

Baptist & Reflector

Wide Edition

Telling the Story of Tennessee Baptists

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National Sheriffs' Association

Knoxville minister cited as national chaplain of the year

Lonnie Wilkey
Staff and Reflector

KNOXVILLE — At an age where people are just relaxing and enjoying retirement years, 67-year-old Gale is busier than ever.

He is co-coordinator of the Volunteer Chaplains Corps with the Knox County Sheriff's Office and is co-pastor (his son, Lee Lyon) of Shepherd of Hills Baptist Church in Powell.

His work as a chaplain was recognized recently by the National Sheriffs' Association at their 65th annual conference and exhibition held recently in Louisville, Ky.

The Johnson City native was cited as 2005 Chaplain of the Year by the organization.

He has been involved in law enforcement chaplaincy for more than two decades, first as a volunteer, and then as a part-time employee with the Knox County Sheriff's Office since 1998. He jokes that he was involved in law enforcement chaplaincy before it was a name.

His work as a chaplain is "a rarity" in the sense that Lyon ministers not only to the men and women of the sheriff's office, but to jail inmates as well, including to Lyon's son, Lee, who also is a volunteer chaplain with the office.

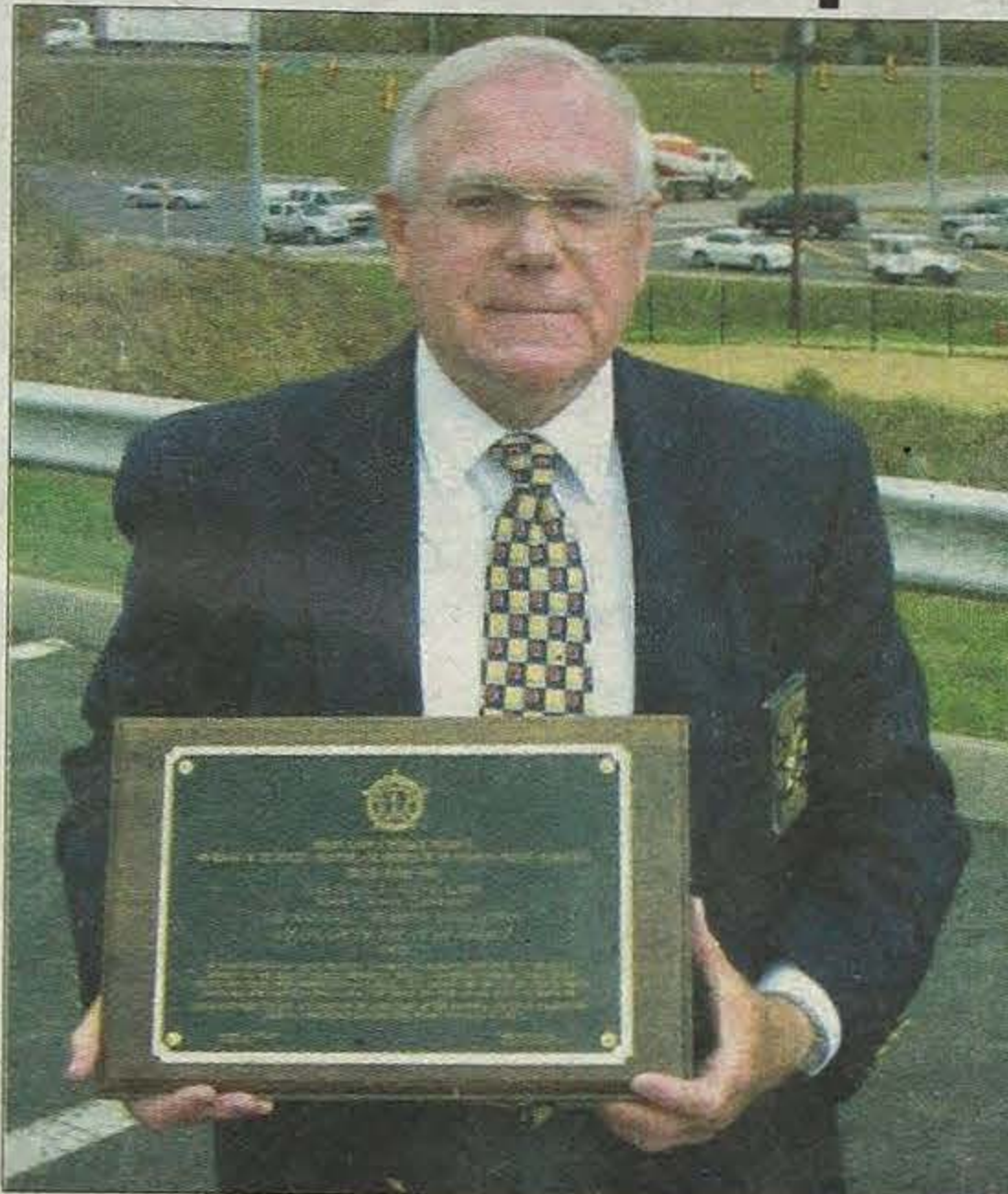
Those duties are usually separated and handled by different chaplains, the elder Lyon agreed.

Lyon admits he has a passion for law enforcement chaplaincy. It may stem from the fact his grandfather was a deputy sheriff in Washington County and two sons (Bernie and Keith) are officers with the Knox County Sheriff's Office. Lyon has first-hand knowledge of the stresses and pressures faced by police officers.

As co-coordinator of the Volunteer Chaplains Corps, Lyon helps see that a volunteer chaplain is available 24 hours a day to respond to any needs that arise. Volunteer chaplains assist officers at crime and accident scenes and provide counseling to sheriff's office staff when needed.

One of the toughest jobs of a chaplain, Lyon said, is going with an officer to notify the family of a loved one who has been killed in an accident or homicide. "There is no easy way to do tell a family a loved one has died," he acknowledged. "You have to be compassionate and tell them the truth."

On a personal side, the toughest thing for Lyon was leading the sheriff's office through two "in the line of duty"



GALE LYON, displays the award he received recently as Chaplain of the Year from the National Sheriffs' Association at their 65th annual conference and exhibition in Louisville, Ky.

deaths of officers. That was "tough," he acknowledged because he knew both officers personally.

Lyon helps lead a 12-week training academy for chaplains in Knox County and from a number of other East Ten-

nessee law enforcement agencies. He is an instructor for law enforcement training academy classes, covering topics such as family issues and spiritual preparedness for officers.

The long-time Baptist pastor also helps plan, promote, and endow the East Tennessee Law Enforcement Officers' Family Enrichment Retreat. This year's event will be held Nov. 4-6 in Pigeon Forge.

The retreat provides family-oriented resources to officers and their spouses. Now in its fourth year, Lyon said they are anticipating at least 50 couples in Pigeon Forge.

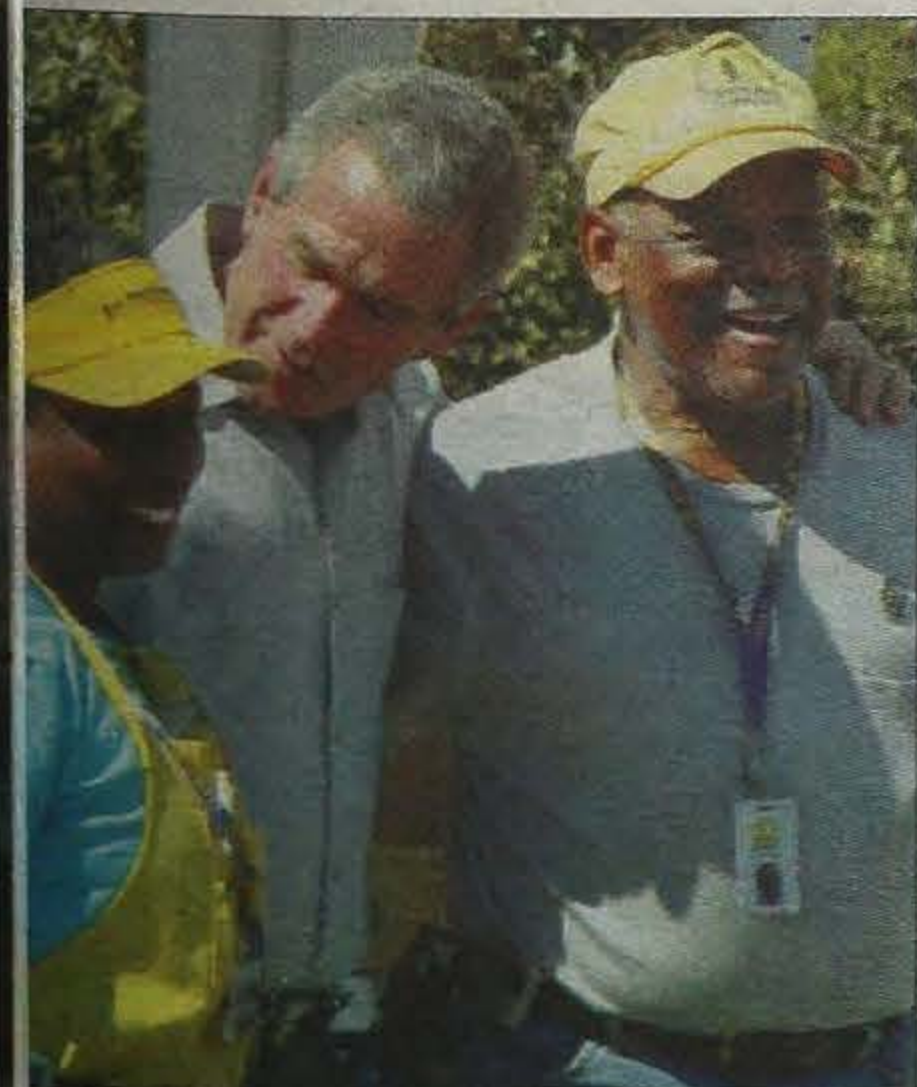
Lyon also worked to fund and distribute a police officer's Bible which was done as a memorial for Steve McCulley, one of the officers who was killed in the line of duty. The Bibles, which contain the Knox County Sheriff's Office logo, have been given to every officer as well as to law enforcement officers in other locations, including Ground Zero in New York City.

Lyon said he has seen the Bibles in officers' cars and in offices. "I know they are there as a reminder of what the — See Knoxville, page 3

President Bush meets Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers

Patricia Knox
Staff and Reflector

POMPAÑO BEACH, Fla. — About



45 Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers got the thrill of a lifetime when they met President George Bush as he visited the state feeding unit here Oct. 27, according to David Acres, state disaster relief director.

The Tennessee Baptist disaster relief volunteers have been cooking hot meals for the victims of Hurricane Wilma in the parking lot of First Baptist Church, Pompano Beach, since Oct. 26.

