

Baptist & Reflector

Wide Edition

Telling the Story of Tennessee Baptists

Vol. 171 / No. 33; Sept. 14, 2005

Thank you
Tennessee
Baptists!!

James Porch
executive director

BRENTWOOD — In
recent days, Tennessee Bap-
tists have opened reservoirs
of energy, and pocketbooks,



PORCH

members set
planned trips, inter-
rupted schedules, limited
resources and volunteered
the name of Christ, all in
response to the needs of people
in need. Out of harm's way
and wondering about
essentials to insure mere
survival.

Tennessee Baptists have
been there, we are
here and we must con-
tinue to bear these our
sisters and brothers up in
the whole example of the
living Christ.

Somewhere in all this
our expressions of
compassion may light the
flame that flames into an
enduring of love in the best
and noblest Christ like
living. □

To victims of Hurricane Katrina

Tennessee Baptists respond with love

By Lonnie Wilkey
Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — In the
aftermath of Hurricane Katrina,
Tennessee Baptists are opening
up their hearts, wallets, and even
churches to minister on site in
Louisiana and Mississippi and to
the thousands of evacuees who
have been streaming into Ten-
nessee since the end of August.

Tennessee Baptist Disaster
Relief volunteers were on site in
Louisiana and Mississippi as
soon as weather conditions per-
mitted.

In the days since, Tennessee
Baptists have served in excess of
236,600 meals in Baton Rouge
and Long Beach, Miss. In addi-
tion to the state feeding unit in
Baton Rouge, associational feed-
ing units from Hardeman Bap-
tist Association and Shiloh Bap-
tist Association were in Long
Beach. Other state and associa-
tional units, such as shower
trailers, laundry trail-
ers, and recovery units were
dispatched as needed.

D a v i d
Acres, TBC
disaster relief
director, said he has never seen
destruction like he has wit-
nessed on the Gulf Coast. Acres
was in Atmore, Ala., last year fol-
lowing Hurricane Ivan.

"This was 10 times worse," he
estimated.



BECKY GALLAGHER, second from right, of Covenant Baptist Church, Collierville, and Mandy Pastor of White Station Baptist Church, Memphis, talk to twin sisters of New Orleans about visiting a school they might begin attending. The sisters were staying with their family at a shelter for evacuees at Cordova Camp and Conference Center, Cordova.

Acres has been pleased with
the response of Tennessee Bap-
tist volunteers who have been in
Louisiana and Mississippi. An
estimated 500 people have been
on site already and others are on
standby.

Initially, the struggle was
finding places to send volun-
teers because the devastation
was so great, Acres said. Volun-
teers have been working in dif-
ficult conditions with tempera-
tures reaching 100-plus
degrees in some locations, Acres
said.

The Tennessee volunteers are
among a work force of more than
5,000 disaster relief workers
from 33 state conventions.

In the first week of Southern
Baptist Disaster Relief efforts,
volunteers prepared more than
1.3 million meals in the Gulf
Coast area devastated by Hurri-
cane Katrina.

Jim Burton, director of the
North American Mission Board's
volunteer mobilization team,
said he expects Southern Bap-
tist's national disaster relief
response to quickly eclipse disas-

ter services provided following
four hurricanes in Florida last
year and in New York City fol-
lowing 9/11.

"As of today (Sept. 9), we're
approaching 250,000 meals a
day and we have more than 200
mobile disaster relief units on
site, including about 5,000
trained Southern Baptist volun-
teers," Burton said.

Southern Baptist volunteers
prepare most of the meals dis-
tributed by the American Red
Cross as well as provide cleanup
— See Tennessee, page 3



TENNESSEE BAPTIST Disaster Relief workers Earl Farris, left, pastor of Georgetown Baptist Church, Georgetown, and Andy Jordan, a volunteer from Chilhowee Baptist Association, clear debris around a home. The men were working with Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief units set up in Long Beach, Miss.



STEVE PEEK, minister of family care at First Baptist Church, Concord, Knoxville, accepts donations from Collin, right, and Carter Barczak of Knoxville. FBC, Concord, has been serving as a collection point for supplies to send to victims of Hurricane Katrina.

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Bush declares Sept. 16 as day of prayer

Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — As the nation unites for the daunting challenge of assisting Hurricane Katrina survivors, President George W. Bush is calling for a national day of prayer and remembrance Friday Sept. 16.

"Throughout our history in times of testing, Americans have come together to heal and ask for strength for the tasks ahead," Bush said during remarks on hurricane relief Sept. 8. "... I ask that we pray — as Americans have always prayed in times of trial — with confidence in His purpose, with hope for a brighter future, and with the humility to ask God to keep us strong so that we can better serve our brothers and sisters in need."

In response to Bush's request for a national day of prayer, the National Day of Prayer Task Force is stepping up to promote awareness, Terrell Mayton, head of marketing and communications for the organization, told Baptist Press. The task force has no official relationship to the Sept. 16 day of prayer, although it is working to promote participation.

"We're encouraging people to do things like ring their church bells [at noon Sept. 16], keep their car lights on throughout the day, display the flag at their home, gather at their workplace to pray during their lunch time, gather at their churches or places of worship for [prayer], and support our leaders as they make some very difficult choices as we provide aid and comfort to these people who have gone through this awful natural disaster," Mayton said.

The personal relationship with God through prayer is a very important part of the recovery process, he said, and even surpasses the need for food and water.

Shirley Dobson, chairwoman of the National Day of Prayer Task Force, called on Americans to pray for all those affected by Katrina.

"As the devastation from Hurricane Katrina escalates, we at the National Day of Prayer Task Force want to express our heartfelt sympathy to the families and communities affected by this catastrophic event," Dobson said in a Sept. 6 news release.

"The initial disaster, followed by the resulting floods and now shortage of water, food, medical supplies, shelter, and other necessities, has been difficult to witness and in turn, comprehend."

Dobson listed several prayer requests:

- For the safety and health of the hurricane victims.
- That God will give the rescuers the physical and spiritual strength required to do their work.
- For patience for those anxiously waiting to hear from family members or for word on their homes and neighborhoods.
- For problems to be solved in peace and for order to be established in the midst of chaos.
- For the relief organizations involved, that they will receive enough supplies and funds to address the needs before them and that they will get the supplies distributed quickly and efficiently.
- That citizens will selflessly open their hearts and homes to the victims.

"By uniting in prayer as a nation, we can avail ourselves of the wisdom that only God provides," Dobson said. "By petitioning Him for mercy and grace, people everywhere can be a very real and necessary part of the hope and healing. Through prayer, we can access the power of God Himself." □

SBC CP gifts up

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — Year-to-date contributions through the Southern Baptist Convention's Cooperative Program are up 1.69 percent compared to the same time frame in 2004, according to a news release from SBC Executive Committee President Morris H. Chapman.

As of August 31, 2005, the year-to-date total of \$179,443,550.11 for Cooperative

Program (CP) Missions is \$2,973,810.24 ahead of the \$176,469,739.87 received at the same point in 2004. For the month, receipts of \$15,781,668.28 were 3.64 percent, or \$596,048.96, below the \$16,377,717.24 received in August 2004.

Designated giving of \$183,291,228.49 for the same year-to-date period is 1.05 percent, or \$1,945,942.40, below gifts of \$185,237,170.89 received at this point last year. The \$4,565,440.60 in designated gifts received last month is \$669,223.21 below the \$5,234,663.81 received in August 2004, a decrease of 12.78 percent.

For the SBC Cooperative Program Allocation Budget, the year-to-date total of \$179,443,550.11 is 106.85 percent of the \$167,934,886.24 budgeted, or \$11,508,663.87 above budget to support Southern Baptist ministries globally and across North America. □

Church building workshop slated

Baptist and Reflector

MEMPHIS — A Church Building/Finance Conference will be held Sept. 29 from 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Kirby Woods Baptist Church here.

The conference is designed to provide information, training, and resources for churches that will enable them to better plan to minister in their community, utilizing their facilities as a tool for ministry, according to Archer Thorpe, church administration and stewardship specialist for the Tennessee Baptist Convention, which is sponsoring the workshop.

Topics will include master planning for long-range growth, steps in a building program, designing space, financing building programs, and more.

The conference is open to pastors and church staff, building and finance committees, trustees, and others facing the need for space, involved in the building process, or are responsible for facilities planning and funding development.

Conference leaders include Thorpe, Richard Barr and Stephen Lee, architects; and Bo Childs, certified financial planner and president of the Tennessee Baptist Foundation.

The cost is \$20 and includes lunch. To register, visit the web at www.tnbaptist.org and download the registration form. Questions may be directed to Thorpe at 1-800-558-2090. □

N.C. legislature passes lottery

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — The absence of two lottery opponents cleared the way for passage of a state lottery in North Carolina that

TBC gifts still above budget

Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — from Tennessee Baptist convention churches through Cooperative Program to \$3,322,665 in August.

After 10 months of current fiscal year, which ends Oct. 31, Tennessee Baptists have exceeded \$30,016,267 through Cooperative Program.

Gifts are \$1,455,055.09 percent over the amount given after 10 months of year. Gifts also are \$38 or 1.31 percent over current budget needs.

James Porch, TBC executive director-treasurer, expressed his appreciation for the generosity of Tennessee Baptists.

"Tennessee Baptists responded in a mighty way this year to help us in ministry and missions in our state and around the world," he said.

Porch also noted that Tennessee Baptists have opportunity to continue to meet needs as churches to collect funds for the Tennessee Offering for TBC Missions as well as disaster relief donations for victims of Hurricane Katrina.

"God has blessed the people of Tennessee and I believe we will continue to give generously and sacrificially only through the Cooperative Program, but to special offerings as well," he said. □

had been on the governor's agenda for four years.

The state's House of Representatives approved the necessary legislation in April, but a holdup was in the Senate. Opinions were split over whether a lottery would improve the state's education program or have a detrimental effect on the economy.

But when one of the Republican senators was elected to his honeymoon, another was bedridden. Lottery supporters brought the issue to a vote that resulted in a 24-24 tie. Lt. Gov. Bevelyn, the Senate's president, stepped in and cast the deciding vote on the side of the Democrats. He gave the bill a 25-24 majority. It was the first time a lieutenant governor had cast a vote in the Senate since 1996, according to the Associated Press.

Gov. Mike Easley signed the bill into law the same day. He and the General Assembly will appoint a lottery commission to work out the details of the program.

Lottery supporters say the program could generate \$300 million during the first year alone, of which 35 percent would be spent on education initiatives. □



SOUTHERN BAPTIST missionary Kenny Stevens, currently on state-side assignment, loads boxes on a trailer at First Baptist Church, Concord; in Knoxville. The church is sending supplies to Louisiana and Mississippi to assist victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Tennessee Baptists respond with love to victims ...

Continued from page 1

covery, communications, and other vital disaster relief services. Southern Baptists are the third-largest disaster relief organization in the country, with the Red Cross and The Salvation Army, with more than 100,000 trained volunteers on the ground, local, state, and national agencies.

In addition, countless Tennessee Baptists have been providing assistance to displaced evacuees (see stories throughout this issue). Numerous churches across the state are serving as shelters or have been collecting masses of supplies for victims, both in affected areas and here in Tennessee.

Monetary gifts have poured into Tennessee Baptist Church designated for Katrina relief. As of Sept. 12, more than \$100,000 has been received in the accounting office. Total at the SBC level have reached an unprecedented \$2 billion level, according to a Baptist Press report.

Volunteers report
Virginia Cole, a member of First Baptist Church, Huntingdon, served as a chaplain and on the feeding unit as the information officer at Jefferson Baptist Church in Baton Rouge, La.

"We have witnessed to a lot of people. I have shared my faith with a lot of storm victims," she said.

Jim Clark, a member of First Baptist Church, Slidell, La., and "white hat" on the feeding unit at Jefferson Baptist Church, said Sept. 9 that there were still needed.

He observed that trees were down and in yards. "In a lot of neighborhoods you can't get out to the people," Clark said.

It is amazing how this hurricane touched everybody's lives, and we are reaching out one another."

Several Bradley County Baptist Association volunteers from Long Beach, Miss., among them were Director of Phil Taylor and Earl Taylor, pastor of Georgetown Baptist Church, Georgetown, who are first response chaplains. They are impressed with the

deep faith of the many people who have lost their entire life possessions, and the overwhelming number of people seeking not only physical needs but spiritual strength and renewal," Taylor said.

Nolachucky Baptists respond to request

When a Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief team gave word to members of the Nolachucky Baptist Association, based in Morristown, that folks in Slidell, La., were in desperate need of basic survival supplies, churches responded quickly, in the form of a quick \$20,000 in cash.

Don Owen, a member of First Baptist Church, Morristown, received orders from the TBC to leave on the Tuesday following Hurricane Katrina on Monday. His disaster relief team was already en route to Slidell when they got the call to re-route to Baton Rouge.

"We got a call telling us the levee had broken, and we could not get to Slidell," Owen said.

There were plenty of people in Baton Rouge to help as well. The team spent several days clearing trees from roads and feeding meals to 14,000 victims of Katrina. Part of the team stayed in Baton Rouge while other team members went to Covington, La., where they fed an additional 14,000 people and cleared more roads.

"Both towns were completely devastated. Completely devastated," Owen said as he held back tears of compassion.

Owen's tears were not all tears of sadness. He was also overwhelmed by tears of joy when he realized God's provision to the people in Slidell.

"When teams were finally allowed into Slidell, the need there was overwhelming as well," Owen said.

Last week, Owen had just returned to Morristown when he received word from partners still in Slidell the town was running out of food and water. Just hours later, a truck and trailer, donated by Wallace Hardware, was headed to Slidell with a full load of supplies, all donated by Nolachucky Baptists in a matter of a few hours.

"God is good," Owen said as he expressed gratitude to mem-

Small church takes \$10,000 from building fund to give to Katrina victims

By Carla Cody
Baptist and Reflector

MIDWAY — Members of Bible's Chapel Baptist Church here said they are proud to have given money from their building fund to help in the efforts of rebuilding lives and churches destroyed by Hurricane Katrina.

Ten years ago, the church recognized the need to build a new fellowship hall. According to Pastor Donnie Bible, with the building project vote also came another very important vote by the church: to increase missions giving through the Cooperative Program.

Within a year of completion the building project, the building was paid. The church also reached their goal of increased mission giving. In fact, Bible said the small country church brought in \$150,000 last year. They gave \$69,000 of that to missions.

"We have a compassionate group of people in our church. When they see a need, they do what they can to meet that need," Bible said.

Like many other Americans, the church members watched coverage of the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and wondered what they could do to help the victims on the Gulf Coast.

When chairman of deacons Bobby Carter shared his idea to give money from the building fund to hurricane victims, fellow deacons and pastor Bible were immediately on board. In fact, the whole church unanimously agreed to give \$10,000 of their building fund balance toward relief efforts.

The decision was made on Sunday night, and because Monday was Labor Day, Bible took a check for the entire \$10,000 to Nolachucky Baptist Association Director of Missions James Williams on Tuesday morning.

Yet, the members wanted to do more.

"Our members wanted to also give on a personal level," Bible said.

The next Sunday, the small congregation of about a 100 gave more than \$2,300 in a special offering for Hurricane Katrina victims.

Pastor Bible grew up in the church before becoming a deacon and then answering the call to preach. He was then ordained and licensed by the church which he has now pastored for 23 years.

"It has always been the heart of this church to be united in giving. Our motto is that you cannot out give God. He has proven that to us time and time again," Bible said. □

bers of his church who organized the project, other churches who gave, and Director of Missions James Williams, who got the word out to the churches and helped collect the funds.

While some of the money had already been donated by churches, more money was given when the need became specific.

As FBC members shopped at Wal-mart for canned foods, water, trash bags, toiletry items, pet foods, cleaning supplies, diapers, formula, and other basic supplies, employees of the store joined in to help with the shopping efforts and the loading of the trailer.

This week, several TBC trained teams will go to Slidell to continue relief efforts there.

Dan Lambach, a career International Mission Board missionary who is currently home on furlough from Brazil, said he was glad to be a part of the efforts of First Baptist and the Nolachucky Association in helping the devastated areas of the Gulf Coast.

"It is amazing how God works out the details in something like this. Everyone from church members to Wal-mart

employees has worked together to get this stuff to Slidell. God just put it all together in a matter of a day. Don got the call this morning and the trailer is leaving tonight. It is exciting to know God will continue His work as this truck leaves out and people in Slidell are touched by His love," Lambach said.

First training session

Because only trained disaster relief volunteers are being sent on location, several training events have been slated (see story on page 14).

The first event was held Sept. 10 at Alpha Baptist Church in Morristown where nearly 200 people signed up for training.

Bruce Osborn, minister of missions and evangelism at Alpha, said volunteers were trained to recognize their own strengths and gifts and to get plugged-in in the areas that best suit their skills.

"People are needed to run chain saws. People are needed to help distribute food. There are all kinds of ways and places to help, and it is important for vol-

unteers to recognize what they are best suited to do. There is reconstruction that will need to take place, crisis counseling that needs to be offered, and a host of other opportunities for service," Osborn said.

Because of the extreme conditions and extensive damage of Hurricane Katrina, Osborn said much of the training is being done on-site.

"There are volunteers on the Gulf Coast that are exhausted. So, they are currently doing on-site training once the initial introductory course is completed for volunteers who are able and willing to go help with the aid of Katrina victims," Osborn said.

Work continues

Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers are continuing work both in Louisiana and Mississippi as well as in Tennessee.

The Baptist and Reflector will provide additional coverage of Hurricane Katrina relief efforts in the weeks ahead. □ — Contributing to this story were Marcia Knox, Carla Cody, Emily Bryant, and Baptist Press.



GATHER in Long Beach, Miss., to get a hot meal prepared by disaster relief volunteers from the County Baptist Association.



BRADLEY COUNTY BAPTIST Association disaster relief volunteers pray for a resident of Long Beach, Miss., who lost her home to Hurricane Katrina.

Making a difference after Katrina's devastation

a word
from our
president



By Roger Freeman

Be not weary in well doing, for in due season, ye shall reap if you faint not. — Galatians 6:9

Most Baptist pastors, staff members, and church members in New Orleans are displaced. It is a time for us to help in the rebuilding of Baptist ministry in New Orleans.

God allowed me the privilege to pastor First Baptist Church of New Orleans for six years where there are some of the

most wonderful Christian people on earth. I love the people of New Orleans.

Our New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and more than 2,000 students and faculty serve there. All the seminary campus is displaced.

New Orleans is one of the world's greatest mission fields and needs us to partner with them. God loves to send revival after the storm.

Your church can adopt a church in New Orleans and south Louisiana.

This "Adopt a Church" ministry would allow your church to provide specific prayer support, communication to pastor and members, love offerings, clean up visits, and contact for ministry assistance and sup-

port in the years ahead.

James Porch, executive director of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, has given the full blessing for this "Adopt a Church" ministry in New Orleans. There may be churches in Mississippi or Alabama you may choose to adopt as well.

Please send your commitment by e-mail to Joe McKeever, director of missions of BAGNO (Baptist Association of Greater New Orleans) at joe@joemckeeper.com or joeslist@joemckeeper.com. Please copy your e-mail commitment to me at roger@fbct.org.

Dr. McKeever will keep the list and communicate as the future opening of the city of New Orleans becomes more clear.

As you receive disaster relief offerings, your church can consider and prepare for offerings to your adopted church. You can soon communicate with your church and begin plans for ministry to help them rebuild their ministries in the city of New Orleans.

When we are given names of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary students or faculty that need assistance, we can connect your church in ministry to that need also.

Let us hear from you.

More than ever before we can "Serve Christ Together" as Tennessee Baptists. □ — Freeman, pastor of First Baptist Church, Clarksville, is president of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

making
Christ
known

By Candy Phill

Many ministries one mission

This is the Week of State Missions. Many Baptist churches are for the "Many Ministries, one mission" in our state.

People in the new age the video and learning Golden Offering for Missions supports ministry in our state inserts are being used reminders. Some pa using the sermon outli ed by Mickey Basham Eastanallee Baptist Age-level WMU org leaders are using the guides. Posters are church declare the off of \$1,630,000. Offer lopes have been distri d.

One segment on promotion video show aster relief ministry t is reported by the Golder Tennessee Baptist relief teams have bee to the Gulf States. E member is prepared serve because of the provided by the state offering.

The Golden Offering nessee Missions sup sions and ministries our state. It is distr used. The funds are ministries that brin people directly and i Tennessee Bapti have many ministrie support, but our mis to share the love of J and to make Him k task is great. There a lost people who live i Pray and then give en Offering for Tennes sions.

