Dockery was nominated by *Christianity Today* publisher and president, Harold Myra, and unanimously elected by the board.

One of the most influential groups of Christian leaders in the country, the 18-member board of directors includes Billy Graham; Jay Kesler, chancellor of Taylor University; Gene Habecker, president of the American Bible Society; Pete Hammond of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship; and other significant Christian leaders.



DOCKERY

The *Christianity Today International* board oversees the work of 11 different publications including *Christianity Today*, *Campus Life*, *Leadership*, *Books and Culture*, *Today's Christian Woman*, and others.

"This is a wonderful privilege for which I am quite humbled," said Dockery. "I will look forward to this challenging opportunity."

A prolific author, he has served as a consulting editor for *Christianity Today* for the past decade. □

Former president wins Nobel Prize

Associated Baptist Press

PLAINS, Ga. — Former president Jimmy Carter is winner of this year's Nobel Peace Prize. Carter, 78, has been called the greatest ex-president in American history. But for many, he's the world's best-known Sunday School teacher.

The Norwegian Nobel Committee selected the 39th president of the United States for his "vital contribution" to the historic Camp David Accords between Israel and Egypt and his continuing efforts to resolve conflicts around the world and promote human rights.

Upon learning of the high recognition Oct. 11, Carter told reporters he hoped the visibility from the Nobel Prize would enhance efforts in seeking peaceful solutions to international conflicts.

Carter added that he will donate the \$1 million prize to the Carter Center, the 20-year-old think tank and policy center that he and his wife, Rosalynn, started in 1982.

"This honor serves as an inspiration not only to us, but also to suffering people around the world, and I accept it on their behalf," Carter said in a statement.

Carter has said he considers establishing and working through the Atlanta-based Carter Center as his most grat-

ifying and significant achievement. He is often described as a model ex-president for the work he has done with the center as well as Habitat for Humanity International and other service organizations.

Thousands of guests — including many international visitors — attend Sunday School classes at Maranatha Baptist Church here, where Carter teaches most Sundays.

"It's about time!" Dan Arial, pastor at Maranatha, told *Baptists Today* hours after the announcement. "He's been nominated seven times and passed over six." □

CLASSIFIED

MINISTRIES — POSITIONS

Seeking 2 full-time positions: associate pastor/education director and a new position of children's minister. East Side Baptist Church, 718 E. 9th St., Mountain Home, AR 72653.

MINISTRIES — COMBINATION

First Baptist Church of Newbern, Tenn., is seeking a full-time youth/activities minister. Responsibilities include broad based age activities ministry in our new 14,000sf Christian Activities Building. Strong emphasis on solid biblical leadership for our youth ministry expected. Send resume to Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 114 West Main St., Newbern, TN 38059.

MINISTRIES — STUDENTS

Cedar Grove Baptist Church of Maryville, Tenn. (SBC/CBF), seeks highly motivated person to fill the role of youth minister. Part-time position. Responsibilities include: youth ministry, guidance and counseling, planning and directing the entire youth program. Send inquiries and resumes to Cedar Grove Baptist Church, 5302 Nails Creek Rd., Maryville, TN 37804. Phone (865) 983-0270.

MISCELLANEOUS

Rodger's organ and box speakers for sale. Needs some repairs. Call New Vision Community Church, (731) 772-2663 for more information. Asking \$3,000.



Memory Hill Gardens (Memphis): 4 cemetery plots. Information: Arkansas Baptist Foundation, (501) 376-0732.

Cordova pastor among speakers for 'WorldCast'

Baptist Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Two Southern Baptists spoke during the Oct. 18-19 "Historic WorldCast Celebration," an Internet broadcasting event designed to carry the gospel simultaneously to every sovereign nation in the world.

Robert E. Reccord, president of the North American Mission Board, and Adrian Rogers, pas-

tor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Cordova were among 16 speakers representing a broad range of evangelical churches, denominations, and parachurch groups.

Rogers spoke on "The Biblical Ingredients of a Healthy Church Worldwide."

The event was sponsored by Global Pastors Network, an organization based at Campus Crusade's headquarters offering teaching for pastors around the world via the Internet. □

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have placed sermons online to share their thoughts from God's Word on the perils of gambling.