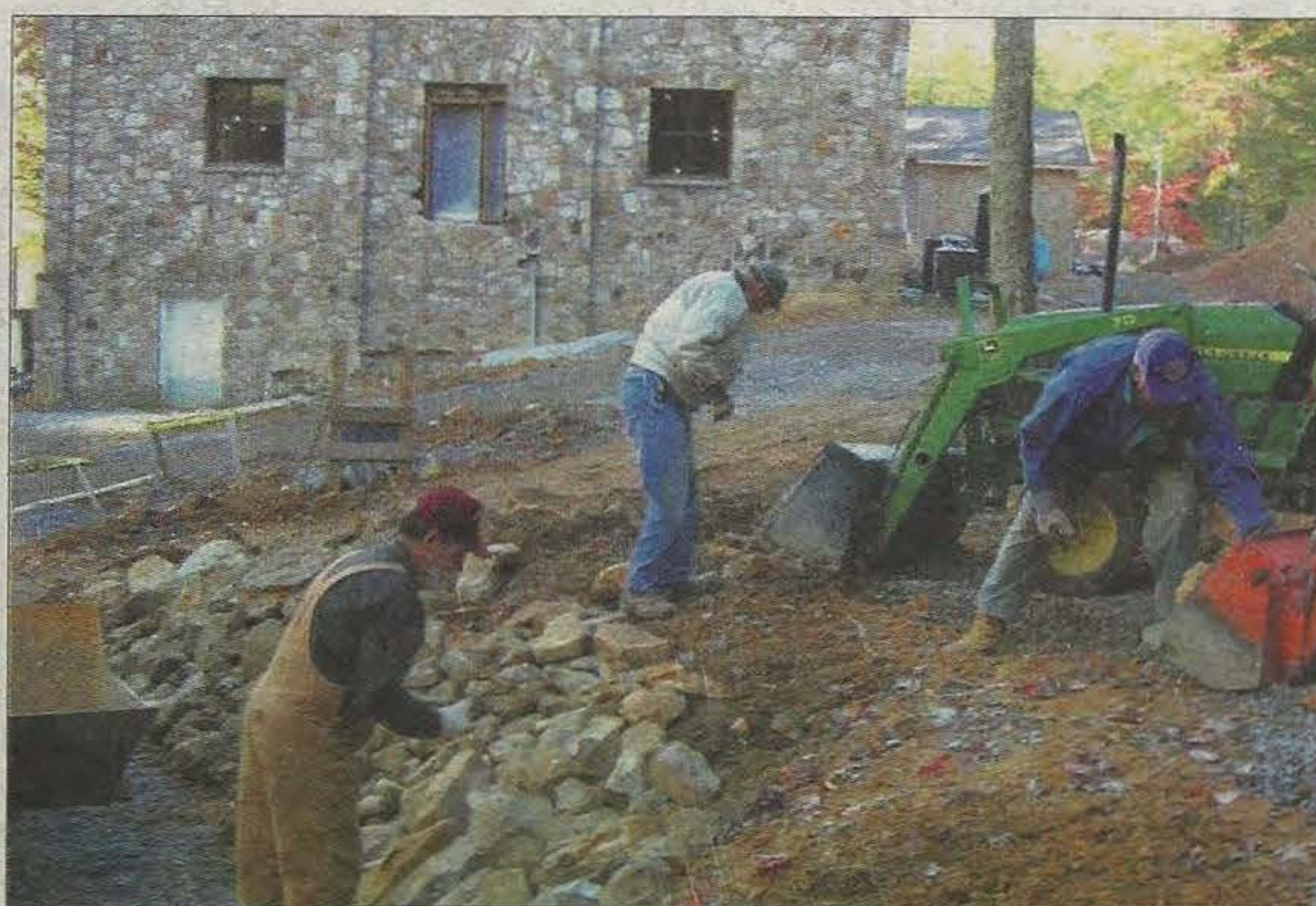
Acres spent about an hour escorting President Bush around the Tennessee feeding operation site, showing him the Disaster Relief trailers and equipment, and introducing him to volunteers.

"President Bush asked me where I was from and how long had I been working with Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief," Acres said.

"He told me that he really appreciated Tennessee volunteers," Acres added.

— See President, page 3

President George W. Bush, center, thanks volunteer Jim and Jean Dunn of Pine Eden Baptist Church, who were serving Oct. 27 on the Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief unit at First Baptist Church, Pompano Beach, Fla. — Photo by Lonnie Wilkey, Florida Baptist Witness



Work continues at Carson Springs

Three Campers on Mission were at work at Carson Springs Baptist Conference Center in Newport last week. Work is continuing on the renovation of the chapel (in background). These volunteers are getting sites ready for additional RV parking. From left are James Green, Piney Grove Baptist Church, Maryville; Bob Woodside, Dallas Bay Baptist Church, Soddy-Daisy; and Joel O'Brien, Stewart Heights Baptist Church, Hixson. Volunteers are still needed to help finish the renovation. For more information, call Keith McKinney at Carson Springs at 1-877-704-6336, ext. 1002, or Mark LeMay at the Baptist Center in Brentwood at 1-800-558-2090, ext. 2076. — Photo by Lonnie Wilkey

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FOX leads list of worst TV shows for families

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — Four Fox network programs top the list of the 10 worst shows for family viewing on prime-time broadcast television, according to an annual report by the Parents Television Council measuring series' appropriateness for family audiences.

"The War at Home," "The Family Guy," "American Dad" and "The O.C." lead the list of shows the council is warning against.

Such analysis is done as a guide for parents who lack the time to monitor all shows themselves, said Brent Bozell, president of PTC. Bozell said the council was alarmed to find that three of the worst shows are packaged as family shows when actually they are "wolves in sheep's clothing."

"Families should not be deceived. The top three worst shows all contain crude and raunchy dialogue with sex-themed jokes and foul language.

"Even worse is the fact that Hollywood is peddling its filth to families with cartoons like 'The Family Guy' and 'American Dad,'" Bozell said, adding that those two shows have contained scenes in which characters are shown having sex and deviant sexual topics are routinely discussed.

The report also includes a list of the most family friendly broadcast television shows with "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition," "Three Wishes" and "American Idol" as the top three.

"There are several high quality shows on this list that families can watch together and not be caught by surprise over filthy dialogue or graphic sex and violence," Bozell said.

"However, it is clear that Hollywood does not care about families as evidenced by the fact that we could only cite nine shows on prime-time that were deemed safe for family viewing. That is outrageous. Network executives should be ashamed and millions of families should be offended at their actions."

Also on the list of 10 worst shows for families were "C.S.I. (Crime Scene Investigation)," "Desperate Housewives," "Two and a Half Men," "That '70s Show," "Arrested Development" and "Cold Case."

The list of nine best family-friendly shows also included "The Ghost Whisperer," "Everybody Hates Chris," "Reba," "Bernie Mac," "Dancing with the Stars" and "7th Heaven."

For more information, including reasons for the rankings, visit www.parentstv.org. □

Conference to focus on 'Watchmen on the Wall'

Baptist and Reflector

BRENTWOOD — "Watchmen on the Wall" is the theme of the 2005 Tennessee Baptist Convention Pastors Conference.

The conference will be held Nov. 14 at First Baptist Church, Clarksville, site of the TBC annual meeting which begins the following day.

Session times are 12:50-4 p.m. on Monday afternoon and 5:50-9 p.m. that evening.

The theme is taken from Ezekiel 3: 17, *I have made thee a watchman ... Hear the word at my mouth and give them warning from me.*

"My heart longs for this day to be a day when pastors are encouraged, challenged, and fired up to stand strong for Jesus Christ in these last days," said Glenn Denton, president of the Pastors Conference and pastor of Hillcrest Baptist Church, Lebanon.

"It is a day of compromise, coldness, and casual Christianity which demands that we not quit warning people that Jesus is coming soon and how urgent



CHADDICK



DENTON



GAINES



HENSLEY

it is to be ready."

The afternoon session will feature former TBC Executive Director D.L. Lowrie; Steve Hensley, vice president of the Pastors Conference and pastor of Chinquapin Grove Baptist Church, Bluff City; and evangelist Jerry Chaddick of Lake Charles, La.

The evening session will feature Steve Gaines, new pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church, Cordova; Bob Pittman, pastor of Kirby Woods Baptist Church, Memphis; and evangelist Junior Hill of Hartselle, Ala.



HILL



LOWRIE



PITTMAN

Music will be provided by Chosen Few, a quartet from Branson, Mo., and the Hills Baptist Church choir.

"I want to encourage every pastor in the state to come early and stay 'til it's over because I believe it will reinforce your convictions, and courage in blowing the trumpet and warning the people in these last days," Denton said. □

Starbucks to use Warren Bible- based quotes

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — Rick Warren, author of *The Purpose-Driven Life* and pastor of Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, Calif., is utilizing another innovative method of ministry: putting Bible-based quotes on Starbucks coffee cups.

Warren will be part of Starbucks' campaign called "The Way I See It," which is a collection of thoughts, opinions, and expressions provided by notable figures that now appear on the chain's coffee cups. In the spring, some cups will begin featuring one of his quotes:

"You are not an accident. Your parents may not have planned you, but God did. He wanted you alive and created you for a purpose. Focusing on yourself will never reveal your real purpose. You were made by God and for God, and until you understand that, life will never make sense. Only in God do we discover our origin, our identity, our meaning, our purpose, our significance, and our destiny."

The quote will mark the first mention of God in the Starbucks quote campaign, and some people are questioning whether it's appropriate to mix marketing and religion.

Earlier this fall, Baylor University pulled one of the quote cups from its coffee shop because it promotes the homosexual agenda. Cup #43 of the series features a quote by

Armistead Maupin, who said, "My only regret about being gay is that I repressed it for so long. I surrendered my youth to the people I feared when I could have been out there loving someone. Don't make that mistake yourself. Life's too [expensive] short." □

Church giving down as percent of income

Baptist Press

NASHVILLE — A report released by empty tomb, inc. in mid-October examined the giving trends of church members in the United States and determined that financial contributions to churches were down as a percent of income when compared with previous years.

The Illinois-based Christian research organization surveyed 28 Protestant denominations representing 146,000 of the total estimated 350,000 congregations in the United States and found that for each dollar donated to a congregation, denominations spent 2 cents on overseas missions in 2003, down from 7 cents in the 1920s.

Half of the 28 denominations grew in membership from 1968 to 2003 and half decreased, the report said, and those that grew had a higher level of international missions support while those that declined had a lower average of overseas missions support.

Per member giving as a percent of income to total contributions declined from 2002 to 2003, empty tomb said, and giv-

ing as a percent of income was down overall from 1968 to 2003. Giving as a percent of income, the most useful method of tracking, they said, because it takes into account changes in population (membership) and in the economy (inflation). Total contribution as a percent of income in 1968 to 2.59 percent in 2003, which is a decline of 42 percent in the portion of income donated to the church, the report said.

Congregational finances and the funding of international missions of the congregation experienced a 10 percent decline from the 1968 level, the report said. Benevolences — funding for larger mission of the church — declined 42 percent from 1968 to 2003. In 2003, the portion of income donated to benevolences was at the lowest level during the 6-year period.

