

# Baptist & Reflector

Wide Edition

Telling the Story of Tennessee Baptists

Vol. 171 / No. 34; Sept. 21, 2005

## Approves other covenants, 2005-06 budget

# Board rejects covenant with Belmont

By Lonnie Wilkey & Connie Davis Bushey  
Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — The Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention rejected the covenant agreement submitted by Belmont University, Nashville, during its Sept. 13 regular meeting here.

The board accepted covenant agreements submitted by eight other TBC entities — Carson-Newman College, Union University, Harrison-Chilhowee Baptist Academy, Tennessee Baptist Adult Homes, Tennessee Baptist Children's Homes, Tennessee Baptist Foundation, Baptist Health System of East Tennessee, and Baptist Memorial Health Care Corporation.

The covenants will replace existing program statements if adopted by messengers at the TBC annual meeting in November at First Baptist Church, Clarksville.

The board also adopted a 2005-06 budget, heard a report from the Education Committee affirming the education provided by the three colleges, elected new officers, adopted a reorganization plan, and heard a report on disaster relief for Hurricane Katrina victims.

### Belmont covenant

Last year the Executive Board's Budget and Program Committee asked all institutions to develop new covenant agreements to replace existing program statements.

Belmont's proposed covenant altered the way trustees are elected and would have allowed for up to 40 percent of its trustees to be non-Baptists.

In presenting the covenant on behalf of the Education Committee, chairman Joe Stacker told board members, "I have prayed and pondered over this matter more than any I can recall in some time."

"It is my conviction that to allow Belmont University the opportunity to elect their trustees, 60 percent of whom will be members of affiliated Tennessee Baptist Convention churches and presented to the TBC for affirmation, is a right direction for the university at this time," Stacker said.

He observed that a board comprised of 60 percent Tennessee Baptists "continues the traditions of the past and offers great promise for the future."

"In fact, I believe this practice would be beneficial for all our institutions," Stacker said.

Stacker also said he supported the covenant because "as a matter of conscience I have a problem with an organization which only gives 3 percent support having total control of said institution."

Finally, he said he supported the covenant because Belmont said it would place TBC monies into a scholarship fund for students who are members of TBC churches.

Speaking against the covenant were

Mickey Basham, pastor, Eastanallee Baptist Church, Riceville; and Trent Bullock, pastor, First Baptist Church, Halls.

Basham said he was concerned that the change in the makeup of the board would affect the faculty, students, and "mindset of the institution. ... We have made great strides in CP giving and I believe this is going to undermine that."

Basham also said Belmont's new covenant would "send a signal to our other institutions. What will they do?" he asked.

Bullock, a member of the Education Committee, said he could not support the motion. "We have sufficient and qualified members of TBC churches" who could serve as trustees, he said.

Joey Rosas, pastor, Crieviewood Baptist Church, Nashville, spoke in favor of the covenant. He noted Belmont began asking in the 1990s for non-Baptist board members. "A higher educational institution is not a church," he stated.

He observed the school already has non-Baptist administrators, faculty, and students, and accepts non-Baptist money. Belmont has a statement of faith which is evangelical.

Finally, because the school has said it would "maintain our Baptist identity, we ought to trust them until we have reason to say otherwise," said Rosas.

— See Board, page 7

## Crossover Clarksville anned

Winnie Davis Bushey  
Baptist and Reflector

ENTWOOD — Just the conclusion of the Tennessee Baptist Convention annual meeting last in Sevierville, Roger

announced that crossover Clarksville would

held to the annu-  
eting  
arks-

oss-  
es an  
w-  
gelis-  
ion event

prior to annual meetings of the  
ern Baptist Conven-

ssover has been  
led prior to TBC annual  
eigns previously, but it  
successful because it  
receive the support  
Baptist leaders agree.  
Crossover, page 16



FREEMAN

## Tennessee Baptists continue relief efforts on Gulf Coast

Lonnie Wilkey  
Baptist and Reflector

SLIDELL, La. — As Tennessee and Southern Baptist efforts following Hurri-

cane Katrina continue into the fourth week, it appears that feeding units are beginning to wind down everywhere, according to David Acres, Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief director.

Mud out and chain saw teams will be needed, however, for weeks and perhaps months ahead, he said.

The state feeding unit at Jefferson Baptist Church in Baton Rouge, has shut down, Acres said. He said it is possible the unit may be sent to New Orleans in the next week or so as more and more residents are allowed to return to the city.

The feeding units of Harde-  
man and Shiloh Baptist associa-

tions in Long Beach, Miss., have returned to Tennessee. Feeding units are still in operation in Knoxville and Franklin.

In total, Tennessee Baptist volunteers have prepared more than 198,140 meals in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee.

Acres said they have been overwhelmed by the amount of items sent in droves to Louisiana and Mississippi not only by Tennessee Baptists but

from Baptists and non-Baptists alike from all over the nation.

"We have enough bottled water to flood Mississippi," Acres joked.

He said the major need now is for cleaning supplies, especially Clorox or any other cleanser that will remove mildew. Baby items such as diapers, baby food, and formula also are being accepted. Acres stressed that clothes are no longer needed.

— See Tennessee, page 4



MULLINS of Sullivan Baptist Church, Kingsport, was one of Tennessee Baptists who provided chain saw services for homes in Slidell, La., and other areas in Mississippi and Louisiana. Photo by John McSwain, NAMB



MIKE BOYD, right, pastor of Wallace Memorial Baptist Church, Knoxville, assists Slidell resident Robert Frederic who stopped at a shelter at Grace Memorial Baptist Church in Slidell, La. — Photo by Lonnie Wilkey



SUE SUDDUTH of First Baptist Church, Millington, works on laundry in Long Beach, Miss. — Photo by Lonnie Wilkey



## about your newsjournal

Subscribe to the *Baptist and Reflector* for one year and receive 47 copies. Individual subscriptions, \$11; Church Leadership Plan, \$8.75 per subscription; other plans available

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Office — Baptist and Reflector,**  
5001 Maryland Way, Brent-  
wood, TN 37027

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

**Phone — (615) 371-2003**

**FAX — (615) 371-2080**

**Web Site — www.tnbaptist.org**

**Publisher — Tennessee Baptist  
Convention Executive Board**

**Convention Commu-  
nications Committee —**  
Mark Gregory, chairman; Mickey  
Basham, vice chairman; Marty  
Comer, Orvind Dangeau, Mary  
Beth Duke, Pat Hood, Jay  
McCluskey, Bob Osburn, Larry  
Parrott, Carlos Peterson, Bob  
Riley, Mildred Thompson, Den-  
nis Trull, Pat Whaley

**Postmaster —**  
Periodical postage paid at  
Brentwood and at additional  
mailing office. (USPS 041-  
780) POSTMASTER: Send  
address changes to *Baptist  
and Reflector*, P.O. Box 728,  
Brentwood, TN 37024.

**Frequency of issue —**  
Published weekly except for the  
weeks of Christmas, New  
Year's, Memorial Day, Fourth  
of July, and Labor Day.



Printed on  
recycled paper

## SBC relief efforts grow, change

Baptist Press

ALPHARETTA, Ga. — Thirty-six Southern Baptist state conventions have now been activated to provide disaster relief services in the Gulf Coast, preparing and serving hot meals, and providing hot showers, laundry units, and cleanup and recovery services.

Through Sept. 15, more than 5,000 Southern Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers have served 2.2 million meals to victims of the hurricane.

Meanwhile, the Southern Baptist Disaster Relief operation is in transition throughout the Gulf region, said Jim Burton, director of volunteer mobilization at the North American Mission Board.

"Most of the northern cities are completing their feeding operations. Some of the state mobile feeding units are being reassigned while others are being released to return home," Burton said. "We anticipate New Orleans opening up over the weekend, or certainly by early next week."

Burton said Southern Baptist Disaster Relief director Terry Henderson has surveyed the city to scout potential feeding sites.

"Cleanup and recovery operations continue to grow," Burton said. "With both chain saw crews and mud out crews, we anticipate a steady rise in activity that will probably remain steady throughout the fall."

Southern Baptist volunteers prepare most of the meals distributed by the American Red Cross as well as provide cleanup and recovery, communications, childcare, and other vital disaster services.

Southern Baptists are the third-largest disaster relief operation in the country — behind the Red Cross and the Salvation Army — with more than 30,000 trained volunteers on call for local, state, and national emergencies. □

## Disaster relief underscores need for CARE Act

Baptist Press

ALPHARETTA, Ga. — Offering charitable tax benefits encourages Americans to give, rewards their generosity, and assists organizations like the North American Mission Board on the front lines of disasters like Hurricane Katrina, NAMB President Robert E. "Bob" Record told a U.S. Senate subcommittee Sept. 13.

Testifying with other charitable organizations in favor of the Charity Aid, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act, Record told senators about the extraordinary efforts of thousands of Southern Baptist Dis-

aster Relief volunteers to help people in hurricane-ravaged regions of the United States.

"Last week, I saw firsthand stunning devastation in Covington, La. Many people who came to our feeding station there have lost literally everything — even hope," Record said.

"Since Katrina struck, our volunteers have cooked and served 2.2 million hot meals for hurricane victims. They are also providing hot showers, laundry units, cleanup and recovery services, and chain saw crews to clear away fallen trees."

The CARE Act provides incentives for charitable giving by preventing discrimination against faith-based charities providing social services.

The bill — sponsored by Sen. Rick Santorum (R-Pa.) and Sen. Joe Lieberman (D-Ct.) — increases charitable tax deductions for two-thirds of taxpayers who file the short form; encourages food donations by farmers, restaurants, and corporations; allows tax-free charitable contributions from IRA accounts; and expands the use of Individual Development Accounts among low-income working families to purchase a home, further their education, or start a business.

Other organizations testifying before the Senate Finance Committee Subcommittee on Social Security and Family Policy included The Salvation Army, the Brookings Institute, and the Brother's Brother Foundation.

The CARE Act has been endorsed by 1,600 charitable organizations throughout the United States. □

## Oklahoma editor takes post in La.

Baptist Press

ALEXANDRIA, La. — The board of trustees for the Louisiana Baptist Convention newspaper, the *Baptist Message*, adopted a unanimous proposal Aug. 30 from the editor search committee for a new editor and a requested plan to improve overall communications for Louisiana Baptists.

The *Baptist Message* trustees voted to approve a plan to improve communications that includes a recommendation to the Louisiana Baptist Convention, Nov. 14-15.

The plan involves dissolution of the *Baptist Message* Corporation and requests that governance of the state paper be absorbed into the executive board of the Louisiana Baptist Convention.

Under the plan the *Baptist Message* becomes part of the communications team of the state missions services staff in

Alexandria, La.

A two-thirds vote of the members of the corporation is needed for this resolution to pass. Members of the corporation are the church congregations of the Louisiana Baptist Convention and messengers from each congregation will have the opportunity to vote on the resolution in November at First Baptist Church, West Monroe, La.

Also in the meeting, *Baptist Message* trustees requested that David Hankins, executive director for the Louisiana Baptist Convention, recommend to the LBC executive board that John Yeats be elected as the new communications team director for the Louisiana Baptist Convention.

Yeats was the unanimous choice of the editor search committee. Yeats is currently the editor of Oklahoma's *Baptist Messenger* and the recording secretary for the Southern Baptist Convention.

Upon the approval by the messengers of the convention to dissolve the *Baptist Message* Corporation, Yeats also would become the new editor of the *Baptist Message* newspaper which would continue to be published as a part of his responsibilities as director of communications for the LBC executive board. □

## IMB focuses on West Africa, Elliff is new vp

Baptist Press

PENSACOLA, Fla. — Against the backdrop of relief efforts from Hurricane Katrina, trustees of the International Mission Board met Sept. 13-14 here to learn how missionaries seek to reach West Africa's unreached people groups, appoint 86 new missionaries, and ratify the selection of Tom Elliff as senior vice president for spiritual nurture and church relations.

The board of trustees assigned an additional \$5,886,222 for special needs overseas from Lottie Moon Christmas Offering receipts given above the \$128 million budgeted for 2005. Trustees allocated \$2,636,222 for additional missionary expense, \$2 million for work in 11 regions overseas, \$750,000 for training, and \$500,000 to fund work in West Africa.

Ken Whitten, pastor of Idlewild Baptist Church in Tampa and finance committee chairman, told trustees in the opening devotion that Hurricane Katrina "has been called our tsunami with devastation like we have never seen. But it's just another way of God communicating something to us. Do we handle it in faith or fear, in panic or peace?"

In his report, IMB President Jerry Rankin told trustees he traveled three weeks in West Africa during August and visited more than half the mission-

aries in the region. Rankin has had an increasing focus for West Africa as the perennially tops other regional missionary resignation rounds out the bottom missionary appointments.

The region contains 1,400 people groups in 25 countries. Almost 40 percent of people claim to be Christian but they are primarily living in a few major people groups. However, Baptist partners in the region represent a significant potential for engaging the formidable challenge is that 60 percent of the unreached people groups have a population of 15,000 or less.

The IMB West Africa region concentrates missionary people groups that strategists say are the most reaching others. Five missionary units assigned "engagement team" are using a strategy to reach the unengaged people with no expectation of immediate results. One of the keys to reaching Africa is mobilizing Baptist churches to bear the task.

A capacity crowd of 1,000 gathered at the sanctuary of Hillcrest Church in Pensacola to celebrate the appointment of 86 missionaries. Rankin told appointees they had a common theme: "A passion to respond to God's call to reach the world for Jesus Christ."

Rankin said when searching people see a passion — and the passion goes with it — in the missionaries, unbelievers reach out to the Jesus demonstrated in the lives.

In other action, unanimously ratified the selection of Tom Elliff, long-time pastor of First Southern Baptist Church in Del City, Okla., as senior vice president for spiritual nurture and church relations on Nov. 1.

Elliff, 61, served two terms as president of the International Mission Board in 1998.

The Elliffs were among the first missionaries to Zimbabwe in 1981, but their career was cut short by a severe accident resulting in severe injuries to the father.

In his new role, Elliff will teach and nurture families and encourage spiritual growth; theology and Baptist doctrine; and promote missions among Southern Baptist churches. □



# R chaplain grieves with hurricane victims in Mississippi

Donnie Davis Bushey  
Staff and Reflector

CLEVELAND — Phil Taylor will not forget the gentleman he met with the disaster relief chain saw crew of the Cleveland County Baptist Association, based in Cleveland. Taylor, director of missions of the association, was accompanying the crew to talk to hurricane victims and be of any help. Taylor is a chaplain for Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief.

As the Tennesseans removed parts of debris from the bedroom of the man's house in Long Beach, Miss., he talked to Taylor. He was 46 years old and disabled. His wife had died just two months ago.

Thankfully, his two teenage children had left prior to the storm to stay with relatives and his house could be repaired. At the man explained he had been depressed since the death of his wife. In fact, he hadn't paid his bills. His wife had always done that. Unfortunately, one of the bills he had to pay was for house insurance. Taylor tried to minister to him, emotionally. "I tried to minister and witness to him," said Taylor. "I'm praying for him," added Taylor.

**Woman**  
Taylor also grieved with a woman he met. She was in Mississippi Tuesday - Friday, Aug. 30 - Sept. 2.

The hurricane struck on Monday, Aug. 29.

A woman came rushing up to his car, "screaming for some help," Taylor described. He and Earl Farris, fellow disaster relief chaplain, had just arrived at the site of the Piggly Wiggly grocery store in Long Beach. This was to be the site for the Baptist feeding unit. She begged them to come and help her at her house.

Taylor said when he and Farris arrived, they realized the house was gone. They saw piles of debris. Because the woman was older, Taylor and Farris climbed on the rubble and looked for items the woman asked for. "We found a few things, sentimental things, for her," said Taylor.

Later, they learned the woman was the wife of a minister of the local Salvation Army and met him. He and Farris also visited with the couple the next day and tried to help them "bring some closure to their loss," said Taylor.

**Woman who collapsed**  
Taylor also told of a woman who came to the feeding unit which was then stationed near the former Piggly Wiggly. The store was severely damaged. The woman came for a meal from the disaster relief



EARL FARRIS, left, disaster relief chaplain and pastor, Georgetown Baptist Church, Georgetown, talks with a storm victim in Long Beach, Miss., who is a minister with The Salvation Army. The man's house was destroyed in the hurricane.

volunteers of Hardeman County Baptist Association, Bolivar, and Shiloh Baptist Association, Adamsville. She walked up to the disaster relief trailers and tents, but then collapsed.

