

Baptist & Reflector

Wide Edition

Telling the Story of Tennessee Baptists

Vol. 171 / No. 22; June 15, 2005

this
week's
news

In Nashville area

Billboards to proclaim 'Jesus Cares'

By Linda Lawson
Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — "Jesus Cares" — that's the message that will be proclaimed from billboards around Nashville leading up to the June 18 Crossover evangelistic thrust preceding the June 21-22 Southern Baptist Convention.

Also, television advertising on Nashville's three commercial stations and radio ads on WLAC, a clear channel news talk station, will air June 15-26.

Don Smith, national Crossover coordinator with the Southern Baptist North American Mission Board, noted that more than \$75,000 is being spent on all forms of advertising. Ads include an offer for a

free DVD. Persons who call the NAMB Evangelism Response Center to request the DVD will also receive a witness from a telephone encourager.

"I certainly think Nashvillians will know about Crossover," Smith said.

The television ad will air more than 200 times on the ABC, (WKRN) NBC (WSMV),

and CBS (WTVF) affiliates, primarily around local and national news programs.

An army of more than 13,000 volunteers — the largest in the history of Crossover which began in 1989 — will fan out across a 40-mile radius of the greater Nashville area where 1.3 million people reside. Outreach to the Hispanic communi-

ty will take place statewide.

Seven venues make up Crossover: personal evangelism, sports evangelism, prayer journeys, block parties, ethnic ministry, kindness explosion, and collegiate evangelism.

Crossover is sponsored by NAMB, the Tennessee Baptist Convention, and seven Baptist associations. □



Jesus Cares

... and so do Southern Baptists

For a Free Gift, Call 1 800 JESUS-2005

Former drug addict now shares his Christian faith

Lie Wilkey
and Reflector

LS — Richard "Shannon" Patterson is not proud of the life he led for almost 25

the former drug addict admitted to admit and more happy to proclaim his Jesus Christ.

erson, a member of Allen Church, Brownsville, came a walking, talking "word" for Tennessee Drug Awareness Council (TDAC), a fit organization which provides drug education and information in both schools and churches.

C, led by Phil Lovelace, pastor of First Baptist Somerville, receives from the Golden Offering Tennessee Missions.

ace recently met Patterson and after hearing his story used him repeatedly with children and teenagers in the area.

ngers of drugs. "My story is all I have," Patterson said. "It is the most powerful I have as far as connecting with kids and getting them out that drugs can kill."

erson noted he has been in the detox centers from Tennessee to Minnesota, but got right with Jesus I over defeat drugs."

Vest Tennessee native, cannot blame the



SHANNON PATTERSON talks to students about the dangers of alcohol and drugs. Patterson abused alcohol and drugs for 25 years before "getting right" with God. Patterson spoke on behalf of the Tennessee Drug Awareness Council, which receives some of its funding from the Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions.

mess he made of his life on the fact he didn't learn about Jesus until later in life.

He grew up in a small community "with a good family" and went to church. He accepted Christ into his life at age 9 at Allen Baptist.

Introduction to drugs

Three years later while working in his dad's cotton field Patterson was introduced to marijuana.

He recalled that he smoked it only for "enjoyment" at first. By the age of 15, however, he acknowledged that he "was a

full blown alcoholic, smoked pot every day, and took other drugs."

Patterson, who was working and earning money by the age of 13, quit school six months before he was to graduate. "I was making more money than the teacher," he said.

One year later, in October of 1985, something happened that would drastically change Patterson's life.

He and a friend had been out drinking and were traveling from Brownsville to Bells when they were involved in a head-on

collision. Patterson lost his spleen and had numerous other internal and external injuries.

That accident introduced him to pain medication. He recalled sitting in the hospital bed saying that he would never again drink or ride with a drunk while "all the time I was pushing the button for more pain medication."

Patterson became hooked on pain medication and would complain of pain he didn't have in order to get more.

During that same time Patterson took some "acid" or LSD, but didn't like it. He later sold it to an acquaintance who turned out to be a TBI agent.

Patterson was arrested and placed in jail. Though he didn't realize it then, he is convinced today that the TBI agent probably saved his life.

"That experience kept me from selling drugs again," he said. Patterson also noted that the agent, now a U.S. marshal, has since become a positive influence in his life.

Patterson's time in jail (he served about eight months of a three-year sentence) didn't immediately turn around his life. In fact, he admits that while he was in jail "I learned how to be a criminal."

After his release he became "sneakier" with his addiction.

During the ensuing years, Patterson continued to struggle — See Former, page 3

LMCO gifts near record '03 total

Baptist Press

RICHMOND — Following a year when Lottie Moon Christmas Offering giving shattered old records and removed appointment restrictions, Southern Baptists raised nearly that amount again by giving almost \$134 million to overseas missions.

When the books closed on the 2004 offering May 31, Southern Baptists had given \$133,886,221.58. The amount fell just short of the previous year's \$136 million total and short of the \$150 million goal.

Despite the shortfall, it was the offering's second-largest total in its 115-year history to support more than 5,200 missionaries on the field. On the heels of the Lottie Moon emphasis and in the months following, Southern Baptists also gave more than \$16.3 million to relief efforts after a tsunami struck parts of southern Asia and the Pacific Rim regions Dec. 26, 2004.

Through June 7, Tennessee Baptists have given \$9,505,140 for the 2004 LMCO, according to figures from the TBC accounting office.

— See LMCO, page 2

about your newsjournal

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Belmont breaks ground for new residence hall

Belmont news office

NASHVILLE — Belmont University broke ground June 8 on a new \$17 million residence hall and parking garage that will provide living space for 322 students and increase on-campus parking by 400 spaces.

The residence hall will be named Thraikill Hall in honor of Belmont's past chairman Larry Thraikill and his wife, Jan. Thraikill has served on the university's board of trustees since 1980 and led the board as chairman during a period of rapid growth for the university.

"Belmont University has plans for continued student growth over the next few years, creating the need for more residence capacity on campus," said Robert Fisher, Belmont president.

Thraikill Hall, which is very similar in design to Kennedy Hall, a 200-bed residence hall the university opened in the fall of 2003, will be located on a 6.5-acre site along 15th Avenue on the east side of the Belmont campus.

The five-story, 77,841-square-foot residence hall, scheduled to open in the fall of 2006, will offer suite-style living for four residents in each suite and substantial lobby and common space. □

Church withdraws from SBC over conflict with sign

Baptist Press

FOREST, N.C. — The North Carolina church at the center of a recent controversy over the

Ministers trained as transitional interim pastors

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — A training event held recently for ministers interested in becoming a transitional interim pastor (TIP) has exceeded expectations, according to a Tennessee Baptist Convention leadership team.

The team (comprised of Archer Thorpe, Ray Gilder, Steve Holt, and Bill Northcott) had no idea what the interest level would be when it was

Koran has voted to withdraw from the Southern Baptist Convention, the *Biblical Recorder* newspaper reported June 6.

The congregation, Daniel-town Baptist Church in Rutherford County, N.C., was embroiled in a media storm in May when its pastor, Creighton Lovelace, placed a derogatory message about the Koran on the church sign in front of the building. It read, "The Koran needs to be flushed."

Lovelace subsequently apologized and removed the message from the sign.

Subsequently, however, about two dozen people at the church's monthly business meeting unanimously voted to withdraw from the SBC, the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, and the Sandy Run Baptist Association, the *Biblical Recorder* reported. The newspaper is the official journal of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. The vote means the church is now an independent Baptist church. □

Senate confirms Bush nominees

Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — The Senate confirmed appeals court nominee William Pryor by a vote of 53-45 June 9, placing a staunch conservative who had been filibustered on the federal bench.

Pryor was part of a compromise by a group of 14 senators that allowed most of President Bush's filibustered nominees to receive an up-or-down vote. He was nominated in April 2003.

Pryor now has a lifetime seat on the U.S. 11th Circuit Court of Appeals, where he currently is serving under a temporary

recess appointment that would have ended this year. The 11th Circuit is based in Atlanta and covers Alabama, Florida, and Georgia.

"William Pryor believes in interpretation of the law — not rewriting the law according to his own political views," Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., said on the floor.

The compromise allowed filibusters on Pryor, Priscilla Owen, and Janice Rogers Brown to end while allowing two other filibusters to continue. Now, Pryor, Owen, and Brown all have been confirmed. Owen and Brown passed on identical 56-43 votes.

Liberal interest groups, led by abortion rights and homosexual activist organizations, had led the opposition to the three nominees.

Christian conservatives support Bush's nominees and hope they will help reverse decades of socially liberal rulings on such issues as abortion, religious freedom, and homosexual activism. □

Leaders seek to end hunger in U.S. by 2015

Associated Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — A broad array of religious leaders has launched an ambitious effort to combat domestic hunger and poverty.

Several hundred Christian, Jewish, Muslim, and other leaders culminated a weekend conference in Washington June 7 by visiting Capitol Hill offices to lobby Congress on behalf of the "Hunger-Free Communities Act of 2005."

Ministers trained as transitional interim pastors

For Baptist and Reflector

While there participants were introduced to TIP ministry. They also explored conflict management, assessing the past and the present, preparing for the future, understanding change, the pastor search process, and other related matters.

"The exceptional response underscores the growing appreciation for TIP ministry and the unique window of opportunity for constructive ministry during the interim period," Northcott said.

With the leadership of a TIP, a congregation may expect direction for processing grief over the loss of a beloved pastor, rebuilding trust and fellowship in a conflicted congregation, discovering the congregation's unique calling, implementing change that leads to health, and preparation for the arrival of a new pastor," Northcott said.

For more information about TIP ministry, contact Northcott, church-minister relations office, 1-800-558-2090, or (615) 371-2099. □

The legislation sets a goal ending hunger in the United States by 2015, and would require the Department of Agriculture to report on progress toward that goal annually, also would include "sense of Congress" language in an attempt to keep future Congresses from cutting funding for anti-hunger programs.