Americans gave \$9 billion in cash donations to churches in 2003, but if church members had given 10 percent of their incomes, the total would include an additional \$1 billion to be used through churches.

For more information, visit www.emptytomb.org.

Call to Prayer

The annual meeting of the Tennessee Baptist Convention will be preceded by a Prayer from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at First Baptist Church, Clarksville, host of this year's meeting which will be Nov. 15-16. For more information, see the Oct. 15 issue of the *Baptist and Reflector*.

Katrina victim travels to Beulah meeting to thank volunteers

Jo Dee Baker, a Katrina victim, is seen at the Beulah Baptist Association's annual meeting in Union City, Tenn., Oct. 24.

ION CITY — Be not for-
to entertain strangers; for
some have entertained
us unawares. — Hebrews

Dee Baker has plenty to
out angels.

d the soft-spoken and
lady from Slidell, La., has
to say about what God
one for her in the after-
of Hurricane Katrina.

sus is my best friend,"
told a crowd attending
ct. 24 session of Beulah
st Association's annual
ng here.

e explained that her faith
een strengthened in the
ane's aftermath, in large
ue to God having connect-
with several local South-
aptist churches that are
f Beulah Baptist Associa-

18-member mission team
ised of members of Pleas-
-Hill Baptist Church —
First Baptist Church,
and Mills; and
nnell Baptist Church, all
ulah Baptist Association,
all as a member of a Bap-
church in Fulton County,
as in Slidell the week of
10-14 to remove damage
make repairs to Baker's

er recently came to
County to visit Pleasant
Church, and First Church,

Woodland Mills, as well as to
address messengers to the
annual associational meeting.

Baker explained she had
decided to leave beforehand but
she said most of her neighbors
stayed "and had to swim for
their lives."

She recalled that she was
displaced six times in a two-
week period with two confused
cats at her side. Her car was
flooded and she was forced to
buy another out of state.

In the aftermath of the
storm, she said no one was
allowed to enter Slidell for two
weeks because the city needed
time to be prepared for the peo-
ple to return — including
house-to-house searches for vic-
tims and rescue efforts, cutting
electrical lines to each house,
and clearing fallen trees from
the streets. However, many res-
idents have since chosen not to
return, Baker said.

"Our town is devastated,"
she said.

"Everyone had been dis-
placed out of Slidell, so the traf-
fic was horrible coming and
going out of the town daily.
Many residents lost their jobs
and homes, causing them to
walk away from their homes
permanently."

Baker — a single woman who
has some handicap from a hip
injury — cleans houses for a liv-
ing and returned to find that 85
percent of her cleaning cus-
tomers had been displaced or
were gone from the city. She also



JO DEE BAKER, center, of Slidell, La., visits with the Jimmy Brown, left, pastor of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church - Rives, and Rick Burton, pastor of Woodland Mills First Baptist Church, Oct. 24 at Calvary Baptist Church in Union City during the opening night of Beulah Baptist Association's annual meeting. The Hurricane Katrina victim came to the meeting to thank volunteers for their assistance. — Photo courtesy of The Messenger in Union City.

worked for an attorney out of her
home and she found that her
computer had gone under dur-
ing the flood and the attorney's
office roof had caved in.

"The first two weeks, you
have no time to cry or even get
depressed," she said. "I did as
much as I could each and every
day. The heat of the day wore me
out. With the pain of my rotated
right hip, it was hard for me to
clean out my house and lug
heavy bags of my treasures to
the street. I had no one to help
me."

On Oct. 3, a person from
First Baptist Church, Poncha-
tola (La.), called and asked if
she still needed help. When
she indicated she did, he told
her that Jimmy Brown, pastor
of Pleasant Hill Church,
would be calling her. Three
minutes later, Brown called
and wanted to know her spe-
cific needs.

He told her to measure each
of her rooms for sheetrock and
to measure her roof and that he
would call her back on Oct. 7.
When he called back, he said he

had 10 volunteers ready to
come to Slidell to help her the
following week.

She said that cell phone
service is so limited in the
aftermath of the storm that she
knows "it had to be God."

Three members from First
Church, Woodland Mills,
arrived at Baker's home on Oct.
10 and began removing the
ruined flooring, with the
remaining 15 members of the
group arriving early the next
morning to begin work.

"I drove up and was in
awe," a tearful Ms. Baker said.
"As I stood in front of my
house, I saw 18 angels busily
working on my roof and inside
and outside and under my
house. ... I knew I wasn't
alone anymore and that God
was taking over."

By week's end, the smell of
mold and mildew had been
replaced with the smell of new
wood and paint as the mission
team replaced all the wooden
sub-floors, as well as some
decking and floor joists,
replaced sheetrock, repaired
the roof, made some repairs
beneath the house, washed the
vinyl siding, and painted ceil-
ings.

"For three days, I got to
know 18 angels and I found
them to be wonderful Christian
people who really enjoyed help-
ing me," she said. — Menees is
a staff reporter for *The Messen-
ger* in Union City. Story is used
with permission.

Knoxville minister cited as national chaplain of the year ...

continued from page 1

an do," he said.

also noted that there
been police officers who
made professions of faith
s Christ as a result of the

currently is working on
funding to reprint the Bibles.

the chaplain's
also provides "Free on the
Bibles to "any inmate
ks for it," Lyon said.

noted Knox County
es and Knox County Bap-
association have provided
o purchase these Bibles.
tion, a few years ago the

Golden Offering for Tennessee
Missions provided funds for
Bibles "when we really needed
it," he added.

Lyon observed that chaplain-
cy is "a ministry of presence.
Chaplains have to earn the
respect (of officers)."

He is grateful that Knox
County Sheriff Tim Hutcheson
has allowed him to do what
was needed in terms of min-
istry. "He has been nothing but
supportive and helpful in all
we do."

Ministering to inmates

With regard to ministry to
inmates, Lyon oversees 100 vol-

unteers (many from local South-
ern Baptist churches). The min-
istry has averaged eight to nine
professions of faith a week and
more than 100 baptisms per
year, Lyon said.

The volunteers conduct Bible
studies and worship services in
jail facilities in Knoxville as well
as programs such as literacy,
parenancy, and drug-recovery.

For the past five years Lyon
has secured volunteers, from
both Knox County Baptist
churches and churches of other
denominations, to participate in
an "Angel Tree" program for
children of inmates.

Each year, gifts, ranging in
cost of about \$50 per child, are
provided for between 300-350
children.

Lee Lyon noted churches
have responded in a tremendous
way to the Christmas effort.
"Dad has never had to ask or
beg. The Baptist churches really
help make it work," he said.

As to volunteers for leading
the ministries in the jail, Lyon
said he has "a waiting list of peo-
ple waiting to volunteer."

Lyon noted that chaplaincy
has to be "generic" and must be
for everyone, regardless of
denomination or faith.

"I don't ask anyone to com-
promise his or her personal con-

victions, but I do ask them to
put the love of Christ above
everything," he said.

He also noted that respect is
a key word for ministry to
inmates. "You have to treat
them the way you would want to
be treated."

Ministry with church

While it seems that the chap-
lain's work is a full time job in
itself, Lyon also stays busy as co-
pastor of Shepherd of the Hills.

The church is a result of a
merger in 1999 between Park
Lane Baptist Church in
Knoxville, where Lyon was pas-
tor, and Euclid Avenue Baptist
Church, also in Knoxville, where
Lee was pastor.

Part of the agreement of the
merger was that the churches
would eventually relocate, Lee
Lyon said.

Both of the former churches
have been sold to African Amer-
ican congregations (one of which
is a Southern Baptist church).

The elder Lyon is especially
appreciative that Peace and
Goodwill Baptist Church was
able to purchase the Park Lane
building. "We wanted to keep a
Southern Baptist witness in the
community," he said.

The combined church is now
meeting in a warehouse while
construction is underway on

property in nearby Powell.

Both men are appreciative
that their congregation supports
them in their chaplaincy min-
istry.

"Our ministry (as chaplains)
probably could not have gone on
if the church was not so support-
ive," said Lee Lyon.

"They realize it is a ministry
bigger than we are," his dad
agreed.

As to how they relate as co-
pastors the two rotates who
preaches.

"I enjoy being able to co-pas-
tor with my dad," Lee said.

He jokes, however, that when
you're "co-pastor with your dad,
you are actually never the co-
pastor.

"I tell people he makes prom-
ises and I have to keep them."

Both men stress there is no
competition between them.

"I tell people Lee is supposed
to be a better preacher than me.
He's the new and improved
model," the elder Lyon said.

Lyon acknowledges the cur-
rent building program will be
his "last hurrah" as a pastor
before stepping aside and hand-
ing the reins off to Lee.

As to the chaplaincy, he has
no plans to retire. "As long as the
Lord lets me do, I want to keep
serving," he said. □



LEE LYON, co-pastors of Shepherd of the Hills Baptist Church, stand in front of the site of their new church where construction is underway on a new facility.

Why start a church when there are already so many

guest
columnist



By Jimmy Inman

Of the questions we have been asked about starting a church, one of the most common ones is, "Why are you starting a church where there are already so many churches?"

It is a legitimate question. My scriptural conviction is that every church is called to be a part of planting new churches locally, nationally, and internationally. There is a more detailed version of this posted on our web site, thetruelifechurch.com, but here are five basic, biblical reasons why I believe this to be true:

(1) The Great Commission: In *Planting Growing Churches For The 21st Century*, Aubrey Malphurs writes, "We must not sit back and be satisfied with maintaining what God has done! Christ's Great Commission is to disciple the world for Him, not simply to maintain new churches! Consequently, every planted church must not 'forget its roots.' Each church owes its existence to some person or church of vision. Each church has an

obligation, in turn, to articulate the vision and start other churches... It provides churches with the potential to evangelize unchurched communities all across America and throughout the world. The idea is that planted churches reproduce themselves and make disciples by planting other churches. This is a process that will continue until the Savior returns. In fact, this is the true meaning of the Great Commission.

If we desire to know how the early church understood Christ's commission, we can find the answer in the Book of Acts. Acts is a church-planting book because much of what takes place does so in the context of starting new churches."

(2) The Pattern of the Book of Acts: I believe the Book of Acts gives us the pattern for a true New Testament Church. That pattern definitely includes church planting.

We see this in Acts 11 when the disciples were scattered by persecution. As they went, they shared Jesus with people. Many people were saved at Antioch so the church in Jerusalem dispatched Barnabas, who also took Paul, and they taught the people for a

year. They developed into a church because Acts 11:26 and 13:1 call them a "church."

Then, the leaders of this new church, under the leadership of the Holy Spirit, sent Paul and Barnabas out on the first missionary journey where they proclaimed the gospel, disciplined the converts, established leaders, and ultimately, planted churches in cities including Lystra, Iconium, Antioch (14:21-23), Galatia

the existing churches, but we also need new churches who can relate to different people.

