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Akin elected unanimously to lead Southeastern

Baptist Press

WAKE FOREST, N.C. — Daniel L. Akin became the sixth president of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary Jan. 15 with a unanimous vote of the seminary's board of trustees.

Akin, who previously served at Southeastern as assistant professor of theology and dean of students from 1992-1996, was vice president for academic administration and dean of the school of theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., a position he held until his return to Southeastern Seminary.

"I am extremely honored and genuinely humbled at this opportunity," said Akin, who was also elected professor of theology and preaching. "I do count it a great, great honor to come back home and be part of one of the greatest schools in the world."

Akin indicated in his address to seminary faculty members that he was firmly committed to maintaining Southeastern's emphases on missions and evangelism, expository preaching, and promoting Christ-centered marriages and families.

"I don't have a renovation assignment," he said. "I have a glorious assignment of climbing on board a speeding train that's gloriously going in the right direction."

Before his election by the trustees, Southeastern's faculty unanimously affirmed their support for his administration. □

Former missionary, Baptist leader H. Stevens dies

Baptist and Reflector

NASHVILLE — Howard L. Stevens, a former Southern Baptist missionary and an active Tennessee Baptist, died Jan. 16 after a brief bout with cancer.

A former pastor in Georgia and Louisiana, Stevens served as a Southern Baptist missionary in Mexico from 1960-75.

Upon returning to the States he taught at several colleges, including Belmont University. He also began a private counseling practice which he continued for more than 25 years. He authored a book, *The Christian and Divorce*, along with several articles for Baptist publications.

Stevens was an active member of First Baptist Church, Nashville, where he served in



AKIN

Former SBC leader Raymond Rigdon dies

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — Raymond M. (Ray) Rigdon, who led the Southern Baptist Convention's Seminary Extension ministry from 1969-1988, died here Jan. 16 after a lengthy illness. He was 84.

Rigdon led Seminary Extension during some of its greatest years of expansion.

Seminary Extension, founded in 1951, is a ministry of the SBC's six seminaries, offering 100-plus diploma-level courses by correspondence, on CD ROM, the Internet, and in more than 400 extension centers across the country. While not a degree program, Seminary Extension does award lay certificates and diplomas.

Under Rigdon's 18 years of Seminary Extension leadership, the ministry gained accredita-

tion with the National Home Study Council (now the Distance Education and Training Council) in 1972 and became a member of the National University Extension Association (now the National University Continuing Education Association) the following year.

Rigdon, in the mid-1970s, promoted Seminary Extension with the slogan, "Recycle Your Mind — Study," according to a history of the ministry by Leonard Hill.

Vivian Buttrey, a Seminary Extension staff member for more than 27 years, worked with Rigdon from 1976 until his retirement in 1988.

"Dr. Rigdon was always a Christian gentleman yet was a stickler for detail [as he] made certain Seminary Extension's curriculum was significantly upgraded." □

many leadership capacities. Stevens also was a speaker and conference leader. He and his wife, Norma, a long-time Belmont professor, were active in Marriage Encounter.

He is survived by his wife, three children — Catherine Self, Karen Stevens-Foster, and Kristen Douglass — and eight grandchildren. □

Bush appoints Baptist to court

Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — President George W. Bush used his recess appointing power Jan. 16 to install Charles Pickering to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals in a move sure to draw criticism from Democrats, the Associated Press reported.

The recess appointment means that Pickering — who had been filibustered by Senate Democrats — will serve until January 2005, when the next Congress is sworn in, AP reported. Until then, Pickering's appointment will not have to be confirmed.

"I'm grateful to the president for his continued confidence and support," Pickering told AP. "I look forward to serving on the Fifth Circuit."

Pickering is one of six Bush nominees who have been filibustered by Senate Democrats. All have received enough votes for confirmation but not enough votes to overcome the filibuster.

Needing 60 votes to stop the filibuster and end debate, Pickering received 54 votes in October. Bush is by no means the first president to use a recess appointment. Former President Bill Clinton used a recess appointment for a homosexual activist and philanthropist, James Hormel, as ambassador to Luxembourg, among numerous others to various posts, including at least one judge to a federal appeals court, who otherwise would have required Senate confirmation.

Pickering, a federal judge in Mississippi's Southern District for 12 years, is a member of First Baptist Church in Laurel,

Miss. He was a member of the Peace Committee established in 1985 to address issues related to the theological controversy in the Southern Baptist Convention at the time. Pickering also served two years in the mid-1980s as president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

The Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals is based in New Orleans covering the states of Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi. □

FCC may reverse ruling on expletive

Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — If Federal Communications Commission Chairman Michael Powell has his way, an expletive for male-female relations may be a thing of the past at least on broadcast television and radio.

Last year singer Bono of the group U2 used the word during a live broadcast of the Golden Globes awards, saying that winning an award was "[expletive] brilliant." That led the Parents Television Council to file a complaint with the FCC's enforcement bureau, which subsequently ruled that the utterance was not indecent because it had been used as an adjective and did not describe a sexual function.

Now, *The Washington Post* reports that Powell wants to overturn that ruling and ban nearly all of the uses of the word on broadcast TV. There would be a few exceptions, such as political speech, the newspaper reported.

The five-member FCC commission — of which Powell is a member — must vote to overturn the ruling. But the proposal likely will pass, according to *USA Today*.

The Parents Television Council applauded the move but added that it must be backed by a fine.

"While we welcome the change of spirit on Powell's part, and the FCC has tiptoed a little closer toward enforcing FCC decency rules by issuing this judgment, it still simply is not

enough," PTC President Bruce Bozell said in a statement. "The problem is not that Bono uttered the [expletive]. The problem that NBC deliberately chose to air it, has never apologized, and even has defended its behavior before the FCC."

"Network executives are going to stop airing this filth until the FCC gets serious with their decency fines."

But Powell may be ready to get tough with fines, too. Speaking at a National Press Club luncheon Jan. 14 Powell called on Congress to increase "by at least tenfold" the amount of fines the FCC can impose.

Supreme Court to hear Pledge case

Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — The constitutionality of the acknowledgment of God in the Pledge of Allegiance will be argued March 24 before the U.S. Supreme Court.

The high court announced the date for oral arguments in the high-profile case Jan. 11. The justices are reviewing a decision by the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals that inclusion of the words "under God" in the recitation of the pledge by public school students violates the establishment clause of the First Amendment.

A widespread backlash greeted the Ninth Circuit's decision against the pledge when it was first announced in 2000. Many Americans, as well as the Bush administration, called for the high court to review the ruling and reverse it.

When arguments are heard in Elk Grove Unified School District v. Newdow, Associate Justice Antonin Scalia will not participate. Scalia, widely considered the court's most conservative member, has recused himself without explanation. He had spoken critically of the lower court's ruling, however. Scalia's absence makes possible a 4-4 deadlock among the justices, which would result in the survival of the Ninth Circuit opinion. □

SBC position on BWA unchanged by worldwide outcry

Greg Warner
Associated Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — Despite pleas from Baptists around the world, there appears to be little chance Southern Baptist leaders will reverse or delay their plan to withdraw from the Southern Baptist Convention and the Baptist World Alliance, the 99-year-old international fellowship it helped create.

Morris Chapman, president of the SBC Executive Committee and chair of the study committee that proposed the withdrawal, declined to predict if the nine-member committee would reconsider.

"I will raise the matter for discussion at a conference call with the committee within the next two weeks," he told Associated Baptist Press in an e-mail interview Jan. 15. But, Chapman added, "the position we have taken makes it very difficult to consider delaying or withdrawing the proposal."

In several e-mails to overseas BWA leaders, Chapman reiterated the committee's intention to use the money the SBC contributes to the BWA — until recently, \$50,000 — to form an SBC-led alternative organization that would be run by an Executive Committee.

Several other study committee members — including denominational executives Paige Patterson and Jimmy Draper — could not be reached for comment. The committee's proposal will be presented to the SBC Executive Committee in February, and, if approved, to the Southern Baptist Convention in June.

The study committee's Dec. 17 proposal sparked immediate objections from Baptists on six continents, including leaders from Indonesia, Australia, South Africa, Chile, Sri Lanka, Romania, Russia and Norway.

Chapman acknowledged the criticism, as well as some support, but said the committee will not respond hastily.

"I need to wait long enough to give opportunity for most of those who are inclined to write to do so, in order that any evaluation the committee may make will be based upon a good cross-section of responses," he told ABP. "... I feel obligated to keep the whole matter as low-key as possible. This means I may have to deal with the public criticisms of Southern Baptist leadership until we have something to say that is well thought out before release."

World Baptist leaders are protesting both to the SBC's planned pullout and to allegations of liberalism the SBC justifies the move.

"We declare unacceptable the allegation of liberalism made by the committee," said Latin American Baptist leaders

in one of the strongest statements.

"We deplore the recommendation of this committee," the statement continued, "and we urge strongly the Executive Committee and the assembly of the SBC to reject this recommendation outright, so that this great organization may remain as a member of the BWA and may continue supporting its funding."

The official statement was signed by seven Latin American leaders from four countries, including Fausto Aguiar de Vasconcelos of Brazil, president of the Union of Baptists in Latin America, and two BWA vice presidents.

A similar statement was issued by another of the six regional BWA groups, the European Baptist Federation, which covers Europe and the Middle East. The EBF executive committee pleaded with Southern Baptists to maintain the unity of worldwide Baptists.