In addition, the legislation would create a \$50 million fund to provide grants to what supporters call "grassroots anti-hunger and anti-poverty programs."

The bill has a bipartisan group of sponsors.

The private groups supporting the bill are as ideologically diverse as the politicians.

Conference participant Cynthia Holmes, a St. Louis attorney and former moderator of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, pointed out that three of the denominational leaders who helped lead the service within Baptist life — Coordinator Daniel Vestal, St. Hasty of the Alliance of Baptists, and Barrett Duke of the Southern Baptist Convention Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission. □

LMCO gifts ...

— Continued from page 1

"We are overwhelmed by this testimony of Southern Baptists' heart for missions desire to reach our world Jesus Christ," said Je Rankin, president of the International Mission Board. "We were able to remove restrictions on the number of missionaries being appointed after the reoffering [in 2003] but were concerned about whether or that level of support would be sustained."

"While the slight reduction in the amount given does enable us to move forward much as we had anticipated will stretch the dollars and all we can to use it to push to the edge of lostness."

With more missionary candidates than ever before seeking appointment, Rankin challenged Southern Baptists reach this year's \$150 million goal. "Opportunities to literally touch the whole world unprecedented," he said. "Whether or not we are able to seize these open doors to increase our numbers of missionaries is contingent on Southern Baptists meeting goal this year."

Wanda Lee, executive director/treasurer of Woman's Missionary Union, also commended Southern Baptists for their official giving in support of international missions.

"As local churches strengthen their focus on missions, it is encouraging to see an increasing number of Christians grow in their understanding that the Great Commission is a personal mandate for each one of us," Lee said. □



RAY GILDER, far right, leads a session during a training meeting for ministers interested in becoming a transitional interim pastor (TIP).

retires from Tusculum Hills Baptist

Westmoreland builds congregation in 30-year ministry

Connie Davis Bushey
Artist and Reflector

NASHVILLE — Doug Westmoreland has served as pastor of Tusculum Hills Baptist Church here for 30 years, seeing it grow from about 140 people in Sunday morning worship to 100.

He's glad for the growth, but quick to add, "If I had one session to make, it would be, 'I didn't do as much as I did.'"

As he prepares to retire, he realizes much of what has occurred at the church has been led by others. "This is God's church," he said.

Westmoreland asked the congregation not to make any plans for his successor, not even to form a pastor search committee, until after he left June 5.

He doesn't think He (God) appointed me to select my successor, so they will be doing that after I leave."

Westmoreland also doesn't want to be "a hindrance," to the pastor of Tusculum Hills Church, he described, so he is moving away from the city, in Jackson, Miss. He is a native of Idaho but he isn't able to return to be near immediate family. His six brothers are deceased.

He explained if he remained in the Nashville area, although he has three children live here, he would be a "hindrance" to a new pastor of Tusculum Hills. "He would be called upon to perform funerals and weddings and he would want to visit members in the hospital, he said. Opportunities should be given to the new pastor, he added.

He even believes that 30 years ago when he was called as pastor God had a successor chosen to follow him.

Long tenure

Westmoreland said "the beauty of being here so long" is baptizing young people, experiencing the birth of their children, watching their families grow, baptizing the children, and even baptizing some grandchildren.

That is a beautiful experience, but a "scary" one, he added, in that he's been the only pastor about a third of the congregation has ever known.

"I'm going to have to answer for that," he stated.

While at Tusculum Hills he also learned how to pastor in an urban setting. His former pastorates were in a rural setting, Liberty Grove Baptist Church, Jackson, where he served for eight years, and churches in Mississippi. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1954-58. Westmoreland served several churches as a bivocational pastor while working as a rural mail carrier and operating a gasoline service station.

In an urban setting, a pastor shouldn't visit people in their homes without an appointment, he learned.

So Westmoreland started sending birthday cards to members and anniversary cards to couples he had married. It has become quite a ministry, he explained. Some days, he writes a personal message in about 100 cards.

He said his card-giving has become so expected that he gets phone calls from members asking where their card is if it is delivered late.

"It's a little something to let

them know we're thinking about them," described Westmoreland.

He also learned that he needed to allocate more, rather than less time because of his experience, to study, he said.

A pastor with a long tenure at a church needs to "stay fresh," and "on your toes," he noted. He shouldn't repeat a lot of sermons, he added.

Although the study required discipline, Westmoreland said spending time studying ended up "benefitting me personally more than it benefitted the church."

"The Bible is like an orange. The more you squeeze it, the more juice you get out of it. And it's inexhaustible."

He has read a lot of books besides the Bible. He especially relied on Vance Havener and W. A. Criswell, retired pastor, First Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas.

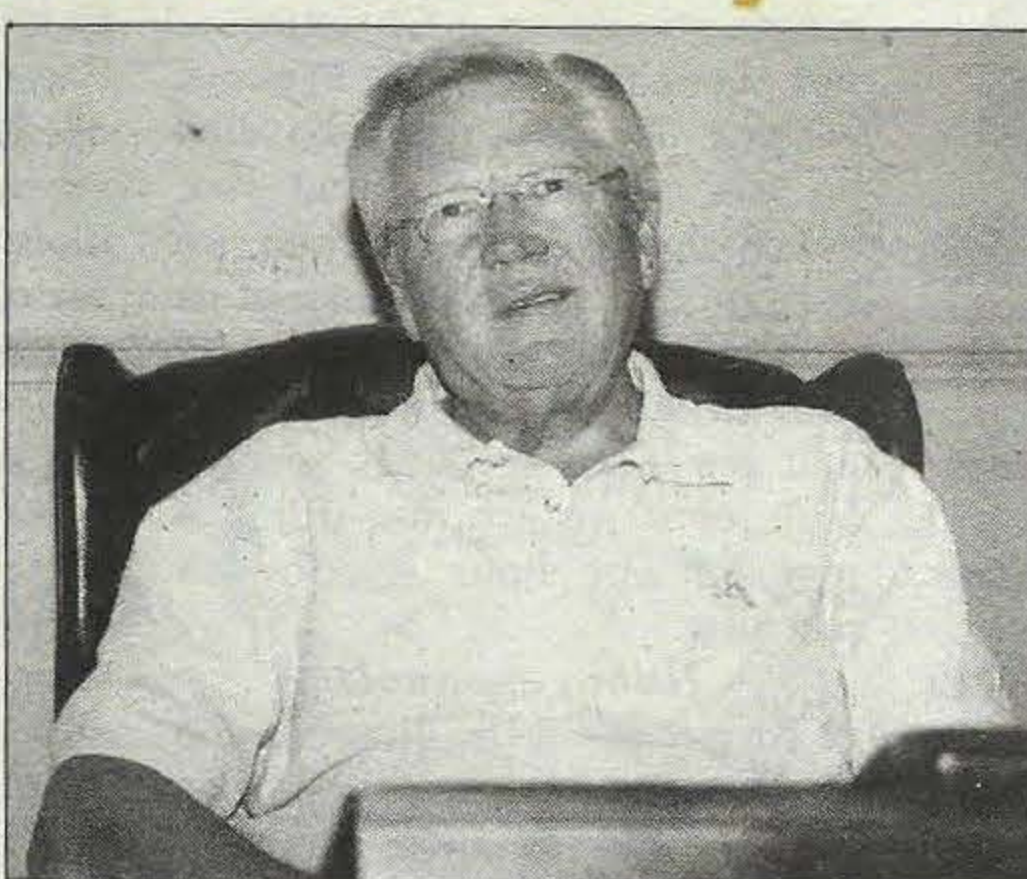
Westmoreland attended several Schools of Prophets hosted by Criswell, where he learned to focus on the development of preschool and children's departments initially to develop a church.

Tough times

Westmoreland said he has endured several tough periods during his 44-year ministry.

"Anybody can quit. That's the easy way out when preachers get in tough times. Tough times don't last. ... If you run once, you run the rest of your life. My philosophy is God hasn't brought us this far to forget us."

He said he gained from reading the book, *Tough Times Never Last, But Tough People Do!*, by



DOUG WESTMORELAND, pastor, Tusculum Hills Baptist Church, Nashville, for 30 years, sits in his office which he was packing up in preparation for retirement.

Robert H. Schuller, pastor, Crystal Cathedral, Garden Grove, Calif.

The church

Westmoreland is proud of Tusculum Hills. He's proud of its senior adult ministry. The church has a full-size gymnasium and walking track which is used extensively by the community. Groups and individuals pay a nominal charge for its use.

He has watched the completion of five building programs on church land which is now nearly the size of a city block. The church is debt-free while having sizable savings.

This is true despite the fact Tusculum Hills gives 11 percent of its budget to the Cooperative Program of the Southern Baptist Convention and a total of about 25 percent to various missions projects including Belmont College, Nashville.

Westmoreland served 10 years as a trustee of the college. He also served as a member of the SBC Executive Committee

for eight years during "a lot of turmoil," he said, referring to the conservative shift of the convention which began in 1979.

Westmoreland said the congregation reacted to the denominational changes by increasing its giving to the CP. Other than that, the "controversy didn't affect this church," he added. The church isn't "ultra-conservative," but is conservative, he added, and is autonomous.

During his tenure, Tusculum Hills started Stonebrook Baptist Chapel, Nolensville, which is growing; broadcasts morning worship services on TV twice a week; and sends several groups a year to do missions work around the world.

Some of its missions funding goes to the Hawaii Baptist Academy, an independent missionary to Nigeria, a Caribbean radio ministry, and the Gideons. Many members give money to the Gideons as memorials for deceased members, he remarked.

The future

Of his retirement, Westmoreland is looking forward to fishing near the home he will share with his wife, Carolyn. He also hopes to serve as pastor of a small church and help a younger pastor or two on study skills and sermon preparation. When asked if he wanted to be a mentor to pastors, he said he would rather be a friend.

"I don't believe God's through with me yet. I couldn't quit if I wanted to," he said. □

Former drug addict now shares his Christian ...