(4) The Lost Sheep Principle (Luke 15:1-7): Jesus told a parable about a shepherd who had a hundred sheep. Ninety-nine of them were in the fold but one went astray. What did that shepherd do? He left the 99 and went and found the one lost sheep! The principle is that as long as there is one lost sheep, we have a mandate

from God to go find it. There are huge numbers of lost sheep in Tennessee. For example, in Jefferson

County where our church is located, only 18 percent of the population attends church on an average Sunday and 48 percent of the population has no church affiliation at all. Our existing churches will not be big enough, nor will the need for new churches cease until every lost sheep is found.

(5) The Kingdom Reality: God has called us to build His kingdom together. We are partners in the harvest and working together to plant churches is an important part of bringing in the harvest and building the kingdom. When we sent a core group and a church planter out of our

church to plant a church in Dandridge, it definitely challenged us. However, they make more of a kind of impact there than they have made by staying in Plus, it is a biblical principle that we are in danger of anything that we hold but anything that is given by God will be used, multiplied and we will be blessed in return.

The Bible is clear church planting is at the heart of God's plan to fulfill the Great Commission.

How can we be involved? Pastors, we can teach churches these biblical truths.

We can give through the Cooperative Program. We can give to the Golden Rule for Tennessee Mission because much of that goes to church planting.

God may be calling you to plant a church. Churches and associations can partner together to sponsor churches. We can send teams to various areas to the goal of starting churches. We can lead to Christ where we are and will lead to the starting churches.

Let's work together to fulfill the Great Commission, build God's kingdom by planting new churches. □ — is pastor of True Life Church in Jefferson City.

The Bible is clear that church planting is at the heart of God's plan to fulfill the Great Commission.

The family table shares more than food

a parent
speaks



By Carolyn R. Tomlin

What is one small change parents could make that would create a closer knit family? Or, engage in conversation that alerts parents to potential problems at school? Or, finding a time to joke, to laugh, and enjoy each other's company?

The answer lies in eating meals together as a family unit. Growing up in an earlier generation our family usually ate not one, but three meals together. With a mother who deeply believed that God intended for her to be a homemaker, she prepared delicious nutrition meals, placed fresh flowers on the kitchen table and used "real cloth" napkins — never paper ones. I grew up thinking everyone lived that way!

However, we live in a different world. Children today participate in so many extra-curricular activities it's difficult to find a time to share a meal together.

A recent survey by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University revealed that families who plan frequent meals together are less likely to have children who use drugs, alcohol, or choose friends who use these substances.

Another factor of this study shows that these children achieve more academically. Another plus: they develop healthy eating habits and positive relationships with siblings and parents.

Suggestions for meal time togetherness

The following ideas will help you establish a time, not only to enjoy food, but to get to know your family.

- Instead of yelling "the food is on stove when anyone wants to eat," insist that everyone come to the table at the same time and eat together.

- Choose a meal when everyone can be together. Start off by planning two or three meals per week. Hopefully, you can make this a daily affair.

- Plan in advance and make a grocery list.

- Use attractive table settings. Don't save good linens for company only — family is

more important.

- Use shortcuts by preparing a large roast or turkey and preparing a variety of recipes. Freeze leftovers and use later.

- Engage children and spouse in helping prepare the meal. Even small children can set the table, wash vegetables for a salad, and help with cleanup. During this time together, you discuss their day.

- Make this commitment: Approach only positive subjects at mealtime. This is not the time for scolding or insisting a child clean their plate.

- Begin the meal with prayer, thanking God for the nutritious food and His care of your family. Close your meal by reading a Scripture and brief devotion. Children need to see parents use the Bible daily.

Could eating meals together as a family make a difference in your home?

This simple change could produce happier, healthier, more achieving children. Try it for a month; you have nothing to lose and everything to gain. □ — Tomlin writes for numerous Christian publications. Her husband, Matt, is pastor of Ward's Grove Baptist Church, Jackson.

Spiritual relief for a spiritual disaster

By James T. Draper Jr.

The past 12 months have been some of the most costly in world history because of natural disasters. Hurricanes Katrina and Rita devastated the Gulf Coast here in the United States, and it is hard to believe it was almost 12 months ago that the tsunami devastated parts of Southern Asia. So much destruction; so much loss of life.

Creation was subjected to futility ... in the hope that the creation itself will also be set free from the bondage of corruption into the glorious freedom of God's children (Romans 8:20-21, HCSB). The Apostle Paul called it, didn't he. Creation was made to have a relationship with the Creator, but it is separated because of sin. It yearns to be set free.

So, too, the souls of men. More than 225,000 souls were swept into eternity, and only a handful had ever even heard the name of Jesus Christ. Most will spend eternity separated from God. Even more tragic, however, is that a tsunami of lostness sweeps across South Asia 52 times a year. Almost as many people die each week

never having heard the name of Jesus or His salvation.

Southern Baptists seem to respond when the need is urgent. We ran to the disaster areas days after the tsunami to relieve human suffering, expressing the love of Christ to the peoples of Indonesia, Lanka, and Thailand.

But let us not forget the weekly tsunami of lostness must run to South Asia. Other parts of the world we must go NOW. The need is urgent.

There is an urgent need and we must pray for souls. We need to go, volunteers and full-time missionaries. But we must give our money through Lottie Moon Christmas offering (registered trademark of Woman's Missionary Union) to support those who go to the ends of the earth to tell them about Jesus.

A spiritual disaster needs spiritual relief. Only the name of Jesus Christ can bring a tsunami of lostness that sweeps across our world. He's the answer.

How will we respond to this disaster relief plan. □ — is president of Christian Resources, Nashville.

Christian parents can learn lesson from life of Rosa Parks

Reflections



Lonnie Wilkey, editor

want to focus on two seemingly un-related news events that have occurred recently. First, the death of Rosa Parks on Oct. 24 has drawn considerable media attention, it should. Rosa Parks is considered the "mother of the civil rights movement" because in 1955 she refused to surrender her seat to a white man on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Ala. That act of defiance sparked a 381-day Montgomery bus boycott and brought the issue of civil rights into the forefront. In a Baptist Press story, Alabama governor Bob Riley (a member of First Baptist Church, Ashland) said, "Rosa Parks will always be remembered as a courageous woman who quietly confronted injustice, and in so doing, she changed a nation."

Wouldn't our world be a better place if that could be said of all Christians.

Too many of us lack the courage, convictions, and strength to stand up for what is morally right. We are afraid of being ridiculed or persecuted.

Rosa Parks recognized that one's skin color should not determine where you "sat" on a bus or whether or not you could enter a restaurant and order a meal and she took a stand.

We still have a long way to go in racial reconciliation but we are farther down the road because of Rosa Parks and others like her.

The second event is the release of a report from the Parents Television Council.

Do you know what your children are watching on television? Or better yet, do you know what you're watching?

A page two story details the 10 worst television shows for families currently being aired by networks.

Among the "worst" are shows that I hear people, including Christians, talk about all the time. As I scanned the list I was relieved to see only two shows that I have ever watched at all and I have seen them only rarely. I very seldom watch network television because it is so raunchy. The only show I try to watch every week was not on the list, so I'm safe for now. Normally, however, if it's not a sporting event or a rerun of an old television favorite, then I don't watch it.

I have discovered that at least one former editor has addressed this topic before. In the history of the *Baptist and Reflector* that is being published, author Fletcher Allen discovered an editorial by former editor Richard Owen who served in the 1950s-60s.

Owen made these observations about "your child and television" in 1966: "We can't dismiss television. It will stay. But we dare not be indifferent to what it is presenting, particularly to children. In many

respects it is determining their future. They have not yet learned to determine themselves to evaluate what they see and hear, not to reject what is cheap, shoddy, and repulsive.

"Do we speak out against 'sick' humor? Do we condemn the television fare constantly piped into our living rooms which cancerously attack the social attitudes providing the foundation for civilized human relations?"

If I didn't know better, I would have thought Dr. Owen had a crystal ball and was looking at television in 2005, not 1966.

But think about it. We look back at television shows of 1966 and see nothing "wrong" with them. Wiser minds such as Dr. Owen saw the potential for trouble and he was right. As the years progressed, racial language was used and it has evolved to where we are today.

Christians have no one else to blame for what is on television but ourselves. If Christians had taken a stand when Hollywood began to use filthy

language, graphic sex, and undue violence on television, we might have more family-oriented shows today.

Think about what TV would look like if Christians had taken the lead and gone to advertisers in the beginning and said, "Stop promoting these programs or we won't buy your products." Money does talk.

We may not be able to reverse the trend we see in television, but we can all monitor what is watched in our own homes.

So, what's the tie between the death of Rosa Parks and a report about the sorry state of television in our nation?

There is none, other than the fact that Christian parents can take a lesson from Rosa Parks.

Don't be afraid to speak out against what is morally wrong.

You may not become nationally recognized, but God will remember you in the day of judgment for standing bold and courageous on His Word. □

God's beauty shines through amidst devastation in Louisiana

Guest Columnist



By Chris Menees

We found beauty in the midst of devastation in southern Louisiana. It came in the form of a pre-lady named Jo Dee (see story on page 3). She's among the thousands of victims of Hurricane Katrina. But to the 18 of us who met Oct. 10-14, she's so much more than a blessing — even though she says we're the "18 angels."

— myself and 17 other team members from

Beulah Baptist Association, Union City, helped Ms. Jo Dee, a single woman whose home was not covered by flood insurance.

I don't think any of us will ever be the same again.

Personally, there's so much of the devastation I'll never forget and so much of the beauty I'll always remember.

I'll never forget turning onto Ms. Jo Dee's street and seeing the mountains of ruined household belongings piled high in front of every home. They included bedding and clothing and photo albums and children's toys — families' entire lives transformed into wet mounds of debris cluttering the streets, block after block and mile after mile.

I'll never forget seeing the bright orange markings that rescue workers had painted

on every house to indicate they had been searched for victims. Even though I'd seen them in newspaper photos and on television, they were suddenly very real as I made a connection between the paint markings and people who once lived in Ms. Jo Dee's neighborhood.

I'll never forget Ms. Jo Dee's reaction the day she arrived at her house to find the team working inside and out, top to bottom. She cried — later explaining to us that her outpouring of emotion marked the first time she had really wept since the hurricane and that she had simply been functioning in "survival mode" until that time.

I'll always remember how Ms. Jo Dee was so concerned about our well-being and made sure we had somewhere

to sit in her yard when we enjoyed our noon lunch break. Even though our host church, First Baptist Church, Ponchartroula, packed a sandwich lunch for us daily, Ms. Jo Dee insisted we be served a hot meal from the American Red Cross disaster truck that made its way through the neighborhood two or three times a day offering food and cold drinks.

I'll never forget riding with Ms. Jo Dee to nearby First Baptist Church, Slidell, and seeing the long, long lines of hurricane victims waiting for food and the dozens of Southern Baptist Disaster Relief workers scurrying about on the front lawn working to meet the need. Ms. Jo Dee's comment is burnt in my mind: "They're hungry," she said softly.