As of Aug. 31 wh Golden Offering for Missions closed, Ten tist churches had giv \$1,569,169.00. This est amount ever g state missions offer month period. I \$55,831.00 short of \$1,625,000. Rememl the offering is alloc new churches in Ter

The promotion Prayer and the Gol for Tennessee Miss possible when w together. It is the res work done by a lot o worth all the effort for doing your part for promoting, prayi and giving. If your not observed the W for State Missions too late. □ — Phillip director of Tennesse Missionary Union.

Families will rise above adversity from Katrina

making
Christ
known



By Tony Rankin

Most families have found themselves glued to recent reports from the Katrina hurricane disaster. Some shock, wonderment, concerns, and frustration has been in most of our family rooms across America. These are stories that we have heard about in other countries. There are pictures that cause us to be in awe of how people could survive in such conditions. There is a sense of frustration in not knowing what to do, where to go so we can do it, and who to talk to in order to find the best thing to do. Unlike most situations that the family faces, natural disasters initially paralyze us.

Trauma defined

Trauma is defined as any stressful activity that is "outside the range of common experiences" such as rape, combat, natural disaster, manmade disasters, accidents, and human brutality. It is all around us and particularly has riveted us with the recent horrific hurricane on the gulf coast of Mississippi and Louisiana. It has become "realer" because many of us have relatives and friends who have had their belongings and homes destroyed by the floods and wind.

If we haven't experienced the losses of family and close friends we have at least found ourselves glued to the television as helicopters, row boats, daring neighbors, and concerned individuals rescued thousands of stranded and trapped residents. We've also been overwhelmed by the hundreds of thousands of refugees (that's hard for us as Americans to say) as they have sought shelter and food in all four corners of our country. The

suddenness, dangerousness, and overwhelming devastation have been the core of the troubling events of hurricane Katrina.

Need for security

Unlike some of the self-induced problems that families face, the effects of the hurricane ripped away a sense of safety, certainty, responsibility, and hope. Families of this disaster call for assistance in handling and facing their greatest fears and needs. They have a need for security.

Finding refuge in an apartment, hotel, home, and camper can offer a sense of stability. Receiving staple items such as groceries and personal hygiene supplies offer a sense of normalcy and comfort. Families also need predictability. In the middle of the devastation is chaos for numerous families. Finding new routines, seeing people keep their promises, maintaining regular hours of rest and "doing business," and stating expectations of others will assist in acquiring a sense of dependency on God and interdependency with loved ones.

All victims of our country's most recent crisis will benefit from the appreciation that the non-affected citizen has for their difficult situation. Caring persons should try to empathize with what the residents of the hurricane-torn area have experienced. Put yourselves into their shoes. What would it feel like to have lost everything? What would it be like to have family members or social acquaintances that could not be accounted for? What would it be like to go from being employed and making decent money to having to rely on government assistance, handouts from churches, or donations from strangers? Oddly enough the hurricane victims need to have some responsibility in the "clean-up" or rebuilding efforts. This gives them a sense of regaining ownership and control

of their jumbled situations. This is one of the fastest ways to re-establish a sense of belonging, purpose, control, and hope.

The family is the most important resource in recovery from emotional responses of such catastrophes. The family should develop a sense of positive expectancy for the future. Reflecting on the losses has its place but looking forward will have greater impact on the family unit. The family must face the realities of the situation. Talking about the losses and retelling stories helps reality sink in. Younger children will not be able to show such emotions but students and their parents' can. All family members should realize the loss of money, lives, jobs, esteem, and confidence. The family can now appreciate the need to live everyday to the fullest. The idea of "don't hold back" takes on a new meaning.

Meeting needs

For the most part Americans do an acceptable job of meeting the needs of the victims. Unfortunately a group of people that get ignored are the service providers and volunteers who deal with crises such as hurricanes. (This can result from watching too much television coverage as well!) Being around and witnessing the horrifying trauma has a marked impact on their lives, too. Secondary trauma results when volunteers and service providers see significant devastation. The type of trauma can also elicit past painful experiences as well. Secondary trauma will affect trust, intimacy, vulnerability, hope, and love. Here is a list of suggestions to help helpers, volunteers, and service providers:

(1) Be careful in celebrating one's "specialness" in the volunteer role. This can be haunting and should not be done anyway. The "helper" should seek their approval and recognition in private times with God.

(2) The Limbic system says, "Get out" and volunteers and caring professionals keep staying. The fight or flight response is there for a reason. Listen to you body when it says, "Enough is enough." Get back to some normalcy and return later if necessary.

(3) Address the new sense of loneliness and find meaning in your life. The lack of meaning and control in the world and being at another Ground Zero pulls us down. Know your purpose in life and be able to communicate it to others.

(4) Danger becomes the overwhelming feature when "the event" is a person's continued focus. Observing or being in the crisis will never leave you but it doesn't have to be the center of your universe forever.

(5) Increased arousal does not make it easier to get beyond your struggle. Sometimes we "stay longer than we ought." Limit yourself to how many times you chose to revisit the disaster either in person or by some means of technology.

(6) Avoid the "I'm the only one who can..." Maintain a sense of reality that "This really did happen" and "I helped out" but refuse to become bigger than life with your relief efforts. Surviving this crisis will take tens of thousands of volunteers. You are just one of millions who may help. Remember you are not God and refuse to become bigger than who you know you are.

God's people are resilient and always have been. We will be no different. Families, both victimized and the ones trying to help, will rise above this adversity with their creative insights, humor, empathy, initiative, relationships, and the desire to do something good for somebody else. We can and will show a hurting world what family is really about. □ — Rankin, a licensed counselor, is family ministry specialist for the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Katrina has redefined the word 'normal'



Lonnie Wilkey, editor

ing served on the staff of Baptist and Reflector for 17 I have written my share of hurricane disaster relief stories beginning with Hurricane which struck South Carolina in the late 1980s.

At this point, most hurricane stories have been the same: paths, extensive property damage and loss, etc. To be honest, most of the hurricane stories I have written all I needed was change the name of the hurricane and the people I interviewed. Their stories were basically the same.

Previous hurricane stories returned to "normal" within a few weeks or at a couple of months as they began to rebuild and recover from the devastation

they encountered.

Hurricane Katrina has removed the word "normal" or "typical" when it comes to natural disasters and writing about hurricanes.

I have never seen or written about a hurricane that packed the wallop or taken as many lives, or destroyed as much property as Katrina did when she hit the New Orleans and the Gulf Coast in late August.

Lives will never be back to "normal" for thousands upon thousands of residents who fled New Orleans and other areas impacted by the Category 5 storm.

In fact, thousands of people will never return "home" again as they have fled their homes with little more than the clothes on their back and what little they could pack in a plastic bag before they left. These evacuees have no "home" to return to and very little else. Many worked in businesses that were swept away and may or may not rebuild.

One thing that is the same

about this hurricane as with past storms is the response of Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers. Within hours after Katrina wreaked havoc in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama, Southern Baptist disaster relief workers around the nation were being mobilized.

In Tennessee David Acres, state Disaster Relief director, and other Tennessee Baptist Convention staff members were empowered by TBC Executive Director James Porch to "do what it took" to begin ministry to victims of Hurricane Katrina.

As soon as weather conditions permitted, Tennessee volunteers were on site offering not only hot meals, but were showing God's love and compassion to those affected by Katrina.

Hurricane Katrina was atypical also because it did so much damage that evacuees fled to other states in record droves, including Tennessee.

Tennessee Baptists unable to go to Louisiana and Mississippi were able to minister in extraordinary ways — and are still

doing so.

Nearly three weeks after Katrina, countless work still needs to be done to assist the victims. Tennessee Baptists have joined their Southern Baptist brothers and sisters around the nation to respond with overwhelming generosity as funds have poured in to both the TBC and the North American Mission Board.

More funds will be needed. A word of caution. So many organizations are collecting money for victims. Most are probably legitimate, but sadly, there will no doubt be some who "scam" good hearted people who think they are helping victims.

Funds given directly or through churches to Tennessee Baptist and Southern Baptist disaster relief efforts will be used in the way it is intended. Count on it.

Continue to give. Continue to pray. Continue to do whatever it takes to help victims of Hurricane Katrina. Let them see God's love, grace, and mercy through us. □

making
Christ
known



By Larry Gilmore

Everyone can!

SBC President, Bobby Welch, has challenged us to witness, win, and baptize one million people! What a challenge! But long before this challenge, our Lord gave us the Great Commission, not to reach one million, but to make disciples of all nations. Why should we be overwhelmed with "one million?" Have we forgotten the size of our God?

I heard once that "God never puts within the heart of His child a dream unless He puts within his hands the means to reach that dream." We might also add that God never gives His children a task unless He puts within their hands the means to fulfill that task. The accomplishment or fulfillment of responsibility does not just happen. We must pray, plan, develop, and launch the plan. That is true in most every area of responsibility, including evangelism. We must be intentional in our evangelism efforts.

Southern Baptists are seeking to do just that with the Oct. 2 On Mission to Share Jesus Sunday (OMSJS). This can be a day of inspiration, motivation, communication, celebration, and commitment to be intentional in our evangelism plans.

Events of recent days have awakened us to the fact that our false security in that which doesn't last can be removed quickly. What takes us years to plan and construct can be brought down in hours or even seconds. We are reminded that our hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness!

Everyone can be trained and equipped. Everyone can witness and win someone to Christ.

Years ago, as a pastor, I asked our church congregation to commit individually to asking God to use them to win at least one person to Christ during the year. Many stood at the altar making that commitment. Among them was my 9-year-old son. Several months later, I saw my son walking down the aisle with one of his friends. He had shared Jesus and encouraged his friend to be saved. Tears rolled down my cheeks as my son looked up at me and said, "Dad, I got my one!"

I wonder how many would come into the family of God if each of us would look for opportunities daily to be on mission to share Jesus. You can be sure that God will use you. Let us each join other Tennessee and Southern Baptists on Oct. 2 in a commitment to train and be equipped, to witness and win, and to see others baptized as faithful followers of Jesus Christ. □ — Gilmore is evangelism director for the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

letters to the editor

My blessed

at a joy to join a wonderful prayerwalk during the Tennessee Baptist Vision of Montana. It is truly a beautiful land where the "buffalo and the antelope play." From Bozeman to Missoula, I was so amazed that there had no churches, so the only way there have no way of seeing Jesus.

Like Peter in the park to Lee who worked in our hotel in Helena were able to pray with others. Montana is a beautiful land open for ministry. I feel the warmth of the people, the spirit but open to our mission.

Thanks to the Tennessee Baptist Convention, the Montana Southern Baptist Convention and the North American Mission Board for giving me and others a vision of Montana.

I have some of my heart of burden for Montana. I will be going to help build new churches and help bring lost people to Christ. Montana is fresh for harvest. Truly blessed to be a part of this Christian!

Janice Scruggs
Dandridge 37725

new on target

Regarding Dawn Ferguson's review in the Aug. 17 issue, I plan to read *Your Best* but I have heard Joel preach many times and loved his church.

I agree with her review. He is charismatic, well educated and knowledgeable his message does not have great impact and is repetitive. We all live with a good attitude, but the best in all things is still there is no

guarantee the enemy will not devour us and the wolf will never be at our door.

But I understand how people wanting a brighter future would be open to his message. I think our conservative pastors sometimes dwell too much on the negative and we do need to be told more often that God does want to pour out His blessings on us.

Margaret Bell
Dyer 38330

Appreciates letter

Thanks to Becki Wilson for her letter about world poverty in the Aug. 17 issue. She asked, "Is anyone else asking these questions? Anyone else on this journey?" Well, Becki, count me as another one who is asking how we as Christians are to respond to global impoverishment.

Having traveled overseas, I have seen firsthand both grinding poverty and yearnings for a better life in other countries. I have also seen how responsive to Christ are many of those in poverty. We rightly support missions that reach out to evangelize people in other countries, but I agree with Becki that persons of faith have an obligation to minister to the needy not only with our personal funds but also by addressing public policies. We cannot change everything ourselves, but we can do something. And we must do something, because God's love abides in us.

Some who say "let's just get them saved" ignore the fact that only people who are alive can make decisions for Christ. Many suffering from world poverty will not live long enough to come to Christ unless the developed world, especially the United

States, does more to help alleviate their hunger and poverty.

In this matter, service and evangelism go hand in hand. God give us more like Becki Wilson who are willing to act because the Lord has stirred up their hearts.

Charles Parker
Antioch 37013

Much written

Much has been written lately about our churches not identifying themselves as "Baptist." It seems to be widely, but quietly, agreed that the title "Baptist" is a hindrance to recruiting, but nothing I've read states how we have come to this questionable condition.

Consider the following explanation: our highly publicized civil war in which the conservatives took control of the SBC from the moderates sent the public a message that not everyone is welcome in our ranks.

In our gallant quest for biblical authority we have inadvertently become the group known for what we are against rather than what we are for, not unlike the Pharisees of old. Our targets have included Mickey Mouse, public education, trick or treatin', Harry Potter, and wives who presume to have a vote in family matters.

Our grand traditions of congregational authority and priesthood of the believer are being compromised by local pastors who see themselves as spiritual dictators. Freedom of thought is taking a back seat to blind obedience.

Because of these misguided efforts, what was once America's greatest evangelical denomination has been tragically reduced

to cult status in the eyes of much of the secular domain.

In an attempt to be constructive, may I suggest we adjust any condescending or judgmental attitude toward others to that of our Savior's posture eloquently penned in a song, "He looked beyond my fault and saw my need."

John Townsend
Memphis 38120

Not Baptist

I look forward to getting the *B & R* each week. I realize everyone does not agree on everything, but we can disagree, agreeable, right?

I am a Christian and a Southern Baptist and have been for many years. I believe "Baptist" is the closest denomination to the Bible, or I would not belong.

I read that someone said that they did not have "Baptist" on their church. They didn't want people to think they were just Baptist and not Christians.

I can see that point of view, but personally I like to see "Baptist" on my church.

What I can not agree with is the churches around here having the Awanas group in the church. It's not Baptist. It is also very expensive, and their missionary gets his salary out of the Awanas groups everywhere. I know they teach the Bible, but not missions, and they do not use Baptist material. I believe if you let something like that come in, then something else will follow that is not Baptist.

I will not salute a flag from the Awanas, which our kids and youth have, and do not think I am wrong in not saluting it.

Jane Merrell
Paris 38242

Knoxville-area churches assist Hurricane Katrina victims

By Lonnie Wilkey
Baptist and Reflector

KNOXVILLE — While three Knox County Baptist Association churches have accepted specific roles in assisting victims of Hurricane Katrina, many churches are doing something, according to Walter Taylor, director of missions.

He noted that while the association has a rich heritage of sending out disaster relief volunteers this is the first time he is aware of the influx of people from affected areas coming to Knoxville.

"Our people have responded tremendously well," Taylor said.

The association has begun collecting water and other supplies in a large trailer which will be taken to Louisiana for victims of Hurricane Katrina.

FBC, Knoxville

Pastor Bill Shiell of First Baptist Church, Knoxville, knew early on that there would be a crisis in New Orleans and church members began asking what they could do to help.

They decided to send a trailer of supplies and within days supplies flooded into the downtown Knoxville church.

"Crisis solved. We were doing something. People felt good," Shiell said.

Little did he know at the time that they would do a lot more. As they learned evacuees would be coming to Knoxville the church contacted the Red Cross to see what they needed to do to become activated as a shelter.

The Red Cross said they would come out on a Saturday (Sept. 3) to look at the church.

"We thought we would have a few days to get ready if we were approved," Shiell said.

Shiell and his son went to the University of Tennessee versus the University of Alabama-Birmingham game that day and had just settled into their seats



KAY STOKELY and Frank Key of First Baptist Church, Concord, in Knoxville, sort items to prepare family boxes to send to victims of Hurricane Katrina. FBC, Concord, served as a collection site.

when his cell phone rang. He learned that not only had the church been approved as a shelter, but that they could expect approximately 100 people by 7:30 p.m. that night.

Shiell left the game at half-time and walked to the church where members had already begun to transform Trentham Hall, the church's fellowship center, into a shelter complete with cots. "Red Cross volunteers told us they could not believe we pulled it off," Shiell said.

He noted the effort has changed the church. "It has given us a cause that was so needed."

While acknowledging that they "stumbled" onto being a shelter, Shiell stressed, "This is what we ought to do. This building was designed to be a place of refuge."

Shiell also observed that "a mission trip came to our building. The mission experience is now within our walls."

"We were open and ready for people who had nowhere to go."

Church member Sandy Wisener, who coordinated the efforts, agreed with her pastor.

"This is a good opportunity to

be here, to be ready, to be available.

"God sent these people here and we are ready. It's a good match. They have needs."

Shiell did not know exactly how long the church would be needed as a shelter as the nearby coliseum was being opened as a shelter last week for other evacuees expected to arrive in Knoxville. Because of the church's proximity to East Tennessee Baptist Hospital, Shiell said the church may "stay open because we are better equipped to handle medical needs."

Central Baptist, Bearden

Central Baptist Church, Bearden, had been scouted and approved as a Red Cross shelter for some time, according to Robert Bowman, associate pastor for missions at the church.

When they were asked Aug. 31 to be a shelter, the church accepted without hesitation, Bowman said.

As the church readied to accept evacuees, the Red Cross had a change of heart. On Saturday, Sept. 3, the church was asked to be the central processing site for evacuees instead of a shelter.



PASTOR BILL SHIELL, right, of First Baptist Church, Knoxville, moves boxes of clothes and supplies which were taken to the church for victims of Hurricane Katrina. The church serves as a Red Cross shelter for evacuees.

The church agreed and has processed more than 2,300 evacuees and the number was expected to rise significantly as more evacuees come to Knoxville. Evacuees complete paper work for the Red Cross, receive vouchers, and are checked out medically, among other things, Bowman explained.

"We have been going full bore," Bowman said. "Our people want to help so bad."

Bowman feels the church had no choice but to accept the responsibility. "If we don't do this we might as well close our doors," he said.

Bowman praised Central members for "responding really well. They have brought things and volunteered their time," he said.

He said the church has had to be extremely flexible. "This is a disaster. It's not a planned church activity," he observed.

"We have had to change directions at a moment's notice."

Bowman said evacuees have "told us their experience here has been positive" and that "this is the most personal touch they have had" since Katrina devastated their homes.

Bowman said the entire process has been reactionary.

"This is something we could have never imagined doing or training for," he observed.

FBC, Concord

First Baptist Church, Con-

cord, sent 18-19 disaster workers to Louisiana as the larger Tennessee Convention disaster efforts, but the church wanted to provide a "people to show their compassion," said Phil Nelson, associate pastor for missions at the Knoxville church.

The church has been a major collection site for bringing water, food, and supplies for victims of Hurricane Katrina.

The church has already sent two tractor-trailer loads affected by the hurricane working on a third.

"Word has gotten out we are assisting," Nelson said. "It thrills us to be able to do this way for our church and of Knoxville a way to show our compassion."

Church members are assisting at Central and other places as needed, Nelson said. "We are aggressively pursuing every option that is helpful."

"We want to be hopeful, sharing love, sharing hope," Nelson stressed.

Pleased with effort

Taylor said he is "amazed at how responsive people of Knoxville are in helping to help in all kinds of ways."

"We are truly the heart of the State," the Knox County Baptist Association director of missions said. □



CENTRAL BAPTIST CHURCH, Bearden, in Knoxville was selected as a Red Cross receiving center. When evacuees from Hurricane Katrina enter Knoxville they are routed through Central Baptist where they are checked in. They then receive medical care and complete paper work. They also are able to select clothes and other needed items. The church's gymnasium served as the central point of operations.



WALTER TAYLOR, right, talks with volunteers Taylor Dular, Rocky Hill Baptist Church, and Bob Faulkner of Central Baptist Church, Bearden. The associational office also served as a collection site for supplies which will be taken to victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Middle Tennessee churches, associations minister to evacuees

By Ada Lawson
Staff Writer and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — Churches in the greater Nashville area are coming to the plate to meet the needs of evacuees from Hurricane Katrina ranging from shelter, food, medicine, counseling, and warm hugs.

With approximately 2,000 evacuees arriving in Nashville in the days immediately following the disaster, the number is expected to reach 1,000 a day beginning on Labor Day. Some of the evacuees were being taken on to other Tennessee shelters.

President George W. Bush declared an emergency situation in Tennessee due to the influx of evacuees, freeing up federal aid and other resources for the disaster relief efforts.

ClearView Baptist Church, Franklin, was serving as a shelter operated by the Williamson County chapter of the Red Cross.