When she was able to speak, she told Taylor and others "everything is gone." She and her husband had just lost a child through death and another child had moved away from home.

"That was a heartbreak," said Taylor.

**Helping others**  
Taylor, who also has served as a disaster relief chaplain in Florida following hurricanes, found many ways to help victims of Katrina, he said. He drove around the area which includes Gulfport and Pass Christian and visited with the

policemen. He said they would describe how exhausting their work was. Some were recovering bodies. They said they would get to the point they just "wanted to walk away."

Taylor spent time at a shelter for evacuees, "ministering and praying with people," he said.

He also mobilized a team of eight disaster relief workers from Bradley Association who brought a small forklift and tractor with them to Long Beach. They really helped the food service workers by moving boxes in the Piggly Wiggly, which served as a warehouse for food storage. The disaster relief volunteers were moving the boxes of food by hand.

**Generally**  
Because Taylor and Farris left so quickly after the hurricane struck, they "didn't know what we were getting into." Originally, they were on their way to the Super Dome in New Orleans, La. They were diverted to Long Beach by TBC Disaster Relief officials who were working with Southern Baptist Convention disaster relief leaders.

The destruction of the hurricane was "beyond comprehension," Taylor reported.

Viewing the food service volunteers work, especially setting up "blew me away," said Taylor. They worked so quickly and are "so committed, so passionate," about their ministry. He also was thrilled to see Baptists from many different churches "working in unity."

Serving in disaster relief is "just a matter of serving people. You have an opportunity to serve unconditionally, bringing little but hope," said Taylor. □

## Nashvillian teaches SS for 70 years, 'hobby' leads to career

Donnie Davis Bushey  
Staff and Reflector

NASHVILLE — A "hobby" of teaching Sunday School led to a career as a Baptist curriculum writer for a Nashville woman. Marietta Howington, 85, a curriculum writer, may hold the record for teaching Sunday School to children and remain in the job for over 70 years. She is still teaching fifth and sixth graders at Hickory Hollow Baptist Church, Antioch, where she has done for over 10

"I don't think there is ever a time I stop teaching," she said. "As a teacher you can learn more

and the children can learn more when you do activity teaching. It's all in the games and the music."

For several generations of Southern Baptist children from 1958 until 1998, this is the person who came up with the Sunday School games published by the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, (now LifeWay Christian Resources). She was also the person who indirectly kept generations in their pew seats by giving them challenging activities in booklets.

Howington used games to teach the Scriptures and fill-in-the-blank activities for the Church Training literature.

She devised numerous games including Double Jeopardy to teach the books of the Bible, musical chairs with Scripture verses, and tick tack toe with memory verses.

Howington began teaching Sunday School as a 14-year-old helper for a lady at Mt. Olivet Baptist Church in Hollis, N.C. When the lady left the church, Howington became the teacher for 18 children including preschoolers and juniors.

After college, she married Nolan Howington and studied at the Woman's Missionary Union Training School of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., while her husband attended seminary. Then Marietta taught women and children's Sunday School classes at each of her husband's churches as they had a family of three sons.

While the Howingtons were serving at First Baptist Church of Little Rock, Ark., in 1957, Ina Lambdin, a BSSB editor, came to see Marietta, because of her writings in the *Arkansas Baptist News*, the state Baptist paper. Ina Lambdin was also the wife of J.E. Lambdin, secretary for the BSSB Training Union Department.

Ina requested that Howington write children's materials for the BSSB. Howington declined because she had an infant son whom she could not

leave to attend the BSSB writer's conference in Nashville.

With Ina's insistence and the promise of a babysitter for her son for a week, Howington and baby traveled to Nashville in 1958. Soon Howington's BSSB writing career was launched.

The couple returned to Louisville from 1957-67 where Nolan served as a professor at Southern Seminary. When Nolan taught at the University of Edinburgh (Scotland) Divinity School, they attended Bristo Baptist Church in Edinburgh. Marietta started the church's first children's Sunday School class.

Howington's first book was published by the BSSB in 1965. *When We Worship* is a guide to children's worship. Numerous other children's Sunday School and Church Training books, curriculum books, and magazine articles followed. She wrote articles for *Special Education Today*, *Deacon*, *Discipleship Training*, *Living with Children*, and *Home Life*, magazines published by the BSSB.

The couple then moved to Nashville. Nolan was asked to serve on the Church Training team at the BSSB as the doctrinal reader where he worked from 1970 until his retirement in 1983.

While writing, Marietta taught children at the Oak Hill School, Nashville, from 1971-

1972 and the Tennessee School for the Blind, Nashville, 1974-1983, where she had every age group from grades 1-9.

In 1990 she co-authored *Teaching Exceptional Persons* and in 2001 *How to Have Happy and Healthy Children*.

Nolan and Marietta came to Hickory Hollow Baptist Church, Nashville, when teachers were needed for an older adult men's Sunday School class and a second children's class was to be started, according to pastor Ray Clubb.

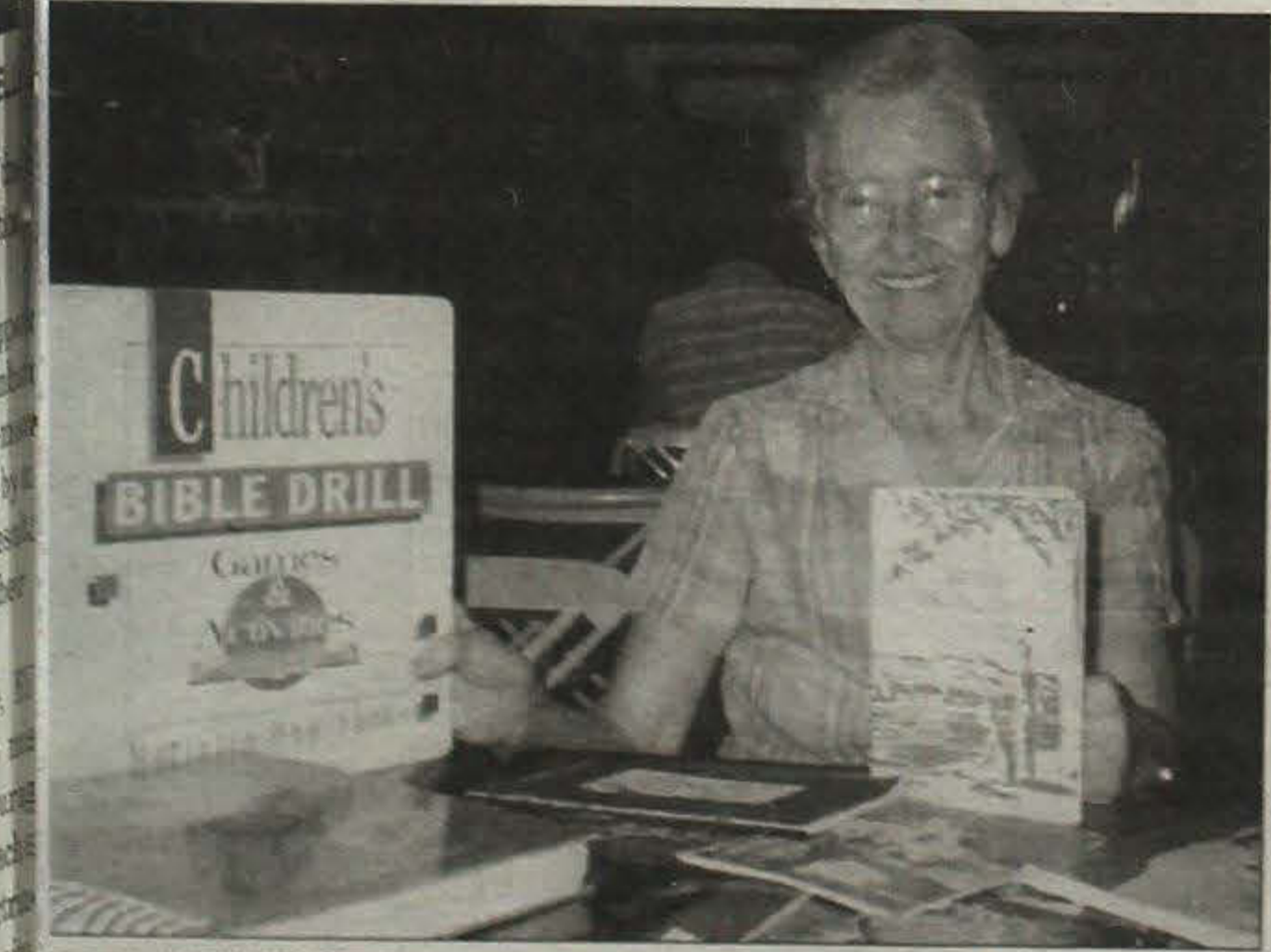
She teaches about 12 students each week.

"Marietta is the total package," said Clubb. "She runs a tight ship with the fifth and sixth grade class, and they learn a lot with her as their teacher. The kids love her."

He noted the older, advanced children in her class serve as co-teachers to help out the ones who are new. Howington also believes in outreach and ministry. She sends cards to everyone each week even if they were there.

"She has several international kids in her class who come from a nearby trailer park, and she keeps up with them," Clubb said.

Today Marietta delights in saying the books of the Bible in 52 seconds flat. For the students who can beat her time, she gives them Bibles. □



MARIETTA HOWINGTON of Nashville shows some of the children's curriculum she has written for LifeWay Christian Resources. She also has taught Sunday School to children for 70 years.



# Tennessee Baptists continue relief efforts on Gulf ...

— Continued from page 1

Acres also added that food and water also are not needed at the present time.

## Porch surveys area

James Porch, executive director of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, surveyed the devastation on Sept. 13 and visited with Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief workers in Slidell, La., and Long Beach, Miss.

"Last week, returning from the Louisiana and Mississippi Gulf Coast, and reflecting on scenes of property loss and personal misery, I repeatedly heard Jesus' question to His disciples, 'How many loaves do you have?'"

As he recalled the story from Matthew 15, Porch noted "a child offered his loaves and fishes to Jesus and He made a miracle of more than anyone present could have expected.

"As we continue to give, may we remember, as God's people, we give unto the Lord and we expect His miracle, whatever He choose to do with our loaves."



**JAMES PORCH**, right, executive director of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, talks with volunteer **Bill Stokely** of First Baptist Church, Concord, Knoxville. Stokely was serving on a feeding unit stationed at Grace Memorial Baptist Church in Slidell, La.

He acknowledged that Tennessee Baptists are giving "for those who have lost everything.

"But are they any different from any of us? At some point in living, each of us has known loss and Jesus found us.

"Through our loaves and fishes, He may work His miracle

of finding lost people. Tennessee Baptists, how many loaves do you have?" Porch asked.

## Volunteers share

Tom Leatherwood of Bellevue Baptist Church, Cordova, was on his first disaster relief trip. "God's Spirit moved me to participate and try to help," he said.

Leatherwood was one of many volunteers who braved tough conditions in Long Beach, Miss., where volunteers basically slept outdoors with little or no shelter over them. The heat also was very bad, Acres said.

Larry Chatman, pastor of Holts Corner Baptist Church, Chapel Hill, served as a chaplain in both Baton Rouge and Slidell. "The people are still in shock," he said. "Many have not located their loved ones," he noted.

Chatman said he heard "horror story after horror story" from survivors who witnessed the loss of a family member.

"Every other person I talked with either had lost someone or did not know where where they (family members) were," the pastor said.

Chatman described his work as a "band-aid ministry."

"I just listened and let everyone tell his or her story," Chatman said, adding that he also reminded everyone that "God still loves them."



**DAVID ACRES**, left, Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief, talks with **Chris Davis**, missions pastor at First Baptist Church, Hendersonville, TN. FBC set up its laundry trailer on site at Grace Memorial Baptist Church in Slidell, La. As of Sept. 13, team members washed in excess of 450 loads of clothes for disaster relief workers and local residents.

Bill Gandy, minister of pastoral care at First Baptist Church, Walter Hill, noted the "outpouring of love" has been tremendous as food and supplies have poured into the shelter at Grace Memorial.

Like Chatman, Gandy has heard his share of horror stories as well. He told of one woman who swam 48 hours to stay alive and had a miscarriage in the process.

"We are now seeing the victims of what people witnessed on television," Gandy observed.

Mark Loga, a resident of Slidell, attested to the ministry provided by Gandy and other chaplains on site.

He came to the shelter and did not know where his family was, and Gandy was able to minister to him and pray with him.

Loga has since found his family and is in the process of rebuilding his life. "I am happy now. I have my family. I have hope."

Gandy said stories like that are common. "It's amazing what God is doing."

Mike Boyd, pastor of Wallace Memorial Baptist Church, Knoxville, and past president of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, said he has seen a lot of devastation in the area.

"Everyone is still in shock.

All we are doing is hug people, loving them," he said.

He noted that Hurricane Katrina was no respecter of persons. "Here there are no Republicans or Democrats, no poor, no blacks or whites."

He noted he has loaded into cars such as a Mercedes well as those that could get into the parking lot.

"Everyone is on a learning field," he observed. Boyd praised the Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers. "Our folks are doing great. I have not had a bad attitude among them — and it has been stressed and acknowledged."

**Beyond comprehension** Acres, too, has heard horror stories but good things about Tennessee relief efforts.

He told of a Catholic who told him that he had "seen anybody from here." Tennessee Baptists have been down here and ministering to them.

Acres observed that who have watched accounts on TV cannot comprehend the destruction. People have come through it.

As to those who will not return, he said, "dictated."

"There is nothing to do," he said. □

## Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief participation report — as of Sept. 19

Locations and teams currently serving:

**First Baptist Church, Baton Rouge, La.** — State feeding unit; shower unit of First Baptist Church, Concord, Knoxville. Both are standing down and awaiting possible reassignment to New Orleans.

**First Baptist Church, Biloxi, Miss.** — recovery unit, New Duck River Baptist Association.

**First Baptist Church, Bogalusa, La.** — recovery units, Copper Basin Baptist Association, Nashville Baptist Association, Tusculum Hills Baptist Church, Nashville.

**Red Cross Shelter, Franklin, Tenn.** — feeding unit, Madison-Chester, Crockett Baptist Association; volunteers from ClearView Baptist Church, Franklin, and Two Rivers Baptist Church, Nashville.

**Woodlawn Park Baptist Church, Hammond, La.** — recovery units from First Baptist Church, Powell, Germantown Baptist Church, Germantown; Bellevue Baptist Church, Cordova; and First Baptist Church, Jackson.

**Harris County Educational Center, Houston, Texas** — state childcare unit closed last Friday.

**Knoxville, Tenn.** — Cumberland Gap Baptist Association feeding unit.

**Long Beach, Miss.** — feeding units from Hardeman and Shiloh Baptist associations returned home over the weekend; also recovery units and the shower trailer from Chilhowee Baptist Association have been relocated.

**Memphis, Tenn.** — all operations have closed.

**Grace Memorial Baptist Church, Slidell, La.** — Tennessee state shower unit; laundry unit, First Baptist Church, Hendersonville; Tennessee command unit; recovery unit from Morristown Baptist Church, Morristown.

**Grace Memorial Baptist Church, Gulfport, Miss.** — shower and recovery units, Chilhowee Baptist Association; recovery units from Bradley Baptist Association, Dyer Baptist Association, and First Baptist Church, Millington.

**Tylertown, Miss.** — all units sent home last Friday.

Please Note: This information was provided by Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief. It changes daily. For updated information, go to [www.tnbaptist.org](http://www.tnbaptist.org). □



**MOUNDS OF** trash and debris are common in front of residences all over Louisiana and following devastation left behind by Hurricane Katrina. — Photos by Lonnie Wilkey



# It's time to see how well you communicate?

From both  
sides of  
the pulpit



By Johnnie Godwin

There's a basic principle in communication: When you find yourself in a communication, quit digging. Recently, I was preaching and shocked myself with what I heard come out of my mouth. That experience caused me to check up on my communication and also consider how well we communicate from both sides of the pulpit.

