

Baptist & Reflector

Wide Edition

Telling the Story of Tennessee Baptists

Vol. 171 / No. 39; Oct. 26, 2005

this week's news

Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers prepare help Wilma victims. — page 2

Ice Wethey and Lisa Cross are Christian musicians who may look like Ken and Barbie but their lives aren't perfect. — page 3

budget presented

BRENTWOOD — The proposed 2005-06 budget, as adopted by the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, was presented at their September meeting. The budget will be presented to members at the TBC annual meeting which is set for Nov. 12 at First Baptist Church, Clarksville. Changes to the printed budget must be approved by the Executive Board at its Nov. 14 meeting and a new copy would be distributed to messengers during the opening session. □

Youth ministers can influence through holiness

By Connie Davis Bushey
Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — Today's youth are motivated by girls, gold, and glory, or power, influence, and money, noted Richard Ross at the Youth Ministry University held last week at the Baptist Center here.

Youth ministers also should desire power and influence but the kind "that comes out of holiness," said Ross, professor of student ministry, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Texas.

He encouraged about 40 youth ministers to use a quiet time spent mostly in the mornings to develop holiness. They should do this not for their vocation, but for their relationship with God.

Using the biblical metaphor of a Christian's armor, he first suggested they add the helmet of salvation in prayer. Christians should understand their role by imagining Jesus at a banquet. Christians are in the role of the slave. Jesus asks us at times to join Him. In other words, Christians should realize that a delicate balance exists for the Christian between fear of God and intimacy with God, added Ross, who was formerly with LifeWay Christian Resources, Nashville. He also was youth

minister, Tulip Grove Baptist Church, Old Hickory. Ross developed True Love Waits, the sexual abstinence program.

Youth ministers should ask God to add the breastplate of righteousness. Christians should realize that when they sin, they lose the intimate part of their relationship with God, become spiritually irrelevant to people close to them, and see innocent people suffer while God deals with their sin.

He asked the men and women if they find themselves at their computer using the Internet and asking themselves, "How could I be sitting here doing this again?"

When he's a "bad boy," described Ross, it negatively affects not just God, himself, and his ministry, but his son and wife.

Youth ministers should not count on the things "hidden in our lives" to remain private. If God wants to reveal them, He can, said Ross.

"Satan destroys me through unrighteousness."

Christians should pray for the belt of truth, said Ross, even "extravagant amounts of truth."

There's nothing wrong with such a prayer if you watch your motives, added Ross. Do that by committing to a life of "financial simplicity" and "deflecting



RICHARD ROSS, right, professor of student ministry, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Ft. Worth, Texas; visits with Kyle Riddle, left, youth minister, Hillcrest Baptist Church, Jackson; and Michael Hollingsworth, youth minister intern, Temple Baptist Church, White House.

attention toward God that otherwise might come to me."

Christians should ask God to shod their feet by making appointments each day for them to share the gospel."

This prayer actually "takes some pressure off of us" because we can let God guide us and the person and situation.

This prayer makes him decide, "Do I just keep evangelism in the classroom or do I take it out to people who need it?"

He asked the ministers if they believe God orchestrates situations in which they

should witness.

Finally, youth ministers can ask for the shield of faith to prepare them for the crises of life.

In his quiet time, Ross then prays for his family and as an intercessor and reads the Bible. He uses a plan which leads him to read from the Old Testament, Psalms, Proverbs, and New Testament each day. In one year the reader using this plan has read through the whole Bible.

"Can you detect that people who are in relationship with you ... look more like Jesus because of you?" asked Ross. □

Crossover Clarksville is ready for volunteers

Baptist and Reflector

CLARKSVILLE — Crossover Clarksville is on track, according to Dennis Pulley, director of missions, Cumberland Baptist Association, based here. Crossover is the pre-convention evangelism and ministry event which is held prior to national and state Baptist conventions or annual meetings.

A few changes have been made that volunteers will want to know, said Pulley.

The Prayerwalk/DVD Distribution will be held Saturday, Nov. 12, during the morning, concluding with lunch and reports. It will be held in five areas of the city and focus on prayerwalking and the distribution, not evangelism. Of course, if a conversation with a resident becomes an opportunity for witnessing, that is welcomed, said Pulley.

Planners hope 1,000 to 1,200 packets will be distributed. The packets will include a DVD of the movie "Hope," a tract, a Bible, and information about a local church. The packets can be left on door knobs, explained Pulley, if the resident is not home. Local ministers and volunteers will lead the effort.

The Crossover Block Party will be held in North Clarksville across from Fort Campbell on Saturday, Nov. 12. It will be held on the parking lot of Piggly Wiggly on Hwy. 41A

and Stateline Road.

Hopefully dependents of the troops based at Fort Campbell will attend, said Pulley. Most troops have been deployed. Hispanics will be part of the corps of volunteers helping lead the block party because the International Festival has been canceled.



PULLEY

winterize their homes.

Finally, CONNECT, a youth rally offered by the Tennessee Baptist Convention for several years, will be held Sunday night, Nov. 13, at Hilldale Baptist Church, Clarksville. Free pizza will be offered at 5 p.m. and the rally will begin at 6 p.m.

To volunteer or for more information, contact Leigh Williams of the TBC staff at llwilliams@tnbaptist.org, (615) 371-1996, 1-800-558-2090, ext. 1996. □



Partnership signed in Montana

Porch, right, executive director of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, and Jeff Clark, executive director of the Montana Baptist Convention, sign a partnership between the two conventions which will begin in January 2006. Porch and Clark attended the Montana convention's annual meeting earlier this month. Clark will attend the TBC annual meeting in November to sign a similar document here.

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, Brentwood, 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 Communications 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, Dennis 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

N.O. churches struggle to resume ministry

Baptist Press

NEW ORLEANS — They sang from a screen fueled by a borrowed generator. They hugged friends and waved to others across the sanctuary. And they asked the all-important post-hurricane question: "How did you do?"

It was the first time that First Baptist Church here — significantly smaller in number but no less enthusiastic — met for worship since Hurricane Katrina tore through New Orleans.

The church is built up enough so that the floodwaters stopped at its doorstep. But the church didn't escape damage. Winds ripped away about a third of one building. Rain poured into Sunday School classrooms. Offices and church records were destroyed. Parts of the buildings that escaped damage soon showed signs of growing black mold. Weeks after the storm, there is still no electricity.

"Everything around us stood in four to six feet of floodwater for weeks. The grass is dead, the trees are dying," said David Crosby, pastor of First Baptist.

But when the first worship service since Katrina was held Oct. 9, Crosby offered a prayer of thanks to "the God of storm and wind and rain." First Baptist New Orleans will recover, but many other churches in the area may not.

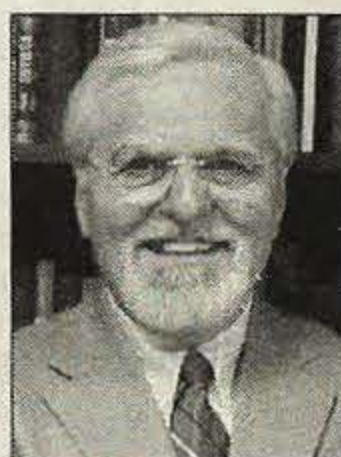
"Many of our churches are out of business. We have 27 churches that have been destroyed. If they can start up again at all, they'll have to be changed," said Joe McKeever, director of missions for the Baptist Association of Greater New Orleans. "We've had small churches trying to maintain large buildings. They were using all their resources to keep the buildings going. They've lost everything."

There's no way to know what these churches will look like in the future. Weeks after the storm, some pastors and leaders have not yet returned to their church buildings. Most churches are just beginning to think about recovery.

The Adopt A Church program sponsored by the North American Mission Board may be the only thing that saves many of the New Orleans congregations, McKeever said.

"We're figuring out exactly what all that will mean. Each church is going to need something different," he said.

Even churches that escaped damage will need aid.



McKEEVER

Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers ready to deploy after Hurricane Wilma strike

By Marcia Knox
Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — The Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief state feeding unit, along with 40 volunteers, were deployed Oct. 24 for Leesburg, Fla., where they are staging, awaiting Hurricane Wilma to clear Florida, according to State Disaster Relief director David Acres.