Nine evacuees arrived on Aug. 31 and the number had increased to 47 by Sept. 7. Food, medical, and counseling services were available to shelter residents and other evacuees staying with friends and family.

Church members were providing nightly hot meals. Area restaurants were sending donated lunches, and church members and community residents were donating food, diapers, and other supplies.

Some families were moved from the shelter into apartments on Sept. 7 with others expected to follow.

Henry Spells Sr., a resident of New Orleans, arrived at ClearView Aug. 30 with eight family members. He said he left on Sunday afternoon, Aug. 28, ahead of the storm. He didn't know whether he would return to New Orleans to live. However, he wore a big smile on Sept. 10 after learning an apartment had been found for him and his family.

Cookie Brown and her 13-year-old granddaughter, Jayla,

evacuated from New Orleans, leaving her daughter, Chiquita, behind. Cookie had had no communication with her daughter until Sept. 6 when she received a phone call and learned she was staying in a Louisiana hotel. As Cookie made plans to move to an apartment on Sept. 7, she was hoping Chiquita would be able to join them soon.

ClearView pastor Bret Robbe said, "It's phenomenal how many opportunities we've had to share the love of Christ."

For example, two evacuees, Deborah and Jimmy McDonald accepted Christ as their Savior Sunday, Sept. 11, and were baptized during a morning worship service.

In addition to the shelter Robbe said several of ClearView's trained disaster relief volunteers will serve with the TBC disaster unit in Louisiana. Also, funds and supplies were being collected through Cool Springs Christian Ministries, the church's community ministries arm, to send to the area.

ClearView member Mary McKnight expressed support for the efforts of her church in an e-mail.

"What a testimony it was to my kids when they saw their own church opening their doors for people in need. What a testimony it is to the entire congregation that we need to be using our facilities to reach people and sharing God's love not only in Williamson County but in the world," McKnight wrote.

Because of the anticipated increase in evacuees, the Williamson County Red Cross was making plans to move the shelter at ClearView about Sept. 13 to an empty factory office building in Franklin where they could accommodate 500.

The family life center of Creeview Baptist Church, Nashville, was opened Sept. 1 as a shelter of the Nashville chapter of the Red Cross and, by Sept. 7 was housing 80 evacuees. They were sleeping on cots in the church gymnasium and

nurses and doctors were available to help with special medical needs and prescriptions. Three meals were provided daily.

Shelter manager Wayne Adams said each evacuee received a bag of personal toiletry items upon arrival and the shelter was distrib-



RENEE FRENCH volunteers her time answering phones at the Red Cross shelter at Creeview Baptist Church, Nashville.

uting donated clothing and other items.

Expressing gratitude for the generosity of the community, Adams said, "We're not taking any more donations right now."

Jimmy Dunn, Creeview minister of education, said the response of church members has been "extremely positive. We have volunteers ready to help when the Red Cross needs them. Our custodians are staying late on their own to provide cleaning services. It's a whole church effort."

Renee French was attending church Sept. 4 at the nearby Brentwood Hills Church of Christ and wanted to get involved in helping evacuees. She and her husband, Paul, stopped by the Creeview shelter and were put to work buying shoes for the children staying there.

French returned from the shopping trip and stayed at the shelter to answer phones, set up cots, and "do anything I'm asked."

Since then French has been putting in 12-hour days at the shelter, taking out two hours to fulfill her role as a cheerleading coach. She said she finds it rewarding "to know that I can give to people who need my help. It's the small things that mean the most to them. They realize the people here do care and want what's best for them."

She believes her desire to stop by the Creeview shelter was no accident. "I was told to come here."

Among the evacuees at Creeview was Earl Rose of New Orleans who spent five days and four nights on the roof of a flooded house until he was evacuated by a U.S. Coast Guard helicopter.

Rose already had a plane ticket to fly to Shreveport to meet his fiancée, but he had been told he could not fly commercially without a photo identification card. His was lost in the floodwaters. However, he later was able to make the flight.

Two Rivers Baptist Church, Nashville, was ready to open its doors as a Red Cross shelter with a capacity of 170. The first



JA-TINA CLARK enjoys a bottle while staying at a Red Cross shelter at ClearView Baptist Church in Franklin with her mother, Javanti Coleman, and seven other family members.

evacuees were expected to arrive sometime this week.

Staff coordinator Richard Gay said the church has partnered with the Red Cross on other occasions. "This is part of what we do in meeting community needs."

First Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, was serving as a Red Cross shelter for the Rutherford County Red Cross chapter and was housing approximately 40 evacuees as of Sept. 7.

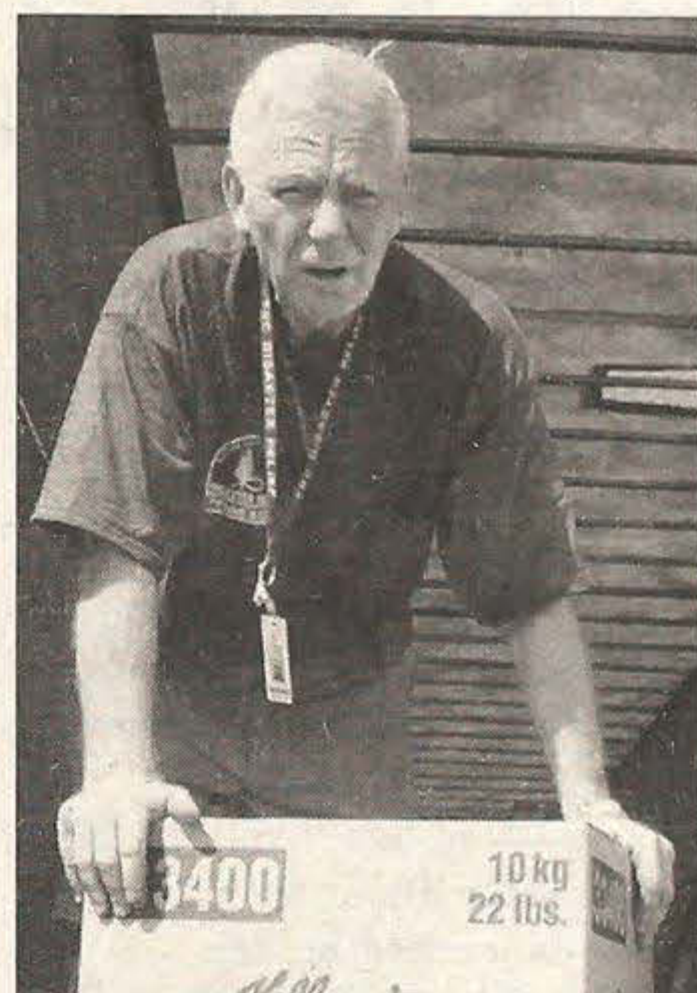
Pastor Mike Smith said the church became certified as a shelter through the Red Cross because "we regard that as part of our ministry. We have the facilities." He said arrivals from the hurricane are being housed in the church's Christian family life center that includes showers, facilities for sleeping and recreation, and a kitchen.

In the Cumberland Baptist Association that includes Clarksville, Director of Missions Dennis Pulley said churches are supporting a Red Cross shelter in operation at a Church of Christ.

"They are providing resources we need like diapers and toiletries," he said. Also, churches have taken offerings for the disaster relief fund.

Pulley said First Baptist Church, Clarksville, is prepared to become a shelter if the anticipated number of evacuees increases as expected. "People are ready to help," he said.

Pulley also noted that two teams from the association have traveled to Louisiana to work with a feeding unit. Training will be offered for others to



JERRY WILLIAMS, a disaster relief volunteer from Creeview Baptist Church, Nashville, helps load a trailer at Brentwood Baptist Church, Brentwood, with goods donated by Tennessee Baptists for victims of Hurricane Katrina. The items were transported by the Tennessee Baptist Convention to Louisiana and Mississippi.

become involved in disaster relief ministry.

The Nashville Baptist Association disaster relief recovery unit was working in Slidell, with the first team scheduled to return Sept. 11 and a second to arrive that day. NBA also was providing training for persons interested in disaster relief ministry.

In Old Hickory, Tulip Grove Baptist Church began hosting 45 evacuees on Aug. 31. According to pastor Ken Clayton, the church was working to find permanent housing for them the week after Labor Day (see story on page 15). □



LYN SPEARS, a member of Forest Hills Baptist Church, Nashville, brings food and other supplies to the shelter being loaded at Brentwood Baptist Church, Brentwood, for delivery by the Tennessee Baptist Convention to victims of Hurricane Katrina.



LISA MERRELL of ClearView Baptist Church, Franklin, and her daughter, Kathryn, sort clothes donated for victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Baptists care for hurricane evacuees in West Tennessee

By Connie Davis Bushey
Baptist and Reflector

MEMPHIS — "It was a nightmare. We saw bodies in the water." David Langston frowned as he described his frantic effort to ultimately rescue about three dozen family members and friends. He used vehicles and a boat. Langston is a construction general contractor and property manager.

He moved people to the Super Dome and to the French Quarter into a building he manages. The French Quarter is at a high level, he explained. But when the flooding began, he transported people out of the city. His wife, twin daughters, and a couple of other people left with her before the hurricane hit.

His mother-in-law was in the hospital in New Orleans. She broke out the window of her room and was rescued by helicopter. The family learned by text messaging via cell phones that she is in Baton Rouge and OK.

Langston has lived in New Orleans for about 20 years and never evacuated before.

He isn't worried about his house. It is flooded by several feet of water, he has heard from friends, but he has flood and regular insurance.

He and his wife decided to travel to Memphis without

knowing anyone here. They have stayed at a motel, Germantown Baptist Church, Germantown; and now Cordova Conference Center, Cordova. They plan to relocate to Ohio where they have relatives.

He is very thankful for the help provided by Memphians which began at the motel.

"It has made a bad situation not so bad," said Langston.

The Langstons chose the camp/conference center, which is owned and operated by Mid-South Baptist Association, Memphis, because it allows families to stay together in cabins giving them privacy. The camp setting also is great, explained Greg Spears of the association staff.

The camp is housing about 120 people and is planning for about 250, said David Rouse, manager of camp operations. Thankfully, many renovations at the camp have just been completed, he explained.

Michael Day, director of missions, Mid-South Association, noted a group holding a retreat graciously interrupted its stay at the camp on Labor Day to allow for the evacuees, who arrived about an hour after they left. To prepare the camp, volunteers arrived with very little notice.

The response by members of churches, both Baptist and other Christian churches, has "over-



MICHAEL DAY, right, director of missions, Mid-South Baptist Association, Memphis, visits with **Rick Yates**, shelter coordinator and member of Covenant Baptist Church, Collierville.

whelmed me," said Day. They have included social workers, physicians, pharmacists, and insurance workers. A give-away area including clothing and other items also is being provided.

Leading the effort are volunteers Rick and Bonnie Yates, members of Covenant Baptist Church, Collierville. Rick Yates said at first the needs were overwhelming. "The only person who did this is God."

To help fund the operation the association's finance committee immediately allocated \$25,000 for the response which will have to come from funds already budgeted, said Day. The Tennessee Baptist Convention has promised disaster relief funds for the operation.

Germantown Baptist Church

Germantown Baptist Church, Germantown, is operating an American Red Cross shelter. The shelter is housing about 50 people and has helped about 300 hurricane victims, said Grant Guffin, media pastor. The shelter opened Sept. 2.

About 100 volunteers are serving evacuees each day. They include food service workers, physicians, nurses, counselors, and people sorting the many clothes and other items given for the evacuees. Clothes fill a large hallway and several rooms at the church.

The church also sent out a disaster relief team which included members of Bellevue Baptist Church, Cordova. The members will use chain saws to remove trees and do other clean up. The church will maintain a commitment to hurricane response for a long period, said Guffin, like it has to tsunami victims in Southeast Asia.

Guffin said the church, which has about 7,000 resident members, accepted the assignment because "ministry needs to be the priority."

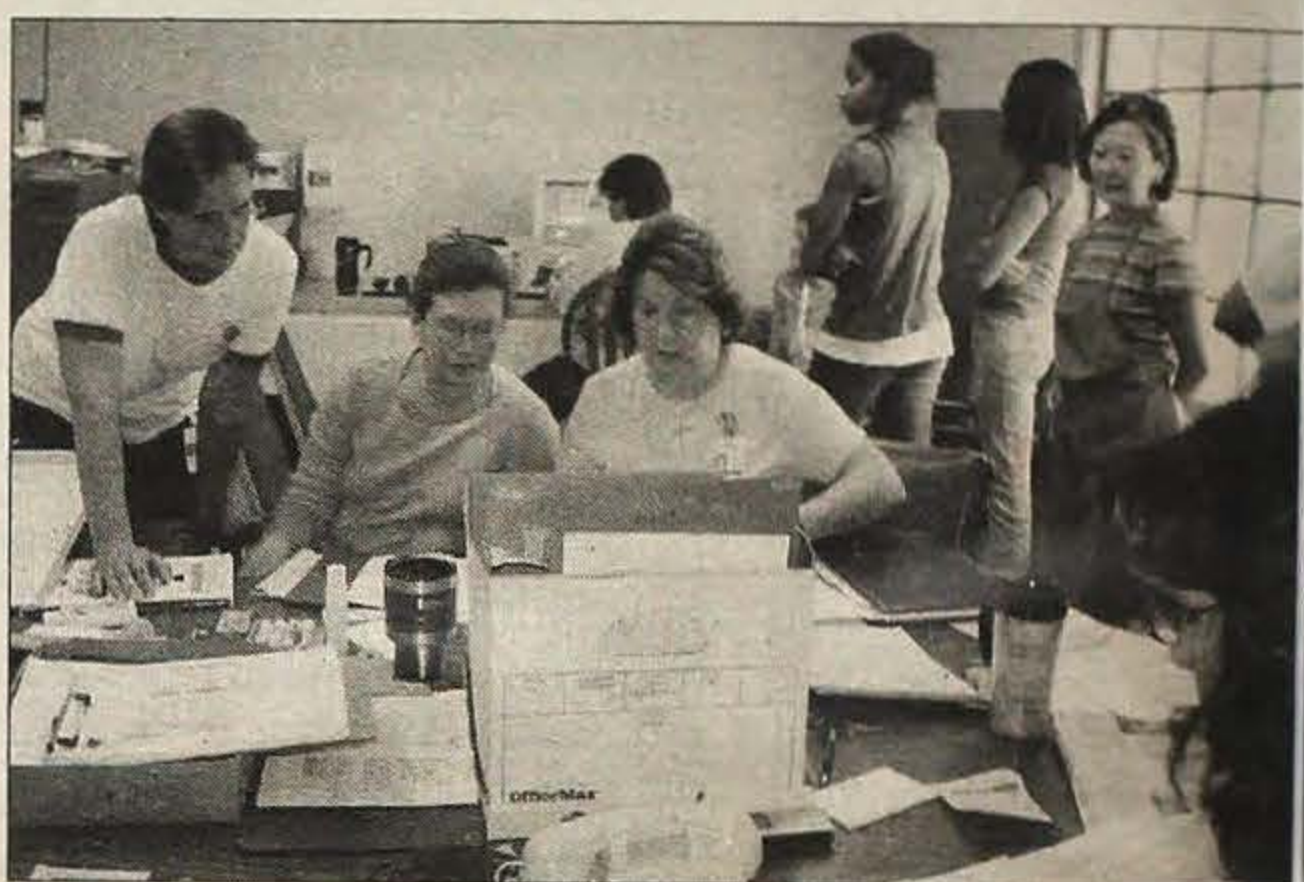
Dunn School

Another ARC shelter is being operated at Dunn Elementary School, which is no longer operated as a school. The school is located in northwest Memphis just inside the loop.

The new shower/laundry



CARLA HIGGINS, left, of Union Avenue Baptist Church, Me helps **Ella Mae King**, center, and **Vivian Darensburg**, evacuee insurance and FEMA filings at Cordova Camp and Conference Center.



BONNIE YATES, center, manages the shelter office of the st Cordova Camp and Conference Center, Cordova. She is a me Covenant Baptist Church, Collierville. She assists **Libby Under** First Assembly of God Church, Memphis, who wishes to be a v Other volunteers wait to be issued photo IDs.

trailer of First Baptist Church, Sevierville, is operating there to help the about 80 evacuees staying at the school. It arrived Sept. 2. "We'll stay as long as they need us," said Kaye Thomas.

In addition to doing laundry and offering showers, the team has found ways to minister to the families.

Elaine Cutshaw of the team did manicures for the evacuees, drawing both men and women. She was able to be a listener and witness as she visited with the folks receiving a manicure.

"It's easy to witness here," she said.

Bellevue Baptist Church, Cordova

Bellevue Baptist Church, Cordova, opened its shelter Sept. 1. It has helped 125 evacuees and was housing 90 on Sept. 12, reported Steve Marcum, minister of missions. The church has been helping families find permanent housing and offered a job fair for them, in addition to providing clothing and other items out of its Impact Ministry Center in Frayser.

The church also has sent five full tractor trailer loads and has another ready to be sent. Mayflower moving company is providing the transportation.

The church also has sent about 65 disaster relief workers and another 25 will leave Sept. 15, said Marcum. On Sept. 6 1,800 people from churches were trained at the church by the TBC.

Big Hatchie Baptist Association

Big Hatchie Baptist Association, based in Covington, worked

with Tipton County con leaders and residents to s center at a fire hall. They helped about 500 ev reported Ray Jones, dire missions.

The community is pr three meals a day at the and fed 75 people at su Sept. 11. Also provid clothes, medicine, and v for food and gas, tempor permanent housing, job and furniture. About \$25 been given for the effo Jones.

The same thing is bei by Baptists and the res community in Lauderdale ty where Ripley is local Jones.

West Jackson Baptist Jackson

Maurice Hollingsworth tive pastor of West Jacktist Church, Jackson, he church provide its seco shelter. The first was pr 2003 following a tornac hit the city.

The shelter opened and closed Sept. 8. Abou ple slept at the church church fed about 150 a church helped evacu housing and jobs if they stay in Jackson. Volunt prepared care packages sonal items and water ar for those staying in mo Hollingsworth.

West Jackson also v lection point for donat truck loads of donations cane victims were sent church, he reported. C more photos on page 12



ONE DAY A DISASTER relief team from First Baptist Church, Sevierville, did about 40 loads of laundry for evacuees at Dunn Elementary School in Memphis where a shelter is located. The team provided a shower/laundry unit in a trailer. On Sept. 8 workers were, from left, **Gary Cutshaw**, **Kaye Thomas**, **Elaine Cutshaw**, and **Cheri Brown**.



MELVIN STOVALL of New Orleans and his wife complete forms for FEMA via computer at the shelter of Germantown Baptist Church, Germantown. "I feel everything is gone," said Stovall. He has heard reports from people who left after him. The flooding almost reached the eaves of his house. He and his wife and two children left right after the storm so they have their cars and the items they brought with them. They are staying in an apartment a family member provided for them for two months. It is sparsely furnished. He hurt his back several months ago so applied for disability but is looking for work as is his wife. They worked in the restaurant business. "You can't cry no more," he said.

Report of Committee on Boards

Please refer to the footnotes at the conclusion of the report for information on the sources of the Cooperative Program data. Because of differences in accounting years and other timing issues, the Cooperative Program percentage may not match the percentage used in the individual church budgets.

