

Baptist & Reflector

side Edition

Telling the Story of Tennessee Baptists

Vol. 171 / No. 28; Aug. 3, 2005

CP gifts remain steady

and Reflector

ENTWOOD — After months of the current year, gifts from Tennessee Baptist Convention churches through the Cooperative program remain slightly ahead of last year's pace. July churches gave \$745. For the year-to-date, BC churches have sent \$3,602 in CP gifts, up 65, or 1.31 percent of last year. CP gifts are \$27,464 or 0.10 percent ahead of budget needs. "We are excited that our churches have continued to give sacrificially during the summer months," said James TBC executive director. "We are optimistic that churches will help us meet our CP budget this year for the first time since 2000," he said. □

Day set Aug. 21

and Reflector

ENTWOOD — Tennessee churches still have time to receive free copies of the Aug. issue of the Baptist and

Reflector, Aug. 21, is set aside as the day of the Tennessee Baptist Convention as Baptist and Reflector Day.

"The Baptist and Reflector is a valuable resource and a great asset to our churches," observed Bonnie Wilkey.

"Baptist and Reflector Day is an opportunity for churches to introduce their content to their Baptist state representatives," he added.

Members of TBC are invited to come from a non-Baptist background. "The B&R can be an educational tool in addition to its news role," he said.

"Baptist and Reflector is a great way to tell the story of Tennessee Baptists and we welcome churches to our family of churches," the editor noted.

For free copies, call 1-800-990-2003; fax the office at (615) 371-1111; e-mail Susie Edwards at susie@tnbaptist.org.

Deadline for ordering is Aug. 11. □

Yet 60 percent have 'insufficient time'

Pastors view their own families as 'healthy'

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — Pastors see their own families as fairly healthy, though they believe their job means they don't spend enough time with their families and there are unreasonable expectations connected with being the spouse or child of a minister, according to a new study conducted for LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The study, which utilized a representative national sample of 870 senior pastors, showed eight out of 10 pastors are currently on their first marriage, while another 12 percent are divorced and remarried. Ninety-three percent have children, including 43 percent who have adolescents and 50 percent who have only children 18 or older.

Fourteen percent are carrying on a family tradition — being the child of a minister.

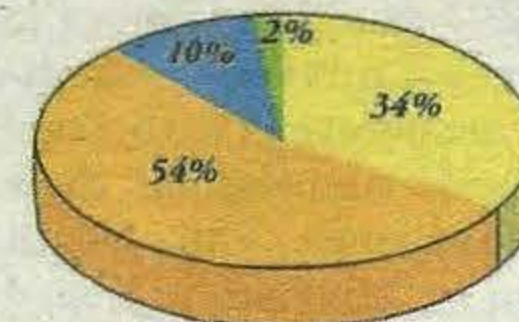
Conducted by Ellison Research of Phoenix and published in the July/August issue of LifeWay's *Facts & Trends* magazine, the survey revealed that 93 percent of all pastors believe there is extra pressure being married to a minister (including 54 percent who

strongly believe this); 91 percent feel there is extra pressure being the child of a minister (including 46 percent who strongly hold this belief); and 88 percent believe churchgoers often expect pastors' families to be "better than" other people's families. In all three cases, Southern Baptist ministers are particularly likely to perceive extra pressure on their families.

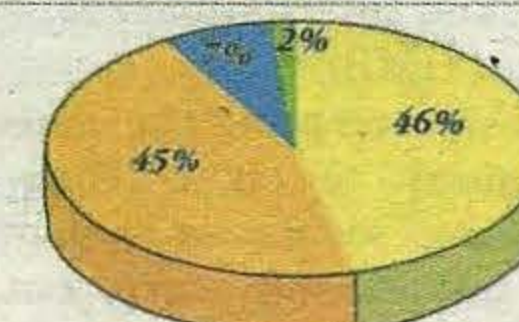
Six out of 10 ministers say their role as a pastor leaves them with insufficient time for their families. Only 18 percent say the amount of time they get to spend with their spouse is at extremely healthy levels while 10 percent said the same about the amount of time they get to spend with their children.

Even so, when asked to rate the health of their relationship with their spouse on a scale of 1 to 5, 47 percent of pastors give it the highest possible rating (a 5), while another 39 percent rate it at a 4. Similarly, 44 percent of ministers rate the health of their relationship with their children at a 5, and another 42 percent rate it at a 4. Overall, 26 percent of pastors rate the

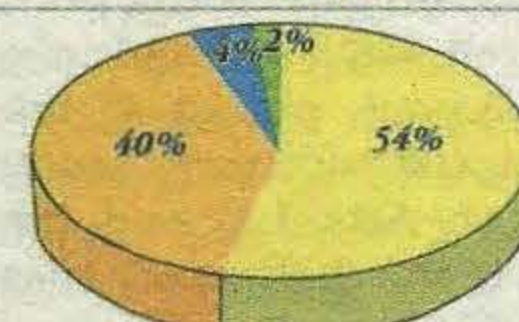
Senior pastor survey results



Church-goers often expect pastors' families to be "better than" other people's families



There is extra pressure being the child of a minister



There is extra pressure being married to a minister

Legend: ■ agree strongly ■ agree somewhat ■ disagree somewhat ■ disagree strongly

health of their family unit at a 5 and another 54 percent give it a 4 rating. Ministers who have been divorced report a less healthy relationship with their children and the health of their family unit lower than do other pastors.

Although pastors see the health of their own families in a positive light, they often perceive problems with families of other clergy members. Just 3

percent say pastors' families in general in their denomination are extremely healthy, while another 26 percent rate it as a 4.

In fact, the average minister says 23 percent of the other Protestant ministers they know are having significant problems with their spouse or marriage and 27 percent are having significant problems with their children.

— See Pastors, page 4

Holston churches minister to Appalachian Trail hikers

By Marcia Knox
Baptist and Reflector

ERWIN — Holston Baptist Association Appalachian Trail Ministry recently sponsored their first event of the 2005 hiking year with a free pancake breakfast for through-hikers on the 2,160 mile trail, according to director of missions Tal Thompson.

Around 12 volunteers from Clear Branch Baptist Church, Calvary Baptist Church, and Ninth Street Baptist Church, all in Erwin, cooked breakfast for 35 hikers from a portable cooking unit at Indian Grave Gap on the trail.

Under the direction of Bill Ponder, pastor of Clear Branch Church, the cooking station was set up and a complete breakfast

was served to the hikers. Terry Haynes, a member of Clear Branch Church, provided the portable cooking unit.

Also assisting with the ministry was David Crutchfield, pastor of Calvary Church. "You would be amazed how open folks are when you share the love of Christ with them over a stack of hot-cakes, sausage, eggs, and orange juice," said Crutchfield.

"The trail ministry started, because of Ponder's avid hiking interest," said Thompson.

Besides serving meals, Ponder provides emergency help and first aid for the hikers, bottled water on the trail in coolers, and spiritual literature.

"Hikers are very open to engage in conversations, and they listen to your witness on spiritual matters. They are educated and very thoughtful people."

"Our trail ministry is beginning to grow, and more Holston Association churches are interested in helping. Our association comes along side this ministry and encourages others to get

motivated," the DOM said.