Other Tennessee Baptist units traveling with the feeding unit are: First Baptist Church of Concord, Knoxville, shower trailer; the state communications/command trailer; and the state wash trailer.

Acres said the call to mobilize the units from the North American Mission Board came Oct. 22. "The units will stage along with other SBC units at the Florida Baptist Convention's Lake Yale Conference Center and Camp in Leesburg," noted Acres.

"Volunteers who are able to work mass feeding and recovery units are needed. Call the State Disaster Relief Mobilization Center (615-371-2007) to volunteer."

In addition to the state feeding unit, recovery units from four churches were working Oct. 24 in Sulphur, La., at Maplewood First Baptist Church helping victims of Hurricane Rita. A cooking team is also in operation to feed the volunteers.

"They'll be able to minister to others in the area and they'll be able to house groups coming to help other churches, but they will need help doing that," McKeever said.

Vieux Carre Baptist Church, a tiny storefront church sandwiched between bars and voodoo stores on Dauphine Street in the French Quarter, had one worshiper the Sunday it reopened six weeks after the storm. But while church members have left the city, there is still much to do.

"We have showers. We have beds to house 50," said Greg Hand, pastor of Vieux Carre. "This church has the opportunity to change a paradigm. This is the time to do something."

The little church has no income. Hand and his wife lost their home in the post-hurricane flooding and now live in an upstairs room at the church. But Hand still plans to house and feed volunteer groups coming to help other churches. At the same time, he's asking volunteers to help his church.

"We have a little damage that needs to be repaired, but mostly we need prayer-walkers and kindness givers. If we miss this opportunity [in the French Quarter], there will be no change here. We'll be fighting against reinforced spiritual darkness." □

GuideStone oks emergency funds

Baptist Press

DALLAS — As people begin to rebuild their lives in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, two dozen retired ministers and widows have qualified for emergency grants — ranging from \$500 to \$2,000 — from GuideStone Financial Resources'

Adopt An Annuitant program.

In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, GuideStone staff began contacting Adopt An Annuitant recipients to check on their situation and offer help.

"We've provided extra assistance to about 25 people," said John Ambra, GuideStone's director of development. "That support has helped them in meeting insurance deductibles, replacing lost food, cleanup assistance, and replacing shingles on the roof. In fact, we paid for metal sheeting that ripped off one of our participant's roofs."

"The best news is none of the annuitants we currently help have lost their lives," Ambra said. □

Americans reject secular evolution: poll

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — A majority of adults support the biblical account of creation according to a new CNN/USA Today/Gallup poll — the latest in a series of polls reflecting Americans' tendency to reject secular evolution.

In the poll, 53 percent of adults say "God created human beings in their present form exactly the way the Bible describes it." Another 31 percent believe humans "evolved over millions of years from other forms of life and God guided" the process. Twelve percent say humans "have evolved over millions of years from other forms of life, but God has no part."

The poll of 1,005 adults, conducted Sept. 8-11 and posted on Gallup's web site Oct. 13, is but the latest survey showing Amer-

icans tend to reject a secular explanation for the existence of life.

Recovery operations at First Baptist Church Bogalusa, were expected to close Oct. 23.

Another recovery site in operation Louisiana is First Baptist Church, Pearl River where two association teams were also working Oct. 24.

Recovery teams operating in Mississippi include three association teams and church teams at Grace Memorial Baptist Church in Gulfport where the Chilhowee Baptist Association shower unit remains.

Since feeding operations began Aug. 31, Tennessee Baptists feeding sites in Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas, and Tennessee reported more than 214,164 meals served for Hurricane Katrina and 159,645 meals served for Hurricane Rita.

Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief is sending trained volunteers. See the Tennessee Baptist Convention web site at www.tnbaptist.org for upcoming training dates and times.

Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief is asking donations to help serve victims of Hurricanes 2005. Donations may be sent to: Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief, Tennessee Baptist Convention, P.O. Box 728, Brentwood, TN 37028. Please designate your check to: Hurricane 2005 Relief Fund. Donations may also be online. □

icans tend to reject a secular explanation for the existence of life:

- A Harris poll of adults in June found 53 percent believe "human beings were created directly by God from earlier species," 31 percent believe humans evolved from a complex that they require a powerful force or intelligence to help create them, and 12 percent say humans "developed from earlier species."

- An NBC News poll of adults in March found 53 percent believe in a biblical day creation, 13 percent believe in "divine presence" in evolution, and 33 percent in evolution alone.

"Nobody starts out as a Darwinian evolutionist," William Dembski, professor of science and theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., author of "The Design: Answering the Questions about Intelligent Design."

"You start out with a preconception of creation, thinking that's something beyond it. And as you try to explain it, there really is no wonder to it."

The Gallup poll was conducted amidst a trial in Harrisburg, Pa., over whether Intelligent Design can be taught in Pennsylvania school districts. The Intelligent Design movement says that in nature are best explained by pointing to a creator intelligence).

Supporters of the Darwinian evolution opposed Intelligent Design, saying it is not science. It teaches, in part, that humans evolved over millions of years from apes. □

Couple finds Christ, new career despite health problems

by Julie Davis Bushey
and Reflector

COLLEGE GROVE — Bruce and Lisa LaCross are a married couple and as Christian musicians Bruce is a violinist and flutist and Lisa is a pianist.

Bruce and Lisa perform in churches across the United States while giving their testimony with artists like Twila Paris and Michael W. Smith. They also are recording artists, working on their fourth CD, "Hymns," to be released in the Coolsprings record store in Wetley, a composer/producer, was nominated for a Grammy Award in 2002 for solo work in the classical music category.

In the last three years of their lives have been filled with a lot of miracles and testimonies. Three years ago they left classical and educational music careers to try to become Christian artists which they have done.

They hope for another miracle. On Oct. 27 as Lisa undergoes her fourth, for a brain

they aren't worried about what God has done for them, they say. They are members of ClearView Baptist Church in Franklin.

In Miami, Fla.

Three years ago, the couple moved to Miami, Fla. Wetley is a violinist with the Florida Philharmonic Orchestra in Fort Lauderdale. He had performed with Ray Charles, Julio Iglesias, Doc Severinson, and others.

Lisa was a concert flutist and performed at Carnegie Hall in New York City, the Kennedy Center in Washington

D.C., and LaScala Opera House in Italy. She also was a professor of flute at Florida International University.

They have two daughters, the oldest is from Lisa's first marriage. Though Bruce and Lisa seem like "Ken and Barbie," Lisa described, they have endured a crisis or two.

About eight years ago Lisa realized that something was wrong with her vision. After three misdiagnoses, she learned she had a tumor on her pituitary gland near her brain. It was the size of a softball though she wasn't having any other symptoms. The tumor was the largest the doctors had heard of.

She was told she wouldn't regain her peripheral vision, wouldn't be able to have more children, and probably would be on thyroid medicine and hormones including growth hormones for the rest of her life.

Soon her husband left the family.

Lisa was raised Catholic in Michigan but had become a Christian while watching a Billy Graham Crusade on TV. She was taking her daughter to a preschool at a Baptist church. When the preschool director learned of Lisa's situation, she and the pastor gathered to pray for Lisa.

Tumor is blessing

The day of the surgery, the pastor from the Baptist church joined Lisa's friend, Bruce Wetley, in the hospital waiting room during Lisa's five-hour surgery.

Lisa had a successful surgery in spite of the fact that the surgeon couldn't remove all of the pieces of the tumor, which seemed to have exploded.

Since then, Lisa has had two more surgeries and is scheduled

to have another Thursday, Oct. 27, at the University of Virginia. A leading neurosurgeon specializing in the treatment of this kind of tumor will be doing the surgery. This came about through God, said Lisa.

She isn't worried at all, she said. In fact, as she shares in her testimony, her tumor has been one of the greatest blessings of her life.

God got her attention through the experience, she said. She wasn't a practicing Christian. And Bruce became interested in Christianity as a result of meeting that Baptist pastor. Bruce and Lisa began dating and attending the Baptist church. Bruce became a Christian and the couple was married there. Wetley, a Canadian, was raised in the Anglican church.