## Too that on your heart!

It was underlining a truth I want the congregation to hear. But when "tattoo" came out of my mouth, it shocked me. I never uttered that partic-  
sentence before on either side of the pulpit. It just came earlier days, I might have written that on your heart in indelible ink." However, the currency of the times had slipped into my vocabulary, and I did what I meant in every-  
speech. So why was I shocked? It was no big deal.

Well, it wasn't a big deal. I added, "Not that I'm a tattoo." Then I realized a portion of the folks listening to me had tattoos. So I whispered: "Not that it's necessary bad to have a tattoo." I finally trailed off with, "Do you understand what I mean?"

And choice is really important for effective communication. Some of us preachers still use stained-glass language or words that hinder understanding. Billy said it simply: "I try to put the jam on the lowest shelf everyone can get it." Preachers need to choose words that are so effective they are misunderstood — without being too folksy, coarse, or. Laypersons can also profit by checking up on their own

vocabulary. One layman's eyes sparkled as he told me, "My dad was a tough man, but he was kind of 'chicken-hearted' too." That was more of an oxymoron to me than it was to the layman. I understood him to say his dad was tough but cowardly — until I listened more. He meant his dad was tough but "tenderhearted." It's good to listen charitably with hearts and spiritual ears, but good communication still works best with well-chosen words.

## Talking at cable speed to dialup listeners

A few Sundays ago, I was on the pew side of the pulpit in another church in another state. I listened to a well-prepared pastor bring an excellent message with just the right words. However, I estimated he was effectively communicating his message to only about 85 percent of the audience. Why? Well — to use computer language — the pastor had so much to say in a limited time that he was speaking at cable speed while most of us were listening at dialup speed.

More simply, no matter how fast a preacher speaks, he can't communicate any faster than his audience can receive and absorb what he's saying. As that pastor machine-gunned his message, I felt like I was looking into a mirror and seeing the image of my own preaching. I've been preaching for 53 years. My sermons always have more content than I have time to preach. So I talk fast — too fast. Then and there I made a new commitment to stay with my sermon's bulls-eye and pace my preaching to communicate effectively even with dialup listeners.

## Pacing, racing, and enunciating

Though the sound system and acoustics were good in the church I visited, hearing was sometimes difficult, even for me — and I have deer ears. The pastor was talking so fast that when he looked down to his notes or caught a breath, he tended to soften his speech and

drop words at the end of sentences. I do that too. So I rededicated to enunciate all the words in a sentence and keep good eye contact with everyone — but especially with the hearing-impaired who often use lip-reading along with other assisted-hearing devices. Of course, a lot of people aren't hard of hearing; they're just hard of listening or lack spiritual ears to hear.

This matter of pacing, racing, and enunciating applies to communication on both sides of the pulpit. I think particularly of the habit of many people who pray aloud in our churches. Often they begin well, continue well, but end up in a race to the finish line of "Amen." They pray so fast I can't hear the last part of their prayer and may not even hear the soft-spoken amen. I don't know why some folks feel the need to sprint at the end of their prayers and fall across the finish line.

God isn't going anywhere because He is everywhere. Though He knows the hearts of those praying aloud, it would be good for all of us to hear their whole prayer.

## "Ah-so" as a communication check

We have many Japanese friends. In one of our home-stays in Japan, I eavesdropped as our host carried on a conversation totally in Japanese. Though I understand very little Japanese, I kept hearing the man say, "Hai, hai; ah-so; hai; ah-so." The man's daughter was our interpreter and sat near me with her Japanese-English electronic translator. I knew that "hai" meant yes, and I thought I knew what "ah-so" meant; but I asked her its meaning. She said, "We don't say 'ah-so.'" Just then her father said into the phone, "Ah-so!" She smiled with a bit of chagrin and looked up the term electronically. In English, the definition read, "Term to facilitate and smooth communication." Ah, I just love ah-so!

Congregations show their pastors whether they're communicating with them by their

responses. The listeners may nod yes or no, say amen or yes, clap or laugh or cry. They may smile or frown. Or, they may sit in the pews as if they were in a religiously-induced coma.

I'm always grateful for every communication check from the congregation. That lets me know someone is listening to God's message that can make a difference in their lives. When communication indicators are absent, though, I try to revive the dead and rouse the comatose. Still, it's best when congregations spontaneously enter into God's message and — in one way or another — say, "Hai! hai! ah-so!" Sometimes I've even heard, "Double amen!" That's right; preach on!

## Communicating with the heart

So far, I've mostly talked about mechanics of communication. To paraphrase a thought, "If a person lacks communication knowledge, let him go to college. But if he lacks communication wisdom, let him go to God."

The preacher or layperson whose mechanics of communication are flawless still needs to learn an essential lesson: It is to speak the truth in love and from the heart. We all have mechanical communication failures or weaknesses and need to check up on ourselves and improve. However — regardless of mechanics — communication occurs most effectively and powerfully when we communicate from heart to heart and listen and respond with spiritual ears.

God can use the most unschooled or unskilled person to communicate effectively if the person loves the Lord and loves the sheep.

So let us love God first and most, and let us love one another. Let us speak the truth in love. Let us also consider whether it's time for us to do a communication check on both sides of the pulpit. Ciao! □ — Copyright 2005 by Johnnie C. Godwin, who welcomes your communication feedback via johnniegodwin@comcast.net.

## reflections



By Lonnie Wilkey, editor

## Hard to describe

Last week I traveled with James Porch, executive director of the Tennessee Baptist Convention and Mark LeMay, TBC facilities/support services manager to Slidell, La., and then over to Long Beach, Miss.

We were met by David Acres, state disaster relief director, who took us to various sites where we could meet volunteers. Dr. Porch was exploring additional ways Tennessee Baptists could minister to Hurricane Katrina victims while I was gathering information for a news story and photos and Mark shot video to be used later.

Photos and video are useful tools in communicating a message, but they do not adequately convey the extent of destruction we witnessed in the areas devastated by Hurricane Katrina.

In fact, all of the television coverage that has been provided does not adequately describe what has occurred. You have to actually be there.

Television or news stories can not adequately convey the sadness and sense of hopelessness felt by Katrina victims. As people came into various shelters manned by Tennessee Baptist and Southern Baptist disaster relief personnel it was evident many were still in shock over Katrina and this was two weeks later.

We traveled into one neighborhood and saw people making trip after trip into what used to be their homes, bringing out what used to be "treasures" but were now reduced to "junk," discarded in mounds of trash in front yards. You could read the sadness in their eyes.

But what struck me — what can't be conveyed by electronic mean — was the smell.

As wet carpets and clothes and other items began to dry out in temperatures near 100 degrees each day, the stench was overwhelming — a constant reminder of homes where everything had been destroyed.

It will take weeks and months for residents of these affected areas to begin anew.

Tennessee Baptists and others have been there from the beginning to remind them that God loves them. And we will continue to do so.

Disaster relief workers will be needed for months to help these people "mud out" their homes and continue to cut away limbs and branches from their homes and yards.

As the days go by, it will become easier to forget Katrina. But we can't forget the people she left behind. Volunteer. Continue to pray. Continue to give. Continue to care. □

# Take a mission trip and change your life

It's



By Linda Roebuck

Shortly after returning from a mission trip to Rio de Janeiro, I came back to South America, and I came to Ecuador with my youth group for International MissionFuge. After a long stay at Quito we bused six hours to the Andes to our camp. The trip was run by devoted missionaries Steve and Carol. After the three hours of travel, I could finally

look out and see the active, smoking molmoyo everyone was talking about. I chose to use the more familiar English term "volcano." I noticed later, oh, around the time my ears popped, that others had followed my lead and were using the American word as well.

My group traveled about 40 minutes higher into the hills each day, arriving at a small village daycare about lunchtime. As painting supplies were unloaded and prepared, in other words "work" was going on, I would pop into the little room where the toddlers were eating and try out my Spanish. Hospitable to a fault, literally, the Ecuadorian childcare workers would immediately dish me up a plate and insist I eat.

Day 1: Hogs' Hoof Soup. I was on Fear Factor: Ecuador, and fear was a factor for me. And yet, I took the bowl, and carefully avoiding the slimy, veiny hoof and flies thereupon, took me a big ol' spoonful. Hmm. Pretty good. Viewing the smiles on the faces of the ladies and the shock on the faces of my co-laborers, I felt sure this would make a good country song (sung to the tune of "Coal Miner's Daughter").

"You were born a farmer's hog in South Amer'ca."

"lived on a hillside in Ecuador"

"They was proud, you was a winner"

"Then they kilt ya' and made me some dinner"

"Now you're back left hoof is

slimin' up my soup bowl.

"Yeah! I'm proud to eat a hog from S... I guess that's enough."

Besides hanging with my soup posse and riding 4,672 Ecuadorianitos on my back all week, I became aware of a lady named Maria who lived about 30 yards from the school, was 100 years old and loved Coca-Cola. I went to see her, Cokes in hand, and we talked about 20 minutes on a bench looking over a stunning, mountainous view from 11,000 feet. The vastness of God's world and yet the sameness of His people was never more evident.

Take a mission trip and change your life. I double-hog dare you. □ — Roebuck is a member of Woodmont Baptist Church, Nashville.

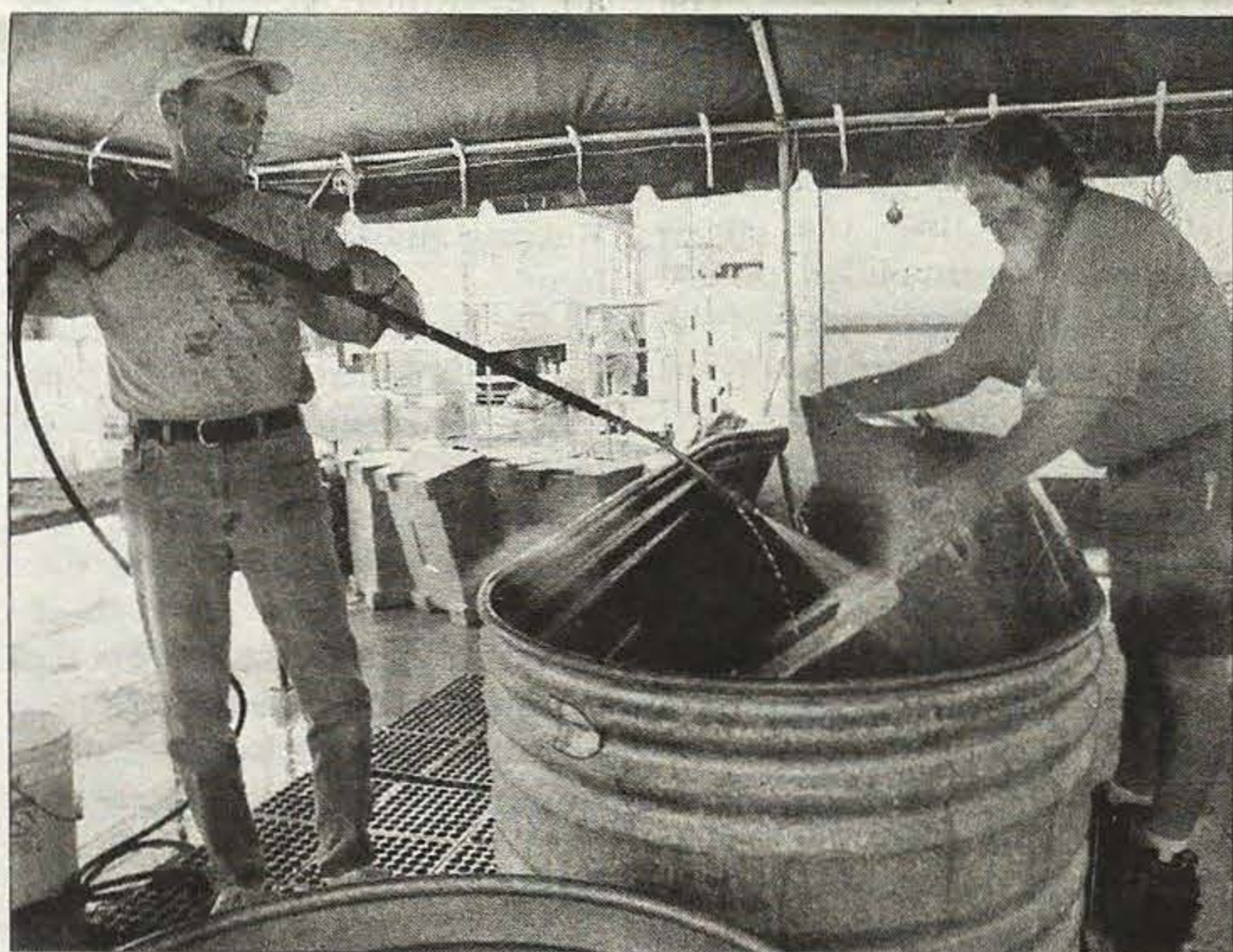




**JEFF FILLERS** of First Baptist Church, Baileyton, cleans out flood damage for a homeowner in Slidell, La. He was one of 5,000 disaster relief workers from Tennessee and other states responding to Hurricane Katrina. — Photo by John McSwain, NAMB



**LARRY CHATMAN**, pastor of Holts Corner Baptist Church, Chapel Hill, loads supplies for a resident of Slidell, La. Chatman served as a chaplain on site at Grace Memorial Baptist Church. — Photo by Lonnie Wilkey



**TENNESSEE BAPTIST** Disaster Relief volunteers Robert Pantea, left, of First Baptist Church, Crossville, and Wayne McCarty of Kingsport wash and sanitize food containers at the state feeding unit stationed at Jefferson Baptist Church, Baton Rouge. — Photo by Kathleen Murray, NAMB



**JACK WATSON**, West Lonsdale Baptist Church, Knoxville, stretches to stack boxes of food at a Tennessee Baptist feeding unit in Baton Rouge, La. — Photo by Kathleen Murray, NAMB

## Tennessee Baptists continue work in Mississippi, Louisiana



**GEORGE BRADLEY** of First Baptist Church, Greeneville, cleans out damage from a homeowner in Slidell, La., along with other Tennessee Disaster Relief volunteers. — Photo by John McSwain, NAMB



**SCENES OF** damaged cars such as this one in a Slidell, La., neighborhood were not uncommon as residents try to recover from the devastation left behind by Hurricane Katrina.



**JOE AND ALICIA CHERRY** of First Baptist Church, Concord, in Knoxville, deliver supplies at a makeshift warehouse at Grace Memorial Baptist Church, Slidell, La., where many Tennessee Baptists registered as state disaster relief volunteers. — Photo by Lonnie Wilkey



**ELEVEN VOLUNTEERS** from Tusculum Hills Baptist Church, Nashville, were dispatched to Louisiana, where they did chain saw work. The church also sent another team to Louisiana on September 15. The church has collected more than \$20,000 for Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief and also has a trailer load of supplies to the area as well. The church's disaster relief efforts are led by Bill Higley. The volunteers pictured, from left, front row, are Jeff Shaver, Dan Thompson, Ken Colebank, Mike Craig; back row, Matthew Clifton, Bo Irwin, Jerry Pack, Tim Newcomb, and Larry Cook. Not pictured is Albert Turbeville.



# Board rejects covenant with Belmont; approves ...

Continued from page 1

...the vote Lynn King, ... of the board and pas- ... of Belmont, to speak. ... observed that "today ... important day in the ... of Belmont University ... Tennessee Baptist Con- ...

...cited evidences of God "at ... Belmont. ... matter what you think of ... covenant proposal, you ... understand that God is at ... Belmont," Fisher told ... Executive Board.

... Belmont president ... ed, "It seems we've come ... int in this process where ... ferences can't be recon- ...

... said he hoped the board ... school could find "common ... " where people of other ... an denominations meet ... the foot of the cross."

... er said the second point ... non ground is TBC stu- ...

... believe that the best way ... ve a Baptist heritage at ... it is to have a super ... y of trustees from TBC ... s and to have a large ... of students from TBC- ... churches.

... at's why our new ... at commits that every ... that we receive after ... ber of this year will be ... ed in an endowed schol- ... fund for TBC kids and ... id would be jointly man- ... Belmont and the Educa- ... mittee of the TBC."

... is called for a secret bal- ...

... covenant was rejected by ... of 44-29 with 1 absten- ...

... sponse to the vote, Fish- ... in a statement released ... ptist and Reflector, "We ... ppointed with the out- ... the vote."