"Do we realize how much our witness to the world will be harmed when we try to explain that we are different groups of Baptists who cannot work together?" the European leaders asked. "One of the biggest tragedies of contemporary Christianity is division."

Baptists in Italy said the worldwide Baptist fellowship had been wounded and "enfeebled" by the SBC action, which was "made on the basis of false motivations and pretexts." The union's executive committee blamed the action on "fundamentalism, with its tendency towards intolerance and sectarianism." That tendency "is the antithesis of our own Baptist tradition," which owes much to the influence of Southern Baptist missionaries, the Italians said.

In a separate letter to Chapman, Branko Lovrec, a BWA vice president from Europe and former president of the Baptist Union of Croatia, said: "We are trying to develop Christian relationship with the similar evangelical[s] and other Christians in the specific countries and worldwide, and all of a sudden such news has been like a bomb... I will devote my time to prayer that God can intervene and settle the matter so that we may not be ashamed before the unbelieving world, who will only rejoice in our separation."

Chapman, in his response to Lovrec, said the intention of the SBC proposal is not to sever relationships with Baptists worldwide but to relate to them directly, not through the BWA.

"While Southern Baptists certainly believe one of our objectives should be to promote unity in the body, we also wish to concentrate upon other matters critical to the spiritual well-being of every nation in the world, including our own," the SBC leader said.

Chapman said the need for worldwide

evangelism is paramount.

"Our heart's desire is to allocate the funding that has been going to the BWA for the purpose of coordinating conferences in other countries, if and when the Lord should guide other Baptist leaders to invite us," Chapman wrote. "In our missions, publishing, and seminary education organizations, we have a host of people who are trained to lead conferences on a variety of topics, including Bible study, evangelism, church growth, etc."

In his interview with ABP, Chapman said "no contingency plans were discussed" when the committee adopted its proposal.

"The SBC/BWA Study Committee did not decide to recommend withdrawal from the BWA as a tactic to reach an unstated goal of pressing for change in the BWA," he explained. "The recommendation is an honest expression of the conclusions reached unanimously by the committee. The last thing we would want is to be perceived as having decided upon the recommendation as a means of generating discussion and concessions."

"The committee members made a decision based upon over five years of appealing in various ways to BWA staff to hear our concerns," he continued. "They listened but did not hear. We felt we had no other alternative, lest we become a problem for the organization and its staff, which is something we did not want to happen. As a result, the position we have taken makes it very difficult to consider delaying or withdrawing the proposal."

The proposal from the SBC study committee suggests creating a new worldwide network of "conservative evangelical Christians." Some of the more conservative Baptist bodies around the world have already expressed interest in the new SBC-led organization, the committee said, raising the possibility of two competing worldwide organizations of Baptists.

But Latin America Baptists, a traditionally conservative group that said they consider themselves the "younger brothers of the SBC" because of the evangelistic work of Southern Baptist missionaries, said they want nothing to do with the new organization.

The Latin leaders also denounced charges of liberalism against BWA, which they called "a Christ-centered and Bible-centered organization."

The report from the SBC study com-

mittee, which was drafted by Paige Patterson, accused the Baptist World Alliance of "advocating aberrant and dangerous theologies" — specifically, questioning biblical inerrancy, promoting women as pastors, and downplaying the doctrine of salvation only through Jesus.

The report also accused an unnamed German theologian of denying the Great Commission, Jesus' command to make disciples of all people, during a 1997 BWA-related meeting. Ian Chapman, chair of the BWA theological education work group that organized the meeting, said that accusation "is totally false." "I am also saddened by the untrue statements that the [study committee] has leveled against the BWA to justify the SBC leaving," Ian Chapman said in a statement. "Over the past 10 years, I have served as the chair of the theological education work group and the doctrine and interchurch cooperation commission. Not once during these years have I heard a central doctrine of the Christian faith challenged. Never have I heard anyone deny the deity of Christ, the authority and inspiration of Scripture, personal salvation through Christ, or Christ's atoning work on the cross. The charge of 'liberalism' leveled against the BWA is totally without foundation."

Denton Lotz, BWA general secretary, agreed the organization — which counts 43 million Baptists worldwide — is not liberal. "Actually scholars have shown just the opposite, that the BWA has been more evangelical than ever," he said in an editorial on the BWA web site.

Meanwhile, several BWA leaders — including president Billy Kim of South Korea — insist the SBC's planned pullout is in response not to BWA's theological stance but its granting of membership to the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. The CBF, which broke away from the SBC in 1991 after battling similar Southern Baptist charges of liberalism, was admitted to BWA in 2003 after a three-year process and over the objections of Southern Baptist representatives.

"Yet the CBF is not mentioned in the SBC document outlining why they are proposing withdrawal," added Lotz. "Suddenly many accusations are made but CBF is not mentioned. And yet in Rio, SBC leaders came to us and said, 'If they (CBF) are in, we're out!'"

Despite the resounding support from leaders worldwide, Lotz told ABP no official action or protest from the Virginia-based organization is likely before the SBC Executive Committee meets Feb. 16. The BWA's executive committee isn't set to meet until March, he said. □



CHAPMAN

Biblical worldview held by only half of senior pastors: Barna

Michael Foust
Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — Barely half of the nation's senior pastors — just a leading 71 percent of Southern Baptist pastors — held to a biblical worldview, a new study by Christian researcher George Barna shows.

The poll of 601 randomly selected senior pastors, representing some 50 denominations and conducted in November and December, showed that only 51 percent of the nation's pastors held to a biblical worldview.

Significantly, the entire sample included pastors from con-

servative, moderate, and liberal backgrounds.

While Southern Baptists had the highest percentage, United Methodist pastors had the lowest (27 percent). In fact, only 28 percent of pastors from mainline denominations held to a biblical worldview. Mainline church pastors are those in the American Baptist Churches USA, United Church of Christ, Episcopal Church, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Presbyterian Church (USA), and the United Methodist Church.

"Worldview" is a term used to describe the belief system by which a person understands or

makes decisions about the world.

For the Barna poll, the requirements for holding to a biblical worldview were minimal. Those holding to such a view had to embrace the accuracy of biblical teaching, the sinless nature of Jesus, the literal existence of Satan, the omnipotence and omniscience of God, salvation by grace alone, and the personal responsibility to evangelize.

In December, Barna released another poll showing that only 9 percent of people categorized as "born-again" held to a biblical worldview.

"George Barna has discovered a critical issue in the

American church today: Many senior pastors do not hold to the basic tenets of historic Christianity," said Thom Rainer, dean of the Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism, and Church Growth at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

"In this age of 'doctrine really doesn't matter,' Barna has shown us it does indeed matter. If senior pastors do not believe the key doctrines of the faith, the millions in the churches will never be taught that which defines our faith. It is little wonder that many churches today mirror the values of the world."

Among other denominational segments, 57 percent of Baptist (non-SBC) senior pastors held to a biblical worldview, as did 51 percent of nondenominational Protestant pastors, 44 percent of charismatic/Pentecostal pastors, and 35 percent of black church pastors.

Among geographic regions, senior pastors in the South (57 percent) and West (58 percent) led the way, while senior pastors in the Midwest (49 percent) and Northeast (43 percent) trailed.

Pastors under 40 (56 percent) were more likely to hold to a biblical worldview than were those 40 and older (50 percent). □

Sales have begun — what does the future hold?



reflections

By Lonnie Wilkey, editor

The day Tennesseans have seen coming (some with joy; others with despair) finally arrived yesterday (Jan. 20). Tennesseans were finally able to purchase those lottery tickets which will no doubt bring them riches beyond imagination (or at least that's the illusion they are led to believe).

The Jan. 17 issue of *The Tennessean* contained a story which listed the odds of a person winning the lottery along with a lot of other things.

According to the article, the odds of winning a state lottery jackpot is one in four million.

Compare that to the odds of becoming president (one in 10 million), having quintuplets (one in 85 million), dying in an explosion (one in 107,787), being struck by lightning (one in 3,000), dying of a spider bite (one in 592,829), being audited by the IRS (one in 175), having your identity stolen (one in 200), regaining the weight lost on a diet (nine in 10), and flying on a plane with a drunk pilot (one in 117).

Chances are none of us will ever be able to say "I know someone who won a fortune by playing the lottery."

Yet, no doubt people will try and keep trying, over and over again.

Keep in mind that the first tickets Tennesseans will be buying are the "scratch off" variety, not the multi-state, mega millions variety.

Lottery proponents are telling everyone that the odds of winning on a lottery ticket are one in four. What they don't tell you is that the amount you win is minimal.

Unfortunately, there are people who will spend \$50 to "win" \$25 and honestly think they are "lucky." I don't like those odds.

The *Baptist and Reflector*, the Tennessee Baptist Convention, and many other Christian groups spent a lot of time, effort, and money last year trying to convince Tennesseans not to fall for the lottery lies, but to vote against the constitutional amendment that would allow for a state-operated lottery.

Those pleas fell on deaf ears as many Christians chose to vote for the lottery. Don't be fooled. The lottery would have failed had Christians stepped to the plate and voted against it.

But, crying about that lost opportunity is pointless. The lottery is here and will be here for



SIGNS SUCH AS THESE will probably become a common (and cluttered) sight along Tennessee's highways in the months and years to come.

years to come.