Despite the doctor's diagnoses, they had a daughter and Lisa takes no medicine and only has limited vision problems.

Having the brain tumor also taught Lisa she had to rely on God because no one else was in charge of the tumor. "From the first, I have had a peace that transcends all understanding," said Lisa. "I never panicked."

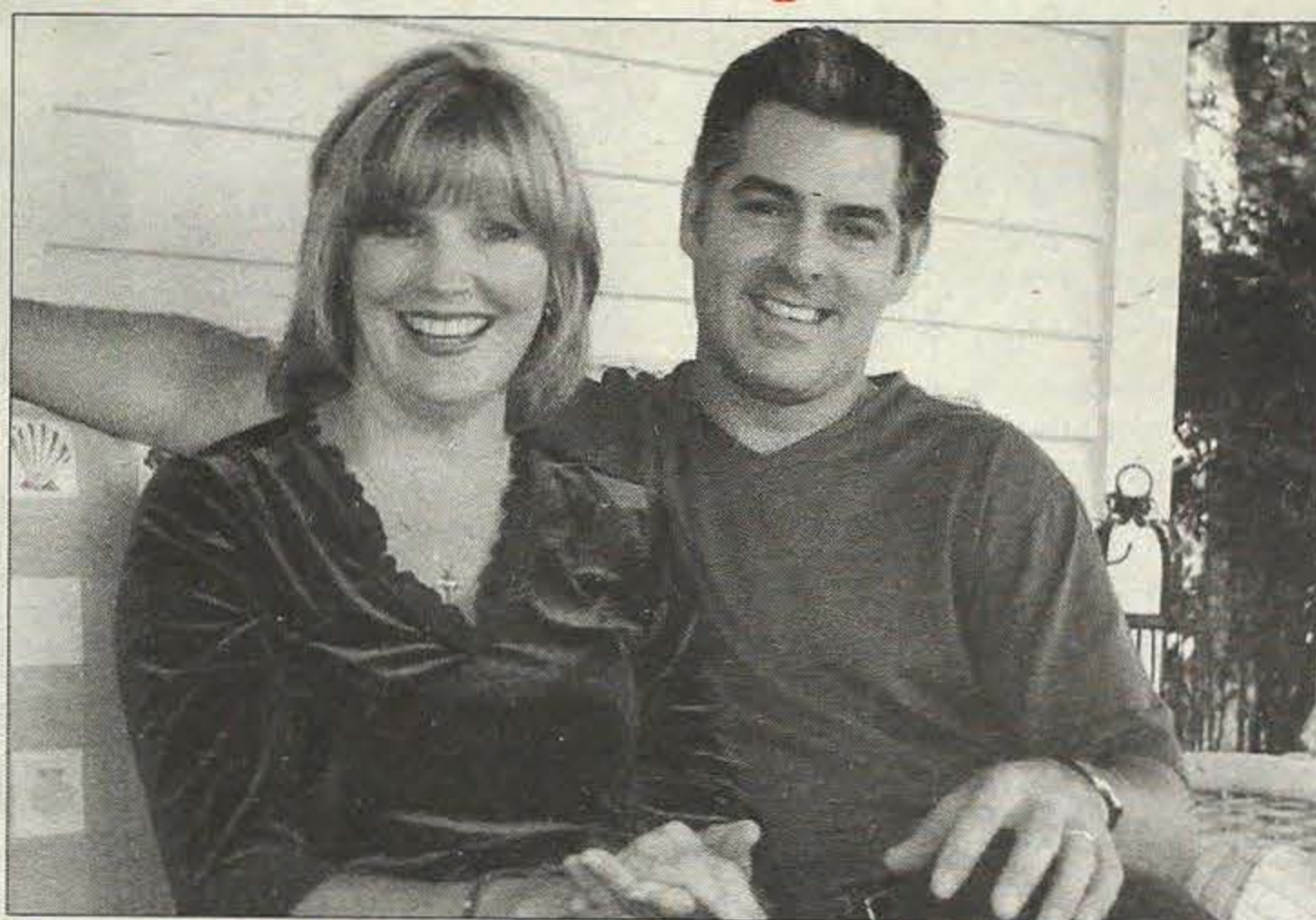
"I don't have fear. It's bizarre and that's only of God. I'm just a regular human being," said Lisa.

"Every single day is a victory. I shouldn't be here. I fully believe I'll be healed, either through the hands of a doctor or through a miracle."

The couple also is thankful for the hundreds of people who are sending prayerful best wishes via their web site, www.bruceandlisa.com.

Christian artists

As Wetley and LaCross grew in their new faith, they felt God calling them to become



LISA LACROSS AND Bruce Wetley relax on the front porch of their home in College Grove.

Christian artists.

They hadn't performed that much together publicly. As they dated, Bruce wrote songs for violin and flute which they performed together, mostly privately. In 2002 they finally recorded those jazz songs. The CD, "Gifts of Love," has been highly acclaimed.

Their friends told them they were "nuts," recalled Wetley, to leave their successful careers but they knew God would provide.

The couple, with their youngest daughter only 18 months old, left everything in Miami to move to Middle Tennessee and try to develop a new career involving ministry.

They have been tested and received affirmations from God, they said.

One affirmation is that just eight months after Wetley resigned from the Florida Philharmonic, it closed, putting 85 of his colleagues out of work.

One test was that their house didn't sell for a year although they had received several offers

on it before they wanted to sell. They used up all of their savings. Their Sunday School class at ClearView Church helped them when they needed groceries. But they never missed a payment.

Another test came when they didn't have anything scheduled for eight weeks — no church visits, no studio sessions. LaCross was worried about making their payments, recalled Wetley. This time, Wetley had assurance and told her to "keep praying. God definitely has a plan."

Then they received a phone call from a staff member for Twila Paris who invited Wetley to perform as part of an eight-week tour by Paris. The dates were exactly the dates the couple needed work.

The experience "was almost like Him saying, thank you for being obedient," said Wetley.

Currently, their new career as Christian musicians is going very well.

"We're His work," said Bruce. "It's not about us. It's all about Him," Lisa added. □

Americans idolize 'traditional family' even if they don't have one, study shows

Associated Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — A new survey shows that, even as Americans have become more accepting of non-traditional family structures, their view of the ideal family has remained the same — a heterosexual couple, married for life, with children.

The survey, commissioned by the PBS program Religion and Ethics Newsweekly, was conducted by the Washington polling firm Greenberg Quinlan Rosner Research. It will form the basis for a four-week series on the public-television show, beginning the weekend of Oct. 28.

The results, released to the press Oct. 19, show "that there is a significant gap between what we call beliefs and reality" about the family, said pollster Anna Greenberg, who designed the survey.

"Nearly everyone in this country supports what we would call the 'traditional family,'" Greenberg continued, noting that 71 percent of respondents agreed with the statement, "God's plan for marriage is one man, one woman, for life."

However, only 22 percent of respondents agreed that divorce is a sin, 49 percent said it is OK for couples to live together without intending to get married, and 40 percent agreed that it is "a good idea for a couple who intend to get married to live together first."

For instance, 52 percent of respondents believed that divorce is "usually the best solution when a couple can't seem to work out their marriage problems." That figure included 38 percent of those in "traditional marriages," defined as a heterosexual couple in their first marriage with children at home.

Greenberg also noted that divorce rates are similar between the population at large and evangelical Protestants and traditionalist Catholics. "If you are more religiously conservative ... you are not less likely to get divorced and in some cases more likely to get divorced," she said.

The survey found that less than 20 percent of respondents were never-divorced married couples with children at home. Another 27 percent were married and never divorced but with no children living at home.

Nonetheless, a large majority of respondents remain opposed to marriage and adoption rights for same-sex couples.