... er said he had "hoped ... compromises reached ... the Education Commis- ... s would satisfy those ... ere opposed to the ... t, but obviously they did ...



**ELECTED AS** officers of the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention were, from left, Mary Beth Duke, First Baptist Church, Smithville, recording secretary; Clay Austin, pastor, First Baptist Church, Blountville, president; and Jerry Massey, pastor, First Baptist Church, Paris, vice president.

"Moving forward, Belmont's board of trustees will evaluate the message they believe is embedded in the vote and decide if there is anything else we can do to try to maintain this relationship."

## Motion for dissolution process

After the covenant was rejected, a motion was presented by Laurann Whetham of Corryton Baptist Church, Corryton, representing several board members.

The motion presented a process for dissolution of the school/TBC relationship. The motion asked the Belmont board to respond by Oct. 1 to the rejection of the covenant.

The statement expressed gratitude for the 53-year relationship with Belmont and noted, "our deepest desire for our two organizations is that in years to come, the relationship between Belmont and the TBC be one of mutual respect, cordiality, and Christian brotherhood as we both continue to serve our Lord through service to mankind."

The statement also noted that if "Belmont leaderships' decision is to go forward with their proposed covenant, then a committee of Tennessee Baptist Convention leaders will be formed to meet with leadership from Belmont University to begin an amicable dissolution of our financial and organizational

aspects of the relationship."

The statement went on to add that if a joint statement of dissolution was agreed to before Oct. 28, then the Budget and Program Committee would meet before the November annual meeting to amend the proposed 2005-06 budget.

In response to the motion, Fisher said allowing "two weeks for my board to respond is an insult." He also said the motion was presumptuous and violated "basic fairness" and "basic openness."

Andre Dugger, pastor of Grace Baptist Church, Nashville, and one of the signers of the motion, said the idea behind the document was an attempt "to have brothers and sisters in Christ come together."

In response to Fisher's statement that their motion was presumptuous, Dugger referred to the May Executive Board meeting where Belmont's trustee chairman, Marty Dickens, said, "We are going to move forward with that document if you decide not to partner with us on it."

James Porch, TBC executive director, said the matter at hand deals with family. He asked the board to consider a way to "keep the communication open and hopefully, by God's grace, to fashion a continuing relationship."

Porch observed there are "a lot of personal agendas in the

room. By the grace of God, let's set them aside and work on family."

He appealed to the board to encourage Belmont to respond to the Executive Board concerning its future relationship with the convention.

Joey Rosas said he had no problem with formulating a fraternal relationship, but noted the motion for dissolution contains "presuppositions we don't morally have the right to make."

He called for the motion to be tabled until Belmont trustees responded or until the November Executive Board meeting "whichever comes first."

The motion to table passed by a slight margin.

## Procedures for motions concerning TBC entities

The board heard a report from a subcommittee on procedures for dealing with motions made at the TBC annual meeting concerning TBC entities, in particular education entities.

Paul Medley, chairman of the subcommittee and pastor, First Baptist Church, Dunlap, said the committee found the existing governing documents "do contain a specific prohibition against the convention delving into the internal governance of said institutions."

The documents and procedures of the TBC "are adequate for addressing the issue ... The Committee has further concluded that there is either a general lack of knowledge as to pertinent aspects of the applicable documents and/or ineffective compliance with proper procedure for dealing with the issue in question."

The committee recommended that the convention officers, other appropriate parties, and the messengers be informed and prepared in various ways.

Bill Seale, parliamentarian of the TBC annual meeting who is a member of First Baptist Church, Morristown, said he agreed with the report and that "our documents and Roberts Rules of Order allow active debate that is important to people."

He agreed that more education is needed, but added, "We'll

probably still have some vigorous debate."

## Budget

The board adopted a 2005-06 budget to be presented to the messengers of the TBC annual meeting. Elzie Danley, chairman of the Budget and Program Committee and pastor of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Jackson, said the new budget included a .25 percent increase to the SBC, increase for Church Annuity Plan through GuideStone Financial Resources of the SBC, increase for audit costs, and increase to support new organization of board staff. The budget increase is 3.2 percent over last year or \$1,153,580.

## Other actions

- The board also:
- Elected Clay Austin, pastor, First Baptist Church, Blountville, and second vice president of the convention, as president. Jerry Massey, pastor, First Baptist Church, Paris, was elected vice president. Mary Beth Duke, member of First Baptist Church, Smithville, was re-elected as secretary.

- Adopted a reorganization to its structure to compliment the new structure of the board staff and needed amendments on board governing documents.

- Heard a report from the Education Committee affirming the three colleges in response to a motion referred from the 2004 annual meeting.

- Adopted a resolution to honor Adrian Rogers, retired pastor, Bellevue Baptist Church, Cordova, at the annual meeting.

- Adopted changes to the Church Annuity Plan of GuideStone to update it and allow ministers more flexibility in receiving disability benefits.

- Approved a recommendation for the president of the board to appoint a committee to study a new name for "Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention." The name currently applies to the 99-member board and to the corporation which might be legally confusing.

- Heard a report on the property needs of the board in Brentwood. □



**NIZED FOR** years of service to the Tennessee Baptist Convention Executive Board staff were, Deborah Taylor, 10 years; Marcia Knox, 20 years; Ken Marler, 5 years; Linda Estey, 10 years; Burden, 10 years; Archer Thorpe, 15 years; and Tim Hill, 10 years. Not pictured is Garnette 20 years.



**BILL CHOATE**, TBC Collegiate Ministries Group leader, and three collegiate ministries directors were recognized for years of service to the TBC. From left are Choate, 20 years; Ken Trammel, Cumberland University, Lebanon, 20 years; Denise Roebuck, Cleveland State Community College, Cleveland, five years; and Eric Hogstrom, East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, 15 years.



## Deaths

◆ **Floyd Simmons**, pastor of Elliston Baptist Church in Memphis, for almost 60 years, died Sept. 8. His funeral was held at the church Sept. 12. Simmons started the private Christian school, Elliston Baptist Academy, Memphis, in 1971.

## Churches

◆ **Brunswick Baptist Church, Brunswick**, will hold revival Sunday - Wednesday, Oct. 9-12, with Pat Kough, a pastor from Ripley, as the speaker. For information, contact the church at (901) 388-3690.

◆ **New Harmony Baptist Church, Paris**, will hold its eighth annual Free Outdoor Extravaganza, Saturday, Oct. 1, at 4 p.m. with featured speaker Phil Robertson, who is known for his duck calls and testimony. For information, contact the church at (731) 593-5276.

◆ **First Baptist Church, Gleason**, will hold revival Sunday - Wednesday, Sept. 25-28, with Phil Glisson, evangelist of Memphis, as speaker.

◆ **First Baptist Church, Livingston**, will hold revival Sunday - Wednesday, Sept. 25-28, with David Leavell, pastor of Springfield Baptist Church, Springfield, as evangelist. Gilbert Aldridge, minister of music at First Church, will lead the music.

◆ **Russellville Baptist Church, Russellville**, held revival Sept. 11-14 with Morris Anderson, evangelist of Maryville, as speaker.

◆ **Zoe Baptist Church,**

**Memphis, and Hope Fellowship Baptist Church, Memphis**, met together Aug. 21 at Bent Tree Apartments where Hope Fellowship meets. The two black congregations considered multi-family housing ministry. Hope Fellowship is involved in the ministry. It is a mission congregation started by Faith Baptist Church, Bartlett, and is led by James Williams, pastor. Zoe is led by James Henderson. The congregations held a joint worship service led by the choir of Zoe Church and Henderson, who preached. Then they toured the work being conducted at the apartment complex.

## Leaders

◆ **Kely Hatley**, a native of Birmingham, Ala., has been called as minister of music of First Baptist Church, Knoxville, effective Oct. 23. A graduate of Samford University and its Beeson Divinity School in Birmingham, he holds both a bachelor and a master's degree in music. He comes to First Church from the First Baptist Church of Woodbridge, Va., and previously served churches in Alabama.

◆ First Baptist Church of Clarksville has called **Ron Moore** as minister of education effective Sept. 26. He previously served Belle Aire Baptist Church in Murfreesboro as a minister.

◆ First Baptist Church of Clifton recently called **Randall Runions** as pastor. He previously served the church as interim pastor.

◆ Grace Baptist Church, Collinwood, recently called **Lawrence Steiner** as pastor. He previously served the



**RODNEY SMITH**, left, and **Colby Ardis**, members of Central Baptist Church, Crossville, served 11 days returning Sept. 5 in Venezuela, working with two churches through International Commission. The commission works with the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention. They were part of a group of volunteers and missionaries working with 23 churches. Ardis worked with two missionaries in a group of about 35 members. He worked on helping the Christians make disciples who can make other disciples. In photo to right, Ardis says goodbye to new friends. As a result of the team's work, more than 5,000 people made professions of faith.

church as interim pastor.

◆ True Life Baptist Church, Atoka, has called **Jason Rodgers** as youth pastor.

## Statewide Events

◆ **A Moms of Missionaries Luncheon**, hosted by Helen Owens of First Baptist Church, Nashville; Ann Cretin of the People's Church, Franklin; and **Tennessee Woman's Missionary Union**, will be held Saturday, Oct. 22, at noon in Franklin. Mothers of current and former missionaries are invited. For information or to RSVP e-mail missionmoms@bellsouth.net, or call Owens at (615) 251-5769 or Cretin at (615) 277-8415.

◆ **Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief's Hurricane Katrina** response will benefit from the Music City Jam, a concert



to be held Wednesday, Sept. 28, at the Expo Center off Music Valley Drive, Nashville, at 6 p.m. Sponsors for the concert will be: Bill Heard Chevrolet of Nashville, Copley Instruments, Music City News, Inc., Music City Motorplex, Theatrical Lighting Systems, Tootsie's Records and



**ROSS TIPTON**, center, holds a plaque he received recently for serving as Sunday School director of Clark Street Baptist Church, Johnson City, for 40 years. The award was presented by **Mike Anglin**, right, pastor, and **Danny Hughes**, chairman of the church's board of deacons.

to be held Wednesday, Sept. 28, at the Expo Center off Music Valley Drive, Nashville, at 6 p.m. Sponsors for the concert will be: Bill Heard Chevrolet of Nashville, Copley Instruments, Music City News, Inc., Music City Motorplex, Theatrical Lighting Systems, Tootsie's Records and

WSM-AM Nashville. The owners of the Nashville will host the benefit concert at the Expo Center. Performers are Lila McCann, McDaniel, John Stone, Fritsch, and Daniel Leavell. Ben "Cooter" Jones and the Dukes of Hazzard series will arrive in Nashville. The event will also feature a New Memorabilia auction, possible by the Music City Motorplex. Steve Cline's SuperTalk 99.7 Nashville will be the host. A donation is required at the door for the auction.

◆ A benefit to raise money for Hurricane Katrina relief will be held Saturday, Sept. 24, at the Oldham Theater in Nashville at 2 p.m. Performers will include J.C. Outreach Puppet Theater and the **Donaldson Grove Church, Huntland**. For more information, call Sisk at (931) 636-4444, Jones at (931) 636-4444, or Linda Carroll at (931) 4606.

## Josephine Broaddus retires from teaching SS after 61 years

For Baptist and Reflector

NASHVILLE — Josephine Pyle Broaddus, or "Josie" as her friends call her, stepped down Aug. 28 from teaching Sunday School at First Baptist Church, Nashville, after 61 years. She has taught continuously except for a short break when she switched age groups.

In 1944 Broaddus came to Nashville to interview for a job at the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville (now LifeWay Christian Resources). She was hired and served in editorial positions, including as editor of the youth Sunday School materials. Broaddus retired in 1983 after working there for 39 years.

She began teaching youth in Sunday School, intermediates or ages 13-16. When she decided she was "too old to work with youth anymore," said Broaddus, she joined a women's class and eventually became the teacher.

In 1982 she married Bower Broaddus who moved from Oklahoma to Nashville



**FRANK LEWIS**, pastor, First Baptist Church, Nashville, prepares to give Josephine Broaddus a gift for teaching Sunday School at the church for 60 years.

so Josephine could continue her editing career at the BSSB.

"He was willing to give up his life there to come here and marry me," Josephine explained.

Bower is music director for the Good News Class of the church.

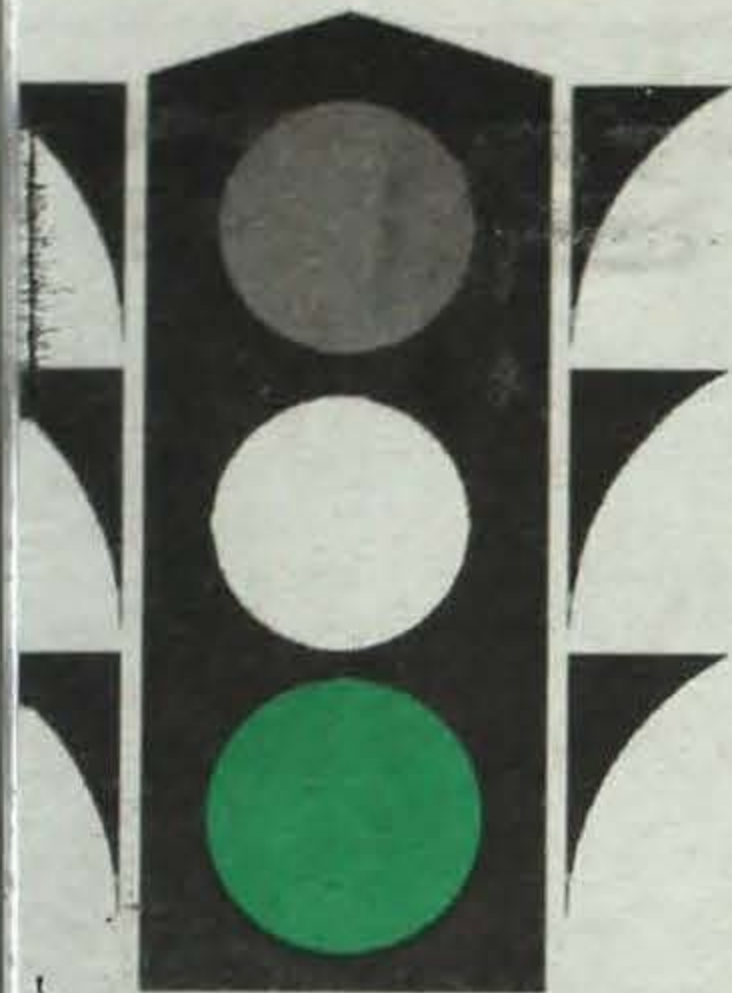
Of teaching youth, Broaddus said, "I taught some really frisky kids that were children of leaders of the church. Some of them you wondered how in the world they would turn out, but they turned out great."

Broaddus not only loves teaching Sunday School, she loves her church.

"I felt at home immediately when I visited. I came to Old First Baptist, which is what Dr. Powell always called it, and it was like walking into my home." Broaddus referred to W. F. Powell, pastor at that time.

"It was the custom for young board workers to visit around at Immanuel or Belmont Heights, but I couldn't do that. I knew where I belonged. I joined First Baptist and I've loved it ever since." □





# Green Light



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



## Single Adult Conference

West Tennessee - FBC Hendersonville October 14th - 15th  
 "Extreme Makeover - Singles Edition"  
 Worship: Kenn Kington Worship: Two Rivers Baptist Church Praise Team  
 Lodging - Holiday Inn Express, next door to the church  
 Registration Fee: \$10 per person.  
 REGISTER on the web site at [www.singleconference.com](http://www.singleconference.com) and mail check payable to Tennessee Baptist Convention, PO Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37024. Attention: Julie Heath  
 For more information, contact Max Holt, 931-648-8031 day, 931-358-2287 night, [smholt@charter.net](mailto:smholt@charter.net)

**October 20-21, 2005**  
 Baptist Center, Brentwood  
 Featuring Dr. Richard Ross

**November 18-19, 2005**  
 Holiday Inn, Johnson City  
 Featuring Dr. Allen Jackson

**FEATURED SPEAKERS:**  
 Brentwood: Dr. Richard Ross, Youth Ministry Professor  
 Spokesperson for *True Love Waits* and *Turning Your Hearts Toward Home*, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

Johnson City: Dr. Allen Jackson  
 Youth Ministry Professor  
 Director of Youth Ministry Institute  
 Director of Providence Learning Center  
 New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary

**COST/FEES:**  
 Early Registration: \$45 per person  
 (Before Oct. 1-Brentwood, Before Nov. 1-Johnson City)  
 Late Registration: \$50 per person  
 (After Oct. 1-Brentwood, After Nov. 1-Johnson City)  
 Spouse Registration: \$15 per person  
 Lodging costs are separate from the conference registration fee, and participants are responsible for making their own reservations. Visit [www.tnyouthministry.com](http://www.tnyouthministry.com) for a complete list of hotels, conference schedule, or for more information.