I'll never forget driving along the shore of Lake Pontchartrain and seeing apartment buildings reduced to piles of rubble, empty concrete slabs where houses once stood and boats overturned right alongside cars on city streets.

Now that I'm home, I hope I never forget the devastation. Perhaps I need to be reminded of how blessed I am to have a roof over my head and food on the table and clothes on my back and a warm bed of my own.

And perhaps it's Ms. Jo Dee herself, with her face glowing and eyes glistening, who summed it up best as we prepared to leave Louisiana for the trip home: "God is good." — □ Menees is a staff reporter for *The Messenger* in Union City,

God is in control

an alumnus, donor, former employee, and friend of Belmont University I have been working the covenant with keen interest. As a Tennessee Baptist, importantly though a follower of Christ, I have to believe God is in control of this situation and that His will shall be accomplished in the end. Belmont University is an invaluable asset to not only

our community, but also our state and nation. Under the leadership of four strong Presidents and even more dedicated trustees, faculty and staff, Belmont has become a premier environment for learning with a strong Christian heritage and mission.

I have to be influenced by strong men of faith. Men like Herbert C. Gabhart, Joe Stackler, and Vern Powers deserve more than just our ear, they deserve our respect. I believe

that the current administration and trustee body are earnestly seeking God's will for the University and that none of what has been presented in this new covenant was decided on in haste. We as members of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, members through our congregations, can not know what it takes to successfully run a premier institution of higher learning today. We have to have faith in those who have been selected to lead and guide the University

and they agree, unanimously, that this new covenant is the right direction for Belmont.

I was stunned by the words of Rev. Kevin Shrum in a past issue. The issue of Belmont and her relationship with the Tennessee Baptist Convention is a very serious matter. His sad attempt at sarcasm is a slap in the face to the entire Belmont community. There are thousands of alumni, administration, faculty, and staff that serve and minister in Baptist congregations across this state and they deserve more respect.

I urge all Tennessee Baptists to bathe this matter in prayer in advance of the annual meeting next month. I also pray that we will all be able to check our egos, aspirations, agendas, pride, and every other sinful hindrance at the door of First Baptist Church, Clarksville. I pray that God will bless our meeting and that in everything His will be done.

Hagan Stone
Nashville 37204

Letters to the editor

NOBTS student finds ministry opportunities through Katrina

By Connie Davis Bushey
Baptist and Reflector

NASHVILLE — Nikki Lively has made a lot of changes in her life since Hurricane Katrina. The student of New Orleans (La.) Baptist Theological Seminary had just moved into new housing in New Orleans and was preparing for the new semester when Katrina hit.

Thankfully the native of LaFollette was in Baton Rouge, La., when the storm hit. She was wrapping up a job as associate youth minister, Istrouma Baptist Church. She attended church on Sunday, Aug. 28, and said her goodbyes. Katrina struck that night, Lively recalled. She was staying with friends.

That night stretched into a month in Baton Rouge as Lively worked at an American Red Cross shelter at Istrouma Church as a volunteer. The church housed up to 600 people at a time, helping about 1,000.

"There are still people there right now," noted Lively, who considers New Horizon Baptist Church, LaFollette, her home church.

Lively served each day from 7 p.m. - 7 a.m., as requested by the ARC. She became involved when a church staff member

asked her to come and spend a few hours talking to evacuees since she was "in the same boat" as an evacuee. She didn't have a job or school or home, so she did, said Lively.

Because she wasn't an ARC volunteer, she could do more, explained Lively, to help many of the people stranded at the church. Using the internet, she helped them find relatives, housing, and transportation.

After about a week she learned the house she was renting with two other NOBTS students was undamaged. But she learned the seminary would be opening in January and on-line studies were still being planned.

Friends delivered her belongings. The family she was staying with from Istrouma told her to stay as long as she wanted. They also provided her meals.

So Lively stayed to help. She also was feeling better, she said, as she helped those in the shelter. In comparison to them, she was doing fine. She could join her parents in LaFollette who would help her financially. She was trying to help many people whose whole family lived in New Orleans so "they have nobody else. They don't have a back-up plan," said Lively.

Some of them were searching

for family members, which was heart-wrenching, she added.

One lady she got to know at the shelter wrote Lively a letter in LaFollette to tell Lively she had found her 16-year-old daughter, who was with the lady's ex-husband when Katrina hit. It took three weeks to locate the daughter, said Lively.

She also heard some amazing stories, she reported, as she learned the best thing to do was to listen.

The experience at the shelter was "therapeutic for me," analyzed Lively. The night after Katrina hit, she started crying while watching TV. "I got terrified. I thought, what do I do now?" Had God wanted her to remain on the staff of the church so she could serve the evacuees? she wondered. Then she would have a job and an apartment.

But as she worked with the evacuees, she realized that Katrina only "put a damper on my plans and pushes things back a little bit." Lively referred to her plans to graduate in May. She learned NOBTS would re-open in August 2006 but would be working with students in Atlanta and on-line.

She realized she needed to re-start her studies and look for a job to pay for school. Then



NIKKI LIVELY, right, student of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, works with her sister, Windy Robbins, at the Woodmont Baptist Weekday Preschool of Woodmont Baptist Church, Nashville. Lively was displaced from the school by Hurricane Katrina. Robbins is director of the preschool.

God, she said, worked through her sister, Windy Robbins of Nashville.

Robbins, director of Woodmont Baptist Weekday Preschool of Woodmont Baptist Church, offered Lively a job. Robbins said the offer was a natural solution to two needs. She needed a teacher and Lively needed a job. Lively also was uniquely experienced because she had worked at the preschool with Robbins while attending Belmont University.

Lively also is continuing her

seminary studies on-line, living with Windy and her band, Dennis, member of Woodmont.

Lively is not sure when she will move next. She also was a North American Mission Board semester missionary in Winterset, Iowa, where she was called to a church staff and worked for two years.

"How God works may be weird sometimes. It's always comfortable for me. It's to help us minister to people better," said Lively.

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McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence, Princeton University

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Henry T. Blackaby

President, Blackaby Ministries International

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Sunnyside Church, Kingsport, provides home for member

by Davis Bushey
and Reflector

KINGSPORT — Each year the Baptist Church conducts a community project. This year it conducted their project in terms of both labor and expense.

The past members have materials and roofed a house for a needy person or installed a hot water heater in a widow's home.

The year members provided a home for a fellow member. The members of Sunnyside Baptist Church provided a home for Geraldine Cole. She is a single lady who along with her mother was a member of the church. But for years she wasn't able to attend church because she cared for her mother and father as they

passed, especially the mother. The church provided help with utilities, and Cole's car at times, and she had to go to a center for free groceries.

Cole's parents died,

she attended some church activities. A health problem keeps her from working. As more members of the church visited her they learned she was using very little electricity to save money, at times using only one light bulb.

During the winter Cole was relying on a portable kerosene heater for heat. She needed kerosene, she admitted, which the church provided. Cole rarely asked for help, saying she knew other people, especially children, needed help worse than she did.

But that source of heat was dangerous, the members and pastor Jack Parrott knew.

"Nobody in this country should live like that, though a lot in this country do, but not when they're a member of a church," said Parrott, who has served as pastor of the church for 16 years. He has served as a minister for 49 years.

Men of Sunnyside who meet for a Saturday morning prayer time discussed Cole's situation. The group often initiates work projects for needy people. Soon the deacons and congregation had voted to provide Cole a new manufactured home.

She needed some convincing but her deacon, Doug Foster, and Parrott met with her and led her to accept the gift.

The church bought a used manufactured house. Then men of the church prepared the site. That involved a lot of brush and tree removal, said Parrott. On the first Saturday which was a work day on the project, about 40 men labored at the site, recalled Parrott. The land housed Cole's dilapidated manufactured house. The new house would be placed beside it.

The men worked hard. Some came down with poison ivy as a result. But they returned on the next work day to continue the work, Parrott reported.

The site was graded and prepared for the new house. After it was installed, men of the church added underpinning. They dug trenches and installed water pipes and sewer pipes. They graded and paved a driveway and built a porch.

Other members of the church also got involved. Furniture for the living room and bedroom was delivered to the new home.



GERALDINE COLE, a member of Sunnyside Baptist Church, Kingsport, sits in her new home, which was provided recently by her church.

Women of the church collected household items like sheets and towels and delivered them to Cole.

In her new home, Cole enjoys for the first time a ceiling fan, central air with a thermostat, and a porch.

"The project was good for her and our folks have been blessed by it too," said Parrott.

Cole has been "over expressive in her thanks," described Parrott. One way she has responded is by attending most church activities regularly including Sunday School for

the first time. That has been "good for her," said Parrott. She has "really come out of her shell," he added.

The project cost over \$20,000. It was funded by several special offerings, gifts from individuals, and a budget allocation, said Parrott. The church is not in debt right now although it is developing a building fund.

"It was a worthwhile project," said the pastor.

"You can take care of your own people it seems to me," concluded Parrott. □

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Reports from the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws

The Committee on Constitution and Bylaws, in response to constitutional amendment requirements, presents the following formatted proposed amendments to the Tennessee Baptist Convention's Bylaws as requested by the joint motion from messengers Carl Creasman, First Baptist Church, Athens; Bill Seale, First Baptist Church, Morristown; and Norman Templeton, First Baptist Church, Concord, Knoxville. The following amendments are not official until they have been presented to the convention during a miscellaneous business session.

~~Strikethrough~~ – deleted
Bold and Italics – new

Current Reading:

Bylaw 1. PROCEDURE OF MEETINGS OF THE CONVENTION

(8) Motions to Amend Committee Reports

A. Motions to amend a Committee on Committees report or Committee on Boards report may be accomplished by doing the following:

a. Persons wishing to amend the Committee on Committees or Committee on Boards report are requested as an act of courtesy to notify the committee at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the first day of the Annual Meeting. This will allow the committee to properly consider the request to amend, have time to notify the affected institution and nominee, and republish its report with any changes on the first day of the Annual Meeting.

b. The report of the Committee on Boards and the Committee on Committees shall be presented for consideration prior to the first miscellaneous business session on the first day of the Annual Meeting.

c. A messenger may make a motion to amend a committee's report during the time at which the report is presented or during the first miscellaneous business session on the first day of the Annual Meeting. A motion to amend may address only one (1) person at a time for consideration.

B. Once the committee's report has been adopted by the Convention, with any amendments, it shall constitute election by the Convention.