The tension between the ideals for marriage and the reality means that, despite changes in society, institutions charged with defining societal ideals have held their ground in the area of family life, said John Green, who helped conduct the study. Green is a professor of political science at the University of Akron. □

Tennessee Baptist Convention 2005 - 2006 Proposed Cooperative Program Budget					
Area	2004 - 2005 Approved	Executive Board Recommendation	Actual Dollar Increase	% Inc.	% of Total
1st Convention					
Mission Board	6,666,535	6,928,717	262,182	3.9%	18.88%
Mission Board	3,038,606	3,158,109	119,503	3.9%	8.60%
Liberty Comm.	2,885,276	2,998,749	113,472	3.9%	8.17%
	198,663	206,476	7,813	3.9%	0.56%
	101,331	105,316	3,985	3.9%	0.29%
	442,658	460,067	17,409	3.9%	1.25%
	13,333,069	13,857,433	524,364	3.9%	37.75%
Ministries					
		2,155,379			
		1,946,291			
		1,992,129			
		1,341,273			
		576,889			
		487,306			
		546,630			
Support		1,305,954			
		581,966			
	10,633,617	10,933,617	300,000	2.8%	29.79%
Relations					
Reflector	406,653	406,653	-	0.0%	1.11%
Comms.	348,696	348,696	-	0.0%	0.95%
Plan	1,157,108	1,458,824	301,716	26.1%	3.97%
Centers	140,889	140,889	-	0.0%	0.38%
Promotion	89,115	89,115	-	0.0%	0.24%
	97,500	125,000	27,500	28.2%	0.34%
	2,239,961	2,569,177	329,216	14.7%	7.00%
Education					
University	2,330,304	2,330,304	-	0.0%	6.35%
College	2,330,304	2,330,304	-	0.0%	6.35%
Academy	2,330,304	2,330,304	-	0.0%	6.35%
Academy	457,291	457,291	-	0.0%	1.25%
Academy	13,956	13,956	-	0.0%	0.04%
Academy	69,778	69,778	-	0.0%	0.19%
Academy	7,531,937	7,531,937	-	0.0%	20.52%
Academy					
Academy	253,014	253,014	-	0.0%	0.69%
Academy	1,227,627	1,227,627	-	0.0%	3.34%
Academy	335,626	335,626	-	0.0%	0.91%
Academy	1,816,267	1,816,267	-	0.0%	4.95%
Academy					
Academy	35,554,851	36,708,431	1,153,580	3.2%	100.00%

Amount in excess of the total approved budget will be allocated on the percentage basis of the budget as shown.

The SBC allocation is determined by the Southern Baptist Convention. The amounts shown are the amounts approved in the 2005 - 2006 SBC Budget.

Close call and lost job fail to derail Tennessee volunteer team

By Keith Manuel
Baptist Press

NEW ORLEANS — Members from Watson Chapel Baptist Church are living up to their state's nickname, the Volunteer State. Even after a member of their chain saw crew was pinned by a tree, almost paralyzing him, the church was willing to send a team of youth and adults to return to Louisiana the following week.

Patrick Bethel was on a trip with a team from Sweetwater Baptist Association when the accident occurred, said Russ Cooper, pastor at Watson Chapel.

Cooper related a tree fell across Bethel's legs, pinning him to the ground. "It could have been a lot worse, but God intervened," Cooper shared.

Cooper related that he talked to the emergency room doctor who treated Bethel and was told at first the young man's legs were crushed.

Later, the doctor called back and told Cooper "to keep doing what you're doing."

Cooper said the doctor told him the x-rays didn't look anything like the legs he first saw.

"God's hands were truly on him," Cooper said, adding that prayers went up immediately by

numerous people as soon as word got back to Madisonville about the accident.

"There's no doubt it was a miracle," the pastor said.

Cooper led the return trip to First Baptist Church in Ponchatoula. Cooper said the team named the trip in honor of their fallen member, "Operation Back To Bethel."

He drove every morning to New Orleans to distribute food, water, ice, and cleaning supplies at Calvary Baptist Church and to a non-church site.

By giving out Bibles at both sites, doors for ministry opened. One woman, after receiving a Bible, began to cry. Through her tears, she asked for another Bible for her mother because the hurricanes destroyed both of their Bibles left in their homes.

Tina Dalton was moved by "all of the love and kindness of the people" she helped.

"People didn't take any more than they needed. They didn't want to be wasteful. I kept saying take more, but they would say, 'No, No, someone else might need it,'" Dalton recounted.



RUSS COOPER, pastor of Watson Chapel Baptist Church, Madisonville, presents a Bible to a victim of Hurricane Katrina.

Volunteer Karen Raby, believing God wanted her to go to New Orleans, lost her job to be a part of the team. After telling her boss what she was going to do, Raby endured the taunts of some co-workers because they could not understand why she would risk her job to help others. But the faith of her 13-year-old son, Cameron Hawk, convinced her. "Momma," Cameron said, "you know that if you go down there, God will provide [for us] when you come back home."

Of all the Watson Chapel volunteers from Madisonville, two of the most extraordinary were

Raul and Amanda Spurgeon. The brother and sister evacuated with their parents from St. Charles Parish, La., to Tennessee.

While at a community shelter, the family was told about Watson Chapel. They began attending services and soon made a decision to begin a relationship with the Lord. The church even began to house the Spurgeons in a room in their fellowship hall.

While living at the church, Amanda and

Raul started volunteering at the shelter in which they previously lived. And then they came back with their new church family to minister to others in New Orleans.

The story would be amazing enough if it ended there. But immediately before the first church service the Spurgeons attended at Watson Chapel, Donna Combs had prayed for unaccounted-for relatives in the New Orleans area during a prayer meeting.

Not knowing how to get in touch with them, she turned the matter over to the Lord. When

Donna walked out of the meeting and into the church service, two of the relatives, great-nephew Raul and Amanda, sitting in a pew at the definitely not as a coincidence but as evidence of divine intervention.

Shanna Isbill realized the week in New Orleans what she saw on television was not the whole story of the disaster.

"You try to help people back to normal, but they never be normal again," said. A woman cried and told Isbill, "I lost everything I now own a piece of my car."

"She just didn't know how to start," Isbill said, "to get her life back together."

As New Orleanians fashioning their new lives, however, Southern Baptist volunteers like those from Watson Chapel and other churches in Tennessee will continue on hand to provide hope. □ — Editor Lonnie contributed to this story.

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

GuideStone Financial Resources Your Guide for Health.™

As your life changes, your health plan can change too.

Wherever you are in life, GuideStone is there to guide you — every step of the way.

Taking responsibility for your family's good health requires commitment. GuideStone is here to help by providing the benefits, information and support you need to keep your family healthy.

- A choice of six PPO medical plans and a consumer-directed health care option.
- Comprehensive preventive care benefits and immunization coverage.
- Access to nationwide Blue Cross Blue Shield health care provider network.

Southern Baptist ministers, church staff, seminary students and denominational employees are eligible to apply for coverage through GuideStone. Underwriting is required.

9249

10/05



GuideStone Financial Resources. Your Guide for Life.™

1-800-262-0511 www.GuideStone.org

GuideStone
FINANCIAL RESOURCES
of the Southern Baptist Convention

Picking up the pieces after Hurricane Katrina

Best
Columnist



By Jerry Drace

Like a city the size of Jacksonville, every house, church, school, and business with four to five feet of water and let it be for several days then try to reclaim the ruins.

This is the situation in Chalmette, La., a suburb of New Orleans. Thousands of homes are completely devastated and sit in a toxic mud from the storm. A white deadly mud lies baking in the sun on brown lawns and in many places. The few citizens of Chalmette who have returned stand with tears streaming down their cheeks as they stare at this unbelievable scene of destruction. The same desolation exists in many parts of New Orleans.

In this setting I entered Chalmette at the invitation of the Billy Graham Rapid Response Team to serve as a chaplain to those "all that we can for as we can."

My first assignment was to the campus of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. I and I walked the campus together where we each ministered to those with whom

we came in contact. This was the home to more than 500 families. I stood by young married couples as they opened their apartment doors for the first time since the flood to find black mold growing on their walls, books cases, pianos, and baby beds. The stench of decay and spoiled food left behind in the refrigerators filled your lungs and left you breathless.

One young wife buried her face in my arms as her husband stood stunned and silent at the sight of their possessions in utter ruin.

The professors who teach at the seminary live on the campus and many of them lost their libraries along with all their furnishings as well. In a situation like this you listen, pray, and encourage.