For more information, contact Bruce Edwards or Brenda Harris at 800.558.2090 or local 615.371.7906.

**YMU**  
 Youth Ministry University

For youth leaders: Over five hours of  
 live interaction, training, and  
 teaching by qualified youth  
 professors to help you take your  
 ministry to the next level.

## ► DON'T FORGET! ◀

September 30-October 1, Tri-State Camp-O-Ree, Camp Cordova, Memphis. For registration form and more information, visit [www.tristatecamporee.org](http://www.tristatecamporee.org).

October 14-15, Volunteer Missions "Leading for Impact" Team Leader Training, First Baptist Church Goodlettsville. This 10-hour training will provide plenty of how-to's, including how to recruit prayer supporters, research your project site overseas, build your team, finance your trip, train team members, secure travel and proper ID, and plan a daily schedule. Al Hodges, Director of Global Equipping, from the IMB and his team will be piloting this new material. The training will begin Friday at 6:00 CST and will conclude on Saturday at 4:00 CST. Cost for the training is \$20.00 per participant. Please register with Heather Wilson at [hwilson@tnbaptist.org](mailto:hwilson@tnbaptist.org) or 1.800.558.2090 ext 2061 by September 30, 2005.

JAM missions event for girls and boys in grades 1 through 6.  
 JAM = Journey into Adventures in Missions  
 October 8 (Middle Tennessee) First Baptist Church, Lebanon  
 October 15 (East Tennessee) Central Baptist Church-Bearden, Knoxville  
 October 22 (West Tennessee) Union University, Jackson  
 Check [www.tnwmu.org](http://www.tnwmu.org) for more information or contact Andrea Knight at [aknight@tnbaptist.org](mailto:aknight@tnbaptist.org) or 800.558.2090 ext. 7919.

**Minister of Music/Worship Leader Roundtables 2005: Tools of the Trade**  
 September 26-LOWER WEST, Ellendale Baptist Church, Bartlett  
 September 29-EAST, Wallace Memorial Baptist Church, Knoxville  
 Oct. 3-WEST, Woodland Baptist Church, Jackson  
 Oct. 6-UPPER EAST, First Baptist Church, Kingsport  
 Oct. 13-MIDDLE, Hermitage Hills Baptist Church, Nashville  
 Oct. 27-LOWER EAST, Brainerd Baptist Church, Chattanooga  
 Cost is \$10 payable at conference, or pre-register at [www.tnworshipandmusic.org](http://www.tnworshipandmusic.org).  
 For more information, contact Paul Clark or Charlotte Hanson at 800.558.2090 or e-mail [chanson@tnbaptist.org](mailto:chanson@tnbaptist.org).

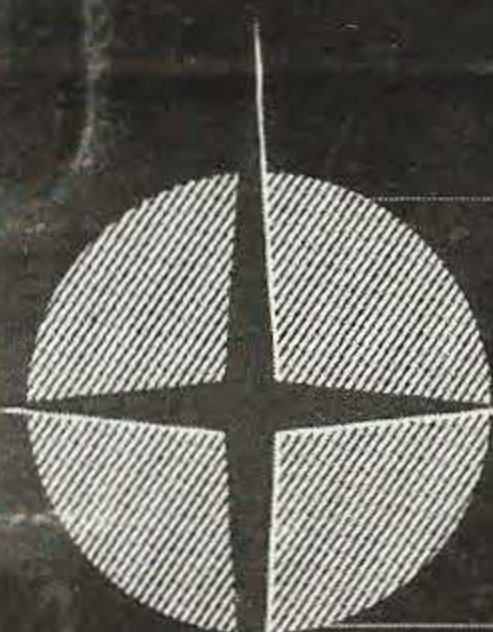
**2005 Fall Library Team Training**  
 September 24 ..... West Jackson Baptist Church  
 October 1 ..... First Baptist Donelson  
 October 15 ..... First Baptist Sevierville  
 For registration information and costs, visit [www.tnbaptist.org](http://www.tnbaptist.org) or call Julie Heath at 615.312.1993 or 800.558.2090.



# WATCHMEN ON THE WALL

*"I have made thee a watchman...  
Hear the word at my mouth and  
give them warning from me"*

— Ezekiel 3:17



TENNESSEE  
BAPTIST  
CONVENTION

PASTORS  
CONFERENCE

## TENNESSEE BAPTIST CONVENTION PASTOR'S CONFERENCE

Monday, November 14, 2005  
First Baptist Clarksville

"I have made thee a watchman...  
Hear the word at my mouth and give them warning from me." Ezekiel 3:17

### AFTERNOON CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

12:50	Pre-service Music.....	Chose
	Welcome.....	Bro. Glenn D
	Prayer/Host Church Pastor.....	Dr. Roger Fr
	Congregational Praise.....	Bro. Jason I
	Introduction of Speaker.....	Bro. Glenn D
	Special Music.....	Chose
1:25	Message.....	Dr. D. L. I
	Congregational Praise.....	Bro. Jason I
	Introduction of Speaker.....	Bro. Glenn D
	Special Music.....	Chose
2:15	Message.....	Bro. Steve H
2:45	Election of Officers	
	Offertory Prayer.....	Dr. Ronnie W
	Offering.....	Chose
	Introduction of Speaker.....	Bro. Glenn D
3:20	Message.....	Evangelist Jerry Cha
	Prayer.....	Bro. Jason G
4:00	Dismiss	

### EVENING CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

5:50	Pre-service Music.....	Hillcrest Baptist Church
	Welcome & Prayer.....	Bro. Glenn D
	Congregational Praise.....	Bro. Jason I
	Introduction of Speaker.....	Bro. Glenn D
	Special Music.....	Chose
6:20	Message.....	Dr. Steve C
	Congregational Praise.....	Bro. Jason I
	Special Music.....	Hillcrest Baptist Church C
	Offertory Prayer.....	Bro. Ken
	Offering.....	Hillcrest Baptist Church C
	Special Music.....	Choser
7:25	Message.....	Dr. Bob Pi
	Special Music.....	Hillcrest Baptist Church C
	Special Music.....	Choser
8:10	Message.....	Evangelist J
	Time of Prayer and Surrender	
	Introduction of Officers	
9:00	Closing Prayer.....	Dr. Bill Nor

For more information, contact Glenn Denton at 615.444.5923.

*Sing!* AND BE NOT SILENT

*"...that my heart may sing to you and not be silent.  
O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever."  
Ps 30:12 NIV*

The new "Sing and Be Not Silent" CD featuring the Tennessee Ladies Chorus  
and the Tennessee Mens Chorale is now available.

Price is \$15.00 (includes shipping and handling). Order online at:

[www.tnworshipandmusic.org](http://www.tnworshipandmusic.org) or

e-mail [chanson@tnbaptist.org](mailto:chanson@tnbaptist.org). For e-mail subject title, please type "CD order".

Tennessee Baptists

**Boldly  
Going**

Matthew 28:19-20

November 15-16

Tennessee Baptist Convention Annual Meet

"Tennessee Baptists Boldly Going"

First Baptist Church, Clarksville

For more information, contact Linda Estey  
at 800.558.2090, ext. 2088.



## Missions Extravaganza

Missions Extravaganza will be anything but ordinary this year. 2005 is the 25th anniversary of Tennessee Baptist partnership missions and will be celebrated November 15. First Baptist Church, Clarksville is hosting Great Commission Weekend featuring 30 missionaries November 13. Since Missions Extravaganza is sandwiched in between those two big events, the outcome is more missionaries and displays than ever before. You are cordially invited to bring your missions organizations and your whole family to meet the missionaries Monday, November 14. Representatives from 11 Tennessee Baptist partnerships will be present with displays as well as 9 other missionaries. The three-day schedule includes:

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13**

**Great Commission Sunday, FBC Clarksville**

10:00 am - 5:00 pm Missions Fair

7:30 pm Evangelism Rally

For more information, contact Bill Graham, FBC Clarksville at 931.645.2431

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14**

**Missions Extravaganza**

7:30 pm Missions Fair

For more information, contact Vickie Anderson, TN WMU at 800.558.2090, ext. 7918.

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15**

**Tennessee Baptist Convention 25th Anniversary of Partnership Missions**

Partnership missions displays remain through Tuesday and Wednesday

10:00 pm Convention Celebration

For more information, contact Kim Margrave, TBC Partnership Missions at 800.558.2090, ext. 2021.



## 2005 Fall Getaway

Preschool & Children's Ministry  
Volunteer & Professional Directors/Ministers

**NOVEMBER 9-12, 2005**

**SIDNEY JAMES MOUNTAIN LODGE, GATLINBURG, TN**

Two tracks available: Volunteer Preschool/Children's Directors  
and Professional Preschool/Children's Ministers.

Cost: Volunteer Track- \$45.00 (Early Bird- \$35.00 if postmarked by Oct. 5)

Professional Track- \$60.00 (Early Bird- \$50.00 if postmarked by Oct. 5)

No refunds after October 25

### Lodging:

A limited number of rooms have been blocked at the Sidney James Mountain Lodge until October 9th. Use the Group Name, TBC Fall Getaway, when making reservations in order to receive the special rate of \$60 for Wednesday / Thursday nights and \$70 for Friday night. Call 800-876-6888 for reservations.

For more information or to download a registration form, visit [www.tnbaptist.org](http://www.tnbaptist.org) or contact Vicki Hulsey or Barbara Owens at 800.558.2090, ext. 7905.

## Ministers Wives Luncheon

Theme: *Tie a Knot and Hang On*

November 15, 2005



Cost: Early reservation, \$12.50  
after November 1, \$15.00

Special guest: Ann Downing

Ann Downing has sung gospel music for five decades, formerly with The Downings and now solo. She has been featured several times on the Gaither video series and was inducted into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame in 1998. Ann is a featured speaker at many women's conferences and hosts her own annual Middle Tennessee Women's Retreat in Nashville in April.

You can register online at [www.tnbaptist.org](http://www.tnbaptist.org) - Church Administration - Ministers Wives Fellowship. Or mail name, church, address, phone, email to: Lana Rose, PO Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37024. Make check payable to Tennessee Baptist Convention. Reservation will not be confirmed until money is received.

Also, Tennessee Baptist Ministers Wives Fellowship is offering a hospitality booth in the Exhibit Area of the Tennessee Baptist Convention's annual meeting. The Exhibit Area is in operation November 14-16. Ministers wives are encouraged to stop by for conversation and to network with other ministers wives. They will receive a free gift from the organization while there.

Madison St.  
United Methodist Church  
319 Madison St.  
Clarksville, TN



**Tennessee**  
LADIES CHORUS

The Tennessee Ladies Chorus is a performing choir of the Tennessee Baptist Church Music Conference



**Tennessee**  
MENS CHORALE

The Tennessee Mens Chorus is a performing choir of the Tennessee Baptist Church Music Conference

**TENNESSEE MENS CHORALE CONCERT**  
On Sunday, November 13, the Tennessee Mens Chorus will be in concert at First Baptist Church, Joelton. Concert is free and begins at 7:00 pm.

**Don't miss the TLC and TMC at the Convention at First Baptist Church Clarksville.**

Tuesday morning, November 15 the Tennessee Ladies Chorus will sing at 8:15 am. At 8:45 am the Tennessee Mens Chorus and the Ladies Chorus will lead the Convention in opening worship. At 2:00 pm Tuesday afternoon the Tennessee Mens Chorus will be singing.

## Tennessee Baptist Convention 2005 Call to Prayer

**Monday, November 14**  
**10:00am to 12:00pm**  
**Chapel #2**

For more information about the  
Call to Prayer, please contact  
Don Pierson at 800.558.2090 ext. 7909.





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

September 23	Cleveland	Bradley Central High School
September 24	Cleveland	Lee University Conn Center
October 1-2	Union City	Obion Co. Fairgrounds
October 2-5	Hendersonville	Long Hollow Baptist Church
October 9-10	Harriman	South Harriman Baptist Church
November 13	Clarksville	Hilldale Baptist Church

For more information, contact Rachel Watson at 800.558.2090, ext. 7933 or [rwatson@tnbaptist.org](mailto:rwatson@tnbaptist.org).

## 2005 CHAPLAINS RETREAT

*Managing God's Monetary Blessings*  
October 6-7, 2005  
Carson Springs Conference Center

### Thursday, October 6, 2005

1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Welcome/Introductions
1:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.	Worship (Singing/Devotional) - Charles Covington
1:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.	Session I
	Preparing: So I've Got Money, Big Deal? - Irby Stanley
2:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Break
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Session II
	Planning: Where Does It All Go? - Irby Stanley
4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.	Free Time
5:30 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.	Dinner
6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Focus Groups
	1. Women Mentoring Women 101 - Jill Stanley
	2. Chaplains (Healthcare/Military/Corrections/etc.)
8:00 p.m.	Worship (Snacks available)-general singing, attendance

### Friday, October 7, 2005

7:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.	Breakfast
8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Worship (Singing/Devotional) - Charles Covington
8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	Session III
	Purposes: United We Stand! - The Stanley's
9:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Break
9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	NAMB Report - Pete Sharber
10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	Business Meeting
10:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.	Ministry Celebration
11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.	Worship - Bey Smothers
12:15 p.m.	Lunch and Adjourn
1:00 - 2:00 p.m.	Optional Session - "Women Mentoring Women 102" - Jill Stanley

Eight (8) training hours will be given to those who attend all four sessions.

Certificates will not be given to those who leave early or come late.

For more information, contact Beverly Smothers at 615.371.2044 or e-mail [bsmothers@tnbaptist.org](mailto:bsmothers@tnbaptist.org).

## COMING UP:

Mark your calendars for 2006 Tennessee Baptist Camp

### JOURNEY CAMPS

For boys and girls 1st-6th grades:

March 17-18 Linden Valley Baptist Conference Center, in conjunction with Bible Fun Field day

For boys and girls 3rd-6th grades:

June 26-30 Linden Valley Baptist Conference Center

July 3-7 Carson Springs Baptist Conference Center

### IMPACT CAMPS

For students 6th-12th grades:

July 10-14, 2006

Linden Valley Baptist Conference Center

July 24-28, 2006

Carson Springs Baptist Conference Center

For more info, visit [www.tnbaptistcamps.org](http://www.tnbaptistcamps.org).

Tennessee Baptist Camp



# IC's Mike Overcash serves as liaison with Salvation Army

by Mike Knox  
and Reflector

NTWOOD — Mike Overcash, a middle Tennessee disaster training coordinator and free, served as the North American Mission Board's liaison for 14 days during the Hurricane Katrina response at the Salvation Army Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi (ALM) Headquarters in Jacksonville.

at the ALM headquarters, Overcash helped the Salvation Army use the Southern Baptist Convention's Disaster Relief resources.

As part of the NAMB ICS, Overcash handled requests from the Salvation Army for feeding teams, which were assigned by NAMB to help.

"I am helping the Salvation Army understand the capabilities of the SBC teams," Overcash said. "The Salvation Army has their own Incident Command (IC) team, and I was able to facilitate communications between the Salvation Army and NAMB."

"In addition, I am assessing equipment needs, making suggestions, and helping resource persons both with the Salvation

Army and NAMB."

Overcash was asked to serve at the Salvation Army by Terry Henderson, NAMB Disaster Relief director. Through this arrangement, NAMB also receives information from Overcash about operations within the Salvation Army.

"This position helps everybody work better together," added Overcash. "The Salvation Army liaison position is a normal position within the ICS team."

While serving at the Salvation Army Division Headquarters, Overcash has been involved

in all aspects of the Baptist teams who served in Mississippi and Louisiana.

The Louisiana and Mississippi offices of emergency management are working with the Salvation Army to provide security for the feeding units and the food trucks. "One of the main concerns has been to provide adequate security for the SBC feeding units," Overcash noted.