To listen, log-on to www.fbconcord.org

VOTE NO!

minister's corner

By Roger Freeman

On Tuesday, Nov. 5, Tennesseans will vote on a state operated lottery. This article addresses the spiritual issues involved.

Are you content or covetous?

"Thou shalt not covet," Exodus 20:17. "For I have learned in whatsoever state I am therewith to be content," Philippians 4:11.

There is only one reason that a person favors gambling and lotteries — "love of money." "The love of money is the root of all evil," I Timothy 6:10. Lotteries are "entry level" gambling. A lottery is covetousness and gambling in the simplest form. A person who purchases a lottery ticket covets the money of all other ticket buyers. A lottery advocate has "money" as his god. God's Word says we are not to be covetous but rather to be content.

Lotteries are frequently marketed as "making money for education." The upcoming referendum on a lottery in Tennessee will not fund one penny for public school education but rather college scholarships for a few.

Dr. John Kindt, Professor of Commerce at the University of Illinois writes, "Gambling is a catalyst for economic downturn." The billions spent on gambling are not placed into the economy for labor, production, and purchasing goods. Gambling does not produce income or a product. It merely transfers income from the many to the few.

Lotteries are counter-productive to a state's income. For every \$1 earned in gambling revenue to the state, \$3 is spent on social problems caused by gambling. Plus, for every \$1 gained by a state through a lottery, \$2 must be paid administering and advertising the lottery. These are indisputable facts.

A Christian must oppose a state operated lottery because of a lottery's impact on the poor. This is the most insidious part of state operated lotteries. Lotteries are most strongly marketed in the poorest areas of a city and state. Every study shows that the lowest income areas spend much more of their income on lotteries than any other sector of society. Lotteries are advertised as the hope and "way out" of poverty. The statistics show that people with household incomes of \$10,000 bet more than twice in lotteries than households with incomes of \$50,000. In zip codes of upper incomes, a state will place one lottery machine per 17,000 residents. In middle class zip codes, one lottery machine is placed per 5,000 residents. In zip codes of the lowest income residents one lottery machine is placed per 2,000 residents. Lotteries target the poor. Lotteries are a regressive tax on the poorest of a society.

God's Word commands labor and diligence, but lotteries advocate luck. Lotteries destroy homes and lives and produce very few winners and millions of losers.

God's Word encourages us to be content rather than covetous. You are content when you are satisfied with Jesus who lives in you with His promises of an eternal Heaven and His daily provision which supplies all your needs. What more could we ask or need than the care of a loving God? □ — Roger Freeman is pastor of First Baptist Church, Clarksville



Promising a righteous ruler

By Greg McFadden

Focal passage — II Samuel 7:8-16; Psalm 89:1-4; Isaiah 9:6-7

The prevailing secular mindset does not accept as reality the existence of the God of the Bible, much less that God's purposes and actions have directed the course of human history. Thus, biblical promises and prophecies are viewed as no more than human stories and fables that have little to do with people's lives today. This widespread view causes adults to question the relevancy of a divine promise made to a regional monarch who lived 3,000 years ago. The question before us in this week's lesson is "How does God's promise of a never ending kingdom affect me?" In the biblical worldview, God is real and personal and is the Lord of human history. His promise to King David has its ultimate fulfillment in the coming of Jesus, the Messiah-king. Today in our worship services, the pronouncement of such, is more than liturgical renderings. From "Lead on, O King Eternal" to "Majesty, Worship His Majesty," Christians continue to acknowledge and celebrate His position as King of kings and Lord of lords.

Though the word "covenant" does not appear in the Lord's message to David, it is clearly implied from the focal passages that a covenant was established. Because of his deep faith in the Lord and

his rise from shepherd to king, David became the standard against which God's people compared all kings. David viewed his position as an extension of the Lord's purpose in his life and not a political or personal agenda to gain, (II Samuel 5:12).

A promise to count on reminds the hearer that this kingdom promise is based on God's plan for Israel and the faithfulness of the Lord, and not human ability. In verses 8-9, David is reminded of his humble beginnings, of his divine purpose, and of his abundant blessings. The king's rise from pasture to palace becomes a type for every believer as he/she benefits from the unmerited favor of God.