This is not a time for sermons. It is a time to show the love of Jesus through actions as well as words.

From there, fellow chaplain, Lamar Wick, and I drove to the Ninth Ward. This is one of the hardest hit areas in the city. Fifty square miles of this section were under water for two weeks. Thousands of homes stood empty and covered with the gray, lifeless dust left behind by Katrina. It was a surreal ghostly environment. Not a single human in sight until we spotted a gentleman sweeping his sidewalk. We stopped the car

and approached him. He stared at us in disbelief. When I told him we were chaplains with the Billy Graham Ministry he smiled and in a very soft voice said, "Thank you for coming." He told us how he had been living here for several years and his home was paid for and that he just wanted to clean it up and move back in. This is how he was dealing with his stress. We asked if we could pray for him and he said, "I am a born again believer and I believe in the

contracting tools for his new business and all of that was now under four feet of mud in his garage. It will be a total loss. After I got his name and address we prayed together and I told him I would try to find someone who would help him and his family.

I then turned to see two National Guard soldiers watching the crowds which had gathered to meet with FEMA, Red Cross, and insurance personnel. Their unit came from Iowa and

will be deployed a few more weeks. As I talked with the sergeant he shared how he had never seen such devastation in all his years of working disasters.

Thank God for our military men and women who serve their country both home and abroad.

I had to leave, but will return later for at least two more weeks along with my wife, Becky.

As the reports of the victims of Katrina are removed from the front pages of our papers and are no longer the lead stories on the evening news please do not forget the fractured families and broken lives. Hundreds of people when asked what they needed most replied in just one word, "Prayer." □ — Drace is president of the Jerry Drace Evangelistic Association. He lives in Humboldt.

This is not a time for sermons. It is a time to show the love of Jesus through actions as well as words.

power of prayer. I would be honored." As the three of us locked arms around each other we thanked God for life in a place where days before death had flowed in the flood waters in front of his home.

Later, in another location, I noticed a young man and his wife holding their baby with a look of despair on their faces. I told him I was a chaplain and asked if I could be of help. He said his house had been totally submerged and that he had waded through waist deep mud to check on his home after the waters from the storm surge had drained out of the city. He had to cut a hole in his roof to let himself into their house. He had just taken out a \$80,000 loan to buy

CLASSIFIED

MINISTRY — PASTOR

Gravel Hill Baptist Church of Ramer, Tenn., is now accepting resumes for a full-time pastor. Please mail resume to Search Committee, 172 Ester Lane, Ramer, TN 38367.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Covenant Baptist Church in Collierville, Tenn., is now accepting resumes for a full-time senior pastor. For further information, see www.covenantontheweb.org/CBC_Search.html. E-mail resume to general@covenantontheweb.org or mail to Pastor Search Committee, Covenant Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1165, Collierville, TN 38027 by Dec. 15, 2005.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Traditional rural church, with vision to grow, seeking a pastor. Send resume to Grace Baptist Church, 410 Old Hwy., 31-E, Bethpage, TN 37022.

MINISTRY — STUDENT

Fairfield Baptist Church is seeking a full-time youth pastor for growing youth ministry. Please send resume to the church at 1863 Hwy., 100, Centerville, TN 37033.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Alice Bell Baptist Church accepting resumes for full-time minister to students. Qualified applicant should possess at least a 4 year college degree and 3 years experience working with middle school to college age students. Resumes will be accepted through Nov. 22, 2005. Please send resume to 3305 Alice Bell Rd., Knoxville, TN 37917, Attn. Youth Pastor Search Committee.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Oakland First Baptist Church is accepting applications for a part-time minister of youth. Send resume to OFBC Youth Minister Search Committee, P.O. Box 268, Oakland, TN 38060.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Fast growing Southern Baptist church in Loudon County is seeking a full-time minister of students and activities. Prefer seminary degree and ministry experience. Send resume to Dixie Lee Baptist Church, 14650 Old Stage Rd., Lenoir City, TN 37772, Attn. Doug Rhodus.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Seeking full-time youth minister at First Baptist Church, Mayfield. Send resume to Bob Swift, Pastor, 118 West South St., Mayfield, KY 42066.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

First Baptist Church of Madison, Miss., is seeking a dynamic, Christian leader of young people to immediately fill the full-time position of minister of youth. Please mail letters of interest with credentials to FBC Madison, P.O. Box 400, Madison, MS 39130-0400, or e-mail Shari Hurt, pastoral secretary at shurt@fbcmadison.org.

CLASSIFIED

MISCELLANEOUS

Gym bleachers available. Pleasant Heights Church in Columbia, Tenn., has 2 sections of brown steel retractable bleachers available. Approximately 20 ft. by 5 ft. Call Peter Sierson for more details, (931) 388-6453.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Bus for sale. 1995 Thomas bus, 110K miles, seats 35, Caterpillar 3116 diesel, automatic, A/C. \$18,000. Contact Mike Robinson @Birmingham-Southern College, (205) 226-4936.

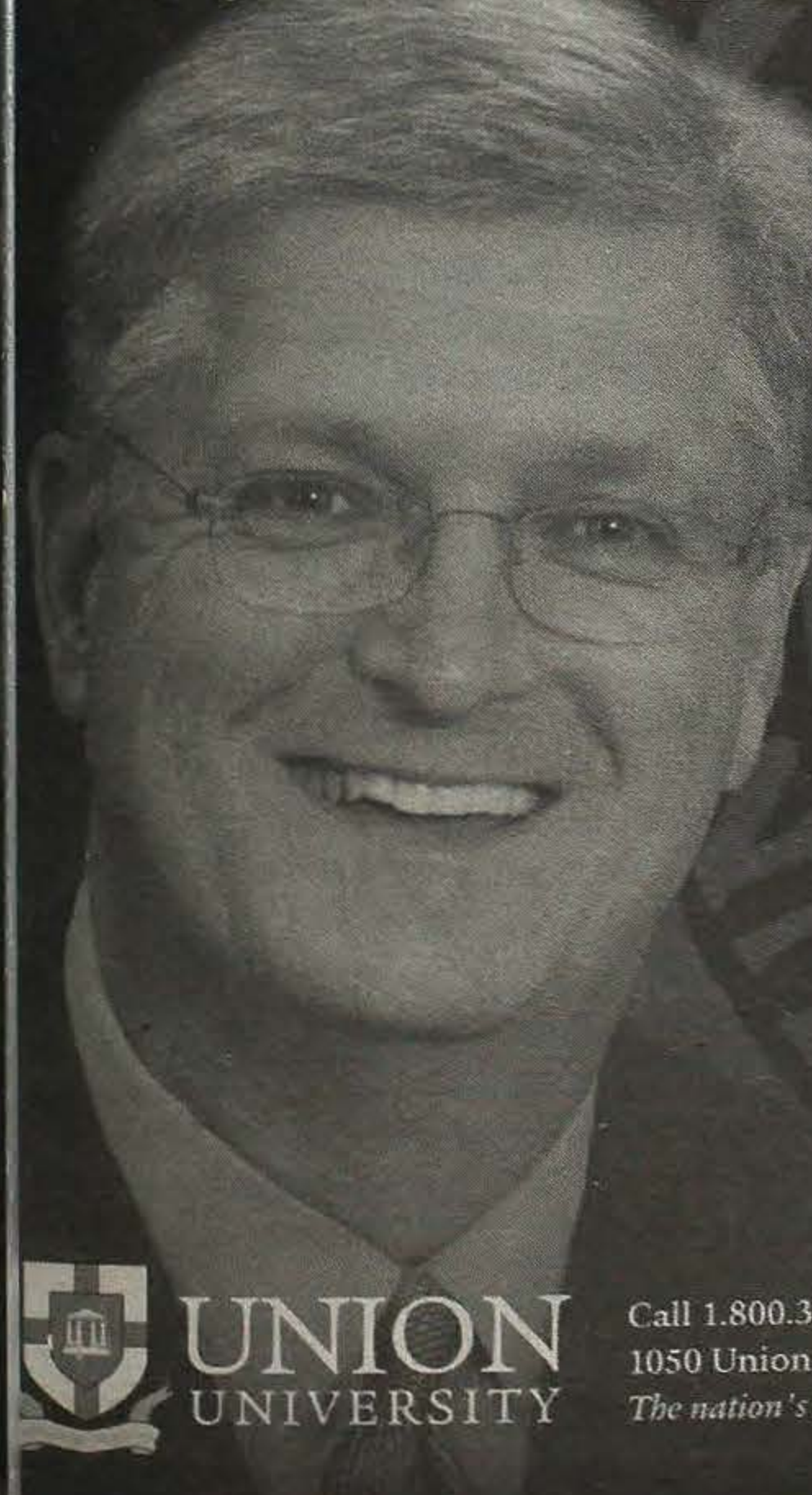
MINISTRY — POSITIONS

Northside Baptist Church, McMinnville, Tenn., is seeking a full-time minister of youth and a part-time minister of music. Please send resume to Tim Miles, Pastor, Northside Baptist Church, 1574 Yager Rd., McMinnville, TN 37110. Or, you can e-mail your resume to tim@northside-bc.org.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