According to Thompson, the Appalachian Trail runs from Georgia to Maine. Through-hikers, or hikers who hike through to the end of the trail, start early in the spring to make the long hike. There are also local hikers, who may hike a half a day, a day, or several days. Local hiking clubs maintain shelters along the trail for hikers to camp.

"The trail runs from Springer Mountain, Ga., to Mount Katahdin, Maine," said Ponder.

"Around 2,000 people travel the trail each year. It winds through the Smoky Mountains and then near us, and Erwin has become known as a trail town."

According to Ponder, Indian Grave Gap is about nine miles out of Erwin, which is on the line between Tennessee and North Carolina. Because of the long sections of the trail, there is a natural drop on the trail near the gap area. This area gets the bulk of the hikers. The trail ministry has been going for at least two years.

— See Holston, page 3



SERVING BREAKFAST to Appalachian Trail hikers are pastors David Crutchfield, left, Calvary Baptist Church, and Bill Ponder, Clear Branch Baptist Church, both in Erwin.

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Lonnie Wilkey, editor
(615) 371-2046,
lwilkey@tnbaptist.org

Connie Davis Bushey, news editor
(615) 371-7928,
cbushey@tnbaptist.org

Susie Edwards, circulation/ executive assistant/advertising
(615) 371-2003,
sedwards@tnbaptist.org

Mary Nimmo, church pages/administrative assistant
(615) 371-7929,
mnimmo@tnbaptist.org

Betty Williams, bookkeeper
(615) 371-7930,
bwilliams@tnbaptist.org

Marcia Knox, special features assistant
(615) 371-2089,
mknox@tnbaptist.org

Office — Baptist and Reflector,
5001 Maryland Way, Brentwood, TN 37027

Mailing address — P.O. Box
728, Brentwood, TN 37024

Phone — (615) 371-2003

FAX — (615) 371-2080


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1,000 churches commit to Acts 1:8 Challenge

Baptist Press

ALPHARETTA, Ga. — More than 1,000 Southern Baptist churches, including 59 from Tennessee, have committed to a new SBC missions initiative designed to help them implement a comprehensive missions strategy involving their community, region, continent, and the world.

Launched in May 2004, the Acts 1:8 Challenge is a simple call for SBC churches to move to a new level of missions commitment by cooperating with their local Baptist association, their state convention, the North American Mission Board (NAMB), and International Mission Board (IMB).

Churches accepting the challenge commit to eight "Kingdom-growing" responses as they work to intentionally carry out Acts 1:8: to prepare, learn, pray, give, go, tell, send, and multiply.

Nate Adams, author of the 2005 Baptist doctrine study focusing on Acts 1:8, said the strength of the challenge is that it provides structure for a church's missions efforts.

"The Acts 1:8 Challenge is becoming what many of us hoped it would — a single, simplified missions message that every church can understand, and a strategic, biblical missions model that every church can embrace," said Adams, vice president of the mission mobilization group at NAMB.

(Acts 1:8 is the New Testament passage in which Christ instructs His followers to carry the Gospel to "Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the ends of the earth.") In the Acts 1:8 Challenge, the four realms correspond to the local community, the state, the nation, and the world.)

For more information, call 1-800-4ACTS18 (1-800-422-8718). □

Mission trip turns deadly

Baptist Press

NEW ALBANY, Miss. — A mission to Honduras turned deadly July 26 when the brakes failed on a vehicle carrying volunteers down a steep mountain hill, killing one and injuring at least 15 in the ensuing crash.

The volunteers were part of a group of 20 — including teenagers, college students, and adults — from First Baptist Church here.

"They took large amounts of medical supplies with them, and they were there to do as much as they could with medical work and dental work and whatever there was a need for," Paul Sizemore, student minister at FBC New Albany, told Baptist Press.

"They were going there to do Bible distribution, Vacation Bible School, construction, various things that were needed."

The person killed was Ron Feather, a local dentist.

The church's pastor, Malcolm Pinion, was on the trip and was ministering to those involved, Sizemore said.

He encouraged Southern Baptists to pray for the individuals who were injured and for the Feather family. □

Rick Warren laments SBC decision on BWA

By Trennis Henderson
Western Recorder (Ky.)

BIRMINGHAM, England — Affirming that Baptists from around the world can "have unity without uniformity," Rick Warren told reporters at the Baptist World Alliance's centenary congress that the withdrawal of Southern Baptists from BWA was a "silly" mistake.

"God has called us to enjoy and fellowship with each other and work together. We're all in this together," he said, adding Baptists can "celebrate our diversity and celebrate our unity."

Warren, a keynote speaker during the July 27-31 Baptist World Centenary Congress in Birmingham, England, is pastor of Saddleback Community Church in Lake Forest, Calif., and author of the international best-selling book, *The Purpose Driven Life*.

During a July 28 press conference, Warren addressed a question about last year's decision by the Southern Baptist Convention, the largest BWA member, to withdraw membership and funding from BWA. "I think that was a mistake," he said flatly. "When the Southern Baptists pulled out funding, my wife and I wrote a check for \$25,000 to BWA."

"I see absolutely zero reason in separating my fellowship from anybody," he declared. Noting he has theological differences with many of the diverse denominations that invite him to speak, Warren added, "That doesn't stop me from fellowshiping with them."

When he heard of the SBC's withdrawal, he added, "I thought, 'This is silly! Why would we separate ourselves from brothers and sisters in the world?'"

Warning that Baptists often are "known for what we're against rather than what we're for," Warren said, "I am praying for a second reformation of the church" that will focus more on deeds than words.

"The first Reformation was

about beliefs. This one needs to be about behavior. ... We've had a Reformation; what we need now is a transformation." □

Coffey elected BWA president

Associated Baptist Press

BIRMINGHAM, England — Delegates to the Baptist World Centenary Congress July 30 elected a British Baptist as their president.

Meeting here, Baptists from around the world unanimously elected as president David Coffey, currently general secretary of the Baptist Union of Great Britain.

"To experience the love and trust of the global family is overwhelming, and I now seek the anointing of the Holy Spirit for the ministry that awaits me," Coffey told delegates at the business session of the Baptist World Alliance.

In outlining values that will shape his presidency, he affirmed belief in the gospel, the church, and worship that intersects real-world issues of peace and justice.

Coffey affirmed his commitment as a "Great Commission Christian" — one dedicated to the principle that every Baptist is a missionary — and underscored the need to follow Christ's example as a servant.

"Too often, the world is more aware of what the church is against than what it is for, and this is no strategy for winning lost people to Jesus Christ," he said. "We need to be more like Jesus, to earn the reputation of being friends to sinners, and to give ourselves in sacrificial service for a broken world."

As a part of that witness, Coffey stressed the need for unity among Christians.

"Unity is a gospel imperative, and disunity is always a major hindrance to evangelism," he said. □

SBC missionary killed in Nebraska

Baptist Press

NORFOLK, Neb. — Veteran Southern Baptist missionary Dennis Hampton, 56, was killed in an automobile accident Thursday July 28. His 15-year-old son, Joel, was riding in the car at the time of the accident but was treated and released from the hospital.

Hampton was a featured Southern Baptist missionary this summer in LifeWay Christian Resources' Vacation Bible School materials.

He retired in April as a missionary jointly funded by the North American Mission Board and Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists, serving as coordinator of the Sandhills Baptist Association.