The question now is, "What does the future hold for the lottery in Tennessee and for those who will be negatively impacted?"

Here are a few observations/predictions about the lottery.

(1) When planning future budgets, churches will need to add extra funds to their benevolence accounts. It will be needed. There will be low-income people (along with some middle-class families) who will join those families already receiving benevolence help because a parent spent the money they normally would have used for food, rent, or utilities on lottery tickets.

(2) Be prepared to read more

sad, heart-wrenching stories about Tennesseans who fall into the trap that caught Elecia Battle. Battle, if you remember, made national news a few weeks ago. She supposedly bought, then lost, a lottery ticket worth \$162 million. She even filed a police report.

The media reported about people flocking to the small market where she supposedly bought the ticket, shoveling snow trying to find that ticket. Unfortunately, not all were there for her benefit. One woman reportedly said she would keep the winnings if she found the ticket. Battle even went so far as to file a lawsuit to stop Ohio lottery officials from paying the rightful owner of the ticket. Battle, however, later ad-

mitted that it had been a hoax. She had never bought the ticket in the first place. Her rationale "I wanted to win so bad for my kids and family. I apologize. She now faces jail time for filing a false police report. We will see more instances of greed over coming good sense.

(3) Churches will need to be able to provide counseling or refer to counselors those individuals who can't stop at buying one or two lottery tickets, but instead become addicted to gambling and spend all their money on tickets. That, too, will happen.

(4) This prediction is the hardest to swallow, but is bound to happen. Christians will validate the lottery by purchasing tickets themselves. Non-Christians will see Christians buying tickets and assume it is OK because "Christians are doing it." As Christians, we must be conscious and wary of anything that could hinder our witness for Christ.

These are just a few of the consequences that no doubt will occur because a lottery is now legal in our state.

Pray diligently in the months ahead that the negative impact on lives will be minimal and that Tennessee Baptists will respond with God's grace and love to those who get caught by the lottery trap. □

MID-SOUTH MEN'S BIBLE CONFERENCE



Dr. Johnny Hunt



Rev. Vance Pitman



Dr. Bob Pitman
Host Pastor



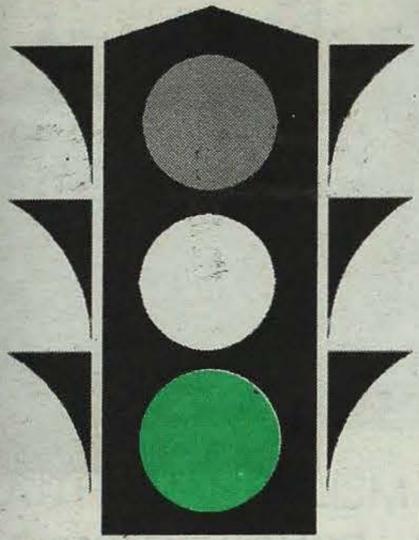
Dr. Fred Luter, Jr.



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Green Light

February 2004

Your source for information and promotion of upcoming events sponsored by the Tennessee Baptist Convention

Editor's Corner

GREEN LIGHT ON LINE

To view *Green Light* on the newly designed TBC Web site, open the site, www.tnbaptist.org, and click on the small tab that says News and Events. Then, click on *Green Light*. Remember, *Green Light* is published in the *Baptist and Reflector* eleven times a year. The combined issue is November/December.

If you have questions or comments, e-mail me at bowen@tnbaptist.org.
Barbara

FINANCIAL ISSUES SEMINARS

- February 10 Stevens Street Baptist Church, Stone Association, Cookeville
- February 10 Concord Baptist Association Office, Murfreesboro
- February 11 Nolachucky Baptist Association Office, Morristown
- February 11 Englewood Baptist Church, Madison-Chester Association, Jackson
- February 12 Hamilton County Association Office, Chattanooga
- February 12 Faith Baptist Church, Shelby Association, Bartlett

Seminars are offered free of charge from 10 a.m. until noon at each location.

For more information contact Richard Skidmore, or Joyce Harvey, *Leadership Development Group*, at 800.558.2090; or you may e-mail at rskidmore@tnbaptist.org or jharvey@tnbaptist.org.

Retirement

Choices Seminar

- February 10 Stevens Street Baptist Church, Stone Association, Cookeville
- February 10 Concord Baptist Association Office, Murfreesboro
- February 11 Nolachucky Baptist Association Office, Morristown
- February 11 Englewood Baptist Church, Madison-Chester Association, Jackson
- February 12 Hamilton County Association Office, Chattanooga
- February 12 Faith Baptist Church, Shelby Association, Bartlett

The Retirement Choices Seminars scheduled 1:30 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. at each location are offered free of charge. For more information, contact Richard Skidmore or Joyce Harvey, *Leadership Development Group*, at 800.558.2090; or e-mail at rskidmore@tnbaptist.org or jharvey@tnbaptist.org.

YEC2004

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Youth Evangelism Conference
March 5-6
Murphy Center, MTSU, Murfreesboro
(See inside for more information.)

HEALTHY FAMILY relationships

- February 28 Belmont University, Nashville
- March 27 Carson Newman College, Jefferson City
- April 17 First Baptist Church, Chattanooga
- May 1 Union University, Jackson

Ministers, counselors, deacons, laypersons, parents, couples, college students preparing for ministry, and chaplains are urged to attend one of the Healthy Family Relationships Conferences.

Seminars include: *How to Conduct Premarital Counseling and What to Include; Blended Family Issues; Ministering to Families in Crisis; Church as a Healing Community (How to Conduct Support Groups); and Covenant Marriages.*

The Conference begins at 8:15 a.m. with registration and continental breakfast. Registration fee of \$10 (\$5 for students) includes notebook, materials, and breakfast.

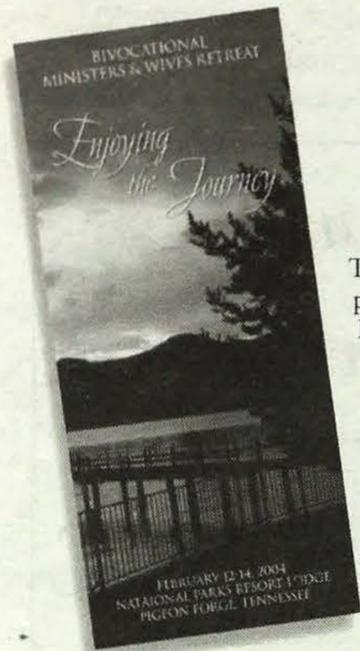
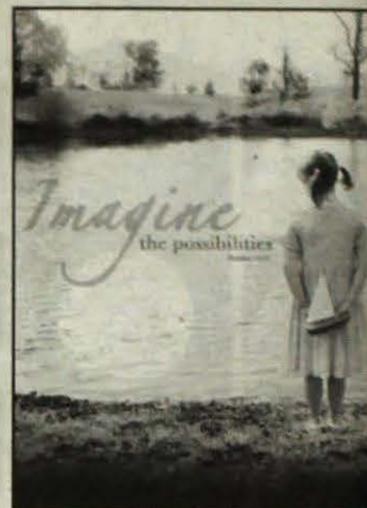
For more information, or to receive registration materials, contact Tony Rankin, *Church Growth Strategies Group*, at 800.558.2090, ext. 7906. Registration is also available online at www.tnbaptist.org/cgs/familyministries.htm. When registering online, the fee is payable at the conference.

WMU Get Together
 March 19-21 Gatlinburg Convention Center
Imagine the Possibilities, Matthew 19:26
 Keynote Speaker: Debbie Cannada, NAMB Missionary

Conference topics include:

- Growing on the Go
- Make Every Dollar Count
- Passing on a Legacy of Prayer
- Tennessee Partnership Missions
- Retirement: Life's Best Chapter
- Understanding and Overcoming Grief
- Women of Wal-Mart: Ministering to invisible people around you
- God's Work in Nebraska - Meet Alpha Goombi, NAMB missionary
- Working Yourself Out of a Job - Mentoring upcoming leaders to take your place
- Building a Ministry of Comfort & Compassion - Ideas for starting a widows ministry
- Making Missions Fun - New ideas that everyone can use to spark up missions in the church
- Tennessee Missions - Learn how God is working here at home and how you can be a part

Special conferences will be offered on Saturday for men, minister's wives, and Hispanic and Korean women. To receive additional information, contact Denise Bronaugh, Tennessee WMU, at 800.558.2090, ext. 7920.



**Bivocational
 Ministers and Wives Retreat**

February 12 - 14

National Parks Resort Lodge*
 Pigeon Forge

The Bivocational Ministers and Wives Retreat begins with registration at 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 12 and closes following lunch on Saturday, February 14.

Program personalities include Johnny Carr, pastor of Shepard's Chapel Baptist Church, Rogersville; Jerry Essary, TBC Evangelism Strategist; Steve Holt, TBC Leadership Specialist, Larry Gilmore, Evangelism Strategies Group Leader; Linda Gilmore, Ladies Conference Leader; Candy Phillips, WMU Executive Director-Treasurer; Joe Wright, Dyer Baptist Association DOM; and Ray Gilder, TBC Bivocational Ministries Specialist.

The cost of the retreat is \$150 per couple and includes hotel accommodations and meals, (including the Dixie Stampede). Send check (\$75 deposit or \$150 full payment) payable to Tennessee Baptist Convention to: Joy Clay-

Corby, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37024-0728. Include registration information: name, spouse's name, home address, phone number, name of church/association, and e-mail address (optional).

