

# Baptist & Reflector

Wide Edition

Telling the Story of Tennessee Baptists

Vol. 170/No. 35; Sept. 22, 2004

## Tennesseeans organized to collect food for victims

and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — Tennessee Baptist associations and churches have been organized to supply food boxes for victims of Hurricanes Frances and Ivan, who struck the Gulf Coast of Florida, and for victims of Hurricane Ivan, who struck the Gulf Coast of Florida, and for victims of Hurricane Frances, Frances, and Ivan, who struck the Gulf Coast of Florida, and for victims of Hurricane Frances, Frances, and Ivan, who struck the Gulf Coast of Florida.

They should be packed in a 14"x14"x14" box. The boxes are available at I-Mart Super Stores.

Items needed are three cans of beef stew (15 oz.); three cans of corn (15 oz.); three cans of fruit (15 oz.); one box of cereal (20 oz.); one box of dry milk (2 lbs.); one box of dry rice (20 lbs.); three cans of dry, pinto, or black beans (15 oz.); three cans of tomato sauce (15 oz.); two pounds of Maseca (cornmeal popular among Hispanics); five pounds of sugar; Gatorade dry mix (2 gals.); one jar of butter (18 oz.); one jar of peanut butter (18 oz.); and snack food for 10 people.

For more information, contact the Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief office at 1000 Belmont University Drive, Nashville, TN 37203, or call (615) 259-1234. For more information, contact the Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief office at 1000 Belmont University Drive, Nashville, TN 37203, or call (615) 259-1234.

## Education Committee seeks meeting with Belmont trustees; Board proposes same budget as this year

By Lonnie Wilkey  
Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — Members of the Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board considered the matter of a proposed covenant presented to them by Belmont University during their Sept. 14 meeting at the Baptist Center and adopted a proposed budget for 2004-05.

Among other matters, board members also elected new officers, adopted two new partnerships that will begin in 2006, pending approval from TBC messengers at their annual meeting in November, and approved an extension for Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes "Called to Care" campaign.

### Belmont covenant

On Sept. 13 a special meeting of the Board's Education Committee was held to discuss the proposed covenant which Belmont President Robert Fisher presented to James Porch, TBC executive director on Sept. 7.

The covenant proposal, which was in response to a May action of the Board's Budget and Program Committee, basically takes away the convention's current responsibility of electing trustees for the university and would allow for non-Baptist trustees (see Sept. 15 issue).

The Education Committee voted unanimously to "invite the board of trustees of Belmont University to meet with the Education Committee for the purpose of mutually clarifying the implications of the proposed covenant of affiliation between Belmont University and the Tennessee Baptist Convention."

"We want to meet with the board of trustees to discuss the covenant of affiliation and to see what understanding we can



**ELECTED** officers of the TBC Executive Board were, from left, Lynn King, pastor, Hillcrest Baptist Church, Dyersburg, president; Beth Duke, First Baptist Church, Smithville, secretary; and Clay Austin, pastor, First Baptist Church, Blountville, vice president.

come to," King told the *B&R*.

At the full meeting of the Executive Board the next day, an executive session was called to discuss the Belmont proposal.

Non-board members, including the *Baptist and Reflector* staff, were asked to leave that portion of the meeting.

Executive Board President Leonard Markham told the *Baptist and Reflector* that "because most of our Executive Board members were receiving the information for the first time," he called the board into executive session "to receive the proposal, share vital information, and allow board members to ask questions relevant to this matter."

The *B&R* received a copy of the motion approved by board members after the meeting.

The motion called for the Executive Board to "affirm the Education Committee in discussion with Belmont University in the resolution of this matter" and for the

Board to "initiate a prayer vigil for Belmont University beginning today (Sept. 14) and lasting until the January 2005 Executive Board meeting."

The motion also noted that the "Executive Board requests that no recommendations or motions be made concerning Belmont University until the January 2005 Executive Board meeting, with the exception of recommendations and actions to continue and enhance a good faith relationship between the Executive Board and Belmont University."

The motion further stated that the Board "humbly invite and lovingly request the Belmont University family join it in seeking God's will for the university during this season of extensive prayer."

Markham said the Board is "committed to carefully studying the document and responding to Belmont University with the seriousness necessitated by a request from a family member."

"I was impressed by the sensitivity and graciousness of the Executive Board as we work and pray for God's guidance," he added.

Vern Powers of First Baptist Church, Nashville, also noted the positive spirit of Executive Board members as they sought to deal with the covenant proposal.

Powers said the committee expressed love, appreciation, and gratitude for Belmont and "a desire for continued discussion that will result in a stronger partnership" with the educational institution.

Porch stressed that "at this point, Belmont University has not made a decision to disassociate itself or realign itself in any way with the Tennessee Baptist Convention."

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## From Bellevue

### Rogers to retire, will continue other ministries

Baptist and Reflector

CORDOVA — Adrian Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in suburban Memphis, announced his retirement Sept. 12 as pastor of the 27,000 member congregation on his 73rd birthday.

Rogers is arguably one of the most recognizable names in Southern Baptist life.

He is seen nationwide on his Love Worth Finding ministry which can be seen on more than 14,000 broadcast and cable television outlets and heard on nearly 2,000 radio stations and translators. In addition, he has authored numerous books.

Rogers will continue the Love Worth Finding ministry, a separate entity from the church.

Rogers served three years as president of the Southern Baptist Convention. He was elected in 1979, the year cited by many as the beginning of the conservative resurgence within the convention. He did not run for reelection in 1980, but was elected president of the convention again in 1986 and 1987.

The Florida native served as

chairman of the Baptist Faith and Message Study Committee, which revised Southern Baptists' statement of beliefs. Messengers at the 2000 annual meeting in Orlando, Fla, adopted the revisions.

Rogers read a letter to Bellevue members in which he thanked the congregation for their love and support. He noted: "Never have I asked you to do anything in the name of Jesus that you did not endeavor to do. Never did I have a need that you did not endeavor to meet."

He emphasized that he was retiring only as pastor of Bellevue. "I will not retire from the ministry until I draw

my last breath."

Rogers, who has had heart problems in recent years, emphasized his health was not "a factor in this decision."

"I thank God for my recovery and growing vitality and hope for many good years ahead."

Rogers said he and his wife, Joyce, will continue to live in Memphis and attend Bellevue. In addition to the Love Worth Finding ministry, Rogers plans to stay busy with the recently established Adrian Rogers Pastor Training Institute and teaching at Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary in nearby Germantown.

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ROGERS

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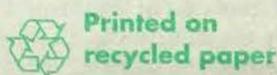
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## LifeWay trustees adopt record budget for 2005

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — LifeWay trustees on Tuesday adopted a record 2005 operating budget of \$446 million and approved a significant investment in the company's conference centers to fast-track their revitalization efforts.

LifeWay expects record revenues this year of \$427.5 million, \$13.2 million more than last year but \$21 million short of budget, Chief Operating Officer Ted Warren told trustees during their semiannual meeting at LifeWay Ridgcrest Conference Center near Asheville, N.C. The fiscal year ends Sept. 30.

"The fact that we plan to achieve record revenues is good news," said Warren, "yet every one of our divisions' revenues will come in below budget. That means we've had less than a successful year."

Still, he cited major accomplishments in 2004, including the introduction of the Holman Christian Standard Bible, which in a few short months has become one of the best-selling Bibles in the United States, and LifeWay's commitment of \$1.6 million to help 13 Baptist state conventions and one association double baptisms in 2005.

For the coming fiscal year, Warren said all LifeWay divisions have plans for revenue growth. But along with that are increased expenses as the LifeWay Christian Stores division plans to add new stores, and the church resources and Broadman & Holman divisions will add staff. These factors will require LifeWay to execute its business plan with precision.

"The 2005 budget is based on what we believe to be an achievable revenue target of \$446 million, which assumes a continued recovery in the economy," said Warren. "The revenue budget reflects an \$18.2 million or 4.3 percent increase over 2004 projected revenue."

In 2004, funds provided from operations — money for reinvestment in ministry expansion after all expenses are paid — are expected to be \$13.4 million, or 3.1 percent of revenue, consistent with LifeWay's goal of financial performance. The same amount is budgeted for 2005. □

## FamilyNet cuts budget in half; lays off 19 staffers

Associated Baptist Press

FORT WORTH, Texas — Nineteen employees of the Southern Baptist broadcasting network learned Sept. 9 their jobs were eliminated as part of a major cost-cutting move that reduces the FamilyNet annual operating budget more than half — from \$8.5 million to \$4 million.

The layoff reduces the work

## Tennessee disaster relief serving in Alabama, Florida; more volunteers sought

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief is serving at Atmore Baptist Church, Atmore, Ala., and at Immanuel Baptist Church, Pace, Fla., and plans to deploy more teams, according to Lloyd Blackwell, Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief coordinator.

Available recovery teams and chaplains are asked to contact the Disaster Relief Mobilization Center at 1-800-558-2090 ext. 2007.

The Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief State Feeding Unit and its support teams continue in operation at Atmore Church where it began serving Sunday, Sept. 19. The teams include the generator team from First Baptist Church, White House.

Feeding units from the Shiloh Baptist Association, Adamsville, and Cumberland Gap Baptist Association, Harrogate, began operations Monday, Sept. 20, at Immanuel Baptist Church in Pace, Fla., to help victims of Hurricane Ivan.

The State Disaster Relief Feeding Unit served over 21,200 meals from Sunday, Sept. 19 until press time on Monday, Sept. 20. Feeding units work with the American Red Cross.

In addition, the Hamilton County Baptist Association Feeding Unit, closed its operation Saturday, Sept. 18, at Brainerd Baptist Church, Chattanooga (see story, page 6).

Recovery teams, which do work such as re-

moving brush and trees from homes, served Atmore at press time were from Cumberland Baptist Association, Clarksville; Giles County Baptist Association, Pulaski; First Baptist Church of Concord, Knoxville; and Knox County Baptist Association, Knoxville.

In addition, Tennessee disaster relief work has begun in Florida, Alabama and Tennessee for eventual deployment of recovery teams to remove trees or begin flood cleanup.

Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief has been in continuous operation for 39 days since Sept. 13 with the mobilization response to Hurricane Charley.

Because of the threat of Hurricane Ivan, Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief feeding and recovery teams were placed on standby in Tennessee as the storm passed through the state on Sept. 20, according to Blackwell.

On Sept. 9, the North American Mission Board sent disaster relief units in Florida to the Atlanta Motor Speedway in Griffin, Ga., to help victims of Hurricane Ivan.

Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief is providing food boxes (see page 1) and donating help victims of the hurricanes. Donations can be sent to Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief, Tennessee Baptist Convention, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN, 37024-0728. Please designate your check to Hurricane Relief Fund. □ This article includes reporting by Marcia Knox of the Disaster Relief Missions Mobilization team.

force in Fort Worth from 66 to 47 employees at FamilyNet, a not-for-profit subsidiary of the Southern Baptist Convention's North American Mission Board.

"The financial cuts we have implemented will result in a very lean network but one that will be able to live within its revenues and have the opportunity to expand both distribution and programming as revenues grow," said Randy Singer, special assistant to mission board's president.

The eliminated salaries and benefits account for \$2.5 million in savings, and the remaining \$2 million in budget reductions come primarily from cutting contract workers, freelancers, and promotional expenses, said Marty King, director of convention relations at the board.

Responsibilities for tasks previously performed by people who lost their jobs will be reassigned to remaining employees, transferred to mission board staff in Alpharetta, Ga., or eliminated altogether.

While the cuts were "across the board" at the network, King noted in particular that production of radio programming and television documentaries "are not a part of the core programming focus."

For now, supervision of those tasks has been transferred from FamilyNet to the mission board, and their future has not yet been determined, he said.

Affected staff at FamilyNet received severance packages based on prior job responsibilities and length of service.

FamilyNet is a 24-hour television network that airs more than 50 hours of original pro-

grams each week to a potential audience of more than 32 million households. The network operates from facilities that previously housed the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission, which was eliminated in an SBC reorganization. □

## Disaster-damaged churches can get low-interest loans

Baptist Press

ALPHARETTA, Ga. — The North American Mission Board will provide low-interest loans quickly and with virtually no paperwork to Southern Baptist churches damaged by Hurricanes Charley, Frances, and Ivan, as well as other natural disasters.

"It's difficult for a church without a roof or flooded classrooms to fulfill its vision to be a worldwide mission center," NAMB President Robert E. (Bob) Reccord. "We're committed to doing everything possible with our state convention and associational partners to meet the needs of SBC churches damaged by hurricanes, floods, and other natural disasters."

Disaster relief loans up to \$10,000 will be available to SBC churches for repair of church facilities, replacement of equipment or materials, or to cover expenses while a church is displaced, said Karl Dietz, director of NAMB's church finance team.