He is survived by his wife, Elaine, and four children. □

Missionaries save, boost LM

Baptist Press

RICHMOND — Southern Baptist missionary Grady Brown doesn't mind dropping \$250 for a stuffed guinea pig and \$700 for a vase made of "certified mammoth tusk."

Brown's no mindless spender; it's her way of giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions.

At recent annual meetings of the national Mission Board in West Africa and Central Eastern Europe, missionaries shelled out hundreds of dollars for cans of root beer, puffs, and other items at auctions raising money for the year's Lottie Moon offering.

A bag of Cheetos could buy you as much as \$300. In Africa, one missionary gave \$1,200 for four cans of Diet Pepsi.

"We decided beforehand on the amount of our offering and then enjoyed choosing what to bid on in the auction," Brown said. "I wanted to take the big box of oatmeal cream pies (another missionary gave me one)." "We are so grateful for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering."

Missionaries in Central Eastern Europe region raised \$77,000 at their auction, their previous record was \$50,000. West Africa raised about \$52,000 at a meeting in Ghana — another missionary regional leader Randy Arnett said was "more than enough to put a missionary on the field in the region."

So where do missionaries get that kind of money? Grady Hammer, regional leader for Central and Eastern Europe, pointed out that many missionaries save for the entire year to give like crazy at the Lottie Moon offering. "It's just a fun way to give," he said. "If they don't want to give, they give anyway."

The event has become popular in the region. "It has kind of 'taken on a life of its own,'" he added. In addition to the live auction, missionaries also can bid on hundreds of items in a silent auction. "It's fun for folks standing by with a calculator to calculate every cent," he said. □

Oops!

There was a typographical error in the story about County layman "jam" missions in the July issue.

The phone number on page 9 was incorrect; the correct number is (931) 4858.

The B&R staff regrets any confusion this may have caused. □ — Lonnie Davis, editor

First MK to serve as WMU president

Kaye Miller brings unique perspective to WMU presidency

Charlie Warren
St. Press

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — Kaye Miller is American by birth, but was more Thai than American while growing up. She has adjusted well to American culture, but it wasn't always easy. That's why the new national Woman's Missionary Union president has a passion for helping missionaries discover ways to help their missionary kids adjust to life in the United States.

WMU's first MK president has a passion for WMU and for inspiring girls and women to get excited about missions.

"The number one question missionaries ask me when they meet me is, 'I'm a missionary kid, is there anything I can do to help their children adjust?'" said Miller, a member of Immanuel Baptist Church here. "I really hope I can help our missionaries help their children adjust."

Many MKs adjust well and become productive, effective Christians. Others rebel or never handle on adjusting to life in America.

"MKs have a hard time," she said. "I want to figure out what we can do to prevent that. As a missionary kid, you have no idea where you get married. I got married in Brownsville, Texas, because that's where my parents were on furlough. Where do you settle? Where do you go when it's your day at college when your parents can't come or when someone else on campus is gone? Where are you? You just have to figure it out. That contributes a lot to why MKs just kind of float."

Miller was 6 when her parents, Earl and Jo Willis, went to Thailand as missionaries. Her first two years were in a boarding school while her parents were in a Thai language school.

"Thai is a really hard language to read and write, so they had to go for two years," Miller said. "Then Dad had to take Thai medical boards in Thai, writing and talking, so he could get a medical license to practice. He's really smart, so he passed."

She and her two sisters and their younger brother picked up the language almost effortlessly.

"We picked up Thai really quickly," she recalled, noting that she translated for her parents until they mastered it. "Kids pick up the language so much easier than adults do."

After two years in Bangkok, the family moved to a remote village. At the time, their car was the only one around. Now it's a booming town.

"Thai kids were my playmates. We were the only American family," Miller said. "We spoke Thai all day ... It really is my heart language."

They followed Thai customs, such as taking off their shoes before entering their home. Furloughs to the U.S. were difficult.

"We didn't really want to come," she said.

As a child, Miller didn't know her grandparents or aunts and uncles. "We only saw them a couple of times when we were on furlough [every four years]."

Attending school in America was tough because she didn't fit in. "I came home for fifth grade and 10th grade. Fifth grade wasn't quite as hard, but when you come home and are put into a high school setting with kids you don't know, it's really hard. We just wanted to get back home."

In Thailand, Miller was homeschooled until the seventh grade, then she attended the international school in Bangkok, living in the Baptist hostel from the eighth through 12th grades. She saw her parents once every three or four months because the trip included a train ride and a long car



KAYE MILLER addressed members of Woman's Missionary Union shortly after her election at First Baptist Church, Nashville, in June.

journey over poor roads.

"By the time you reach 11th or 12th grade, you are used to being independent," she said, noting how difficult it was for her parents. "That has given me such insight into how to pray for our missionaries. It's hard to let your child go."

Miller was less than excited about attending Baylor University. "I wanted to stay and go to the University of Thailand," she recounted. "School at Baylor was not hard but being away from Thailand and adjusting to American customs was hard."

A WMU woman in Waco, Texas, took Miller under her wing, helped her get a car, a bank account, buy stylish American clothes and get acclimated to America and a local church.

"She was a key in helping me adjust," Miller said, and it gave her a strong appreciation for WMU.

Still, she often felt lonely and homesick for Thailand. A letter home took two weeks to get there and two weeks more to get

a response. Today, MKs have e-mail to stay in touch daily.

"I think a lot of MKs are disillusioned with Baptist life," she reflected. "A lot of MKs don't even go to Baptist churches. They go to other denominations or they don't go at all." When MKs have worshiped God with other believers under a palm tree, she said, they get frustrated when they sense American Christians care more about the building than about true worship.

"That just turns them off basically, so they head a different direction. It's sort of a rebellion thing. I'd really like to help MKs through this. That is one group of kids that everyone has overlooked. They have such potential for winning the world for the Lord. They've been on the field. They sense that urgency and that passion, I know they do in their hearts."

Miller said WMU was exactly what she needed to keep her involved in church life.

"It gave me the opportunity to teach and to do a variety of things," she said. "I'm hoping that's something WMU can pick up on is how can we use this group of people. It's an untapped resource we have for winning the world for the Lord."

Miller finished Baylor and completed nursing school in Dallas. She met Mark Miller on a blind date. He had become a Christian while a student at the University of Arkansas, where he was quarterback for the Razorbacks. He joined University Baptist Church of Fayetteville.

"He jumped right in there and has been heavily involved ever since," she said. "He is a wonderful, wonderful Christian man."

After their marriage, they moved to Little Rock where they raised three daughters and a son. She worked part-time in

recovery at Children's Hospital, but has given that up to allow time for her WMU work.

"I miss it," she said. "I love being a nurse. It has afforded me a way to show care for people and share my faith easily. You have a captive person lying in the bed."

She has been involved in all levels of WMU work at Immanuel Baptist Church, directing Girls in Action for nearly 20 years, then Acteens and Youth on Mission. She was elected state WMU president in 2002, which automatically made her a national WMU vice president.

Bylaws state she can serve concurrently as state and national WMU president for six months. Miller was due to step down next year anyway, so a nominating committee is already in place to find a new state president.

Two years ago, Janet Hoffman, Miller's predecessor as national president, appointed her to serve on the Vision 2010 Task Force charged to discover God's dream of what WMU would look like in 2010. The task force report encouraged diversity and partnering with others for the cause of missions. It encouraged intergenerational learning and experiential missions in local churches. It urged WMU to use cutting-edge technology to communicate missions, to produce premier missions resources to reach emerging and expanding audiences and to maintain a strong financial base and focus resources to further the WMU mission.