Continued from page 1
his addiction. He developed problems which led him to more and more on prescription drugs for pain relief. "I was a drug addict. I was going to do something. Painkillers were a favorite."
Patterson has mixed feelings about pharmaceuticals.
They can be a springboard for getting well or they can be a trap that you lean on until you die," he observed. "Painkillers have a place, but not for an addict," Patterson added, noting that he has been totally off medication for nearly 18 months. He has been "drug-free" for more than 18 years.

During those years in which he used alcohol and drugs, aspects of his life went by. He held several jobs. He knew that he has "made two for one" but has spent three. His marriage failed and for a while he was not able to see his son

regularly, although he now has custody of his son, Joseph, now 10.

Running from God

During his 25 years as "a lifetime prisoner" to alcohol and drugs, Patterson knew God was at hand, ready to take over his life if he would only allow Him to do so.

"I knew there was a God. I grew up in church."

"He was my reserve plan," Patterson continued, noting that if things "got real bad, I would get right with God."

Yet, he continued to "hide from all the pastors at Allen Baptist who came to visit him during those years. During most of that time he lived only two miles from the church."

That changed a few years ago when the church's interim pastor, John Adams, came to visit him after he had back surgery.

Patterson noted he was lying flat on his back and was



SHANNON PATTERSON, right, visits with Phil Lovelace, president of Tennessee Drug and Awareness Council, who has become a trusted friend and mentor.

depressed because at the time he didn't know if he would ever walk again.

He recalled that Adams visited him several times and never really said anything that he had not heard before. "For the first time, however, I really heard it. The Lord opened my ears and heart. All of a sudden it pertained to me."

Patterson said he began to cry and he accepted Christ into his heart while lying in that hospital bed. "My struggles weren't over, but I knew I would go to heaven," he said.

The future

Patterson is fully aware that his struggles are still not over. He is involved in the ministry at Allen Baptist and is mentored by his pastor, Greg Jordan.

As long as he is involved with church and TDAC, Patterson said he is convinced his drug usage is behind him. "As long as I'm living for the Lord, drugs won't be an issue."

He knows he cannot ever take "one" drink or drug. "There's not room for Jesus and drugs," he said.

Patterson is convinced that he probably should have died at some point over the past 25 years, "but God had a plan." He

credits the people "who prayed for me for 25 years. Without them I wouldn't have made it."

Patterson now wants to devote his life to ministry and to help children and teenagers to avoid the life of misery that he led for 25 years.

Hearing Shannon Patterson's story is the reason TDAC exists, Lovelace said. "We tell kids about his story so this lifestyle can be avoided."

Patterson, who owns his own painting company in the Bells area, is completing his current projects and plans to devote his efforts full-time to raise his own support in order that he can be a "co-laborer" with Lovelace at TDAC.

"I'm on fire for the Lord," Patterson said with conviction.

"God is in my heart and I'm living life for the first time since I was 9 years old."

For more information about the ministry of TDAC, contact Lovelace at (615) 385-2251. □

A little bit of this, a little bit of that

reflections



By Lonnie Wilkey, editor

As I was mulling over ideas for a column this week, several things came to mind, so here goes:

SBC annual meeting

Southern Baptists will descend upon Nashville beginning this Saturday as many are coming early to help with Crossover Nashville. Tennessee Baptists have an opportunity to "put our best foot forward" as we welcome our out of state visitors to Tennessee. Many Baptists from our Middle Tennessee churches will be volunteering in one way or another as the convention meets. Many more will be involved in Crossover Nashville efforts. Let's keep a smile on our face as we meet Southern Baptists from all across the nation next week. Let them see not only "Southern hospitality" at its best, let them also see Jesus in you. Pray diligently this week for Crossover Nashville and that thousands of people will come to know Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Too true to be funny

Thom Tapp, pastor of Oral Baptist Church in Lenoir City, hits the nail on the head with his cartoon on this page. While the cartoon itself is funny, the message is not. Too many Chris-

tians in our churches have this mentality. Being a Christian is not about me or you. It is about serving Jesus Christ who died on the cross for me and you. Jesus deserves more than an hour on Sunday from those of us who call Him Lord of our life. All of us need to examine our hearts and see if we are truly serving Him, or if we are just filling a pew for one hour on Sunday morning.

Habla espanol?

An article in the June 9 issue of *The Tennessean* noted that one out of every seven people in the United States is Hispanic, according to the Census Bureau. In Tennessee that number is one out of 50. Both are expected to increase, according to the article. Spanish is being spoken more and more today in our country. Walk through Wal-Mart and listen. Go to a fast food restaurant and observe those taking your order or preparing the food. In many of these places, the workers will be speaking Spanish. Dial your local utility company and you will probably hear a message in Spanish. I feel strongly that those who come from other countries should learn our language and adapt to a new culture. I have traveled in several countries where few people could speak or understand English. If I were to go live in another country, I certainly wouldn't expect people there to learn my language so they could communicate with me. Churches have a

tremendous ministry opportunity to Hispanics via English as a Second Language classes. Several churches in our state have vibrant ESL ministries and more will be needed as the number of Hispanics increase in Tennessee. We can help Hispanics adapt to a new culture while at the same time sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with them.

It's not my fault

How many times have we heard our kids blame someone else for the bad things they did. It is never their fault. Unfortunately, some children do not leave "their childish ways" when they become adults. Another story in the June 9 issue of *The Tennessean* illustrates this point vividly. This story also falls in the too true to be funny category. No doubt we all are aware of "Operation Tennessee Waltz," an undercover operation by the FBI to see if some of our politicians would succumb to bribery. Some did, but it's not their fault, at least according to one senator who took the bribe. John Ford of Memphis, who has since resigned his seat, said, "They're (the FBI) the ones that have been disingenuous all along. They're the ones that set up a

fictitious, phony, illegal apparatus. They have lied about the company. They lied about everything." Give me a break. Sad, but true, this is an adult "leader" (?) saying this. What's more, others have basically agreed with this senator. No one held a gun to these politicians' heads and forced them to take the money. It's time these politicians take responsibility for their actions. And if they don't, we (the general public) should. The reason we have leaders in political office who are not doing their jobs or who are "dishonest" is because we allow them to remain in office. We must hold our politicians to high standards and if they fail to meet and keep those standards, vote them out of office and find someone who will be honest and forthright in their dealings. □

a parent speaks

By Carolyn R. Toml

Lessons on fatherhood

Although we think of fathers daily, the third of June has been designated Father's Day — a time to tribute to the man who makes a difference in life. I often wonder where I would be, or the person I would have become, not for Christian parent set an example of what is "right" and "wrong." In our home there were no gray areas — only black and white issues.

From the time I was 2 old until the day I married, I lived in the house built by my father. After living with my maternal grandmother for several years, my parents were excited to build their first home. Like other houses, this structure contained lumber, nails, shingles, and bricks. But one thing that made this home special were the lessons I learned about life from my parents. I'm reminded of Proverbs 22:6, *Train a child the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it.* Like other values and Christian principles, these same characteristics continue to be relevant today as with generations long ago. Could some of these values work for your family?

A person's word is his bond. In other words, say what you will do, then follow through. Be a person of integrity.

Help children develop a work ethic. Know that honest work has value. Communities need people who develop skills for working their hands. Those jobs that provide a service for others can be a fulfilling career. Not everyone needs to train as a lawyer, minister, or teacher.

Understand that families help each other. When you turn against you, children learn to know they have a family. Jesus and in their families unconditional love will sustain them through tough times in life.

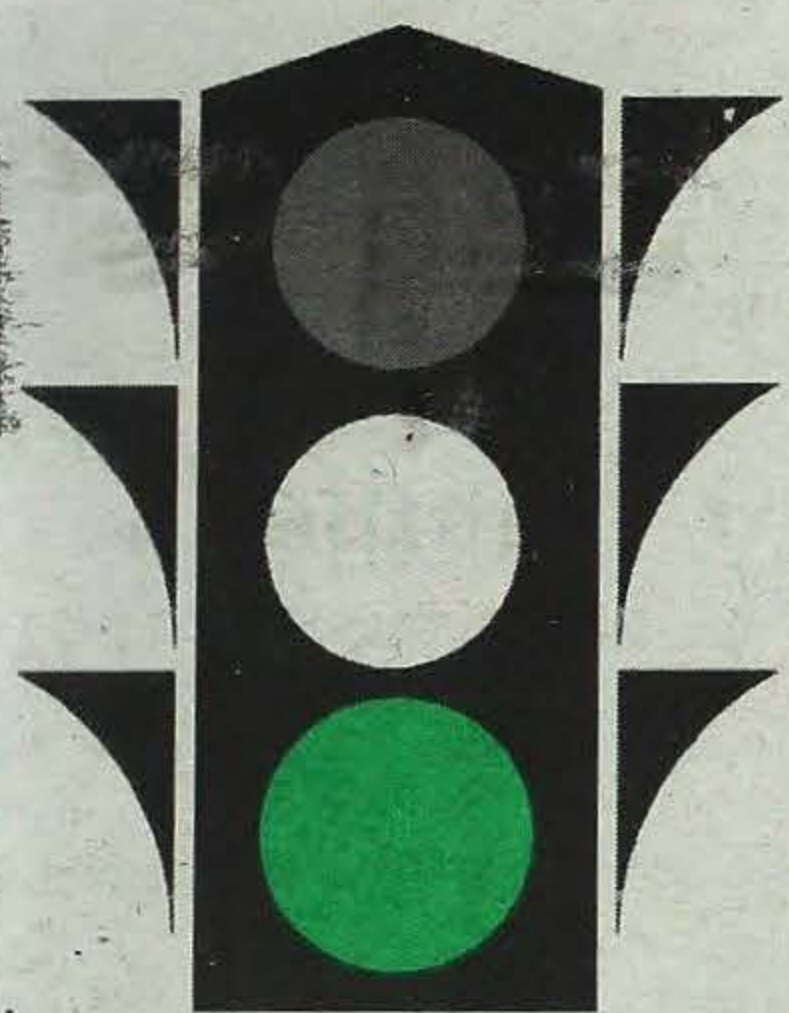
The path you choose determines your happiness or unhappiness. Life is full of choices. God has given us a wonderful organ, known as the brain. Making small choices with success leads to big decisions later.