Nominee	O/L	Term	Church	Association	2004 CP*	CP%**	Pos #	Nominee	O/L	Term	Church	Association	2004 CP*	CP%**
Executive Board, Tennessee Baptist Convention														
Term Ending Year 2006, Middle Grand Division														
Porter	(L)	0	First Baptist Church, McMinnville	Central	\$48,671	8.58%	202	Fred Steelman	(O)	1	Red Bank Baptist Church, Chattanooga	Hamilton County	\$274,683	12.31%
West Grand Division														
Robbins	(O)	0	Carro Baptist Church, Alamo	Crockett County	5,150	6.49%	220	Marvin Cameron	(O)	1	First Baptist Church, Kingsport	Sullivan	114,255	6.35%
Term Ending 2008, East Grand Division														
Marine Bryan	(L)	1	Central Baptist Church (FC), Knoxville	Knox County	117,439	7.63%	221	Patricia Wallace	(L)	1	First Baptist Church, Sevierville	Sevier County	120,886	3.06%
ry Triplett	(L)	1	Concord First Baptist Church, Knoxville	Knox County	50,000	0.77%	Nominated for Additional Term, Term Ending 2008							
dy Maxwell	(O)	1	South Harriman Baptist Church, Harriman	Big Emory	69,281	12.37%	211	Curtis Sexton	(L)	3	Main Street Baptist Church, Lake City	Clinton	11,037	6.03%
ord Bull	(O)	1	North Etowah Baptist Church, Etowah	McMinn-Meigs	81,694	23.52%	212	Carole Overholt	(L)	3	West Hills Baptist Church, Knoxville	Knox County	644	0.12%
McPherson	(L)	1	First Baptist Church, Kingston	Big Emory	92,898	9.69%	213	Patricia Moore	(L)	3	Monte Vista Baptist Church, Maryville	Chilhowee	5,300	0.73%
ry Jones	(O)	1	Faith United Baptist Church, Chattanooga	Hamilton County	165	0.44%	214	Gary Helton	(L)	3	First Baptist Church, Sevierville	Sevier County	120,886	3.06%
McNabb	(L)	1	Greenwood Baptist Church, Johnson City	Holston	3,546	5.43%	215	C. T. Cozart	(L)	3	Red Bank Baptist Church, Chattanooga	Hamilton County	274,683	12.31%
Middle Grand Division														
ck Groover	(O)	1	Victory Baptist Church, Mt Juliet	Wilson County	30,211	6.08%	216	Ronald Murray	(O)	3	Central Baptist Church (JC), Johnson City	Holston	138,008	8.53%
ley Turner	(L)	1	First Baptist Church, Nashville	Nashville	146,622	5.37%	217	Charles Anderson	(L)	3	First Baptist Church, Gatlinburg	Sevier County	10,105	***
Frank	(O)	1	Stevens Street Baptist Church, Cookeville	Stone	161,961	23.43%	218	Marion Cook	(L)	3	First Baptist Church, Cleveland	Bradley County	261,712	9.89%
nael Madewell	(O)	1	Little Hope Baptist Church, Clarksville	Cumberland	26,809	9.73%	219	Carolyn Guerry	(L)	2	First Baptist Church, Chattanooga	Hamilton County	28,712	2.36%
West Grand Division														
McSwain	(O)	1	Bemis First Baptist Church, Jackson	Madison-Chester	35,039	11.01%	210	Robert Tuck	(L)	3	First Baptist Church, Big Stone Gap VA	Out of State	5,596	5.03%
nael Wadley	(O)	1	Cottage Grove Baptist Church, Cottage Grove	Western District	8,813	9.73%	Union University							
Yarbrough	(L)	1	First Baptist Church, Covington	Big Hatchie	87,137	14.92%	New Nominations, Term Ending 2008							
ay Latham	(L)	1	Howse Baptist Church, Atwood	Carroll-Benton	6,691	11.94%	257	Linda Shoaf	(L)	1	FBC, Horn Lake, MS	Out of State	91,134	11.00%
Nominated for Additional Term														
Term Ending 2008, East Grand Division														
y Parrott	(O)	2	Pleasant View Baptist Church, Talbot	Nolachucky	2,503	1.96%	256	Fred Ward	(O)	1	First Baptist Church, Huntingdon	Carroll-Benton	40,937	7.06%
key Basham	(O)	2	Eastman Baptist Church, Riceville	McMinn-Meigs	103,345	30.17%	258	Polk Glover	(L)	1	First Baptist Church, Obion	Beulah	7,028	7.87%
y Brooks	(L)	2	Union Baptist Church, Knoxville	Knox County	24,308	8.40%	260	Robert Hundley	(L)	1	First Baptist Church, Jackson	Madison-Chester	141,107	9.83%
Medley	(O)	2	First Baptist Church, Dunlap	Sequatchie Valley	9,359	6.96%	261	Roy White	(L)	1	Bellevue Baptist Church, Cordova	Mid-South	376,940	1.79%
Middle Grand Division														
re Dugger	(O)	2	Grace Baptist Church, Nashville	Nashville	79,806	10.21%	271	Catherine Via	(L)	1	Crossroads Baptist Church, Bells	Crockett County	1,482	3.15%
rt Dawson	(O)	2	First Baptist Church, Columbia	Maury	112,622	7.59%	Nominated for Additional Term, Term Ending 2008							
ert Moon	(L)	2	First Baptist Church, Hendersonville	Bledsoe	518,658	6.88%	265	John Drinnon	(L)	3	Germantown Baptist Church, Germantown	Mid-South	223,810	2.03%
y Onstott	(L)	2	Springfield Baptist Church, Springfield	Robertson County	77,554	8.87%	267	Lisa Rogers	(L)	3	West Jackson Baptist Church, Jackson	Madison-Chester	276,091	7.61%
ood	(O)	2	First Baptist Church, Smyrna	Concord	239,411	10.01%	269	Norman Hill	(L)	3	Bellevue Baptist Church, Cordova	Mid-South	376,940	1.79%
West Grand Division														
Mitchell	(O)	2	First Baptist Church, Adamsville	Shiloh	39,263	11.00%	270	Bill Dement	(L)	3	Woodland Baptist Church, Jackson	Madison-Chester	20,894	4.52%
Davis	(O)	2	Ararat Baptist Church, Jackson	Madison-Chester	40,623	15.70%	Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy							
Massey	(O)	2	First Baptist Church, Paris	Western District	132,014	13.00%	New Nominations, Term Ending 2008							
Bullock	(O)	2	First Baptist Church, Halls	Dyer	23,238	9.34%	288	Paul Cunningham	(L)	1	Rockford Baptist Church, Rockford	Chilhowee	1,994	***
Gravatt	(O)	2	Wells Station Baptist Church, Memphis	Mid-South	22,398	9.00%	293	Willard Price	(L)	1	First Baptist Church, Friendsville	Chilhowee	24,188	5.82%
Tennessee Baptist Foundation														
New Nominations, Term Ending 2006														
ell Anderson	(L)	0	Ridgedale Baptist Church, Chattanooga	Hamilton County	230,845	10.04%	289	Eugene Parsons	(L)	1	Central Baptist Church, Crossville	Cumberland Plateau	75,459	30.25%
Term Ending 2008														
ge Gibson	(L)	1	First Baptist Church, Kingsport	Sullivan	114,255	6.35%	Nominated for Additional Term, Term Ending 2008							
Keaton	(L)	1	Wallace Memorial Baptist Church, Knoxville	Knox County	221,817	10.11%	290	George W. C. Lyons	(O)	3	Mount Olive Baptist Church (East), Knoxville	Knox County	600	***
Nominated for Additional Term, Term Ending 2008														
y Faye Sullivan	(L)	3	Immanuel Baptist Church, Knoxville	Knox County	5,437	3.47%	292	Charles Sterling	(L)	2	Dotson Memorial Baptist Church, Maryville	Chilhowee	67,033	10.08%
McCain	(L)	2	First Baptist Church, Clarksville	Cumberland	369,432	9.81%	Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc.							
Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc.														
New Nominations, Term Ending 2008														
ael Roberts	(L)	1	First Baptist Church, Greeneville	Holston	126,185	12.88%	302	Richard Hipps	(O)	1	Trinity Baptist Church, Cordova	Mid-South	19,241	1.38%
e Fry	(L)	1	Concord Baptist Church, Chattanooga	Hamilton County	83,319	13.14%	303	Mike Cary	(L)	1	First Baptist Church, Huntingdon	Carroll-Benton	40,937	7.06%
(Will) Burns	(L)	1	Long Hollow Baptist Church, Hendersonville	Bledsoe	360,180	10.51%	Nominated for Additional Term, Term Ending 2008							
McCommon	(L)	1	Germantown Baptist Church, Germantown	Mid-South	223,810	2.03%	304	Milton Magee	(L)	3	First Baptist Church, Dyersburg	Dyer	62,250	7.03%
Nominated for Additional Term, Term Ending 2008														
gn Harris	(L)	2	First Baptist Church, McMinnville	Central	48,671	8.58%	Baptist Health System of East Tenn., Inc.							
ina Crawley	(L)	3	Simeon Baptist Mission, Nashville	Nashville	9,509	7.01%	New Nominations, Term Ending 2008							
Van Snider	(L)	2	Bellevue Baptist Church, Cordova	Mid-South	376,940	1.79%	351	Robert Calloway	(L)	1	First Baptist Church, Knoxville	Knox County	4,785	0.34%
Belmont University														
Nominated for Additional Term, Term Ending 2008														
rt Welch	(L)	2	First Baptist Church, Clarksville	Cumberland	369,432	9.81%	352	Jim Hudson	(L)	1	First Baptist Church, Madisonville	Sweetwater	46,483	8.75%
omer	(L)	2	Tulip Grove Baptist Church, Old Hickory	Nashville	135,890	9.37%	353	Paul Walker	(L)	1	Central Baptist Church (B), Knoxville	Knox County	67,207	2.14%
Curb	(L)	2	Woodmont Baptist Church, Nashville	Nashville	0	0.00%	Nominated for Additional Term, Term Ending 2008							
G. Holleman	(L)	2	First Baptist Church, Clarksville	Cumberland	369,432	9.81%	350	Judith Tyl	(L)	2	First Baptist Church, Kingston	Big Emory	92,898	9.69%
Wright	(L)	2	Woodmont Baptist Church, Nashville	Nashville	0	0.00%	354	C. E. Jackson	(O)	2	First Baptist Church, Lenoir City	Loudon County	210,431	11.32%
ones	(L)	2	Immanuel Baptist Church, Nashville	Nashville	7,991	1.26%	355	Wilson Borden	(L)	3	First Baptist Church, Maryville	Chilhowee	3,146	0.24%
h Russell	(L)	3	Forest Hills Baptist Church, Nashville	Nashville	157,102	6.16%	356	Tracy Williams	(L)	2	Mount Olive Baptist Church (East), Knoxville	Knox County	600	***
Otis	(L)	2	Calvary Baptist Church, Tupelo, MS	Out of State	386,424	21.00%	357	John Wallace	(L)	3	First Baptist Church, Morristown	Nolachucky	242,883	11.58%
Carson-Newman College														
New Nominations, Term Ending 2007														
te Blazier	(L)	1	First Baptist Church, Kingsport	Sullivan	114,255	6.35%	358	Leonard Brown	(L)	3	Concord First Baptist Church, Knoxville	Knox County	50,000	0.77%

Report of Committee on Committees

Please refer to the footnotes at the conclusion of the report for information on the sources of the Cooperative Program data. Because of differences in accounting years and other timing issues, the Cooperative Program percentage may not match the percentage used in the individual church budgets.

Nominee	O/L	Term	Church	Association	2004 CP*	CP%**	Pos #	Nominee	O/L	Term	Church	Association	2004 CP*	CP%**
Committee on Arrangements														
New Nominations, Term Ending Year 2008														
Markins	(O)	1	Southside Baptist Church, Johnson City	Holston	14,555	10.00%	450	Eric Taylor	(O)	1	Middleton First Baptist Church, Middleton	Hardeman County	22,891	8.56%
Dunlap	(L)	1	First Baptist Church, Joelton	Nashville	125,037	12.38%	Constitution and Bylaws Committee							
Palmer	(L)	1	Haywood Hills Baptist Church, Nashville	Nashville	57,004	9.96%	New Nominations, Term Ending 2008							
Aggs	(L)	1	First Baptist Church, Woodbury	Salem	24,998	8.98%	464	James McCluskey	(O)	1	Wallace Memorial Baptist Church, Knoxville	Knox County	221,817	10.11%
Medlin	(L)	1	Pine Grove Baptist Church, Wildersville	Beech River	12,300	6.11%	466	Donna Walls	(L)	1	Alpha Baptist Church, Morristown	Nolachucky	206,060	18.07%
Committee on Audits														
New Nominations, Term Ending 2008														
Must	(L)	1	Mount Harmony Baptist Church, Knoxville	Knox County	12,991	4.09%	463	Wyndell Jones	(O)	1	Forest Hills Baptist Church, Nashville	Nashville	157,102	6.16%
Blankenship	(L)	1	Dickerson Road Baptist Church, Nashville	Nashville	8,845	5.05%	462	Ron Chandler	(L)	1	Germantown Baptist Church, Germantown	Mid-South	223,810	2.03%
Gibson	(L)	1	Tusculum Hills Baptist Church, Nashville	Nashville	243,064	12.00%	465	Jimmy Breedlove	(O)	1	Parkview Baptist Church, Jackson	Madison-Chester	13,184	10.98%

Convention Related Activities, Information

- **Agency/Institution Leadership Breakfast**, By invitation only, Tuesday, November 15, 2005, 7:00 a.m., Hilldale Baptist Church, 2001 Madison Street, Clarksville. Update meeting sponsored by GuideStone Financial Resources, hosted by Joey Biggerstaff and David Proctor.
- **Annual Meeting Sessions**, Location: Sanctuary, Grace Building
- **Annuitants Luncheon**, Tuesday, November 15, 2005, Noon, Hilldale Baptist Church, 2001 Madison Street, Clarksville, Cost: \$3.00, Speaker: Dixie Beard, GuideStone Financial Resources, Tickets and information are available at GuideStone Booth in Exhibit Area until 5:00 p.m. on November 14.
- **Belmont University Alumni and Friends**, Tuesday, November 15, 2005, 12 noon, Madison Street Methodist Church, 319 Madison Street, Clarksville, Complimentary tickets available at the Belmont University booth in the Exhibit Area.
- **Book of Reports**, Registered messengers receive a free copy with their registration material, Non-messengers may purchase a copy for \$1.00 each in the Registration Area located in the Steeple Lobby, Third Floor, Grace Building.
- **Call to Prayer**, Monday, November 14, 2005, 10:00 a.m., Chapel #2, Second Floor, Faith Building, First Baptist Church, Clarksville
- **Carson-Newman College Alumni and Friends Luncheon**, Tuesday, November 15, 2005, 12:15 p.m., Austin Peay University Center, Ballroom AB, Clarksville, Cost: \$10.00, Contact Kathy Lawson (865) 471-3218 or klawson@cn.edu for tickets. Additional information is available at the Carson-Newman booth in the Exhibit Area.
- **Childcare**, Monday Morning – Wednesday Afternoon, November 14-16, 2005, Ages: Birth to 5 years of age, Location: Preschool Reception Desk, First Floor, Grace Building, Hours: Provided during and 30 minutes before and after each Session.
- **Committee on Arrangements Meeting**, Monday, November 14, 2005, 10:00 a.m., First Baptist Church, Clarksville
- **Committee on Boards Meeting**, Monday, November 14, 2005, 11:00 a.m., First Baptist Church, Clarksville
- **Committee on Committees Meeting**, Monday, November 14, 2005, 1:30 p.m., First Baptist Church, Clarksville
- **Committee on Credentials Meeting**, Monday, November 14, 2005, 9:00 a.m., First Baptist Church, Clarksville (A Committee on Credentials member will be available in the Registration Area located in the Steeple Lobby, Third Floor, Grace Building).
- **Committee on Resolutions Meetings**, Monday, November 14, 2005, 1:30 p.m., First Baptist Church, Clarksville, Tuesday, November 15, 2005, 5:30 p.m., First Baptist Church, Clarksville
- **Constitution and Bylaws Committee Meeting**, Monday, November 14, 2005, 1:30 p.m., First Baptist Church, Clarksville
- **Convention Office**, Location: Room 3207, Phone Number: (931) 245-0008
- **Emergency Messages**, Displayed on projection screen in the Sanctuary during sessions. See staff in Convention Office if a need arises.
- **Executive Board Meetings**, Monday, November 14, 2005, 3:30 p.m., First Baptist Church, Clarksville, Wednesday, November 16, 2005, 4:35 p.m., First Baptist Church, Clarksville
- **Exhibits and Displays**, Location: Main Walkways, Fellowship Hall, Schedule is as follows: Monday, 1:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, 8:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
- **Exhibitors**, Appalachian Regional Ministry, Baptist & Reflector, Baptist Archives – Carson-Newman, Baptist Health System of East Tennessee, Baptist Nursing Fellowship of Tennessee, Belmont University, Carl F. H. Henry Center for Christian Leadership (UU), Carson Springs Baptist Conference Center, Carson-Newman College, Christian Men's/Women's Job Corps, Cooperative Program, TBC, Cumberland Regional Ministry, Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions, GuideStone Financial Resources of the SBC, Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy, International Mission Board, LifeWay Christian Resources, LifeWay Conference Centers, LifeWay Direct Sales, Linden Valley Baptist Conference Center, Moench Center (BU), Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Mississippi River Ministry, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, North American Mission Board, R.C. Ryan Center for Biblical Studies (UU), Seminary Extension, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Southwestern Baptist Theological

- Seminary, Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes, Tennessee Baptist Chaplains, Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Tennessee Baptist Foundation, Tennessee Baptist Historical Society, Tennessee Baptist Ministers' Wives Fellowship, Tennessee Baptist Religious Education Association, Tennessee Baptist Secretaries Association, Tennessee Baptist Woman's Missionary Union, Tennessee Drug Awareness Council, Union University.
- **First Aid Room**, Location: Room 3213, Main Hallway, Grace Building, A representative of the Tennessee Baptist Nursing Fellowship will be available during the Pastor's Conference and Convention sessions.
- **Food**, Tuesday and Wednesday, November 15-16, 2005, Disaster Relief Team volunteers will be serving Breakfast items, Coffee, and Snacks after 8:00 a.m. Box Lunches will be available from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for \$6.00 each in the Gymnasium.
- **Host Church Messenger Dinner**, Reservations Requested, Tuesday, November 15, 2005, 5:00 p.m., Gymnasium, First Baptist Church, Clarksville, Cost: \$10.00, Make reservations by November 10 with church receptionist at (931) 645-2431 for Roast Beef buffet dinner.
- **Hispanic Pastors Conference**, Monday, November 14, 2005, 9:00 a.m., Room 1305 & 1308, Third Floor, Faith Building, First Baptist Church, Clarksville
- **Internet Connection Available**, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, November 14-16, 2005, Room 2327, Third Floor, Hope Building, A wireless router will be set up for use with your laptop computer. If you do not have wireless capability, you will need to bring your own Ethernet cable.
- **LifeWay Christian Store**, Location: Rm. 2204 off Fellowship Hall
- **Local Information Desk**, Location: Main Lobby, Volunteers will have lists of restaurants, directions, and general information to assist you.
- **Lost and Found**, Items may be claimed in the Convention Office.
- **Message Board**, Located outside the Convention Office.
- **Missions Extravaganza**, Monday, November 14, 2005, 3:30-7:30 p.m., First Baptist Church, Clarksville, Visit with State, North American and International Missionaries in the main entrance hallway.
- **Name Badge Ribbons**, Ribbons for name badges are available at the fol-

- lowing locations: Associational Staff – Registration, Bivocational Minister – Registration, Committee on Arrangements – At your meeting, Committee on Credentials – At your meeting, Director of Missions – Registration, Executive Board Member – At your meeting, Messenger – Registration, Mission Volunteer – Registration, Visitor – Registration
- **New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary Alumni Luncheon**, Tuesday, November 15, 2005, 12:15 p.m., First Baptist Church, Clarksville, Cost: \$10.00, Tickets available in advance from David Leavell at RevLev@bellsouth.net, or at the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary booth in the Exhibit Area through Monday, November 14, 2005.
- **Newsroom (Baptist & Reflector)**, Location: Room 3305, Grace Building
- **Photography**, Location: Room 2213, Fellowship Hall, Hours: Monday – 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., Tuesday – 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., Wednesday – not available. Convention attendees are invited to have a free photograph taken by Directory Innovations. There is no obligation. All Directors of Missions, Executive Board Members, TBC Staff, and Collegiate Ministers present are urged to have a photo taken for use in TBC directories and other publications.
- **Prayer Room**, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, Location: Prayer Room, Room 3205, Grace Building, First Baptist Church, Clarksville
- **Registration**, Location: Steeple Lobby, Third Floor, Grace Building, Hours: Monday – 11:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m., Tuesday – 7:00 a.m.-7:30 p.m., Wednesday – 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
- **Restrooms**, Restroom facilities are located in the Main Hallways.
- **Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary Alumni Luncheon**, Tuesday, November 15, 2005, 12:30 p.m., O' Charley's Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Clarksville, Cost: Order from Menu. Reply card being mailed to Alumni. For additional information, visit the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary booth in the Exhibit Area.
- **Telephones**, Cell phones are provided by Verizon Wireless for state-wide service at the Welcome Center in the Main Lobby.
- **Tennessee Baptist Men's Choral Concert**, Sunday, November 13, 2005, 7:00 p.m. An evening of inspirational music at First Baptist Church, Joelton,

- 7140 White's Creek Pike, Joelton
- **Tennessee Baptist Men's Choral and Tennessee Ladies Chorus Rehearsal and Dinner**, Monday, November 14, 2005, TMC Rehearsal, 2:00 p.m., Dinner – 5:00 p.m., J Rehearsal with TLC 6:30 p.m., First Baptist Church, Joelton, 7140 White's Creek Pike, Joelton
- **Tennessee Baptist Convention ident's Breakfast**, By invitation only, Tuesday, November 15, 2005, 7:30 a.m., Room 3101, First Floor, Grace Building, First Baptist Church, 435 Madison Street, Clarksville
- **Tennessee Baptist Ministers' Luncheon**, Tuesday, November 15, 2005, Noon, Madison Street United Methodist Church, 319 Madison Street, Clarksville, Theme: "Tie the Knot and Hang On", Speaker: Downing, Southern Gospel Art Cost: \$12.50 prior to November 2005, from Lana Rose or Joycevey at TBC, \$15.00 at the Convention, deadline Monday at 5:00 p.m. For additional information, visit Tennessee Baptist Ministers' booth in the Exhibit Area.
- **Tennessee Baptist Religious Association Dinner**, Monday, November 14, 2005, 6:00 p.m., Reception at 5:30 p.m., Hilldale Baptist Church, 201 Madison Street, Clarksville, Cost: \$15.00, Tickets must be purchased in advance, contact Mike Corbin, Bethel Baptist Church, 7022 Bethel Road, Germantown, TN 37073, (615) 643-0230. A information available at the TBC Booth in the Display Area.
- **Union University Alumni and Friends Dinner**, Tuesday, November 15, 2005, 5:00 p.m., Riverview College Street, downtown Clarksville, Speaker: President David Dox, Cost: \$12.50, Tickets are available through Office of Alumni Services at the Union University booth in the Exhibit Area until Tuesday, November 15, 2005, 5:00 p.m.
- **Visitors**, We invite all convention visitors to pick up your name tag and visitor ribbon in the Registration Area located in the Steeple Lobby, Third Floor, Grace Building.
- **Youth Leader Luncheon** (Ministers & Leaders), Tuesday, November 15, 2005, 12:30 p.m., Prito Bungalow. "Be our guest" networking lunch. See Bruce Edwards, Kent Shingleton, N Hamilton, or Andrea Knight, Executive Board Ministries, 10:30 a.m., Tuesday, November 15, 2005, for a lunch ticket and directions.