Proposed Reading:

Bylaw 1. PROCEDURE OF MEETINGS OF THE CONVENTION

(8) ~~Motions to Amend Committee Reports~~ **Additional Nominations**

~~A. Motions to amend a Committee on Committees report or Committee on Boards report may be accomplished by doing the following: The reports of the Committee on Committees and the Committee on Boards constitute nominations for Committee and Board positions.~~

B. Additional nominations for consideration for the positions considered by the Committee on Committees and Committee on Boards may be made in the following manner:

a. Persons wishing to ~~amend the Committee on Committees or Committee on Boards report~~ **present additional nominations for the Boards or Committees** are requested as an act of courtesy, to notify the committee at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the first day of the Annual Meeting. This will allow the committee to properly consider the request to amend, ~~additional nominee(s) and have time to notify the affected institution(s) if the additional nomination(s) is/are for an institutional board, and nominee, and republish its report with any changes on the first day of the Annual Meeting.~~

b. The report of the Committee on Boards and the Committee

on Committees shall be presented for consideration prior to the first miscellaneous business session on the first day of the Annual Meeting.

c. A messenger may make a ~~nomination motion to amend a committee's report~~ **motion to amend a committee's report** during the time at which the ~~Committee on Committees and the Committee on Boards reports is are~~ **Committee on Committees and the Committee on Boards reports** are presented or during the first miscellaneous business session on the first day of the Annual Meeting. A ~~motion to amend may address messenger~~ **motion to amend may address messenger** may only ~~present one (1) person nomination~~ **present one (1) person nomination** at a time for consideration.

~~B. Once the committee's report has been adopted by the Convention, with any amendments, it shall constitute election by the Convention.~~

C. Each contested position shall be voted on by ballot on the second day of the Annual Meeting. All non-contested positions shall be elected by voice vote or visible show of ballots following the casting of ballots for the contested positions.

Current Reading:

Bylaw 2. STANDING COMMITTEES

(9) Duties

C. Committee on Boards

j. Persons wishing to amend the Committee on Boards report are requested to do the following:

(a) As an act of courtesy notify the committee at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the first day of the Annual Meeting. This will allow the committee to properly consider the request to amend, have time to notify the affected institution and nominee, and republish its report with any changes on the first day of the Annual Meeting.

(b) The report of the Committee on Boards shall be presented for consideration prior to the first miscellaneous business session on the first day of the Annual Meeting.

(c) A messenger may make a motion to amend a committee's report during the time at which the report is presented or during the first miscellaneous business session on the first day of the Annual Meeting. A motion to amend may address only one (1) person at a time for consideration.

k. Once the committee's report has been adopted by the Convention, with any amendments, it shall constitute election by the Convention.

Proposed Reading:

Bylaw 2. STANDING COMMITTEES

(9) Duties

C. Committee on Boards

j. Persons wishing to ~~amend the~~ **present additional nominations for the positions presented by the** Committee on Boards report are requested to do the following:

(a) As an act of courtesy notify the committee at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the first day of the Annual Meeting. This will allow the committee to properly consider the ~~additional nominee(s) for eligibility of service and request to amend~~, have time to notify the affected institution ~~and nominee, and republish its report with any changes on the first day of the Annual Meeting if the additional nominee(s) is/are for an institutional board.~~

(b) The report of the Committee on Boards shall be presented for consideration prior to the first miscellaneous business session on the first day of the Annual Meeting.

(c) **Additional nominations for the positions presented by the Committee on Boards shall be presented** A messenger may ~~make a motion to amend a committee's report~~ **make a motion to amend a committee's report** during the time at which the report is presented or during the first miscellaneous business session on the first day of the Annual Meeting. A ~~motion to amend may address messenger~~ **motion to amend may address messenger** may only ~~present one (1) person nominee~~ **present one (1) person nominee** at a time for consideration.

(d) ~~All nominations presented in accordance above, shall be referred to the Committee on Boards for eligibility with the Committee on Boards reporting on the second day of the Annual Meeting.~~

k. ~~Once the committee's report has been adopted by the Convention, with any amendments, it shall constitute election by the Convention. Each contested position shall be voted on following the report of the Committee on Boards on the second day of the Annual Meeting. All non-contested positions elected by voice vote or visible show of ballots following the casting of ballots for the contested positions.~~

Current Reading:

Bylaw 2. STANDING COMMITTEES

(9) Duties

D. Committee on Committees

h. Persons wishing to amend the Committee on report are requested to do the following:

(a) As an act of courtesy notify the committee at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the first day of the Annual Meeting. This will allow the committee to properly consider the request to amend, have time to notify the affected nominee, and report with any changes on the first day of the Annual Meeting.

(b) The report of the Committee on Committees shall be presented for consideration prior to the first miscellaneous business session on the first day of the Annual Meeting.

(c) A messenger may make a motion to amend a committee's report during the time at which the report is presented or during the first miscellaneous business session on the first day of the Annual Meeting. A motion to amend may address only one (1) person at a time for consideration.

i. Once the committee's report has been adopted by the Convention, with any amendments, it shall constitute election by the Convention.

Proposed Reading:

Bylaw 2. STANDING COMMITTEES

(9) Duties

D. Committee on Committees

h. Persons wishing to ~~amend~~ **present additional nominations for the positions presented by the** Committee on Boards report are requested to do the following:

(a) As an act of courtesy notify the committee at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the first day of the Annual Meeting. This will allow the committee to properly consider the request to amend, have time to notify the affected nominee, and report with any changes on the first day of the Annual Meeting. **Additional nominee(s) for eligibility of service.**

(b) The report of the Committee on Committees shall be presented for consideration prior to the first miscellaneous business session on the first day of the Annual Meeting.

(c) ~~A messenger may make a motion to amend a committee's report~~ **Additional nominations for the positions presented by the Committee on Committees shall be presented** during the time at which the report is presented or during the first miscellaneous business session on the first day of the Annual Meeting. A ~~motion to amend messenger~~ **motion to amend messenger** may address only ~~present one (1) person nomination~~ **present one (1) person nomination** at a time for consideration.

i. ~~Once the committee's report has been adopted by the Convention, with any amendments, it shall constitute election by the Convention. Each contested position shall be voted on following the report of the Committee on Committees on the second day of the Annual Meeting. All non-contested positions elected by voice vote or visible show of ballots following the casting of ballots for the contested positions.~~

The Committee on Constitution and Bylaws presents the formatting for motion presented by Larry Reagan, messenger, from Adams Chapel Baptist Church, Dresden. (Editor's Note: Reagan has informed the B&R he plans to change this amendment slightly, adding a "grandfather" clause to make it understood that current board members would be allowed to complete their current term, but re-election for subsequent terms would be subject to the terms of the proposed amendment.)

~~Strikethrough~~ = delete
Bold and Italics = new

Current Reading:

Bylaw 2. STANDING COMMITTEES

(2) Membership

A. Each of the standing committees shall be composed of fifteen members.

B. Members of standing committees shall be resident members of churches affiliated with the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Proposed Reading:

Bylaw 2. STANDING COMMITTEES

(2) Membership

A. Each of the standing committees shall be composed of fifteen members.

B. Members of standing committees shall be resident members of churches affiliated with the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

C. No person shall be eligible for election to any STANDING COMMITTEE if such election would result in more than one member of the nominee's church serving on standing committees.

Current Reading:

Bylaw 4. BOARDS AND INSTITUTIONS

(2) Limitation of Service

A. An individual shall not serve on more than one of the governing bodies of such institutions, etc., simultaneously, excepting the Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., whose board members may serve on two boards.

B. An individual serving on the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention may not be elected to any other Convention board or standing committee.

C. An individual may not serve as a trustee or director who receives a salary from The Tennessee Baptist Convention or any of its institutions.

D. An individual serving on a Convention standing committee, other than the Committee on Committees or the Committee on Boards, may also serve on a governing board of a Tennessee Baptist Convention institution.

Proposed Reading:

Bylaw 4. BOARDS AND INSTITUTIONS

(2) Limitation of Service

A. An individual shall not serve on more than one of the governing bodies of such institutions, etc., simultaneously, ~~excepting the Baptist Memorial Health Care System, Inc., whose board members may serve on two boards.~~

B. An individual serving on the Executive Board of the Tennessee Baptist Convention may not be elected to any other Convention board or standing committee.

C. An individual may not serve as a trustee or director who receives a salary from The Tennessee Baptist Convention or any of its institutions.

D. An individual serving on a Convention standing committee, other than the Committee on Committees or the Committee on Boards, may also serve on a governing board of a Tennessee Baptist Convention institution.

E. No person shall be eligible for election to any of a Tennessee Baptist Convention institution, excluding the Executive Board, if such election shall result in the nominee serving representatives on more than one such governing board.

F. The provisions of paragraph A. and D. do not apply to persons serving in or elected at the 2005 Annual Meeting with respect to their eligibility.

Wardsman thankful for LifeWay during deployment in Afghanistan

Phelen
Press

NASHVILLE — In his year-long deployment to Afghanistan with the 1128 Finance Regiment of the Tennessee National Guard, Kenny Washington said it was prayer that sustained him and served as his lifeline.

Washington, who has worked as a shipping clerk for several years at LifeWay Christian Stores, traveled throughout

Afghanistan delivering money to troops who needed funds.

His latest deployment was his third during 16 years with the Tennessee National Guard, which he joined after four years of active duty in the Army.

While he was in Afghanistan, many people prayed for Washington daily, including his co-workers at LifeWay who added him to the prayer list in the Piland Prayer Chapel. Although being deployed was

difficult, Washington said the support and encouragement he received from LifeWay helped him endure.

"It makes you feel like someone cares, knowing that people are standing behind you and are there for you," he said.

Dell Raines, in LifeWay customer service, coordinates prayer requests in Piland Prayer Chapel and said employees gather daily to pray for requests just like Washington's. "As a Christian operation, we need to practice what we preach," Raines said. "We've seen many positive results. This is all due to God working because people were willing to take the time to pray."

Washington is one of several LifeWay employees serving in the military.

Steve Lawrence, LifeWay's human resources director, said the Southern Baptist entity demonstrates its commitment to all employees in the military

reserves by providing support beyond the standard compliance with federal and state laws related to military service.

Lawrence said LifeWay believes it should support the employees/soldiers by going beyond the basic requirements and providing a supplemental salary for at least six months. "This supplemental salary is the difference between their normal pay and their military salary," Lawrence said. As a result, the soldiers do not lose any of their salary while serving on active duty.

Washington said he received 100 percent support from co-workers. "It means everything to serve my country and then return to LifeWay. It's been a blessing. Knowing that you're surrounded by Christian people is the greatest benefit."

He compared the necessity of prayer in people's lives to gas in an automobile. "As Christians, we must pray. That's what keeps us moving," Washington said. "Prayer is the key

to the kingdom because it's direct communication with God. With any problem and situation, we can go to Him in prayer."

Washington is a member of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church and a lifelong resident of Nashville. □

President ...

— Continued from page 1

President Bush said that Southern Baptists "are stars in the show when it comes to Disaster Relief," said Acres. "He talked to and hugged all of our workers."

Acres noted that the president said that he really appreciated "how we served the Lord the way that we do. He signed my Disaster Relief cap with G.W. Bush. He let me walk him to the car, shook my hand, and hugged me."

"It amazed me that President Bush took the time to talk to everybody at the site. The Secret Service was all over the place. They were also down here yesterday, but we didn't know it."

Bush told Acres he had seen a Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief operation earlier in the year at Covington, La.

While presidents have visited disaster relief sites before this was the first time a Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief team had met the president while on site, Acres said.