"Applications will be simple and made over the phone with one of our church finance consultants without the need for normal financial records or for col-

lateral to secure the loan," said Reccord. □

## Most Alabamians favor display of Ten Commandments

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — A majority of people in Alabama strongly support the public display of the Ten Commandments, a new poll has found. They also think the country has received too much attention from the issue.

The issue has been prominent in the state since last year when former Chief Justice Roy S. McCallum refused to remove a Ten Commandments monument from the Alabama Supreme Court building.

An "Ask Alabama" survey conducted by Auburn University Center for Governmental Studies found that 54 percent of Alabamians "strongly support" the display of the Ten Commandments in public government buildings. Fifteen percent said they "mildly support" the displays, and just 19 percent said they "strongly or mildly oppose" them.

Though most favor the displays, 58 percent of Alabamians said the issue has received too much attention. Just 15 percent said the issue has received too little attention, according to a Sept. 7 news release from Auburn University.

Currently about 25 percent of Alabamians are alleging that Ten Commandments displays are unconstitutional government endorsement of religion are being challenged in state and federal courts.

## Carson-Springs

## Stokely Foundation gives major gift for chapel renovation

nie Wilkey  
and Reflector

REPORT — Stokely is a landmark of Carson-Springs Baptist Conference here since 1952, will be a major facelift, thanks to a major gift from the William B. Stokely Jr. Foundation.

Stokely Chapel was named in honor of the first William B. Stokely, said William Maxwell, administrative director for the Carson-Springs Baptist Convention.

According to records from the dedication service of Stokely Chapel in 1952, Stokely, who was president of the Stokely Canning Company in Newport, heard the new chapel at what was then known as Camp Car-

son. He discovered the Tennessee Baptist Convention did not have the funds to complete the renovation, Stokely told convention leaders, "Complete the stone and I will pay the bill."

Over the past 52 years the chapel has been not only a landmark of the camp, but the community as well.

"It is a landmark both spiritually and physically for those who have been here over the years and a landmark to the community," said William B. Stokely III, manager of the Stokely Foundation in Carson Springs.

Stokely, however, has taken its Stokely Chapel.

"The opening of the new hotel/conference complex in 2000 has accentuated the age of the chapel," Maxwell observed.

"The construction practices of the 1950s are starkly contrasted to the comforts expected in the 21st century," he continued.

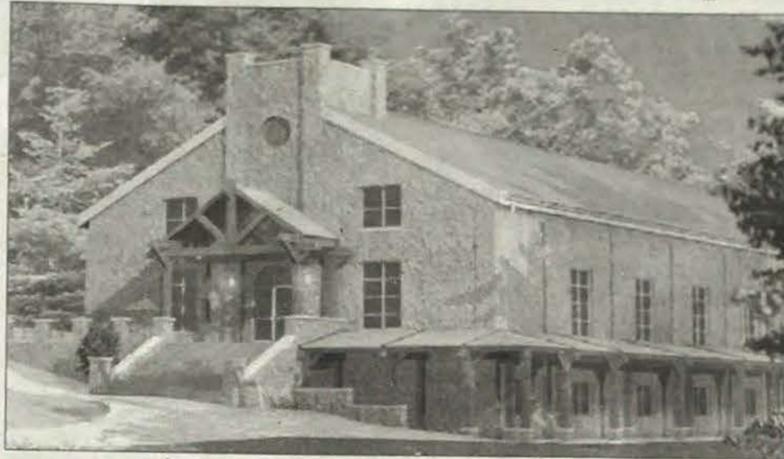
Stokely Chapel has no heating or air conditioning and extremely limited bathroom facilities, and the electrical system "is unable to accommodate the demands of the modern camping experience," Maxwell noted.

The Executive Board has approved architectural drawings for a complete renovation of Stokely Chapel which will include heating and air conditioning of the entire facility, new bathroom facilities meeting code requirements, replacement of all windows (to facilitate efficient heating and cooling), new electrical systems, new lighting systems, and an updated front entrance.

Rich Wallace, a member of First Baptist Church, Sevierville, and the Central Administrative Committee which proposed the renovation, said he was 6 years old when the chapel was first dedicated.

It's important to remember the children and adults whose lives have been changed there, Wallace said in a report to the Executive Board on Sept. 14.

"This facility, once finished,



**THE RENOVATED** Stokely Chapel of Carson Springs Baptist Conference Center, Newport, will look like this architect's rendering. The renovation plan includes a major gift from the Stokely Foundation.

will once again represent a place where people can meet the Lord for the first time or find new fellowship with Him," Wallace said.

The anticipated cost of the new renovated chapel is \$1.3 million, Wallace reported.

In addition to the Stokely gift, plans are to raise about \$250,000 in gifts, with the remainder of the costs to come in the form of donated materials and items and volunteer labor.

Wallace asked board members to pray for four things:

- (1) Bill Brewer who will serve as on-site construction coordinator,
- (2) Multiple volunteer construction teams,

(3) donated materials and equipment, and

(4) the thousands of youth and children who will be impacted in the renovated chapel.

McKinney said the renovated chapel will provide more meeting space, especially in the winter months. The chapel is currently unable to be used in the winter due to no heating system.

This renovation "will show the churches of Tennessee our commitment to keep our facilities in top shape and to provide the best facilities that we possibly can," McKinney added.

Maxwell observed that "Stokely Chapel has seen literally thousands of spiritual deci-

sions over its 50-year history.

"This renovation will allow it to continue for another 50 years, providing the setting for children, youth, and even adults to meet the Father in a very special environment," Maxwell said.

Maxwell also expressed appreciation to the Stokely family. He and other convention leaders met with William B. Stokely III, the current head of the Foundation, and his daughter, Shelley, earlier this summer. They are members of First Baptist Church, Concord, in Knoxville.

"This gift is a testimony to the faith and commitment of a family," Maxwell said.

"What was originally built by one generation is now being renovated by another generation of Stokelys. We are so grateful that they have seen fit to invest in this renovation project.

"We hope and pray that their great generosity will be an example for others to make a contribution of their own. To complete the renovation we still need additional funding, volunteer work teams, and donated materials."

For more information on gifts to the renovated chapel, including volunteer labor, contact Mark LeMay at 1-800-558-2090, ext 2076, or Keith McKinney at 1-877-704-6336, ext. 1002. □

## Freshmen enrollment increases at all three TBC colleges

and Reflector

NTWOOD — Tennessee's three institutions of higher education all report an increase in the number of freshmen students this fall.

## At Union

Belmont University welcomed 3,959 freshmen to the Jackson campus this fall, bringing the enrollment to 2,917, compared to 2,809 last year.

In addition to a rise in the number of freshmen over the past academic year, virtually every area of the university saw an increase in enrollment.

The number of undergraduate students overall increased from 2,091 last year to 2,588 this year, while 759 graduate students registered this fall, compared to 718 last year. Overall, the increase accounts for a 4 percent increase.

The rise in enrollment figures means that more than 800 students began classes at Union this year, more than double the number of the 820-member graduating class who received diplomas in 2003-2004, the highest number in institutional history.

Union also welcomed more than 20 new faculty members to accommodate a larger student body and to keep the faculty to student ratio at 12 to one.

"We are incredibly grateful for this wonderful freshman class, record enrollment, and for a

great beginning to this academic year," President David S. Dockery said. "Our excitement over the quantitative growth is exceeded by our delight over the quality of the entire student body. The signs of growth in all areas of the campus — undergraduate and graduate — Jackson and Germantown campuses — are marks of health for the entire university."

This year's freshman class, the Class of 2008, boasts an average ACT score of 25 and an average high school grade point average of 3.52. The class also includes six National Merit Finalists, bringing the campus total to more than 20. Thirty-eight students were either valedictorian or salutatorian of their class, and 36 percent were in the top 10 students of their graduating high school class.

Forty-four states and 36 countries are represented in Union's student body. In addition to Tennessee, the top states for Union freshmen include Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Illinois, Kentucky, Maryland, Minnesota, Missouri, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio, and Texas.

## At Carson-Newman

Carson-Newman College opened its 2004 fall semester by welcoming 451 freshmen to the Jefferson City campus.

The new freshmen figures account for a 19 percent increase over last year, and the

college's student population totals 2,054.

"There are in fact more freshmen here this year than have been in a fall class in more than 10 years," said C-N President James Netherton.

"That news, combined with the endorsement of U.S. News and World Report of Carson Newman as a 'Best Value' and the PrincetonReview.com's citation that we are one of their Best in the Southeast institutions, tells us that we are on the right track. This is a foretaste of what can be with continued hard work."

One of the areas that has seen a population jump this fall is C-N's nursing division. In 2002 the department served 80 students within the program. This year there are over 200 majors.

"There is a nursing shortage all over the United States," observed division dean Patty Kraft, adding that Tennessee residents will feel the full effect of the deficit in the next couple of years.

As the news has trickled out to the general public, it has led nursing to become a strong career choice for both males and females. "We also have a lot of people coming in with other degrees and from other jobs who want to pursue a nursing career."

While Carson-Newman draws its student population

from more than 40 states and 25 foreign countries, the majority come from Tennessee.

More than 60 percent of the C-N student body is Baptist, and more than 40 percent of the overall population of students are members of Tennessee Baptist churches.

## Belmont reports

Belmont University has set another school record for fall enrollment, with 3,959 students enrolled as of Aug. 31.

While the enrollment total is not yet finalized, enrollment is up by 330 students over fall 2003, a 9 percent increase, and nearly 1,000 students over fall 2000, a 33 percent increase.

The 730-student freshman class, larger than last fall by 100 students, is "the latest validation that Belmont University has the right vision for its future," said Robert Fisher, president of the university.

"Belmont University is on a roll. The abilities of our incoming freshman and our rapidly rising enrollment show we are on the right track."

University Provost Dan McAlexander said the freshman class is "the biggest and the best" freshman class in school history.

"Belmont set a goal of reaching 4,000 in enrollment by the fall of 2007, and while we're well on the way to achieving that goal early, the most impor-

tant thing is we're doing it by attracting not just more students, but more students who are more highly academically qualified," McAlexander said.

Examples include:

Six percent of freshmen are either the valedictorian or salutatorian of their high school graduating class. There are 31 valedictorians and 11 salutatorians.

Thirty-six percent ranked in the top 10 percent of their high school graduating class, up from 34 percent last year.

The average ACT score for the 2004 freshman class is 25, and the range of ACT scores for the middle 50 percent of freshmen, 23-28, is up from 22-27 last year.

Belmont's fall 2003 enrollment was 3,629. Enrollment in fall 2000 was 2,976, for a three-year growth rate of 22 percent.

By comparison, the Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities Association, a group of 36 private institutions that includes Belmont, reported total enrollment up 9 percent over the same period. And the Tennessee Higher Education Commission reported enrollment grew just 1.1 percent at the state's 51 public institutions of higher learning over the same three-year period. □ — Article based on reports from each of the school's news and information offices.

# 'Thanks be to God' who gives victory, even in times of loss

guest  
columnist

By Don Garner

Across the first several weeks of this school year, our beloved Carson-Newman College campus community has been met with a stunning series of losses. Several times at the beginning of this fall semester, various students, administrators, or faculty members have received news of the death of someone very close to them.

Since these very painful and very public losses have arrived one after the other in very quick succession, they seem to have had a cumulative effect on our campus. And for some persons among us, the sense of loss is so keen, and the resulting sadness is so deep, that the experience has been almost overwhelming. "When is it going to end?" exclaimed one student soon after hearing the most recent sad report of yet two other students' tragic loss of two dear family members in the same traffic accident.

## Accepting life as a gift

It may seem strange to meet the sad occasions of the loss of life with the seemingly out of place and "ill-timed" notion of the gift of that very same life.

But because the life of one we cherish is just as unspeakably precious as any priceless gift possibly could be, we miss it terribly when it is lost. Thus, even in the face of the loss of a special loved one, we can celebrate his/her earlier presence in our lives as a genuine gift and blessing to us.

Perhaps a deeply meaningful time to celebrate the gift in its fullest measure is when we are measuring the deep void that its absence has left behind. Certainly any celebration will be mixed with our sadness. But thanking God for His gift of a loved one's life can go a long way in preserving us from a temptation toward bitterness over losing that person.

In his classic book about painfully honest grief entitled *Tracks of A Fellow Struggler*, pastor John Claypool wrote about the death to leukemia of his nine-year-old daughter. Claypool observed very simply and without complication that life is a gift and everything else flows from that fact. Though profoundly saddened by his daughter's passing from his immediate physical presence, he was capable of celebrating the singular fact that Laura Lue had come into his life at all.

In these last five years since my own son's death at age 20, I have chosen to thank God for the two decades of rich experience

and memories that I have been given rather than grow angry at God over any robbery I might imagine He has perpetrated against me. I still cry occasionally because Aaron is not with me in person. But frequently now I catch myself smiling over the legacy he left me as my inheritance from him: each day of life is special and should be prized as the rich gift that it is.