Values learned as a child follow through to adulthood. We become what we teach our children. Therefore, parents, children with Christian values and setting an example begin early in life.

Childhood is such a precious period of life. Treasure the moment, hold on to the memories and thank God for the home where children learn lessons about life. □

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp





Green Light

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



EQUIPPING U SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

Equip for Excellence

1 PURPOSE equip- 1. to furnish for service or action - make ready by appropriate provisioning
ex-cel-lence- 1. the quality of being excellent; 2. very good of its kind; 3. first-class

2005 "Equipping U" Sunday School Convention is a two-day event designed to "equip for excellence" every age group Sunday School leader in your church. Special conferences for Pastors, Sunday School Directors, Ministers of Education, Preschool leaders, Children's leaders, Youth leaders, Adult leaders. There will be a special feature for all age groups on Friday night. Saturday morning, there will be 3 breakout session times with multiple options of conferences for each age group at each time. Over 25 different conferences to choose from in each session.

2 LOCATIONS
First Baptist Church, Greeneville, TN- August 19-20
Brentwood Baptist Church, Brentwood, TN- August 26-27

3 SPECIAL FEATURES

BRENTWOOD:
Dr. Thom Rainer
Dean of the Billy Graham School of Missions,
Evangelism & Church Growth, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

GREENEVILLE:
Dr. Ken Hemphill
National Strategist for Kingdom Empowered Growth,
LifeWay Christian Resources and SBC Executive Committee

SPECIAL AGE-GROUP SESSIONS- FRIDAY NIGHT ONLY FEATURING:

CHURCH GENERAL OFFICERS, SUNDAY SCHOOL DIRECTORS
Greeneville location- Dr. Thom Rainer
Brentwood location- Dr. Ken Hemphill

ADULT LEADERS (Both locations)
Daryl Eldridge
Minister of Spiritual Development,
Second Baptist Church,
Springfield, MO

YOUTH LEADERS (Greeneville location)
Phil Hawberry
Student Pastor, Bellevue Baptist
Church, Cordova, TN

YOUTH LEADERS (Brentwood location)
Chuck Galtman
Youth Ministry Professor, Howard
Payne University, Brownwood, TX

PRESCHOOL/CHILDREN LEADERS (Both locations)
James Hargrave
National Children's speaker,
writer and conference leader

REGISTRATION
Cost: \$10 per person (includes program fee, leader gift, and breaks)
Special Group Registration Price: If you register a group of 10 or more people, the group receives a \$25 discount. Call for details.
For complete registration information, hotel blocks reserved, and conference room descriptors and leaders, call 800.558.2090 ext. 2054 or visit the website at www.equippingu.com

SCHEDULE:

FRIDAY EVENING
6:00 pm Registration
7:00 pm Worship Rally with special guest speaker
8:00 pm Age Group Feature session
9:30 pm Dismiss

SATURDAY MORNING
8:00 am Registration
8:30 am Equip for Excellence Theme Interpretation
9:15 am Age Group Breakouts- Session 1
10:30 am Age Group Breakouts- Session 2
11:45 am Age Group Breakouts- Session 3
12:45 pm Dismiss
An on-site bookstore will be available to purchase resources

Equip for Excellence: **1 PURPOSE • 2 EVENTS • 2 IMPORTANT TO MISS!**

This ministry is made possible by Tennessee Baptist Churches giving through the Cooperative Program.



► DON'T FORGET! ◀

Your Father's Day Offering to Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes will give us a needed lift and financially subside the cost of care for many of our residents with limited means. Make a timely and generous gift on this special day in honor or memory of your loving father or father-in-law. Learn more about our ministry to seniors and mentally challenged adults on our new web site: www.tnbaptisthomes.org Thanks for your support and Happy Father's Day!!

For information on the Tennessee Baptist Camps listed below, visit www.tnbaptistcamps.org or call 800-558-2090, ext. 2085.

June 27-July 1 Journey Camp for Kids, Camp Linden
July 11-15 Youth IMPACT, Camp Linden
July 22-24 Journey Mini Camp for Kids, Camp Carson
July 25-29 Mission IMPACT, Camp Carson

June 27-July 1, Super Summer, Austin Peay State University. For youth: 8th grade-college freshman. For more info, contact Rachel Watson at rwatson@tnbaptist.org or call 800.558.2090, ext. 7933.

July 15-16, Tennessee Black Church Leadership Conference, Baptist Center, Brentwood. Cost: \$30 per person. Lodging is an additional cost. Visit www.tbcbblackchurch.org for a complete list of hotels. For more information, contact Willie McLaurin, Leadership Specialist at 800.558.2090, ext. 2011 or e-mail wmclaurin@tnbaptist.org.

July 22-24 Conversational English Workshop, Baptist Center, Brentwood.

Purpose: To train volunteers in a local church on how to begin and lead a Conversational English Ministry in their church as a means for ministering to ethnic people in their community. This is a 16-hour worship and attendees must attend all sessions and complete assignments in order to be certified by the North American Mission Board.

Cost: \$20 person. To register or for more information, contact Ilka Marks at 800.558.2090, ext. 7916 or e-mail imarks@tnbaptist.org.

Tennessee

MM

Music Ministry

LC

Leadership
Conference



Mary McDonald



Bruce & Lisa



Peculiar People



Tennessee
Mens Chorale



Tennessee
Ladies Chorus

August 12-13

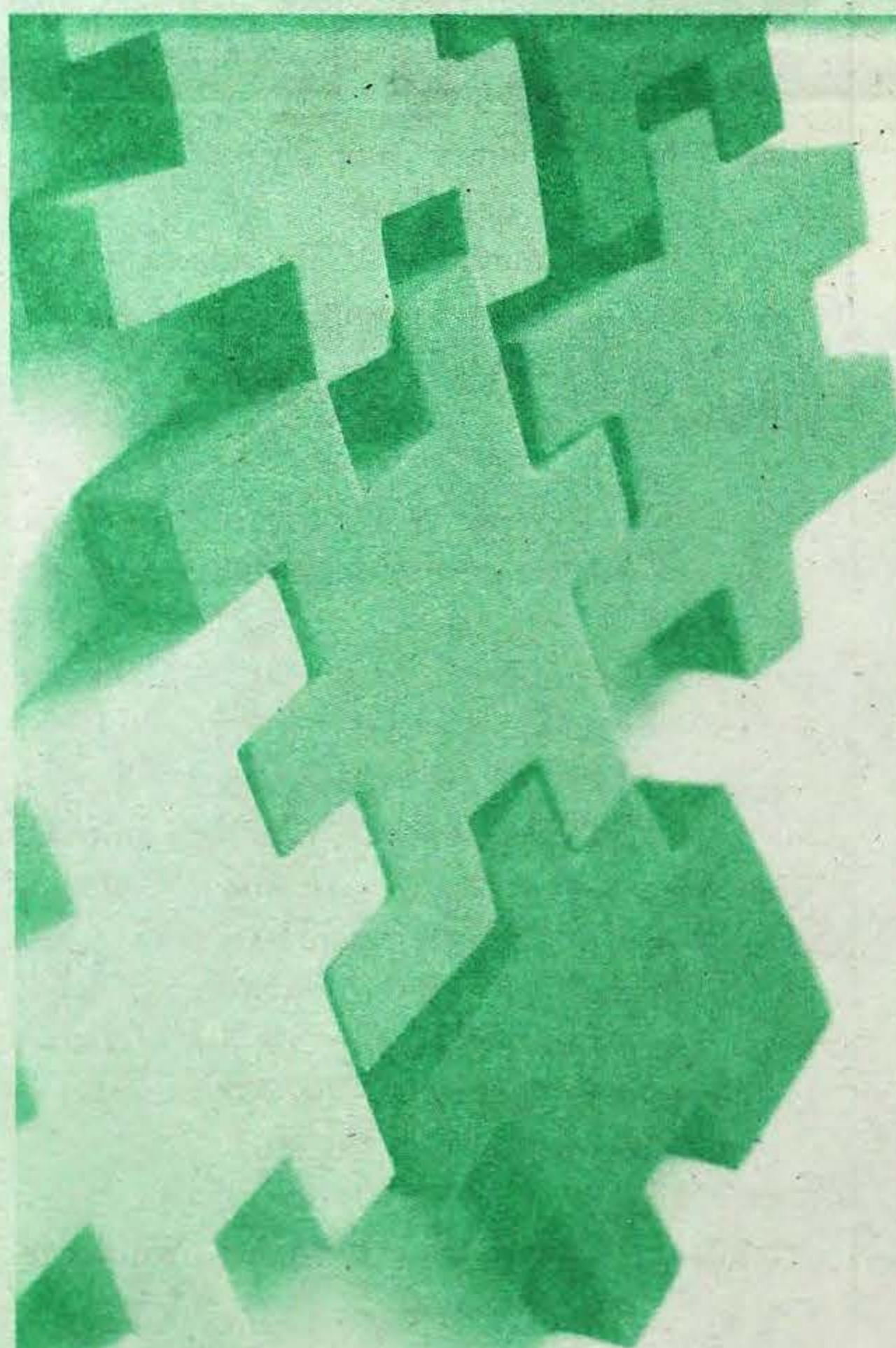
Tennessee Music Ministry Leadership Conference

"Music Ministry Matters"

Brentwood Baptist Church, Brentwood TN.

For all music leaders- ministers of music, worship leaders, adult choir members, youth choir leaders, preschool & children's choir leaders, praise leaders & members, instrumental leaders, handbell ringers & leaders, pianists, organists, midi-synth keyboard players, and small church music leaders. Conference fee is \$50 person if registered by July 12. For more information visit www.tnworshipandmusic.org, call Paul Clark or Charlotte Hanson at 800.558.2090, or e-mail chanson@tnbaptist.org.