One reason to hope, explained in Psalm 89:1-4, stems from events surrounding Nebuchadnezzar's attack on Jerusalem. Ethan the Ezrahite knew that the only hope for Israel was God's love and faithfulness. This is the same hope for every generation. The hope that compels the psalmist to pray for God's intervention in his time of trouble is the same hope that empowers believers to live with confidence in the difficult circumstances of today.

The words expressed in these verses come from God's covenant promise to David. "Love" and "faithfulness" signify a mercy that is steadfast and sure. The "never ending" quality of God's care is established and proclaimed. The word "established" literally means

Sunday School Lesson
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Oct. 27

built forever. The word "throne" in verse 4 refers not to a piece of furniture in a temple, but rather symbolically to the royal authority and power. In His covenant, the Lord promised to establish David's throne forever.

That "forever throne" is seen in the promised ruler to come. In Isaiah 9:6-7, the prophet expresses his confidence in the Davidic Covenant. Earlier, he introduced the idea of a virgin giving birth to the Incarnate Son of God. Here in these verses, he returns to this theme as both proof of God's grace and His faithfulness to His promise. This child will come as a gift (v. 6) and will bear the responsibility of governing the people of God. He is called by four different titles, each one significant to the believer. "Wonderful Counselor" probably refers to His expertise as a military strategist. We fight against a formidable foe in Satan and must depend on the King's military genius. "Mighty God" speaks of His ability as a mighty warrior that would defeat His enemies. "Everlasting Father" emphasizes His continual, benevolent care for His children. Finally, He is called "Prince of Peace," the author of a harmonious, and joy-filled life with God. □ — McFadden is pastor of First Baptist Church, Hohenwald.

Real life is for sinners

By Kenny Bruce

Focal passage — John 8:30-39, 42-47

Jesus had explained to the Jews that He was leaving them, they would not be able to follow Him, and they would die in their sins. Instead of trusting Him, they argued with Him.

The people continued to misunderstand His teachings. They would not follow Him because they felt that He was planning to kill Himself (v. 22). According to their belief, if Jesus committed suicide, then He would go to a place of judgment, and this was why they could not follow Him.

Actually, just the opposite was true. It was they who were going to the place of judgment. Since they had not trusted Christ and had their sins forgiven, their destiny was to die in their sins.

Jesus made another stupendous claim in verse 29 when He stated not only was He sent by the Father, but the Father was with Him because He always did what pleased the Father.

In response, some of his listeners put their faith in Him (v. 30). Their faith was not genuine because it lacked personal commitment. Recognizing their faith was nominal; He warned them in verse 31 that their obedience to His words was proof of true salvation.

The evidence a person is saved is his obedience to the Word of God. Through one's loyalty to the Scriptures, he is set free from the bondage of sin. Living in freedom is one distinguishing mark of the Christian.

The Jews to whom Jesus spoke claimed that they did not need to be set free because they were Abraham's seed and had never been in bondage. Their boast was one of self-deception because their whole history had been one of bondage. In like manner, unbelievers today are self-deceived and do not recognize their bondage to sin.

To point out the true nature of their bondage our Lord said in verse 34, "Everyone who sins is a slave to sin." Furthermore, He explained to them in verse 44, "You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire..." To explain to them the truth about their slavery, He said that they were unlike Abraham because they wanted to kill Him.

Freedom from the slavery of sin does not mean that we are not tempted by sin. It does mean that through abiding in His Word, we have the power of God to flee from the enticement, or to resist it.

Because His audience belonged to Satan, they could not understand what Jesus was teaching and they wanted to carry out the devil's desires, which were to lie about

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Him and to put Him to death.

In this passage Jesus called the devil a "murderer from the beginning." He is the author of death and responsible for the hate in people toward others.

Jesus also stated that Satan was a liar. A liar deliberately deceives.

Not only does a believer stand out in this world because of his love for Jesus, his obedience to His teachings, and his freedom from the control of sin, but also because of his vigilance against the schemes of the devil. A believer is always to be on the alert against the attacks of the "roaring lion" (I Peter 5:8). Paul warned in Ephesians 4:27, "And do not give the devil a foothold."