## Understanding life as mortal

Once we begin to see our life as a journey lived out in stages through a sequence of changes across time, then the last of those changes can take on a new perspective and importance. Those experts who work with dying patients nearing the end of a terminal illness seek to help them understand this simple truth: death is the final stage of life. And many of those terminally ill patients will say that they choose to live until they die rather than to die while they still are alive.

In his other wonderfully helpful book, *Mending the Heart*, fellow struggler John Claypool observed that all grief ultimately rests upon one simple fact: not enough time. An infant dies and the injustice we feel centers around the vast life potential that seems to go unrealized. A young person dies and we ask ourselves what might have been. A middle-aged adult dies and we think how he or she was just be-

ginning to live the fullness of life. An old person dies and we wish we could have enjoyed just one more visit. In every case, the pain is centered in the simple but profound reality of "not enough time."

Illness, injury, and death are directly connected with our mortality as humans. As the wise wag once put it, "only two things are certain: death and taxes." Each of those two certainties represents a price we pay in exchange for citizenship in this world. Not even our belief in God totally can insulate and protect us from the pain of loss that comes as one of the costs of our mortality.

## Centering life in faith

In the very same spirit of the Old Testament psalmist, we can face directly the stark reality of death and still we can pray with a confident faith: "Even when life's journey takes me through the darkest possible valleys of death, even there You are with me, God. And so I don't ever have to feel totally alone, utterly abandoned, completely helpless, or threatened by any ultimate defeat because You are there to guide and to comfort and to see me safely through to the other side" (Psalm 23:4, paraphrased).

Honest grief does not indicate a lack of faith in God. Even Jesus, deeply moved by His grief, wept openly following the death

of his close friend, Lazarus (11:35). While His tears were evident, so was His faith in God even in the face of death. We can do just what Jesus did with His sadness. As we experience "heavy lifting" in the very work of the grief process, at the same time we also can hold our childlike trust and faith in a loving heavenly Father.

After all, the Bible tells us unmistakably that God understands all too well the pain of our loss because God lost a son, to whom the pain over death is God's victory over death. Through the news that God's ultimate plan was extended to cancel the penalty of His Son, we have the promise and the hope in Him that one day again will be ours for all too, beyond the grave. Death's seemingly insatiable appetite to defeat us ["When will it go to end?"] will be swallowed up in God's own victory over any and all manner of grief, illness, and death (Romans 8:18-39 and I Corinthians 15:1-8, 12-26, 42-44, 50-54; Revelation 21:1-7, 22:1-5).

Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ ... even when we are in the midst of grief. Especially when we are in the midst of grief. □ — Garner is chair of the religion department at Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City.

## Education Committee seeks meeting with Belmont trustees ...

— Continued from page 1

He noted that their covenant proposal was in response to an Executive Board action earlier this year requesting all institutions to formulate a covenant with the convention.

"Admittedly, aspects of Belmont's proposal exceed the expectations and challenge the historical and honored parameters of the Education Committee and Tennessee Baptists.

"Currently, we are exploring the process to continue discussion with the university's administration and board of trustees."

Porch observed that the matter is "being conducted in a spirit of cordiality, Christian friendship, and great desire to continue our legacy of Christian witness and Christian education together.

"Our Executive Board has entered into a covenant of prayer especially for those who will be involved in these discussions.

"For over a half of a century, Belmont University has been a vital part of the Tennessee Baptist Convention and there is great desire to continue an affiliated relationship."

When contacted by the *Baptist and Reflector*, Fisher said "nothing has changed.

"We will consider their request to meet." Fisher acknowledged he is "a little worried about the pace" shown in dealing with the covenant proposal.

"The response of the Education Committee was to meet

again, and we had just met a few weeks ago.

"What I plan to do is to consult with the board and seek their direction as to the next step."

## Budget adopted

Executive Board members voted unanimously to adopt a budget of \$35,554,851 for 2004-05. The budget is the same dollar amount as the current fiscal year budget.

Roger Freeman, chairman of the Program and Budget Committee and pastor of First Baptist Church, Clarksville, said the budget was presented after much hard work and prayer.

He said the budget represents continuing efforts to prioritize evangelism and church planting in the state.

"I believe this is a win-win budget for the glory of God," he said.

Freeman expressed concern that more churches are designating funds. "We're moving back to a societal method (of giving). I pray we move back toward cooperative giving," he said.

## Officers elected

Lynn King, pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church, Dyersburg, was elected as president of the Executive Board for the coming year. He was nominated for the position by Raymond Boston, pastor of First Baptist Church, Covington.

Clay Austin, pastor of First Baptist Church, Blountville, was

elected vice president of the board. He was nominated by Larry Parrott, pastor of Pleasant View Baptist Church, Talbott.

Mary Beth Duke of First Baptist Church, Smithville, was elected without opposition as secretary. She was nominated by Laurann Whetham of Corryton Baptist Church, Corryton.

All three officers were elected without opposition.

## Partnerships approved

Two new partnerships were approved by the Executive Board. Pending convention approval in November, both partnerships will begin in 2006.

Tennessee Baptists will enter into a five year missions partnership with the Canadian Southern Baptist Seminary. Many Tennessee Baptists already have volunteered at the seminary, but background information supplied to the Executive Board noted the seminary "has never had a formal, focused partnership with a state convention."

Tennessee Baptists also will enter into a five-year relationship with the Montana Baptist Convention.

Montana is the size of Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi combined, but has a population of about 900,000. The Montana convention is comprised of about 130 churches and missions which report 12,000 total members and more than 8,000 resident members.

According to background in-

formation, about 80 percent of Montana residents are unchurched in that they have not attended a regular religious service of any kind in the past six months. The 80 percent number increases if cults are subtracted.

If approved, the year 2005 will be a time of prayer and preparation for both partnerships.

## Campaign extended

Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes asked for and received permission to extend its "Call To Care" fund-raising campaign.

The campaign to raise \$3 million was scheduled to conclude at the end of this year, but a downturn in the economy has resulted in TBAH achieving only half of its goal.

Board members voted to extend the campaign for another two years.

## Other matters

In other matters, the Executive Board approved the creation of a subsidiary corporation, Knox Area Baptist Collegiate Ministries.

The new entity, similar to others created by the Executive Board in recent months, will be responsible for collegiate ministry on the campuses of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Pellissippi State Technical Community College, Maryville College, Roane State Community College, Oak Ridge, and other campuses in the Knox County area that

might be added later.

The board of directors will be elected by the Executive Board's Church Programs Committee and will include representatives from the Executive Board, Knox County Association of Baptists, Chilhowee Baptist Association, and Clinton Baptist Association.

Dale Collins, president of Baptist Health System of Tennessee, presented a report on the financial condition of the health system which has received negative press in the Knoxville area.

He acknowledged there have been financial problems with expansion, but assured the board that those problems have been identified and are in process of being corrected.

Collins assured the board that while there have been reports to purchase the hospital, the trustees have said they do not entertain any offers for change of ownership.

The Executive Board heard reports from TBC president Mike Boyd and J. Porch, TBC executive director, and recognized four employees for years of service — Barbara Owen, communications specialist, 30 years; Charlotte Healy, Leadership Development Coordinator, five years; Garland Petty, services coordinator, 20 years; and Betsy Ingle, associate collegiate ministry specialist, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, years.

# GOTM keeps missions at the forefront in Tennessee



Donnie Wilkey, editor

nation. Because of our Baptist mindset, however, we tend to think missions has to be overseas or in another state.

Missions begins at home. Jesus met the needs of those around Him, and moved on to someone else.

Churches need to do local ministries. They need to partner with other local churches through associations and do ministry together in their community.

Through the Cooperative Program, churches in Tennessee are able to fund ministries unique to our own state, as well as join with churches across the nation for national and global ministries.

The Cooperative Program does not provide enough funds for all the ministries that are needed to reach our state for Christ. That is where the Golden Offering for Tennessee Mis-

sions plays such a vital role.

Tennessee Baptists are to be commended. Candy Phillips, our state WMU executive director, recently informed me that Tennessee Baptists gave a record amount to last year's Golden Offering — \$1,526,371.

The total, however, fell short of the \$1,625,000 goal.

Let's do all we can to exceed our giving this year through the Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions and meet that goal of \$1,625,000.

Here are just a few reasons:

(1) More than three million people in Tennessee are lost and unchurched. The Golden Offering has made starting churches a priority. We all have heard the argument, "There are too many churches already." Did you know that in Tennessee there is only one Southern Baptist church for every 1,850 people? We need more

churches in our state.

(2) Third World poverty exists in Tennessee. We may not see it in our safe world at church, but it's there. Travel up and down the Mississippi River in the West, go into mountains of Appalachia. There are still people in our state who, in the year 2004, do not have indoor plumbing. Not possible? Think again.

(3) Families, even Christian families, are breaking up today at an alarming pace. The stress of life today is tremendous. GOTM funds help provide family counseling centers in associations across the state to minister to the needs of hurting families.

The list could go on and on.

The theme of this year's Golden Offering emphasis is "Stop, Listen, Look."

We are so busy that we overlook needs around us.

Take the time to stop, then listen to the sounds around you. You may hear the cries for help from the three million or so people in our state who need to know Jesus on a personal basis. Then look. Put names with those faces who are hurting, both physically and spiritually.

Most of all, keep praying for our state convention, for the people in our state who do not know Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Savior, for families who are hurting, and the list goes on. Prayer knows no season. It must be year-round.

Also, dig a little deeper in your wallet or purse this year and help fund these ministries that receive Golden Offering dollars.

These ministries impact lives — lives that God created.

Let's make a difference in our state together! □

# Christians need to raise their level of commitment to evangelism



Jerry Essary

your life when it comes to being a witness? Are you sharing the gospel on a daily, weekly, or monthly basis? Are you building a relationship with at least one lost person to see them come to know Jesus? I encourage all pastors that are reading this article to review their level of commitment to evangelism. If it is not where it needs to be, renew your commitment and begin to model good evangelism to your congregation.

Next, lead your staff (volunteer or paid) to review their commitment to evangelism. Are they doing it? Lead your congregation to review their level of commitment to evangelism. Are they doing it? If there needs to be a deeper level of commitment, lead them to make the change now.

Acts 1:8 tells us, *But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you: and you shall be witnesses to Me ...* (NKJV). Around 15-20 years ago churches started developing teachings on discovering your spiritual gifts. Some started

teaching that if you do not have the gift of evangelism you do not have to be involved in evangelism. If I read Acts 1:8 correctly this promise is to all that believe. There are those who have been gifted in evangelism but all are to witness. We dare not use the excuse of not being gifted in evangelism to keep us from witnessing.

If we are to all be witnesses of the gospel, how do you raise the level of evangelism among the people in your church? Good question, right? When we use the word evangelism we usually scare most people to death. The reason is because they equate evangelism with knocking on doors. I believe knocking on doors still works. Every church I have ever worked in has had one to 10 people that would knock on the devils door. The rest were petrified. I then started teaching those people there are many ways to be involved in evangelism.

There are hundreds of "high-grace low-risk" ways to begin to involve people in evangelistic

activity. Steve Sjogren has written two books I would encourage you to get at this point. They are *Conspiracy of Kindness*, and *101 Ways To Reach Your Community*. In these two books he will introduce you to servanthood evangelism. These high-grace low-risk servanthood ideas will help change the level of commitment of your congregation to evangelism. These ideas will allow your congregation to learn they can make a difference in their communities for Jesus Christ.

Another good book to help you at this point is *The Church of Irresistible Influence* by Robert Lewis. You can go to [www.evangelismtacklebox.net](http://www.evangelismtacklebox.net) for more good resources. These resources will help people see the true model of evangelism in the Bible is a sow, water, harvest model. It usually takes more than one time, or one person, to see someone receive Jesus as his or her Savior and Lord. Some plant, some water, and God will give the increase. The problem we face right now

is that it takes 38 Tennessee Baptists to win one person to Christ. Begin to build things in your strategy that will lower the number of people it takes to win one person. One way is to help your congregation understand their part in the sow, water, harvest model. At any time in our lives we should be sowing, watering, or harvesting in someone's life. Equip your congregation to know how to sow, water, or harvest.

It would do us well to recall the past articles that have been written to this point. As you begin to determine your past history in evangelism, as we heighten the level of prayer in our life and the life of the church, and as we renew our commitment to evangelism we will begin to find ways to raise the level of commitment of the church to evangelism. God through the direction of the Holy Spirit will empower you and light your path. Acts 1:8. □ — Essary is evangelism specialist for the TBC Evangelism Strategies Group.

# Take care of your teeth like your life depended on it — it just might



Tamara Quintana

Researchers are finding that the infections that cause periodontal or gum disease may make patients more prone to cardiovascular disease and stroke.