"Those are the things God gave us," Miller said. "We wanted to paint the broad strokes. Other committees will flesh that out." □ — Warren is editor of *Arkansas Baptist News*. He is a former associate editor of the *Baptist and Reflector*.

Holston churches minister ...

Continued from page 1

"Hiking gets in the blood," he said. "It's so peaceful on the trail. A lot of people are coming to find themselves on the trail." Ponder knows since he's been hiking for 25 years and involved for five years in the Holston Association ministry.

Ponder became interested in hiking years ago when a friend decided to do a solo hike on the trail after his friend left his church. Later Ponder saw his friend coming through again on the trail leading a group of hikers on the path.

"I don't have to hike to be part of this ministry," Ponder said. "Some people create a magic by leaving packets

of cookies, literature, and bottles of water for the hikers. The hikers refer to these people as trail angels."

Ponder's ministry includes taking hikers to hotels, restaurants, towns, and helping them. "Anything that one can do to minister to them and meet their needs helps the hikers, and then I witness to them about the Lord."

In addition to meeting their needs, Ponder also gives out his card to the hikers for them to call him when they come back through the trail. "People always need rides to town, who are on the trail."

"There are at least three churches that are close to the trail by their location, and people need help." □

Builders bless church not once, but twice

Baptist and Reflector

LURAY — A Tennessee Baptist church has benefited from Constructors for Christ not once, but twice.

Three years ago a team from Constructors for Christ, an organization based in Georgia which involves volunteer workers from all over the southeast, constructed a sanctuary for Middlefork Road Baptist Church here.

"Their primary mission is to build new church starts which is what they did for us three years ago," said Kyle Morris, pastor of Middlefork Road Church.

"Only once in 30 years have they returned to build an addition to an existing church, until now," he added.

Morris noted the church had found "ourselves in desperate need of nursery and Sunday School space" in three years. "Constructors for Christ returned to help us build a 7,500-square-foot educational building," he said.



CONSTRUCTORS FOR CHRIST, a volunteer group based in Georgia, recently provided an addition to Middlefork Road Baptist Church in Luray. The group had built the church's sanctuary three years ago.

In five weeks the volunteers completed most of the building, Morris said. He noted there is still some "finishing touches" on the inside and brick work on the outside to be completed.

Morris and the church are appreciative of the efforts from the volunteer organization. "They do it for the glory of God," Morris observed.

He said the congregation hopes to be using its new space by early fall. □

Brentwood young adults help 'paint the town' in N.Y.

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — Thirty-two young adults from Kairos, a mid-week worship gathering at Brentwood Baptist Church, traveled to New York City in late July to help paint a middle school in the Bronx.

The team was part of Paint the Town, a summer-long effort to paint metro-area schools coordinated by New Hope New York, a ministry that has been working on the ground in New York City following Sept. 11, 2001.

"Wade Middle School 117 in the Bronx had not been painted since 1937," said Cathy Patterson, Kairos director and trip leader.

"These young adults took a week off from their jobs, traveled to New York, and worked for eight hours a day painting and serving in this middle school.

"It was all a wonderful experience. A team of seven worked on the 16 foot outdoor mural, the team painting the class-



YOUNG ADULTS from the Kairos worship gathering from Brentwood Baptist Church, Brentwood, painted this "We Stand Still" mural on the all-purpose athletic court outside Wade Middle School 117 in the Bronx, New York.

rooms wrote Scriptures on every doorway and then painted and prayed over each room and several team worked an inner-city VBS. Overall, 32 kids made professions of faith during the week," Patterson said.

"Brentwood Baptist Church is committed to missions," said Mike Glenn, Brentwood Baptist senior pastor. "This team in New York is an example of that commitment and we are excited to see how God leads us through

other missions' partnerships in our community, around the country, and throughout the world."

Kairos meets every Tuesday night (with a break during the month of July) at Brentwood Baptist Church. It begins

again Aug. 2 at 7 p.m.

For more information the Kairos web site www.kairosnashville.com.

CLASSIFIED

MINISTRY — PASTOR

Poplar Heights Baptist Church, Jackson, Tenn., is now accepting resumes for senior pastor. For further information www.poplarheights.com. E-mail resume phbc@lwol.com or mail to Search Committee, Heights Baptist Church, Hollywood Dr., Jackson 38305.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

First Baptist Church, Morristown, Tenn., is now accepting resumes for a full-time pastor. Please send resumes to Terrey First Baptist Church, North Chestnut St., Morristown, TN 37874. Post to the attention of Sonny Gilpatrick.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Fairview Baptist Church of Morristown, Tenn., is seeking a full-time pastor. Age 35 to 50; marriage experience, strong Southern Baptist background, graduate. Contact Wooldridge, 190 Forest Buchanan, TN 38222, e-mail jimava@charter.net.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Short Creek Baptist Church, Christiana, Tenn., is seeking a bivocational pastor. Send me to 7111 Hoover Ga Christiana, TN 37037.

Pastors view their own families as 'healthy' ...

— Continued from page 1

With all of the extra pressure on pastors' families and the limitations on the time pastors get to spend with their families, 61 percent of ministers believe strongly that if there were a crisis in their family, they would receive the necessary support from their church. Another 33 percent feel only somewhat confident they would get the support they need, while 6 percent felt no confidence their church would support them in a family crisis.

Among other findings in the survey:

- Only 3 percent of senior pastors have never been married. Among the 14 percent who have been divorced, 12 percent have since remarried, while 2 percent remain unmarried.

Three percent have been widowed, with 2 percent having remarried and 1 percent remaining unmarried.

- Almost nine out of 10 evangelical ministers are on their first marriage (88 percent), with 3 percent widowed, 8 percent divorced, and only 1 percent never married.

- Just 8 percent of ministers have no children at all.

- Southern Baptists and Pentecostals particularly feel that "Churchgoers often expect pastors' families to be 'better than' other people's families."

Ron Sellers, president of Ellison Research, commented that it would be unwise to figure the small proportion of pastors reporting very unhealthy family situations means all is well among the clergy.

"Even though only 5 percent of pastors report a very unhealthy relationship with their spouse, that means there are over 10,000 individual pastors with serious marital problems right now," Sellers commented. "In fact, the study projects that around 20,000 senior pastors nationwide — to say nothing of associate ministers or other staff in Protestant churches, nor of those who have left the ministry because of these issues — recognize that they have serious family problems right now."

To the best of our knowledge all ads in the *Baptist and Reflector* represent legitimate companies and offerings. However, one should always use caution in responding to ads.

The sample of 870 Protestant ministers, which included only those who are actively leading churches, is accurate to within plus or minus 3.2 percentage points, according to Ellison Research. The study was conducted in all 50 states, using a representative sample of pastors from all Protestant denominations. □

CONVERSATIONAL ENGLISH WORKSHOP

There will be a 16 hour Conversational English Workshop on August 26 to 28, 2005 at the Smithville First Baptist Church, 101 W Church St., Smithville, TN 37166; telephone (615) 597-4275. The times for this workshop will be Friday 6 - 9 pm, Saturday 8:30 am - 5:30 pm, and Sunday 1 - 4 pm. In order to receive certification for the workshop attendees must attend all sessions. The workshop will be led by Anne, Literacy Mission Consultant, Nashville. There is a \$20 registration fee. To register contact Carol Alburt (615) 761-5285 (home); Sue Sifford (615) 597-6386. For additional information please contact the Tennessee Baptist Convention at 800-558-2090 or go to www.tnbaptist.org. New Events Or e-mail thill@tnbaptist.org. The deadline is August 19, 2005.