"I am glad to be a part of this Salvation Army operation and helping people move SBC units and prepare food," Overcash added. "There is more than one way to help with the Hurricane

Katrina response. However, I would much rather be on a Tennessee State Disaster Relief unit.

"But as part of the Salvation Army IC supervision, I am working with around 10-20 people in their Disaster Relief Operation Center. I see this response as a long-term recovery effort expected to last for months."

Overcash believes that the relationship that was established with the NAMB agreement between the Salvation Army and SBC Disaster Relief is enhanced because of the faith-based principals of both organizations. □

## 57-year-old minister prepares for 300-mile bike ride to increase missions awareness

For Baptist and Reflector

WHITE HOUSE — Men like to attempt hard to do or unthinkable things, acknowledges Glenn Dyer, associate pastor of First Baptist Church here.

"They like adventures. I am no different than most men, especially when it comes to stretching myself and trying to accomplish something on the edge of dangerous," the minister said.

Dyer will soon undertake such a venture, embarking on a 300-mile bike ride, almost all uphill.

Dyer admitted that this seemed like an impossible task just three months ago.

"I am 57 years old and dealing with the problems that an

aging body presents," Dyer said, noting that three years ago he discovered he had heart disease. He also now has diabetes and neuropathy in his feet and legs due to an accident while climbing a rock face in his younger years.

"I have found myself wanting to return to the more active life that I enjoyed in my youth and my doctor challenged me to begin getting into better physical shape," Dyer recalled. His doctor suggested he consider biking.

"As soon as I could afford a bike I began riding four-five days a week," Dyer said. "After several months riding alone, I began to ride with friends who saw the positive results I was having."

Dyer and his three friends are now preparing a biking adventure to the Blue Ridge Mountains.

"Putting this trip together has been fun and also spiritually moving," Dyer noted.

In addition to his desire that the exercise would improve his health condition, Dyer said he has had an overwhelming desire to draw attention to the spiritual and economical needs in Lynch, Ky., where the church is involved in a three-year partnership with Meridzo Ministries. Volunteer missionary Lonnie

Riley leads an effort to help the poor and illiterate people in that part of Appalachia, Dyer explained.

A family from FBC (Terry, Angie, Niki, and Nissa Burkeen) are moving to Lynch next year where they will serve as faith missionaries, trusting the Lord to provide their financial support as they supervise and coordinate work projects such as house repairs, starting small businesses, and training people in job skills.

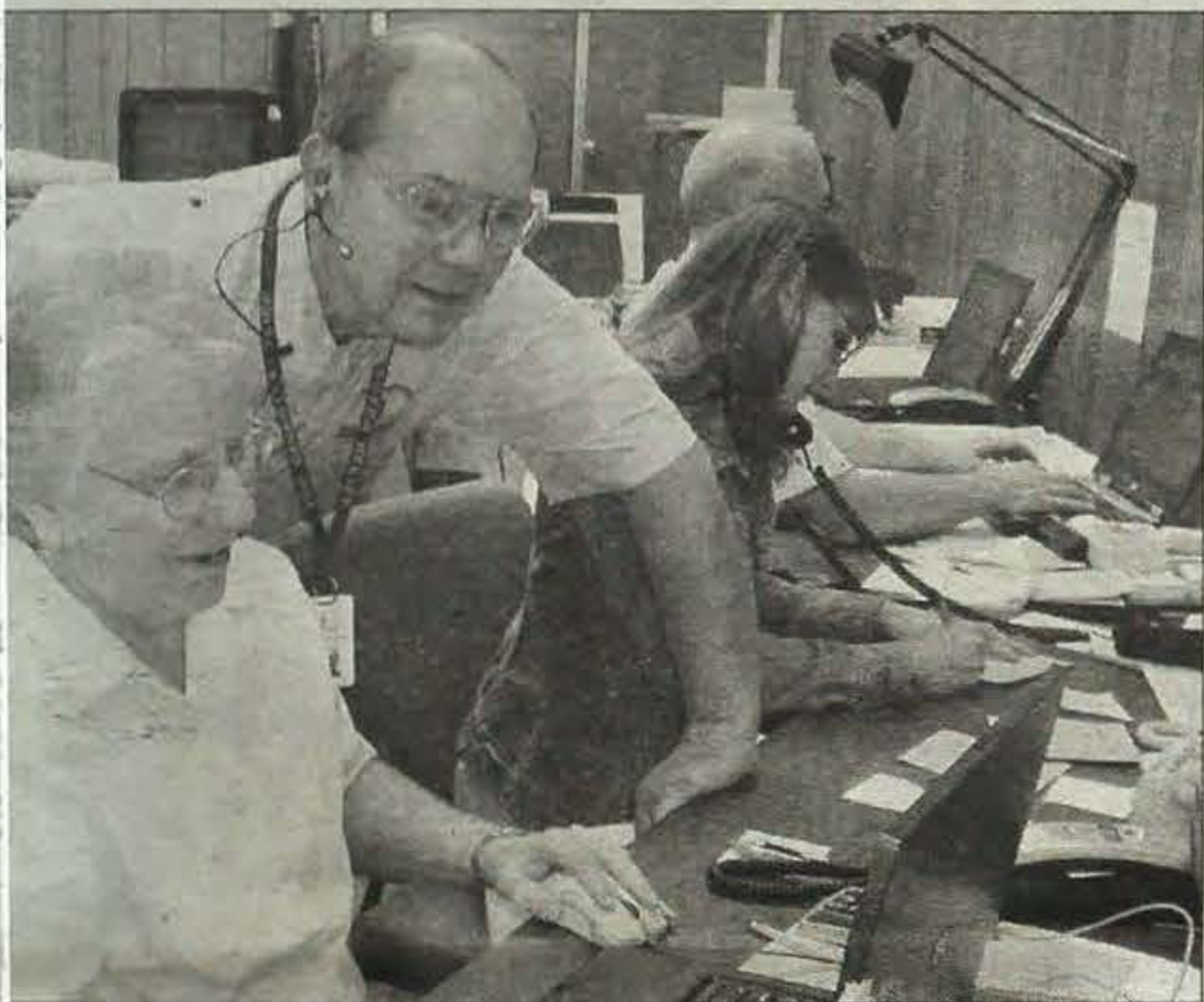
"Our bike ride is to help promote the awareness of the needs of the people in this region as well as to help gain support for the Burkeen family," Dyer said.

"As we travel along, we hope to have the opportunity to pray with people. We will be wearing bright yellow shirts with this message on the back: NEED PRAYER? PULL OVER!"

He added that the team also will be sharing their story with all those they come in contact with.

The team departs on Saturday, Oct. 1, at 9 a.m. For more information about the effort, or to support the mission cause, go to [www.whfbc.org](http://www.whfbc.org).

"If you see us on the road, Honk, or better still, pull over," Dyer invited. "We would love to pray with you." □



VERCASH offers to help Salvation Army Major Patsy Hamrick with the computer. Overcash served as the North American Mission Board's liaison with the Salvation Army.

UNION UNIVERSITY BRINGS A GREAT STATESMAN TO JACKSON

## Our 9th Annual Scholarship Banquet

featuring  
**Robert Dole**

Tuesday, September 27, 2005 6:45 p.m.  
Carl Perkins Civic Center

Hear from a respected legislator, honored veteran and motivating speaker as Mr. Dole offers insight from leadership that shaped a past generation and influences the next.

### Lead Sponsors:

BancorpSouth  
Carl and Alice Kirkland  
Porter Cable/Delta &  
Illinois Air Power Company  
Schilling Enterprises, Inc.  
White Investments LLC  
L. White, President and CEO

### Premier Sponsors:

Benny and Norma Fesmire  
FirstBank  
Lloyd Hansen  
Jack and Zan Holmes  
The Jackson Sun  
Northwestern Mutual Financial  
Network / Rod and Amy Parker  
Jack and Faye Porter  
Mike and Trish Weeks  
West Tennessee Healthcare, Inc.  
An anonymous donor

Reserve your place, including table sponsorships and balcony seating, call Union's Office of University Relations at 731.661.5050.



GLENN DYER, second from right, will be joined on his biking adventure by, from left, Darrell Diseker, Jason Goodman, and Terry Burkeen.



# Annual Black Church Leadership Conference draws 170

For Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — The 2005 Black Church Leadership Conference of the Tennessee Baptist Convention was a tremendous success, reported Willie McLaurin of the TBC staff.

This year's conference held at the Baptist Center here recently brought 170 participants from three different states: Tennessee, Mississippi, and Kentucky.

The excitement and energy of the meeting were unsurpassed, McLaurin said. Over 16 different breakout sessions were offered. The conference offered training curriculums in Pastor Health, Church Health, and Financial Health.

Kevin Smith of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., delivered the opening message challenging conferees with essential principles on "How to Grow the Church." Smith said that the church must stand upon the truth, practice personal holiness, be unified as a body, and then the Great Commission can be carried out.

Throughout the day several breakout sessions were convened.

The conference dinner banquet featured music by Youth Disciples of Christ, which is the youth choir of Faith United Baptist Church, Chattanooga, where Larry Jones is the pastor. This was the first year that a youth choir has ever led the special music for the conference, noted McLaurin.



MC LAURIN

Roger Freeman, president of the Tennessee Baptist Convention and pastor of First Baptist Church, Clarksville, was the guest speaker for the evening. Freeman preached from the thought, "The Man God Uses." Freeman reminded participants that they are to be vitally connected to the Lamb, victorious or controlled by the Lamb, and visibly communicating about the Lamb.

On Saturday morning James Porch, executive director-treasurer of the TBC, gave a devotion. Porch challenged the participants to "Be Alone with God." He highlighted two points: 1) Go where there is no trail and leave the path; 2) Inside your struggle is the best chance of being alone with God.

The "Respect Your Health" Campaign of the Tennessee Department of Health provided a booth. Moe Walker from the hit television series, "The Biggest Loser," challenged participants to embrace a healthy lifestyle as he signed autographs.

Andrea Wills, deputy commissioner for the Tennessee Department of Health, brought greetings and shared the testimony of her own life. Over 50 participants volunteered to begin a healthy life initiative.

Planning is underway for the 2006 Black Church Leadership Conference. The tentative dates are June 22-24. Early registration is now available for black church leadership at [www.tbcbblack-church.org](http://www.tbcbblack-church.org).

The Office of Black Church Leadership Development of the TBC provides the conference. The office is a link to



KEVIN SMITH of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., spoke at the conference.

ministry and church health resources specific to the African American community, explained McLaurin. The office strives to minister to African Americans in fulfilling the Great Commission of Jesus Christ.

The office of Black Church Leadership Development also exists to encourage and assist all churches and associations of churches, said McLaurin.

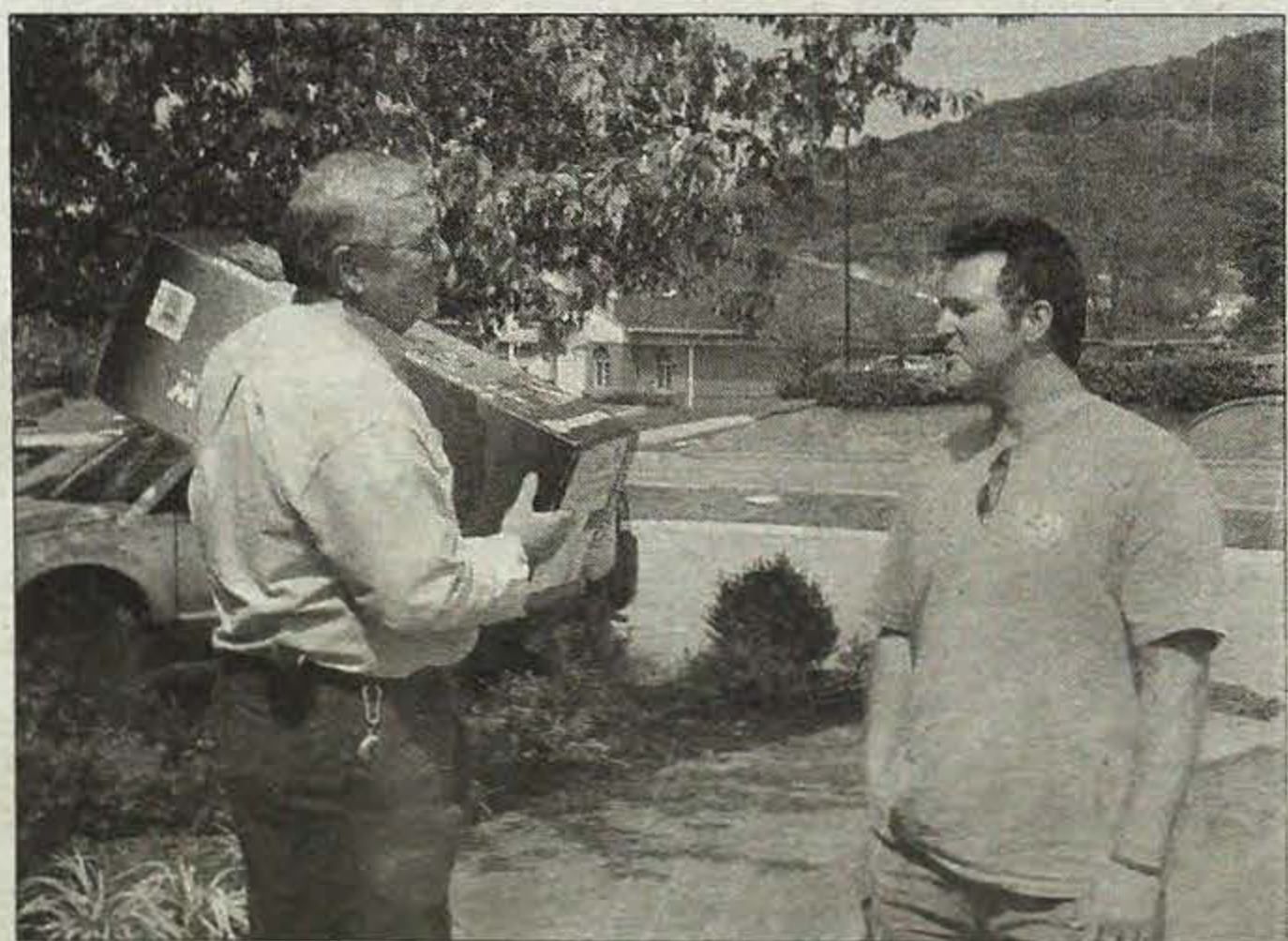
For more information on the 2006 conference and on his ministry, contact Willie McLaurin at [wmclaurin@tnbaptist.org](mailto:wmclaurin@tnbaptist.org), 1-800-558-2090 ext. 2011, or (615) 371-2011, or Marjorie Wadley of the TBC staff at 1-800-558-2090 ext. 2040 or (615) 371-2040. □



CONFERENCE participants hear Jerry Essary of the TBC evangelism staff in a small group meeting of the leadership conference which drew people from three states.



PARTICIPANTS attend one of the main sessions of the 2005 Black Church Leadership Conference which was held recently at the Baptist Center in Brentwood. It drew about 170 people.



## Accepting gift of chain saw

Tim Bearden, left, of the Tennessee Baptist Convention staff, accepts a chain saw and related items from Bruce Thomas, a pilot of Mt. Juliet. Thomas heard about TBC disaster relief efforts on radio and from a pastor of a Baptist church he sought out. TBC disaster relief workers include chain saw operators. Bearden is former TBC disaster relief director. He now works at Linden Valley Baptist Conference Center, Linden.

## Women of the Word 2005 Non-Denominational Conference

September 30 & October 1

First Baptist Church

Cookeville, TN

—Special Guests:

JENNY LYNNE CARTER

JIM ROBINSON

EVA SELF

AUNT MATTIE GOOCH

Breakout Sessions offered Saturday

Pre-Register through September 26

\$40.00 includes Lunch

After September 26

Fee is \$40.00 - No lunch

Registration fee is non-refundable

...If anyone is thirsty,  
he should come to Me  
and drink! John 7:37

Brochures available at church office: 18 S. Walnut Avenue Cookeville, Tennessee 38501

(931)526-7108

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



# Disaster relief volunteers provide meals for Red Cross shelter

Lawson  
and Reflector

FRANKLIN — Tennessee Disaster Relief volunteers are serving meals Sept. 14 to 125 evacuees of Hurricane Katrina staying in a Red Cross shelter here.