Bacteria that is generally believed to be harmless in the mouth can escape into the bloodstream and wreak havoc. This is a serious problem since about 75 percent of adults over age 35 have some stage of periodontal disease in which billions of bacteria live under the gum line (Jennifer Joseph, "Don't Floss? It Could Cost You," February 16, 2001, [www.ABCNEWS.com](http://www.ABCNEWS.com)).

And not only does periodontal disease place your health at risk but if you're pregnant, your baby's health could also be at risk.

A study performed at the University of North Carolina discovered a link between gum disease in mothers and low birth weight babies. In the study, mothers with periodontal disease were seven times more likely to deliver pre-term, low birth weight infants than mothers with healthy gums ("Unhealthy Gums May Be Associated with Pre-Term, Low Birth Weight Pregnancies," Dental Zone, [\[yoursmile.com\]\(http://yoursmile.com\)\).](http://www.save-</a></p>
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So how do you know if you have gum disease? See your dentist. For most people, the symptoms of the disease are very mild. And many people have no symptoms at all. You might have slightly sore gums, but you're also likely to have little or no pain. The most noticeable indication of gum disease will likely be slight bleeding when brushing your teeth. Once the disease sets in, surgery and antibiotics may be needed to clear it up.

Of course prevention is your best bet.

People can usually avoid pe-

riodontal disease by brushing their teeth, having regular dental cleanings by a dentist, and flossing. Flossing is the real key. If you're not already flossing at least once a day, start today!

Follow your dentist's advice on ways to maintain your oral health, and take care of your teeth like your life depended on it. It just might. □ — Quintana is a graduate of All Saints Episcopal Hospital School of Vocational Nursing and the director of the employee wellness program for GuideStone Financial Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention.

know that to have a smile, you need good dental health. But did you know good dental health could help you live longer? Oral health isn't just about teeth anymore," says Marjorie Effcoat, DMD, one of the American Dental Association's experts on periodontics.

# Tennessee students share memories of Olympics ministry

By Stacy Murphree  
Baptist and Reflector

**BRENTWOOD** — Angela Scruggs will always remember her 25th birthday. She celebrated it while serving as a Baptist Collegiate Ministry (BCM) summer missionary in Greece during the same time as the Olympic games.

Scruggs is a graduate of Middle Tennessee State University and is currently pursuing a sign language interpreting degree from Nashville State Tech Community College. For the past year she has served as both a summer and semester missionary at Brentwood Baptist Deaf Church and is currently serving as the BCM State President for 2004-2005.

Scruggs along with 13 other BCM students across the United States spent 10 days in Thessaloniki, Greece building relationships with Greek nationals as well as internationals visiting for the Olympics.

"Just being there and knowing that we were not only making an impact in the lives of Greek nationals, but also in the lives of foreigners visiting the country was amazing," says Scruggs.

Other Tennessee BCM students serving on the team included Casey Parks, Austin Peay State University; Holly Knox, East Tennessee State University; and Amber Parker, Ten-

nessee Tech University. The team worked with International Mission Board missionaries, Bob and Julie Pinedas, who are from Chattanooga.

Thessaloniki is located about four hours from Athens where most of the Olympic competitions were held. Several events were held outside of Athens. The BCM group was able to attend a soccer game in which Iraq played Italy in the men's bronze medalist match.

Both Parks and Scruggs agree that building relationships was the key to their ministry time in Greece. "Talking with people and building relationships there was the foundation of our ministry," says Scruggs.

Scruggs also comments that many Greeks were eager to talk to them because it was an opportunity to practice speaking English.

"Through that open door, we would begin to talk and maybe set up a time to meet again," she says.

To build relationships, the group participated in many activities including playing sports, distributing water, and performing drama and interpretive movement.

Many times when the students met people on the street they would ask them to fill out a survey. "We would just ask people questions like where they were from and get to know them that way," says Parks.



**ANGELA SCRUGGS** of Mount Zion Baptist Church, Smyrna, passed out water at the Olympics held recently in Greece.

Much of the outreach the BCM students did was instrumental in helping the Pineda family and other long-term missionaries in Thessaloniki make contacts with the people there.

"If we discovered in a survey or with talking to someone that they wanted to learn things such as English or photography, we would connect them with the missionaries," says Scruggs.

Scruggs and Parks note that much of their ministry opportunities occurred at times when they were able to just sit in cafes and eat dinner or drink coffee with new friends they had met.

"The biggest thing is that we, as Christians, don't have to do



**TENNESSEE STUDENTS** who ministered at the summer Olympics in Greece were, from left, Angela Scruggs, Mount Zion Baptist Church, Smyrna; Casey Parks, Harpeth Heights Baptist Church, Nashville; Holly Knox, Howes Chapel Baptist Church, and Amber Parker, First Baptist Church, Tellico Plains.

anything fancy to share the good news. God is faithful and will provide opportunities for us to do so at an Olympic event or just sitting in a café," says Parks.

One interesting aspect for the students on the trip was the amount of Biblically historical places they were surrounded by such as Philippi.

"To see Biblically historical places was an experience I never really thought I'd have. To walk the same ground in which one of the early churches was established was amaz-

ing," says Scruggs. "To be at the Olympics country where it started but to be where Paul ministered is amazing. I know that I will read the books of Thessalonian Philippians in a different way now. It's neat to have a real day visual of a place," says Parks.

Nearly 50 other students served in missions this summer through the BCM summertime program in locations across Tennessee, the United States and around the world. □

## Rogers to retire from Bellevue, will ...

— Continued from page 1

Rogers will continue as pastor until next spring although a specific date was not given. The church's goal is to have a pastor in place when Rogers leaves.

Ray Newcomb, pastor, First Baptist Church, Millington, said Rogers has been a long-time friend and mentor to him. They met when the two ministers pastored churches in Florida. He recalled Rogers was "friendly, kind, and outgoing."

While in Shelby Baptist Association, based in Memphis, Rogers and Newcomb have seen each other regularly at pastors conferences of the association. Rogers has "made himself available," said Newcomb, eating a meal and visiting with pastors.

Rogers has a ministry to fellow ministers, encouraging them and talking with them one-on-one, described Newcomb.

"He has helped me through some very difficult times," said Newcomb.

It also has been a joy to pastor near Rogers and watch his "great leadership" and "God's hand" on the church and his worldwide ministry, he concluded.

Ronnie Wilburn, former director of missions of Shelby Baptist Association, said Rogers became one of his heroes after hearing him preach in 1972 at the Pastors Conference held in conjunction with the Southern

Baptist Convention annual meeting.

"I never dreamed I would be blessed to serve as his director of missions 30 years later," said Wilburn, pastor, Meridian Baptist Church, Jackson.

He "is one of Southern Baptists' greatest preachers. When history is written, he will stand out as one of the great pulpiteers of our time."

"Only eternity will reveal the number of lives his ministry has touched," observed Wilburn.

He got to know Rogers while serving in Memphis, said Wilburn. Rogers encouraged him and "supported the work of the local association." He also encouraged Wilburn while he was president of the TBC.

Danny Siquefield, pastor, Faith Baptist Church, Bartlett, said having served for the past 10 years only three miles away from Bellevue church has made it clear that "the shadow cast by Dr. Rogers is huge."

He is a "hero to an entire generation of young pastors. His love for Jesus, his loyalty to God's word, and his leadership among Southern Baptists are all part of his incredible legacy."

"The impact this man has had on Memphis and the Mid-South, not to mention the world, is awesome." He added Rogers will continue to make contributions indefinitely through his media ministries.

Siquefield noted Bellevue

"will continue to be a great church, but a man of Adrian Rogers' stature will surely be missed."

"The respect and love for his contributions are shared by literally thousands of pastors and leaders worldwide," explained Siquefield, who referred to his "amazing abilities in communicating the gospel."

"Adrian Rogers has, by God's grace, had an incredible impact for the cause of Christ from the Bellevue pulpit over the past three decades," said David Dockery, president of Union University in Jackson, where Rogers has served as a trustee.

"But his gifted preaching only tells a portion of the story. Dr. Rogers is one of those individuals with a rare combination of gifts and he has excelled as pastor, preacher, evangelist, leader, and denominational statesman," Dockery said.

James Porch, TBC executive director, said Rogers' "life and ministry combines allegiance to the Word of God with a missionary focus. When the history of the Southern Baptist Convention in the 20th century is written, he will be recognized for his leadership."

"Assuredly he will continue to be a respected model to many young pastors," said Porch. □ — Story contains reporting by Lonnie Wilkey and Connie Davis of the Baptist and Reflector and Michael Foust of Baptist Press.

## Hamilton County DR volunteers respond to flooding in state

Baptist and Reflector

**BRENTWOOD** — Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief coordinated its response to hurricanes Sept. 17, with the activation of the Hamilton County Baptist Association Feeding Unit by the American Red Cross, according to Lloyd Blackwell, Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief coordinator.

The Hamilton County Baptist Association Feeding Unit based in Chattanooga served meals to those escaping flooding by staying in an emergency shelter in Chattanooga. The feeding unit also prepared lunch on that day for emergency shelter in Rhea County. It was working out of Brainerd Baptist Church in Chattanooga.

Red Cross Emergency Response Vehicles transported meals to the shelters. The unit closed its operations on Saturday, Sept. 18.

In addition, Tennessee Baptist assessment work has been sent across the state to survey damaged counties for eventual deployment of recovery teams to remove trees or begin cleanup.

"Several Tennessee counties have been affected by flooding and wind damage," said Blackwell.

"We are checking with the counties to see where assessment work needs to be done."

Disaster relief volunteers are being deployed to Alabama and Florida. (See story on page 2). □

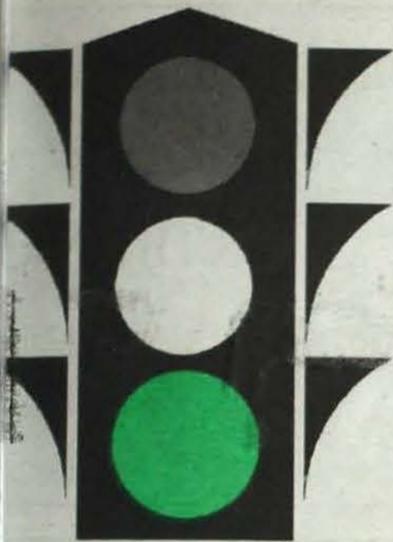
## Tennesseans asked to collect ...

— Continued from page 1

(vanilla wafers, graham crackers, etc.). Please add paper plates, plastic cups and plastic cutlery to fill box.

Drop off centers across the state for the boxes are West Chester Baptist Association, Jackson, 731-668-5690; Middle Tennessee Baptist Church, Brentwood, 615-373-2992; and Knox County Baptist Association, Knoxville, 865-693-9097. Contact the drop off centers for receiving hours. Deadline for deliveries is Oct. 3.

In addition to the food boxes, Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief is accepting donations to help hurricane victims (see page 2).



# Green Light

October 2004

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

## MAKE YOUR PLANS!!!!



TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION  
130th ANNUAL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 9-10  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, SEVIERVILLE

For more information on the program, related activities and accommodations information may be found at [www.tnbaptist.org](http://www.tnbaptist.org).

For questions? Contact Linda Estey, Executive Leadership Group, 800.558.2090, ext. 2088

### NOTICE: MESSENGERS/GUESTS RE: PARKING IN SEVIERVILLE

Parking spaces will be at a premium during the 130<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Convention at First Baptist Church, Sevierville. On Sundays, the church utilizes parking lots of the businesses around the church. However, during the Convention, these lots will be in use by these businesses and not available to messengers.

Approximately one-half of all messengers will need to park in one of two satellite parking lots:

#1 is located at the Flea Traders Paradise on the north side of Sevierville. Commuters and those staying in Sevierville are requested to park here. The lot is located on the North bound side of Highway 66 (turn into the parking lot when coming from Interstate 40 towards Sevierville).

#2 is located on the south end of Sevierville behind the NASCAR Speed Park near the Five Oaks Outlet Mall on Highway 441 (turn left at Sevierville Traffic Light 13.1 - New Era Road when coming from church). Those staying in the Five Oaks area, Pigeon Forge, or Gatlinburg are requested to park here.

Shuttle buses, running every fifteen minutes, have been engaged to bring messengers from both lots to the church.

Schedule:	Tuesday	7:30 a.m. until 9:00 p.m.
	Wednesday	7:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Additional information and maps will be mailed to every church with messenger cards during the first week of October.

It is very important to the witness and ministry of First Baptist Church, Sevierville that messengers not park in the lots utilized by the businesses around the church. Church volunteers will be in the lot to assist messengers. All messengers are encouraged to drive directly to the satellite lots and avoid the traffic and congestion in downtown Sevierville.



## OCTOBER IS COOPERATIVE PROGRAM MONTH

To order Cooperative Program promotion items, contact Gary Rickman or Jane Garvin, 800-558-2090, extension 7912. Or e-mail Garvin at [jgarvin@tnbaptist.org](mailto:jgarvin@tnbaptist.org).