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29th ADRIAN ROGERS, retired pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, and ALISON DURHAM-SPEER, Southern gospel artist.

The service begins at 7:00 p.m. each Monday night at First Baptist Church, 317 Parkway, Sevierville, TN. For more information, contact the church office at (865) 453-9001

During budget planning, remember staff, CP



Johnnie Wilkey, editor

August is the time of year when many churches across the country begin planning their budgets.

I have never served on a finance or stewardship committee and I hope it stays that way until the Lord calls me.

Imagine that serving on a stewardship committee is like being an editor — no one is ever 100 percent of the time.

Stewardship committees are seemingly impossible in determining how to best use the church's financial resources — trying to please a congregation with varied interests and about how the money should be spent.

Committees which do their job no doubt realize it is not their money they are doling out but God's money.

Church members, however, have strong feelings about how the money should be allocated and they should. No one wants to see God's money mismanaged or used unwisely. At the same time, however, what may be a significant ministry for one person may be insignificant to someone else.

I am a member of a wonderful church that does a good job with its budget. Do I agree with every single budgeted item? No, but I must realize that everyone may not agree with me on the items I deem worthy. We all need to remember that the church budget is not about "me or what I want." Instead, it is about using the church's resources to do ministry that brings glory and honor to God.

The budget belongs to God, not us. He entrusts us to use the resources He gives us wisely.

As budgets are planned for 2006, remember your pastor, ministers, and church staffs.

I grew up in a small country church. When I speak in churches I joke that I didn't know churches had multiple ministers until I was in college. I tell them

that I grew up in a church that only had a pastor and we didn't pay him much. Unfortunately, that is the mindset many churches have today.

We expect our pastors and church staff to be "miracle workers," yet we want to pay them "pauper's wages."

Ministers and staffs know they could make more money in the secular workplace. They choose to work in churches and denominations because of a sense of calling. Yet, the reality is they have to pay the same price for bread and milk and a gallon of gas as anyone else.

As budgets allow, give your ministers and support staffs salary increases. Make sure they are adequately compensated so they can take care of their families.

Also, make a point to give to missions, not only locally, but in Tennessee and around the world. The best vehicle for this is the Cooperative Program.

Some churches over the years have cut their CP giving so they can do "more" at home. Others feel they can do missions internationally on their own. No one

church can do what 3,000 Tennessee Baptist churches or 42,000-plus Southern Baptist churches can do collectively.

If we are to reach Tennessee, our nation, and our world with the good news of Jesus Christ, we can do it more effectively together. Make an effort to increase your church's gifts through the Cooperative Program in 2006. At the same time, continue to give generously to your local Baptist association. I truly believe no church can give "too much" for missions, evangelism, and other priorities. The truth is "we can never give enough."

Allocate funds in your budget for educational materials — Sunday School, discipleship, etc. From a "selfish" perspective, I encourage churches to send the *Baptist and Reflector* to as many members as possible. The *B&R* will help inform members of the needs in Tennessee and around the world.

Every church will have tough decisions to make. May each church seek God's direction and will before the first penny is allocated. After all, it is His money. □

CLASSIFIED

MINISTRY — STUDENT

Cumberland Baptist Church, Knoxville, is searching for a part-time minister of youth. Please send resume to jeff@cumberlandbaptist.org or 5600 Western Ave., Knoxville, TN 37921.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Lynn Garden Baptist Church, is currently seeking a full-time minister of youth and assistant to the pastor. Please send resume to Personnel Committee Chairman, Lynn Garden Baptist Church, 301 May Ave., Kingsport, TN 37665.

MINISTRY — CHILDREN

Minister of children desired for birth through 5th grade, including a day care program. Requirements include a seminary degree, strong organization and ministry experience in both preschool and children's ministry. Send resume to FBC Mt. Olive, 3200 Mt. Olive Rd., Mt. Olive, AL 35117, Att. Children's Minister Search Committee.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Church is seeking person to fill the full-time position of minister of childhood education. Minimum of two years experience in full-time children's ministry and bachelor's degree required. Send resume to Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 701 South Main St., Jonesboro, AR 72401.

MINISTRY — EDUCATION

First Baptist Church of Madison, Miss., is seeking a dynamic and passionate teacher of God's Word to immediately fill the full-time position of minister of education. Please mail letters of interest with credentials to FBC Madison, P.O. Box 400, Madison, MS 39130-0400, or e-mail Shari Hurt, Pastoral Secretary at shurt@fbcmadison.org.

MINISTRY — COMBINATION

Friendship Baptist Church, Friendship, Tenn., 30 minutes from Union University, is seeking a music/youth minister. Submit resume to Personnel Committee Chairman, 1807 King Rd., Friendship, TN 38034.

MISCELLANEOUS

Hammond organs for sale: C-2 and A-100, one owner. Ideal for small churches. Both in good condition with all parts in working order (A-100 has C pedal with missing tones). Dark wood cabinet and bench. C-2 cabinet top and bench are worn and stained. Both have dual manuals and 2-octave bass pedals. Pick-up required. Call Carolyn at (615) 727-6780 (Nashville).

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

New church in Cumberland Association is in need for a bus or 15 passenger van. If you or your church are willing to donate one of these please contact David Coram at (931) 206-4733 or coramd@livingwaters-ky.org.

the best of times, everything's not perfect

both
of
pulpit



Johnnie Godwin

You wait for perfect conditions and you will never get any. "One" (Ecclesiastes 11:4, at my age and stage of life come to realize that the best of times everything isn't perfect.

Black Warren shared in an interview recently, he used to say he had its peaks and its valleys — highs and lows at seasons. He said he's been in his mind and decided that life is a parallel track of ups and downs at all times. He illustrated saying the year his *Puritan Life* book reached its peak in sales was the same year his wife was diagnosed with cancer. He had elation and he had the same time.

It's true that, "There is a season for everything, a season for activity under heaven" (Ecclesiastes 3:1, NLT). But in the same time frame, we have those who're dying and we have joy over those who've died. We grieve over the same time frame as we enjoy a wedding.

The point here is to encourage me not to wait for perfect conditions before we live even while we alter-

live with sadness or grief. The truly is the day the sun is made, and our faith is to rejoice and be

glad in it (Psalm 118:24).

Some people judge a day by its weather, and weather seldom gets perfect or stays that way for long. Often, when I openly say good things about the weather of a day or a season, others disagree and tell me what another season they prefer.

If we're not careful, we'll adopt that same negative stance about all the seasons of life. We'll be yearning and waiting for future happiness to come when we get to some point in our lives. In doing that, we may miss God's joy that comes into the Christian's heart and stays there despite all circumstances.

In other words, choose joy in choosing Christ. He taught us that we would have trouble in the world; but He comforted us by telling us to take heart, have peace, and that He had overcome the world (John 16:33). The Crucified One's name is not Pollyanna; it is Jesus, which means Savior or Deliverer.