We are to daily put on the full armor of God to stand against the devil's schemes, to extinguish all His flaming arrows, and to pray in the Spirit against the powers of this dark world (Ephesians 6). When we resist him, he will flee from us (James 4:7).

God delivers us from the evil one as we pray the way Jesus taught us in Matthew 6:13, "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one." □ — Bruce is pastor of Leewood Baptist Church, Memphis.

just for today

by Fred Wood, retired pastor, Memphis

Start With A Smile: Man answering his cell phone: "Hello." Wife: "Darling, be careful. They announced on the news that a man is going the wrong way on Highway 18." Man: "It's worse than that. It's not just one car. I've seen 75."

Take This Truth: Look at those soldiers marching. Every one of them is out of step except my son.

Memorize This Scripture: "Every man stood in his place round about the camp ... all the host ran, and cried, and fled." — Judges 7:21

Pray This Prayer: Lord, help me to realize the value of being in my place at the right time regardless of what others do. □

Leaders

◆ **Paul Oldham** has retired as pastor of Peyton Creek Baptist Church, Carthage.

◆ Three Springs Baptist Church, Whitesburg, recently called **Gary Biggs** as pastor.

◆ **Brian Bradley** has been called as pastor of Parkway Baptist Church, Morristown.

◆ **Christopher Sparkman** began serving Sept. 22 as pastor of First Baptist Church, Dover. He formerly served as pastor of Eastwood Baptist Church, Cookeville.

◆ **David Hull** has resigned as pastor of First Baptist Church, Knoxville, to accept the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Huntsville, Ala., effective Oct. 27. The Hulls were honored Oct. 13 during a reception at FBC, Knoxville.

◆ **Edgemoor Baptist Church**, Clinton, has called **Steve Alford** as youth minister. A licensed minister and ordained deacon, Alford and his wife, Angie, have been members of First Baptist Church, Powell, for several years.

◆ **Henry West** recently retired as pastor of Salem Baptist Church, Ripley.

◆ **Gene Gafford** has been

called as pastor of LifeWay Baptist Church, Atoka.

◆ **Walnut Grove Baptist Church**, Ripley, has called **Roger Criner** as pastor

◆ **First Baptist Church**, Morristown, has called **Danny Georges** as minister of pastoral care and senior adults.

◆ **Steven Kyle**, who formerly served on the staff of West Corinth (Miss.) Baptist Church has been called as pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, Greenfield.

◆ **First Baptist Church**, Greenfield, has called **Ralph Cobb** as minister of youth.

◆ **Tony Moore** recently resigned as minister of music and worship at First Baptist Church, Springfield, to become associate pastor at Willow Pointe Church in Hattiesburg, Miss.

◆ **Grace Baptist Church**, Tullahoma, has called **Michael Brown** of Salinas, Calif., as minister of music and worship.

◆ **Adriel Baptist Church**, Bean Station, has called **Darrell Williams** of Washburn as pastor.

◆ **Fred Goodson** has been called as pastor of Mount Eager Baptist



LEADING THE Oct. 5 annual meeting of the Stewart/Truett/Judson Baptist Associations were, from left, William Gray, director of missions; Ginny Brown, link-up clerk of Cedar Grove Baptist Church; Carmen Westerman, link-up treasurer of Sylvia Baptist Church; Benny Mann, Stewart moderator and pastor, Carlisle Baptist Church; Reece Cochran, Judson vice moderator and pastor, First Baptist Church, White Bluff; and Frank Tennyson, Judson moderator and pastor, New Hope Baptist Church. Not pictured is Cecil Gilliland, Truett moderator and pastor, First Baptist Church, McEwen. The meeting was held at First Baptist Church, White Bluff.

Church, Washburn.

◆ **Southside Baptist Church**, Rutledge, has called **Sean Watson** of Knoxville, as pastor.

◆ **Community Baptist Church**, Flintville, recently called **Tim Britton** as pastor.

◆ **Scott Honea** recently accepted the pastorate of Howell Hill Baptist Church, Fayetteville.