For more information contact Ray Gilder or Joy Clay-Corby, Leadership Development Group, at 800.558.2090, extension 2018.

* National Parks Resort Lodge is located at traffic light #1, Pigeon Forge.

COMPENSATION Study

**COMPENSATION
 STUDY ASSISTANCE**

Attention: Pastors, Church Secretaries,
 Church Treasurers

During January, all TBC churches will receive a packet of survey forms to be completed by the church treasurer. When the form for each staff position is completed, all forms should be returned, by April 15, to TBC in an envelope provided in the packet. *Specific data for any individual church WILL NOT be shared with anyone.*

Every church is encouraged to participate in the survey so that accurate information will be readily available for use as a budget-planning tool. The full report on the combined data should be available online in June 2004. The 2004 Compensation Study includes 35 participating conventions in cooperation with the Annuity Board, SBC.

If you have questions or comments, contact Richard Skidmore or Lana Rose, Leadership Development Group, at 800.558.2090, extension 2053.

GREAT COMMISSION PRAYER CONFERENCE

February 20-21 - Englewood Baptist Church, Jackson

Theme: *Seeking His Face*

Keynote Speakers: Bruce Schmidt, prayer and missions pastor, FBC Woodstock, GA; and Gregory R. Frizzell, prayer and spiritual awakening specialist, Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma. **Other Program Personnel:** Tammy Alsup, National Day of Prayer coordinator for Tennessee; Paul Clark, worship / music specialist, TBC; Charles Couey, consultant, ministries with the blind, TBC; Jason Cruise, senior pastor, Belmont Heights BC, and founder of Tennessee Outdoor Network; Jerry Essary, evangelism strategist, TBC; John Franklin, pastoral ministries specialist, LifeWay Christian Resources; Bill Graham, ministry of missions, FBC, Clarksville; Elaine Helms, prayer associate, NAMB; Leighann McCoy, pastor's wife, and author "Oh God Please!"; Greg McFadden, pastor, FBC, Humboldt; Randy Pool, associational missions coordinator/Mississippi River Ministry coordinator, Gibson Association; James Porch, executive director-treasurer, TBC; Chris Schofield, manager, Prayer Evangelism Unit, NAMB; Gene Williams, men's ministry specialist, TBC; Thomas Wright, prayer strategist, NAMB; and Don Pierson, prayer strategies specialist, TBC.

The Conference begins on Friday at 1:45 p.m. and concludes on Saturday at 4 p.m. Registration fee of \$25 per person includes lunch on Saturday. Child care will be provided at Englewood Baptist Church by reservation. Contact Don Pierson or Bernie Baker, Missions Mobilization Group, at 800.558.2090, ext. 7925, if you will need child care or if you desire further information regarding registration and nearby hotels.

2004 Camp Schedule

Camp Carson

- July 5-9 Journey for Girls
- July 9-11 Journey for Families
- July 12-16 Journey for Boys
- July 16-18 Journey for Moms/Daughters
- July 19-23 Mission IMPACT
- July 23-25 Journey for Dads/Daughters
- July 26-30 Journey for Kids

Camp Linden

- June 7-11 Journey for Kids
- June 11-13 Journey Dad/Son Adventure
- June 14-18 Journey for Girls
- June 18-20 Journey for Moms/Daughters
- June 21-25 Journey for Boys
- June 25-27 Journey for Dads/Daughters
- June 28-July 2 Journey for Kids
- July 5-9 Youth Impact Camp
- August 2-6 All Nations Camp



Roy & Stacey Broughman
 camp directors



Jonathan Elder
 worship leader

**Regional Handbell
 Festivals 2004**

WEST

February 6-7

First Baptist Church, Jackson
 Clinician - Lyndel Littleton,
 minister of music, FBC, Joelton
 Host Minister of Music - David Vaughn

MIDDLE

February 27-28

Mt. Juliet Baptist Church
 Clinician - Andrew Roby,
 minister of music, FBC, Shelby North Carolina
 Host Minister of Music - John Nettles

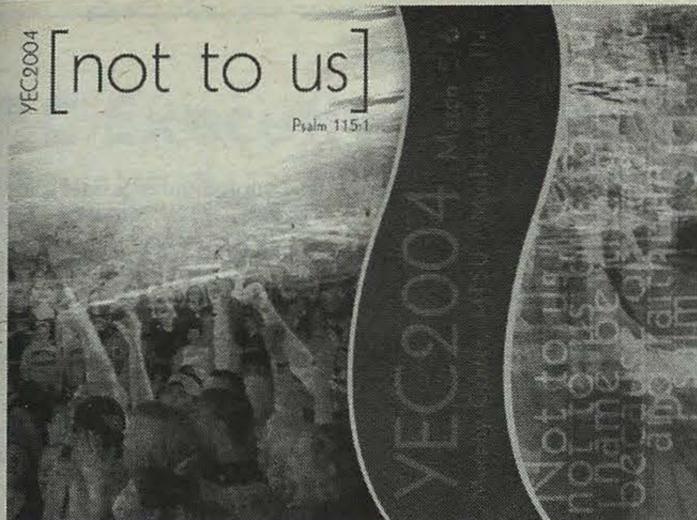
EAST

February 27-28

Carson Newman College
 Clinician - Tim Waugh,
 music teacher/church musician, Bluefield, WV
 Host - Clark Measles, chairman, C-N Music
 Department

Early-bird registration fee is \$75 per church. Fee becomes \$100 if registration is not received by January 19 for west Festival, or February 9 for middle and east Festival.

For more information, contact Paul Clark or Charlotte Hanson, Leadership Development Group, at 800.558.2090; or e-mail at chanson@tnbaptist.org.



YOUTH EVANGELISM CONFERENCE March 5-6 Murphy Center, MTSU

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Sound, Biblical-based preaching by Thomas Young
- A clear presentation of the gospel message
- Chris Tomlin and his band leading powerful worship in music
- Corporate worship with 12,000 other students, a definite "give God the glory experience"
- A great conference at an incredible price (parents will love you!)
- CPR comedy. Skit guys collide with "Who's line is it anyway?"
- Manna Skateboard team...your students will love these guys!

PROGRAM PERSONALITIES:

Thomas Young speaks to thousands of students each year, speaking to their hearts with love and passion. His story proves Jesus changes lives.

Chris Tomlin is one of the premier songwriters today. His ultimate goal in the end to be able to say that he has run the race to the finish, fought the good fight, and kept the faith.

PR (Carl, Pete, and Ringo) perform Christian Improv. They know that everything they do is of themselves, but of God's work. Therefore, it is done in the glory of God and they will share their joy with anyone who will listen.

SESSIONS:

Monday, early session begins at 4:30 p.m. and the late session, at 8:30 p.m. Saturday's breakout sessions begin at 9:30 a.m. in local churches, followed by another group session at 1 p.m. at Murphy Center. Dismissal is at 3:10 p.m.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

Early Registration	\$15.00
on or before February 13	
Late Registration	\$20.00
February 14- February 23	
after February 23	
You must register at the door.	

Participants should pre-register by mail. Telephone reservations cannot be accepted. Credit cards will be accepted this year via mail or phone. NO REFUNDS will be issued for YEC. All seats are general admission.

Promotional videos are available. Call or email to have one sent to you free of charge. For more information and to receive registration materials, contact Rachel Watson, *Evangelism Strategies Group*, 800.558.2090, or email Watson at rwatson@tnbaptist.org. Information is available on our Web site: www.yec.tennessee.org

Bible Fun Field Day For Leaders and Children in Grades 1-6

- March 13 LindenValley Baptist Conference Center
- March 27 CarsonSprings Baptist Conference Center



Event choices for children include: *TeamKid*, *FUNDamentals*, *Bible Buddies*, *Children's Bible Drill*, and *Recreation*. For adults, event choices include: *TeamKid*, *FUNDamentals*, *Bible Buddies*, *Children's Bible Drill*, and *Understanding Children*.

Early bird registration fee is \$15 if postmarked by March 1. After March 1, the cost is \$20 per person. No refunds after March 5. Registration fee includes, T-shirt, activities, snacks, supplies, leadership, lunch, and facility use. Check in time is 9:00 a.m. with the opening ceremonies beginning at 9:30 a.m. The day's activities conclude at 3:30 p.m.

To receive more information and registration materials, contact Barbara Owens, *Church Strategies Group*, 800.558.2090, extension 7905.

CROSS-CULTURAL TRAINING

Don't miss this opportunity to participate in volunteer training designed to equip volunteers for cross-cultural ministry in strategic locations throughout the world.

March 26-27	Knox County Association Office, Knoxville
April 16-17	Youth, Baptist Center, Brentwood
April 23-24	Cherry Road Baptist Church, Memphis
October 8-9	Stevens Street Baptist Church, Cookeville

Highlights include: *International travel tips; The Biblical Basis of Missions; Cultural Shock Survival guides; Prayer, Praise, Music and Testimonies; Feast on the Sights, Sounds and Foods of Other Countries; and Language Tips for Volunteers.*

Registration fee of \$15 includes meals and training materials. Participants must register at least two weeks prior to the training date by calling Heather Wilson, *Missions Mobilization Group*, at 800.558.2090, ext. 2061, or e-mail Wilson at hwilson@tnbaptist.org

This event is co-sponsored by the *TBC Missions Mobilization Group* and the *SBC International Mission Board*.