ANNUAL CHURCH WEEKDAY EDUCATION CONFERENCE



PUTTING PIECES TOGETHER

August 5-6, 2005 • Hermitage Hills Baptist Church

ANNUAL CHURCH WEEKDAY EDUCATION CONFERENCE

"Putting the Pieces Together"
August 5-6, 2005

Hermitage Hills Baptist Church
3475 Lebanon Rd, Hermitage TN

Keynote speaker, Willa Ruth Garlow. Mrs. Garlow is an internally known motivational speaker, teacher, and child specialist from Oklahoma.

Two hour core conferences for directors and teachers: Directors workshop, Infants-Toddlers, Twos, Threes, Fours & Fives

Elective conferences include topics such as Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, Sharing Space, Choosing a Curriculum, Starting an After-School Program, Painting with Preschoolers, and more!

New this year! Director's banquet: Friday night, August 5, 2005 6:00pm - 8:00pm. Cost for the banquet is \$20 person.

Saturday conference costs \$35 per person if postmarked before July 7. \$45 after that date.

For more information, contact Barbara Owens at Bowens@tnbaptist.org, call 800.558.2090, ext. 7905, or visit www.tnbaptist.org.

Credit hours available for licensed program staff.

CHURCH WMU LEADER TRAINING

will be in a location near you during the month of August and September. The complete dates and locations can be found on the Tennessee Woman's Missionary Union website www.tnwmu.org. For more information, contact Vickie Anderson, vanderson@tnbaptist.org. 1-800-558-2090, ext. 7918.

Secretaries Professional Certification

AUGUST 10-12 • BAPTIST CENTER,
BRENTWOOD

Whether you are a new secretary in the church office or you have been around a long time, this course is for you. These materials will help you in every aspect of your ministry position. It will give you a deeper sense of your calling, a renewed passion, and a deeper understanding of the ministry of the church office. Don't miss out on this opportunity sponsored by LifeWay Christian Resources at the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Cost is \$120 or \$20 per module and should be mailed to Lana Rose, TBC, PO Box 37024, Brentwood, TN 37024. For registration information, module descriptions, and other information visit www.tnsecretaries.org.

HEART CRY FOR REVIVAL

2005 PASTOR'S RETREAT • AUGUST 8 - 11

Seeking God's Face

HEART CRY FOR REVIVAL

Seeking God's Face

DATE:

August 8 - 11, 2005

LOCATION:

Carson Springs Baptist Conference Center, Newport, TN

RETREAT LEADERS:

Pastor Robert Pitman - Senior Pastor at Kirby Woods BC, Memphis, TN

Pastor Phil Hoskins - Senior Pastor at Higher Ground BC, Kingsport, TN

Floyd "Lammie" Lammersfeld - Evangelist

Don Whitt - Evangelist

Glenn Denton - Senior Pastor at Hillcrest Baptist, Lebanon, TN and President of the Tennessee Baptist Pastor's Conference

Don Pierson - TBC Prayer Strategies Ministry Specialist

Pastor Roc Collins - Senior Pastor at Gate City FBC, Gate City, VA

Gary Buck - Music

PASTOR'S WIVES ACTIVITIES:

Carolyn Powell - sessions topics include "The Preacher's wife 'herself': Who are we?"
"The Preacher's wife and her home".

Activities for the ladies will include.....an afternoon Tea
a complimentary spa treatment

Judy Basham - Mary Kay consultant for afternoon spa/pampering

Johnnie Hum - Counselor, Mountain of Hope Clinic

Afternoons are free for recreation or personal time.

TO REGISTER FOR THE RETREAT:

Please send a \$5.00 registration fee by July 12, 2005 to: Diana Cox, Evangelism Strategies, Tennessee Baptist Convention, P. O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37024-0728.

To make room reservations contact Susan Mason with Carson Springs toll free at 877-704-6336 or email her at smason@tnbaptist.org.

For additional details such as cost of lodging, meals and retreat schedule please visit the TBC Evangelism web page at www.tnbaptist.org or call 800-558-2090 ext 2058.

Associate Training:

"In the Name of Jehovah"

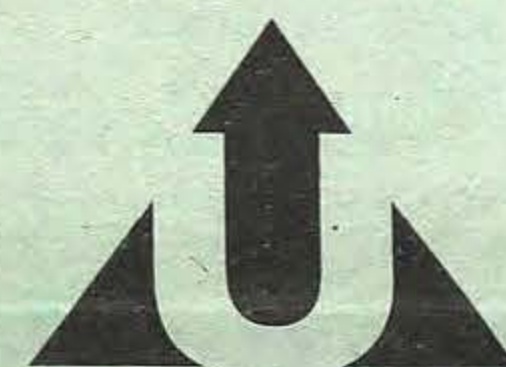
Knox County Baptist Association Office,
Knoxville, Tennessee

August 12-13

The purpose of this event is to provide sufficient content and information about Jehovah's Witness and to equip participants to lead churches or associational Interfaith Evangelism Awareness Conferences.

Cost \$15 person.

For more information, contact Ilka Marks at imarks@tnbaptist.org or call 800.558.2090, ext. 7916.



EQUIPPING U

PREPARE • CONNECT • SERVE

Equipping U Regional Sunday School Leadership Training

*"Vital Signs for a
Healthy Sunday School."*

For all preschool, children, youth, and adult Sunday School Leaders, pastors and Sunday School Directors.

6:45pm - 8:45pm

For more information,
visit www.equippingu.com
or call 800.558.2090, ext. 2054.

August 11	First Baptist Church, Paris
August 15	Westwood Baptist Church, Cleveland
August 16	Grace Baptist Church, Tullahoma
August 22	First Baptist Church, Millington
August 23	First Baptist Church, Jackson
August 29	First Baptist Church, Powell
August 30	Stevens Street Baptist Church, Cookeville
September 1	First Baptist Church, Lawrenceburg

VITAL SIGNS... for a Healthy Sunday School



Connect is a FREE evangelistic event empowering teenagers to bring a friend to hear the life-changing Gospel of Jesus Christ.

August 13-14	Knoxville	Market Square
August 28-29	Cookeville	FBC Cookeville
September 17	Parsons	Decatur Co. Fairgrounds
September 18	Jackson	TBA
September 19	Dandridge	Jefferson County High School
September 23	Cleveland	Bradley Central High School
September 24	Cleveland	Lee University Conn Center
October 1-2	Union City	Obion Co. Fairgrounds
October 2-5	Hendersonville	Long Hollow Baptist Church
October 9-10	Harriman	South Harriman Baptist Church
November 13	Clarksville	Hilldale Baptist Church

For more information, contact Rachel Watson at 800.558.2090, ext. 7933 or rwatson@tnbaptist.org.

Coming Up! Coming Up! Coming Up! Coming Up!

SEPTEMBER IS FOUNDATION MONTH

To schedule a Christian Estate Planning seminar at no cost to your church or to learn more about the Foundation's services, please contact W. L. (Bo) Childs or H. Garri (Gary) Coltharp at the Tennessee Baptist Foundation 800.552.4644.

CHURCH LIBRARY TRAINING

September 10, Cleveland First Baptist Church, Cleveland, 8:00am - 4:00pm

September 24, West Jackson Baptist Church, Jackson, 8:00am - 4:00pm

October 1, Nashville TBA

October 15, First Baptist Sevierville, 8:00am - 4:00pm

For more information, please contact Bev League at 800.558.2090, ext. 2047 or e-mail bleague@tnbaptist.org.

September 13-15 **SENIOR ADULT CONFERENCE**: Nurture the Soul. Care for the Body. First Baptist Church, Sevierville. Cost \$30 per person. Participants are responsible for making their own lodging reservations. Featured Speaker: Dr. Charles Lowery. This year's conference features a Health Fair, Golf Tournament, and special guests Goldenaires Choir of First Baptist Church, Richardson Texas. For more information, visit www.tnbaptist.org or contact Leanne Robbins at 800.558.2090, ext. 2083.

September 23-24, **TENNESSEE PRAYER RETREAT FOR WOMEN**, Paris Landing State Park. Theme: From Poverty to Plenty based on Matthew 5:3; Bible study lead Ann Davenport & Carolyn Outland; Registration Fee: \$20 if postmarked by Sept. 9; \$25 after Sept. 9. For brochures contact Rebekah Wales at 615.371.2038 or rwales@tnbaptist.org.

ROUNDTABLES FOR WORSHIP LEADERS & MINISTERS OF MUSIC

A time of sharing helpful tidbits, resources, ideas, and inspiration with your fellow music ministers & worship leaders.

September 26 - Lower West Region, Ellendale Baptist Church, Bartlett. Tommy Webster is Host Minister of Music.

September 29 - East Region, Wallace Memorial Baptist Church, Knoxville. Terry McNatt is host Minister of Music.

October 3 - West Region, Woodland Baptist Church, Jackson. Len Kennedy is Host Minister of Music.

October 6 - Upper East Region, First Baptist Church, Kingsport. Susan Hoover is Host Minister of Music.

October 13 - Middle Region, Hermitage Hills Baptist Church, Nashville. Dan Arterburn is Host Minister of Music.

For more information, contact Paul Clark or Charlotte Hanson at 800.558.2090, ext. 2041 or e-mail chanson@tnbaptist.org.

September 30-October 1, **TRI-STATE CAMP-O-REE**, Camp Cordova, Memphis. For registration form and more information, visit www.tristatecamporee.org.

Approximately 30 teams consisting of three volunteers are needed for the upcoming **2005 EVANGELISM REVIVAL** in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, to be held Sept. 26-Oct. 4. Each team will consist of a preacher, a music leader, and a layperson. Cost: Approx. \$2000. For more information, contact Heather Wilson, at 800.558.2090 ext. 2061 or e-mail hwilson@tnbaptist.org.

Historic Watauga Baptist Association church building burns

Marcia Knox
Artist and Reflector

ELIZABETHTON — The only thing that remains of the sanctuary and education space Poplar Grove Baptist Church are hand hewed chestnut foundation timbers.