◆ **Sammy Riggins** was recently called as pastor of Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, Huntland.

◆ **First Baptist Church**, St. Joseph, has called **Michael Smith** as pastor.

Churches

◆ **Northside Baptist Church**, Savannah, will hold revival services Nov. 10-13 with guest evangelist Pat Kough of Jackson.

◆ **Shelby Avenue Baptist Church**, Nashville, will celebrate its 92nd anniversary on Nov. 3 at 9:45 a.m. A celebration luncheon will follow.

◆ **New Concord Baptist Church**, Kenton, will hold revival services Nov. 17-20 with guest Wayne Rowan as speaker.

◆ **First Baptist Church**, LaVergne, will hold a conference on Islam and Witnessing to Muslims on Nov. 10-13. The conference will be led by Raouf and Carol Ghatas. It begins at 7 p.m. each evening and a nursery will be provided. For more information, call the church office at (615) 793-6423.

◆ **FOCUS**, the single adult ministry of **Hermitage Hills Baptist Church**, Hermitage, is sponsoring a Single Parent Conference on Nov. 15 from 6:30-9:30 p.m. The theme is "One is a Whole Number: One God, One Parent, One Family."

Guest speaker will be Bonnie Keen, author and vocalist of First Call. For registration information, including costs and childcare, call the church at (615) 883-5034.

◆ Several churches and organizations in Lincoln County are sponsoring DOWAP (Day of Worship and Praise) on Nov. 16 from 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. at Lincoln County High School gym. The conference will include three two-and-one-half sessions with breaks for lunch and supper. Program personalities include Craig Tackett, Charlie Cain, Chip Wilson & Team Rhino, Strangers & Pilgrims, Infiltrate, and Solid Rock. DOWAP is a ministry of "Simply the Truth" and is sponsored by **First Baptist Church, Fayetteville; First Baptist Church, Taft; Cash Point Baptist Church, Ardmore; New Grove Baptist Church, Ardmore; Bethlehem Baptist Church, Hazel Green; First Priority of Lincoln County; and William Carey Baptist Association**. For more information, including costs, call Tammy Haney at (931) 937-8925.

◆ **Second Baptist Church**, Clinton, will host a Youth Celebration/Revival

with Craig Tackett and Enlightened Ministries Nov. 3-6 beginning at 6:30 p.m. each evening. For more information about the event, call Steve and Debbie Barnes at (865) 494-0462 or the church office at (865) 457-2046.

Schools

◆ **Union University's Cardinal and Cream** was named best overall small campus university newspaper by the Baptist Press Student Journalism Conference in Nashville Oct. 10-12. Nearly 700 entries were received from 21 Christian colleges and universities. Union student winners included Josh Wagner, Laura Lee Moore, Patrick Compau, Justin Veneman, Janelle Sou, Amanda Smith, Kasey Carty Campbell, and Mykle Harchfield.

◆ **Belmont University**, Nashville, will host a free lunch for alumni and friends of Belmont during the annual meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. The luncheon will be Nov. 12 at noon at First Presbyterian Church, Franklin. Make reservations by contacting (615) 460-6441 or hazelwoodp@mail.belmont.edu.



A. C. PUCKETT, left, of South Gate Baptist Church, Antioch, is being recognized for teaching Sunday School continuously for 60 years by Larry Gray, a member of his class. Puckett also has taught at Mt. View Baptist Church, Antioch, and Miracle Baptist Church, LaVergne. He was honored on Oct. 6.



LEADERS OF New Concord Baptist Church, Kenton, cut a ribbon to open its new addition and remodeling project on Sept. 29. From left are Jack Moore; Johnny Witherspoon, pastor; Johnny Criswell, businessman; and Donnie Criswell. The addition included classrooms, a kitchen, and a remodeled fellowship hall. The entire project is already paid for.



LEADERS OF Sunnyside Baptist Church, Kingsport, burn a note Oct. 6 to represent the debt-free status of the church's educational building. The debt of \$680,000 was paid in just five years. From left are Jack C. Parrott, pastor; Randy Cassell, chairman of finances; and John Miller, trustee.