- **Agency/Institution Leadership Breakfast**, By invitation only, Tuesday, November 15, 2005, 7:00 a.m., Hilldale Baptist Church, 2001 Madison Street, Clarksville. Update meeting sponsored by GuideStone Financial Resources, hosted by Joey Biggerstaff and David Proctor.
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- **Committee on Boards Meeting**, Monday, November 14, 2005, 11:00 a.m., First Baptist Church, Clarksville
- **Committee on Committees Meeting**, Monday, November 14, 2005, 1:30 p.m., First Baptist Church, Clarksville
- **Committee on Credentials Meeting**, Monday, November 14, 2005, 9:00 a.m., First Baptist Church, Clarksville (A Committee on Credentials member will be available in the Registration Area located in the Steeple Lobby, Third Floor, Grace Building).
- **Committee on Resolutions Meetings**, Monday, November 14, 2005, 1:30 p.m., First Baptist Church, Clarksville, Tuesday, November 15, 2005, 5:30 p.m., First Baptist Church, Clarksville
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- **Exhibitors**, Appalachian Regional Ministry, Baptist & Reflector, Baptist Archives – Carson-Newman, Baptist Health System of East Tennessee, Baptist Nursing Fellowship of Tennessee, Belmont University, Carl F. H. Henry Center for Christian Leadership (UU), Carson Springs Baptist Conference Center, Carson-Newman College, Christian Men's/Women's Job Corps, Cooperative Program, TBC, Cumberland Regional Ministry, Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions, GuideStone Financial Resources of the SBC, Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy, International Mission Board, LifeWay Christian Resources, LifeWay Conference Centers, LifeWay Direct Sales, Linden Valley Baptist Conference Center, Moench Center (BU), Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Mississippi River Ministry, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, North American Mission Board, R.C. Ryan Center for Biblical Studies (UU), Seminary Extension, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Southwestern Baptist Theological

Guidelines – TBC Committee on Committees and Committee on Boards

A. Committee on Committees and Committee on Boards (See report on page 9):

1. Members of these committees should not nominate themselves to fill any vacancies existing on any convention standing committee or Convention board.
2. Individuals over the state should be encouraged to send suggestions for nominees to these two committees, including supporting data as to their qualifications and availability.
3. A form should be printed in the Baptist state paper by which suggestions could be made to these committees, the form bearing the signature of the person making the suggestion.
4. The initial meeting of these committees each year should be announced as an "open" meeting when individuals or heads of institutions or Baptist and Reflector could appear before the committees to offer suggestions of and about possible nominees.

5. The head of each institution (other than the Executive Board) shall be asked to submit the name of one person for each vacancy to be filled on the board, with supporting data on why such person would make a suitable board member, a practice that is now being followed.

6. If the Committee on Boards considers someone else, other than a person suggested by the head of an institution (other than the Executive Board), for any vacancy on a board, the committee shall confer with that official concerning the qualifications of the person being considered, it being understood that the final decision on the nomination rests with the committee. The Committee on Boards shall nominate those persons who are mutually agreeable to the Committee on Boards and the heads of institutions (other than the Executive Board) of The Tennessee Baptist Convention.

7. The Committee on Boards should

be aware of any requirements of the accrediting agencies which are related to our hospitals, colleges, academy, or children's homes as requirements affect the work of the committee, keeping in mind the requirements of The Tennessee Convention Constitution and Bylaws. If and when conflicts develop in this area, the committee shall so advise the Convention and the Convention shall consider ways of reconciling the conflicts.

8. These two committees should keep in mind the desirability of the following principles in making nominations: a broader representation from churches in geographical areas, differing sizes and types of churches, a variety of professional and educational backgrounds, different age groups, with both lay men/women and ministers included.

9. These committees should not nominate a person to a Convention board or standing committee who receives a part

or all of his salary from The Tennessee Baptist Convention or one of its units.

10. The Committee on Committees should no longer feel that all of nominations should be confined to geographical area where an institution of Baptist and Reflector is located, nominees should be residents of Tennessee and members of churches affiliated with The Tennessee Baptist Convention.

11. In implementing Bylaw 2, of the Convention's Bylaws, reference to board members for Baptist Health Care System, Inc., Methodist Hospital should be required to send the Committee on Boards that there is demonstrable need for a board member to serve on the hospital trustees to serve on the board serving on another board as per Bylaw IV, Section 2. □

Convention Annual Meeting Schedule

Convention Officers

President — Roger Freeman	Vice President — Clay Austin	Second Vice President — Richard Wallace	Recording Secretary — Barbara Owen	Statistical Secretary — Barbara Owen	Registration Secretary — Dan Ferrell	Treasurer — James Porch
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Theme: "Tennessee Baptists Boldly Going" —
Matthew 28:19-20

TUESDAY MORNING

November 15

8:00 — THE CONVENTION GATHERS
Praise Music — Tennessee Ladies Chorus, Paul Clark, Jr., Director
Scripture and Prayer — Roger Freeman, Presiding
Worship — Roger Freeman, Don Trotter, Doug Weiland
9:00 — THE CONVENTION ORGANIZES
Committee on Credentials — Tammy Standridge, Chairman
Committee on Arrangements — Jess Love, Chairman
9:15 — THE CONVENTION GATHERS TO WORSHIP
Praise of Worship — Tennessee Ladies Chorus, Tennessee Baptist Men's Chorale, Paul Clark, Jr., Director, Mary McDonald, Dora Ann Purdy and Vicki Wright, Accompanists
9:30 — THE CONVENTION MINISTERS
Congregational Singing — Paul Clark, Jr. with Tennessee Ladies Chorus & Tennessee Baptist Men's Chorale, Paul Clark, Jr. Director
Scripture and Prayer for Veterans — Roger Freeman
Pledge of Allegiance — LTG Hubert Smith
National Anthem — CWO Charles King
Invocation — Edgar Harrell
9:45 — THE CONVENTION ACTS
Adoption of Program Items — Roger Freeman, Presiding
Announcements
Review Rules of Order
Recognition of SBC Representatives — Greetings from Jerry Sutton
10:00 — TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION REPORTS:
Financial Report — James M. Porch
Committee on Audits — Bill Gruenewald, Chairman
National Strategic Study Committee Report — Fred Dixon, Chairman
Executive Board Report
Board Actions — Lynn King, President, Executive Board
Budget — James M. Porch

10:45 — THEME INTERPRETATION — Paul Scott, International Mission Board Missionary, Maturin, Venezuela
10:55 — THE CONVENTION ACTS
Committee on Boards Report — Steve Durham, Chairman
Committee on Committees Report — Betty Summers, Chairman
Committee on Constitution and Bylaws Report — Ken Story, Chairman
Miscellaneous Business — Roger Freeman, Presiding
11:45 — THE CONVENTION WORSHIPS —
Richard Wallace, Presiding
Congregational Singing — Pat Van Dyke
LifeWay Presentation to President — Mike Smith
Special Music — Choir and Orchestra of First Baptist Church, Clarksville, Pat Van Dyke, Director
President's Message — Roger Freeman
12:35 — BENEDICTION — Willie Freeman

TUESDAY AFTERNOON

November 15

2:00 — THE CONVENTION GATHERS
Praise Music — Tennessee Baptist Men's Chorale, Paul Clark, Jr., Director, Mary McDonald and Vicki Wright, Accompanists
Congregational Singing — Ricky Clark
Scripture and Prayer — Jay Wells
2:25 — THEME INTERPRETATION — Betty Wiseman
2:35 — THE CONVENTION MINISTERS
Special Music — Tennessee Baptist Men's Chorale
Executive Director's Message — James M. Porch
Executive Board Ministries — One Servant Family
Education Report — Clay Austin, Presiding
• Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy — Walter Grubb
• Union University — David Dockery
• Carson-Newman College — James Netherton
• Belmont University — Robert Fisher
4:15 — THE CONVENTION ELECTS
Election of President — Roger Freeman, Presiding
4:30 — THE CONVENTION ACTS
Miscellaneous Business — Roger Freeman, Presiding
Election of President — Roger Freeman, Presiding (Second Ballot if needed)

4:55 — BENEDICTION — Don Jones

TUESDAY EVENING

November 15

6:45 — TUESDAY EVENING CELEBRATION
Congregational Singing — Belmont University
6:50 — THE CONVENTION ELECTS
Election of Vice President — Roger Freeman, Presiding
7:00 — THE CONVENTION AFFIRMS
Recognition of Bivocational and Small Church Pastors of the Year and Recognition of Staff Minister and Bivocational Staff Minister of the Year.
7:10 — CELEBRATION OF VOLUNTEER MISSIONS
Including signing of Montana partnership
9:10 — BENEDICTION

WEDNESDAY MORNING

November 16

8:15 — THE CONVENTION GATHERS
Praise Music — Greater Missionary Baptist Church Praise Team
Congregational Singing — Greater Missionary Baptist Church Praise Team
Scripture and Prayer — Robert Hammer
8:40 — THEME INTERPRETATION — Jerry Vittatoo
8:50 — THE CONVENTION MINISTERS —
Richard Wallace, Presiding
Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions — Shelby Lord, President, Tennessee Woman's Missionary Union
Benevolent Institutions Report:
• Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes, Inc. — Kenny Cooper
• Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc. — Bryant Millsaps
• Tennessee Baptist Hospitals — Vern Powers
Crossover Clarksville — Dennis Pulley
9:35 — THE CONVENTION ACTS
Election of Officers — Roger Freeman, Presiding
(Runoff if needed for Vice President)
• Second Vice President
• Recording Secretary
• Statistical Secretary
• Registration Secretary
Executive Board Report — Lynn King, President,

Executive Board
Committee on Constitution and Bylaws — Ken Story, Chairman
10:10 — THE CONVENTION MINISTERS
Woman's Missionary Union — Candy Phillips
Tennessee Baptist Foundation — W. L. Childs, Jr.
Historical Committee — Dan Johnson, Chairman
Congregational Singing — Michael Brown
New Church Staff Recognitions — James M. Porch
Special Recognitions: James M. Porch
• Retiring Directors of Missions
10:50 — THE CONVENTION ACTS
Completion of Survey — Tammy Standridge
Miscellaneous Business — Roger Freeman, Presiding
11:15 — THE CONVENTION WORSHIPS
Congregational Singing — Richard Fuller
Special Music — Choir and Orchestra, First Baptist Church, Hendersonville
Convention Sermon — Glenn Weekley
12:00 — BENEDICTION — Mark Stinnett

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

November 16

1:45 — THE CONVENTION GATHERS
Praise Music
Congregational Singing — Todd Green
Scripture and Prayer — Ken Hucks
2:10 — THEME INTERPRETATION — Joe Sorah
2:20 — THE CONVENTION MINISTERS
Baptist and Reflector Report — Lonnie Wilkey
2:25 — THE CONVENTION ACTS
Adoption of Budget
Congregational Singing — Jonathan Gardner
Committee on Arrangements — Jess Love, Chairman
Committee on Boards — Steve Durham, Chairman
Committee on Committees — Betty Summers, Chairman
Miscellaneous Business — Roger Freeman, Presiding
Committee on Resolutions — Joe Lusby, Chairman
4:20 — THE CONVENTION AFFIRMS
Convention Leadership — James M. Porch
2004 - 2005 Officers
2005 - 2006 Officers
Congregational Singing — Paul Clark, Jr.
4:35 — BENEDICTION — Dan Dozier

Program Personalities

Clay Austin, Second Vice President, Tennessee Baptist Convention, First Baptist Blountville
Paul Clark, Jr., Worship & Music Pastor, First Baptist Church, Tullahoma
W. L. Childs, Jr., President-Treasurer, Tennessee Baptist Foundation, Brentwood
Paul Clark, Minister of Music, West Baptist Church, Jackson
Paul Clark, Jr., Worship/Music Specialist, Tennessee Baptist Convention, Brentwood
Kenny Cooper, President-Treasurer, Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes, Inc., Brentwood
Fred Dixon, Director, Greater Missionary Baptist Church Praise Team, Clarksville
Fred Dixon, Chairman, Relational Strategy Committee, First Baptist Church, Clarksville
David Dockery, President, Union University, Jackson
Dan Dozier, Pastor, Webb's Baptist Church, Lebanon
Steve Durham, Chairman, Committee on Pastors, Radnor Baptist Church, Clarksville
Robert Fisher, President, Belmont

University, Nashville
Roger Freeman, President, Tennessee Baptist Convention, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Clarksville
Willie Freeman, Pastor, Greater Missionary Baptist Church, Clarksville
Richard Fuller, Minister of Music & Worship, First Baptist Church, Hendersonville
Jonathan Gardner, Minister of Music, Mt. Juliet Baptist Church, Mt. Juliet
Todd Green, Minister of Music, Harpeth Heights Baptist Church, Nashville
Walter Grubb, President/Headmaster, Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy, Seymour
Bill Gruenewald, Chairman, Committee on Audits, First Baptist Church, Hendersonville
Robert Hammer, Pastor, Eastside Baptist Church, Burns
Edgar Harrell, Deacon, First Baptist Church, Paris
Ken Hucks, Pastor, Immanuel Baptist Church, Lebanon
Dan Johnson, Chairman, Historical Committee, First Baptist Church, Nashville
Don Jones, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Lafayette

Charles King, 160th Special Operations, Aviation Regiment, Ft. Campbell, Kentucky, Member, First Baptist Church, Clarksville
Lynn King, President, Executive Board, Tennessee Baptist Convention, Pastor, Hillcrest Baptist Church, Dyersburg
Shelby Lord, President, Tennessee Woman's Missionary Union, Brentwood
Jess Love, Chairman, Arrangements Committee, Pastor, Concord-Grandview Baptist Church, Nashville
Joe Lusby, Chairman, Resolutions Committee, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Greenfield
Mary McDonald, Pianist, Tennessee Baptist Men's Chorale, Central Baptist Church of Fountain City, Knoxville
Bryant Millsaps, President-Treasurer, Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Inc., Brentwood
James Netherton, President, Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City
Candy Phillips, Executive Director-Treasurer, Tennessee Woman's Missionary Union, Brentwood
James M. Porch, Executive Director-Treasurer, Tennessee Baptist Convention, Brentwood

Vern Powers, First Baptist Church, Nashville
Dennis Pulley, Director of Missions, Cumberland Baptist Association, Clarksville
Dora Ann Purdy, Pianist, Forest Hills Baptist Church, Nashville
Linda Roebuck, Missions Celebration Scriptwriter, Woodmont Baptist Church, Nashville
Paul Scott, Missionary, International Mission Board, Maturin, Venezuela
Mike Smith, FAITH Evangelism Specialist, Church Resources Division, LifeWay Christian Resources, Nashville
Joe Sorah, Pastor, Calvary Baptist Church, Elizabethton
Steve Springer, Chairman of Deacons, First Baptist Church, Clarksville
Tammy Standridge, Chairman, Committee on Credentials, First Baptist Church, Sweetwater
Mark Stinnett, Director of Missions, New Salem Baptist Association, Carthage, Pastor, New Middleton Baptist Church, Brush Creek
Ken Story, Chairman, Committee on Constitution and Bylaws, First Baptist Church, Counce

Betty Summers, Chairman, Committee on Committees, First Baptist Church, Camden
Jerry Sutton, First Vice President, SBC, Pastor, Two Rivers Baptist Church, Nashville
Don Trotter, Mayor, City of Clarksville, Clarksville
Pat Van Dyke, Associate Pastor of Worship, First Baptist Church, Clarksville
Jerry Vittatoo, Pastor, Clear Springs Baptist Church, Coryton
Richard Wallace, Vice President, Tennessee Baptist Convention, First Baptist Church, Sweetwater
Glenn Weekley, Convention Sermon Pastor, First Baptist Church, Hendersonville
Doug Weiland, Mayor, Montgomery County, Clarksville
Jay Wells, Pastor, Simeon Baptist Church, Nashville
Lonnie Wilkey, Editor, Baptist & Reflector, Tennessee Baptist Convention, Brentwood
Betty Wiseman, Ladies Basketball Coach, Belmont University, Nashville
Vicki Wright, Organist, First Baptist Church, Nashville

Resolutions

Resolutions, including those sent to the Committee on Resolutions prior to the Convention, must be read during a business session only by registered messengers.
Resolutions must be submitted no later than the last miscellaneous business session of the first day of the Convention.
Titles of proposed resolutions shall be read into the record when presented, but the full resolution must be in writing and submitted to the presiding officer, recording secretary and the Committee on Resolutions.
Individuals wishing to submit resolutions are encouraged to submit them prior to the TBC meeting by them to Committee on Resolutions, TBC Executive Board Ministries, P. O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37024.

Rules of Order

a. All motions and resolutions shall be submitted to the presiding officer and recording secretary in writing, legibly signed by the maker and shall include the name, address, and church of the person submitting the same.
b. In order to obtain the floor, each messenger shall address the chair, give his or her name and church, and wait to be recognized.
c. All messengers who participate in the business sessions of the Convention shall conduct themselves in keeping with the stated purposes in the Constitution of The Tennessee Baptist Convention.
d. Discussion, debate, and nominating speeches shall be limited to three minutes for each speaker.
e. No messenger shall speak more than once on the same question until all have spoken who wish to do so.
f. The chair shall recognize messengers wishing to speak to each side of the question alternately.

Report from the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws

The following report will be made to the Annual Meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Convention on Nov. 15.

On Referral From the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention:

The Committee on Constitution and Bylaws in response to constitutional amendment requirements presents the following formatted proposed amendment to the Tennessee Baptist Convention's Constitution as requested by the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention for second reading:

~~Strikethrough~~ = delete

Bold and Italics = new

CONSTITUTION

Current Reading:

ARTICLE VI. OFFICERS:

5. The president shall preside over all sessions of the Convention; and shall serve as an *ex officio* member of all committees, boards, and institutions of the Convention with a voice but no vote in the proceedings of such committees, boards, and institutions, except he shall have a vote as a member of the Executive Board; and shall perform such other duties as he may be charged with by the Convention.

Proposed Reading:

ARTICLE VI. OFFICERS:

5. The president shall preside over all sessions of the Convention; and shall serve as an *ex officio* member of all committees, boards, and institutions of the Convention with a voice **and vote in the proceedings of such committees and a voice but no vote in the proceedings of such boards and institutions, but no vote in the proceedings of such committees, boards, and institutions**, except he shall have a vote as a member of the Executive Board; and shall perform such other duties as he may be charged with by the Convention.

The Committee on Constitution and Bylaws in response to constitutional amendment requirements recommends the following formatted proposed amendments to the Tennessee Baptist Convention's Constitution for second reading.