For more information, contact Heather Wilson or Kim Huff at 800.558.2090, ext. 2061.

Interfaith Evangelism Associate Training Jehovah's Witness

February 13 - 14, Baptist Center, Brentwood

Purpose:	To provide sufficient content and information about one religious group and to equip participants to lead church and/or associational Interfaith Evangelism Awareness Conferences.
Participants:	This training is designed for lay people and ministers who are interested and eligible to become certified as Interfaith Evangelism Volunteer Associates (IEVAs)
Time:	Friday 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m./ Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Leader:	Dr. Tal Davis, Interfaith Evangelism Associate, North American Mission Board.
Cost:	\$15 Pre-registration (breaks, meals, and materials will be provided during the conference.) Checks for registration should be made to Tennessee Baptist Convention. To register or receive further information, call Ilka Marks or Tim Hill, <i>Evangelism Strategies Group</i> , at 800.558.2090, extension 7916.

CUMBERLAND REGIONAL MINISTRY

(Exploration meeting re: ministry specific to Middle Tennessee)
February 23 • Baptist Center, Brentwood
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

All middle Tennessee ministry leadership (i.e. *chaplains, collegiate ministers, directors of missions, associational WMU directors, church/community ministers, resort ministers, and others*) are urged to attend. Lunch will be provided. Reservations due by February 13.

Contact Beverly Smothers or Elizabeth Holmes, *Missions Mobilization Group*, at 800.558.2090, extension 7926.

EQUIPPING U: A Sunday School Leadership Event

Carson Springs Baptist Conference Center, Newport February 6-7

This beautiful retreat setting provides the perfect atmosphere for extensive Sunday School Training. The training is designed for all preschool, children, youth, and adult Sunday School leaders.

Registration begins at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, with the early bird conferences beginning at 3:30 and 4:30 p.m. The evening worship session begins at 6:45 followed by conferences by age groups at 7:45. On Saturday, the conferences by age groups will continue at 8:45 a.m. with worship at 11:15, and lunch at noon.

The registration fee is \$35 per person. For Saturday only attendees, the fee is \$25 per person. For commuters, meals only are \$20. Double occupancy room is \$65 per room and semi-private lodging is \$18 per person.

To register for this conference, call Susan Mason, Carson Springs Baptist Conference Center, 877.704.6336. Visa or Master Card charges may be used for registration, or your check may be mailed to Carson Springs Baptist Conference Center, Attn: Susan Mason, 1120 Carson Springs Road, Newport, TN 37821.

For other information about the Equipping U Sunday School Leadership Event, call the Church Growth Strategies Group at 800.558.2090, extension 2054.



God's Plan... My Part

Focus on WMU

February 9-15

Six days in February may be used to tell the story of what God is doing in missions through age-level organizations and churchwide efforts. How can you share that message in the church?

Focus on God's love for people. Participate in a local ministry. Use this opportunity to survey the church for interest in new outreach ministries. Recognize missions leaders at a special time in a service.

More Focus on WMU ideas can be found in the 2003-04 WMU Yearbook and Dimension magazine. Help your church discover the joy of missions! - Tennessee Woman's Missionary Union, 800.558.2090, extension 2038.

Is Your Church Planning To Build Or Remodel?
Does Your Church Need To Make Better Use Of Its Facilities?
Do You Need Financial Assistance For These Goals?

CHURCH BUILDING/FINANCE CONFERENCE

February 19 • Wallace Memorial Baptist Church • Knoxville

8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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

Featured Topics:

Master Planning For Long Range Growth • Steps in a Building Program • Designing Space: Worship, Educational, Recreational, and Multi-Functional • How Churches Finance Building Programs • Planning a Building Budget: A Look At Total Project Costs • Selecting And Working With An Architect

Who Should Attend? Pastors and church staff, building committees, finance committees, trustees, and others facing the need for space, involved in the building process or responsible for facilities planning and funding development.

Conference Personalities: Richard Barr and Stephen Lee, AIA Architects, Richard Barr and Company; Bo Childs, certified financial planner and president, Tennessee Baptist Foundation; Archer Thorpe, church administration and stewardship specialist, Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Registration fee of \$20 per person is due by February 13. Send name, address, phone number along with the number of attendees and include a check made payable to Tennessee Baptist Convention. Registration fee includes lunch.

For more information, call the Leadership Development Group, 800.558.2090, extension 2040.

Computer Training for Church/Association Secretaries

EAST TENNESSEE

March 9

Clingan Ridge Baptist Church
2412 Georgetown Road, Cleveland
423.472.3511

March 10

Manley Baptist Church
3603 West Andrew Johnson Hwy, Morristown
423.586.8665

MIDDLE TENNESSEE

March 11

Central Baptist Church
1346 South Main Street, Crossville
931.484.8426

March 16

Baptist Center
5001 Maryland Way, Brentwood
800.558.2090

WEST TENNESSEE

March 17

First Baptist Church
2000 Second Street, Milan
731.686.3385

March 18

Faith Baptist Church
3755 N. Germantown Road, Bartlett
901.386.4785

Six regional computer-training events for support staff using Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Designing a Website from Scratch. Cost of each 3-hour session is \$25, if registering before February 25. After February 25, the cost is \$35. Lunch will be provided. The morning session is 8:30-11:30; afternoon session, 1:00-4:00. Listed below are the dates and locations:

Word: If you have questions this is the place to get the answers. Bring your questions and those will be dealt with first. Will also discuss with basic tabs, tables, mail merges, and form development
Conference leader: Bette Hawkins, Bon Aqua

Excel: Tips and shortcuts, entering and editing data, selecting, moving, copying data, inserting columns and rows, changing column widths and row heights, formatting cells, creating and using formulas to calculate data, creating charts, creating and using databases, sorting data, filtering data, restricting entries in database. Conference leader: Dana James, Bolivar

PowerPoint: Create a presentation based on a design template, insert drawings, insert an organization chart, add a chart to a presentation, insert and edit graphics and pictures, slide show design guidelines, setting transition effects for a slide show, ways to print a presentation, how to change the background of a slide, animation in a slide show, manual and times presentations keeping pictures and artwork in proportion, hidden slides, adding action buttons to a slide, drag and drop slides from one presentation to another, and creating a watermark as a background
Conference leader: Lana Rose, TBC, Brentwood.

Designing a Website from Scratch: Websites are quickly becoming the first place a person will go to find information about your organization; therefore, so a well-designed site will keep them coming back again and again. This seminar gives information as to what makes a good website and the steps necessary to design or redesign a site to make it inviting, interesting, and productive. Included will be discussions on hierarchy, flow, continuity, and ease of use. The focus of this workshop will be on the proper preparation to building a site not on learning html or utilizing a web design program. Conference leader: Laura Sencabaugh, Chattanooga (March 9-11)

For more information and to register contact Lana Rose, Leadership Development Group, TBC, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37027, 800.558.2090, extension 2040.

TBC Executive Board adjusts budget; Porch shares ...

Continued from page 1
TBC President Mike Boyd, pastor of Wallace Memorial Baptist Church, Knoxville, also addressed the Executive Board.

He reminded board members that America is in a cultural war. "It is a war between good and evil with Satan at the very heart of it," Boyd stressed.

"Our enemy is Satan. Our source is Jesus," he continued.

Boyd acknowledged Tennessee Baptists are not going to agree on everything. "As a family we can disagree, but we cannot disengage. We need to operate."

The world today demands that Christians be obedient, he stressed. "The burden of the word is upon us and the stakes are high," Boyd said.

"It's time to not sit up, but stand up and let people know we mean business for the kingdom."

TBC Executive Board President Leonard Markham, pastor of Bluegrass Baptist Church, Hendersonville, agreed with Porch and Boyd.

He recalled that when he was a student at Carson-Newman College during the height of the Vietnam War, the "big" issue with the college's trustees then was dancing on campus.

"I hope our focus is not on dancing or some other trivial issue," Markham said.



EMPLOYEES OF THE Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board staff were honored for years of service during the January meeting of the TBC Executive Board. From left are Vickie Anderson, preschool/children's specialist, Tennessee WMU, 10 years; Bill Northcott, leader, Leadership Development Group, five years; Brenda Carr, ministry assistant, Administrative Services, 35 years; and Richard Skidmore, church ministers financial support specialist, Leadership Development Group, five years. Also recognized, but unable to attend the meeting was John Coblentz, Linden Valley maintenance, Administrative Services, 10 years.

In other business, board members approved the transfer of ownership for the Baptist Student Center located near the Jackson State Community College campus in Jackson to the Madison-Chester Baptist Association.