River Rock Baptist Church is currently seeking to fill two positions: a part-time children's director and a part-time youth director. Please forward resume to 2248 Hwy. 99, Murfreesboro, TN 37128 to the attention of Pastor Randy Clayton.

Why Tennessee Baptists Have Confidence in UNION UNIVERSITY



"Spirit-led visionary leadership; Reflection at a deep level; Kingdom mindset; Commitment to excellence in all things; A rigorously biblical perspective for all of life; A genuine community of grace; A vision to touch the entire world.

Some of those attributes would fit many Christian organizations. There are few that could honestly claim all of them. I have seen them all at Union University - which is why I encourage our students to consider Union."

Sam Shaw

Senior Pastor
Germantown Baptist Church • Germantown



Call 1.800.33.Union for enrollment information
1050 Union University Drive • Jackson, TN 38305 • www.uu.edu
The nation's oldest Southern Baptist university, founded in 1823

College, KBC seek new relationship

Baptist Press

GEORGETOWN, Ky. — Officials of Georgetown College and the Kentucky Baptist Convention are proposing a new working relationship that would allow the college to have a self-perpetuating board of trustees while maintaining historic ties between the two organizations.

The proposal, announced Oct. 17, is proposed by a 14-member joint workgroup formed in August to discuss the working relation-

ship between the two entities.

The plan still must be approved by the college's trustees and by messengers to the Kentucky Baptist Convention annual meeting Nov. 15-16.

If approved, the new working relationship will replace the existing covenant between the KBC and the college approved in 1987. Under that agreement and in previous agreements dating back to 1942, the KBC has the right to elect Georgetown's trustees in return for providing financial support. Georgetown currently receives approximately \$1.3 million each year through

Kentucky Baptist CP funds.

Under the new plan, the college's trustee board will become self-perpetuating with KBC funding phased out over a four-year period. Ultimately, the college would move to having a trustee mix that is at least 75 percent Kentucky Baptist.

The plan also provides for Georgetown and the KBC to continue to jointly fund a campus minister position. Students

also will continue to be eligible for scholarships provided by the state convention and churches can designate contributions through the KBC for the college.

Georgetown President Bill Crouch emphasized the college "will remain a Baptist college," adding that "being Baptist is a way of life, it's a way of making decisions, a way of looking at the world."

Noting that "some may view this as a divorce between two very important institutions," Crouch added, "I view something different. I view a relationship of love and respect that is now redoubling the focus going forward. We have our differences but we each to pursue our specialties." □

Enjoy the beauty of **HAWAII** with **Christian Life Tours** February 6-16. This fabulous land tour (not a cruise) is all inclusive. For brochures, information, or reservations, call **877-557-0073** (toll free) or e-mail ddale1950@aol.com.

3,000 college students are looking for a pastor.
Are you the one they are looking for?

California Baptist University, one of the fastest-growing Baptist universities in the West, is seeking qualified applicants to serve in the combined role of Dean of Spiritual Life and Campus Minister.

Primary responsibilities include:

- Serve as pastor to the University community
- Developing and managing Campus Ministries budget and staff
- Plan and supervise Campus Chapel and International Service Projects
- Serve as University representative to denomination and church organizations

To view a complete position description, visit www.calbaptist.edu/hr_staff

If you believe you are qualified and are ready for a new and rewarding ministry opportunity, send your resume to kdacus@calbaptist.edu or call 951.343.4217.



CLASSIFIED

MINISTRY — MUSIC

First Baptist Church in beautiful, historic Carter County is seeking a full-time worship leader. College or seminary required, contemporary/traditional, technology savvy, with good people skills and experience. Music Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 212 East F St., Elizabethton, TN 37643.

MINISTRY — CHILDREN

Full-time minister of preschool/children. Send resume to Calvary Baptist Church, 1121 Paul Bryant Dr., Tuscaloosa, AL 35401.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

Seeking full-time children's minister at First Baptist Church Mayfield. Send resume to Bob Swift, Pastor, 118 West South St., Mayfield, KY 42066.

MINISTRY — SENIOR ADULT

Part-time senior adult minister wanted. Resumes should be sent by Oct. 31, 2005 to Vinton Baptist Church, P.O. Box 306, Vinton, VA 24179-0306.

Join **Christian Life Tours** for an escape to **ALASKA** inside passage and glacier cruises departing June 3. Call **877-557-0073** (toll free) or e-mail ddale1950@aol.com.



LifeWay
CHURCH BUSES

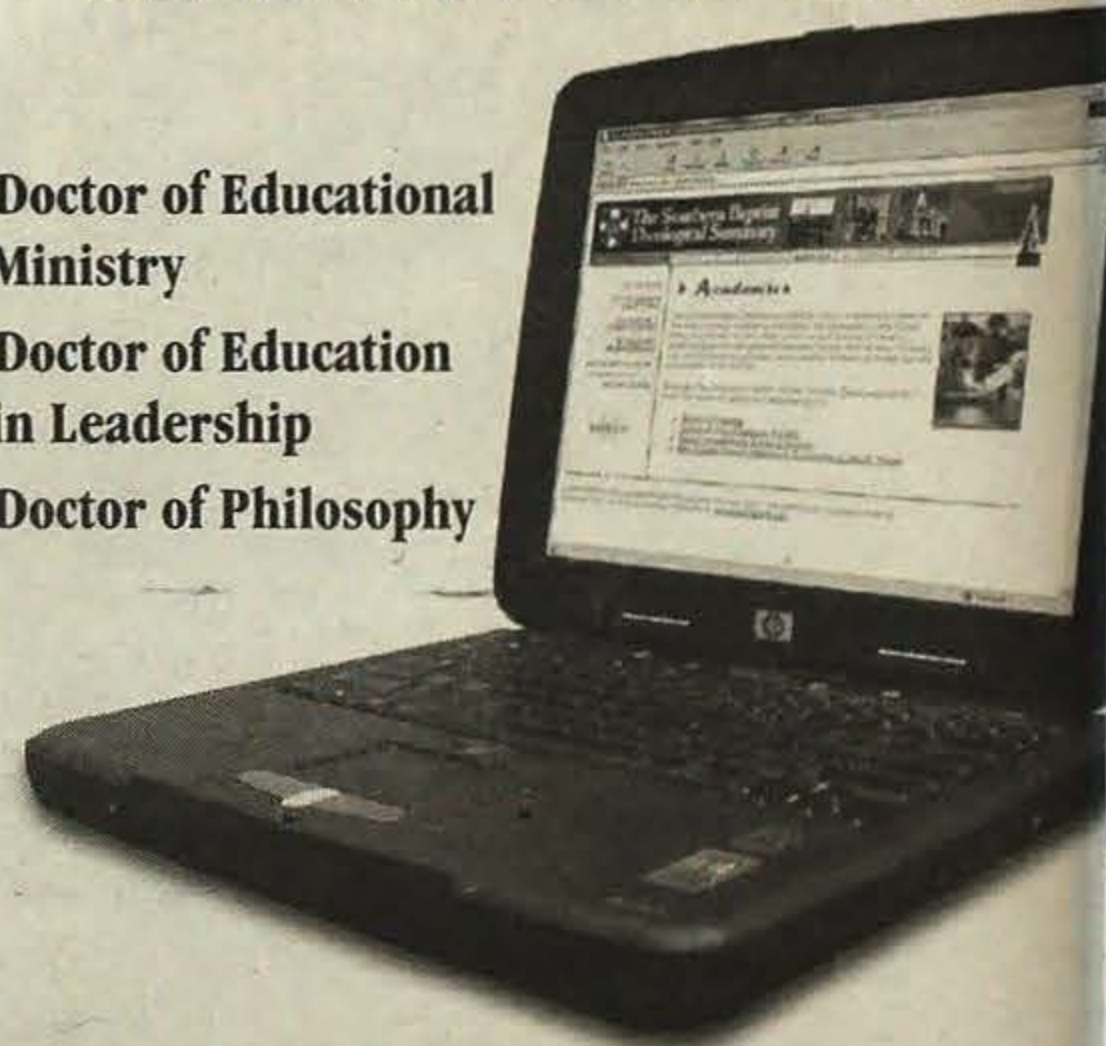
Buses provided for LifeWay churches
Carpenter Bus Sales
Franklin, TN • Since 1953