~~Strikethrough~~ = delete

Bold and Italics = new

RECOMMENDATION 1 CONSTITUTION

Current Reading:

ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS:

B. that any such proposed amendment must be introduced on the first day of the Convention, and
C. that an amendment shall be so approved by the Convention at which it is presented and by the next annual

Convention.

Proposed Reading:

ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS:

B. that any such proposed amendment must be introduced on the first day of the Convention,

C. that any such amendment must be considered **vote on the second day of the Convention, *** and
D. that an amendment shall be so approved by the Convention at which it is presented and by the next annual Convention.

RECOMMENDATION 2 CONSTITUTION

Current Reading:

ARTICLE VIII. BYLAWS: The Convention may adopt such Bylaws, not in conflict with this Constitution, if deemed advisable, provided no change in Bylaws be adopted on the day presented nor later than the second day of the Convention.

Proposed Reading:

ARTICLE VIII. BYLAWS: The Convention may adopt such Bylaws, not in conflict with this Constitution, if deemed advisable. *** provided no change in Bylaws be adopted on the day presented nor later than the second day of the Convention. ***

*This is current practice.

Baptists help victims of hurricane in West Tennessee



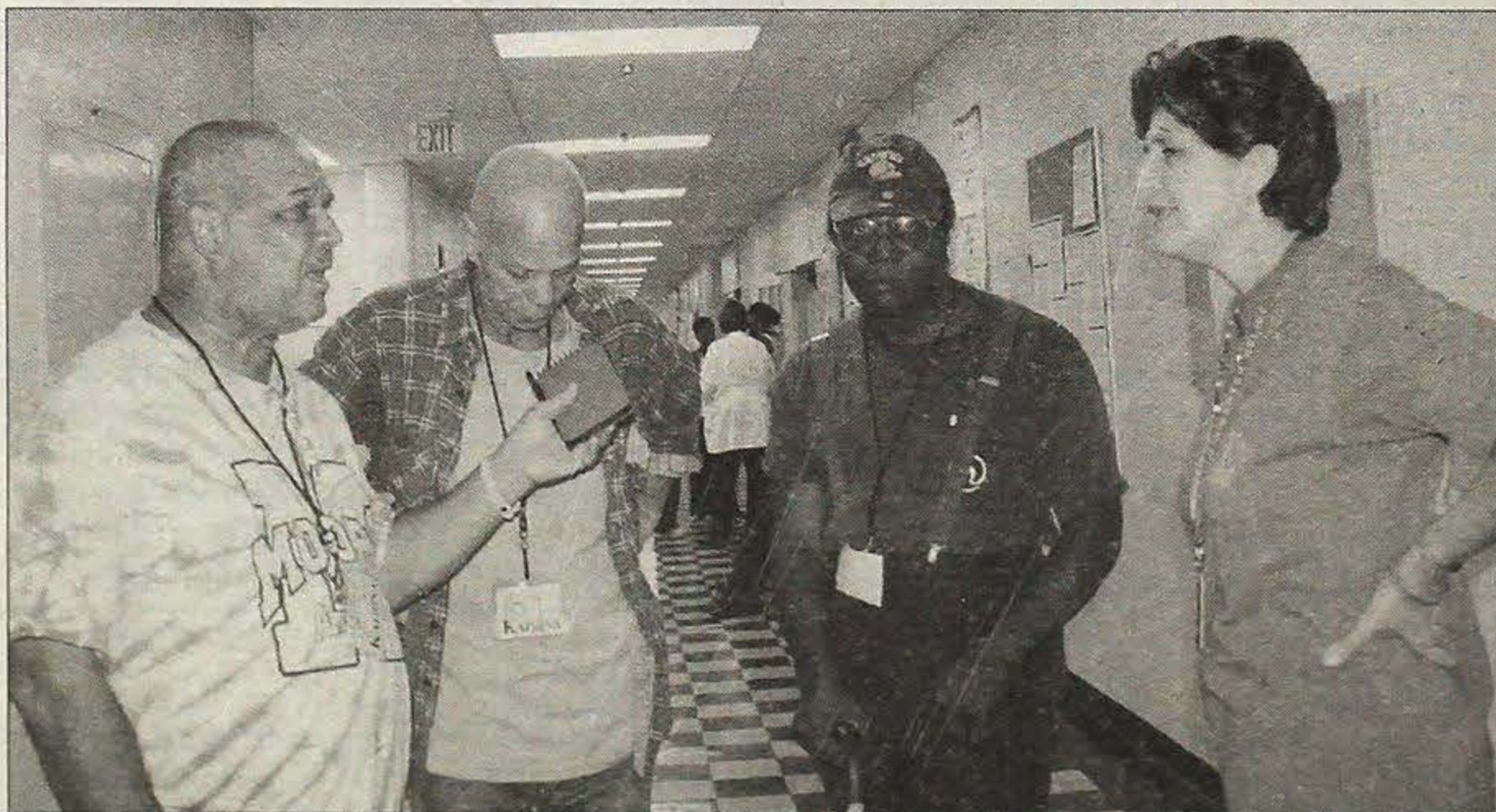
JOSH BRIGHAM, right, a member of Germantown Baptist Church, Germantown, and volunteer at the shelter at Cordova Camp and Conference Center, Cordova, helps Brett Leonard of New Orleans carry some laundry to Brigham's car. Brigham was going to help get the laundry cleaned.



LAUNDRY BAGS filled with clothes cleaned by First Baptist Church, Sevierville, always bore a Bible verse as shown by Kaye Thomas, left, and Cheri Brown of the church shower/laundry trailer sent by the church to a shelter in Memphis.



AMY THIBADO, center, a volunteer at the shelter at Cordova and Conference Center, Cordova, visits with the grandchildren of Cinquemano, left, of Metairie, La. Thibado is a member of East Baptist Church, Cordova.



ELAINE CUTSHAW of First Baptist Church, Sevierville, visits with evacuees of New Orleans, from left, Roy Dupart and Thomas Dupart, who are brothers, and Gene Blakley. Cutshaw was a part of the team operating the church's shower/laundry trailer at the shelter at Dunn Elementary School in Memphis. Blakley said he paid his own bus and motel expenses to travel to Memphis, where he has distant cousins. Because he didn't want to be a burden on them, he is staying at the shelter. He hopes to use relief funds to help him rent an apartment in Memphis.



SHELBY PRICE, right, a volunteer at the shelter at Germantown Baptist Church, Germantown, and member of a non-denominational Christian church, helps Alex Orte of New Orleans and his daughter, Tina Hedge of Memphis, choose clothes for him. Orte was evacuated to Arlington, Texas, where his daughter picked him up to take him to Memphis.

NOBTS classes to continue; Aug. 2006 reopening envisioned

Baptist Press

ATLANTA — Despite the devastation on the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary campus, President Chuck Kelley plans for the main campus to be fully operational in August 2006 and is hopeful that activities will be held on campus as early as January.

Extension center classes will continue as scheduled.

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is here to stay and we are getting back to work," Kelley said during a Sept. 1 meeting at the seminary's Atlanta-area North Georgia campus. "We will have a semester. We will have a December graduation."

Kelley said the August 2006 date is contingent on a number of factors. Trustees must approve the target date during their fall meeting. The date also is contingent on the recovery throughout the city; the standing infrastructure must be ready in order for the seminary to meet the target date, he said.

The good news from New Orleans is that all the members of the seminary family who survived the storm are now in the city.

According to Chris Friedman, associate vice president for administration who stayed on campus during the storm, the seminary property avoided major structural damage in the hurricane. High winds leveled trees in front of campus and tore roofs off the buildings, but the buildings sustained structural damage. After the levees broke,

most of the campus was flooded.

Mike Moskau, the seminary's building contractor, said repair work could begin as soon as waters recede. The repairs will be labor-intensive; apartments, houses, and classrooms affected by floodwaters will be gutted, sanitized, and repaired. Moskau said he believes that an August 2006 launch date is achievable.

"Together as a seminary family and with Southern Baptists we can do this in a way that as much as possible minimizes disruption for student and faculty families," Kelley said. "God has given us the opportunity to see the true measure of His greatness in helping us overcome the most difficult situation the seminary has ever faced."

Kelley said the city of New Orleans needs the seminary more than ever and hopes it can play a role in helping the people of New Orleans heal and recover.

With the target date in sight and a bit of good news about campus buildings, the group of 30 administrators, professors, and staff members at the Sept. 1 meeting worked on ways to continue the semester. Kelley said continuing the semester is very important to keep students on track for graduation.

An educational task force was formed to develop solutions. After hours of discussion, the team developed a plan to provide students with flexible educational options while the campus goes through cleanup and repair. The main option is for students to continue classes which will be reformatted. Other options include Internet courses, October workshops, and open transfer to extension sites. The

Tennessean loses home on NOBTS campus

By Linda Lawson
Baptist and Reflector

LEBANON — Thomas Strong and his family lost everything when their home on the campus of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary flooded after Hurricane Katrina.

But that's not his biggest concern.

As dean of the Leavell College and associate professor of Hebrew and Greek, Strong's number one concern is the students.

"Many students sold most of what they owned to come to seminary only to lose what remained," said Strong in an interview from the Lebanon home of his parents, Tommy and Shirley Strong.

Strong, his wife, Jana, daughter, Kathryn, a high school junior, and son, Nathan, a seventh grader, left New Orleans on Saturday before Katrina hit on Monday, Aug. 29. They took with them enough clothes for about three days — the longest they had ever evacuated — along with family pictures. They arrived in Lebanon at 4:30 a.m. Sunday.

After the storm hit on Monday, they learned their home had not even sustained a broken window.

"Then Tuesday happened," Strong said, as two-to-four feet of water filled the campus, including the highest point where their home was located.

"We knew life would be radically different from now on," Strong said, "but God continues to show his faithfulness."

In addition to his seminary responsibilities, Strong is pastor of Metairie Baptist Church and now shepherds his flock as a minister at large.

"All of my church members are scattered all over the United States," he noted.

Strong and his family will be moving for a minimum of four months to the Decatur, Ga., area to be near the seminary's extension center that will house administrative offices. With 11 extension centers scattered in the South, Strong said many New Orleans students will be able to attend one of those for the fall semester. Others will be able to take online classes or register at one of the other five Southern Baptist seminaries until the New Orleans campus re-opens.

"I need to be at the office in Decatur," he said. While the family considered staying in Lebanon with Strong commuting back and forth, they decided the best thing for their overall welfare was to stay together.

He said the phones at the Decatur extension center ring constantly with offers of help from churches and individuals.

At times — when he thinks about the fact that his family doesn't even have cooking utensils or school supplies for the children — Strong focuses on the losses.

But his dominant thought is gratitude. "God has taught me so much about humility and his faithfulness," Strong said. "We haven't gone hungry. We've been supported by friends and family."

Strong grew up in Mount Juliet where he attended First Baptist Church, graduated from Union University and worked in RA camps in the state throughout his high school and college years. His parents directed Linden Valley Baptist Conference Center for several years.

He expressed gratitude for all that Tennessee Baptists have contributed to his life and ministry, including "a myriad of opportunities" and grants to attend seminary.

Anyone wishing to contact Strong may email him at thomasstrong@gmail.com. □

options will be available on the certificate, undergraduate, and graduate levels.

"All of us on campus have experienced a tremendous loss, however our students don't have to lose this semester," Provost Steve Lemke said. "We are

designing options so that every student can complete their scheduled load through this semester."

The most extensive option will be a 10-week term of reformatted courses utilizing "threaded" Internet discussions. The goal is to provide every course that was offered on campus in the fall.

Some classes offered multiple times on the main campus may be unified into one section per course. Due to the style of instruction, students can study from anywhere in the country. Students who were enrolled in a course on the main campus can join the same courses in the independent study format without additional costs.

Students who were enrolled in the seminary's Internet courses also will be able to continue their courses. Additional course offerings may be offered and students who were displaced by the hurricane can add Internet courses without paying the usual technology fees.

During the week of Oct. 17, workshop courses will be moved to the North Georgia campus. A few video extension sites in Florida also may be utilized. The developing plan calls for expanding the current workshop week to give students additional options.

Lemke said students also will be allowed to transfer to NOBTS extension sites without paying drop/add fees. The students would be allowed to join courses

already in progress. Some housing is available for displaced students near extension centers. The NOBTS relief task force is working to match students interested in extension studies with these housing options.

Because the courses are already in session, students seeking to transfer to an extension site need to act quickly. Lemke said students would be allowed to make up their work and would not be penalized for the class meetings they have already missed.

The plans of the academic task force and relief information forms will be available online at www.nobts.edu and www.sbc.net.

Students in the doctor of ministry, doctor of educational ministry, doctor of musical arts, and doctor of philosophy programs should visit the web site for information about continuing their study.

While seminary officials wait for the nobts.edu mail system to be rebuilt, e-mail accounts are being established. The addresses also will be posted on www.nobts.edu and www.sbc.net.

Plans for continuing music courses and December graduation plans were still under development at press time.

In the meantime, faculty, staff, and administrators are settling in at the North Georgia Campus. Every table in every corner of the building is being used as office space. Phones continue to buzz with questions from students and offers of relief. □



LL CHAPEL, on the campus of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, stands in floodwater. The seminary received extensive damage from Hurricane Katrina. Classes will continue this semester with a variety of "flexible educational options," according to seminary officials. — Baptist Press photo

TBCH open doors to refugees from Hurricane Katrina

By Linda Lawson
Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — The number of children and families in the care of Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes could more than double in the coming weeks as the four campuses open their doors to refugees from Hurricane Katrina.

Two families arrived at the Brentwood campus Thursday afternoon, Sept. 1, and a third arrived on Sept. 7, according to Bryant Millsaps, TBCH president and treasurer.

The Chattanooga campus also will be available.

In an Aug. 31 staff conference call, Millsaps said they decided to make their facilities available, provide counseling and education, and offer vans to pick up children and families in

need. Before he could call the Red Cross to offer help, he received a call from the Williamson County chapter, requesting placement for two families.

To accommodate needs Millsaps said administrators on all campuses were making apartments and homes available. Also, the number of children residing in each cottage is being increased temporarily from six to eight. With 112 children and families currently in residence, the number could escalate as high as 275, he said.

"We're in the family business," said Ivan Raley, vice president of the Middle Tennessee Region. "Our part is just to be Christian, to be the hand of Christ. The people of Tennessee have made it possible for us to do this through their long-

standing support of the children's homes."

In addition to the Red Cross, Millsaps said he has contacted administrators of Baptist children's homes in Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi to offer help "with any children they can't place."

Also, he said TBC Executive James Porch and others are notifying disaster relief workers in the three states "that we can take children."

Millsaps said the Tennessee Department of Children's Services is "using us as a resource for potential placement of displaced foster children as the state of Tennessee is called upon to help."

Raley said, wherever possible, TBCH officials will offer to house at least one parent, along with their children.

"The children are going to be traumatized already. So we're trying to make available space where a parent can stay, either in the cottage, an adjacent cottage, or maybe in the same room," Raley said.

Anticipating the need for extended stays, Millsaps said TBCH staff members are contacting school systems about placing children.

In addition to staff and volunteers, Millsaps said the influx of children and families "gives our children an opportunity to minister and be on mission."

Millsaps requested the prayer of Tennessee Baptists and said TBCH will need the help of volunteers as the number of children and families on the campuses increases.

In the space of 24 hours after their staff conference call, Mill-

saps said "we had to do what we could do and we have an internal plan in place to do what we promised. Now we want to see the entire evangelical faith across the state that Tennessee Baptists provided a partner in this industry to these devastated and they should feel free to use us."

TBCH is funded by support of Tennessee Baptist other supporters and also government funding.

BOWLING UNITED INDUSTRIES
Manufacturers of Baptist Lights
www.BUchurch.org
1-800-446-7400
P.O. Box 2250 • Danville, Virginia

TBC needs trained disaster relief volunteers

By Marcia Knox
Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief only uses its own trained volunteers on Disaster Relief responses for several reasons, but mostly because of an agreement with the North American Mission Board, according to David Acres, state disaster relief director.

"We have an agreement with NAMB to train our volunteers," said Acres. "We will only send trained Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers."

"We have a check-in system on site at the response location where our volunteers have to acknowledge what courses that they are trained in and present their Disaster Relief badges and membership cards for entrance."

However, since the recent Hurricane Katrina response NAMB has asked SBC state conventions to offer fast track training sessions to train volunteers, who want to go on this continuing response.

Acres acknowledged that in last year's series of hurricanes there was an "all call" or "ya'll come" for untrained volunteers, but it hasn't happened as of yet for the Hurricane Katrina response. But because of the sig-

nificant damages, Acres is not ruling the possibility of an "all call" out at a later date.

"We are not doing any training on site at this time like last year's hurricane responses," he added. "In our training, we tell the volunteers they have to have their own health insurance. We do not provide health insurance for the volunteers."

Part of the training includes sessions on protocol and the continuous chain of command that is to be adhered to by the volunteers. Larry Triplett, East Tennessee training coordinator, who trains volunteers regularly, echoed Acres.

"First, volunteers must understand that this is not a vacation," said Triplett. "Our living accommodations can be primitive and sparse, no air conditioning, no power and sometimes a garden hose is our shower. This is not for everyone."

"Second, many people like uniformity and routines in their daily life and a disaster volunteer must practice 'absolute rigid flexibility' to get tasks accomplished and victims cared for during a disaster response. Even our chain saw crews must be willing to fill in on the feeding unit if the need arises."

"And finally, we want our volun-

teers to know that they may be the only Jesus that some of the victims will ever see and our actions and speech must reflect that.

In order to be certified for disaster relief with the Tennessee Baptist Convention, a volunteer must be a member of a Southern Baptist church and be at least 18 years of age.

Fast track disaster relief training is being offered Saturday, Sept. 17, at First Baptist Church, Concord, Knoxville; Sunday, Sept. 18, at Duck River Baptist Association, Tullahoma; Saturday, Sept. 17, at Stevens Street Baptist Church, Cookeville; and Saturday, Oct. 1, at Trinity Baptist Church, Jonesborough. Chaplaincy training will be offered Saturday, Oct. 1, at Knox County Baptist Association Mission Center, Knoxville.

Other disaster relief training dates and locations that were offered on the TBC web site have already closed due to the classes being filled to capacity. Check www.tnbaptist.org for update information.

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God had plan for church whose services 'weren't needed'

By Linda Lawson & Lonnie Wilkey
Staff and Reflector

OLD HICKORY — All day on Wednesday, Aug. 31, pastor Ken Clayton sensed that God wanted the church involved in ministry to the evacuees of Hurricane Katrina.

Clayton, pastor of Tulip Grove Baptist Church here, is the local chapter of a federal disaster relief agency but told their help was not needed at that time. Then at 4 p.m., as Clayton was preparing to leave home and return to church for dinner and a meeting, he received a call that confirmed his conviction that some evacuees needed the church could provide.

The caller, a nurse at General Hospital, asked if the church could take in 45 people. They were members of 11 families, all related, and had driven north to escape the ravages of the storm.

Clayton pledged the help of the congregation and immediately called several members who were disaster relief volunteers trained by the Tennessee Baptist Convention. Within 90 minutes he said church members had organized beds in the church's family life center and

food for the 45 evacuees and more, if needed.

Since their arrival that night, members of the church and community have responded with food, clothing, and medical assistance. A nearby pharmacy is filling prescriptions at no charge. Jobs have been offered.

On Sunday, Sept. 4, one of the matriarchs of the group spoke to the congregation. She acknowledged that family members had lost their tangible possessions. However, she emphasized they still had the two most important things — their lives and their faith in Jesus Christ.

Before the end of the service, Clayton said the woman received word that her 46-year-old alcoholic son had survived the storm. Not only was he alive, but he had accepted Christ as his Savior and had given his testimony in a Louisiana church that morning.

"Our people clapped and rejoiced with her," he said.

In an interview with the *Bap-*



KEN CLAYTON, pastor of Tulip Grove Baptist Church, visits with a new friend, Elizabeth Torregano. Torregano and her family spent more than a week at TGBC after leaving New Orleans just before it was devastated by Hurricane Katrina.

tist and Reflector later, that matriarch, Elizabeth Torregano, said she "was elated with the brothers and sisters in Christ" that she found at Tulip Grove.

"We were received with open arms," she said. "God has been blessing us tremendously with the brotherly love shown in this place. I can feel the Holy Spirit," Torregano added.