The launch of this shelter at an vacant factory, a smaller one that had operated for 10 years.

ClearView Baptist Church was closed. At the new ClearView Baptist Church, the Williamson County chapter offered a wide range of services in addition to food and meals. Help also was available in finding employment, setting medical needs, obtaining goods from a community and locating more permanent housing in the area.

Set-up feeding unit and volunteers from the Madison-Crockett Baptist Association worked with others from area churches. Bob Williams, facilities manager at ClearView Baptist Church, Chattanooga, directed the first four days of operation.

Who earlier had spent time with the Tennessee Baptist Convention feeding unit in Baton Rouge, said the operation posed an challenge in that volunteers accustomed to working from a feeding unit primarily out of a tent in the shelter. A tent from the Madison-Crockett unit was used.

Who has been involved



**DON MALONEY** and **Debbie Cobern**, disaster relief volunteers from ClearView Baptist Church in Franklin, prepare salad for dinner Sept. 14 at the Franklin Red Cross shelter.

in disaster relief since 2001, measures the rewards in "God moments" such as "seeing someone who has lost everything enjoy a hot meal and be put on the road to recovery."

Larry Murphy, director of missions for the Madison-Crockett Association, and a 10-year veteran of disaster relief ministry, acknowledged the familiarity of preparing food outside from a feeding unit. "Here we've had to piece things together to make it work. We've had plenty of volunteers from here and from our association."

However, he said serving in a shelter enables volunteers "to become acquainted with the people, talk with them, and pray with them."

While Joe McIntire, pastor of LifeSpring Church in Jackson, is the leader in his church he usually finds himself in a serving role in disaster relief ministry. "I'm a good 'go-fer,'" he laughed,

## Nashville church collects shoes for victims

By Marcia Knox  
Baptist and Reflector

NASHVILLE — Grace Baptist Church here is a finely oiled machine when it comes to massive shoe drives and is currently responding to the need for shoes for Hurricane Katrina survivors and evacuees.

Once again, Joyell Dalton, a stay-at-home mom of four and a Grace Church member, is spearheading a nationwide shoe drive



**JOSEPH LEE** goes through the food line to get food prepared by Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers working at the Franklin Red Cross shelter.

noting that his responsibilities in Franklin often included loading supplies and hauling them to the kitchen.

Disaster relief ministry "shows people we care and it's a way we can touch people with the love of Christ," McIntire said.

Gene Williams, TBC men's ministries specialist represented

the TBC at the shelter site and served as a liaison with the Red Cross.

"The major difference in this disaster is that evacuees have come to a community not directly affected by the hurricane. The community has responded in great numbers and wholeheartedly," Williams said. □

for victims of massive storms. Last time it was the tsunami survivors; and this time it is the Hurricane Katrina survivors and evacuees.

"It's exciting to see Christian church members using their gifts," said Grace Church pastor Andre Dugger. "Through the shoe drive, God is giving Joyell her ministry. It's giving hope to people and sharing the love of Christ in a practical way. God is using her worldwide with the shoe ministry."

The goal is currently one million pair of shoes for the hurricane victims. The church began collecting shoes Sept. 12 with church volunteers ranging in ages from five to 80 working in three-hour shifts sorting and packing shoes for hurricane survivors. The shoe drive is expected to run through Sept. 30.

"Being a pastor, it's exciting to see the numbers of volunteers growing and making use of their spiritual gifts to meet these

unprecedented needs," noted Dugger. "Christian church members are willing to help serve God."

The idea for the Hurricane Katrina shoe drive came from Dalton's friend from the tsunami shoe drive, Wayne Elsey, Kodiak-Terra Shoes, USA, president, who maintains residences in Orlando, Florida, and Old Hickory. He also owns a shoe warehouse distribution center in White House.

Elsey was one of the main driving forces behind the tsunami shoe drive, which collected 61,500 pairs from Grace Church and over 150,000 nationwide.

What started last time as a tsunami mission project for Grace Church soon grew to a nationwide response through church e-mails, school drives, and media awareness.

Dalton is serving as the national coordinator for the shoe drive. She approached the Grace Church staff with the idea of

another shoe drive, and they also prayed about it.

"It's such a blessing to be used as a stay-at-home mom and to touch the lives of my children," she said.

"However, now I am able to touch other lives with the love of Christ and even the world."

"We already have over 5,000 pairs of shoes given in the past two days since we opened the drive. Over 300,000 pairs have been pledged from shoe companies. We are accepting new pairs and gently used pairs of shoes."

More information on the shoe drive can be found on Grace Church's web site at [www.gbc-nashville.com](http://www.gbc-nashville.com). □



**PASTOR ANDRE DUGGER** and **Joyell Dalton** stand beside boxes upon boxes of shoes which have been donated for victims of Hurricane Katrina.

TO LEARN, TO LIVE, TO LOVE ...

# ABUNDANTLY

Carson-Newman is special to me, not only because of the education I am receiving, but also for the opportunity to practice my gifts in ministry. All colleges say they will educate you, but Carson-Newman challenges you.

**Rev. Bryan Hair**

Senior

Religion/Communication Double Major



Jefferson City, Tennessee  
[www.cn.edu](http://www.cn.edu)







# Rainer gains unanimous vote as LifeWay president-elect

By Rankin  
Press

NASHVILLE — Trustees of LifeWay Christian Resources unanimously approved the election of Thom S. Rainer to be the ninth president of the Southern Baptist entity Sept. 12.

Rainer, president-elect, Rainer will begin working alongside LifeWay President James T. Draper Jr. Oct. 17 until Draper's retirement Feb. 1, 2006.

"This is a great day for all Southern Baptists and for LifeWay Christian Resources," said Evans, pastor of Dalraida Church in Montgomery, Ala., and chairman of LifeWay presidential committee.

Rainer will provide the leadership that will make us to be the leading provider of Christian materials to come. His theological and doctrinal positions are in unanimous with who we are as Southern Baptists. He is a man who possesses the ability to both communicate and to master the goals of Life-

Rainer, 50, is dean of the Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism, and Church Ministry at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Nashville, Ky. A 1977 graduate of the University of Alabama, he earned a master of divinity degree at Southern Baptist

Theological Seminary. He served as pastor of churches in Alabama, Florida, Kentucky, and Indiana prior to joining Southern in 1994 as founding dean of the Billy Graham School.

Rainer has served as a church consultant and church growth conference speaker for several years and is in frequent demand as a speaker in Southern Baptist churches. He is the author of 16 books, including *Surprising Insights from the Unchurched*, *The Unchurched Next Door*, and *Breakout Churches*. He is a member of both the Academy for Evangelism in Theological Education and the American Society for Church Growth.

Rainer also is founder, president, and CEO of The Rainer Group, one of the nation's leading church and denominational consultant organizations.

He and his wife, Nellie Jo, have three sons: Sam, Art, and Jess.

Draper said he is "incredibly excited to have a man of Thom Rainer's gifts and vision to work alongside in the months ahead. He is a proven leader, a brilliant statesman and a gifted visionary. That's why I believe LifeWay's best days are still ahead."

Responding to the trustees, Rainer spoke of the passions that will drive his leadership at LifeWay:

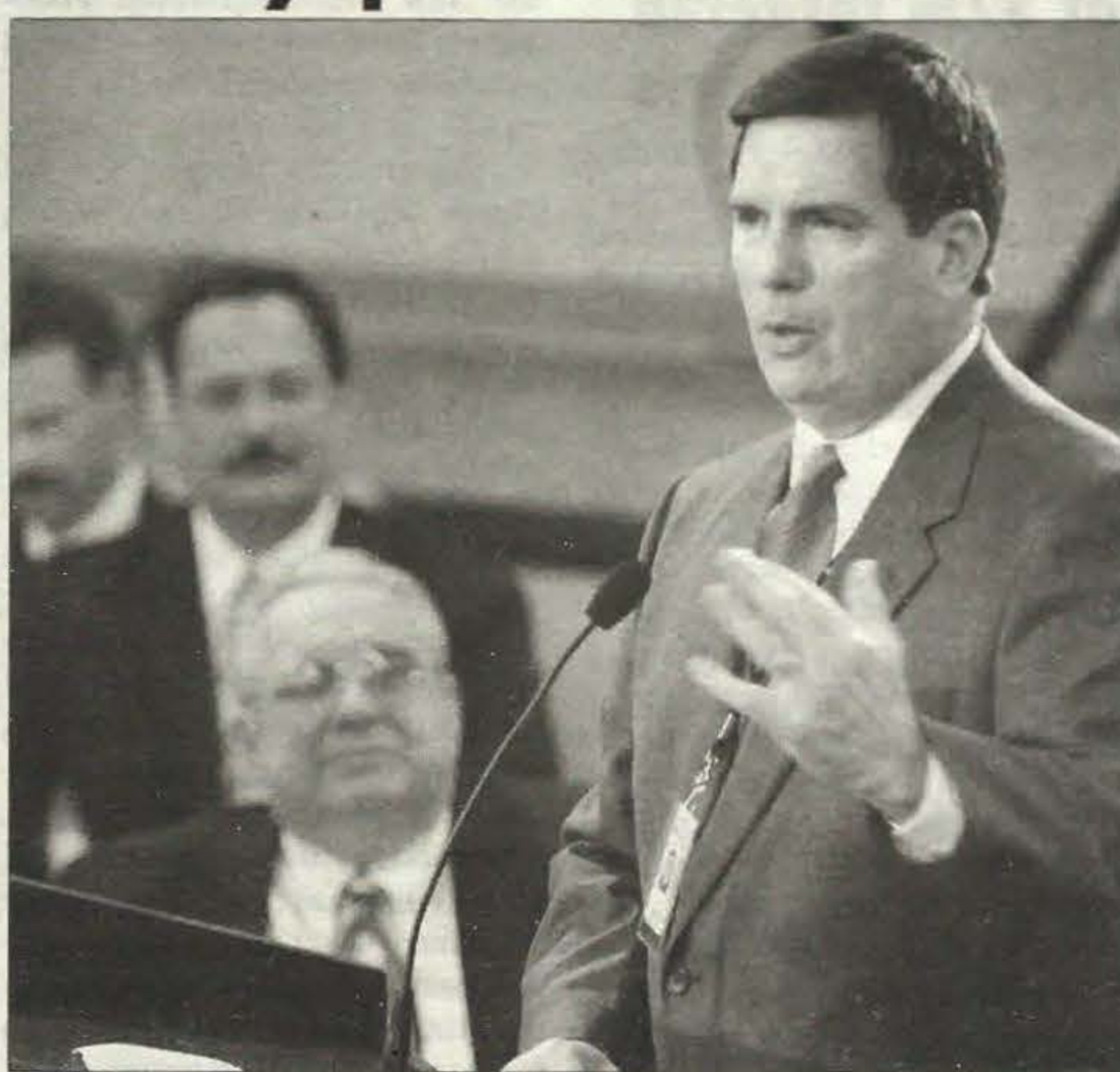
- Evangelism. "The South-

ern Baptist Convention is a denomination of fierce love for missions and evangelism," Rainer said. "As we work with other agencies, churches, and Christians across the globe, LifeWay must be at the forefront of a great renewal for evangelism in our denomination and beyond."

- Denominational memory, or "that which defines who we are as a people called Southern Baptists ... Doctrine is not a word from which we should hide," he said.

- Relevancy. LifeWay must understand the culture and help the church connect in a relevant way for the purpose of evangelism.

Rainer also expressed admiration for Draper's leadership. In assuming the presidency of LifeWay, Rainer said he stands "on the shoulders of giants" who made LifeWay what it is today. □



THOM RAINER, president-elect of LifeWay Christian Resources, speaks to trustees following his election on Sept. 12. — Photo by Kent Harville

## LifeWay to give \$6 million to relief efforts

By Rob Phillips  
Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — Trustees of LifeWay Christian Resources authorized the company's executive leadership to utilize \$6 million in reserve funds to assist Southern Baptist Disaster Relief efforts in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

LifeWay President James T. Draper Jr. recommended the

action to the trustees' executive committee, which brought the matter before the full board of trustees Sept. 12. The vote was unanimous.

The funding will begin immediately and continue throughout the 2006 fiscal year, which runs from Oct. 1, 2005, through Sept. 30, 2006.

"We will disperse these funds based on specific identified needs," Draper noted. "The expectation is that assistance will go to the state conventions in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama, to states assisting in handling evacuees, and possibly to the North American Mission Board and New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary."

An estimated 925 Southern Baptist churches in the three states were destroyed or severely damaged. The North American Mission Board is coordinating the SBC's relief efforts across the region. More than 5,000 volunteers are on site, feeding the hungry and working with other relief groups to provide housing and other basic needs.

Immediately after Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast in the worst natural disaster in U.S. history, LifeWay, an entity of the Southern Baptist Convention, donated

\$10,000 each to the Baptist state conventions of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama.

The Nashville-based non-profit organization continues to work directly with scores of churches in the three states to restore damaged libraries at deep discounts and to replace at no cost any dated LifeWay curriculum lost in the storm.

"We're partners in ministry with the state conventions of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama, but even more important, we're their friends," Draper said. "When their churches hurt, we hurt, and with these donations we simply wanted to provide a tangible sign that we are praying for them and standing beside them."

In addition to contributions to state conventions, LifeWay for years has provided disaster assistance to Southern Baptist churches impacted by natural disasters, fires, theft, and vandalism. For affected churches, LifeWay replaces 100 percent of the churches' dated LifeWay church literature for the current quarter and the following quarter. The company also offers steep discounts for LifeWay undated church literature such as hymnals as well as Broadman & Holman books and audiovisuals, Holman Christian Standard Bibles, choir robes, Lord's Supper supplies, church furniture, and more.

"Our goal is to help churches continue to minister spiritually to their congregations while they get back on their feet after a disaster," said Mike Arrington, vice president of the corporate affairs division, which administers the company's disaster relief program. □

An Evening With Chuck Colson · Thursday, September 22, 2005



Join us as Chuck Colson speaks to the Union community in a special chapel service, Thursday, September 22 at 7:30 p.m.

On Friday, spend Preview Day with us for an inside look at Union.

In one stop, take an opportunity to hear an acclaimed speaker and visit a university that prepares Christian students to influence culture.

The events are free of charge, and you're invited to attend one or both. Call 1.800.33.UNION to RSVP and inquire about discounted local lodging.



Jackson, TN · www.uu.edu

A Day at Union University · Friday, September 23, 2005

### Mission Trips to Mexico

Are you or your church wanting to take your group on a life changing missions trip to Mexico? Upon This Rock International is providing opportunities for your church, youth group, or family to experience missions first hand by being involved on the mission fields of Mexico and beyond!

www.utri.org

Email: office@utri.org

(417) 894-4316, Clay or Angie



## SBC CP coverage of \$7m targeted for relief efforts

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — A potential boost of \$7 million for hurricane relief efforts could come from the strength of Southern Baptists' Cooperative Program.

Morris H. Chapman, president of the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee, announced Sept. 12 a recommendation to redirect beyond-the-budget SBC receipts to relief efforts in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

The Southern Baptist Convention's 43,000 churches met the Cooperative Program Allocation Budget for 2004-05 on Sept. 12, providing the needed base of funding for the International Mission Board, North American Mission Board, the six SBC seminaries, the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, and other SBC operations.

Chapman said he will recommend that all Cooperative Program gifts between Sept. 12 and the end of the SBC's fiscal year, Sept. 30, go directly to disaster relief — a recommendation to be placed on the agenda for the Executive Committee's Sept. 19-20 meeting here.

The receipts will be put to work in three ways: 50 percent for New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, which suffered extensive damage from the hurricane and subsequent flooding in the city; 25 percent for the North American Mission Board, which coordinates SBC Disaster Relief efforts nationwide; and 25 percent for relief ministry by the state Baptist conventions in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama, distributed proportionally to their needs.

A potential \$7 million could be distributed, Chapman said.

"Hurricane Katrina is the most devastating natural catastrophe ever to hit the United States," Chapman said, noting: "To the degree of its chaos, destruction, and displacement, it may not happen again in our lifetimes. And because of the Cooperative Program, Southern Baptists have been able to respond swiftly and generously."