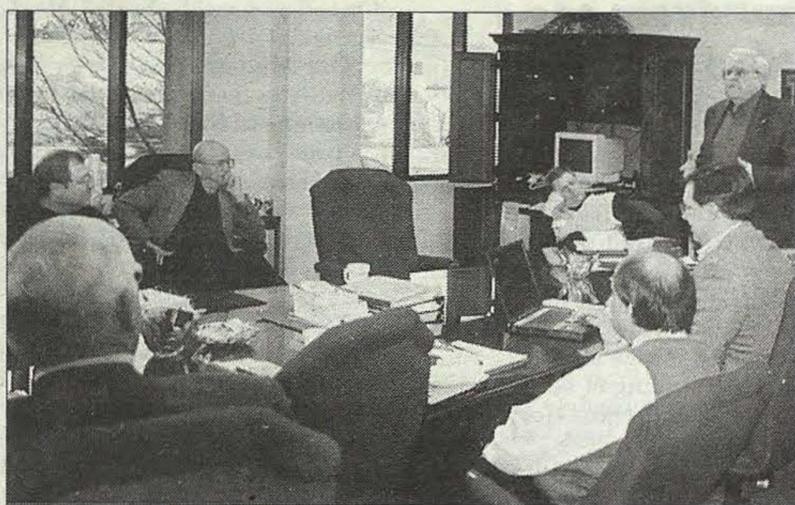
Board members were told the rationale for the transfer is to reduce the long-term expense of the Executive Board relative to maintaining, insuring, and capital repair on the property.

The recommendation, which was approved, is similar to other actions the board has taken in recent months.

Board members also heard progress reports from representatives of TBC institutions and the status of the TBC Church Planting Loan Fund, which is administered by the Tennessee Baptist Foundation.

The fund currently has assets of \$3,161,375.

The Executive Board approved a recommendation from the Committee on Boards to appoint Greg Fay of First Baptist Church, Clinton, to serve a one-year unexpired term as a trustee of Baptist Health System of East Tennessee, filling the vacancy of a trustee who moved from the region. □



TBC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR James Porch, standing, leads an orientation session for new members of the Executive Board.

Orientation prepares new members to serve, says Porch

Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — Prior to their first meeting, new members of the Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board were invited to a special session designed to inform them of responsibilities and expectations.

"We planned the orientation for new Executive Board members to introduce them to the ministry and the administrative processes of our kingdom work," said James Porch, TBC executive director-treasurer.

"Also," he continued, "each session focuses on assisting the members in formulating strong relationships with each other."

"Over the years, the orientation has helped enable Tennessee Baptists to have a well functioning Board blessed by unity and high degrees of mutual respect and trust for each other."

"In addition, throughout the

orientation, the uniqueness of our work is emphasized in a strong spiritual context," he continued.

Those attending the orientation session included: Nancy Hammons, Pine Ridge Missionary Baptist Church, Harri-man; George Hollander, Immanuel Baptist Church, Knoxville; Bob Riley, First Baptist Church Rogersville; Mildred Thompson, First Baptist Church, Dayton; Chris Ward, Ninth Street Baptist Church, Erwin; Ralph Bryant, First Baptist Church, Lafayette; Nelson Forrester, First Baptist Church, Cookeville; Barbara Hardiman, Immanuel Baptist Church, Lawrenceburg; Willie McLaurin, Greater Missionary Baptist Church, Clarksville; Marshall Anderson, First Baptist Church, Dresden; Jeff LaBorg, Sharon Baptist Church, Savannah; and Tom Lewis, First Baptist Church, Jackson. □

Don't Miss THE STATE EVANGELISM CONFERENCE

INTENTIONALLY FOCUSED EVANGELISM

JANUARY 26-27, 2004
Two Rivers Baptist Church
Nashville, TN
FREE EVENT
FOR THE GENERAL PUBLIC
REGISTRATION REQUIRED

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS	
MONDAY - JANUARY 26	
10:00 a.m.	Vocational Evangelists Session
1:45 p.m.	Afternoon Session Special Music: This Hope Gary Frost, Pat Hood, John Bisagno Russ Cooper
6:15 p.m.	Evening Session Special Music: This Hope Jerry Spencer, Jerry Sutton, Bob Roberts
TUESDAY - JANUARY 27	
9:15 a.m.	Morning Session Special Music: This Hope Phil Glisson, Larry Gilmore, Bob Roberts Carolyn Outland and Ann Davenport, Kent Shingleton
1:45 p.m.	Afternoon Session Special Music: This Hope Scott Thomas, Benny Jackson, Michael Spradlin Joey Hancock, Jerry Essary
6:15 p.m.	Evening Session Special Music: This Hope Bob Roberts, John Bisagno Gene Large
8:30 p.m.	Adjourn

WWW.TNBAPTIST.ORG • 800.558.2090 EXT.2058

Holston Baptist Association Student Conference
March 5th - 7th
Ridgecrest, NC
for more info: www.hbsc2004.com
(423) 929-1196

Come early ...

... for the Fellowship of Tennessee Baptist Evangelists' program, Monday, January 26, 10 a.m., Two Rivers Baptist Church, Nashville.

There will be special music by our singers and preaching by Lammie Lammersfeld, Jerry Reynolds, and Skip Youngcourt.

Iranian quake survivors see 'God with us'

Baptist Press

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Survivors of a devastating earthquake in Bam, Iran, are seeing the love of God demonstrated through the work of Southern Baptist disaster relief volunteers from Alabama who traveled to the scene to help.

The suffering of the city's residents is heartbreaking, volunteers said.

The words "Alabama Disaster Relief" provided the first witness to God's love as the team began unloading equipment and supplies, said team leader Larry Murphy of Enterprise, Ala.

Iranian helpers saw those words stenciled on the side of supply crates and saw in "Alabama" a combination of words in their own language: "Ala" sounds like their word for God, "Ba" like their word for "with" and "ma" like "us."

The Iranians translated "Alabama Disaster Relief" to mean

"'God with us' Disaster Relief."

"When I heard that, I just jumped and said, 'Yes!'" Murphy said.

The Alabama team was assigned the lead role in feeding operations in Bam, a key role in the wider relief response mounted by humanitarian organizations from around the world. A Baptist Men's team from Texas followed the Alabama volunteers into the heart of the ruined city. Baptist disaster relief volunteers from several other states plan to follow in the weeks to come.

The Dec. 26 earthquake killed more than one-third of Bam's 80,000 inhabitants. The tremor, which registered 6.6 on the Richter scale, reduced the entire city to rubble. Tens of thousands of residents are homeless.

The Alabama volunteers supplied more than 900 meals a day to survivors living in a refugee camp outside the city. Plans are in place to increase that capacity so more than 2,000 meals a

day can be provided.

Volunteers also are providing water and medical assistance and distributing sleeping bags, blankets, clothing, and other goods. They have identified reconstruction needs, including the possibility of building an orphanage. More than 1,200 children have been left without any living relative. Other relief possibilities may include constructing a temporary school and earthquake-resistant houses or providing child-

care and counseling.

"The devastation here is far worse than I thought," said Henry Brady, 76, a disaster relief volunteer from Robertsdale, Ala. "Each time I had an opportunity to see the city or a neighborhood, I just broke down and cried. It brings up a lot of emotion of compassion and hurt, and you only wish you could have come sooner to help."

"We have the luxury of going home in 14 days," added Bob Ewing, 38, a volunteer from Saraland, Ala. "These people have to be here for the rest of their lives. It breaks your heart. It is impossible for us not to take things for granted until we live in a place like this." □

CLASSIFIED

MINISTRIES — MUSIC

Oak Street Baptist Church is prayerfully seeking a part-time minister of worship. Applicants must meet biblical qualifications for leadership and have necessary skills to lead corporate worship through contemporary and traditional music with choir, vocal, and instrumental ensembles. Resumes or inquiries by 2-8-04 to Search Committee, 804 Oak Street, Elizabethton, TN 37643.

Seeking part-time minister of music. Send resume to Hillcrest Baptist Church, 410 S. Liberty Hill Rd., Morristown, TN 37813.

Growing church seeking a part-time or bivocational minister of music with experience in leading worship and choirs. Send resume to Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 114 West Main St., Newbern, TN 38059.

MINISTRIES — PASTOR

First Baptist Church of Bluegrass is seeking a senior pastor. Please submit your resume to the Pastor Search Committee at 1907 Ebenezer Rd., Knoxville, TN 37922.

Prospect Baptist Church, a SB church in West Tennessee, is accepting resumes for a full-time pastor. Please submit resume to Tim Runions, Pastor Search Committee Chairman, 294 Col Circle, Hollow Rock, TN 38342.

Growing new church seeks full-time minister for music and education. Send resume to Faith Haven Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1528, Shelbyville, TN 37162.

Ballwin Baptist Church in West St. Louis County seeking full-time associate pastor of singles/college/evangelism. Send resume to 15101 Manchester Rd., Ballwin, MO 6301. Attn: Personnel Committee. E-mail: ballwinb@swbell.net, fax: (636) 227-3438.

DIRECTOR OF MISSIONS

Powell River Missionary Baptist Association of Lee County, Virginia, is seeking a director of missions. Anyone who is interested in this position, please send a resume to DOM Search Committee, P.O. Box 22, Jonesville, VA 24263. Deadline is Jan. 30, 2004.

Mobile Baptist Association is currently receiving resumes for the director of missions position. Send to Mobile Baptist Association, Attn: Personnel Committee, DOM, 616 Azalea Rd., Mobile, AL 36609.

New Lower Rates For Term Life Insurance!

Low, low non-smoker monthly cost (male)

Age	\$150,000	\$300,000
25	\$11.08	\$13.39
35	\$11.35	\$13.91
45	\$19.76	\$30.45
55	\$42.45	\$73.24
65	\$103.46	\$194.78

Please call The Insurance Store (Knoxville, Tenn.) Toll Free 1-800-583-0970, 9-9 Mon.-Sat.