**REMINDER!**  
Set Your Clocks Back!  
Daylight Saving Time Ends October 31!



Make your plans now to attend CONNECT at a location near you. CONNECT is a two-night regional youth evangelism conference. There is no registration fee.

October 3-4  
Union City, Obion County Fairgrounds

October 3-4  
Kingston, First Baptist Church

October 10-11  
Johnson City, Tri-Cities Baptist Church

October 17-18  
Chattanooga, Bayside Baptist Church

October 24-25  
Smyrna, First Baptist Church

To receive more information, contact the Evangelism Strategies Group at 800.558.2090, ext. 7933; or e-mail Rachel Watson at [rwatson@tnbaptist.org](mailto:rwatson@tnbaptist.org).



Sunday, November 7  
 Central Bearden Baptist Church, Knoxville  
 7:00 p.m. Eastern Time



Tennessee  
 MENS CHORALE

CHORALE AND LADIES CHORUS  
 FEATURED AT TBC



Tennessee  
 LADIES CHORUS

The Tennessee Ladies Chorus is scheduled to sing at 8:15 a.m. at the opening session of the Annual Meeting of the TBC. They will be joined by the Tennessee Men's Chorale at the worship time Tuesday morning at 8:45 a.m.

The Men's Chorale will also be singing on Tuesday afternoon at 1:30 and again at 2:05 just before Executive Director-Treasurer James Porch's message.

FREE PHOTOS AVAILABLE  
 AT ANNUAL MEETING

PCA International, Inc. has taken photos of messengers and guests, free of charge, at the Annual Meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Convention for several years. This year, PCA photographers will be on site on Monday, November 8, from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. They will be available on Tuesday, November 9, from 8 a.m. until 5:30 p.m.

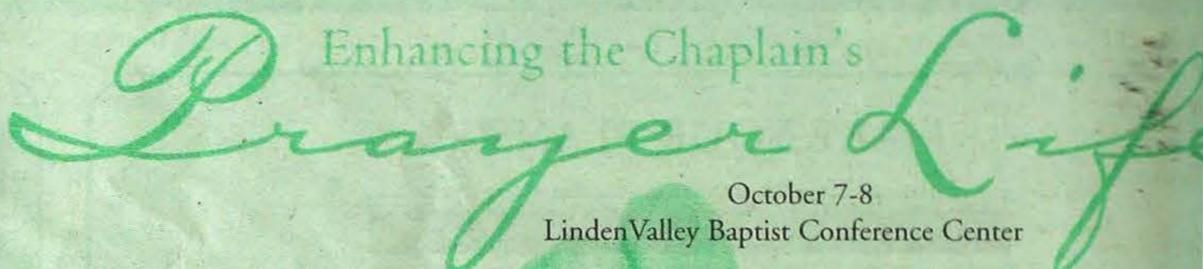
TBC Executive Board members, directors of missions, and executive board employees should have photos made for use in directories, the B&R, and other publicity materials. PCA furnishes photos, also, to the TBC Communication Team. (Indicate on the photo registration form whether board member, DOM, or TBC employee.)

PCA International will send a complimentary packet of photos to everyone having photos taken.

Jon Rice, PCA International representative, has indicated "there will be at least two photographers at this year's meeting in Sevierville. Those who have their photo taken are under no obligation."

If you have questions, call Barbara Owen, 800.558.2090, extension 2016.

CHAPLAIN'S RETREAT



October 7-8  
 Linden Valley Baptist Conference Center

The Chaplain's Retreat begins at 1 p.m. on Thursday, October 7, and concludes following lunch on Friday, October 8.

PROGRAM PERSONALITIES:

- Ken Ellis - NAMB Chaplaincy Associate for Institutional/Corporate/Public Safety
- Ron Harber - Chaplain; D.Min.; Director of Pastoral Care and Patient Affairs Regional Hospital; Board Certified Chaplain with the Association of Professional Chaplains; Adjunct Instructor with Bethel College (Old and New Testament Survey) and Union University (Medical Ethics and Christian Ethics)
- Don Pierson - former SBC missionary to Belize; Tennessee Baptist Convention Prayer Strategies Specialist
- Ron Powell - Civil War Reenactment Chaplain
- Lemuel Wade - COL/Chaplain - 332nd Medical Brigade, Nashville; Pastor, Glenwood Baptist Church, Nashville; 28 years of military service

Eight (8) training hours will be given to those who attend all four sessions. Certificates will not be given to those who come late or leave early.

Register on-line at [www.tnbaptist.org](http://www.tnbaptist.org) by September 23. For more information contact: Beverly Smothers, 800.558.2090, ext.2044; or e-mail Smothers: [bsmothers@tnbaptist.org](mailto:bsmothers@tnbaptist.org).



2004 JAM  
 Journey into Adventures in Missions

- October 9 First Baptist Church, Lebanon
- October 16 First Baptist Church, Dandridge
- October 23 Union University, Jackson

Cost: \$10 per person two weeks or more before each event; later, \$15.

Registration form and information:

[www.tnwmu.org](http://www.tnwmu.org)

TN WMU, 800.558.2090, ext. 2038.



Church Health Initiative

Discussion Meetings  
 6:30-8:00 p.m.

- October 5 Haywood Hills BC Nashville
- October 7 Englewood BC Jackson

Who is invited: Directors of Missions, Pastors, Staff Members, Lay Leaders.

Purpose: To solicit participation in the ongoing discussion of the Church Health Initiative process of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. Your TBC staff is seeking the input of church leaders as strategic initiatives continue to be formulated that will impact the overall health of TBC churches in a positive way.

For more information, contact Steve Holt, Leadership Development Group, at 800.558.2090, extension 2038.

# Round tables

Tennessee Worship Leaders & Ministers of Music

## MINISTER OF MUSIC ROUNDTABLES

Discussion at this year's Minister of Music Roundtables will center around the theme *Issues of Leadership for the Minister of Music*.

### SCHEDULE:

- October 7 Dallas Bay Baptist Church, Chattanooga  
Mark Edwards, leader
- October 11 First Baptist Church, Humboldt  
Jim Whitmire, leader
- October 14 Colonial Heights Baptist Church, Kingsport  
Scott Andrews, leader
- October 21 Salem Baptist Church, Knoxville  
Ricky Clark, leader
- October 25 First Baptist Church, Collierville  
Randy Elrod, leader
- October 28 Grace Baptist Church, Nashville  
Mark Blair, leader



Time: 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.  
Cost: \$5 (includes lunch and materials)

Reservations: Contact Charlotte Hanson at 800.558.2090, extension 7908 or via e-mail at [hanson@tnbaptist.org](mailto:hanson@tnbaptist.org). Register online at [www.tnworshipandmusic.org](http://www.tnworshipandmusic.org).

## REMINDER!

Cross Cultural Training  
October 8 and 9

Stevens Street Baptist Church, Cookeville  
Information: 800.558.2090, ext. 2061

Church Library Training

October 2, First Baptist Church, Hendersonville  
October 16, Monte Vista Baptist Church, Maryville  
Information: 800.558.2090, ext. 2083

Like to plan ahead?

Mark your calendar for your choice of camps!

## TENNESSEE BAPTIST CAMPS 2005

### Camp Linden, Linden

- June 10-12 Journey Weekend for Dads/Sons & Mom/Daughters
- June 13-15 Journey Mini Camp for Boys
- June 13-17 All Nations Camp
- June 15-17 Journey Mini Camp for Girls
- June 27-July 1 Journey for Kids
- July 11-15 Youth IMPACT

### Camp Carson, Newport

- July 8-10 Journey Weekend for Dads/Sons & Mom/Daughters
- July 22-24 Journey Mini Camp for Kids
- July 25-29 Mission IMPACT

### Additional Camps

- June 27-July 1 Super Summer at Austin Peay State University, Clarksville

## Fall Get Away

The Fall Get Away, scheduled November 18-21 at the beautiful Maple Leaf Lodge, Townsend, begins at 7 p.m. on November 18 and ends at 11:00 a.m. on the 21st.

Tommy Sanders, minister of childhood Education at Park Cities Baptist Church in Dallas, Texas, will lead in helping attendees explore the benefits and pitfalls of the different models of childhood ministry. The retreat is for full-time professionals (who attend staff meetings) in preschool and children's ministry.

The Conference fee is \$20 per person. Rooms at the lodge are \$156 per night. This includes king size bed, full breakfast, and use of the entire lodge. Accommodations in a Maple Leaf Lodge cabin are available as are rooms at the Best Western Hotel. Attendees must make their own reservations by calling 800.369.0111. Those who plan to attend the retreat, but do not need overnight accommodations on site, must register for the retreat.

To receive more information and/or registration materials, contact Barbara Owens, Church Growth Strategies, 800.558.2090, ext. 7905.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

130<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION  
NOVEMBER 9 - 10  
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
SEVIERVILLE

STATE EVANGELISM CONFERENCES  
JANUARY 21-22  
ENGLEWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH  
JACKSON  
MARCH 13-14  
GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH  
KNOXVILLE

GREAT COMMISSION PRAYER CONFERENCE  
FEBRUARY 18-19  
HARPETH HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH  
NASHVILLE

YOUTH EVANGELISM CONFERENCE  
MARCH 4-5  
MTSU-MURPHY CENTER  
SKIT GUYS, DAVE HUNT AND BAND  
Inspiring preaching, Worship in music led by Dave Hunt and band, Hilarious comedy of the Skit Guys  
Registration packets will be mailed to all churches this fall.  
Check out: [www.yectennessee.org](http://www.yectennessee.org).

# MINISTRY EVANGELISM Conference

October 28 10:00 a.m to 3:00 p.m.  
Tennessee Baptist Center

Attention: Directors of Missions, Pastors, CCM Directors, Missions-Interested Personnel

The conference leader will be Charles Roesel, pastor of First Baptist Church, Leesburg, Florida. Dr. Roesel is a popular speaker and consultant in the area of ministry evangelism. Over 70 ministries are operated through the members of the Leesburg church. Attendees will learn ways they reach hundreds of people a year for Jesus through the varied ministries.

Make your plans to attend. Conference and lunch are provided by your gifts through the Cooperative Program; however, attendees must register for lunch by calling Rachel Watson, 800.558.2090, extension 7933; or by e-mailing Watson at [rwatson@tnbaptist.org](mailto:rwatson@tnbaptist.org).

For more information, contact Jerry Essary, Evangelism Strategies, 800.558.2090, extension 2059.

## SMOKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL RA CHALLENGE

East Maryville Baptist Church, Maryville  
October 9, 8 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Lunch: \$6 per person—all you care to eat

Registration: \$8 by October 10, or \$10 at the door.

For more information contact the Jean or Dwayne Ledbetter at 865.982.1531; or Carol Davidson, Missions Mobilization, 800.558.2090, extension 2025.

## TRI-STATE CAMP-O-REE

The 27<sup>th</sup> annual Tri-State Camp-O-Ree is scheduled October 1-2 at Car Cordova, Cordova. Participants from Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas enjoy competition events including Youth Speak-Out, Lad Show and Tell, I Racers, and more.

Other activities include fishing, canoeing, rafting, LifeWay Book Store computer missions learning center, night hikes, drug awareness displays, a lakeside campfire service.

This event is sponsored in cooperation with the Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas Baptist Conventions. For registration and fee information contact Hershel Wells at 901.568.0466. Wells may be e-mailed [hwells1@midsouth.rr.com](mailto:hwells1@midsouth.rr.com).

## KID'S CHORAL CONNECTION

October 8-9  
Judson Baptist Church, Nashville



Kid's Choral Connection is a new event for children in Grades 4 through 6 that gives opportunity for older children's choir singers to sing with other children from across Tennessee in one mass choir. Dr. Madeline Bridges, associate dean for academic studies and professor of music education at Belmont University, will direct the choir.

Other program personalities include Ken Hindman, devotional speaker; Jonathan Bundon, music leader; Harold Parsons, recreation leader; David Briley, host minister of music; and Carla Nichols, music assistant, West Jackson Baptist Church.

The program begins at 5 p.m. on Friday and concludes following worship at 2 p.m. on Saturday.

Registration fee is \$30 per child/sponsor. There is no charge for one group leader per church. Checks should be made payable to Worship and Music Ministry. Mail check, along with church name, contact person, daytime phone, e-mail address, and church address to Charlotte Hanson, P. O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37024. Also include number of T-shirts in each size—adult small, adult medium, adult large, adult extra large, and adult extra, extra large. List the number of children in each of grades 4, 5, 6, and the number of sponsors that will be attending.

For more information, contact Paul Clark or Charlotte Hanson at 800.558.2090, extension 7908. E-mail Clark at [pclark@tnbaptist.org](mailto:pclark@tnbaptist.org) or Hanson at [chanson@tnbaptist.org](mailto:chanson@tnbaptist.org).