Grief isn't a stranger to you and me, but grief is never a welcome guest either. He visits us from time to time and sometimes comes and stays until death. But even while the unwelcome visitor is present in our lives, joy in Christ can and should be present too. Sometimes we think of grief only as death, but "valley of death" can also be translated "valley of sorrow" (Psalm 23:4). Whatever kind of grief we have, we need not fear; we can have God's comfort.

The song says, "Wonderful grace of Jesus, greater than all my sin." The truth also is, "Wonderful grace of Jesus, greater

than all my grief." He gives us grace to endure the worst Satan and circumstances can deal to us in this life. He provides us with peace that passes understanding. His faithful promise is that the darkness of death is the entry way to the sunrise of resurrection and the fulfillment of eternal life.

A church's self-image may not match what the pastor sees in it. Chances are, he sees people who have suffered much grief and disappointment in life; yet, he also sees people who don't lose their joy or their smile — people who keep on keeping on with love for our Lord and for one another; people with compassion and caring ministry.

What he sees is good and can become even better within God's calling and will. Loving pastors encourage church members to

remain faithful and keep on working to please God (see I Thessalonians 4:1-3). He assures them from God's Word and personal experience that God will keep His promises, bless them, and reward them.

Finally, if a church has an interim pastor — like me — he'll agree that the pastorless church needs a pastor, needs more offerings, needs more members of all ages, and has other great needs.

In God's time, the faithful church will see those needs fulfilled. But, in the meantime, a church can't afford to wait until everything is perfect to live with joy and do what it can with what it has in God's grace and strength. □ — Copyright 2005 by Johnnie C. Godwin, who welcomes your sharings — even though things may not be just right for you — via johnniegodwin@comcast.net.

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"The Harmony Committee meeting has been cancelled. We couldn't agree on a time."

SBC releases final registration stats

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — Nearly 83 percent of the 11,641 messengers who attended the Southern Baptist Convention's 2005 annual meeting drove to Nashville, while 15.4 percent flew in, according to official statistics released by Jim Wells, SBC registration secretary.

Tennessee Baptists sent the largest number of messengers, 1,991 from 672 churches, according to the official totals for the June 21-22 sessions.

Other leading states were Georgia, with 1,021 messengers from 400 churches; Kentucky, 989 messengers from 389 churches; Alabama, 865 messengers from 382 churches; and North Carolina, 814 messengers from 372 churches.

Messengers who traveled 100 miles or less to attend the annu-

al meeting totaled 1,489; 101-200 miles, 2,691; 201-300 miles, 1,981; 301-400, 1,712; 401-500, 1,481; 501-1,000, 1,794; 1,001 or more, 493.

By age (among 2,077 responding to the extended Messenger Information Survey), 106 messengers were 18-29 years old (5.10 percent); 229 were 30-39 (11.02 percent); 453 were 40-49 (21.81 percent); 643 were 50-59 (30.96 percent); and 646 were 60 or over (31.11 percent).

Men accounted for 6,839 messengers (58.75 percent); women, 4,802 (41.25 percent).

According to the messenger survey, 492 of the 2,077 respondents were attending their first SBC annual meeting (23.69 percent); 530 had attended an SBC five times or less (25.52 percent); 384 had attended six to 10 times (18.49 percent); and 671 had attended 11 or more times (32.30 percent).

The number of messengers registering online was 9,225,

with 7,416 of those registrants present in Nashville.

Messengers were sent by 4,775 churches. A total of 361 churches with less than 100 members sent 667 messengers; 467 churches with 100-199 members sent 907 messengers; 554 churches with 200-299 members sent 1,148 messengers; 1,025 churches with 300-499 members sent 2,255 messengers; 610 churches with 500-699 members sent 1,447 messengers; 539 churches with 700-999 members sent 1,326 messengers; 447 churches with 1,000-1,499 members sent 1,322 messengers; and 772 churches with 1,500 or more members sent 2,569 messengers. □

Beloved missions prof Cal Guy dies

Baptist Press

FORT WORTH, Texas — Jackson native Cal Guy, one of Southern Baptists' most influential missions professors and a longtime faculty member at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, died July 25, from natural causes. He was 88.

Guy often challenged the mission techniques that were popular during the mid-20th century. He advocated an approach to mission endeavors that encouraged missionaries to learn the culture and uncover

ways to present the gospel that new converts would to their own people to stimulate indigenous planting movements.

Guy was honored last year by SWBTS and was introduced by SWBTS President Paige Johnson as "the greatest professor in the world."

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MINISTRY — MUSIC

Oak Street Baptist Church, Soddy-Daisy, Tenn., is seeking an additional staff person. Primary duty will be music. Additional duties based on the gifts and experience of the person called. Duties could include church ministry, outreach ministry, other duties. While we are accepting applicants to fill a position, we would also accept a bivocational minister for music duties only. Please send resume to Oak Street Baptist Church, 11340 N. Oak Street, Soddy-Daisy, TN 37379. The attention of Senior Pastor Joe Miller.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Associate pastor of worship. Must be willing to lead contemporary and traditional worship styles, plus have computer skills. A major plus would be having a desire to work with youth. Send resume to Falling Water Baptist Church, Search Committee, 5270 Rd., Cunningham, TN 37024.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Falling Water Baptist Church is seeking a part-time minister to lead Sunday and Wednesday worship services and choir. If interested, please contact us or send resume to Falling Water Baptist Church, Roberts Mill Rd., Hixson, TN 37343, (423) 842-5924, office@fallingwaterbaptist.org.

MINISTRY

Grace Baptist Church, Nashville, is seeking a mature Christian secretary. Must be computer literate. Will work with education, children, and preschool ministry. Approximately 3 hours a week. If interested call 865-6262 or fax a resume to (615) 860-8734. You may also send your resume to Grace Baptist Church, 1510 Old Hickory, Nashville, TN 37207.

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Space is limited. \$100 deposits are now due.

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book review

Ferguson

The Case for a Creator

by Lee Strobel, Zondervan, 2004

Most of atheism has gone up considerably in the decades, according to author Lee Strobel. More scientific discoveries are pointing to the case for the Creator, the case for intelligent design. The heavens are declaring the glory of God!

Scientific discoveries are actually driving scientists to believe in God, according to the research of journalist

Lee Strobel, who also wrote *The Case for Christ* and *The Faith*, reports how he embraced atheism while studying Darwin. It was Darwin's theory that creatures are modified descendants of a common ancestor that lived long ago — a belief that is still found in some textbooks today as fact even though science is disproving the theory, according to Strobel's mind, the belief that there was no God gave him a new perspective. "For me, living without God meant living without a purpose, without a goal, without a direction. I felt accountable for my actions, I felt unleashed to pursue personal happiness and pleasure at all costs."

Strobel's life was turned around when his wife told him that she had decided to follow Jesus. He wanted to understand how a rational person could believe in God. He was astounded at the changes that occurred in his life. He decided to conduct his own search which led him to become a believer and the author of *The Case for Christ*.

As a legal affairs journalist, Strobel has experience in building a case. To tackle his latest book, he interviewed noted experts in cosmology, astronomy, microbiology, biological information, and consciousness. And while the science of this book is lost on the average reader, Strobel is careful to present findings in terms the layman can understand. Here are just a few of the conclusions of science according to Strobel:

Scientists are concluding that the Big Bang beginning of life on earth — didn't just happen. A living cell cannot be created. Assembling all the pieces in the right way at the right time and at the right place, while keeping out the wrong material, is simply uncountable.