Torregano said she and other family members plan to settle in



TOREY OSTER of Tulip Grove Baptist Church, Old Hickory, spends time with two new friends — children of evacuees from New Orleans who were welcomed to Nashville with open arms by Tulip Grove members. — Photos by Lonnie Wilkey

the area. "I have no reason to go back. I'm going to keep looking forward. God has shut one door, but He has opened up many," she declared.

"Our goal for this week is finding them affordable housing," Clayton said Sept. 6. "If we need to give them a couple of months' rent, we will do it." The church also is providing cards for evacuees to obtain free gas.

As of Sept. 9, most of the families had found housing and had

left the family life center, but they will not be soon forgotten.

"They're part of our family now," Clayton said. He predicted most, if not all, of their guests will wind up staying in the Nashville area and Tulip Grove plans to continue to help in any way needed.

"God dropped them in our lap," Clayton said. It's been so good for our church. They feel so blessed by this. We're not going to say goodbye." □

Children sell lemonade for DR donations

By Marcia Knox
Staff and Reflector

WENTWOOD — Three children from Nashville collected \$514 when they sold lemonade Sept. 5 to raise money for the Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief Center's response to Hurricane Katrina victims in Louisiana and Mississippi.

Mary Beth White, 8, a student at Shane Elementary School, Nashville, who attends the Baptist Church of Nashville, got the idea to help hurricane victims while watching television news reports.

"I just wondered how an 8-year-old could help out the hurricane response," she said.

"Mary Beth wanted to find a way to help the victims of the hurricane," said her mother Angela White. "Her daddy suggested several ideas, and she chose the lemonade stand. She came up with the stand set-up and the wording on the signs, which she made early Monday morning."

It soon became a group effort when she was joined by her two friends who also attend First Church, brothers Trevor Greer, 8, and Tad Greer, 4. This team sold lemonade on Labor Day in the Whites' driveway, located in the Holt Woods subdivision.

"The Greer children are some of Mary Beth's closest friends," Angela White added. "We camp

together and had made plans several months ago to camp on Labor Day weekend. However, with the events surrounding the hurricane we decided to cancel our trip."

"We made plans instead to grill out on Monday. Mary Beth called Sherri Greer, the boys' mother, and asked if they would be interested in helping with the lemonade stand. She said Trevor wanted to find a way to help, too. What started as an evening get-together turned into an all-day affair." Angela White made the lemonade. Mary Beth White poured it. Trevor Greer handed out the cups of lemonade to car drivers, and Tad Greer took the money.

"I think this is just fantastic," said David Acres, Tennessee Baptist State Disaster Relief director, who accepted the donation from the children. "To have kids like this care about people from so far away as Louisiana and Mississippi is great."

"We had people of all ages and races donate," said Angela White. "We are finally glad that we live on a busy road."

Some people also just donated money for the cause. The donations for the lemonade ranged from \$1 to \$100 a cup from a special grandparent.

When the families delivered the donations to the Baptist Center, James Porch, TBC executive director, gave the children and their mothers a tour of the Disaster Relief Operations Center. □

La., family clings to Christ; Union, church offer assistance

By Tim Ellsworth
Union University news service

JACKSON — Three cars. Eight family members and their dog, Jack. A few clothes, a little food, and some musical instruments. Lives forever changed.

That's the story of Dale and Anna Michel, of Kenner, La., (a suburb 13 miles west of downtown New Orleans) who fled their home Aug. 28 ahead of Hurricane Katrina. The Michels and their six children — ranging in age from 11 to 24 — are eight of thousands of refugees who made their way north to safety as a devastating storm tore their lives apart.

Through the ordeal, the family is clinging to the one thing they have remaining.

"The courage and the good attitude to keep on keeping on is our faith in Jesus Christ," Dale Michel said. "We know that all things work out together for good, according to God's purpose. We don't always see the end. There's always a lesson in everything. Maybe this is the only way he could get us to make life-changing decisions."

As they left Louisiana and headed north through Mississippi, the Michels didn't know where their journey would stop. They ultimately landed in Humboldt, where they have been since then, and where

they may be for some time.

Ken Hindman, the children's minister at West Jackson Baptist Church, owns a vacant house in Humboldt that is the Michels' home for now. Hindman knew the Michels' eldest daughter, Rose, from her college days at Union University in Jackson, Tenn. She worked with him in the church's preschool department. When he heard about the hurricane, he managed to connect with Rose and offered her family his house.

Members of West Jackson Baptist Church have provided meals for the family, as has Union University. Charles Fowler, Union's senior vice president for university relations, gave the family meal cards to use anytime they need to in the school cafeteria.

"It's heartwarming to see how the Christian community has reached out and embraced and loved this family," Fowler said.

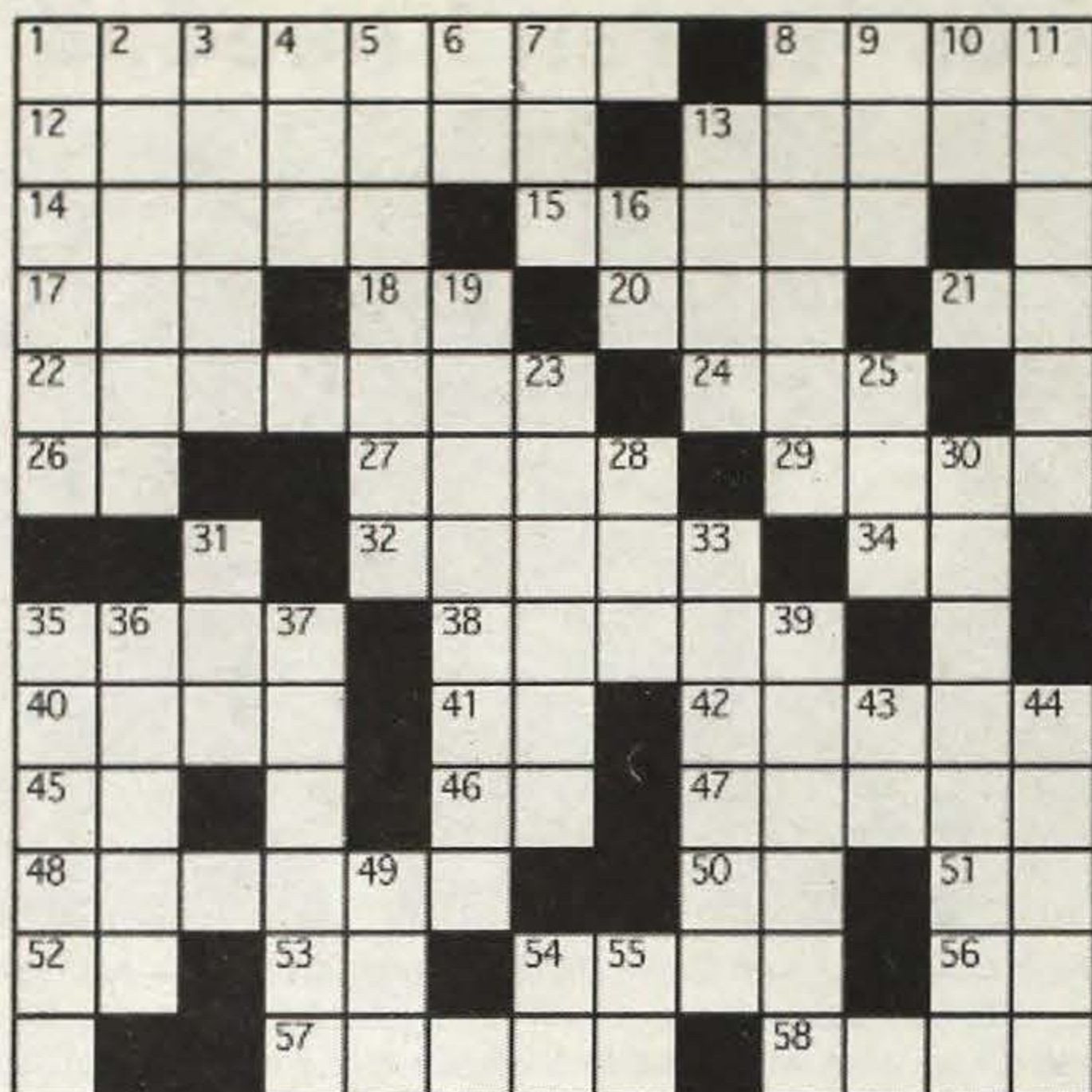
The Michel family is abundantly grateful for the help.

"Everybody's just so nice about everything," Tracy Michel, 22, said.

"I knew we would be taken care of," Rose Michel, 24, said. "It's been a blessing — between Union and West Jackson, all the things they've done for us and continue to do. We really appreciate it." □



THE Tennessee Baptist children who sold lemonade to earn for disaster relief efforts for victims of Hurricane Katrina visited the Baptist Center last week and presented \$514 to Tennessee Baptist Convention leaders. From left are David Acres, Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief State director; Trevor Greer, Tad Greer, Mary Beth White, and James Porch, TBC executive director.



See answers on page 19

Barbour Publishing

ACROSS

1. God told Adam and Eve to be fruitful and ____ (Gen. 1:22)
8. Without, Fr.
12. What Samuel does to Saul to show he'll be Israel's king
13. Clothing that covers the back
14. The prodigal son almost ate their food (Luke 15:16)
15. "____ not at all; neither by heaven; for it is God's throne" (Matt. 5:34)
17. A metal burned by fire (Num. 31:22-23)
18. Eleven, Rom. num.
20. "I am Alpha and the Omega, beginning and the ____" (Rev. 22:13)
21. Ma's husband
22. To trap
24. Gideon saw men lapping water like this animal (Judg. 7:5)
26. Address abbreviation
27. A rough rock where the eagle dwells (Job 39:27-28)
29. At the end of the world we will hear about these and rumors of these (Matt. 24:6)
32. Large feline
34. Dover is the capital of this state, abbr.
35. A soft, lustrous fabric made by worms
38. Hebrew custom of allowing the poor to follow the reapers and gather grain
40. Jesus said not to speak these kind of words (Matt. 12:36)
41. The initials of the man who came up with the theory of relativity
42. After eight days, Jesus was circumcised and ____ (Luke 2:21)
45. Negative
46. Tensile strength, abbr.
47. To direct the course
48. Gideon hoped this would be wet, then dry
50. Exclamation of surprise
51. A name for Mother
52. Ourselves
53. Homonym of sew
54. A tall pasture grass
56. A printer's measure

57. A Levitical city in the hill country of Judah (Josh. 15:51)
58. Briefly lowers the head

DOWN

1. Ruler, lord, teacher (Matt. 8:19)
2. To reverse the winding
3. When you wear the armor of God, you should have your ____ girt with truth (Eph. 6:14)
4. A soft metal
5. Not exact
6. Two cups, abbr.
7. Life support system, abbr.
8. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the ____ of death" (Ps. 23:4)
9. Jesus spoke of the fowls of the ____ (Matt. 6:26)
10. Not rated, abbr.
11. Produces hot, moist air
13. "God ... shall ____ his angel" (Gen. 24:7)
16. Us
19. Supply with water by artificial means
23. If we wait upon the Lord, we will mount up with wings like these birds
25. Seventh son of Jacob, first-born of Zilpah (Gen. 30:11)
28. Word to make a horse turn to the right
30. What Christ did for us
31. Everything
33. "The Son of man came ... to give his life a ____" (Matt. 20:28)
35. Marked by sin
36. "Little children, keep yourselves from ____" (1 John 5:21)
37. City in south Judah, conquered by Joshua in the northern campaign (Josh. 12:22)
39. Prophet during the reigns of David and Solomon
43. Myself
44. Persian coins (Ezra 2:69)
49. The sound of a dove
54. The opposite of stop
55. The article that precedes words beginning with a vowel

To assist Katrina victims

NAMB launches new programs

Baptist Press

ALPHARETTA, Ga. — Southern Baptist churches and individuals may now register online at www.namb.net to assist Katrina victims through the Adopt a Church and Houses of Hope initiatives.

Announced by North American Mission Board President Robert E. (Bob) Reccord over the Labor Day weekend, the initiatives are designed to help damaged Southern Baptist churches recover and offer assistance to people displaced by the hurricane that devastated parts of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama.

Adopt a Church asks churches to adopt congregations whose facilities were badly damaged or destroyed by Katrina. A commitment of 12 to 24 months is requested or however long it takes for the affected church to get back on its feet. Hundreds of Southern Baptist churches were

damaged or destroyed by the hurricane, according to initial estimates.

The Adopt a Church initiative suggests that partnering churches assist affected churches by sending missions and construction teams to help in recovery and rebuilding, provide care packages, take up a special offering, offer training teams to encourage and strengthen staff leadership skills, and assist pastors by replacing ministry libraries lost or damaged.

Houses of Hope requests churches or individuals to provide temporary housing for Katrina evacuees with an initial commitment of 30 days. The initiative suggests churches work together to rent an apartment or house for evacuees, use vacant missionary housing, campers, motor homes, travel trailers, gymnasiums, or work with local hotels to provide housing.

While details of Houses of Hope are developing, general churches or individuals volunteering to house evacuees have input into the placement of individuals or families. It is recommended that groups of individuals team up to provide housing and, in some cases, church bands together to provide housing. Immediate needs of individuals include enrolling children in school, making doctor visits, providing for basic needs such as food.

All expenses incurred by guests will be paid by the volunteer individuals and churches, although partnership with state, and national relief agencies and businesses is allowed. Participants in Houses of Hope are encouraged to check with their insurance carrier about issues related to housing evacuees in private and church facilities. □

CLASSIFIED

MINISTRY — STUDENT

Immanuel Baptist Church seeks full-time youth/outreach pastor — degree, 2 years experience, married. Family-oriented, growing church. Please send resume to 709 E. Gaines, Lawrenceburg, TN 38464, Attn: Youth Search Committee.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Seeking a full-time minister of students and outreach for a purpose driven church located in suburban Saint Louis County. Must have a passion for youth ministry and reaching students for Christ. College degree preferred. Please send resume and/or recommendations to Minister of Students Search Committee, c/o Fee Fee Baptist Church, 11330 Saint Charles Rock Rd., Bridgeton, MO 63044.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

First Baptist Church, Fernandina Beach, Fla., on Amelia Island is prayerfully seeking a youth minister. Located in a growing community with a deep history steeped in tradition, we are seeking a minister with a vision for the future and an appreciation of our past. A minimum requirement: seminary degree in youth ministry. Resumes to Youth Minister Search Committee First Baptist Church, 416 Alachua, St., Fernandina Beach, FL 32034.

MINISTRY — EDUCATION

Seeking adult education minister. Florence Baptist Church is located in the fastest growing county in Kentucky. We are in the process of relocating to 67 acres. Run 800+ in worship. Looking for energetic person to build the adult ministries of our church. Please send resumes to penny.romes@florencechurch.org.

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Job assistance ministry

CWJC-Nashville reaches out to evacuees

By Dawn Ferguson
Staff Writer and Reflector

ASHVILLE — While everyone agrees that the influx of Katrina refugees will have an impact on Tennessee, no one knows how much the impact will be.

Christian Women's Job Corps — Nashville Executive Director Rebekah Sumrall got thinking about this over the Labor Day Weekend and said

she thought

like so many others — we've got to do something. She also realized that of the people who re-locate

they may very well be the very few whose organization serves — single moms at or below poverty level with limited education and job skills.

Sumrall further realized that we wouldn't be equipped to deal with those immediate

needs. "Our ministry is extremely dependent on volunteers," she said. "We have

about 250 helping in all sorts of ways, but we could really use more. In fact, we don't have enough volunteers right now to meet all the needs of the ladies currently living in our area who want to be served."



SUMRALL

That prompted Sumrall to think of other ways CWJC could help and she came up with the idea of a job clearinghouse. "I just thought we could help connect churches and businesses with refugees who are trying to locate jobs," she said.

Shortly after posting her first e-mail to let churches know of the job clearinghouse for refugees Sumrall got a call. But the call wasn't from anyone who had seen her posting. It was from a young woman who had just spent \$1,000 she didn't have to fly her family of five ranging in age from 25 to her 75-year-old grandmother to join her and her husband and three children in Nashville because their homes had been destroyed. She had found CWJC by calling 211 — the number to call for help in Middle Tennessee.

"The agencies have been so helpful in getting us all the clothes and food and toiletries that we have, but we don't need those any more," said Jada Lundy. "What we need is financial assistance, and I haven't found anybody handling that out."

Lundy, who is a stay-at-home mom with a 2, 3, and 5-year-old, said her family's homes were all totally destroyed and as many as four more family members may join the 10 of them soon. And while

the CWJC clearinghouse is not offering them financial aide, Sumrall did post the family's previous occupations for possible job location assistance — housekeeper, medical records, and security officer.

Lundy and her husband and three children re-located to Nashville about a year ago from Boston. They presently have no church home.

CWJC will also offer classes to churches who may want to train individuals as job coaches to help refugees who are looking for jobs. "This is something we do all the time," said Sumrall. "Many of these people may know how to look for a job, but maybe they haven't done that for a long time. Or, maybe, they haven't had to work in a long time and don't know how to present themselves or write a resume. We can help them with that."

To access CWJC's clearinghouse, visit their web site's direct link at <http://cwjc-nashville.org/KatrinaJobMinistry.htm>. Anyone interested in helping CWJC by volunteering can call the organization at 244-3669. And, if you haven't had the opportunity to help someone directly affected by the hurricane who needs assistance, contact Jada Lundy, 1142 Cahal Ave., Nashville, TN 37206 or call her at (615) 228-3087. □

Tennessee schools open doors to displaced university students

Compiled by B&R staff

BRENTWOOD — All three Tennessee Baptist colleges have announced plans to assist university students displaced by Hurricane Katrina.

Union University in Jackson extended its enrollment deadline to accommodate students affected by the hurricane.

"We join many in the higher education community who desire to assist students adversely affected by the hurricane," said Rich Grimm, Union's vice president for enrollment services.

"Union pledges its full support to these students and their families, and will be responsive to their needs, financial and otherwise," he said.

Union President David S. Dockery said a number of students displaced by the hurricane contacted the university to inquire about enrolling.

"I have instructed our staff to be as accommodating as possible to these individuals," Dockery said.

Belmont University in Nashville said they would admit students who were planning to attend universities and colleges in the areas ravaged by the hurricane — and send their tuition payments to their home universities.

"For students who have already paid their tuition to their home institutions, we will allow the tuition to remain there. For those who have not, we will collect Belmont tuition and remit it to the home insti-

tutions," said Belmont Provost Dan McAlexander.

"Our hearts go out to the individual students and their institutions in the storm-ravaged area," said Belmont President Robert Fisher.

"We want to join in the efforts of the entire higher education community to reach out to them in this time of need."

At Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, the school's Baptist Collegiate Ministries (BCM) office was collecting supplies and mounting an effort to send relief teams to affected areas next month. At the same time, however, C-N "wants to minister particularly to those students whose lives have been turned upside down by this tragedy," said C-N President James Netherton.

C-N Provost Michael Arrington said the schools deans and division chairs were unanimous "in wanting to open our doors to current Gulf Coast students whose educations have been put on hold."

Although C-N's fall semester began Aug. 24, Netherton said the university would work to reduce the "red tape" transfer students normally encounter.

"This is certainly an unusual practice, but these are most unusual circumstances," Netherton asserted.

Arrington agreed. "The important thing is that we seek opportunities to serve God by reaching out to people."

"We will strive to make a seamless transition until these students can reconnect with their home institutions." □

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Belmont provides free MTA service to students, staff

Belmont University news service

NASHVILLE — Belmont University students, faculty, and staff can now leave their cars at home and rely on the Nashville Metropolitan Transit Authority for rides to and from Belmont thanks to a new partnership announced Aug. 23.

Belmont is the first university in Nashville to offer free bus service to its students.

MTA and Belmont officials announced that the new student and employee commuter benefits program was begun to provide Belmont students, faculty, and staff an opportunity to save on gasoline and help reduce traffic congestion.

Belmont President Robert Fisher called the partnership "a good investment in mass transit" and noted "it is good for our university family."

Fisher also noted the part-

nership "could help lower students' out-of-pocket expenses and provide a new tax-free benefit for employees.

"In addition, this partnership will reduce the number of cars coming to campus and help the surrounding neighborhood and our environment," Fisher added. □

Sumrall to lead Nashville Baptists

For Baptist and Reflector

NASHVILLE — In a called Executive Board meeting Aug. 29, Nashville Baptist Association called Robert B. (Rusty) Sumrall Jr., as executive director, effective Jan. 1, 2006.

Sumrall has served as the NBA's associate executive director since 1993.

Prior to coming to NBA Rusty served for seven years as director of missions of the Greater Rochester Baptist Association,

Rochester, N.Y., and for eight years prior to that as the director of church development and evangelism of Etowah Baptist Association, Gadsden, Ala.