## NEWS FROM THE BAPTIST HISTORY AND HERITAGE SOCIETY

The Baptist History and Heritage Society is now taking orders for a new booklet released in late August. The book, *The Crafts of Preaching and Writing Baptist History*, was written by Walter B. Shurden, founding executive director of The Center for Baptist Studies at Mercer University, and Wayne Flynt, distinguished university professor at Auburn University. Baptist preachers, writers, students, and professors will find this to be an excellent and highly practical resource.

To order copies at \$5 each, call 800-966-2278. E-mail orders: [pdurso@tnbaptist.org](mailto:pdurso@tnbaptist.org).

## Deaths

**Elmer Sharp, 78**, re-minister of Knoxville, Aug. 13 after a short with cancer. He was a member of Holston Baptist Church, Strawberry Plains. He had served as pastor for 14 years. Sharp was a minister for more than 50 years. He also was pastor of Heights Baptist Church, Knoxville; Memorial Baptist Church, Maryville, for 10 years; West Maryville Baptist Church, Maryville; and New Baptist Church, Maryville. He retired from full-time ministry at Oak Ridge. He served as interim pastor of churches in Knoxville. He was a member of the Tennessee Baptist Association and Sevier County Baptist Association. His final position was interim pastor, Marble Baptist Church, Maryville.

## Leaders

◆ **John Lawler** has been called as music director, Liberty Baptist Church, Covington.

◆ **First Baptist Church, Athens**, recently named former minister of music **Herb Cox** as minister of music emeritus. Cox retired from the church five years ago after serving the church for almost 30 years. He has remained "active at both the local church and state level," reported Mike Womack, pastor. Participating in the recognition were Julian Suggs, retired from the Tennessee Baptist Convention staff and former minister of music of the church, Paul Clark of the TBC staff, and both of Cox's daughters.

◆ **Richard Stout**, pastor, First Baptist Church, Roan Mountain, has resigned.

◆ **Kristy Crabtree** and

**Steven Neitzer**, 18-year-old youth of West Hills Baptist Church, Lebanon, served for two weeks each this summer in the Ukraine through Radooga Ministries.

◆ **Darrell Paulk**, youth minister, First Baptist Church, Manchester, has accepted the call as pastor of a church in Texas.

## Churches

◆ **Ninth Street Baptist Church, Erwin**, will celebrate its homecoming and 75th anniversary Oct. 24. For more information, contact the church at (423) 743-7551.

◆ **Shelby Avenue Baptist Church, Nashville**, will hold its Fall Give Away Oct. 2 beginning at 8 a.m. Clothing, shoes, household items, appliances, and toys will be available.

◆ **Gladeville Baptist Church, Gladeville**, sent teams this summer to Honduras and Kenya. They were

both medical/evangelism efforts. In Guinope, Honduras, 46 team members treated 2,558 patients and saw 103 people make professions of faith. In Kenya, 16 church members served in six villages. They treated 1,820 patients and saw 173 people make professions of faith.

◆ **First Baptist Church, Ethridge**, will celebrate homecoming Oct. 10. Charles Gresham, former pastor, will speak at the 10:50 a.m. service. A covered dish luncheon and afternoon music program also will be held.

◆ **Elkton Baptist Church, Elkton**, will hold revival Sept. 26-30. Benny Jackson, evangelist of Germantown, will speak. He also is president of the national Conference of Southern Baptist Evangelists.

◆ **First Baptist Church, Dover**, will celebrate its 80th anniversary and hold the grand opening of its new Family Life Center Oct. 3. Terry Kirby, former pastor; Jerry Lee; and Chris Sparkman, pastor, will speak. For more information, call (931) 232-5496.

◆ **John Bisagno**, pastor

emeritus, First Baptist Church, Houston, Texas, will lead revival at **Second Baptist Church, Union City**, Sept. 26-29. He will lead services on Sunday, Sept. 26; noon services on Sept. 27-29; and the evening service on Sept. 29. Bisagno also will lead the church's Phase II building campaign. For more information, call the church at (731) 885-5223.

◆ **Pine Grove Baptist Church, Wildersville**, held homecoming and dedicated its new Fellowship Hall Sept. 12.

◆ On Oct. 10 **Liberty Baptist Church, Covington**, will hold its 131st homecoming. Jimmy Whitley will lead the 11 a.m. service. Dinner on the grounds will be served followed by a music program.

◆ **First Baptist Church, LaVergne**, will hold revival Oct. 10-13. Phil Glisson, evangelist of Memphis, will speak.

◆ **Hickory Hollow Baptist Church, Antioch**, held a revival recently. As a result, 10 people made professions of faith, three rededicated their lives to God, and three requested baptism. Morris Anderson, evangelist, spoke and Ray Clubb led the worship.

# Round tables

Tennessee Worship Leaders & Ministers of Music

## ISSUES OF LEADERSHIP for the MINISTER OF MUSIC



Every Minister of Music/Worship Leader in 2004 faces Issues of Leadership. Regardless of worship style, format, size of church, budget, or staff the minister-musician is called upon to lead, and to do so in an ongoing capacity. This year's *Tennessee Worship Leaders & Ministers of Music Roundtables* series will focus on *Issues of Leadership for the Minister of Music*. Participants will spend the day discussing the challenges of music ministry leadership in 2004.

Worship Leader, Minister of Music, JOIN US!!

Paul Clark

Worship & Music Specialist, TBC

Thursday, October 7—Dallas Bay Baptist Church, Chattanooga

Ron Gardner, host  
Featured Leader: Mark Edwards

Monday, October 11—First Baptist Church, Humboldt

Kevin Hamilton, host  
Featured Leader: Jim Whitmire

Thursday, October 14—Colonial Heights Baptist Church, Kingsport

Allen Bowling, host  
Featured Leader: Scott Andrews

Thursday, October 21—Salem Baptist Church, Knoxville

David Whipple, host  
Featured Leader: Ricky Clark

Monday, October 25—First Baptist Church, Collierville

Tim Spencer, host  
Featured Leader: Randy Elrod

Thursday, October 28—Grace Baptist Church, Nashville

David Harbison, host  
Featured Leader: Mark Blair



**HONORED FOR TENURE** at the Sept. 14 meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board were Barbara Owen, left, communications specialist, 30 years; and Charlotte Hanson, ministry assistant, five years. Not pictured are Garland Petty, print services coordinator, 20 years; and Betsy Ingle, associate collegiate ministry specialist, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 15 years.



**JO ANN EMORY**, organist, Eureka Baptist Church, Rockwood, was honored Aug. 15 and 29 for 50 years of service. Emory began playing the piano at the church after her father, Bill Rogers, encouraged her to do so. When the church obtained an organ, she began playing it and has served ever since.



**FROM 300-500 PEOPLE** gathered for the Tent Crusade of Fayette Baptist Association, based in Somerville. It was held Aug. 28 – Sept. 2 in Oakland. Brady Weldon of Martin spoke and Dave White of Marmaduke, Ark., led the music. As a result, 69 people made professions of faith, 20 rededicated their lives, one committed his or her life to Christian service, and one came for baptism. Bob Campbell, retired director of missions, Fayette Association, chaired the crusade committee.



**PAUL MEDLEY**, center, pastor, First Baptist Church, Dunlap, stands with Alice Greer, left, and Joan Ganey of the church. The three wear the team colors of their favorite teams at the church's recent Tailgate Party held on a Sunday morning to kick off Sunday School and the new church year. A goal of 200 in attendance was exceeded with 201 participating. Activities included a cookout after the worship service.

REGISTER ONLINE AT: [www.tnworshipandmusic.org](http://www.tnworshipandmusic.org).  
Click on Roundtables link  
Or e-mail registration information to Charlotte Hanson  
[chanson@tnbaptist.org](mailto:chanson@tnbaptist.org)  
Phone: 1.800.558.2090, ext. 7908

# TBC prayer leader finds unusual topic leads man to faith in Christ

By Marcia Knox  
Baptist and Reflector

BOLIVAR — TBC prayer strategist specialist Don Pierson had no idea that his prayer revival services were being broadcast on a local radio station from First Baptist Church here, or he would have chosen a

different sermon illustration. "Hemorrhoids" are in the Bible in I Samuel 5:12 (KJV), Pierson reported in a message on Aug. 16.

"Hemorrhoids" was the catch word that caught the attention of "Bill." He sat in his car in the parking lot of a local Toone bar after drinking alcohol. He was

listening to his favorite county music station, WMOD, which happened to be airing the revival services.

"Bill was caught by God that night in his car," said Pierson.

Ernie James, pastor of First Baptist Church of Bolivar, noted that Pierson "really preached hard on prayer that night."

After the service, Bill drove home and sat in his car in his driveway until his mother came out to see what was wrong with him. He told her about Pierson's sermon and about how it really applied to him. He said he needed to get saved and his mother told him to drive to the church, which was about 10 miles down the road.

Bill arrived at the church after the revival service, and met with Pierson and James, who led him to salvation. Ironically, Pierson and James had prayed earlier in the day for a man to rise up that God could use. "We just thought that man would come from the church and not from the bar," said Pierson.

To everyone's surprise, Bill visited with the church members the next day during a noon luncheon, which was held

everyday during the revival also returned Wednesday, Aug. 18, to the revival with family to "pack a pew."

"Bill is on his way," Pierson said. "The pastor and church are following up with him."

James has been discipling Bill, who has had a hard life lost a child. "Bill is fighting spiritual warfare as a recovering alcoholic and drug addict," James said. "Every time Bill opens up his Bible an old friend shows up to distract him."

"First Church of Bolivar prayer revival led into TBC's 30 days of prayer exercises," said James. "The prayer revival was a great week for James noted."

"It spoke to the heart of the church and also to issues of fellowship, unity, and belief in prayer. It got the church focused." □

## Tennessee senior adults gather in Sevierville

Baptist and Reflector



TIM HOLCOMB, left, leader of the TBC Church Growth Strategies Group, chats with program leaders Charles Lowery, center, and Bill Howse at the 2004 Senior Adult Conference held Sept. 14-16 at First Baptist Church, Sevierville.

SEVIERVILLE — "Hope for the Journey" was the theme for the 2004 Senior Adult Conference at First Baptist Church here on Sept. 14-16.

About 340 senior adults from across the state gathered here for worship and fellowship. Noted SBC speaker and writer Charles Lowery led Bible studies during the sessions.

The Senior Adult Conference is sponsored by the TBC Church Growth Strategies Group. □



CHURCHES JOINING together to send a group to the 2004 Senior Adult Conference were Lascassas Baptist Church, Lascassas, and Southeast Baptist Church, Murfreesboro. From left are, front row, Kitty Arnold, Lillie Jenkins, Shirley Watson, Sara Wilson, Fred Wilson; back row, Dwain Arnold, Tommy Woodard, and Mary Carter. — Photos by Lonnie Wilkey

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**The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary**

# Inusual baptism results from Knoxville church's Joy Ministry

Baptist and Reflector

NOXVILLE — This was an ordinary baptism. It was in a pool, not a baptistry. It was not even in a church but in a mess center. Even so, over 100 people from Salem Baptist Church here were present to witness, support, and embrace the baptism of its newest members, Marie Anderson and Christopher Holsenback. The glow on Marie's face as she spoke the words no one else could speak. She had never been in the water in her wheelchair and neither had Chris. With courage and faith, she stepped out of their comfort zone to begin a new life in Christ that Saturday, Aug. 28. The voices of Salem Church; no one could deny the presence of God; and through the eyes of His people, one could see that love and com-

passion were evident. The story was unfolding before all those present that Saturday evening, a story that began over eight years ago with the birth of a little boy with Down's syndrome and a mother with a dream for her church. The Joy Ministry was born a little over a year ago because of the boy's growing needs. Christopher Holsenback had physically outgrown the nursery and because of his dual diagnosis including autism, could not handle the regular Bible study classes with his typically developing peers. He needed a class with structure and constant routine. He needed visual supports along with understanding and accepting individuals to teach him about Jesus. Through years of faithful prayer from Christopher's mom, Tammy Holsenback, God

gave her a burden not only for her child but for other families like hers. She knew it was easier to keep her child at home than take him to church. She knew every Sunday was a battle to get him there. She had to fight the feelings of inadequacy and feared judgments of others because of Christopher's behavior. Yet she brought him to church every Sunday and Wednesday that he was able. She also knew there were far too many families like her own who did not go to church for the same reasons — there was not a place for their child or family member with a handicap or disability. Something needed to be done! Because most all of Salem Baptist Church



**MARIE ANDERSON**, who is confined to a wheelchair because she had a stroke, is baptized by staff and members of Salem Baptist Church.

knew (and probably heard) Christopher each week, their hearts became soft. God used this little boy to prepare the hearts of His church. God answered the prayers of Tammy Holsenback by sending

people to help her start a disability ministry at the church. Laura Payne of Joni (Eareckson Tada) and Friends and Deborah Justice of Salem Church helped her. In a little over a year, the

Joy Ministry of Salem Church has grown and the outreach has been far more than Holsenback ever dreamed. The Joyful Youngsters class for children ages 3-10 draws about four. The Joyful Hearts class for anyone 18 and older serves about two. Five participants of the Joy Ministry are transported by Salem Church's bus ministry from a group home for adults with cerebral palsy. Salem also is beginning a Joyful Helping Hands program which is a volunteer work program for young adults with disabilities.