Level premiums that do not increase for the first 15 years. Written by an A+ life insurance company. Preferred Male rates illustrated above. Please call for other ages and Female rates.

Alaska Cruise

You are invited to join our Christian Life Tours group on a 7-day Inside Passage & Glacier cruise June 4-11 with optional land tour. Enjoy Alaska with other Christians at the best prices. For brochures or to make a reservation, call (877) 557-0073 (toll free). OK to leave a message.

Mission Teams Needed

Coastal Empire Ministries of the Savannah Baptist Association needs MISSION TEAMS WHO ARE ON FIRE FOR THE LORD TO DO ministry from Jan.-Aug. 2004. Opportunities include, ministry to homeless, incarcerated, multi-housing, resort, sports, inner city BBC. Look at our web site www.sbassociation.org or call Martha at (912) 354-5831.

15-Passenger Van Safety is Big News these Days!

LifeWay has the solution—a 15-passenger mini-bus that meets Federal safety standards.



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- Longer Wheelbase
- Dual Rear Wheels
- Steel Construction

SERIOUS CONCERNS

- How much financial liability can your church bear?
- Insurance rates are going up!
- Legal Advisers are saying, "Remove the last row of seats!"
- Some states have already put mandatory replacement deadlines in action!
- Charitable Organizations and Child Transportation Businesses are at Risk!

- Call us: 1-800-370-6180
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FAX: 434-822-2210 Steeples
P.O. Box 2250 • Danville, Virginia 24541

CLASSIFIED

MINISTRIES — EDUCATION

We are now accepting resumes for the full-time position of minister of education/associate pastor in a mid-sized suburban church. Send resume to Alice Bell Baptist Church, 3305 Alice Bell Rd., Knoxville, TN 37917, Attn: Search Committee.

MINISTRY — POSITIONS

First Baptist Church of Hendersonville has three new positions open in the preschool department. These are part-time (approximately 20 hours), salaried positions working with babies, ones and twos, and threes through pre-K. Job descriptions, experience/education expectations, and employment applications are available by request from Gwen Sanders at gsanders@fbchn.org.

MINISTRY — STUDENTS

The First Baptist Church of Somerville, Tenn., is seeking God's person to fill a ministry position as associate pastor for students and activities. This full-time staff member will plan and coordinate ministries for children and youth along with oversight of all activities in the Christian activities center. FBC Somerville is an active and growing congregation with an average attendance of around 400. Those interested need to send a resume by the end of January to Carlton Morris, Personnel Committee Chairman, First Baptist Church, 12685 S. Main St., Somerville, TN 38068.

UNION UNIVERSITY PRESENTS

baptist identity?

THE MOST SIGNIFICANT CONFERENCE YOU COULD ATTEND IN 2004

FEATURING



Morris H. Chapman, David S. Dockery, R. Albert Mohler, Jr., L. Russ Bush III, Voddie Baucham, James Leo Garrett, Jr., Richard D. Land, Stan Norman, Sam Shaw, Gregory A. Wills



Co-sponsored by Carl F.H. Henry Center for Christian Leadership and R.G. Lee Center for Christian Ministry
April 5 and 6, 2004
\$50/person (includes meals)

Register online uu.edu/events/baptistidentity or call 731.661.5160

minister's corner

by Gene Wilder

They're everywhere. No less than nine are in my house. One resides in my palm pilot. In my office three of them silently stare at me from the counter behind my desk. One encircles my wrist and goes with me everywhere I go. Another one stares at me from the dashboard of my car. Clocks — they're everywhere, silent sentries of the minutes and hours that measure the days of my life.

Though I try to escape, too often I find myself a prisoner to these ticking devices, incarcerated by the constraint of their 60-second increments. Time is my master and a cruel master at that. Time dictates when I rise, when I sleep, when I eat, and even when I use the bathroom. If I am not productive, master time burdens me down with new levels of stress. Sometimes this cruel taskmaster reminds me of the Pharaoh of Egypt who required the children of Israel to make bricks without straw. I can't begin to count the number of brick deadlines I've missed without the straw to meet them.

As this year begins most of us talk about what we are doing with our time, but perhaps we ought to consider what time will be doing with us. Lest we forget, we do not control time. Time controls us, and what will time do with us? Time will age some of us prematurely. For others, time will bring on new health problems. Time will cause some of us to get speeding tickets or to collide with other time-weary motorists. When time puts on its pressure we will come cranky with family members and friends. Clocks, those little ticking machines that look so innocent are often tormentors in disguise.

The Bible has an interesting view of time. The apostle Paul in Ephesians encourages us "to redeem the time." Like money is to spending, time is the currency of our lives. It holds true value only as we use it wisely. If we do not redeem our time, our time will not redeem us.

The gospel is good news to those of us who are time's unwilling prisoners. For people of faith, there is a final reward. While the Bible depicts our eternal rewards with streets of gold and crowns of glory, I look forward to something more significant.

I look forward to being freed from time. Let someone else have the streets of gold. Just give me a place without the clocks, a place where the constraints of time are redeemed into the freedom of eternity. □ — Wilder is pastor of First Baptist Church, Jefferson City.

just for today

by Fred Wood, retired pastor, Memphis

Start with a Smile: Myrtle (to her daughter-in-law): "I wish you and John would move closer to us. You could come over every day and help with the baby. There's a nice apartment right down the street from us." Daughter-in-law: "We like where we are. One day, when it's close to my husband's work. Two, the rent is reasonable. Three, we like the neighborhood. It would have lots of friends there." Myrtle: "But it's so close to ME!" Daughter-in-law (under her breath): "That's reason number four!"

Take this Truth: High fences make good neighbors. Distance does the same.

Memorize this Scripture: *Better to live on a corner of the roof than to share a house with a quarrelsome wife.* — Proverbs 25:24, NIV (or a quarrelsome husband, Solomon)

Pray this Prayer: Lord, help me to be the kind of person others enjoy being near. □

Funding missions in Tennessee and around the world!



God works in His time

By Bill Sims

Focal Passage: 1 Samuel 26:7-11, 17-25

After the 1988 Winter Olympics, a television show featured a group of blind skiers being trained for slalom skiing. Paired with sighted skiers, the blind skiers were taught on the flats how to make right and left turns. When that was mastered, they were taken to the slalom slope where sighted partners skied beside them shouting, "Left!" and "Right!" As they obeyed the commands, they were able to negotiate the course and cross the finish line, depending solely on the sighted skiers' word. This was either complete trust or utter catastrophe.

God is waiting on His children to listen to His tender voice. Life has moments that present crucial decisions. These moments must be bathed in completely waiting to hear from God. God is waiting to be our guide. All we need is faith to accept His truth.

Embrace God's timing
(vv. 7-11)

David wants to go into the camp of Saul, in the midst of these 3,000 men. David asks, "Who will go with me?" Abishai, David's nephew says, "I'll go!" He demonstrates great courage and faith. He becomes one of the greatest warriors in David's army. David and Abishai enter into the camp and all are sleeping. Three thousand men surround Saul and

his spear is stuck in the ground by his head where he can retrieve it immediately.

Saul was closed in but he was wide open for attack. He was surrounded by guards, but unguarded. His impenetrable defenses were penetrated. Abishai wants Saul dead, but David gives an emphatic "No!" This is the second opportunity for David to kill Saul. David determined to trust God and not get ahead of the Lord. David would not harm the king. Instead he takes the spear and the jug of water. Remember the spear was the symbol of authority, power, and even death. The water jug was a symbol of life. Saul was about to learn he had lost both authority and life.

Evaluate actions
(vv. 17-20)

David has entered the camp without detection. When David is a safe distance away, he calls out to the people, especially Abner. Abner is the king's general and responsible for Saul's safety. This was a very embarrassing moment for Abner. David was showing Saul who his real friends were. Was it the man who slept or the man (David) who spared his life? In verse 18 David asks, *What have I done wrong?* David, regardless of everything, is still respectful to Saul.

Then David sought a spiritual question in verse 19, *If it is the Lord who has incited you against me?* David was seeking and revealing humility. David revealed that Saul's ac-

Be wise about family

By Sam Creed

Focal Passage: Proverbs 24:3-4

It can't be stressed enough that the family is critically important for all areas of our culture. Neither can it be stressed enough that practical biblical wisdom will strengthen relationships between husband and wives, and their children. Single adults can also profit from the wisdom of the Book of Proverbs.

God ordained the home. He sanctifies marriage. He blesses the family and home with the gift of children. God intends the home to be a sanctuary from a hostile world, and furthermore the home is divinely intended to fulfill our lives. Long before there was a church building, giant skyscrapers, even before there were cities, the home existed, fashioned by God.

The home is a cornerstone. A man and woman joined together before God, become one, and God endows them with the potential for fulfillment and happiness and success. Furthermore, He promises real happiness, success, and fulfillment to the man and woman who remain faithful to each other, their children, and to their Creator God.

Our houses may not make the cover of *Better Homes and Gardens*, in fact, they may be just ordinary. But, if we husbands and wives love each other, if our children can trust us and be glad to obey their parents, if laughter rings through the rooms and the family looks forward to being together as a family, then we are immeasurably rich.