The church burned to the ground June 3 during an early morning fire.

The fire burned from the top down in the wood and siding structure, and the floor didn't burn, said pastor Eric Wright, who has been assessing the damage. "We are going to reuse the foundation timbers that are in the floor."

The church, which averages about 80 in the morning worship service and has almost 100 members, was founded in 1877.

Reports indicated that the entire structure of the church was engulfed and flames were seen coming out of the roof in the middle of the church. The Stoney Creek Volunteer Fire Department arrived on the scene.

Church members watched the church burned, because it was too late even though the fire department kept trying," according to Kathy Wilson, administrative assistant for Watauga Baptist Association. Her nephew, Bill Ayers, a member of the church, reported the fire at 4:30 p.m. when he saw it as he was going to work.

Everyone was devastated



THE CHURCH SIGN in the background summed up the feelings of Poplar Grove Baptist Church members — "The building is gone, the church remains."

with the church burning," added Wright, who is a bivocational pastor. "There was a lot of broken heartedness and sadness especially for the senior adults who reminisced about how much they loved the church as they watched it burn. Then there were those people who showed up, who hadn't been in church for five years."

A Stoney Creek Fire Department official said all hot spots in the structure were eliminated before the investigation into the cause of the blaze began. Investigators with the Carter County Sheriff's Department and the State Fire Marshal's office were contacted though nothing suspicious has been indicated at this point.

Since parts of the sanctuary were at least 100 years old, officials

cited aged wiring as a possible cause. The church may have been one of the oldest buildings that was in continuous use in the association, according to Ray Sorrells, Watauga Baptist Association director of missions.

Even though the church burned, the parsonage and the fellowship hall, located next to the church in separate buildings, only sustained some heat damage. The parsonage, which is empty, will now become the Sunday School area.

"It's miraculous that the fellowship hall didn't burn, which had its siding melted," said Sorrells. "Over 100 people attended Sunday's worship service June 5 as the church met in its fellowship hall."

Sorrells, who attended the



SOME OF the remains of the fire which destroyed Poplar Grove Baptist Church, Elizabethton, were visible on Sunday, June 5. — Photos by Ray Sorrells

services on Sunday, said Wright did an excellent job of uniting his congregation to become a stronger church and seeking God's leadership with his sermon.

"Wright talked about a time and purpose for every season and that the loss could be used for a ministry in a greater time in the future," Sorrells added.

"Plans call for the church to continue to meet in the fellowship hall and possibly grow and hold two services in the future until they can rebuild."

"Now there is great excitement about the rebuilding of the church," Wright added. "There is more excitement now than I've seen since I've been here."

"The congregation is planning on selling picture frames made out of the burnt wood to raise funds for the new building."

5-year-old Old Hickory congregation believes in planting mission churches

For Baptist and Reflector

OLD HICKORY — North Point Community Church here began as a mission of Ivy Memorial Baptist Church in Nashville in 2000.

Though only five years old, North Pointe has started two new churches as a result of their commitment to church planting as the absolutely greatest mode of evangelism. North Pointe feels all churches should be "church planting churches," said pastor David Thompson.

"North Pointe believes strongly that it takes all kinds of churches to reach all kinds of people," said Thompson, who also is director of the Middle Tennessee New Network Association, which primarily consists of new churches committed to church planting. MTNNA's desire is to partner with other associations to plant and strengthen churches in Middle Tennessee, Thompson said.

One of North Pointe's missions, The Balm, led by pastor Craig Tibbs, is exploding in growth with over 20 baptisms since January, Thompson said, adding that the mission is intentionally a multi-ethnic congregation.

North Pointe currently meets at Donelson Christian Academy in Donelson and has recently voted in a 100 percent ballot vote to purchase 72 acres

Now there are people talking about coming back to church, and we need to grow to pay for the new building."

Stoney Creek Baptist Church, Elizabethton, will host a service for Poplar Grove Church, Sunday, June 19, at 6 p.m. with Wright and the Poplar Grove choir scheduled to participate. A love offering will be collected for Poplar Grove Church, which was insured for around \$400,000. Current market estimates reveal rebuilding costs may reach \$665,000.

The association has sent a letter to all churches requesting prayer for Poplar Grove Church and donations. Funds may be sent to: Poplar Grove Baptist Church, 1587 Hwy. 91, Elizabethton, TN 37643. □ — Abby Morris-Frye, Elizabethton Star staff reporter, contributed to the story.

between Old Hickory Blvd. and the Cumberland River in Old Hickory. They hope to break ground later this summer.

North Pointe's passion is to "glorify-testify-edify," Thompson said. The church's philosophy of ministry is to "reach-win-train-send." North Pointe recently sent out John Ledford to serve as a pastor in Maine and to plant churches in other areas, including Canada.

Two of the most recent young people from North Pointe to surrender to the call of God are the pastor's son Landon Thompson and Jordan King.

Thompson, 20, surrendered to vocational ministry at the age of 18 to preach and to work with students. He was recently offered a full scholarship at the new "College at Southwestern" an extension of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. He will be working towards a bachelor's degree in biblical studies.

King is a recent graduate of Mt. Juliet High School and has also sensed the call of God to serve the Lord with her life. Jordan will also be receiving a full scholarship and traveling with the school's praise team.

Both Thompson and King will be working at the SWBTS booth at the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting next week before leaving June 23 for Fort Worth. □

Father's Day Offering 2005

TENNESSEE BAPTIST
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**Honor Your Father
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"It is more blessed to give than to receive." — Acts 20:35

Statewide Goal: \$175,000

Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes is your residential ministry to senior adults and developmentally disabled adults.

Draper to hold Younger Leaders Summit June 19

LifeWay news service

NASHVILLE — On one hand, a year's worth of work culminates June 19 when LifeWay president James T. Draper Jr. hosts "Young Leaders' Summit 2005" during the Southern Baptist Convention.

On the other hand, the work will be just beginning.

"I'm very excited about the way the program has come together," Draper said. "We've invested a lot of effort over the past 12 months raising the awareness of our convention to make a place at the denominational table for younger leaders. I've encouraged younger leaders to get involved and bring to bear their energy and creativity."

"I believe that what we have scheduled for the 19th is a strong step toward getting us to where we'd like to go," he said, "and that is ultimately toward being a denomination that uses various creative methods to reach all people with the gospel."

The summit begins at 2 p.m. at the Global Café, located in downtown Nashville at the corner of Broadway and Fourth and is expected to last slightly more than an hour and a half.

Singer/songwriter Russ Lee, former lead vocalist for Newsong, will lead worship. Confirmed speakers include **Kevin Shrum, pastor of Inglewood Baptist Church, Nashville.**

At last year's Southern Baptist Convention in Indianapolis, Draper highlighted the lack of involvement in the convention by younger leaders as a concern of his. He then produced three columns that addressed the

need for the denomination to include those leaders into participation. He followed last year's SBC address with several face-to-face dialogue sessions with younger leaders from across the denomination in several states. He said the sessions helped him develop a better understanding of younger leaders.

Draper said the dialogue sessions have had a direct impact on LifeWay, adding that he will announce on June 19 several commitments LifeWay will make as a result of what he heard.

Registration information can be found at www.lifeway.com/youngerleaders. □

Nashville station gears program to homosexuals

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — The CBS affiliate here is breaking new ground by launching a television show aimed specifically at attracting the city's homosexual population.

NewsChannel 5+, a 24-hour local news and information cable station run by the affiliate, is partnering with a local homo-

sexual newspaper called *Out & About* to produce the show, dubbed "Out & About Today."

"We had a two-year initiative within NewsChannel 5 to make sure we're looking at all parts of the community and addressing all types of people living in our community," Richard Eller, marketing director for NewsChannel 5, told *The Tennessean* newspaper in Nashville. "At NewsChannel 5+, we have the air time to make available to address a specific audience with issues that matter to them."

Out & About Today will feature news, entertainment, and business segments geared toward a homosexual audience and is "the first of its kind," according to the station's web site.

Three members of the Nashville homosexual, "bisexual and transgender" community will host the show, which began June 11. Information about each host is available on the show's web page, and two of the three end their descriptions with references to their

homosexual partners.

Jerry Jones, publisher of *Out & About*, told *The Tennessean* that NewsChannel 5 approached him about the idea for the show.

"The TV show is important because it pushes Nashville ahead of a lot of major cities," he said, adding that he has found Nashville to be much more accepting of the homosexual lifestyle in recent years.

Each episode of *Out & About Today* will air four times per month. □

MBC wins ruling from appeals court

Baptist Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — A Missouri appeals court on May 31 issued a unanimous 3-0 decision in favor of the Missouri Baptist Convention, reversing a trial judge's dismissal and rejecting major legal arguments by five breakaway entities where trustees amended their charters without convention approval,

allowing them to become s perpetuating and to cont more than \$240 million assets. The entities are The Baptist Home, Missouri Baptist University, Missouri Baptist Foundation, Word & Way, Windermere Baptist Conference Center.

Cole County Circuit Judge Thomas J. Brown III had dismissed the case in March 2004 ruling that the MBC and executive board lacked standing to sue. The three-judge appellate panel found that the dismissal was "improper" because the convention had standing and could be represented by the executive board. The appeals court "reversed and remanded" the case, sending it back to the judge with an opinion which resolves several procedural issues and clears the way to move toward the merits of declaratory judgment action filed by the MBC. □



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CLASSIFIED

MINISTRY — MUSIC

Accepting resumes for part-time minister of music. Please send resume to Hillcrest Baptist Church, 380 Dover Rd., Clarksville, TN 37042, (931) 647-8915.