The Joy Ministry's mission is to minister to individuals with special needs and their families. The ministry has claimed the promise that, (God) has made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand (Psalms 16:11). Those who volunteer with this ministry understand this joy and have received eternal pleasures.

It took an unplanned journey of uncertainty to reach a mother's heart. It took the birth of a baby who many would have disregarded to stir the hearts of a church. It took an extraordinary baptism to reach others. □

Advertisement

Southern Baptist Minister to Host

# Alaska Cruise

and Pacific Northwest Vacation

On July 24, 2005, join your Spiritual Director, Baptist Minister Dennis Daniels on this 15-day vacation including a seven-day deluxe Alaska Cruise with Holland America Line and a seven-day Pacific Northwest vacation with Your Man Tours. Devotions will be made available daily while on board ship for those in the group who wish to participate. Rev. Daniels, is Senior Adult Pastor of The First Baptist Church in Jackson, Mississippi. He has also led tour groups on a variety of vacations over the years, including an Alaska Cruise.

Your group will fly into Salt Lake City starting a six-night motor coach tour of the Pacific Northwest visiting Salt Lake City (including the Mormon Tabernacle, Beehive House and Great Salt Lake; Idaho Falls; Jackson Hole, Wyoming; Grand Teton and Yellowstone (Old Faithful) National Parks; Montana; Lake Coeur d'Alene; the Grand Coulee Dam; Washington; the Cascade Mountains; and British Columbia. In Vancouver you will board your five-star ship HAL's ms Zaandam.

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## Church Health

"A dynamic movement of healthy churches empowered by the presence of God."

### Church Health Initiative

#### Discussion Meetings

6:30-8:00 p.m.

September 27	Towering Oaks BC	Greeneville
September 28	FBC, Powell	Knoxville
September 30	Westwood BC	Cleveland
October 5	Haywood Hills BC	Nashville
October 7	Englewood BC	Jackson

**Who is invited?** Director of missions, pastors, staff members, lay leaders.

**Purpose:** To solicit participation in the ongoing discussion of the Church Health Initiative process of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. Your TBC staff is seeking the input of church leaders as strategic initiatives continue to be formulated that will impact the overall health of TBC churches in a positive way.

For more information, contact Steve Holt, Leadership Development Group, at 800-558-2090, extension 2019 or go to [www.tnbaptist.org](http://www.tnbaptist.org).

## Healthcare options helping lower costs: GuideStone Baptist Press

DALLAS — The majority of participants in GuideStone Personal Plans health insurance “will see no rate increase for 2005,” and many participants “will actually see a rate decrease due to changes in the rating structure,” GuideStone Financial Services of the Southern Baptist Convention (Annuity Board) announced in a Sept. 10 news release.

The health insurance industry, meanwhile, is projecting approximately a 13 percent increase in healthcare costs, said GuideStone, which launched several new medical plan options in 2004.

For many employers in GuideStone’s Group Plans, which consist of churches and organizations with more than 10 full-time employees, rates also will remain the same or, in some cases, decrease for 2005. GuideStone noted that some employers, however, will see an inflation-driven rate increase or an increase based on their prior claims experience. Yet “the average increase remains below the predicted national medical trend for 2005,” according to the entity’s news release.

“Much of the rate increase that would normally be required due to medical inflation has been offset by the benefits of improved PPO network discounts, increased network usage and utilization of disease

management programs for chronic conditions,” said Doug Day, GuideStone’s executive officer for benefit services.

“More of our participants are using network providers for their medical care and saving money,” Day said. “And that means our plans are also saving.” In addition, GuideStone’s disease management and wellness programs are having a positive impact on the lives of many participants by “helping individuals better manage chronic illness and lead healthier lives,” Day said.

“More people are walking and exercising regularly and using GuideStone’s wellness web site, [www.BaptistWellness.org](http://www.BaptistWellness.org), to log their miles and learn about healthful eating habits.”

While the benefits for GuideStone’s core PPO medical plans will remain the same for 2005, there will be some changes related to network providers and rating structures, according to the news release. Blue Cross Blue Shield has been selected as the nationwide network for all of the PPO plans.

“We are projecting that the change to the Blue Cross Blue Shield provider network will positively impact the total healthcare costs for our participants,” Day said.

“With Blue Cross Blue Shield’s vast nationwide provider network and volume discount buying power, GuideStone participants can take advantage of negotiated provider

fees that are discounted up to 30 percent or 40 percent and more.”

Beginning in 2005, GuideStone’s Personal Plans will move to an industry standard — annual age rate structure — with rates to be based on the age of the participants. Currently, GuideStone uses five-year age bands. Every five years, participants receive an age-based rate increase in addition to any required medical inflation rate increase. The age-band structure sometimes increased rates as much as 20 percent over any medical inflation increase. By changing to annual age rates, a partici-

part’s rates will be based the participant’s current each year and lessen the impact of the five-year age-related increases.

In this transition year, will actually decrease for participants who received a based rate increase within last two years. Participants who have not received a based increase in several could see an age-based increase this year. □

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**MINISTRY — DOM**  
The Shelby Baptist Association, Search Committee, Memphis, Tenn., is prayerfully accepting resumes for the position of director of missions to lead an association of approximately 140 churches, missions, and preaching points. Send resume to Wade Taylor, Chairman, c/o Kensington Baptist Church, 4945 Winchester Rd., Memphis, TN 38118.

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The Lynn Association of Baptist Churches, located in central Kentucky, is accepting resumes for the position of director of missions. Submit resume or inquiries to Rev. Kelvin Edwards, 2368 Aetna Grove Church Rd., Summersville, KY 42782, (270) 324-2920.

*Women of the Word*  
*2004 Conference*  
October 1 & 2  
First Baptist Church, Cookeville

Special Guests:  
DEBBIE CANNADA  
JANE AUGÉ  
ALMA RANDOLPH  
AUNT MATTIE GOOCH

Breakout Sessions offered Saturday

Pre-Register by September 22  
\$40.00 includes Lunch

After September 22,  
Fee is \$40.00 - No lunch

Registration fee is non-refundable

**PROVERBS 17:7**  
“A friend loveth at all times.”

Brochures available at church office, 18 S. Walnut Avenue, Cookeville, Tennessee 38501, (931)526-7108, [cdorman@fbccookeville.org](mailto:cdorman@fbccookeville.org)

**CLASSIFIED**

**MISCELLANEOUS**  
For sale: Pews, excellent condition, seating for 136 plus form furniture. (731) 225 Dyersburg, Tenn.

**MINISTRY — POSITIVE**  
Gilliam Springs Baptist Church, Arab, Ala., is seeking to positions of full-time music and full-time youth. Interested persons send a resume to [abal@gilliamsprings.org](mailto:abal@gilliamsprings.org) or GSBK Box 463, Arab, AL 35016 A Banks.

**MINISTRY — COMBINATION**  
Bethlehem Baptist Church, Rel, MS, with 150 to 200 in dance is seeking a full-time minister of music combination of music/education. Please send resume to Loper, Chairman, Committee, Bethlehem Church, 838 Reid Rd., MS 39443.

**MINISTRY — STUDENT**  
Southern Baptist church full-time minister to students experience and/or seminary degree a plus. Send to MS: Dotson Memorial Rd., Memphis, TN 37801. Target date receiving resumes is September 2004.

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Balmoral Baptist Church is seeking a part-time youth minister. Send resume to Balmoral Church, 2676 Kirby Rd., Memphis, TN 38119.

**MINISTRY — MUSIC**  
Pine Orchard Baptist Church, Oakdale, Tenn., is seeking a part-time bivocational minister of music. Please send resume to Music Search Committee, White Oak Rd., Oakdale, TN 37829.

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Part-time music director and lead music for all services, teach and direct choir, implement new music instruments into services. Send resume to View Baptist Church, At Bell, 2442 Eastland Ave. Nashville, TN 37206.

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First Baptist Church in Linden is seeking a part-time minister of music. FBC is located in the heart of Perry County just a few miles from the Tennessee River. If interested, please send resume to First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 54, Linden, TN 37096.

book review

Dawn Ferguson

Editor's Note: You asked and you have received. Readers overwhelmingly indicated they would like to see reviews in the *Baptist and Reflector*. We will print on a regular basis using three or four different reviewers. The first review is written by Dawn Ferguson, a former Gallatin.

*The Ever-Loving Truth*

by Voddie Baucham, Jr.

Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2004

When you've become sick and tired (i.e. intolerant!) of a society's most esteemed virtue ... tolerance, then you'll find a resounding "Amen" as you read Voddie Baucham Jr.'s *The Ever-Loving Truth*.

Baucham espouses that we are living in a "post-Christian" culture. Many of us "have been conditioned" by all religious discussions through the colander of religious relativism, tolerance, and philosophical pluralism. These are the ideas that lead to statements such as, "We all worship the same God," "All religions are equal," and that oft-voiced question, "Who are we to judge others?"

In the midst of reading this book and saying my prayers, I was startled by a conversation with my mother which convinced me that even she had become part of "tolerant America." She was discussing how she had visited a large Baptist church in Middle Tennessee to witness the baptism of her granddaughter.

According to my mother, the sermon was on homosexuality as a sin. A regular church attendee all her life she had never heard that message preached before. What she said and how she said it opened my eyes to what Baucham is saying in his book. She said nothing along the lines of "I couldn't believe he was saying what he was saying. It was such a large congregation and I just knew there were people there who probably had homosexuals in their families and this must be offending them." My mother has become a product of modern tolerance ... she believes people are free to believe and behave as they choose without being subjected to the ire of those who disagree.

Baucham, a graduate of both Southwestern and Eastern Baptist Theological Seminaries, believes there is nothing further from the truth and presents his beliefs based on God's Word. The first section of his book focuses on how we're all being lulled into what he calls "culture accommodation." Even our churches are going to do everything possible to accommodate our lifestyles from casual dress to Saturday evening services to even including a McDonald's franchise in one building! We think the numbers of people who are worshiping in this culture are growing because of the mega churches, but in actuality the numbers are decreasing. Instead, people are leaving smaller congregations to enjoy the benefits of the larger.

In this section, he also expounds on several myths including "there is no absolute truth." And he focuses a great deal of attention on the media's portrayal of Christians as "intolerant, narrow-minded, Bible-umping bigots."

The remaining sections of the book are focused on defining the absolute truths that do exist based on God's Word and standing up and being counted. In these pages he defines in simple, easy to understand terms why the Bible is true and why Jesus is the only way to salvation. Then he helps prepare the reader how to witness.

I have heard so many people — myself included — confess their fear of witnessing. I have thought for a long time that if I could just do as St. Francis of Assisi did "Preach the gospel at all times, and if you have no words, people would just flock to me to know the reason for the joy within me." Baucham (and my mother!) have convinced me that in our present culture this is not sufficient. If we are ever going to win souls for Christ and make disciples of all nations, we are going to have to witness — verbally. And, when we witness we must rely on the truth — even though it may offend!

# Encouraged by knowing God

By Randy Rinehart

**Focal Passage: Revelation 1:4-6, 9-18**

Do you remember how it was when you were a child, and you had no worries? We did not worry about bills or meals, we may not have had much but we always had enough. Our parents dealt with all of life's issues, we just lived life and enjoyed it. Often in our adult years we look back and long for the security and assurance we had in our childhood when all future needs were another's responsibility.

The book of Revelation is a book of end time prophecy and a book of encouragement to Christians of all centuries. The church was under heavy persecution by the Romans when God gave the Revelation to the apostle John. In many cultures today Christians are being persecuted and even killed for their faith. Statistics tell us that over 300 Christians are martyred each day. The world climate is hostile toward Christianity. We need to be encouraged and to encourage each other. We find that encouragement in the assurance that God holds us and no man can pluck us out of His hand.

John encourages believers by reminding them of their assurance of redemption. John addressed the Revelation to the seven churches of Asia ... from the seven spirits be-

fore his throne. The number seven is a symbol of perfection or completion. This letter is for all the churches and from the perfect Holy Spirit of God. It is also from Jesus the firstborn from the dead. Firstborn is the Greek word *protokos*, from which we get our modern word protocol. It carries the idea that Jesus had to go first so we could follow. Jesus did not rise from the dead like Lazarus, or the widow of Nain's son, or any other who had come back to life. All of these would again taste death. Jesus is the first to be risen to eternal life and He paves the way for all who believe. He has set us free from our sins and made us a kingdom of priests. He holds our redemption and it is sure.