The fine-tuning of the universe with just the right conditions to sustain life are too amazing to be happen-

ing. All the possible ranges for the setting of gravity, the temperature, the amount of oxygen, etc., to be situated in the exact right fraction to support life in the universe capable of sustaining life. If it were off by one part in ten thousand billion billion billions, life would be crushed.

The placement of earth within the solar system is conducive for supporting life.

It would take a star with the properties of our sun, the right mass, the right life, the right composition, the right distance, the right orbit, the right galaxy, the right conditions to nurture living organisms on a circling plan-

et. The six feet of DNA that's coiled inside every one of our cells contains more information than the *Encyclopedia Britannica*. Scientists have discovered that each one of the 30,000 genes that are coded in our 23 pairs of chromosomes can yield up to 20,500 different kinds of proteins. Even when you get to its very simplest, the template for DNA is incredibly complex. This fact alone has led some scientists to conclude there is a creator.

Concluding, Strobel states that atheism draws conclusions that go beyond the evidence. "The available evidence and the latest scientific research is convincing more scientists that facts support faith as well as reason." It is fascinating and frustrating to read about the case for a Creator. Fascinating in that scientific evidence is pointing to God, and frustrating in that these discoveries are not getting the same attention as the theories that contradict. □ — Ferguson is a correspondent for *Bible and Reflector*.

Once and future life

By Michael Adams

Focal Passage: II Corinthians 4:16-5:10

When the examination of a 78 year old man had been completed, it was recommended that he come back in six months for another check-up. At the doctor's suggestion, the aged patient shook his head and said, "Doctor, I don't think I'll be around then." "Nonsense!" replied the physician with a hearty, reassuring smile. "You'll be around for years yet." The poor fellow gave him an odd look then nervously cleared his throat. "I mean," he explained, "I'll be in Florida. I go there every January." No one likes to joke about death, think about death, or talk about death. "Death" has become America's new profane word. However, death is a reality that everyone must consider because everyone faces death unless the Lord returns in their lifetime. Billy Graham says that the book that he wrote about death and life after death is the fastest selling book that he has ever written. In this passage Paul presents three realities which a person passes in the journey called "death."

Paul begins by presenting some facts related to death. Paul states that the outer man is decaying because of the cosmic effects of man's original sin. Alexander Solzhenitsyn said, "The West has been undergoing an erosion and obscur-

ing of high moral and ethical ideas. The spiritual axis of life has grown dim." While death may not have been God's original intention for mankind, through one man's sin death entered the world. God's compensation for this condition is the renewal of the inner man on a daily basis. This internal maturation and growth is made possible in the heart of man by his state of being reborn by Jesus Christ. John Wesley said, "My people die well." What did he mean? He was expressing the thought that when a Christian comes to the time of death, they have a peace that only God can give.

Paul continues by presenting the faith that carries a person beyond death. He characterizes this faith as never losing heart which suggests the doctrine of perseverance. Paul continues with his description of this faith by saying it is built on knowledge and courage. The knowledge of which Paul speaks is the knowledge that our glorified bodies are a fixed reality which is a settled fact based on God's promises. Oscar Wilde wrote, "It is the rarest thing in the world to find somebody who is really alive." Faith in Christ makes a man really alive. The courage mentioned was not temporary of an emotional state of mind. His courage was based on the reality that to be present in the body was to be absent from the Lord, and he preferred to be absent from

**Sunday School Lesson
Family Bible Series
Aug. 7**

the body and at home with the Lord. Bishop Arthur Moore told of a man who jumped to his death from the window of a high-rise. He commented, "When a man has lost God, there is nothing to do but jump." A life apart from the Lord lacks courage, knowledge, the promises of God, and faith.

Paul ends his discussion of death by looking at the future that continues after death for the Christian. He reminds the believer that our momentary affliction is not comparable to the glory of heaven. He continues the joyous after-life of the believer by telling us that we will stand before the judgment seat of Christ to receive our reward. Most importantly, when the Christian dies he immediately goes to be at home with the Lord.

An old shoe shine man in a barber shop was a familiar figure with his Bible always lying close at hand when he was not reading it. One day a customer said to him, "I see you are reading the book of Revelation today. Do you understand it?" The shoe shine man responded, "It means Jesus is gonna win, and since He wins we do too!" □ — Adams is pastor of First Baptist Church, Lexington.

Use Godly tact and discretion

By Brad Shockley

Focal Passage: Daniel 1:8, 12-16; 2:14-16, 30; 4:19, 27

Years ago I was a supervisor for Sears. One day a clerk paged me needing help resolving an issue with a customer. The customer claimed that, as a citizen of a foreign country living in the US, she paid no sales tax on purchases. It didn't sound right or seem fair, but, sure enough, her story checked out. She walked away that day with a great deal on an expensive leather jacket — 30 percent off and no tax!

The prophet Daniel, like this lady, was a citizen of one nation (Israel) living in another (Persia), yet it wasn't by choice. As part of the exile, Daniel was forced off his native soil and integrated into the land and culture of an unfamiliar people (Daniel 1:3-4). This dual citizenship made things difficult for Daniel and his fellow noble-

men. Christians live with the tension of dual citizenship as subjects of a heavenly kingdom forced, for the present time, to dwell in worldly domains: *For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ* (Philippians 3:20). Believers in the early church struggled similarly with the issue of submission to Roman rule, some even denying obliga-

tion to it altogether. Since our citizenship is in heaven, do we have any responsibility towards earthly realms?

To answer this, we must understand a principle demonstrated in Daniel and taught in Scripture: every governing authority is established by God. Whether good or bad, friendly or hostile, it exists because God has willed it so. Job said, *He makes the nations great, then destroys them; He enlarges the nations, then leads them away* (Job 12:23). This truth speaks to His sovereignty, His absolute rule over all things, peoples, nations, and governments (II Chronicles 20:6; Proverbs 21:1, Psalm 47:1-3).

King Nebuchadnezzar's empire arose and flourished because God wanted it to (Daniel 2:37-38). The successive future empires of the king's dream would arise by God's sovereign control (Daniel 2:39-45). And every nation today, not just the good old USA, subsists solely by the hand of the Creator.

If each governing authority is in power by the hand of God, then we must acknowledge that disobedience to them is the same as disobeying God! Paul made it very clear, *Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God. Therefore whoever resists authori-*

**Sunday School Lesson
Explore the Bible
Aug. 7**

ty has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves (Romans 13:1-2). The Apostle Peter also spoke to it, *Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether to a king as the one in authority, or to governors as sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and the praise of those who do right* (I Peter 2:13-14). And in the Gospels, much to the surprise of His Jewish audience, Jesus confirmed it when He said, *render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's; and to God the things that are God's* (Matthew 22:21).

All of God's people are compelled to obey whatever rule they find themselves living under. That means we must drive under the speed limit, never remove those pesky little tags on pillows, and, yes, pay our taxes. Inevitably though, there will come a time when our desire to honor our heavenly kingdom conflicts with our obligation to honor the laws and ordinances of the land. What do we do then? We'll answer that in next week's lesson. □ — Shockley is pastor of Cedar Hill Baptist Church, Cedar Hill.