He is a graduate of Mississippi College, Clinton, and holds the master of divinity degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.

Sumrall is a member and deacon at First Baptist Church, Nashville. He and his wife,



SUMRALL

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Kate Campbell



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Edna Ellison



Karen Anderson Holcomb



Wanda Lee



George McCalep



Karla Worley

Rebekah, have two daughters, Claire and Abbie.

He will succeed Jim Freedman, current executive director, who brings his 14-year ministry to a close upon his retirement, Dec. 31. □

CLASSIFIED

MINISTRY — PASTOR

McMinnville First Baptist Church is seeking a visionary, purpose driven individual with a heart for church growth, evangelism, missions, and outreach to serve as our pastor. FBC is a well established SBC church with an average Sunday morning attendance of 350. Qualified candidates must have a seminary degree with a minimum of 5 years experience. Send resumes to fbcresumes@yahoo.com by Oct. 1.

Fairfield Glade First Baptist Church is seeking a full-time pastor. This is a growing church located in the resort community of Fairfield Glade Tennessee. Current SS averages 140 and worship service averages 180. Applicants must be Southern Baptist with seminary masters degree preferably in pastoral ministries or preaching. If Holy Spirit led, send resume to Ben Olgetree, 13 Burton Terrace, Fairfield Glade, TN 38558. Deadline for receipt is Sept. 30, 2005..

First Baptist Church, Monterey, Tenn., is now accepting resumes for a full-time pastor position. Please send resumes to Monterey First Baptist Church, 106 North Chestnut St., Monterey, TN 38574. Post to the attention of Sonny Gilpatrick.

Ramer Baptist Church in Ramer, Tenn., is now accepting resumes for a full-time pastor position. Please e-mail resume to joeymaness1@yahoo.com or mail to Joey Maness, 333 Mulberry Ave., Selmer, TN 38375.

Bethel Baptist Church in Greenfield, Tenn., is now accepting resumes until 9-30-05 for a full-time pastor. Please send resume to Bethel Baptist Church, P.O. Box 135, Greenfield, TN 38230.

Resumes being accepted for senior pastor. First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 687, Union City, TN 38281.

First Baptist Church, Celina, Tenn., is accepting resumes for the position of full-time pastor. Please send resume to Celina First Baptist Church, P.O. Box 690, Celina, TN 38551, Attn. Pastor Search Committee.

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.

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

CLASSIFIED

MINISTRY — MUSIC

The First Baptist Church, Lenoir City, Tenn., a vibrant growing congregation in urban Knoxville, is searching for a full-time worship pastor. Send resume to debbie@baptistchurch.com.

Morningside Baptist Church, Morristown, Tenn., is accepting resumes for a full-time minister of music. Please send resumes to Morningside, P.O. Box 50, Morristown, TN 37815, Attn. Music Committee. For more information about Morningside, visit our website at www.morningsidebaptistchurch.com.

Rosedale Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn., is seeking a part-time minister of music. Please send resumes to Music Committee Chair, Rosedale Baptist Church, Rosedale Ave., Nashville, TN 37211.

FBC Alamo, Tenn., is seeking a part-time minister of music. Please send resumes to Music Committee Chair, W. Church St., Alamo, TN 38001.

Henderson Chapel Church is seeking to fill the position of part-time music leader. Address your resume to the church at Dave Tinker at (865) 421-1111. Henderson Chapel Church, 407 Henderson Pigeon Forge, TN 37874. Search Committee.

Large St. Louis area driven church seeks a contemporary worship minister. E-mail resume to randy@feefeebc.org or Music/Worship Minister Committee, Fee Fee Church, 11330 St. Charles Rd., Bridgeton, MO 63006.

MINISTRY — STUDENT

First Baptist Church, Greenfield, Tenn., is now accepting resumes for the position of bivocational minister of youth activities. Resumes be accepted through Sept. 30, 2005. Please send resume to First Baptist Church, c/o Lusby, 301 Garland St., Greenfield, TN 38230. You may send resume to (731) 235-3111.

MINISTRY — ORGANIST

Organist needed: FBC, Morristown, Tenn., is currently seeking an organist for two Sunday services. If interested, contact Sean Gossett of Music, at (931) 473-1111.

book review

John Ferguson

The Grassfire Effect

By Steve Elliott

Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2005

the same Creator who made 10,000 species of 25,000 species of fish and approximately 10,000 species of insects created us ... in His image. Therefore, we must be creative. At least, that's the point of author Steve Elliott in his book *The Grassfire Effect*. Elliott further contends that our creativity is one of the key characteristics that makes us human — separates us from members of the animal kingdom.

Elliott, a former writer for non-profit organizations, founded his own organization — Grassfire.org — in 1999 during the height of the dot com boom. He admits he was marveling at the explosion of the internet when he started asking himself what he would tell his children about this great period of American history and his role in it. As he bemoaned the fact that he was missing out and had nothing to share, he decided to create a way to become a part of it. As a result, Grassfire.org was born out of an idea to use the internet for petition drives that would play a role in the formation of public policy.

On his journey to bring his idea to fruition and the failures and successes he encountered are chronicled in *The Grassfire Effect* — how one small spark can change your world. Elliott dubs his book a motivational book. While it's not a book of Christian teachings, Elliott is a Christian, and he uses many Christian principles to spark his grassfires.

One of Elliott's primary emphases is goal setting. He only believes that goals need to be people oriented because "that's what life is all about." He further states that giving is the most powerful force in our relations and the fuel for your grassfire effect. He states there is only one way to develop a positive grassfire effect and that is to serve somebody. "Service is in action ... Serving others is at the center of our lives. When we serve, we touch the very heart of the people who are on this earth."

Elliott concludes with the example of a grassfire started by Jesus as He encountered the woman at the well. After Jesus confronted the woman about her adulterous status, she tried to change the subject by asking Him where the people were supposed to worship. He stated it didn't matter where. What did matter was that they were and how they lived. "Up until that time, true worship of God was confined to a specific place, a specific city ... Worship of God was about to change to include all who would approach God out of a sincere heart and in the reality of their lives."

The woman at the well learned that "instead of going to the right place to worship God and the right way to do to be accepted by God, all she had to do was open the door of her heart."

A small spark can change the world ... all it takes is fuel, oxygen, and heat. The world changes one spark at a time. But to succeed, Elliott states "you gotta have a spark." If you have a spark of an idea that needs fuel, read *The Grassfire Effect*. □ — Ferguson is a correspondent for the *Baptist and Reflector*.

Put first things first

By Mark Brown

Focal Passage: Ecclesiastes 3:10-14; 12:13-14; Mark 12:28-34

Two decades have passed and yet I clearly remember the many mornings that I looked out my driver's side window to stare at the sky. My morning commute into Birmingham had become my time of selfish supplication. Almost invariably, traffic would stop near a massive water works plant on Highway 280. I would look skyward and tell God if He would just write His instructions for me somewhere out there in the blue, then I would follow them.

It began in sincerity, slipped into routine, finally becoming a demand. He didn't have to write my last name, I offered, figuring if it began with "Mark," I'd know it was for me, but I did want my name used, so I wouldn't mistakenly take somebody else's life plan and run with it. It was as if I had offered God a deal that He chose not to endorse.

It's a temptation to put the onus of our lives on God, to think that, because He created us, He is responsible for us, for who we are and what we do. It's a slippery slope of spiritual immaturity that is best avoided.

God created us, setting eternity in our hearts (Ecclesiastes 3:11b), but He is not liable for what becomes of us. It's up to men and women to follow that longing for

eternity and answer the call to work hard, apply ourselves as good stewards, and enjoy what God has created. Solomon writes that God has given people tasks to keep them busy. One can hardly function, let alone provide much for a family, without occupation. Apart from the Creator, life is no more meaningful than stock in Enron. To live outside of God's intent is to kill time.

"This killin' time is killin' me," sang Clint Black several years ago. His narrator lamented a lost love and sought to numb himself with lots of alcohol. Even in his stupor he recognized that he was choosing not only to kill his time on earth, but also ruining his time in eternity. As noted in Ecclesiastes 13:14, *God will bring every act to judgment, including every hidden thing, whether good or evil*. In short, every choice we make has consequences.

Therefore, we should choose wisely. Jesus laid the cornerstone of righteous living and making good choices when He responded to the scribe as noted in today's New Testament passage. Impressed by the answers Christ was giving to those who sought to ensnare Him, the scribe asks a pertinent question; *Which commandment is the most important of all* (Mark 12:28c)?

Jesus quotes the shema from the sixth chapter of Deuteronomy, but He adds to it by saying that humans should also love God with

Sunday School Lesson
Family Bible Series
Sept. 18

all of our minds. We should think about God, meaning we should be intentional in thinking about God and what He wants for us and from us. That's one of the reasons I think Christian higher education is so important; because Jesus said we should use our minds as part of demonstrating our love for God. And Jesus immediately follows the most important commandment with the second most important one, that we should love our neighbor as ourselves. Jesus preached a succinct sermon about our purpose: Love God all out and demonstrate it by loving others.

If eternity is in our hearts, it's there because God put it there. And there with eternity is a homing signal for things that matter, also known as purpose. To find our purpose we need faith and obedience to the instructions God has given us through Christ. Our skills are within us and our gifts are on us. My experience is that God doesn't write His purposes for us in the sky. He writes it in our hearts. We just need to learn how to read what He's written there. □

— Brown is director of news and information at Carson-Newman College and a member of of First Baptist Church, Jefferson City.

Who needs the gospel? They do too!

By Kevin Shrum

Focal Passage: Romans 2:1-29

Both Paul and the gospel are equal opportunity offenders. As if the expansive and exhaustive explanation of the scope and focus of the gospel in Romans 1:1-32 is not enough, Paul clarifies the exact nature of sin as common to all people, both Jew and Gentile. No one is spared from taint and touch of sin. As a result, no one is spared from the wrath and judgment of God.

No Favorites, vv. 1-11

This initial section of Scripture is concluded by these words in verse 11, *There is no favoritism with God*. The conclusion is reached after Paul outlines the universal nature of sin. Though human judgments are often unfair and condescending (vv. 1-2), God's judgment is true (v. 2) and inescapable (v. 4). In addition, the constant rejection of God's many kindnesses (v. 4) is building up wrath when God's future judgment will be revealed (v. 5). God will repay every work, whether good (vv. 7, 10) or evil (vv. 8, 9). God's judgment will visit every person.

The law/conscience and judgment, vv. 12-24

The key phrase is verse 12: *All those who sinned without the law will also perish without the law, and all those who sinned under the law will be judged by the law*.

Here Paul argues that the Jews who have the law and the Gentiles who do not have the law will both perish because of their sin. Both are under the judgment of God. The Jew will perish because of disobedience to the law (vv. 17-24) and the Gentile will perish because they have violated the law of their conscience (vv. 14-16).

This speaks of the two-fold nature of God's revelation. First, God has revealed Himself in nature and in the human conscience so that *men are without excuse* (1:20). Because humans are created in the image of God our consciences possess a moral and spiritual compass. This is why unregenerate sinners are still capable of some good. However, because the actions of the unregenerate are not of faith all they do is sin because their consciences have been corrupted by sin. Second, God has revealed Himself specifically in the law and in the person of Jesus Christ. Both the general and specific revelation of God hold men accountable so that they all are accounted as sinners under the wrath and judgment of God.

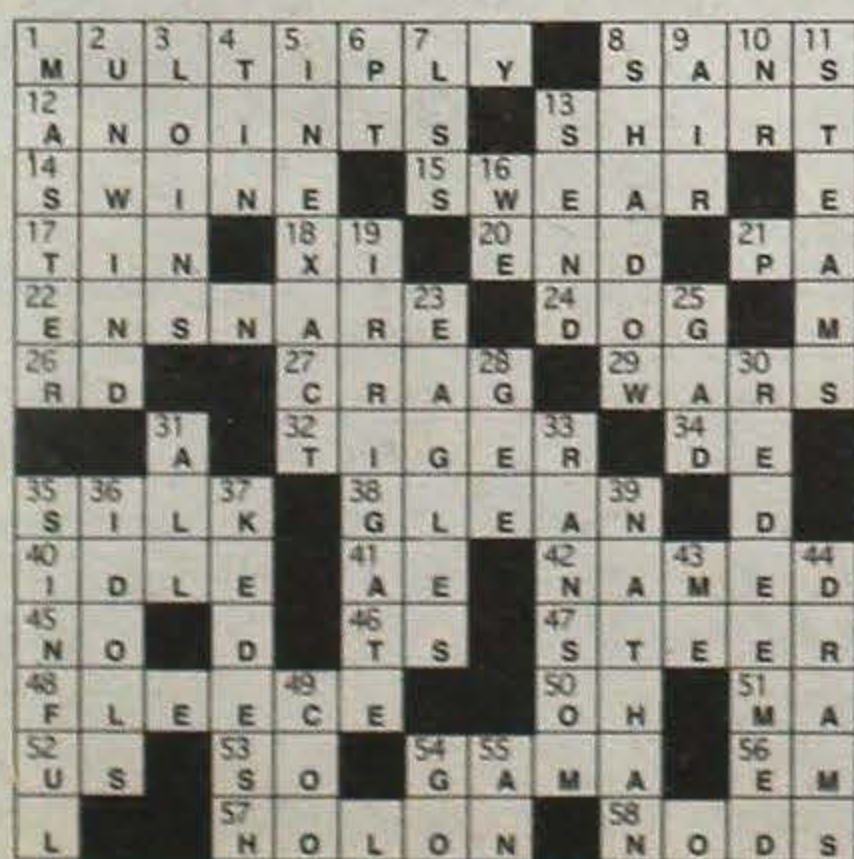
What is most important is that both Jew and Gentile are saved the same way — by grace alone through faith alone in Jesus Christ alone. No person is saved by the law because no person can keep all the law. It is only by God's

Sunday School Lesson
Explore the Bible
Sept. 18

grace that sinners are saved. So, Paul's argument is that neither the Jew who has the law nor the Gentile who has his conscience will be saved by either. For the Jew does not keep the law and the Gentile is not fully obedient to his God-given, though sin-corrupted conscience.

The true believer, vv. 25-29

If both the Gentile and the Jew have no place for pride or arrogance, who, then, is a true believer? The rite of circumcision is beneficial only if the entire law is obeyed (v. 25). Circumcision was an outward sign of an inward commitment. But, if the outward sign does not match the inward commitment then hypocrisy is the order of the day. And what about those who keep the law but are not of the circumcision (v. 26)? In this case, the uncircumcised keeper of the law will judge the circumcised law breaker (v. 27). Paul's point, however, is that circumcision is not of the flesh (v. 28). Rather, a true Jew, a true believer, is "one inwardly, and circumcision is of the heart — by the Spirit, not the letter. His praise is not from men but from God." □ — Shrum is pastor of Inglewood Baptist Church, Nashville.



Churches

◆ **First Baptist Church, Bethel Springs**, held revival Sept. 11-14. Floyd "Lammie" Lammersfeld, evangelist of McKenzie, spoke.

◆ **Central Baptist Church of Alcoa** will hold a revival Sept. 18-21 with Charles Kelly as the speaker. Charles Kelly is the father of Greg Kelly, pastor of Central Church. Blake Estes will direct the music.

◆ **Swan Creek Baptist Church, Hampshire**, held revival Aug. 21-26. James Shutt spoke.

◆ **First Baptist Church, Michie**, will hold revival Sept. 25-28. Keith Smith will speak and Allen Guyer will lead the music. For more information, call the church at (731) 239-8538.

◆ **Thorngrove Baptist Church, Strawberry Plains**, will hold revival Sept. 18-21. Morris Anderson, evangelist of Maryville, will speak.

◆ **First Baptist Church, Adamsville**, will hold revival Sept. 18-21. Phil Glisson, evangelist of Memphis, will speak.

◆ **Gibson Baptist Church, Gibson**, will hold its 11th annual Friendship Festival Saturday, Sept. 24 from 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. There will be activities for the young and the young at heart. For information call the church at (731) 787-6766.

Leaders

◆ **Jim Growden** resigned Oct. 1 as pastor of Westwood Baptist Church, Manchester. He is available for interim, supply, and church growth conferences. Growden has led church growth conferences and served as an associational director for the conferences. He can be reached at 305 Hampton Rd., Tullahoma, TN, 37388-3059 or at (931) 393-3128.

◆ **Ridgeway Baptist Church, Memphis**, called **Jack May** Aug. 21 as senior pastor. Having served six churches in the Memphis-Ripley area as senior pastor or interim, he is well known for his 18 years as senior pastor of Broadmoor Baptist Church, Memphis. May also is a former president of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

◆ **Thompson Springs Baptist Church of Cleveland** has

called **Joe White** as pastor.

◆ **First Baptist Church of Wartburg** has called **James McClurkan** as pastor. He comes to the church from West Point First Baptist Church in Cullman, Ala., where he served as pastor since 1997. McClurkan holds a doctor of divinity degree. He has also held several positions in a local Alabama Baptist association.



MCCLURKAN

◆ **First Baptist Church of Ridgetop** has called **Brian Smart** of Hendersonville as associate pastor effective Sept. 11, which was homecoming Sunday. He has served the church as youth pastor since 2001. A graduate of Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Ky., he is working on his master of divinity degree at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's Nashville Extension Center.

◆ **Sullivan Baptist Church, Kingsport**, called **Chrystal Fields** as part-time director of children's work.

◆ **Lindsay Roach**, a member of Mouth of Richland Baptist Church, Blaine, and a senior at East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, has just returned from a mission trip to Moldova, a country formed 11 years ago following the fall of the Soviet Union.

◆ **Bill Sumners**, director of the Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, Nashville, received the top award in the field of religious archives during the Society of American Archivists' Aug. 14-21 annual meeting in New Orleans, La. Sumners has directed the SBHLA since 1988 and was joint archivist for the Baptist Sunday School Board (now LifeWay Christian Resources) and the former SBC Historical Commission from 1983-88. He is a member of Oak Valley Baptist Church, Franklin.

◆ **First Baptist Church of Monterey** has called **Tim Frank**, associate pastor of Stevens Street Baptist Church, Cookeville, as fill-in pastor.

◆ **Bill Ponder** has resigned as pastor of Clear Branch Baptist Church, Erwin.



THIS NEW AUDITORIUM of Barfield Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, was dedicated Aug. 7. The service drew 308 people, the largest attendance in the history of the church. The church is more than 100 years old. Ron Byers is the pastor.



LAVELL WHITEHEAD, left, chairman of deacons, First Baptist Church, Morrison, presents the certificate of ordination to the ministry to **Ted Stoffle**, who was ordained by the church Sept. 4. Within the past five years, the church has ordained three men to the ministry. Roger Stacy, director of missions, Central Baptist Association, McMinnville, preached the ordination sermon.

◆ **Central Baptist Church, Johnson City**, held a retirement reception Aug. 21 for **Bill Warfield**, minister of senior adults. He served the church for 32 years in various ministerial positions.

◆ **John McDougal** was called as director of music, West Paris Baptist Church, Paris, effective Aug. 28.

Schools

◆ **Charles Colson**, founder of Prison Fellowship and

author of more than 20 books, will speak Thursday, Sept. 15, in a worship service in **University's G.M. Memorial Chapel** in Nashville. The service begins at 7 p.m. A former aide to President Richard Nixon, Colson was convicted in the Watergate scandal and served 18 months in prison. He became a Christian prior to his term. Colson writes a nationally syndicated column, "Point of View," which is heard on 100 radio stations.



VISITING THE TENNESSEE Baptist Convention staff members recently in Brentwood and Gary Rickman, second from left, TBC staff were Izaias Querino, left, executive director, Paratiba Baptist Convention, Brazil; and Flávio Alves, right, small church development director of the convention. They were hosted by Stacy, director of missions, Central Baptist Association, Maryville. Stacy is a former missionary to Brazil.



STEVE BARFIELD, left of center, youth pastor of Goodlettsville Baptist Church, stands with his family and Col. (Ret.) Bill Carter, right, men's ministry director, First Baptist Church, Goodlettsville. Carter swore him into the military chaplaincy during a commissioning service at the church on Aug. 25. Capt. Barfield has entered the U.S. Air Force.



MEMBERS OF A TEAM from Salem Baptist Association recently led Vacation Bible School in Copper Basin Baptist Church, Ducktown, and renovated some of the association's buildings. The team had 39 members from eight churches and was led by David and Karen King. The VBS was held at the association's Center. The team held two evening praise and worship services. As a result, 19 people made professions of faith. The team will return to do more missions work in Copper Basin.