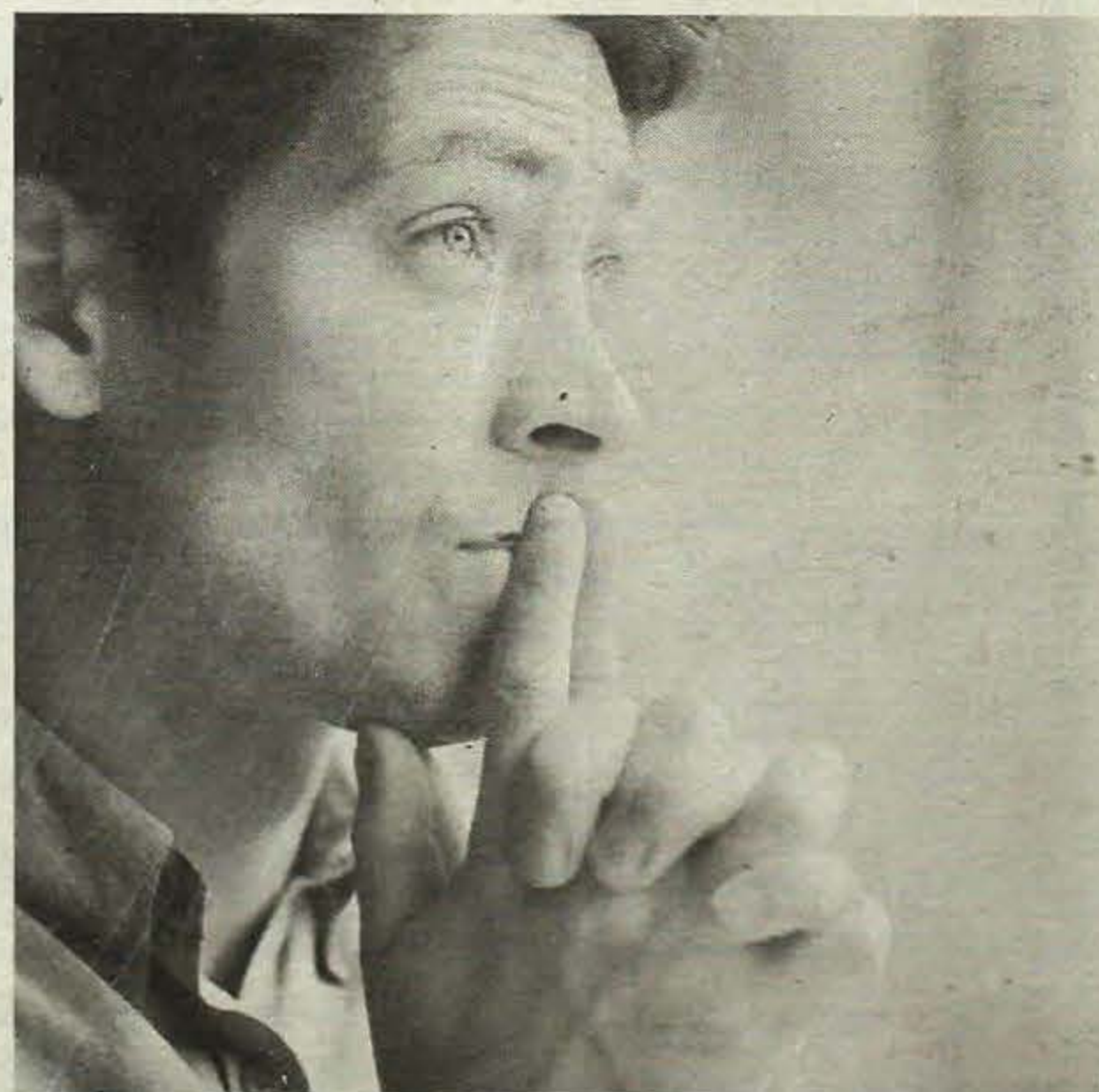
MINISTRY — POSITIONS

Church leadership positions. Seeking 2 qualified, enthusiastic leaders for the following positions: full-time or part-time minister of music as well as a full-time or part-time minister of youth. Send resume to Chris Jenkins, Unaka Avenue Baptist Church, 1213 East Unaka Ave., Johnson City, TN 37601.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Trinity Baptist Church, Bolivar, Tenn., is searching for a pianist and a music director. If you feel God leading you to us, please contact pastor Charles Jeter at (731) 658-2593. Or you may send your resume to Trinity Baptist Church c/o Search Committee, P.O. Box 41, Bolivar, TN 38008.

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my city, my state,
my nation, the world.



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MINISTRY — PASTOR

Stewarts Chapel Baptist Church is seeking a full-time pastor. We are a growing rural church currently running 220-230 worship service. Please send your resume to Pastor Search Committee, 97 Stewarts Church Rd., Flintville, TN 37335 or artscbc@bellsouth.net.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Seeking full-time pastor for Cumberland Avenue Baptist Church. Located in Middle Tennessee near the entrance to hi Cumberland Gap National in Southeastern Kentucky. ECABC averages 125-130 morning worship. We are a mission-minded church ready to grow. Send resume and information to East Cumberland Avenue Baptist Church, Search Committee, P.O. Box 1332, Middlesboro, KY 40288.

MINISTRY — COMBINATION

Covenant Baptist Church, Collierville, Tenn., is accepting resumes for a full-time minister of students/recreation. Send resume to Box 1165, Collierville, TN 38017.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Minister of students/recreation responsible for approximately 100 students, 6th grade through high school. Four year college/ordinating recommended. Four year seminary preferred. Must have a passion for soul-winning and discipleship of students. Send resume to FBC Mt. Olive, Mt. Olive Rd., Mt. Olive, TN 38017, Attn. D. Alford or hfamily@bellsouth.net.

book review

by Crawford

Seeing and Savoring Jesus Christ

by John Piper

Crossway Books, 2004

Who is Jesus Christ? Though most of us are probably confident that we could answer this question adequately, there is oftentimes a gap between who we stand Jesus to be and how He is presented in the pictures. As a result of our poor understanding of Jesus Christ is, our faith is weak and the church is ineffectual. John Piper has done the church a service to regard through his book *Seeing and Savoring Jesus Christ*. Some might remember seeing Piper's sermon about this time last year in Christian bookstores. Following the release of Mel Gibson's *The Passion of the Christ* movie last spring, Piper wrote a book on the same subject. *Seeing and Savoring Jesus Christ* is a follow-up book to his book released last year on the same subject.

Piper's goal in this book is that readers see who Jesus Christ is and then come to savor Him. Indeed, the heart is truly given a vision of the glory of Jesus Christ, the response of the one made alive by Him to delight in Christ, to treasure Him, and to find Him to be the source of the highest possible joy. It is as Jesus in the fullness of His nature that we are captivated by Him to walk in obedience and faithfulness to His commands. Our own goals and selfish desires take backseat to the all-consuming desire to be fully exalted.

The book contains 13 chapters each focusing on a different aspect of Christ's nature, revealing who the Lord Jesus Christ is. The book certainly does not attempt to be a comprehensive summary of the nature of Jesus, but Piper highlights several significant aspects of Jesus' nature such as His deity, His joy, His power, His glory, His suffering and shame, His compassion, His second coming. The chapters are only a few paragraphs long, can be read in a short sitting, and each ends with a prayer. This makes the book a good choice for devotional reading. Furthermore, the book is liberally saturated with Scripture. On some pages there is more Scripture quoted than Piper's own words. This flows from Piper's belief that the Bible is what reveals the glory of Christ.

For Christians are honest with themselves we must admit that there are many days when we wake up and our hearts are not savoring Jesus. What does one do in such circumstances? One tactic that helps us to feel our affections towards God is to be reminded of who Jesus is. This is what Piper has done so well in this book. The book is also a great tool to use for sharing Christ with those who are not believers. Seeing the glory of Jesus often what the Spirit of God uses to bring life to the dead and women who are dead in their sin. The length and clarity of the book make it ideal for giving away to those who do not know Jesus. May God use this book to cause the hearts of many to see and savor Jesus Christ. □ — Crawford is a recent graduate of the University in Jackson.

Get growing

By Michael Adams

Focal Passage: Philippians 2:12-16a; 3:10-19

Wilfred Grenfell, a medical missionary to Labrador, spoke about his work everywhere he went. One night after sharing about some of the hardships and struggles, a woman in the audience praised him for his sacrifice. Grenfell responded, "Oh, you don't understand. I am having the time of my life!" The theme of the book of Philippians is joy. In the second chapter when Paul reminds us to "work out our salvation," he suggests that this activity, which presents the doctrinal idea of sanctification, can become the essence of having the time of our Christian lives. In the second and third chapter of Philippians, Paul considers the action of a growing Christian, the attitude of a growing Christian, and the achievement of a growing Christian.

The activity of Christian growth is found in Philippians 2:12-13. When one considers other passages of the Bible, the phrase "work out your salvation" could not mean that one can work for personal salvation. If this were true, Paul also would not have been addressing saints at this point. The phrase was used by the Roman historian, Strabo, with reference to working out a mineral mine and suggests the idea of obtaining maximum value from the effort. "Work out your salvation" also referenced the activity of a mathematician with regard to solving a problem and finding the

final answer. For the Christian the problem is a spiritual maturity, and the answer is found as one works through the challenges of life to discover a greater level of sanctity. "Work out" can also paint the picture of a farmer at harvest. When the sanctified behavior "works out," he discovers the full harvest of mature consecration to kingdom causes. Oliver Cromwell summed up this activity as he wrote, "He who ceases to get better ceases to be good."

The idea of the Christian's attitude for growth permeates all the verses from Philippians 2 used in this lesson. The absence of fear and trembling is one of Paul's chief suggestions for a mature Christian. Fear, in this case, refers to a "phobia." While the phobias of life should be absent from the growing Christian, reverential awe of God should not. Growing Christians always recognize God's sufficiency and their own deficiency. One is reminded of the ancient rule of Greek drama which was so involved that only a god could unravel the difficulty. The concept of trembling is where today's English word "tremor" is derived. A second important attitude for Christian growth is the absence of grumbling or disputing. Again, one is reminded of the little boy who was being punished by sitting in a chair in the corner of the room. His comment on the situation was, "I may be sitting down on the outside but on the inside, I am standing up!" "Grumbling" has to do with an "unhappy

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spirit," and "disputing" has to do with a "questioning mind." Field General Montgomery was appointed allied commander in North Africa during World War II. His comment to his troops was, "My orders no longer form the basis for discussion but for action." Such should be the attitude of the growing Christian with regard to God's orders for this life.