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

"Trained volunteers who are able to work mass feeding units are needed," Acres said. "Call the State Disaster Relief Mobilization Center to volunteer."

Tennessee Baptist volunteers also are continuing work related to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. As of Oct. 28 teams were in Gulfport, Miss., and Sulphur and Pearl River, La.

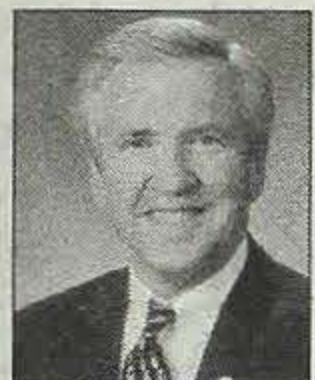
Since feeding operations began Aug. 31, Tennessee Baptists feeding sites in Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas, and Tennessee reported more than 214,163 meals served for Hurricane Katrina; 160,721 meals served for Hurricane Rita; and 95,720 meals for Hurricane Wilma.

Tennessee Baptist Disaster Relief is accepting 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 37024-0728. Please designate your check to: Hurricane 2005 Relief Fund.

Donations may also be given online at www.tnbaptist.org. □



Ed Dockery



James Netherton



Kevin Shrum

Middle Tennessee Pastors Conference

Monday, November 7 ~~~ 10 a.m.

Inglewood Baptist Church

3901 Gallatin Rd.

Nashville, TN 37216

Speakers:

Ed Dockery, president Union University, Jackson

James Netherton, president, Carson-Newman, Jefferson City

Church and Pastor:

Kevin Shrum, pastor Inglewood Baptist Church and President

of the Middle Tennessee Pastors Conference

All Middle Tennessee pastors, staff, and layleaders are welcome. A light lunch will be served following the meeting.

Location: Inglewood Baptist Church is located on Gallatin Rd. approximately 2 miles south of Briley Parkway between North and Opry Mills. Phone (615) 228-2546.

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CLASSIFIED

MINISTRY — COMBINATION

First Baptist Church, Somerville, Tenn., is seeking a full-time minister of music and education. Bachelor's degree required, seminary degree desirable. Experience in a Southern Baptist Church important. We are a growing church with 350-400 in worship. Job description available upon request. Interested applicants send resume to Personnel Committee, c/o First Baptist Church, 12685 South Main St., Somerville, TN 38068. Resumes will be received through Dec. 1, 2005.

Seeking full-time minister of music and education (associate pastor) for Fern Creek Baptist Church (SBC/CBF affiliation). Applicant must be an experienced and excellent musician, worship leader, and educator and must exemplify strong spiritual maturity. Send resume to Fern Creek Baptist Church, Attn. Personnel Committee, P.O. Box 91146, Louisville, KY 40291 or e-mail to ferncreekbaptist@bell-south.net. Resumes will be received through Nov. 15. Questions? Call (502) 239-0316 (Linda Barnes Popham, pastor).

Jefferson Street Baptist Church is seeking a full-time minister of music and education. This candidate will primarily be responsible for music while assisting the staff in the promotion of Sunday School and developing an ongoing discipleship ministry. For more information please call (478) 272-7750 or send resume to Search Committee, 209 N. Jefferson St., Dublin, GA 31021.

TO LEARN, TO LIVE, TO LOVE ...

ABUNDANTLY

Christian faith and Baptist heritage are very important to me. Carson-Newman College was fundamental in helping me understand both. In my prior Naval career and now in the practice of law, the strong fundamental education I received at Carson-Newman has given me and my family the proper focus as we traveled throughout the world and then returned to settle in East Tennessee.

Richard T. Wallace

Attorney
C-N Class of 1968
Member, FBC
Sevierville



Jefferson City, Tennessee
www.cn.edu

Miers withdraws nomination to Supreme Court

Baptist Press

WASHINGTON — Embattled nominee Harriet Miers withdrew Oct. 27 as President George W. Bush's selection for associate justice of the Supreme Court.

Bush said in a written statement he "reluctantly accepted" Miers' decision and would submit a new nominee in "a timely manner."

Opposition to Miers' nomination had mounted since her surprise selection by the president Oct. 3. The most telling criticism came from conservatives disappointed with Bush's failure to name someone with a clear record or philosophy of interpreting the Constitution based on its original intent. Though Miers had not served as a judge, Bush vouched for her as a judicial conservative, and a 1989 questionnaire showed she took a firm pro-life position in a race for the Dallas City Council.

Nothing seemed to quell the opposition of some on the right, however, and an Oct. 26 published report of a 1993 speech she gave only intensified the concerns of pro-lifers and other social conservatives. In the appearance before a Dallas

women's group, Miers appeared to endorse "self-determination" on the issue of abortion.

The Miers nomination had gained the support of some conservative evangelical leaders, including Richard Land of the Southern Baptist Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission, James Dobson of Focus on the Family, Charles Colson of Prison Fellowship, and Jay Sekulow of the American Center for Law and Justice. □

Wilma inflicts damage on Florida

Baptist Press

NAPLES, Fla.— Hurricane Wilma inflicted widespread dam-

age in South Florida, leaving residents there with the tasks of clearing debris, ridding homes and businesses of water, repairing power lines, and rebuilding damaged structures while Southern Baptists took their places of service alongside them.

The storm, which is being called the worst to hit Broward County since Hurricane King in 1950, is responsible for at least five deaths, six million people without electricity, and damage estimated between \$6 and \$10 billion in South Florida, according to the Associated Press.

The hurricane struck Florida's most heavily populated area, according to Ed Blackmon of the Florida Baptist Convention.

An estimated 500 Southern Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers are now serving in the middle of Wilma's devastation while about 7,000 volunteers are still serving on the Gulf Coast.

Fifteen Southern Baptist kitchen units are up and running, most of them on the property of cooperating Baptist churches in the hurricane-affected areas. The Tennessee Baptist state feeding unit is stationed at First Baptist Church, Pompano Beach, Fla. (see story on page 1). □

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

CLASSIFIED

MINISTRY — STUDENT

First Baptist Church, Hayti, Mo., is seeking a full-time youth director. Please send resume to Youth Search Committee, c/o First Baptist Church, 201 East Lincoln, Hayti, MO 63851.

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.

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.

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.

CLASSIFIED

MINISTRY — PASTOR

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

Covenant Baptist Church, Collierville, Tenn., is now accepting resumes for a full-time pastor. For further information see www.covenanton.org/CBC_Search.html. Please mail resume to general@covonweb.org or mail to Search Committee, Covenant Baptist Church, P.O. Box 115, Collierville, TN 38027.

Traditional rural church vision to grow, seeking Send resume to Grace Church, 410 Old Highway, Bethpage, TN 37022.

MINISTRY — MUSIC

First Baptist Church in historic Carter County is seeking a full-time worship leader or seminary graduate with good personality and experience. Music Committee, First Baptist Church, 212 East F St., Elizabethton, TN 37643.

New Market Baptist Church, New Market, Tenn., is accepting resumes for a full-time minister of music. Please send NMBC, P.O. Box 129, New Market, TN 37820, Attn. Music Committee.

MISCELLANEOUS

Is your church preparing for Days of Purpose? We have books, banners, posters, small group materials, church that has finished a campaign. Contact Forster, Columbia, Tenn., 6453.

Bus for sale. 1995 Toyota 110K miles, seats 35, 3116 diesel, automatic, \$18,000. Contact Mike @Birmingham-South, (205) 226-4936.

For sale: 1989 Bluebird Bus, 72-passenger, good condition. Gath Baptist Church, (931) 934-2655 or e-mail baptist@blmond.net.

MINISTRY — CHILDREN

Full-time minister of children. Send resume to Bryant Church, Bryant, Tenn., 35401.

Seeking full-time children's minister at First Baptist Church, Mayfield, KY 42066.

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minister's corner

keeping promises

Dennis Cleveland

important to keep a promise? I've thought about it in an age where the word of many people is less.

beginning my third year as pastor of Elkton Church in Giles Baptist Association and the Lord has blessed me with this church. I learn many things from my congregation.

This year's hot and dry summer was at an end as I went to Bessie Case's country home. As I exited the house, I was greeted by the frail but fairly tall figure of the 86 year old widow.



CASE'S devotion to keeping a promise she made to her son nearly 30 years ago serves as an inspiration to Elkton pastor Dennis Cleveland.

Bessie had been sick, but she was tough. She still had the spirit reminiscent of her basketball playing days of her teens years at Elkton High School. She had lived near Elkton in Giles County Tennessee for many years.

As she greeted me, I inquired "Whose horse is that?" to the black-grey horse with a white face staring from the pasture fence.

She began to tell the account of the promise that she made many years ago to a son now long gone. Wayne was just out of high school and helping his mother. Wayne loved his horse Maude. "Mama, take care of me!" was his request to his mother as he was about to serve his country in military service.

Wayne promised. In training Wayne called home faithfully. Unfortunately, he was still in training at Ft. Bragg, when the tragic news came. Wayne had been in an automobile accident. It was a difficult time for the family.

Wayne kept her promise to Wayne. Until Maude died for her. Maude only had one colt. Bessie kept her promise to the colt Dollie. Wayne died in 1974, nearly 30 years Bessie has honored and cared for her son by her daily care of Maude and Dollie.

Are promises important? If Bessie could keep a promise to her son in such a way, should we not believe that God will keep His wonderful promises to us?

God made a promise to Adam and Eve that their seed would be the head of the serpent (Satan) (Genesis 3:15). God promised Abraham that He would produce a son of his seed (Genesis 15:5). God promised Isaac that He would raise up a great prophet from his seed (Genesis 22:18). God promised Isaiah a son (Isaiah 7:14). After many centuries, God sent forth the Messiah of the lineage of King David, Jesus, born in Bethlehem. God keeps His promises. Our confidence in salvation is based on the fact that God never forgets His promises. Jesus said to Martha and Mary, "I and my Father will never die, do you believe?" (John 11:26).

Will I remember all His promises. The believer is confident that all the infinite resources of God are behind these promises.

When we have Jesus Christ in our lives, we also have all the promises of God, or as II Corinthians 1:20 (KJV) says, "All the promises of God in him are yea and amen." — Cleveland is pastor of Elkton Church, Elkton.

Respond with faith

By Mark Brown

Focal Passage: Job 1:1-3, 8-12, 20-22; 2:7-10

For most of us, the prevailing thought about the book of Job is this; "Job is tough!" It's easy to imagine that several Sunday School teachers who looked ahead in the lessons for this quarter took a breath when they got to November, thinking something like, "Oh, no! They want ME to teach Job."

"Lord," they may have prayed, "I don't get Job, so how am I ever going to teach it?"

I am guessing that to be the case for teachers because I thought the very same thing when it came to agreeing to write about this set of lessons. I thought of declining the offer under the auspices of time, feigned humility, or anything else that would work. I was likewise frustrated over the idea of spending only four weeks on the book of Job. I thought four weeks on Job would be like a one-month marriage: you can do it, but who wants to? Ultimately, and truthfully, I was scared of Job.