Christians are also encouraged by the assurance of God's care. John was in exile for his faith but it was there that God spoke to him. We can know that in me ye might have peace. *In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.* We have no reason to fear mankind who can torment the body but cannot touch our soul. We need to be encouraged that God cares for us in this life and has a place prepared for us in eternity.

In verses 12-16 John describes his vision of Jesus among the lamp stands to give Christians assurance of God's presence. The lamp stands represent the seven church-

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es and the light of the Lord that proceeds out from the churches. Jesus is located among the lamp stands. This is a symbol of fellowship. When John describes Jesus he gives us a description of the risen Lord in His power and glory. Not only is Jesus among us in fellowship He is among us in power, glory, and majesty.



RINEHART

In the final verses we find encouragement in the assurance of victory. When John saw Jesus he fell at His feet as a dead man. This is the reaction that all must have when in the presence of the living Lord, *At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow.* Jesus proclaimed the victory to John.

Jesus is the first and last. He has victory over death and Hades. We can be encouraged by this victory that is ours. *O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? But thanks be to God, which gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.* □ — Rinehart is pastor, Malesus Baptist Church, Jackson.

# How can I resist temptation?

By Steve Linginfelter

**Focal Passage: Luke 4:1-13**

Fly-fishing for wild trout here in the Great Smokey Mountains is one of my favorite pastimes. I spent last evening tying some trout flies that I hope will entice a fish to bite. If I can sneak up on a trout without him knowing I am there, and have an enticing fly on my line, and can present it in a way that looks natural to him, the trout will bite and be in big trouble. Isn't that how the devil operates? He avoids our knowing he is there and presents appealing bait in a natural way and we are tempted. Everyone is tempted, even Jesus!

How can we resist temptation? Our focal passage gives us some help with this question.

Verse 1 tells us that the Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness. Often we are tempted in times when we are already becoming slack in our Christian walk, but that was not the case here. Jesus was right in the center of the will of the Father. So temptation may come regardless of our spiritual condition.

In verse 3 we see that the devil tempted Jesus after He had fasted for 40 days and was hungry. We tend to be vulnerable to temptation during times of physical weakness, and the devil knows exactly when we are weak and will take advantage of that weakness if he can do so. The devil perhaps point-

ed to a round stone that even resembled a loaf of bread and implied that Jesus was foolish to be hungry when He had the power to turn that stone into a loaf, why not just command the stone to be bread?

In verses 5-7 we find another temptation. The devil took Jesus to a high mountain and in a moment of time, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world. The fact that this happened in a moment of time may indicate that Jesus supernaturally saw in His mind's eye all



LINGINFELTER

the kingdoms of the world. Satan offered these to Jesus if Jesus would worship Satan. Satan claimed possession of world power here, and Jesus never refuted that. In fact, Jesus calls Satan *the ruler of this world* (John 12:31, 14:30, 16:11). We must understand that any claim that Satan has to this world is due to man's sin and is by God's permission, and we know that it is only temporary. However Satan's claim that he gives kingdoms to whosoever he wishes makes us wonder about some of the world rulers being agents of the devil.

In verses 9-11 Satan took Jesus to the highest corner of the temple area, probably overlooking the Kedron Valley, a point of dizzying

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height. This time the devil even used Scripture to tempt Jesus, telling Him that if He would jump, the angels would protect Him.

Jesus dealt with each temptation in the same way. He used Scripture.

In verse 4 He reminded the devil of the scriptural teaching that there is much more to life than satisfying the hungers of the flesh. In verse 8 Jesus refused to bow before Satan because the Scripture teaches that we are to worship only the true God. And in verse 12 Jesus affirmed the teaching that we must not be guilty of presumptuous sins and taking God's grace for granted.

When you and I face temptation, we need to be mindful of the Scriptures that apply to whatever we are facing. It is good to know the Bible and to memorize verses that will help us as we face struggles with temptation. But there is another point that must be made. Jesus was totally committed to doing the will of the Father. When you and I have made one major decision to do God's will, then the choices regarding individual temptations have already been made. □ — Linginfelter is pastor, Bethel Baptist Church, Townsend.

## Leaders

◆ Silver Springs Baptist Church, Mt. Juliet, has called **Doug Hasley** as associate pastor for student ministries, effective Sept. 16.

◆ Cedar Grove Baptist Church, Maryville, has called **Bryan Irwin** as pastor.

◆ **David Randolph**, pastor, East Alcoa Baptist Church, Alcoa, has resigned.

◆ Clear Creek Baptist Church, Selmer, surprised **Chuck Castles**, pastor, Aug. 22 with a recognition of his 15 years of ministry.

◆ First Baptist Church, Knoxville, has called **William D. Shiell** as senior pastor. A native of Pensacola, Fla., Shiell comes to Knoxville from the pastorate of Southland Baptist Church, San Angelo, Texas. He is a graduate of Samford University, Birmingham, Ala., and Baylor University, Waco, Texas, where he earned the doctor of philosophy in religion degree.

◆ **Gary Neeley** was recognized recently by Parkway Baptist Church, Goodlettsville, for serving as accompanist for 10 years.

◆ **Randy Keene** has been called as pastor, Mt. Horeb Baptist Church, Ethridge.

◆ **Tim Scott** of Grace Baptist Church, Pulaski, has been called as pastor, Oak Hill Baptist Church, Leoma.

◆ Cedar Grove Baptist Church, Kingsport, called **Dustin Williams** as pastor recently. He formerly was youth minister, Springdale Baptist Church, Kingsport. He holds two degrees from East Tennessee State University, Johnson City.

◆ **Billy Appling**, retired minister of music, Red Bank Baptist Church, Chattanooga, has been called as interim minister of music, Ridgedale Baptist Church, Chattanooga.

◆ **Paul Sheaffer**, pastor, West Colonial Hills Baptist Church, Kingsport, resigned to be appointed a missionary to Uruguay along with his wife, **Pam**, by the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. The Sheaffers have a daughter, Kaitlyn.

◆ **Lawrence Smith**, pastor, Howes Chapel Baptist Church, Rogersville, has resigned.

◆ **Scott Young** has been called as minister of youth and education, Lynn Garden Baptist Church, Kingsport. He is a graduate of Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Texas.

◆ Grace Community Church, Maryville, has called

**Chris Riser** of a church in Sun Valley, Calif., as pastor.

◆ Olive Hill Baptist Church, West, Guys, has called **Frank Whitman** as pastor.

◆ **Kenneth Holder** has resigned as pastor, Hopewell Baptist Church, Maryville.

◆ **Mike White** has resigned as pastor, Rocky Branch Baptist Church, Wal-land.

◆ **Greg Burton** of Lawrenceburg, Ky., has been called as pastor, Colonial Heights Baptist Church, Kingsport, effective Oct. 10.

◆ **Harry Wills** was ordained to the ministry by First Baptist Church, Mountain City, Aug. 29.

◆ **Lanny Street** retired as associate pastor, Mountain View Baptist Church, Johnson City, recently. He served 17 years.

## Churches

◆ **First Baptist Church, Old Hickory**, served in Venezuela, Uganda, Illinois, and Alabama this summer.

◆ **Graveston Baptist Church, Corryton**, dedicated a new worship center recently. The old church will continue to be used for youth and educational space.

◆ **Stoney Point Baptist Church, Knoxville**, recently dedicated its new facility. The old building will be demolished. The church was helped by **Graveston Baptist Church, Corryton**, which gave it their nearly new pews.

◆ **Peace and Good Will Baptist Church, Knoxville**, bought the former building of **Euclid Avenue/Park Lane Baptist Fellowship, Knoxville**, recently. This will allow Peace and Good Will Church much needed space to expand. The Euclid Avenue/ Park Lane Fellowship will build new facilities on its new property in the Powell area.

◆ On Sept. 26, **Second Baptist Church, Memphis**, will host Pepper Choplin, composer/vocalist/performer and minister of music, Greystone Baptist Church, Raleigh, N.C. He will be a part of the morning services and present a concert of his inspirational and humorous music with the adult choir of the church at 6 p.m. For more information, contact the church at (901) 682-3395.

◆ **East Athens Baptist Church, Athens**, will hold revival Sept. 26-28. David Miller of Arkansas will preach.

◆ **Sharon Baptist Church, Knoxville**, will dedicate its new Ministry Center at 10:40 a.m., Sept. 26. A buffet dinner and entertainment will be held at 6 p.m. For more in-



**PASTOR A.R. BAUMGARDNER**, in photo to left, Cedar Ford Baptist Church, Luttrell, receive note representing the debt of the church from **Ginger DeVault**, treasurer, recently. **IN PHOTO RIGHT**, Baumgardner burns the note to represent the fact the debt is paid. The church also brated homecoming on this day. The debt with 20-year terms was paid in nine years, while other improvements were made on the church facility and ministries were funded, and without an emphasis on fundraising, according to the pastor.

formation, contact the church at (865) 938-7076 or sbcof-knox@frontiernet.net.

◆ A team from **First Baptist Church, Morristown**, will serve in Kenya soon. The church also is planning to build a new Children's Building.

◆ **Candies Creek Baptist Church, Charleston**, will celebrate its 170th anniversary Oct. 2-6. On Saturday, Oct. 2, a Harvest fest will be held from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. On Sunday, Oct. 3, people will worship at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. followed by a covered dish lunch. On Oct. 3-6, an Anniversary Harvest Revival will be held. Former interim pastor, Mike Rogers, will speak. For more information, contact rhooper665@juno.com or (423) 479-3731.

◆ **Parkway Baptist Church, Goodlettsville**, will hold homecoming Oct. 3. Members will dedicate its new Family Life Center as part of the activities. For more information, contact the church at (615) 865-2325 or www.parkwaybc.net.

◆ A team from **First Baptist Church, Manchester**, is planning to serve in Thailand. For more information, contact the church at www.manchesterfbc.com or (931) 728-2138.

◆ A team from **Hermitage Hills Baptist Church, Hermitage**, will serve in New Orleans, La., Nov. 15-19, and in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, soon to support the Tennessee/Rio Baptist Partnership. For more information, contact the church at www.hermitagehills-baptist.com or (615) 883-5034.

◆ On Sunday evening, Sept. 12, **Hickory Hollow Baptist Church, Antioch**, welcomed Simeon Baptist Church, Antioch, back for a time of praise and worship. The two congregations shared the Hickory Hollow facility for several years until a year ago when Simeon moved into its own facility. The evening included congregational singing led by Randy McLellan, special music by the Sanctuary Choir



of Simeon Church directed by Jonathan Hamby and Craig Wells. Elgia Wells, pastor of Simeon, spoke. Then a fellowship time was enjoyed by all.

## Associations

◆ **Sequatchie Valley Baptist Association**, based in Whitwell, and **Cumberland Plateau Baptist Association**, based in Crossville, worked together again this year in missions. A team of 32 served in Chariton, Iowa, to support the Tennessee/Iowa Baptist Partnership. The team helped renovate a building which was a warehouse for use as a church.

◆ **Weakley County Baptist Association**, based in Dresden, sent 85 volunteers to West Virginia this summer. They did construction on a church in Paynesville and led Vacation Bible Schools in 10 sites in four cities. The VBSs drew an average of 205 each day. As a result, Tennesseans saw 31 people make professions of faith, reported Wayne Perkins, director of missions. The association plans to send a construction team of men to Choluteca, Honduras, in January. The association will help a

church it helped in 1991. For more information, contact it at wbaptist@frontiernet.com or (731) 364-9762.

## Schools

◆ An entrepreneurship program of **Belmont University**, Nashville, received a \$100,000 grant from the Coleman Foundation of Illinois. The grant will be used to begin a student business "hatchery" on the Belmont campus. The rest of the grant will support the Entrepreneurship Across Belmont initiative. This effort tries to help students integrate entrepreneurship education in a variety of academic majors outside of the College of Business. The program has a Center for Entrepreneurship which is a part of the School of Business.

◆ The Center for Business Ethics of **Belmont University**, Nashville, will host a talk by **Sharp Paine**, professor of Business School of Harvard University, Boston, Mass., on Sept. 27 at 4 p.m. in a talk and discussion of business ethics. The event is open to the public. To register and for more information, contact (615) 460-6666 or www.belmont.edu/ethics1.



**MISSION VOLUNTEERS** to Belize from **ClearView Baptist Church, Franklin**, joined by one member of **Stewart's Chapel Church, Flintville**, pause during their work there. The team of 15 led a Vacation Bible School, prayerwalked, and led worship services in three villages. They also cleaned and painted an orphanage. Members are, from left, front row, **Melvin Mitchell**, **Carmer Judy Barnette**, **Brittany Hill**, **Brooklyn Noel**, **Lindsey Kelley**, **Noel**, and **Nancy Nanney**; back row, **Rick Barnette**, **Dan Mark Baird**, **Kim Stinson**, **Norma Watson**, **Shaun Shepher**, **Brent Baxter**.