The achievement of a mature Christian is found in Paul's comments in Philippians 3:13-14. The "forgetful believer" growing to maturity is found in forgetting the past. This means mature believers forget their victories and defeats. They might learn valuable lessons from both, but they do not cry too long over past burdens, and they do not cheer too loud over past blessings to the point of having growth arrested by either. The focus of the "growing believer" is learning to do one thing at a time. In a multi-tasked world, focus is a rapidly diminishing quality. The fortitude of a growing believer is that they reach forward. This idea is used 13 times by Paul and pictures an athlete at the tape leaning ahead to win the race. This is the desire of every mature believer, to run the race so as to finish as a qualified winner for the kingdom. □ — Adams is pastor of First Baptist Church, Lexington.

Acting on God's Word

By Brad Shockley

Focal Passage: Ezekiel 12:17-28; 14:4-6

One Sunday some years ago, my wife and I were excited to have an unchurched couple join us for worship. We had been working on them for weeks and hoped this would be the first step in their coming to know God. After the service, Tom and Sally joined us for lunch in our home. When asked what they thought of our church, it was evident something bothered them. With a little probing we discovered that a faithful church member — he sang in the choir! — was a regular haunt of the same night clubs and bars they frequented. Oh me!

This week's lesson reveals how the Israelites of Ezekiel's day carried the title "people of God," and had been given the word of God, but didn't act like it. God calls His prophet to prophesy against them for "playing the harlot" spiritually, being rebellious, and living like the surrounding pagans. Things were so bad God found the sins of the Israelites greater than those of Sodom (Ezekiel 16:48 & Genesis 19)! I wish God's people today didn't fall into the same error of living like the world, but, as my bar-hopping brother illustrated, unfortunately we do. Three things happen when believers live like the world.

Living like the world betrays our "raising." Every now and then as a

child I'd act a little rebellious, and when I did my mother would always say, "Son, we didn't raise you like that." The Bible says, *If you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God* (Colossians 3:1). We're not just anybody: we're blood bought, born again, heaven bound sons and daughters of the King! Lost folks are expected to act lost, yet even they don't expect people who say they're saved to do the same.

(Don't misunderstand. Christians are going to **struggle** with sin on a regular basis — see Romans 7 — however, we cannot **snuggle** with it! The apostle John had something to say about this in 1 John 3:9.)

Also, living like the world makes God look bad. Paul jolted the Jewish audience of his Romans epistle with a caustic rebuke, *the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you* (Romans 2:24) — **blaspheme** literally means to "hurt the reputation." People who claim to know the God of heaven but live like hell tarnish the good name of Christ, doing irreparable damage to the kingdom. That's why Paul dealt harshly with the Corinthian church for allowing a member to live openly in a grossly immoral relationship, an *immorality of such a kind as does not exist even among the Gentiles* (1 Corinthians 5:1). Sounds like just the point God made in Ezekiel 16.

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Read further in the Corinthians text and you'll see a forgotten practice in action — church discipline — but that's a subject for another time.

Finally, living like the world hinders people from getting saved. We all have heard of someone wrestling with a decision to accept Jesus because of "hypocrites" in the church. Yes, they should look to Christ instead of at people, but we are called into the role of ambassadors for Christ, representing Him before a lost world. Folks should see a difference between the behavior of believers and unbelievers (Titus 2:11-14) and that difference should make them thirsty for the Living Water.

This week's lesson title is a good one: Acting on God's Word.

Are you and I more than just hearers of the Word — are we doers (James 1:22-25)? Are we living like the people of God? If not, we're betraying our raising, and, God forbid, we're hurting the cause of Christ. People miss heaven because they have never met a Christian or ... because they **have** met one. That's probably why we never saw Tom or Sally again. □ — Shockley is pastor of Cedar Hill Baptist Church, Cedar Hill.



Funding missions in Tennessee
and around the world

Leaders

◆ **Charles Barnard** was recently called as pastor of First Baptist Church of Tellico Village. A graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky, he has pastored churches in Kentucky and North and South Carolina. A native of Blount County, Barnard will begin serving July 24.

◆ **William Geren**, pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church, Decatur, graduated May 27 from Andersonville Theological Seminary, Camilla, Ga., with a bachelor of theology degree.

◆ First Baptist Church, Macon, called **Eric Allman** as its pastor effective May 15. A native of Martin, Allman is a student at Mid-Continent University, Mayfield, Ky. He previously served as a youth pastor at a church in Sturgis, Ky.

◆ **John K. Coates** has resigned as pastor of Dotson Memorial Baptist Church, Maryville.

◆ Fort Robinson Baptist Church, Kingsport, welcomed **Jeff Wallen** recently as pastor. Wallen attended Graham Bible College, Bristol, Va., and previously served in pastorates for 12 years and as moderator for several associations in which he served.

◆ Oak Grove Baptist Church, Madisonville, recently welcomed **Mike Deland** as pastor. This is his first pastorate.

◆ **Corky Bates** has resigned as youth director of Tennessee Avenue Baptist Church, Bristol, to pursue a full-time ministry position.



MEMBERS OF THE RUNNING In the Right Direction team of Temple Baptist Church, Savannah, hold awards won in a recent event in which they participated. They wear the team's T-shirt which bears the Scripture from Isaiah 40:29-31. They have placed first, second, or third in every race they have entered. Members are, from left, first row, Darby Culver; Ethan Watkins; and Alli Culver; back row, Michelle Watkins; Caroline Qualls; Andy Watkins; Clark Culver, pastor; and Lane Brasher. Not pictured are Kristen Culver and Brittany Qualls.

◆ **Ted Williams** has resigned as pastor of Snow Memorial Baptist Church, Johnson City, to accept the call as pastor of a church in Greenwood, S. C.

◆ **Rick Osborne** has resigned as music director of Harmony Baptist Church, Jonesborough.

◆ **Matt Chambers** is the new pastor at Journey Fellowship Church, Bristol.

Churches

◆ **Indian Hills Baptist Church, Gallatin**, will hold a one-day revival Sunday, June 19, with Morris Anderson of Maryville, evangelist, speaking.

◆ The Dove Brothers Quar-

tet, an award winning gospel music group, will hold a concert Sunday, June 19, at **Bellwood Baptist Church, Murfreesboro**, at 6 p.m. For more information, call (615) 890-5567.

◆ **West Hills Baptist Church, Lebanon**, will hold revival Sunday, June 19. James Messer will speak. For more information, call the church at (615) 444-2606.

◆ **Cub Creek Hall Baptist Church, Parsons**, will hold its 115th Annual Homecoming Day and Celebration Sunday, June 26, beginning at 10 a.m. with the worship service. Former members, pastors, and friends will be recognized.

◆ **Temple Baptist Church, Savannah**, will hold its third annual Barbeque Cook-off and Extravaganza, Saturday, June 25, at the church. A Pig-In-a-Bun Run/Walk will begin at 9 a.m. Live music and meal will follow at 11 a.m. and include a bake sale. For more information, call Lloyd Watkins at (731) 645-6752.

◆ **New Concord Baptist Church, Kenton**, the oldest church in Beulah Baptist Association, will celebrate 175 years of service, Sunday, June 26. A special homecoming wor-

Correction

In last week's issue, a photo featured two Tennessee women who served on a Woman's Missionary Union team to Croatia. Sharon Smith was identified as from First Baptist Church, Sneedville. She is from First Baptist Church, Sargentsville.

The Baptist and Reflector regrets the error. □



A SURPRISED THELMA WILSON views the May Historical play of First Baptist Church, Athens, honoring preschool workers at the church for the past 50 years. Wilson was selected to represent all the workers. She views the display with her daughter, Jean Wilson, who teaches the class her mother retired. They have taught it for 52 years. Thelma Wilson also helped with Bible schools at First Church, West End Baptist Church, and Oak Grove Baptist Church, Athens.

ship service, led by Houston Northcutt, will be held at 11 a.m. Following lunch, a music program featuring Living Truth will begin at 1:30 p.m. For more information, contact Kathy Greer at k.greer@mind-spring.com.

◆ **New Vision Church, Athens**, is hosting a showing of the film "Flywheel," Sunday, June 19, at Athens Junior High School auditorium at 6

p.m. The movie tells the story of a used car salesman whose dishonesty and self-centeredness catch up with him.

Associatio

◆ **Juan and Erika** are the new Hispanic starters for the **Holston Baptist Association**, based in Johnson City.



A SPRING OUTREACH carnival was held last Saturday at Hills Baptist Church, Lebanon. Several hundred people participated in the carnival which offered an inflatable obstacle course, slides, train ride, and other activities. The church invited people to several church activities, including Vacation Bible School.



LEADERS OF FIRST BAPTIST Church, Dickson, and others prepare to break ground May 15 for a 33,000 square foot addition and renovations to its worship facility. Participants from left, Tom Crow; Larry Scott; Jim Chatham, pastor; Bradbury; Noble Phillips; George Nuber, businessman; Royce Stokes, businessman. The church relocated to the site in 1997. The current facility is 55,000 square feet located on 83 acres. First Church draws about 1,200 people each morning worship. The new addition will include a classroom, cafeteria, and full-size gymnasium and cost \$3.5 million.



MISSION FRIENDS OF First Baptist Church, Calhoun, pause recently as they give over 200 lbs. of food to Lynn Freeman, back row, left, of the United Methodist Church Council on Ministries, Calhoun, which gives food to needy families. The group collected the food in collection boxes placed at post offices and an auto parts store. The group includes, back row, right, Diane Allen, leader; standing in front of Allen, Laura Dodson; second row, Abbey Davis, Brodey Phillips, McKinley Burns; and Bailey Wills; front row, Emma Firestone; Cheyenne Reynolds; in front of Reynolds, Lyndsey Cross; and Logan Cross.