For the Sept. 25 lesson we considered God's admonition to *Be holy because I, the LORD your God, am holy* (Leviticus 19:1-2). Most of my life I misinterpreted that to mean something like the Lord saying to us that we should be as holy as He is. Since that was not going to happen for me, I never got out of the gate. Boy, was I wrong. God says rather that we

should be holy BECAUSE He is holy. And here's the thing ... Job was.

By God's own testimony — and you can't get a better résumé reference than God — Job had perfect integrity. Job was the prototypical good guy and yet, God mentioned him to Satan. Satan walks up to God and it's God who says, basically, "So, Satan, have you thought about Job?"

(Now the idea of God and Satan having a conversation has always freaked me out. It's probably because in my mind's eye Satan doesn't have horns and a pitchfork. In my imagination, the devil looks like Barnabas Collins, the vampire from the 1960s daytime drama *Dark Shadows*, which, by the way, still gives me the willies.)

God brings Job to Satan's attention and Satan goes off to give the man of perfect integrity the once-over. Having taken a quick look at Job, Satan returns to God and asks Him the ultimate Chicken-and-egg question. "Which came first —," Satan says to God, "Job's faith or Job's prosperity?" And, Satan goes on to ask, "Is Job good to you solely because you are good to Job?"

In his ultimate role as the adversary, the accuser if you will, the devil uses Job as a way to try to examine God. And, if we aren't careful, that's exactly how we try to use the book of Job thousands of years later. We worry for Job because God pointed him out, and, because we are human, we fret

**Sunday School Lesson
Family Bible Series
Nov. 6**

that if God brought Job to Satan's attention, then God might bring us to the devil's attention as well. Instead of seeing that God allowed the life of Job to teach Satan, and us, a lesson, we focus on the perceived injustice of Job's life being a lesson.

But, ultimately, what is life if it is not a lesson?

If we pass through this existence having learned nothing, then we die spiritually stillborn: as if we had never been born at all.

Job's life is indeed a lesson. It's the Bible's grand course in ethics. Job did what was right because it was right. Righteous living did not provide an insurance policy for him, as we will see in the coming weeks.

Being righteous didn't save Job from loss or hardship; rather it saved him IN loss and hardship. That's lesson of Job for today. My prayer is that we remember it for tomorrow. □ — Brown is director of news and publications at Carson-Newman College and a member of First Baptist Church, Jefferson City.



BROWN

Freed through Christ

By Kevin Shrum

Focal Passage: Romans 7:1-25

To belong to someone or something is important. We belong to a family, to a school, to a club, etc. Belonging gives us identity. Paul uses this concept to describe the results of salvation. Just as a man and a woman belong to each other in marriage (vv. 1-3), we now belong to God in Jesus Christ. And to belong to Jesus Christ means that we are free in Christ as the life of God flows through us!

Belonging to the law or to Christ, vv. 4-6

When the believer put to death his desire for sin he simultaneously transferred ownership of his life from the law to the resurrected Jesus Christ. And since we belong to Jesus Christ we also belong to all those who belong to Him, the body of Christ. The believer is a part of the company of the committed.

The flesh could not produce this result because "the sinful passions operated through the law in every part of us and bore fruit for death." The law could not produce life and freedom.

All those who belong to the law are ruled by sinful passions and death. In fact, the purpose of the law was not to save us, but to show us God's holiness and thereby exposing our sinfulness. But those who belong to Jesus Christ have

been set free from sin and death to live a life empowered by the Spirit of God.

The purpose of the law, vv. 7-12

What, then, was the purpose of the law? If the law produced sin and death, does that mean that the law of God is bad? The answer is NO! The law is good in that it is by the law that we are made aware of sin. And unless the sinner is made aware that his/her posture toward God and the consequent actions are sinful before a holy God then that person cannot know their need for salvation that comes in Christ alone.



SHRUM

So, the law is holy and good in that it serves the purpose of revealing God's righteousness standard, a standard that we cannot reach or obtain. This realization ought to drive us to Christ in whom and through whom we are saved. The law reminds us that apart from Christ we do not belong to God!

The struggle in belonging, vv. 13-25

Yet, even though we belong to Christ and have been made free from sin and death we still struggle with our flesh. In one of the most famous passages describing

**Sunday School Lesson
Explore the Bible
Nov. 6**

our continual struggle to be free from sin, Paul basically states that the things he desires to do, he often does not do them; and, the things he does not want to do, he still does them. How can this be explained if we are not free in Christ?

Paul's point is clear. Even though we have been made free from sin and death, we are not yet fully free from our sinful flesh. That is, while we are set free from the dominion of sin, we still live in our sinful flesh — we will not be completely free from the residual effects of sin. The law of sin is at war with the law of life and faith. Paul was so disgusted with himself at times that he would call himself "a wretched man."

Yet, even in our struggle with remaining sin Paul could say *I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord!* What was the cause of thanksgiving? That in Jesus Christ he not only had been set free from sin and death, but that Jesus was his aid, comfort, and power in dealing with the remaining struggle with sin. In this way we are ultimately free from sin! □ — Shrum is pastor of Inglewood Baptist Church, Nashville.

Leaders

◆ Ninth Street Baptist Church, Erwin, called **Rob Moor** as pastor effective Nov. 1. He and his wife Lisa were missionaries in Tanzania for 15 years.

◆ **Raymond Langlois**, retired pastor, Judson Baptist Church, Nashville, has been called as interim pastor, First Baptist Church, Fairfield Glade. Langlois was pastor of Judson for 20 years. He has been interim pastor of churches in Tennessee, Kentucky, South Carolina, and Ohio. Langlois and his wife, Carolyn, live in Brentwood.



LANGLOIS

◆ New Zion Baptist Church, Pulaski, called **Larry Thomas** as pastor, effective Nov. 1. He previously served as pastor of Allons Baptist Church, Allons.

◆ **Fredrick W. Bueto Sr.**, pastor of First Baptist Church, McMinnville, has retired after 40 years of ministry. Before coming to Tennessee, Bueto served several churches in Alabama where he and his

wife Doris plan to retire.

◆ Alta Loma Baptist Church, Madison, called **Toby Johnson** of Cookeville as senior pastor. He previously served as associate pastor/students at a church in Indiana. Johnson is a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., and the University of Memphis. He and his wife Susan have three children.

◆ First Baptist Church, Winchester, called **Theodore Zachariades** as pastor. A graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky., he has served churches in Massachusetts and Kentucky as pastor. He and his wife Chrisa have four sons.

Churches

◆ **First Baptist Church, Clarksville**, will hold revival Nov. 13 and 16, with Phil Glisson, evangelist of Memphis, as speaker.

◆ **Northside Baptist Church, McMinnville**, will hold revival Nov. 13-16, with Morris Anderson, evangelist of Maryville, as speaker.

◆ The teen Sunday School class of **North Fork Missionary Baptist Church, Rogersville**, which consists of three members, raised \$1,740 for disaster relief in response to Hurricane Katrina. The teens held a walk-a-thon. They were joined by others and received several donations as people read the signs they carried announcing their effort. The church matched what they raised, which was \$870.

◆ **Bayside Baptist Church, Harrison**, will celebrate the culmination of "40 Days of Community" with a crusade Nov. 6-9. Speaking are Junior Hill, evangelist; Herb Reavis Jr., pastor, North Jacksonville (Fla.) Baptist Church; Danny Lovett, president, Tennessee Temple University, Chattanooga; Ted H. T aylor, pastor, Olive Baptist Church, Pensacola, Fla.

Thurman Seber called as DOM of Salem Association

For Baptist and Reflector

LIBERTY — Thurman Seber was called as the director of missions, Salem Baptist Association based here, during its annual meeting Oct. 18-19.

Seber previously served as DOM of the association from 1985-1998. For the past seven years, he has served as pastor of Upper Helton Baptist Church, Alexandria. He also served as pastor of Prosperity Baptist Church, Auburntown, 1977-1985 and at the First Baptist Church, Allardt, 1968-1972. He has held other pastorates in churches in Tennessee and Kentucky.

Seber is a graduate of Tennessee Technological University, Cookeville; and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky. He has written Sunday School lesson commentaries for the *Baptist and Reflector*.

He and his wife Laura have four grown children. □



SEBER



AN 18-MEMBER TEAM from Beulah Baptist Association, Union City, recently went to Slidell to make repairs on the home of Jo Dee Baker, a victim of Hurricane Katrina. The team also met with David Duncan, kneeling left, a homeless man who helped the team. Team members kneeling right, Gerald Scarbrough; second row, Jim Miller; Kelly Preuett; Kathy Tucker; Rick Johnson, First Church, Woodland Mills; Chris Menees; Gloria Pope; Misty Sturgeon; Peggy McTom Menees; third row, Donnie Tucker; Jimmy Brown, pastor, Pleasant Hill Church; Mike Johnson; Billy Vaughn Sr.; and Jeanne Cole; back, Mark Dowdy, pastor, McConnell Church; Storey. (See stories on page 3 and 5.)



GATHERED DURING the annual meeting of Stone Baptist Association, Cookeville, Oct. 27 were the association, from left, first row, Amy Leimer, WMU director; Anna Lee Wiles, clerk; second row, Earl Dirksen, pastor, Trinity Baptist Church, Cookeville, moderator; Cliff Goolsby, assistant music director; Joe Wiles, BCM/seminary extension/missions development director; Don Gaster relief coordinator; back row, Bill Hicks, Baptist Men's director; Rick Burnett, youth minister; white Baptist Church, Cookeville; associational youth director; Frank Hickman, DOM; Steve assistant pastor, First Baptist Church, Cookeville, associational evangelism director; and John bivocational minister coordinator, pastor, Cedar Hill Baptist Church, Baxter.



ELECTED 2005-2006 OFFICERS of Stewart County Baptist Association, based in Dover, during its annual meeting Oct. 20 were, from left, David Whitehead, pastor, Big Rock Baptist Church, vice moderator; Roland Mudge, pastor, Corinth Baptist Church, moderator; Mrs. Dale Jackson, First Baptist Church, Dover, clerk. Not pictured is Linda Hicklen, treasurer.



NAMED OFFICERS OF Beech River Baptist Association, at its Oct. 17-18 annual meeting were, from left, H. pastor, Chapel Hill Baptist Church, moderator; Jimmy First Baptist Church, Decaturville, vice moderator; Frank, associational ministry assistant, clerk; and Don Baptist Church, Lexington, treasurer. The association also presented a Strategy Planning Report.

ELECTED AS OFFICE Riverside Baptist Association, Livingston, at its Oct. annual meeting were, from left, Don Cobb, pastor, First Church, Livingston, treasurer; Jeff Monday, pastor, First Baptist Church, Rickman, moderator; Jeff Amonett, Moodyville Baptist Church, moderator; and Larry T. former pastor, Allons Church, out-going clerk. The association also continues partnership with a church in Owego, N.Y.