Deaths

◆ **W. Wayne Allen**, 65, of Cordova, a retired pastor and former president of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, died July 13 at his home. He was a retired pastor of Briarwood Baptist Church, Memphis, which was formerly known as East Park Baptist Church and Briarcrest Baptist Church, both of Memphis. Allen also served as a former chairman of the board of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., and on the board of trustees of Union University, Jackson. He is survived by his wife, Marcia Allen of Memphis; two daughters, International Mission Board missionary Melody Julian of Sao Paulo, Brazil, and Michelle Allen of Cordova; one son, Bill Allen of Cordova; and four grandchildren.

Churches

◆ **David Ring** of Franklin, a nationally known evangelist, will speak on Monday, Aug. 8,



RING

at 7 p.m. at **Crossroads Baptist Church, Arlington**. Ring was born with cerebral palsy. A 1976 graduate of William Jewell Baptist College, Liberty, Mo., Ring has appeared on television and has spoken at numerous conferences, youth rallies, and state conventions. For information contact Kent Bozant, Crossroads Baptist Church

minister of music, at (901) 873-3204.

◆ **Members of First Baptist Church, Jackson**, will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the relocation of the church from its former downtown site to its present location on North Highland Avenue on Aug. 20-21. Thom Rainer will be the guest speaker on Sunday, Aug. 21, at 10:50 a.m. For more information call the church office at (731) 423-9315.

◆ **Dotsonville Baptist Church, Woodlawn**, will hold its 101st homecoming Sunday, Aug. 7, beginning with morning worship at 10:30 a.m. featuring the Salem Ridge Quartet. A meal will follow the service.

◆ **First Baptist Church, Crossville**, will hold revival Aug. 7-10. Morris Anderson, evangelist of Maryville, will speak.

◆ **Friendship Baptist Church, Delano**, will hold revival Aug. 7-11. It is in the Linsdale community. Mike Bernard, pastor, Central Baptist Church, Athens, and director of Total Life Encounters Ministry, Athens, will speak and Buddy Galyon of Sweetwater will lead the music. Choirs from four Baptist churches also will perform. For more information, contact Lee Paul, pastor, at (423) 745-8530.

◆ **First Baptist Church, Joeltown**, will hold a groundbreaking ceremony Sunday, Aug. 7, at 5 p.m. for a \$5 million children's building.

◆ **24 Church**, a new church in Pleasant View, baptized six people July 17 at the



PARTICIPATING IN A groundbreaking ceremony at Liberty Baptist Church, Bristol; rec staff members and deacons of the church in photo to right, and Stan Anderson, in photo to left. The church, which was begun 17 years ago, is building a new worship center. A people gathered for the event. The 485-seat sanctuary is scheduled to be completed by 2006.



Cheatham Reservoir.

◆ **Prosperity Baptist Church, Auburntown**, will observe a "Day of Prayer" for area schools on Aug. 7.

◆ **Calvary Baptist Church, Smithville**, will host an open house for its new church on Aug. 7 at 2 p.m.

◆ **Indian Creek Baptist Church, Smithville**, will observe homecoming on Aug. 7 at 10:30 a.m. Terry Fesler will bring the morning message and Right on Time will provide special music.

◆ **Plainview Baptist Church, Woodbury**, will observe homecoming and begin revival on Aug. 21.

◆ **Grace Baptist Church, Nashville**, will host a "Back to School Bash" on Wednesday, Aug. 10, with guest speaker David Nasser and music by Gary Slayton. Registration begins at 6 p.m. and the event is open at no cost to students in grades 7-12. For more information, call Zach Williams at (615) 865-6262.

◆ **Oak Street Baptist Church, Soddy-Daisy** will hold revival services Aug. 14-18 with guest evangelist Bill Saye, revival speaker and prison evangelist. For more information, call the church office at (423) 332-2300 between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Schools

◆ The Memorial Foundation, based in Hendersonville, approved July 28 a grant of \$500,000 to **Belmont University**, Nashville, for capital support for technology in the new Gordon E. Inman College of Health Sciences and Nursing building. The building is under construction and scheduled for completion for August 2006. The foundation's grant will be used to help equip the new facility with health sciences training technology, including simulators, task trainers, computer software and other equipment, video conferencing, and satellite communica-

tions web-casting capabilities.

Leaders

◆ **Oak Grove Baptist Church, Madisonville**, has called **Mike DeLand** as pastor. He was ordained June 26 at Compromise Baptist Church, Philadelphia. Mike and his wife Susan joined Oak Grove Church July 3.

◆ **Old Sweetwater Baptist Church, Sweetwater**, has called **Chris Hampton** as pastor.

◆ **Wayne Ferrell** has resigned as pastor of Cave Springs Missionary Baptist Church, Rogersville.

◆ **Fishers Creek Baptist Church, Rogersville**, has called **Chuck Lowe** as pastor. He and his wife Kim have a daughter.

◆ **First Baptist Church, New Tazewell**, has called **Todd Spangler** as associate pastor for worship and music.

◆ **Royce Baptist Church, Oak Ridge**, has called **Brad Aiken** as youth pastor. He is the son of Tom Aiken, pastor of Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Andersonville.

◆ **Merton Avenue Church, Memphis**, has called **Alan Richards** as pastor. He was ordained as a deacon in 1992, previously served in prison ministry at West Tennessee Prison in Henning. He and his wife Ruth have two sons.

◆ **Tchulahoma Church, Memphis**, has called **Boykin McNeal Sr.** as pastor. McNeal has served the church as youth minister for four years. A graduate of America Baptist Theological Seminary with an advanced degree in divinity, he is currently studying at the College of Memphis. He and his wife Saralyn have three children and live in Olive Branch.

◆ **Jones Chapel Church, Paris**, has called **John Paschall** as pastor. He is a director.

◆ **Phillip Wetzel** has been called as minister of Laneview Baptist Church, Kenton. The *Baptist Reflector* incorrectly reported recently that he was minister of youth, Baptist Church Kenton.

Baptist and Reflector Day Sunday, Aug. 21

Your church is invited to join hundreds of other churches across the Tennessee Baptist Convention in observing Sunday, Aug. 21, as *Baptist and Reflector* Day.

Inform friends and family about the *Baptist and Reflector* as the staff "tells the story of Tennessee Baptists." The *B&R* brings you news, features, inspirational columns, editorials, Sunday School commentaries, and more each week.

To help more people become aware of their Baptist paper, we offer your church **free** copies to distribute on *B&R* Day to every member in your church.

Complete this form and mail to Baptist and Reflector, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37024. You can also fax it to (615) 371-2080 or call Susie Edwards at (615) 371-2003 to request free copies. Send form by Thursday, Aug. 11.

Number of free copies requested _____

Church Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Person Placing Order _____

Title _____

Phone Number _____



LEADERS OF A community project to collect required supplies for 600 low income children in Tullahoma city system stand in front of backpacks collected. The project is by the Attic Outlet, a thrift store ministry of Grace Baptist Tullahoma, and the Tullahoma Housing Authority. Left from left, Linda Crouch, director, Attic Outlet; Cindy Crouch, who had led a similar project in Murfreesboro; Tim Nasser, pastor, Grace Church; Cortney Dorsett, Girl Scout; and Gray, Mary Phillips, and Lydia Dodson of the Tullahoma Housing Authority.