The greatest threat to peace and safety in America may not altogether be ideologies, governments, or terrorism. As a culture, we cannot survive the disintegration of the home. One of Satan's chief terrorist attacks is the destruction of the family, and he has the tools to destroy in the name of contentiousness, selfishness, quarreling, liquor, cheating, and ignorance of practical biblical wisdom regarding the home. These are just a few of Satan's weapons of mass destruction. Add to this abuse, adultery, quality time instead of a home building quantity of quality time, irresponsible indebtedness, etc., and the home fires are quickly extinguished.

Thankfully, on the other hand, God can make our homes what we have always wanted them to be. However, His instructions must be followed. If God's instructions are ignored, disaster awaits. If God's wisdom is followed the result will be a harvest of joy that worldly standards cannot offer.

Husbands, the Bible gives us an awesome gift: *A man who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the Lord* (Proverbs 18:22). Implicit in this awesome gift is an awesome responsibility: *Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loves the Church and gave Himself for it* (Ephesians 5:25). The Bible requires wives to honor their husbands, however that honor cannot be demanded or legislated, it can only be generated by a sincere love and devotion ... *as Christ also loves the Church...* Read I Corinthians 13, which tells us love is patient, kind,

Sunday School Lesson
Family Bible Series
Jan. 25

tions of vengeance were needless. Saul was on a hunt that had no motive and no means of glorifying the Lord

Experience God's timing
(vv. 21-25)

Saul finally admits, "I have sinned." Saul realized that the hunt for David, the hate for David was all evil. This relationship between Saul and David was not of God. David responded to Saul with honor and respect. David has nothing to be ashamed of, for he has acted properly. David had every opportunity to kill Saul, but refused and set forth a testimony that honors God. Finally, Saul honors David's integrity and they return to their own place. This will be the final time these two men will ever meet. David reveals honor and he lived by holy principles.

God's timing is always best. We may not fully understand, therefore we must trust and obey. God alone knows the perfect time and solution for every believer. Our part is to walk in His holy Word, and believe He is able.

Dear Lord, guide me today, guard my every thought, and gently take my hand and lead me as you will. Lord, I trust you. You know best. Amen. — Sims is pastor of First Baptist Church, Union City.

Sunday School Lesson
Explore the Bible
Jan. 25

does not envy, is not arrogant, and endures all things.

The relationships of the home are two-way streets: *Every wise woman builds her house, but a foolish one tears it down with her own hands* (Proverbs 14:1). It is an understatement to say wives and mothers play a critical key role in a family. Biblical wisdom shouts above the din and commotion of the noisy street that wives must relate wisely to their husbands and families.

Finally, we must relate responsibility to our children.

His fellow sixth graders called a young boy, "Ozzie Rabbit." This young man complained to his mother who herself continually belittled him, but she said that the name "Ozzie Rabbit" fit him. He was, after all, skinny and weak, and he had big ears. Perhaps that is where it all began. This young man ended up by murdering an American President. The boy teased as "Ozzie Rabbit" was Lee Harvey Oswald. Parent's words to their children can be fountains or a sewer line.

The basic values of our children are learned informally in the home. Parents constantly need to evaluate the example they are setting, the way they give instructions and guidance, and how they administer discipline. *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own understanding.* □ — Creed is pastor of First Baptist Church, Ashland City.

Leaders

◆ **Charles Nored**, Baptist Collegiate Ministry director, Middle Tennessee State University, for 18 years, has been called as BCM director, Motlow State Community College, Tullahoma, and the University of the South, Seawanee. He was honored by Concord Baptist Association, based in Murfreesboro, Jan. 11 at the BCM center at MTSU.



NORED

◆ **Robert Hammer**, director of missions, ALPHA Baptist Association, based in Centerville, was called as pastor, Eastside Baptist Church, Burns, effective Dec. 15. Hammer served the association for three years. Previously he was a church planter based in Franklin. Hammer was pastor of Eastside Church from 1990-2000.



HAMMER

◆ **Paul Medley**, former pastor, First Baptist Church, Jasper, was called as pastor, First Baptist Church, Dunlap, Jan. 4. Medley is a member of the Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board.

◆ Buffalo Baptist Church,

Hurricane Mills, has called **Tom Jenhzen** as pastor.

◆ **Don Cusic**, music business professor, Belmont University, Nashville, has written *Baseball and Country Music*.

◆ **Carol Spurlin Pipes**, daughter of Jerry and Nancy Spurlin of Tullahoma and former member of First Church, Tullahoma, is managing editor of *On Mission*, a publication of the North American Mission Board, Alpharetta, Ga.

◆ First Baptist Church, Humboldt, has called **Steve Babcock** as minister of education.

◆ **Pat Van Dyke** has served as minister of music/associate pastor of praise and worship, First Baptist Church, Clarksville, for 10 years.

Churches

◆ **First Baptist Church, Calhoun**, will hold Fab February. On Feb. 1 Baptist Men's Day will be held. On Feb. 6-8 a couple's retreat and family emphasis will be led by Scott Thomas, pastor, Beaver Dam Baptist Church, Knoxville, and Robert J. Burns. On Feb. 14 will be a Senior Adult Valentine Banquet and Youth Sunday will be Feb. 15. Harold Howard, a veteran, will speak on Feb. 22 at a patriotic service. And on Feb. 29 Robert Smith will speak at the evening service and the Lord's Supper will be observed at the morning service to focus on Feasting at the Lord's Table. For more information, contact



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, CLIFTON, dedicated its new fellowship hall recently on the 49th anniversary of the church. **ABOVE** Donnie Craig, pastor, stands with charter members of the church. They are, from left, Robbin Jones, Frances Boroughs, Ruth and Bob Hime, Hazel Warren, Crae Larry Prater, Betty Stricklin, Gladys Bateman, Shirley Kelley, Louise Davison, and David Kelle. **BELOW** Craig cuts the ribbon to the fellowship hall with help of the director of missions and deacons of the church. They are Grayford Franks; Bob Hime; David Miller, director of missions, Indian Creek Baptist Association, based in Waynesboro; Dee Pulley; Craig; Jason Holder; Wallace Holder and Kyle Wishert Sr.

Barry A. Purser, pastor, at brother_barry@bellsouth.net or (423) 336-2957.

◆ **Valley View Baptist Church, Inglewood, Nashville**, will hold a revival Jan. 25 with Henry Linginfelter, evangelist of Alcoa, speaking. Worship will be held at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.

◆ **Northside Baptist Church, Murfreesboro**, will host Steve Green in concert Jan. 29 at 7 p.m. Green has won four Grammy nominations and won six Dove awards. Tickets are \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door. For more information, call the church at (615) 896-6440.

Associations

◆ **Stewart County/Truett/Judson Baptist Association**, based in Dover, will hold a Joint Evangelism Conference Feb. 9 at Sylvia Baptist Church, Dickson. The meal will begin at 6 p.m. and conference at 7 p.m.



◆ **Beulah Baptist Association**, based in Union City, will hold its Associational Evangelism Rally Feb. 26 at Sunswept Baptist Church, Union City. Jerry Essary, former director of missions who now of the Tennessee Baptist Convention staff will speak along with Chuck Kelly, president, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. For more information, contact the association at bbaptist@beulahbaptistassociation.com, (731) 885-2151, or 1-800-887-2151.

Holston Valley Baptist Association team builds church in Venezuela

For Baptist and Reflector

ROGERSVILLE — A 19-member team of Holston Valley Baptist Association based here recently built a church building in Valera, Venezuela. Sixteen members were from association churches — Burem Baptist Church, Rogersville; First Baptist Church, Surgoinsville; Kyles Ford Baptist Church, Kyles Ford; Maple

Hill Baptist Church, Rogersville; First Baptist Church, Rogersville; Ridgeview Baptist Church, Church Hill; and Lyons Park Baptist Church, Church Hill. Three team members were from out of state.

The Venezuelan congregation had outgrown the carport area of a former missionary home, reported Denny Sorah, who led the effort. Sorah, a member of First Baptist Church, Sur-

goinsville, has served in Venezuela 30 times and on a total of 69 overseas mission efforts.

The team built a two-story structure with classrooms on the first floor and a sanctuary on the second floor. Before the team left, two services were held in the building.

Two pastors on the team preached to the congregation. Glen Bradley, pastor, Kyles Ford Baptist Church, and Ronnell Owensby, retired pastor of North Carolina spoke. Owensby is

former pastor, First Baptist Church Rogersville; former chair of the association's missions committee; and former missionary to Venezuela.

The team saw 10 Venezuelans make professions of faith.

The association provided \$32,000 to buy the needed building materials.

"Because of the tremendous hardships recently in Venezuela the local church was not able to come up with the full amount they had set for their part of the goal but the Lord was faithful and provided sufficiently," Sorah reported. □



MEMBERS OF THE TEAM from Holston Valley Baptist Association, based in Rogersville, stand in front of the church they built recently. They are, from left, front row, Vernon Cinnamon, Denny Sorah who led the effort, Dale Seal, Doug West, Bill Arms, Obidiah Bailey of Florida, and Peggy McLain; back row, Roy Bradley, Linda House of Texas, Lynn West, Anthony Crawford, Paul Greene, Glen Bradley, Roger Smith, Norman Cinnamon, Ray Thompson, Tammy Thompson, Ronnell Owensby of North Carolina, and Sam McLain.



THREE VENEZUELANs who participated in the project wave from the roof. Two of them made professions of faith during the project. The other man made a commitment to God on a previous trip of the association.