1-800-370-6180 • carpenterbus.com

For the Glory of God

IT'S TIME TO UPGRADE YOUR MINISTRY.

- Doctor of Educational Ministry
- Doctor of Education in Leadership
- Doctor of Philosophy



A lot about the ministry has changed in the last ten years. New challenges. New methods. New opportunities. Don't get left in the past. Upgrade your education.

If you're ready, Southern Seminary's School of Leadership and Church Ministry is the place for you. Offering three different doctoral

programs, one Internationally enhanced, Southern Seminary has the degree to meet ministry needs for today and the future.

Quit living in the past. Time to prepare for the future.

To find out more, call 1-800-626-5525 or check out on the Internet: sbts.edu.



The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

TO LEARN, TO LIVE, TO LOVE ...

ABUNDANTLY

At Carson-Newman, I am serving alongside others who are trying to shine like stars in the universe (Philippians 2:6). Through Appalachian Outreach and Baptist Collegiate Ministries the opportunities to put my head knowledge and heart knowledge into action are innumerable.

Kara Blankenship

Senior
Religion Major



Jefferson City, Tennessee
www.cn.edu

minister's corner

Follow God's example

By Mark Brown

Focal Passage: 4:22-5:2,8-10

Hurricanes are indiscriminate eaters: lumber, asphalt, mobile homes, flora, and fauna. But they seem to have a particular sweet tooth for road signs.

I left Petal, Miss., last week heading to the Gulf Coast, intending to take I-59 southwest and follow the signs. (I know now that Highway 49 would have also worked, but you're supposed to learn on a mission trip, aren't you?) I had left my atlas at home and forgot to pick up a map at the Welcome Center when I crossed the state line, but, having glanced at a couple of maps here and there, I was confident. By the time I got to Carriere (less than 10 miles from Louisiana), the car wanted gas and I needed assurance that we were going the right way.

I casually asked the cashier, "What's the best way to Bay St. Louis?" Making an Atlanta Braves chopping motion with her right hand, she said, "Right down 43 to 603. It's about 20 minutes."

So, off down 43 we went. She hadn't said that Highway 43 ran dead into another road, much less which way to turn. I chose poorly and circuitously traveled north until we reached I-59 again. I took the next exit and tried again, no more prepared than I had been. My traveling companion, Ivan, a Carson-Newman student assigned to video

the Fall Break hurricane relief trip, began having doubts. I told him we would make our destination long before dark. He rolled his eyes.

A crossroads market owner helped a little and, finally, a utility worker gave us definite directions that took us right into town. We made it, and long before dark in fact, but it took us twice the time and effort I expected. All for the lack of road signs. It seems so very simple in retrospect: road signs are among the first things to go in 150-mile-an-hour winds. They didn't teach me that in school, but then again, they shouldn't have had to. I should have been able to figure that out on my own.

My faith journey has sometimes been like my Mississippi sojourn. Storms have blown into my life, ripping up the markers and signposts. And, instead of sitting down with the Bible, the atlas of my faith, I have tried so very many times to find my own way. It's not uncommon to ask someone else how to get where we need to go, without regard for whether or not they really know the way. Wanting to make it easy on ourselves, we casually go up to someone and ask directions or, worse yet, we fall in line behind them and follow blindly, never having established that they know where they are going in the first place.

For a month now, we have studied Ephesians as an atlas of holiness. We are responsible for what we know, for what we have

Sunday School Lesson Family Bible Series Oct. 30

exposed ourselves to. Paul writes, *You must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts* (Ephesians 4:17-18).



BROWN

Whereas we once wandered ignorantly and stubbornly, we should know better than that now. *For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness, and truth) and find out what pleases the Lord* (Ephesians 5:8-10).

Those things which please God are the road signs of our journey. If we follow them, and not our own circuitous guesses, then we will stay on the right path. And we will be home long before dark. □ — Brown is director of news and publications at Carson-Newman College and a member of First Baptist Church, Jefferson City.

Given eternal life

By Kevin Shrum

Focal Passage: Romans 6:15-23

A popular saying these days is — "who's your daddy?" The meaning of this phrase is "who owns or controls you?" Something or someone will control us. The question is what or who should control the believer? If we have been translated from death unto life, then sin should no longer "be our daddy."

Ownership and obedience, vv. 15-16

Now that we are believers, we are "under grace." Those who are under grace are slaves, but not to sin. Unbelievers are slaves to sin; believers are slaves to righteousness. And the purpose of a slave is full and absolute obedience to his/her master.

Obedience is key. The question is: will we have an obedience to "sin leading to death or of obedience leading to righteousness?" In essence, God did not set us free to live unto ourselves. God set us free so that we might be enslaved to the right thing — Jesus Christ, our righteousness.

Obedience and sanctification, vv. 17-19

Once we obeyed the gospel, we were set free from sin and enslaved to righteousness. Righteousness ought to produce in us a sanctifying process that leads to moral purity and the weakness of the flesh.

Sanctification begins in us when we obeyed the gospel and continues as we allow God's grace to work in us and through us His righteousness. Or, as verse 17 notes, *we obeyed from the heart the pattern of teaching you were entrusted to, and having been liberated from sin*. We are not only saved by grace, we are set apart by God's grace. Offering ourselves as obedient servants produces a sanctifying process in us that glorifies God!

Again, too many believers think that when God saved them He set them free from any obligations. We misunderstand what Jesus said in John 8:31-32: *If you continue in My word, you really are My disciples. You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.*



SHRUM

Notice that we are not set free without restraint. Instead, the saved person is set free from "the lie," and is now chained to the truth. We are not set free to live as we want; we are set free to live as we ought. So it is with righteousness, as well.

Obedience and eternal life, vv. 20-23

In addition to placing the believer under the Lordship of Jesus Christ and also involving

Sunday School Lesson Explore the Bible Oct. 30

them in the sanctifying process of righteousness, obedience also produces in us eternal life. Verse 23 is classic: *For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Notice that sin is a wage. In other words, the consequence of sin produces a wage, just as if you worked a 40-hour week and received a paycheck. And what is the paycheck of sin? The answer is death!

No amount of good works can serve as collateral to offset the debt we owe because of sin. In other words, our sin produces a wage (death) that is beyond our ability to cover. We don't have nor will we ever have enough credit in our spiritual bank to cash that paycheck.

However, God has graced us in Jesus Christ by giving us the gift of life in the person of Jesus Christ. Without merit, God gives us eternal life. And God's eternal life is good for the here and the hereafter. So, "who's your daddy?" For the believer the answer is righteousness, sanctification, and eternal life in Jesus Christ! □ — Shrum is pastor of Inglewood Baptist Church, Nashville.

Drake

Two days ago I began thinking about some experiences I had on mission trips over the years. Once in I accidentally ended up hitchhiking in downtown Rio. Two young brothers who were believers were us to their home, and because of the language barrier they thought we wanted to hitchhike. We were actually trying to tell them we wanted to take a bus!