The initiative, Chapman noted, was discussed in a conference call with the presidents of the SBC's 11 entities and the SBC auxiliary Woman's Missionary Union. These leaders enthusiastically embraced the initiative, which will be no small sacrifice for those entities supported by the Cooperative Program.

"Because Southern Baptists have given faithfully through the Cooperative Program since 1925, and especially this year, we are able to take the extraordinary step of recommending that all CP monies oversubscribed to the CP Allocation Budget between now and Dec. 31 go directly for disaster relief," Chapman said. □

## SBC offers service to connect Katrina survivors

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — The Southern Baptist Convention is offering a free online service to aid those displaced by Hurricane Katrina to reconnect with their family and friends.

The Survivor Information Database, at [www.SBC.net](http://www.SBC.net), is available for those searching for persons displaced by the hurricane and for those who were displaced to alert family and friends as to their condition and location.

### New Lower Rates For Term Life Insurance!

Low, low non-smoker monthly cost (male)

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

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

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

### Affordable Beachside Vacation Condos

[www.gulfshorescondos.com](http://www.gulfshorescondos.com)

All size units available, Fall Special 2 night weekend, \$140.00; 4 week-nights, \$200.00 Efficiency Unit (2 Adults, 2 Kids) Good 9-6 thru 10-31 (205) 556-0368 or (205) 554-1524

Call for Free BROCHURE

**BAPTISTRIES**  
HEATERS, PUMPS  
FACTORY DIRECT  
TOLL FREE 1-800-251-0679  
[www.fiberglasschurchprod.com](http://www.fiberglasschurchprod.com)

FIBERGLASS BAPTISTRY CO.  
3511 HIXSON PIKE • CHATTANOOGA, TN 37415



Sales of Apparel, Disposables, Restaurant Equipment

**70 Years in Business**

Affiliate of Murdock Mendelsohn Co., Inc.

China Flatware Glassware  
Dining Kitchen Disposables  
Apparel Lighting Signs  
Equipment Janitorial  
Tables Chairs

**Our products are geared toward meeting the needs of churches.**

**EQUIPMENT, DISPOSABLES & APPAREL**

- Great Pricing!
- All prices in catalog
- Free shipping
- Items in stock
- 1-3 day delivery
- Order 24-hours a day!

**Request your catalog today!**

**866-544-9444**

**TOLL FREE FAX 877-774-6462**

**PLEASE PASS THIS PHONE NUMBER ALONG TO THE PERSON WHO ORDERS YOUR KITCHEN EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES.**

MMS Sales, LLC • Affiliate of Murdock Mendelsohn Co., Inc.  
P. O. Box 78128 • Nashville, TN 37207

The service should be a good means of communication, according to Chris Chapman, director of information systems for the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee and manager of the web site.

"All of the information in the database is available to the public, so people using the Survivor Information Database should

only include phone number, mail or personal in that they want public. "But, we know the number of people are for their loved ones, Southern Baptists families and friends, resource might help them connect with each other."

## 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](mailto:fbcresumes@yahoo.com) by Oct. 1.

First Baptist Church, Rogersville, Ala., is seeking a full-time pastor. If you feel God leading you to send your resume, please send to Pastor Search Committee, 222 College St., Rogersville, AL 35652 or e-mail to [esmmason@netzero.net](mailto:esmmason@netzero.net).

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](mailto: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 — 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](mailto:penny.romes@florencechurch.org).

## CLASSIFIED

### MINISTRY — MUSIC

First Baptist Church, Tenn., is now accepting applications for a bivocational of music. Please send First Baptist Church, 54, Linden, TN 37096. tions you may contact at (931) 589-2227.

First Baptist Church, sonville is currently bivocational minister c lead a growing dynam gation in worship. Plea more information, (8 7675.

FBC Alamo, Tenn., part-time minister of mail [dmgauldin@cr.com](mailto:dmgauldin@cr.com) or Music Comm W. Church St., Al 38001.

Large St. Louis area driven church seeks contemporary wor minister. E-mail [randy@feefeebc.org](mailto:randy@feefeebc.org) Music/Worship Minist Committee, Fee Fe Church, 11330 St. Ch Rd., Bridgeton, MO 6

### MINISTRY — STUDENT

New Union Baptist seeking a full-time n 7th—college age. Se to [srwalker7@netze](mailto:srwalker7@netze) 4060 Double S Rd., 37321.

Immanuel Baptist Ch full-time youth/outre — degree, 2 years married. Family-ori ing church. Please se to 709 E. Gaines, Law TN 38464, Attn. You Committee.

Seeking a full-time students and outreac pose driven church suburban Saint Lou Must have a passio ministry and reachir for Christ. College c ferred. Please ser and/or recommendat ister of Students Se mittee, c/o Fee F Church, 11330 Sai Rock Rd., Bridgeton,

### MINISTRY — ORGANIST

Organist needed: FE ville, is currently organist for two Sun services. If interes contact Sean Goss of Music, at (931) 47



## book review

Crawford

**Supremacy of God in Preaching**

By John Piper

revised edition, Baker Books, 2004

...d, the days are coming, declares the Lord God, I will send a famine on the land – not a famine of bread or a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord (Amos 8:11). Sadly, this passage describes the present situation in many Southern Baptist churches. A crisis exists because many preachers have drifted from their divinely given task of preaching the Word. Even among those who hold to the inspiration and infallibility of Scripture, true preaching is missing because preachers either preach other than what the Bible says, or preach the Bible in a cold, lifeless manner. If the church is to be healthy, it must return to the centrality of preaching in Christian ministry. John Piper has done pastors and the church a great service by addressing these issues in his book *The Supremacy of God in Preaching*. Piper goes into great detail describing the proper manner in which the preacher should preach. In it, he sets forth that the act of preaching should be done with a sense of the gravity of the task. Much preaching today is done in a nonchalant and flippant manner filled with jokes and stories intended to entertain. The result is that the pastor, even if he is communicating biblical truth, sends the message that what he is saying is of no great importance. Preachers stand before the people of God and proclaim the Word of God, but they don't feel the weight of their office. On the other hand, he makes clear from Hebrews 13:17, a joyless ministry is of no advantage to the people. The way in which Piper interweaves these two themes is helpful in convicting those who fall into either error. Long before their view a biblical view of preaching, Piper's book is both deeply theological and also practical. After reading the book, the careful reader will likely experience conviction over sin and emerge with a renewed resolve to preach.

The primary test for the usefulness of any book on preaching is whether or not it is biblical, and in this regard *Supremacy of God in Preaching* excels. Biblical preaching is the theme of the book. Piper takes pages upon pages to describe certain passages which are pertinent to the task of preaching. Piper is modeling what he himself expects preachers to do – to fill their sermons with the Word of God. Preaching, if it is to be done well, must be filled with the Word of God. The congregation should be expected to have their Bibles open as the preacher preaches, following along as he exegetes the text and makes application. The most important thing about preaching is that it be biblical, that is, that the preacher communicate the same thing that the Bible says. Piper does this very well. He gives this point home. If the principles contained in this book were honestly applied, the church of Christ would once again be privileged to hear the Word of God. — Crawford, a graduate of Union University, is a student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky.

## Live to please God

By Mark Brown

**Focal Passage: I Thessalonians 4:1-12**

It's all about context! Life, that is. To really understand an idea, concept, rule of grammar, algebraic equation, or even a fashion tip, one needs to understand its context, that is, how it came to be and why it matters. I hear that white should not be worn after Labor Day, but I don't know why; so I really don't care. Not knowing and not caring are the first and second steps to things no longer being of consequence.

Today's passage selection represents almost 20 percent of the entire book. The chapter opens with an admonition to strive harder to do more to please God. The third sentence then jumps to the subject of sexual immorality. It seems rather random, doesn't it? You've sat down to read your Sunday School lesson taken from Paul's first letter (that we know of) to still relatively new believers at the leading city in Macedonia and the third sentence of the passage says to mind how one possesses "his own vessel in sanctification and honor."

Now consider the reaction of the first people to read the letter, remembering of course that they didn't start with the fourth chapter. In fact they didn't have chapters or verses; they had a letter written in the standard form of their day. Therefore, they read it in context. (Given that it's no longer than a substantive magazine article, it

may be helpful to encourage class members to read the entire letter before class Sunday morning.)

By the time Paul broached the subject of Christian integrity as relates to sexual matters, he had covered a wealth of material. He opened with remembrance, gratitude, and compliments (chapter 1), moved to the history of the relationship he, Silas, and Timothy established with those who would listen to God's message (chapter 2), and noted that Timothy has reported their continued faithfulness to the gospel (chapter 3). Only then is he ready to get to the reason he wrote the letter. Had he started his message with the material in the fourth chapter, it may have been too strong. He gave them reason to be interested; he gave them context.

As Christians, we have the ultimate context of what God has said. In Leviticus He told His people, *The LORD said to Moses, Speak to the entire assembly of Israel and say to them: Be holy because I, the LORD your God, am holy* (Leviticus 19:1-2). It's also quoted in I Peter 1:16. It seems to suggest that being holy is something of a mandatory choice.

How can a choice be mandatory? Well, humans have the choice to be people of God. But, if we have chosen to be His people, then we have no choice but to live to be holy because He is holy.

The new Christians at Thessalonica had chosen to follow Christ and therefore be people of God. They had incorporated Chris-

**Sunday School Lesson**  
**Family Bible Series**  
**Sept. 25**

tianity into their lifestyle but they apparently kept remnants of their previous lives, including some sort of sexual liberties.

Paul's call for sexual purity is astute. If we who call ourselves people of God will apply the idea of holiness to our very personal — even intimate — behavior, then making the application to our more public behavior should hopefully not be as difficult.

I have a friend who moved to the South from another part of the country several years ago. I once asked her what she thought was the single greatest societal difference she encountered. Her reply was almost immediate. "Christianity," she said. "In the South, everybody calls themselves Christian. It's like you're expected to say it, but you're not expected to live it really. Where I come from, the people who call themselves Christian really are. It's like they work at it."

Without delving into the kettle of fish called works theology, I think my friend is onto something important. God calls us to be like Him, and, since I know me, I expect to have to work at it. □ — Brown is director of news and information at Carson-Newman College and a member of First Baptist Church, Jefferson City.

## Do you need the gospel?

By Kevin Shrum

**Focal Passage: Romans 3:1-20**

Paul summarized in 2:25-29 the true nature of the believer — namely, a true believer is one who has placed their trust in Christ alone and whose heart has been circumcised by the Spirit of God. The question arises, then, concerning the role of the Jew in relation to the gospel. Is there any advantage in being a Jew? This leads to the next question — who needs the gospel at all? Paul's spiritual logic is essential in understanding the nature of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

**The advantage of being a Jew, vv. 1, 2**

The singular advantage in being a Jew is that God chose to use this people group as the conduit through which to reveal Himself in specific ways, i.e. the Old Testament Scriptures, the prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the ultimate revelation of God, etc. Paul writes that they were "entrusted with the spoken words of God."

**Is there extra advantage in being a Jew? vv. 3-8**

The answer is NO! Just because the Jews had been entrusted with God's Word did not mean that they would be reconciled to God in a different manner than the Gentile. In fact, the Jews had often rejected God, viewed especially in their rejection of Jesus as the Messiah.

But if the Jews rejected Jesus does this not prove God's inability to accomplish His redemptive goals? NO! God's judgment is true and every person is sinful. God's plan is not thwarted by the disobedience of His own people (see chapter 9).

**All are sinners! vv. 9-19**

Paul quotes a series of Old Testament references to demonstrate that all are sinners — both Jew and Gentile. This is why Paul can write in verse 9 that "all are under sin." The Gentiles are sinners apart from the Law because they do not have a clear conscience and the Jews are sinners under the Law because they have not obeyed the Law. So, with and without the Law, both Jew and Gentile are sinners.

**How are sinners redeemed? vv. 20-26**

In what may be the most significant section in the entire book of Romans, Paul lays out God's plan of redemption in verses 21-26. God has a righteousness that is apart from the Law, a righteousness that was affirmed by the "Law and the Prophets" (v. 21). In brief, righteousness can be defined as a right standing before God that is impossible apart from the grace and mercy of God. God's righteousness is "through faith in Jesus Christ" (v. 22). A right standing before God is needed because all are sinners (v. 23).

Further, God's righteousness comes about as we are "justified freely by His grace through the

**Sunday School Lesson**  
**Explore the Bible**  
**Sept. 25**

redemption that is in Christ Jesus" (v. 24). Jesus is the offering of atonement for sin (v. 25). In Jesus Christ, God not only punished sin by punishing the Son, but liberated the sinner by raising the Son from the dead (v. 26).

**All boasting disallowed! vv. 27-31**

As a consequence, both Jew and Gentile cannot boast (v. 27). The Jew cannot boast because salvation is not by the Law. The Gentile cannot boast because salvation is not by natural ability. Neither is saved because apart from Christ the Jew and the Gentile are not redeemed — salvation is only by the "law of faith." Paul's conclusion is that all men are "justified by faith apart from works of law" (v. 28). This truth reminds us of the fact that God is the God of both Jew and Gentile (v. 29). Both the circumcised and uncircumcised are justified by faith (v. 30). This fact does not cancel the Law. Rather, God's righteousness upholds the Law because 1) it establishes God's righteous demands, and 2) it reveals the sinfulness of man due to his inability to keep the Law (v. 31). Our boast is in the Lord! □ — Shrum is pastor of Inglewood Baptist Church, Nashville.



**Golden Offering for Tennessee Missions**  
**State Goal: \$1,630,000**





**THIS YACHT**, swept ashore by Hurricane Katrina, found a new resting place on the roadside in Slidell.



**WAYNE ELLIS** and Tina Coleman of Bellevue Baptist Church, Cordova, move cambros to be loaded with hot meals in Long Beach, Miss.



**RALPH JONES** of Candies Creek Baptist Church, Charleston, operates a fork lift on site in Long Beach, Miss.



**A TEAM FROM POLK COUNTY**, from left, counterclockwise, Eddie Sloan, Bruce Rymer, Ray Wilson, and Vicki Campbell, prepare food at Grace Memorial Baptist Church in Slidell, La. Sloan, Rymer, and Wilson are members of Zion Baptist Church, Benton.

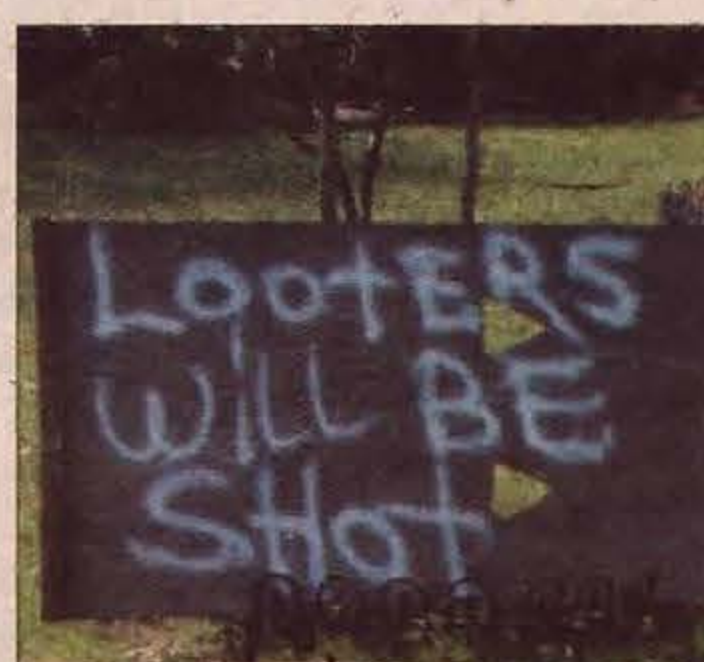
## Tennessee Baptists minister in Louisiana and Mississippi



**RESIDENTS** in Slidell, La., go through a feeding line manned by disaster relief volunteers from Tennessee and other states.



**SLIDELL, LA.**, residents flocked to this site at Grace Memorial Baptist Church where numerous Baptist Disaster Relief workers were on hand to minister.



**THE SIGN** indicates home owners in Slidell are serious about protecting their property.



**FRANK LOUDERMILK** of Calhoun Baptist Church, He does laundry in the building which was stationed at the site.

**STEVE WEBB** of Calhoun Baptist Church, Jackson, Tenn., is one of the generators on site in Long Beach, Miss.