Another time in Cuba we ran out of gas in the middle of the night. There I was — in the middle of the road, in the middle of the night, in the middle of Cuba. Finally, a car came along and our driver was allowed to syphon gas to get us on to our destination.

On my first trip to Rio, I inadvertently broke up a drug deal. I walked up to some guys and gave them gospel and told them about ministry in their country. They were rather surprised when I approached them, and the translator told me what I had done. I'm glad God is for His children.

On my most recent trip (Sept. 26-Oct. 4) I didn't have any of the above experiences. Our team, which included a deacon at my church, was blessed to witness conversions for Christ. And we say, "To God be the glory." One day my team visited a lady and her grown daughter. The mother was a Seventh Day Adventist and I could tell she didn't seem too receptive to the gospel presentation. In a few minutes she left. I continued sharing and the grown daughter came to Christ as her Lord and Savior.

After we left, one of the church members on our team told me that the woman's mother had left the room to pray. I was telling her daughter. So this church began praying against the other woman that was praying for me. I don't think I've ever had that happen. Well, you know which prayer God answered! He answered His Word out there and He will use it, whether in the U.S., or anywhere else.

One day as we were walking up a steep street on the hill, I noticed the front of a house that looked familiar. Though a lot of the houses in Rio look the same, this one really looked like a place I had visited two years ago. Apparently I mentioned this to my translator and he came to me and said he discovered that I had visited there two years ago. The translator said I had visited a man in that house whose wife was already a believer. On that day, two years ago, that man trusted in Jesus as his Lord and Savior. According to the translator, he has been faithful ever since. What an encouragement!

On our last ministry day in Rio I went to the home of an elderly woman. This visit turned out to be one of the highlights of our trip. As I conversed with them, I shared the gospel and asked them, "What do you consider to be God's requirements for entering His kingdom?"

When the case, a "works" answer was given. I continued to share with them and talked about the holiness and the sinfulness of man. I wanted them to clearly understand their need for a Savior.

I told them I had some "good" news for them. One lady responded, "Good, because so far we've just heard bad news." And she was right. People must know the truth before they can appreciate the good news. They must understand the seriousness of the disease before they can appreciate the cure.

It was my joy to share with those women that the death of Christ had met God's requirement on behalf of all.

After I left their home they both accepted Christ and church that evening and were able to participate in the first Lord's Supper. When the invitation was given that evening they came forward on profession of faith several others.

Something else happened during my sermon that evening. A car pulled up outside the church playing very loud music. It was deafening and I had to stop preaching. I noticed that some of the people bowed their heads and I knew they were praying for God to intervene. In a few moments the noise stopped and I went back to preaching.

I could not stop what God was doing in the service that evening. To God be the glory! □ — Drake is pastor of Merry Road Baptist Church, Memphis.

Leaders

◆ New Salem Baptist Church, Soddy Daisy, will honor **Ted Painter** on Sunday, Nov. 6, in the 10:45 a.m. worship service for his 35 years as pastor. A celebration luncheon will follow the service.

◆ **Alan Sherouse** has been called as minister to youth, Immanuel Baptist Church, Nashville.

◆ **Jerry Seale**, minister to the deaf, First Baptist Church, Knoxville, for 30 years, was honored recently by the church. Seale also coordinates mission ministries.

◆ Third Baptist Church, Nashville, will honor **J.B. Miller**, pastor, for his 50 years of service in the ministry on Sunday, Oct. 30, during the 10:45 a.m. worship service. He has served Mississippi and Tennessee churches for 50 consecutive years. Miller became pastor at Third Church in 2003. Lunch will be served following the service. For information call the church at (615) 867-3646.

◆ Eagleville Baptist Church, Eagleville, called

Derrell Billingsley as minister of music and worship. He is retired from the LifeWay Christian Resources, Nashville.

◆ **Kely Hatley** has been called as minister of music, First Baptist Church, Knoxville.

Churches

◆ **New Union Baptist Church, Dayton**, will hold a revival Sunday, Oct. 30, with **Morris Anderson**, evangelist of Maryville, as speaker.

◆ **First Baptist Church, Bolivar**, will celebrate its 170th anniversary with a revival Wednesday - Sunday, Oct. 26-30 with former staff

members as speakers except for the 11 a.m. Sunday service. Wednesday's speaker is **Tim Sanderson**, former minister of music; Thursday's speaker is **George Johnson**, former pastor; Friday's speaker is **Todd Brady**, former youth minister; Saturday's speaker is **Jerry Winfield**, former pastor; and Sunday's speaker is **Ken Hemphill**, national strategist for Empowering Kingdom Growth of the Southern Baptist Convention.

◆ **First Baptist Church, Rutherford**, recently held a revival with evangelist **Floyd "Lammie" Lammersfeld** of McKenzie. The revival resulted in six people making professions of faith and several peo-

ple making other spiritual decisions.

◆ **Round Lick Baptist Church, Watertown**, will host the Power Team Wednesday - Sunday, Nov. 9-13. Call the church for information at (615) 237-3052.

◆ **Shelby Avenue Baptist Church, Nashville**, will present its Fifth Sunday Concert Series Oct. 30, at 10:45 a.m., featuring **Betty Key** of Nashville. On the same day, the church will hold its annual Harvest Street Fair from 2-4 p.m. on the parking lot. Contact the church at (615) 227-2961 or www.shelbyavebaptist.com for information.

Schools

◆ **Belmont University**, Nashville, has called **Chmielewski** of Pepperdine University, Malibu, Calif., as its new university minister. Chmielewski was coordinator of chapel/convocation and student-led ministers at Belmont.

◆ The McAfee School of Business Administration at Belmont University, has been named one of the top Christian business schools in the country by *Entrepreneur* magazine, a Christian publication, for a straight year.

Alpha Association calls Lynn Walker as missions director

Baptist and Reflector

CENTERVILLE

Alpha Baptist Association, based here, recently called **T. Lynn Walker** as director of missions. He formerly was pastor, Union Grove Baptist Church, Beech Bluff.

He is retired chaplain, Turney Center Prison and Farm, Only, where he served from 1998-2002. He was pastor, Eastwood Baptist Church, McKenzie, 1992-98; chaplain, West Tennessee State Prison, Henning, 1989-94; and chaplain, Western Mental Health Institute, 1988-89.



WALKER

Walker is a graduate of Mid-Continent Baptist College, Mayfield, Ky.; Bethel College, McKenzie; Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.; and received his clinical pastoral education in Memphis. □



ELECTED TO LEAD Judson Baptist Association, based in Dover, at its Oct. 15 annual meeting were, from left, **Jerry Jenkins**, moderator, pastor, Faith Baptist Church, Vanleer; **Lucille McFarlin**, treasurer; **Kim Cunningham**, clerk; and **Howard Coles**, vice moderator, pastor, Missionary Ridge Baptist Church, Bon Aqua.



MINISTERS WIVES IN Montana pause during the first ever Ministers Wives Luncheon of the Montana Southern Baptist Convention. It was held Oct. 4 in Great Falls as part of the MSBC annual meeting by the Tennessee Baptist Convention and drew 50 wives. The Tennessee/Montana Baptist Partnership begins in 2006. In photo are **Debbie Howeth**, **Joyce Payton**, and **Lauretta Langley**. The luncheon was led by **Lana Rose** and **Joy Clay-Corby** of the TBC staff. It was funded by Tennessee ministers wives who contributed \$1,600 for the event and many of whom agreed to be matched with Montana ministers wives as ministry sisters. They will make contact each month for a year to give support.



CORENE GAMBRELL was recognized recently by Meadow View Baptist Church, Lawrenceburg, for serving the church as custodian for 30 years.



MIKE WATSON of Cumberland Baptist Association, and **Joe McCollough** of Truett Baptist Association, Dover, together for Watson's safety before he removes a large tree roof of a victim of a recent hurricane in Sulfur, La. — *Kathye Jackson*, Sylvia Baptist Church, Dickson.



MARC DRAKE, right, pastor, Cherry Road Baptist Church, interacts with some children in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, witnessing to the woman at the door who made a profession of faith and is now praying with Brazilian Baptists. See more of Drake's experiences on page 7.